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VOLUME XLVIV

1997

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

Allied with
The Royal Green Jackets
The Royal Australian Regiment

Colonel-in-Chief
The Right Honourable,
Countess Mountbatten of Burma, CBE, CD, JP, DL



Founder and First Colonel of the Regiment
Brigadier A. Hamilton Gault, OBE, DSO, ED, CD

Colonel of the Regiment
Major-General C.W. Hewson, CMM, CD

THE PATRICIAN

IS THE REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF

PRINCESS PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY

◆ VOLUME XLVIV ◆

*AN ANNUAL JOURNAL
PUBLISHED AT THE REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS
AND DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF ALL
SERVING AND FORMER MEMBERS OF THE REGIMENT*

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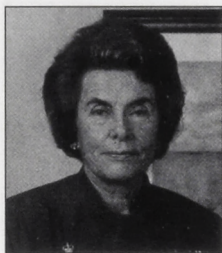
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Colonel-In-Chief

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry



**The Countess
Mountbatten of Burma,
CBE, CD, JP, DL**

Message from the Colonel-in-Chief

1997 was once again a year of continuing change, particularly with the move of the First Battalion to Edmonton, and a year when Patricias everywhere demonstrated their irrefutable ability to surmount extreme difficulties. Whether it be the distinction brought to the Regiment by the Second Battalion during their extremely successful deployment in the former Yugoslavia, or the determination and courage displayed by Patricias from all battalions in Southern Manitoba during the "flood of the century", the Regiment, as always, has proven its reputation for excellence, hard earned over the generations.

This was indeed a happy year when I was able to visit all three battalions. I was particularly grateful to have the opportunity, with my husband, and the Colonel of the Regiment and Nora, to visit the Second Battalion in Bosnia. Their excellent performance, confirmed to me by all accounts, made me very proud and it is clear that they have made a very real difference to bring about a lasting peace.

I was very pleased to find my Patricias in good shape during my tour to Alberta in June with my daughter Amanda and her husband Charles; although the occasion was perhaps a sad one as the First Battalion bid farewell to the city of Calgary with a splendid tattoo and sunset ceremony, thereby ending, for a time, the Regiment's garrison there. A short trip to visit Third Battalion in Edmonton and a tour of the First Battalion's new building ended any doubt that the new homes for my First and Third Battalions in Edmonton would suit their needs in every respect. We can look on this latest move as just another page turned in our association with communities throughout Western Canada; a page that may well be turned back sometime in the future!

It is unlikely that I will visit you in Canada in 1998, but I shall hear with great interest the tales of your exploits. I was delighted to learn however that Patricias from the Third Battalion will form the Guard at Buckingham Palace in May, with drummers from the First and Second battalions. This will no doubt give me a rare opportunity to see my Patricias in good form in my own country. In addition, it is with much excitement that I look forward to my next sojourn with my Patricias in July, 1999 for our 85th Anniversary Reunion in Edmonton.



Colonel of the Regiment

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

**Major-General
C.W. Hewson, CMM, CD**

Message from the Colonel of the Regiment



1997 has been another notable year for all Patricias. As planned, the First Battalion said farewell to Currie Barracks and Calgary in June and joined the Third Battalion in Garrison Edmonton. That same month, the PPCLI Battle School amalgamated with CFB Wainwright to become the Western Area Training Centre. Both events were well planned and executed. Each was marked with appropriate ceremony and we were fortunate to have the Colonel-in-Chief present for these significant Regimental occasions.

The prime story for 1997, however, was operations. The Second Battalion, augmented by the Third, formed the Canadian Battle Group in the NATO Stabilization Force in Bosnia for the first six months of the year. The First and Third Battalions then provided the infantry component of the Strathcona's Battle Group serving for the balance of the year. The performance of both battle groups was of the very high professional standard we expect and which brings pride to all Patricias. Again the Colonel-in-Chief joined her Patricias in the theatre of operations to celebrate the Regimental Day and to present SFOR medals.

All three battalions were called upon to serve Canadians in response to two significant domestic emergencies. In both the Red River flood and the Quebec/Ontario ice storm, Canadian soldiers provided significant support to emergency organizations and civic governments which were struggling under the weight of the crises. These timely interventions were instrumental in averting what could have been much more devastating and dangerous situations. At the end of the day it was the cheerful, confident and unselfish manner in which the military support was provided that won the hearts of the citizens most affected and the unqualified respect of all Canadians.

Recent organizational turbulence and public controversy are now behind us. Public support, generated by your totally professional performance in SFOR and unselfish service to Canadians, will be sustained. Patricias can be proud of these accomplishments and of their significant contribution to the dramatic improvement in the public's perception of our profession. We plan for the future with renewed confidence.

VP.



Patricias at Currie Barracks

The End of an Era

In the summer of 1997, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and the City of Calgary formally said goodbye to each other after 51 years of almost continuous association. The First Battalion vacated their home and moved to Lancaster Park in Edmonton along with other army units.

Following the Regiment's service in World War I, a detached Rifle Company was based in Work Point Barracks at Esquimalt, BC while Battalion Headquarters and a second Rifle Company were stationed at Fort Osborne Barracks in Winnipeg. On mobilization in 1939, the Regiment assembled at Winnipeg and was despatched to England. The Patricias took part in the invasion of Sicily in July, 1943 and continued to fight in the Italian campaign until March, 1945 when they joined 1st Canadian Army in the liberation of Holland.

Returning to Canada in November of that year, most of the wartime veterans were released from service. The remaining soldiers joined the 2nd Battalion of the Regiment that had just been formed for service in the Pacific Theatre. This battalion was soon incorporated into the new post-war army, dropping the 2nd Battalion designation and becoming Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. With reorganization completed, it was time to move from the Manitoba base at Camp McDonald, near Portage La Prairie.

On June 10th, 1946, a clear and sunny day, the Regiment came marching through the doors of the Canadian Pacific Railway station on Calgary's 9th Avenue. Proudly led by the Colour Party bearing the cased King's and Regimental Colours and protected by senior non-commissioned officers with sloped rifles and bayonets fixed, the men of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry had arrived in Calgary to take up quarters in Currie Barracks. Their arrival would mark the beginning of an association with Calgary that would carry them into 1997.

Currie Barracks in 1946 still bore the signs of wartime expansion. What had been large open areas in 1939 had been quickly filled with wartime construction of temporary accommodation and office buildings. Described as "H" huts because of their configuration, the huts covered every available space including most of the original parade square.

The Patricias quickly settled into their new quarters and shakedown training was started in the Sarcee training area, culminating in the first post-war exercise in the North West Territories which was part of the Regiment's new mandate for protection of the Alaska Highway and the Canadian northwest.

By 1947, new married quarters were being established and the Regiment was finally settling into the city life of Calgary. In May the Regiment performed



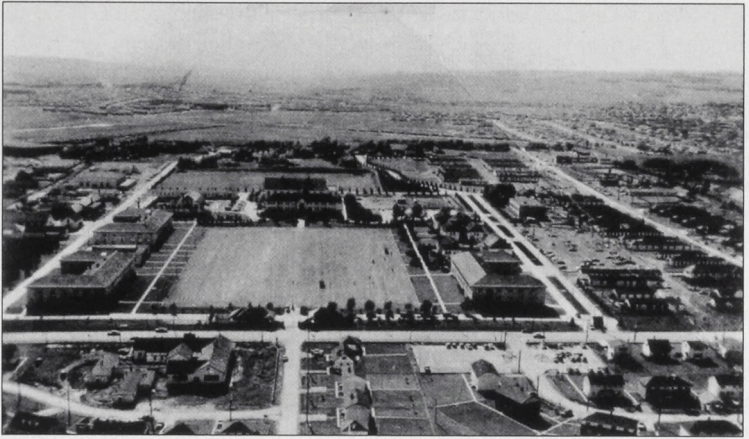
The original main gate of Currie Barracks with the now long-gone guardhouse. The barracks were named in honour of General Sir Arthur Currie of WWI fame. The gate will be preserved by the Museum of the Regiments.

the ceremony of Trooping the Colour on the parade square at HMCS Tecumseh — the Currie square being under repair. For the first time, Calgarians would witness this impressive ceremony where the Regimental Colour, with the Patricias WWI Battle Honours, was paraded through the ranks to serve as a reminder of past sacrifices made in battle. The ceremony would be performed many times in the years to come to delight audiences at Currie Barracks.

In July of that year, the Patricias began a longstanding relationship with the Calgary Stampede and a float, together with a marching contingent, appeared at the annual parade. For many years until the disbandment of the PPCLI Band in 1994, the annual parade would be led by the scarlet uniformed musicians of the Regiment.

Provision of aid to the civil power has always been a task that the military can be called upon to provide under the National Defence Act, and in July, 1947, Calgary based Patricias found themselves helping to save the rich farmlands in the Fraser Valley from floodwaters. The Calgary soldiers were also instrumental in fighting the disastrous Red River floods in southern Manitoba in the springs of both 1950 and 1997.

As a result of new defence policy in 1948, the Patricias were designated as an Airborne Battalion and would be embodied in the newly formed Mobile Strike Force to counter any aggression in the Canadian north. Soon the skies around Calgary would blossom with parachutes as the unit practised their new found skills. Drop zones were used on the airfield south of Currie Barracks, at Midnapore near the Lacombe Home, and areas west of the city. In the spring of 1950, a mass jump was made at the Calgary airport and the event was witnessed by thousands of spectators.



Looking Westward across Crowchild Trail to the Currie Barracks Parade Square and Headquarters Building, circa 1950. Signal Hill is in the distant top right.

The relative peace of the post-war era was soon to be shattered. On June 27th, 1950, North Korean communist forces attacked South Korea and Canada, under the auspices of the United Nations, agreed to the provision of armed forces to assist in what was called a UN "police action". Once again Currie Barracks was in the forefront of preparations. In August, the Patricias were authorized to raise a second battalion for service with the newly created Canadian Army Special Force. Recruits hurried to Calgary by train and bus to join the new battalion, and the barracks quickly filled up. Training swung into high gear, and by early September, the Second Battalion had moved to Wainwright to complete their training prior to embarkation for Korea in November.

Currie Barracks would continue as the "Home Station" for the paratroop-trained Patricias, now designated as First Battalion. In the late fall of 1951, they would replace 2 PPCLI in Korea, who would return and occupy Currie Barracks.

The fighting in Korea would not stop until the cease-fire of July, 1953. In the interim, Canada had incurred a further obligation in 1950 to provide troops for service in Europe as part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In the fall of 1953, the Second Battalion would leave Currie Barracks for service in Germany. 1 PPCLI, who had returned to Calgary in December, 1952 would now have the barracks to themselves again. The tours in Germany were for two years and in 1955, the First Battalion headed overseas to replace the Second Battalion, who would reoccupy Currie Barracks.

The rapid expansion of the Canadian Army in the 1950s to meet both the UN Korean and NATO European commitments had raised more infantry battalions than could be accommodated, thus 2 PPCLI and the Regimental Depot



moved to a new barracks in Edmonton in the summer of 1957. Currie Barracks was now the home of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (QOR of C) who were to remain in the city throughout the sixties until their announced redesignation as Third Battalion PPCLI in 1969 (QOR of C, now 3 PPCLI, moved to Esquimalt, BC in 1970). In 1968, during the First Battalion's tour in Cyprus, the Rear Party and all of the deployed soldiers families moved back to Currie Barracks from their base in Edmonton, where they remained until 1997.

Calgary-based Patricias have served several tours in Cyprus, Croatia, and Bosnia, and individuals have served on almost every United Nations observer or monitoring mission worldwide. While Patricia soldiers have been deployed, Calgarians have always been very forthcoming in their support for the Regiment and have shown demonstrable pride in its accomplishments in peace-keeping and humanitarian assistance missions.

Throughout their stay in Calgary, the Patricias acquired a taste of the friendliness and warmth of Calgarians, and some have even been called cowboys. They have carried the city's style of western hospitality across the seas to Germany during their NATO service and to Cyprus and Yugoslavia during their UN tours. They have held pancake breakfasts, mini-stampede celebrations and Western Style barbeques, introducing Calgary friendliness to other cultures.

The Farewell to Calgary ceremonies began with a Freedom of the City parade on June 11th, 1997 followed by a Military Tattoo and Open House on June 21st and the 1 PPCLI Change of Command parade on July 10th. This last parade saw PPCLI Association members (who arrived in Currie Barracks in 1946) push a WWII anti-tank gun out the main gate of Currie Barracks as a symbol of finality. This 2500 pound gun was then taken over by serving members of 1 PPCLI who pushed it to the Battalion's new home in Edmonton.

Currie Barracks, as "Home Station" of the Regiment, is no more. No longer will the parade square echo the barked commands and the sound of marching feet. No longer will the stirring sounds of military music fill the air and entertain civilian audiences. Gone are the students who attended the schools. Gone are the wives who were employed in all aspects of society — nurses and teachers, librarians and secretaries, clerks and caregivers. The mosaic of Calgary has changed. For those of us who remain, and for Calgarians all, it is a sad day. A proud association established between the citizens of Calgary and the Regiment is but a memory.

The only serving Patricias remaining in Calgary are those serving in 41 Brigade Headquarters or its Calgary units, and the Regimental Museum staff. The 2554 PPCLI Cadet Corps is the only formed group with affiliation to the Regiment which continues to serve in Calgary.

— Maj (Ret'd) Rod Middleton



Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry *85th Anniversary and Reunion*

Edmonton, Alberta • 1-4 July 1999

General:

The Regiment will celebrate its 85th Anniversary in Edmonton during the period 1-4 July, 1999. This will provide an excellent opportunity for all Patricias, serving and retired, to re-establish or reinforce ties with their Regiment.

Programme:

- 1 July 1999** • Canada Day celebrations in Edmonton
- 2 July 1999** • PPCLI Association Annual General Meeting
• Opening of the Better 'Ole
• Tattoo and Sunset Ceremony
• Barbecue
- 3 July 1999** • Vehicle and Equipment Displays
• Parachuting Display
• Regimental Trooping of the Colour
• Better 'Ole
• All Ranks Dinner and Dance
- 4 July 1999** • Church Service/Dedication
• Better 'Ole



Registration:

Fill out the registration form (inserted in the *Patrician*) or contact Regimental Headquarters at (403) 973-4011 ext 5450 or CSN 528-5450.

**JOIN US
FOR A GREAT
WESTERN PARTY,
PATRICIA STYLE!**

While in Alberta, you may also want to visit the
Calgary Stampede, 2-11 July 1999,
the PPCLI Museum and Museum of the Regiments in Calgary,
the Rocky Mountains (Jasper and Banff areas),
and the Loyal Edmonton Regiment Museum in Edmonton.



1997 Regimental Council

Colonel-in-Chief

The Right Honourable Countess Mountbatten of Burma, CBE, CD, JP, DL

Colonel of the Regiment

Major-General C.W. Hewson, CMM, CD

Senior Serving Patricia

Lieutenant-General R.R. Crabbe, CMM, MSC, CD

Regimental Senate

All Patricia officers of the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and above, serving or retired.

The Regimental Guard

President	LGen R.R. Crabbe, CMM, MSC, CD (DCDS)
V-President	Col P.G. Kenward, OMM, CD (B Comd Suffield)
Members	Col V.W. Kennedy, OMM, CD (CFCSC) Col G.W. Nordick, MSC, CD (NDHQ DGMSC) Col R.R. Romses, OMM, CD (LFCA HQ)
Ex-Officio	All General Officers LCol S.M. Bryan, CD (Chairman, REC) Mr. D.W. Bedford, CD (President PPCLI Association)
Secretary	Maj M.M. Minor, CD (Regimental Major)

The Regimental Executive Committee

Chairman	LCol S.M. Bryan, CD (CO 1 PPCLI)
Members	LCol D.A. Fraser, MSM, CD (CO 2 PPCLI) LCol K.A. Moher, CD (CO 3 PPCLI) LCol D.J. MacLean, CD (CO WATC) Col W. Semiani, CD (Past CO 1 PPCLI) LCol J.M. Turner, CD (Past CO 2 PPCLI) LCol W.D. Turner, CD (Past CO 3 PPCLI) LCol A.M. Austdal, CD (Past CO PPCLI Battle School)
Ex-Officio	LGen R.R. Crabbe, CMM, MSC, CD (Pres Regt Gd) LCol G. MacLean, CD (CO LER) CWO W.H. Forde, CD (RSM 1 PPCLI) CWO R.V. Cooke, CD (RSM 2 PPCLI) CWO T.L. Ruck, CD (RSM 3 PPCLI) CWO G.M. Descoteaux, CD (RSM LER) MWO N.S. Pryce, CD (A/RSM WATC) Mr. D.W. Bedford, CD (President PPCLI Association)
Secretary	Maj M.M. Minor, CD (Regimental Major)
Treasurer	Capt S.K. Newman, CD (Regimental Adjutant)

Regimental Headquarters

Secretariat • Regimental Kit Shop • Regimental Museum and Archives • Regimental Accounts



Regimental Headquarters

Staff

Regimental Major	Major M.M. Minor, CD
Regimental Adjutant	Captain S.K. Newman, CD
Regimental Administration Officer	Captain S.D. Macdonald, CD
Regimental Warrant Officer	Master Warrant Officer D.J. Blunden, CD
Regimental Accounts NCO	Sergeant D.R. Bradley, CD
Regimental Kit Shop Sergeant	Sergeant J.E. Devine, CD
Regimental Clerk	Master Corporal C.M. King, CD
Regimental Kit Shop 2IC	Master Corporal C.W. Parnell
Kit Shop Sales	Corporal T.F. Soukeroff

Regimental Museum Staff

Curator	Warrant Officer G.S. Crossman, CD
Archivist	Sergeant M.D. Atwood, CD
Museum NCO	Master Corporal E.K. Pope, CD
Attached (Collection)	Master Corporal P.M. Tobicoe
Attached (Museum)	Corporal K.J. Furdal
Attached (Archives)	Private M. Mansour
Database Entry	Mildred Modeste

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PPCLI Regimental Museum

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Regimental Headquarters

Responsibilities

Regimental Headquarters is the only component of the Regiment devoted exclusively to Regimental Affairs; it is the general office of the Regiment. Regimental Headquarters is responsible for: being the secretariat of the Regiment; the maintenance, accounting and operating of the Regimental and Association funds and accounts; operating the Regimental Kit Shop; operating the Regimental Museum and Archives; editing and publishing all Regimental Publications; maintaining all files and records of the Association; liaison between Regimental soldiers, units and branches of the Association; protocol; funerals; visits and a variety of other tasks assigned by, or on behalf of the Regimental Council.

Regimental Gratuities

The new Regimental Gratuities Plan took effect in 1997. The following gratuities will be provided to all new Regimental members, and serving and departing members who have maintained their applicable rate of voluntary contributions since the commencement of the programme (01 January 1984) or since their enrolment, whichever is later:

- a. on joining the Regiment, regardless of entry plan, each new member will receive a free issue cap badge and a numbered Regimental Coin;
- b. during the career, members will receive an annual copy of *The Patrician*, and when/if promoted to Sergeant, a sash; and
- c. on honorable retirement, release or remuster, with:
 - (1) nine years of service or less — a small, unframed Regimental Certificate of Service (unit or regional ERE representatives to action);
 - (2) more than nine to nineteen years of service — an engraved 4½" pewter statuette (choice of four) or a \$60.00 Gift Certificate from the Regimental Kit Shop and a small, unframed Regimental Certificate of Service; and
 - (3) twenty or more years of service — an engraved 6½" WWI Gianelli pewter statuette and a large framed Regimental Certificate of Service. Note that individuals in this category will be invited to attend a formal Regimental Retirement Dinner.

Unit OPIs or ERE Regional Representatives are to immediately advise Regimental Headquarters by message, fax or e-mail of Patricians who are on release or remuster under the categories at sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) above. In order to prepare the applicable gratuities, RHQ needs the following particulars: name, rank, initials, decorations, enrolment date, approved retirement/release/remuster date and forwarding address. The OPI shall provide a contact phone number to RHQ, and the proposed date of presentation of the gratuities if known.



Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association

The PPCLI Association is a non-profit, benevolent corporate and politic body composed of serving and former members of PPCLI or others who have shared a common bond of service and experiences in and with PPCLI.

Patron

The Right Honourable Countess Mountbatten* of Burma, CBE, CD, JP, DL
Colonel-in-Chief

Vice Patrons

Major-General C.B. Ware, DSO, CD
Colonel W.B.S. Sutherland, CD
Brigadier-General R.S. Graham, CD
Major-General H.C. Pitts, MC, CD

Colonel of the Regiment

Major-General C.W. Hewson, CMM, CD

Association Objectives

1. To encourage and promote public interest and support of the PPCLI.
2. To perpetuate and recognize the close bonds of comradeship and esprit de corps created by past and present members of the Regiment.
3. To foster, maintain and promote the tradition and well being of the Regiment.
4. To establish and maintain the Regimental Museum and Archives for the purpose of preserving and recording the historical heritage of the Regiment and exhibiting such material to members of the Regiment and to the public.
5. To assist members and widows and children of deceased members of the Regiment where assistance cannot be provided by other social agencies.
6. To collect, receive, hold and invest funds and property from contributions, gifts, grants, subscriptions or legacies and to use such funds for the furthering of the objectives of this Association.
7. To provide bursaries through the PPCLI Student Bursary Fund.

Newsletter

An annual newsletter, devoted to the interest of all members of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, is published at Regimental Headquarters, Garrison Edmonton, as an official Regimental Publication, under authority of the President of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association.



Message from the National President

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association

Mr. Doug Bedford, CD

Message from the President

I would like to start off by saying how proud the Association is of the Regiment for its hard work in the former Yugoslavia, and most recently for its relief efforts in Quebec and Eastern Ontario, hit by the ice storm.

The membership of the Association stands at approximately 850 members. We are always striving to improve the "family ties" between the Regiment and the Association. It is only through the continuance and strengthening of our mutual bonds of service that we can hope to create more interest and attract new Association members.

One of our more important roles is the "big picture" management of Regimental Museum operations. This is done by the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund Board of Trustees. Over the past eight years, the Calgary Branch has been running a casino and have raised over \$150,000.00 for Museum coffers. In addition, other branches have been doing their own fundraising for the benefit of the Museum. One shortcoming of the Regiment's history is the post-Korean War era. I appeal to each and every one of you to go through your old boxes of memorabilia and donate photos, letters and other items of Regimental significance to the Museum. We (the Museum) can only tell the parts of our history that we know, and unless you play your part, we will not know much!

The Manitoba/NW Ontario Branch have placed a cairn at the old Fort Osborne Barracks, which was the home of the Patricias in Winnipeg following WWI. The cairn is now emplaced in front of the original headquarters building and will be ceremonially dedicated on June 30th, 1998 by the branch and 2 PPCLI.

A Kingston group, headed by Lieutenant-Colonel Pentney, has requested authority to form another branch of the Association. Letters have gone out to all other branches seeking their approval and, if granted, we hope to present the Kingston Branch's Charter at the Annual General Meeting in Ottawa (14-16 August 1998). For more information on the AGM, contact myself or Regimental Headquarters.

The Association has designed a pin to commemorate our first 50 years. It is a replica of the first Association crest and was very well received by the membership. If you are interested in obtaining one, please give me a call.

The Association members are proud and continue to stand tall when we say we once served in the finest Regiment in Canada. With your help and encouragement, the collective "we" will do all in our power to keep it the finest Regiment. In closing, I wish you and your family health and happiness throughout the year.

VP.



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All Patricias are encouraged to become members of the Association,
either as local branch members or as members at large.
Serving members are more than welcome to join while still serving in the Regiment.

Honours & Achievements

• 1997 •



Regimental Achievement Awards

Corporal M.R. Yorke
Master Corporal M.R. Scott
Master Corporal M.C.B. Hamilton
Sergeant J.J. Azcona
Sergeant D.J. Hitchcock
Sergeant A.P. Paczek
Warrant Officer E.D. Larabie
Warrant Officer M.J. Schuurhuis
Warrant Officer V.P. Stepsys
Lieutenant W.H. Fletcher
Lieutenant C.R. Henderson



Order of Military Merit

LGen R.R. Crabbe, CMM, MSC, CD
LCol S.P. Tymchuck, OMM, CD

Winners of 1997 Competitions

The Hamilton Gault Skill at Arms Trophy

A Company
3 PPCLI

The Louis Scott Cock 'O The Walk Trophy

Major B.E. Flynn, CD
MWO E.D. Whitebone, CD
2 PPCLI Rear Party

The Hamilton Gault Trophy 2 RCR



Promotions

• 1997 •

Lieutenant-General

Crabbe, R.R.

Colonel

Calvin, T.J.
Semianiw, W.

Lieutenant-Colonel

Overton, M.K.

Major

Bruce, M.D.
Corbould, G.D.
Kenneally, M.M.
McLean, B.J.
Plumton, G.F.

Captain

Austin, C.A.	Grimshaw, N.J.E.
Boyuk, G.M.	Laidlaw, W.M.
Dawe, J.P.	Proctor, D.J.
Grebenc, J.P.	Weber, M.A.

Second Lieutenant

Gill, J.W.
Grubb, S.P.
Hacault, L.A.J.
Neufeld, T.M.
Niven, W.K.
Pendergast, J.
Stalker, M.J.

Master Warrant Officer

Butters, J.D.
Clarke, A.M.
Haines, E.O.
Hamilton, R.J.
McKenelley, B.D.

Warrant Officer

Breustedt, B.M.
Brunelle, M.C.
Demeules, P.M.
Gebhardt, E.J.
Hitchcock, D.J.
Marshall, J.D.
Mayor, D.R.
Riches, L.E.
Rush, M.F.
Seymour, E.R.
Spence, J.R.
Stone, N.G.R.
Wiebe, J.H.
Yuile, D.M.

Sergeant

Beattie, K.G.	Hessell, D.J.
Brodeur, R.J.	Hurl, D.M.
Cook, P.R.	MacNeil, M.A.
Cooper, A.R.	Pickett, D.J.
Cooper, R.A.	Reid, C.M.
Doiron, A.T.	Sargent, R.S.
Doman, B.D.	Short, L.A.
Duval, W.L.	Soucy, Y.P.
Ferron, D.	Spencer, O.W.R.
Finstad, I.A.	Swift, N.A.M.
Grant, K.T.	Tower, D.A.
Guitard, D.J.A.	Willcott, A.
Halcro, T.D.	

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First Battalion

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

1997 – The Year In Review

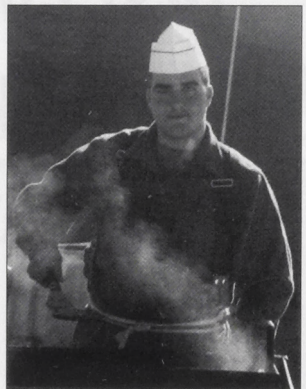
1997 was another eventful year for 1 PPCLI starting with several company deployments and continuing with flood fighting in Manitoba, the Farewell to Calgary ceremonies, a move to Edmonton, a fall unit exercise and finally a PCF course cycle. At the same time Bravo Company, already in Edmonton, was assigned to the LdSH(RC) Battle Group for Op Palladium.

Ex Strong Contender 97

The Battalion returned from Christmas leave in fine form and “kicked off” the year by participating in Ex Strong Contender 97. Despite valiant efforts by both the volleyball and hockey teams and a strong showing by the broomball and floor hockey teams, 1 Combat Engineer Regiment took the overall Brigade Championship much to the disappointment of the Commanding Officer. Well done to all those who participated and we’ll get them next year.

Ex Winterhawk 97 (27 Jan - 08 Mar 97)

Charlie Company and Anti-Armour Platoon supported this American Special Forces (SF) exercise conducted in and around Calgary, the Crowsnest Pass and the Camp Wainwright Training Area during February and March. The SF Group, from Fort Lewis, Washington, arrived in early February eager to get on to winter operations training. Following two weeks of downhill and cross-country ski training at Mount Nakiska and Sibbald Flats, the exercise continued with basic winter indoctrination, survival and snowmobile training in the Crowsnest Pass area. Two Patricias were attached to each SF team to provide liaison and local expertise, while the Company Headquarters and remain-



MCpl “Manny” Mandrusiak practices for his second career — Ex Winterhawk, Crowsnest Pass, February 1997.



ing soldiers set up a base camp in the Crowsnest Pass, and participated in a company patrol school.

In the final phase, 1 PPCLI elements acted as the enemy force. The SF quickly gained high regard for their opponent's abilities as team after team found itself compromised, ambushed or captured. In one case a company patrol was able to raid a SF patrol base and remove all the spark plugs from their snowmobiles while the unwitting sentries slept.

Ex Patricia Grizzly (02-23 Feb 97)

Delta Company group deployed from Calgary's chinook country to the frigid arctic at Baker Lake, NWT for a three week sovereignty exercise in early February. During the exercise, the dead air temperature never rose above -30°C and frequently dropped to below -50; with wind chill in excess of -100. Undaunted, the company persevered through blizzard, whiteout and wind-chill to put army kit and training to the test.

The exercise was conducted in three phases, including an indoctrination and survival exercise, a tactical observation post and aide to the civil power exercise and finally, a platoon live fire raid. Assisted throughout by the local Canadian Ranger Patrol, the company learned how limited our knowledge of arctic survival is and how much our mentors, the Inuits, could teach us. As we moved into the final phase, however, our roles reversed. Adopting their role as guides and reconnaissance, the Inuit participated fully in the raid and learned



*Sunset in the Arctic.
Delta Company, Exercise Patricia Grizzly, February 1997.*

why we need to train for operations in the arctic. We finished with a Hamlet Day, complete with a military parade, Inuit games and a traditional feast. The entire town attended, with the festivities lasting well into the night.



*Sgt Dan Hitchcock outside ten platoon's OP.
Exercise Patricia Grizzly, Baker Lake, February 1997.*



*Maj Shandy Vida and Mr. William Noab, Mayor of Baker Lake, take the march-past.
Baker Lake, Exercise Patricia Grizzly, February 1997.*

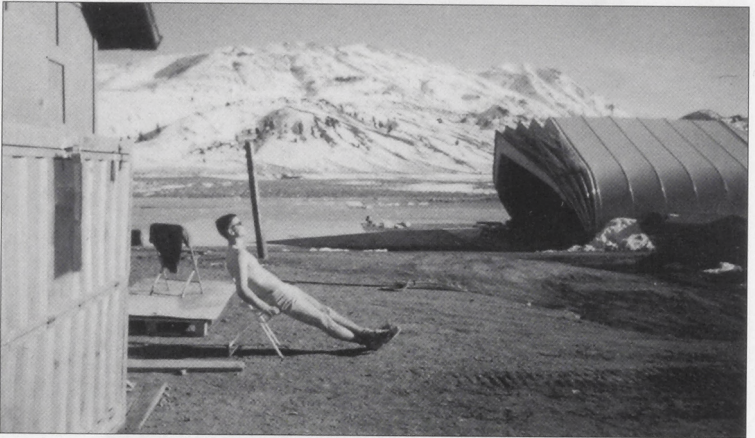


"Jimmy", the local champion, demonstrates the Inuit high-kicking game for Delta Company. Baker Lake, Exercise Patricia Grizzly, February 1997.

Ex Summit Peak (03-24 Mar 97)

This was the first part of a Reciprocal Unit Exchange with the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Centre (MCMWTC) in Bridgeport, California. After a quick reconnaissance for this unexpected training opportunity, Alpha Company deployed to California in March. As our soldiers were already past the basic survival level, the training syllabus was modified to cater to our greater level of experience and the company focused its training on moving through the mountains by ski and snowmobile. The training was successful and by the end of the first week the troops were covering ground twice as fast as the average Marine Company. The Marine Corps' support proved invaluable as our skis were completely unsuited to the terrain. However, scrounging and trading turned up enough equipment to outfit the entire company and by the end of Week Two, the company (with one or two exceptions) was able to complete a

descent that no Marine Company had ever attempted. During Week Three the company completed a move around the training area. The company also spent two days making use of the Marine Corps Unarmed Combat Instructors who taught the Marine Corps approach to dirty fighting. Regimental Day was celebrated with a spirited game of floor-hockey and a free issue. Exercise Summit Peak was a success at all levels; it was challenging and a good confirmation of our basic drills, procedures and fitness.



Pte J.D. Fraser demonstrates the correct power-tanning position for the Marine Corps — Bridgeport, California, March 1997.



WO Paul Stepsys contemplates breaking another 14 sets of skis. Bridgeport, California, March 1997.



Alpha Company at 10,000 feet. Bridgeport, California, March 1997.

Ex Patricia Thunder/Op Assistance

On 15 April 97, the Battalion deployed to Wainwright for Ex Patricia Thunder, which was to be the last Battalion exercise of the training year. Alas, it was not to be. We “downed tools” and moved to Shilo, Manitoba at noon on the third day so that we would be closer to the scene of the “flood of the century”. Once in Shilo, the exercise preparations continued and ranges were re-established, patrols sent out, and the soldiers steadfastly continued training.

Once the order came to deploy, things happened quickly. First Charlie, then Alpha and Delta deployed in quick succession. Charlie Company was deployed to Emerson on the American border; for two days and two nights, augmented by Alpha Company, the troops toiled atop the dikes. After a succession of quick moves, A Coy ended up in St. Malo. Delta was responsible for the town of St-Jean Baptiste, north of Emerson, and as it was only accessible by fording, only the company headquarters stayed in the town as the water reached the top of the dike. The troops moved to St. Thomas, a few kilometres

away on higher ground. Combat Support Company moved into the town of Morris and subsequently to Lowe Farm, while Battalion headquarters moved into Altona, a regional centre outside of the flood plain. Administration company moved into Winnipeg and began the arduous task of re-supplying a



*Members of Delta Company and 1 Combat Engineer Regiment work on a dike.
Operation Assistance, April/May 1997.*



*MCpls Pat Menard and Lou Short discuss their next tasking.
Operation Assistance, April/May 1997.*

battalion which had deployed on light scales for a two-week exercise only to find itself spread over some 1800 square kilometres, divided on two sides of a flood plain, performing a wide variety of unforeseen tasks.

After the initial flurry of activity and the confusion of the first three days, the Battalion settled into a routine. The troops quickly gained a respect and an appreciation for the civilian agencies involved in the operation; and, as the crest of the flood moved north, they began to assist them in the reconstruction of the area infrastructure. The companies soon found themselves hosting a collection of well-meaning engineers, medics and boat people. As the tempo of operations wound down, dinners, parades, dances and farewells barbecues were held. The unit completed its pack-up and was back in Calgary by 15 May.



Capt Barker and WO Schulz pitch in as Mortar Platoon builds a sandbag dike in Halbstadt. Operation Assistance, April/May 1997.



Maj Mike Minor on the alternate net. Operation Assistance, April/May 1997.



Eight platoon on completion of the priority task in Emerson — sandbagging the duty-free store. Operation Assistance, April/May 1997.



*A successful dike. Ten platoon, Delta Company north of St-Jean-Baptiste.
Operation Assistance, April/May 1997.*

Farewell to Calgary Activities (11 Jun to 10 Jul 97)

The first casualty of war is always the plan, and this truism sometimes applies in peacetime as well. The initial plan for a low-key event commemorating the closing of Currie Barracks quickly became a three-week extravaganza incorporating a tattoo, a Freedom of the City parade, a sunset ceremony and the infamous Gun Run. The Change of Command of the Battalion, from LCol W. Semianiw, CD to LCol S.M. Bryan, CD took place on 10 Jul 97, where a representative of the city of Calgary presented a scroll from the city for onward transmission to the city of Edmonton. The three and one-half ounce



*Part of the Battalion gun run team at 0500 hours,
100 kilometres from Edmonton.*

scroll was promptly affixed to a historic 2500 lb anti-tank gun which, under the watchful eye of Maj Vida, was then pushed and pulled to Edmonton, arriving four days, six dozen Power-Bars and 150 litres of Gatorade later.

The sunset ceremony was, without doubt, the highlight of the Farewell ceremonies. Held on Rifles Field, the ceremony was conducted by a 100 man guard from the Battalion, supported by the massed bands of the Calgary Highlanders, Kings Own Calgary Regiment and Air Command. Calgary's infamous weather produced a series of thunderstorms throughout the day, culminating in a spectacular lightning display during the final moments of the Sunset Ceremony. As the troops stood in their ranks, resting on arms reversed, the lightning flickered ominously over the foothills behind. A single piper began Amazing Grace, and as the pipes keened through the silent barracks, the massed bands took up the refrain; first the Highlanders, then the Calgary Regiment, then the Air Command band. The bands drowned out the distant thunder as the troops stood silent. The music rose to a crescendo; the lightning died away. As the bands slowly dropped out, one by one, leaving the lone piper to play the last verse, the last ray of sunset broke through the clouds and lit upon the soldiers of Currie Barracks. The pipes died; the sun set; there was not a dry eye in the house. So ended the tenure of the Patricias in Calgary.



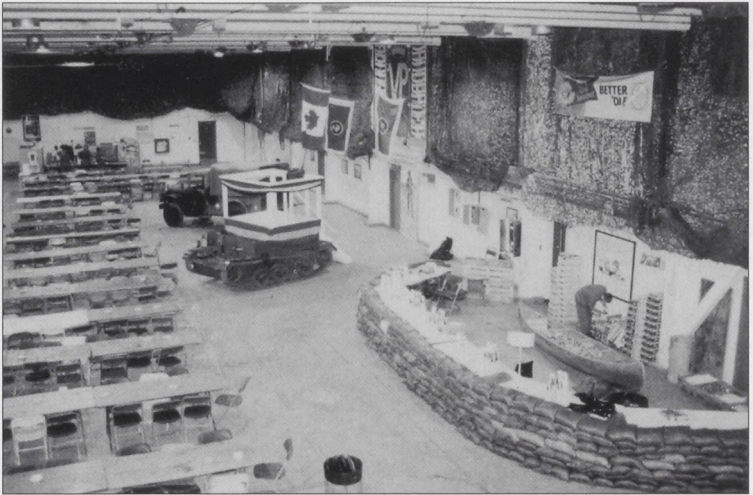
LCol Semianiw exercises the Regiment's right to the Freedom of the City - during the Farewell to Calgary festivities, 11 June 1997.



*The Drum Line leads the Battalion down the Stephen Avenue Mall.
Freedom of the City of Calgary, 11 June 1997.*



*Maj Steve Borland marches on the guard.
Sunset Ceremony, 21 June 1997.*



AF 16 becomes the Better 'Ole for the last time. June 20, 1997.

Bravo Company in Bosnia (28 Jun 97 - 12 Jan 98)

B Coy was in the unique position of having moved to Edmonton in 1997 and as such they were assigned to the LdSH(RC) Battle Group for its deployment on Operation Palladium. After lengthy and arduous pre-deployment training in Canada, Bravo Company deployed to Camp Maple Leaf in Zgon. Upon arrival the company assumed the duties and responsibilities of its vast Area of Responsibility (AOR) from Alpha Company (Para), 3 PPCLI. First on the ground



*Traffic control at the checkpoint: MCpl Sargeant and Sgt Paul Lucas.
B Company, Bosnia, Summer 1997.*

was 4 Platoon, who moved into a platoon house at Lusci Planka and began patrolling the western portion of the AOR. Camp security was handled by 5 Platoon who also became the Quick Reaction Force, looking after the crossing point on the Inter-Entity Boundary Line (IEBL) known as Minstrel Boy. Vehicle and foot patrols, some of the former very long and some of the latter very steep, were taken over by 6 Platoon.

The situation in Bosnia remained generally stable, with a few anxious moments leading up to the national elections on 23 November. Highlights of the tour included the deployment of the company to Banja Luka to conduct cordon and search operations of civilian police stations, and the discovery of an unauthorised defensive position within the IEBL by Sgt Wayne Snow and his section from 6 Platoon. A helicopter lift gone wrong resulted in a spectacular light show as the anti-missile flares were accidentally activated, fortunately with no injuries. In between patrolling and guard tasks, the Company completed numerous civil aid projects, including food and clothing distribution in the areas around the camp, and to refugees isolated in the mountains. The troops of 5 Platoon were particularly proud of the first-rate school playground constructed with assistance from 11 Field Troop of 1 CER.

Bravo Company also said farewell to the last representative of the Regimental Exchange with the Royal Greenjackets, as Captain Jonathon Agar returned to duty with his regiment after only one year with the First Battalion.



Out shopping in Bosnia: Sgt Fribance, Pte Ritchie, Pte Kalinowski, Sgt McCutcheon and an unidentified interpreter.



*Sgt Don McNab prepares to practice helicopter evacuation drills:
Camp Maple Leaf, Zgon, Bosnia, Summer 1997.*



*Cpl Robert Hawley receives his Somalia medal from the CDS.
Bosnia, 6 Oct 1997.*

Ex Patricia Lightning

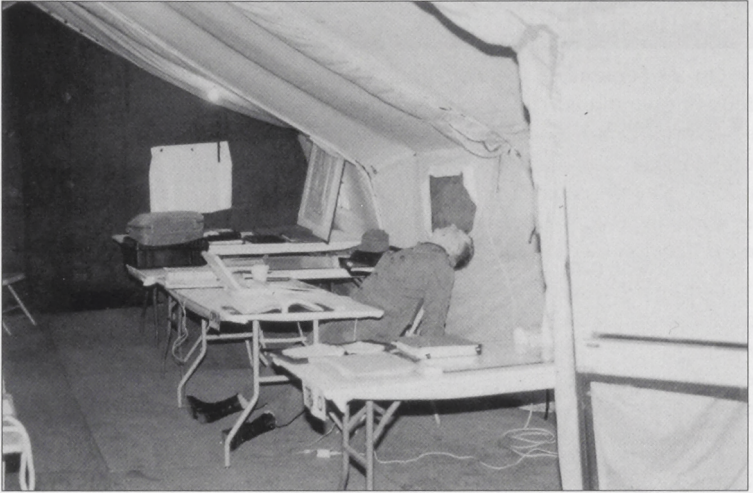
On 23 September the Battalion deployed to Wainwright to commence offensive operations. The plan was to exercise the two rifle companies, Alpha and Charlie, in a round-robin scenario alternating between dismounted platoon level and mechanised company and combat team operations, both dry and live. While Combat Support Company prepared the field firing ranges, the rifle companies completed the PWT on conventional ranges and shaking out their drills with the Battalion-controlled AVGP fleet.

During the dismounted phase, the emphasis was on team building, starting with pairs, progressing to group, and culminating with section and platoon battle drills. The soldiers went through all levels dry to confirm their skills and then went through the ranges live. The well thought-out and realistic ranges, complete with grenades and the use of overhead fire guns, created an impressive effect that was not lost on the troops.

The mounted portion switched focus to combat team training. Each company was married up with a squadron of tanks, engineers and gunners for four days of dry combat team training. Everything from tactical movement and obstacle crossing to hasty attacks was practised. This portion culminated with a 36 hour Battalion-controlled company validation exercise which involved a night move to a hide and saw the combat team crossing the line of departure early the following morning. It then conducted a daylong advance to contact ending with a final hasty attack supported by live artillery and co-axial machine gun fire from the tanks.



*MCpl Morgan Irish catches rays, leaving Lt A.J. Lutes in the dark —
Wainwright, September 1997.*



*Capt Cole McKay takes a seventh-inning stretch in Wainwright.
Ex Patricia Badger, September 1997.*

PCF and all that

Immediately upon return from Ex Patricia Lightning the unit conducted a building dedication ceremony which saw Mrs. Pauline Brown officially open the new 1 PPCLI facilities, known as the G.G. Brown Building. Unfortunately the weather did not co-operate and the ceremonies had to be held inside. Following the ceremony, the Battalion conducted its annual French Grey Cup game which was won convincingly by Cbt Sp Coy. A Coy won the annual soccer championship.

The last three months of 1997 were spent conducting some much needed PCF courses. With the introduction of the Coyote and its inherent training bill, and the requirement to rebuild Cbt Sp Coy, the unit quickly undertook an extensive program of QL 4 courses, which included LAV Gunner, LAV Driver, TOW, Mor, Pnr, MG and Dvr Wh.

A sad note was struck in the fall, as Delta Company became a training cadre three years after standing up as a full fledged rifle company. The transition was celebrated in true Delta style and the majority of Delta alumni have moved off to other companies. A small training cadre remains in the Delta Company lines to carry on the "Rhino" traditions.

Following the pre-Christmas week of Battalion Sports, parades and the Men's Christmas Dinner, the Battalion shut down for well deserved three weeks of leave.



*Pte George Smith addresses the troops.
Christmas dinner, 11 December 1997.*



*Mr. Jack Cathie as the guest of honour between
LCol Semianiw and MWO Williams at the
Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Spring Regimental Mess Dinner.*



Summary of the History

260th Battalion (Canadian Rifles)

Canadian Expeditionary Force (Siberia)

*Perpetuated by the
Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry*

The 260th Battalion (Canadian Rifles) Canadian Expeditionary Force (Siberia) was one of the two infantry battalions within the 16th Canadian Infantry Brigade, Canadian Siberian Expeditionary Force which was formed by an Order in Council on August 12th, 1918. It was part of an Allied force of approximately 118,000 soldiers (commanded by a Japanese general) sent to Siberia to rescue the Czech Legion and to protect allied war material stockpiles in Vladivostock from Bolshevik capture.

In the later stages of WWI, the Allies were shipping vast quantities of war materials to Vladivostock on Russia's east coast with a view to enhancing support to Russia's army in the war against the central powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, etc.). Russian railway problems, however, prevented almost all of the material from leaving the port city and forced its stockpiling.

With the onset of the Russian Revolution in 1917, the Tsar's army was withdrawn from the Eastern Front to battle the Bolsheviks. Many regular Russian soldiers deserted to the Bolsheviks and the Czech Brigade (of the Tsar's army) was no longer required for war service. Czech and Slovak prisoners were released and joined with the Czech Brigade to form the Czech Legion, 60,000 strong. The Legion's only desire was to peacefully make its way eastward across Russia to North America, and then to Europe to establish an independent state in their homeland. The Provisional Government allowed the Legion to entrain at Kiev and they began the journey to Vladivostock. Due to an incident along the route, however, a decree was issued to the effect that "Every armed Legionnaire found along the railway is to be shot on the spot." This was, in effect, a declaration of war on the Legion by the Bolsheviks.

During this period, the Allies were worried about the possibility of the stockpiled war materials at Vladivostock falling into Bolshevik hands and eventually reaching Germany's arsenal. Simultaneously, they were thinking about re-opening the Eastern Front due to being hard pressed in France and Belgium. Initially, the plan was for an Allied force (approximately 100,000 strong) to land at Vladivostock, and then with the Czech Legion and loyal Russian forces, travel westward and reopen the Eastern Front, thus relieving the pressure in France. The threatening action by the Bolsheviks against the Czech Legion, however, made the protection of that group a priority, closely followed by safeguarding of the stockpiles at Vladivostock.



Sir Robert Borden, the Canadian Prime Minister, saw the request for Canadian troops, by Britain, as an opportunity to create "... intimate relations with that rapidly developing country (Russia) ... and our interposition with a small military force would tend to bring Canada into favourable notice by the strongest elements in that great community (Borden was thinking about post-war trading opportunities with the countries in the Far East region)."

The 260th Battalion was comprised of 1026 all ranks (42 officers and 984 men), under the command of LCol Frederick Jamieson. The company strengths were drawn from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick (A Company), Manitoba (B Company), Saskatchewan and Alberta (C Company), and British Columbia (D Company). Of the total strength, 520 men were drafted under the Military Service Act and many had seen previous WWI service with the PPCLI. The Battalion formed over a two week period in October of 1918 at Willows Camp in Victoria and began training. During this period, the Spanish influenza, carried by soldiers returning from overseas, spread like wildfire and on October 18th the 260th Battalion reported 180 men hospitalized with the virus. In terms of personal weapons, the battalion members were initially issued the much-maligned Ross rifle, however this was withdrawn in favour of the British Short Magazine Lee Enfield (SMLE) on November 25th.


The Battalion embarked on the SS *Proteslaus* at Gordon Head near Victoria on December 26th, 1918 and following a cold and stormy crossing, arrived at Vladivostock on January 15th, 1919. The sea-weary men moved into the relative comfort of the recently renovated Gournestai Barracks (10 miles east of the city) and posted guards at both East and Second River Barracks.

Due to the lack of clarification of the Canadians' mission, and a growing reluctance by the Government (due to public pressure) to send the force westward (2,680 miles) to the area of Omsk, the men were kept busy doing company, battalion, and even brigade level exercises over the barren, frozen ground of the surrounding hills. Additionally, calisthenics, guard duty, and water carriage were daily activities. Fortunately, the YMCA had the foresight to send a number of representatives with the contingent. These individuals organized dances and created cinemas and canteens in each barracks. Along with an eight team hockey league, boxing matches, sports days with other Allied contingents, concerts by "The Roadhouse Minstrels" and others, lectures and church services, the soldiers had plenty of activity to keep them busy during off duty hours.

Other than small parties of railway guards drawn from volunteers, no formed group of the 260th Battalion left the Vladivostock area during their four months in theatre and no shots were fired in anger. The last members of the Canadian Siberian Expeditionary Force left Vladivostock on 5 June 1919. Each participating unit was later awarded the Battle Honour "Siberia 1918-19", however the only unit having this emblazoned on their colours is the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, which sent B Squadron of the RNWMP consisting of 185 all ranks.



Perpetuation is a uniquely Canadian system that provides a means of institutionalizing, for succeeding generations, the memory of the deeds and sacrifices made by soldiers who contributed to unique periods in Canada's military history. It is Canadian Forces policy that, where possible, all disbanded combatant units, which have gained an honour and/or distinction in the field, be perpetuated. The Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, in its role as the perpetuators of the 260th Battalion (Canadian Rifles) Canadian Expeditionary Force (Siberia), has been granted the Battle Honour "Siberia 1918-19" and is charged with being the official "safekeeper" of the 260th's heritage, by virtue of Chief of the Defence Staff letter: NDHQ 1065-1 (DHH Her Offr) 30 October 1997.




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Second Battalion

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

Second to None

1997 was a memorable year for the Second Battalion. From Bosnia to Brandon, on operations or training, sporting events or military competitions, the Second Battalion was truly "Second to None" and continued to distinguish itself wherever it served. Op Palladium, Op Assistance, Ex Patricia Warrior and Ex Lion Intrepid; our tasks have been diverse, challenging, and satisfying. Second Battalion Patricia's have found themselves navigating the waterways of southern Manitoba, patrolling the passes of Bosnia, cruising the dunes of Shilo and clambering over la Citadelle of Quebec. Given the pace of operational duties and training, one might think that 2 PPCLI has been all work and no play. To think that is to be mistaken: excellence in competition was displayed when A Company won the Hamilton Gault Skill-at-Arms trophy for the second year in a row; we were well represented by all participants in the Nijmegen march; and our team gave a solid performance at the 1 CMBG Mountain Man competition. Maj Kenneally deserves special mention for his selection to the Canadian Forces CISM Tae Kwon Do team. On a lighter note, the Senior NCO hockey team, after a hard fought contest with the officers, was finally able to reverse a long term decline and actually win a game. RSM Cooke was delighted to supervise the transfer of trophies. In Bosnia, the Battalion was honoured to host both the Colonel-in-Chief and the Colonel of the Regiment, with his wife Norah.



Nijmegen March (L to R): Cpl Hurley, 2Lt Pendergast, MCpl Davis, MCpl Delyea, Cpl Turner, Cpl Froude.



Cpl Graves looking very cool.



Cpls Isenor, Arthurs and Clarke. The Drum Line performs.

Op Palladium

The first week of January saw LCol Fraser and the advance party depart to Bosnia. By the middle of the month, the entire Battle Group, including the Para Company from 3 PPCLI, B Squadron LdSH(RC), and 12 Field Squadron 1 CER, was deployed. A large rear party based on B Company and commanded by Maj Brian Flynn was left to struggle through one of the worst Manitoba winters on record while looking after those loved ones left behind.

A Company, under the watchful eye of Maj Jake "the Snake" Bell and CSM Jones, deployed 1 Platoon to Bihac, 2 Platoon to the gravel pit known as Camp Coralici and 3 Platoon to Velika Kladusa, a.k.a. Club Med. Thankfully, the majority of their tour was uneventful. 1 Platoon's house seemed to double as a coffee house for the many weary travellers following Route Bluebird. 2 Platoon was successful in giving Mor Platoon as much gate duty as possible while rumour has it that 3 Platoon spent their time compiling a list of best cafes within the AOR. The excitement of 7 May made up for the tranquillity of the rest of the mission. 5 Korps, operating from Adil Besic Barracks in Bihac, were caught conducting unauthorized training. 1 and 3 Platoons, and other Battle Group assets were tasked to seize 6 x M55 and 6 x SA-7 anti-aircraft weapons. Tensions were high during the morning of the 7th as Gen Dudakvic had threatened to kill any Canadians entering the base. Negotiations continued and three days later a section from 3 Platoon, led by Sgt Williams, seized the weapons without incident while the rest of 2 and 3 Platoons provided security.

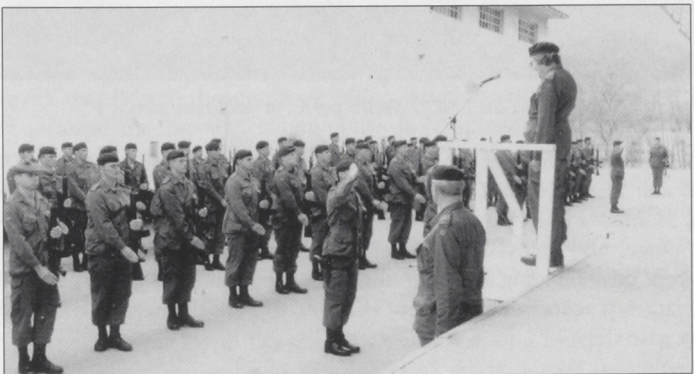


3 Platoon with friends at school opening. Pornja Vidoska, Bosnia.



MCpl Beckman, 2 Platoon, gets a grip on his section.

C Company, led by Maj Ian Hope and CSM Gilfoy, was situated in the southern most region of the AOR. C Company had one Platoon house in Kulan Vakuf with the remainder sharing accommodations with Anti-Armour Platoon in Camp Drvar. Under CSM Gilfoy's loving guidance, the quality of life in Camp Drvar improved. WO Lester Leighton constantly kept the coffee hot in Kulan Vakuf for all the VIPs continually "dropping by": Sgt Bruce Frampton preferred to take his section on long foot patrols to gain useful local intelligence (this actually meant hitting about 4-5 coffee bars). Foot and vehicle patrols, humanitarian assistance, Quick Reaction Force, gate duty, weight lifting, sports, and sun tanning filled the days. Anyone who worked Camp Drvar's main gate should remember reading "The Sizzler" and the pet mouse. Other C Company highlights included: Tito's Caves, the Waterfall, drinking Bosnian coffee, way too many visitors, placing first and second in the Section Military Skills Competition and the three "directionally-embarrassed-and-damn-we're-stuck-again" travelling wise-men (read: Capt Todd McClure, Capt Phil Dawe and Lt James Chorley).



Lady Patricia takes the salute from C Coy.



MCpl Belisle, Cpl Lamash and Ptes Souka and Thompson, C Company, prepare for patrol.



Pte Souka and MCpl Smith perform "delicate surgery".

Combat Support Company, led by Maj Ian Creighton and CSM Chris White, had Mortar Platoon based in Camp Coralici and Anti-Armour Platoon based at Drvar. Mortars actively patrolled the AOR, practised platoon drills at the Velika Radic range, and enjoyed the never ending gate security detail. Anti-Armour were kept busy building a playground, running a Battalion military skills range, TOW target practice with the new BGM-71 top attack missile, and the never ending gate duty.

Administration Company, under Maj Brennan and CSM Surridge, was deployed throughout the AOR. For many, it was their first tour. Cpl Seymour took



*MCpl Mark Sampson, Cpl Jason Froude and Sgt George Williams
patrolling the hills of Velika Kladja.*

her first Grizzly ride, which more resembled a roller coaster ride when the vehicle hit some ice. The cooks, led by WO McLean, worked very hard during the tour and created some of the best meals ever. LS Smith's knitting skill reached new heights with his Patricia sweater complete with Regimental crest. Transport Platoon, under the guidance of Capt Sears and WO Sandahl, drove virtually non-stop delivering supplies and shuttling civilians to and from work. Although the HLVW Sewage truck was not the most popular vehicle, transport always enjoyed an opportunity to remind Anti-Armor Platoon that it had a higher priority of repair than the TUA's. Sgt Lloyd, our accountant, spent the first few months rushing from camp to camp keeping everyone topped up in DM, before he entered a strict sun-tanning regime. The BOR staff, with WO Loraas at the helm, spent several hours a day digging out of the mounds of paperwork that flowed through their office. Administration Company worked closely to assist the Bosnian communities in a humanitarian capacity. Lt(N) Weiser regularly held medical clinics in the isolated areas, Padre Merriman raised money to buy seed for local farmers, while Transport Platoon moved tons of humanitarian aid. The maintainers in Holopina and Zgon challenged each other to see who could build the quickest go-cart. The Zgonites were the victors with a go-cart that maxed out at 80 kph. Rumour has it that it is now being considered as the Itlis replacement.

Time passed quickly in Bosnia and it was not long before the tour was over and the Battalion returned to Canada to enjoy a well deserved leave (even CSM Administration Company smiled ... briefly).



*MCpl Gordie George takes aim during the
Battalion Military Skills Competition, Bosnia.*



*The Padre's charity/torture run
gets briefed.*



Cpl Pirolla and friends assist in building a playground in Bosnia.
(Photo courtesy DND Imaging, Isd 97-109)



Sgt Kevin Ryan offers the kids a ride — Bosnia.

Op Assistance 1997

At home, the Red River rose. On 16 April, Rear Party was directed to form a 125 man company to assist with sandbagging operations. On 19 April the Province of Manitoba requested military assistance, and that afternoon D Company rolled to the town of St Adolphe. By 22 April the Operation grew dramatically in scale, resulting in the deployment of the remainder of the Brigade and the readying of LFCA and SQFT vanguard companies. Rear Party had been given the AOR of Regional Municipality Richot, Tache and Hanover, and B Company 2R22eR was placed under command. This same day D Company ferried 200 school children across the new route of the Red River, running directly through Red River Drive. The fight for the south had now begun in earnest. Our APCs were the only vehicles capable of swimming. By Kapyong Day, 2 PPCLI Rear Party had become 2 PPCLI(-) commanded by Maj Flynn. It now consisted of D Company led by Capt Barr, B Company 2 R22eR, a headquarters element run by Capt Raymond and CSM Whitebone, a troop of field engineers from 1CER, dive teams from Fleet Diving Unit (Pacific), various RCMP and Department of Natural Resources officers, and the echelon in Kapyong Barracks under Capt McLeod.

On 30 April the Second Battalion soldiers went into reserve, thus allowing them to assist the rest of the Welfare Section in preparing the 350 homes of the Battalion's soldiers. On 09 May Rear Party conducted a relief in place with 3 PPCLI. D Company was located in St Adolphe again and a company from



MCpl Strang fills his 968,473rd sandbag.

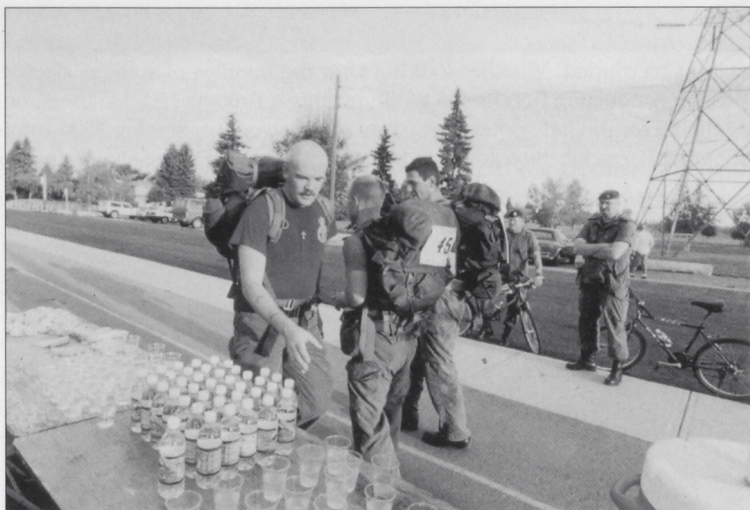
38 Brigade, commanded by a well known Patricia, Maj Jim O'Brien, came under command. 2 PPCLI(-) remained on Op Assistance until 22 May when the operation concluded. Whether looking after the families of soldiers deployed to Bosnia, conducting flood relief work, hosting a Brigade Headquarters, operating the LZ for the helicopter fleet (over 20 involved), or staging 3500 soldiers at Kapyong Barracks, the soldiers of Rear Party acquitted themselves admirably.



Capt Barr. "Ohh ... I get so sea sick."



Rear Party reviews its sandbagging techniques.



Sgt Peterson at Mountain Man. "32 kms and this is all I get?"

German Army Training Establishment Shilo (GATES)

While the Battalion enjoyed its redeployment leave, a composite platoon under 2 Lt Prendergast participated in a combined Canadian/German exercise at GATES Shilo from 20 August - 6 September. The platoon worked up from live pairs to platoon ranges in preparation for a live fire combat team attack with the Germans. The final attack was impressive. German Marders and artillery combined with Canadian drive and determination soundly defeated the enemy.

Ex Lion Intrepid

On its return from summer leave, B Company was reformed. Some long time members had departed while some new faces, including Maj Mike Day and CSM Brian McKenelley, had joined the Company. As soon as summer leave ended, B Company was tasked to form a composite platoon to join 1 R22eR for Ex Lion Intrepid 97. After a quick flight to Gagetown, the platoon became Peloton 9 of Compagnie C and began working alongside the Van Doos. Overall, the company's drive and aggression impressed their hosts. Despite some interesting language barriers (only the Platoon Commander, Lt Mike Lane, understood the orders) the platoon performed well. Soon the exercise was over and the platoon enjoyed a week at the Citadel in Quebec City. Let loose in the historic city, field pay was spent faster than anyone thought possible. Cold beer tastes better in a cultural setting!



*Sgt Muise at Family Day.
"Speak into the open end."*



Cpl Bergseth hangs out.

Ex Patricia Warrior

During September and October, activities continued at a frantic pace. Vehicles were emptied of Red River flood water, B Company conducted a driver track course, C Company busied itself with a small arms coaches course, and all the companies prepared for the rigours of Ex Patricia Warrior. October saw the 2 PPCLI Battle Group road move to Shilo to hone our combat team war fighting skills. In two weeks the Battle Group conducted combat team attacks, obstacle breaching, heliborne operations and a live fire defensive range (a highlight in every sense) constructed by Combat Support Company. Through the sun and snow, many old lessons were relearned. OC B Company was able to field trial the GPS and found that it is neither a substitute for a map nor a watch, and we all gained confidence in the use of artillery in the direct fire role (16 shots 1 hit, range 1000m). Time was short, training was concentrated, the weather was cold ... another excellent exercise.



MWO Whitebone. "Has anybody seen my Company?"



MCpl Neepin. "Hey you down there, stop it!"



*Sgt Stewart, Pte Meek and Pte Gouthro.
"No sir ... that was not me on the net making those strange noises."*



Maj Hope and Capt MacInnis — Rocky and Bullwinkle.



*MCpl Jones and Pte McFarlane.
"Where's the SRD when you need it?"*



Sgt Cloutier volunteers as a training aid.



*MCpl Duthie and Cpl Anderson.
"No place like home ... No place like home."*

Conclusion

What with the deployments, courses and exercises, there was little time left for what might be considered normal garrison routine. Time, though, was still found for about 50 officers and senior NCOs to attend French language training (in brilliant anticipation of the Great Ice Storm), and to conduct a sports programme. A Company was victorious in softball, soccer, flag football and volleyball. The French Grey Cup was claimed by ... A Company. The Annual Technical Inspection was held in the final days of November and the



Sgt "Turbo Lou" Schoofs lands a helicopter during the French Grey Cup.

Battalion passed with distinction though C/Ss 9A through 9D were grounded. Christmas festivities completed a busy and challenging year. Our excellent esprit de corps was evident in the outstanding inter mess hockey games. Bumps and bruises should be healed in time for Broom-i-loo, and LCol Fraser is looking forward to reclaiming a certain trophy from the Senior NCOs. Congratulations to all those who were promoted, and to Lt Green, Sgt Lewis, MCpl Page, Cpl Shaver, Pte Starman and Cpl Prytuliak for their awards as top Lieutenant, Sergeant, Master Corporal, soldier and tradesman. As we look forward to another challenging year in 1998, rest assured that the Second Battalion remains "Second to None".



A Company wins the French Grey Cup.



LCol Astorino and Pte Fraser — cut it thin Colonel, this has got to feed 600.

**KNOW WHEN TO
DRAW THE LINE**



Labatt

Book Reviews



Letters of Agar Adamson

Norm Christie ISBN 0 896979-02-5
First published in Aug 1997 by CEF Books
Softcover 368 pages
Published Price: \$24.95

Available at the Kitshop for \$20.00

Agar Adamson was a soldier in the Great War. He enlisted when he was 48 years old and nearly blind in one eye. Having fought in the Boer War, he quickly joined the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry as an "Original" Officer of the Regiment in 1914. As a Captain commanding No. 2 Company, he first saw action in Flanders at St. Eloi in February 1915. He served continuously from 1915 to 1918, fought at Ypres, Mount Sorrel and the Somme. He rose in rank to Lieutenant Colonel and commanded the Regiment at Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele. He was severely wounded once (Frezenberg 1915) and decorated with the Distinguished Service Order by the King. But Agar Adamson did more than fight in the Great War, he recorded it in daily letters to his wife. What he inadvertently produced was one of the finest and most detailed personal accounts of the war.

What is also clear, beyond the detail and the tragic deaths of so many of his comrades, is the emotional roller coaster that men of this period experienced. Agar started with the enthusiasm so typical of 1914 — full of King and Empire, but as the war progressed and the casualties mounted, Adamson's spirit slowly declined. He was under the constant strain of command, had a seriously ill wife, and the perpetual nagging self doubt. By 1918 Adamson was exhausted both physically and emotionally. He reluctantly relinquished command of that he loved most — his Regiment.

As a historical document, the letters of Agar Adamson stand on their own. He was not the brightest, nor the best. He was stout, partially blind — but he had compassion, common sense and a true sense of loyalty. Together, he and his wife went to war in 1914, each striding off towards their own objectives. His frustrations, and his love for his wife, and life in general, shine through like the rough diamond that was Agar Adamson. Thanks to Agar's second son Anthony, the letters are here for all to enjoy, and to discover the man who was Agar Adamson.



First in the Field

Jeffery Williams ISBN 0 85052 436 9

First published in 1995 by Leo Cooper

Hardcover 277 pages

Published Price: \$37.95

Available at the Kitshop for \$31.50

Though the book covers the life of Alexander Hamilton Gault, "Founder" of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, the topical strength, and half of the book's content, is the formation of the Regiment and its participation in the Great War. It provides a fascinating picture of the Regiment and of the flesh and blood that made it so well known. At the start of the war Gault not only paid for the raising of the Regiment from his own money, but he was insistent on providing for its welfare in the field. Unlike Regimental histories, the faults, the weaknesses, and the sometimes pettiness of individuals, are on parade — along with the strength, the perseverance, the duty and the courage of its soldiers. It all makes for a story worth telling. And Jeffery Williams does that without pulling the punches.

Unlike most of today's Canadian pseudo icons, Gault gave true meaning to the words hero, bravery, responsibility, and duty. The Originals valued him as a leader of men, and perhaps gave him the highest honour bestowed upon an officer — he was considered "one of us." It was his willingness to share the dangers of the trench, and to take even greater personal risks than themselves, that endeared him to the men.

But Jeffery Williams has chronicled the life of a real man — not a Hollywood hero. Gault's private life was deeply scarred by both tragedy and acrimony. His bitter divorce during the Great War from his first wife, Marguerite, affected him deeply. The first cap badge of the Regiment was designed with the flower of the same name, honouring her, a symbol which later rankled him unmercifully. Severely wounded twice, and losing a leg at Sanctuary Wood in June 1916, Gault continued to care, nurture and love his Regiment. Following the Armistice, Gault resumed command of his Regiment and led them home to Ottawa where they disbanded in March 1919.

After the war, Gault continued to serve his King and Empire. He was elected as a Member of Parliament for Taunton, Somerset for eleven years (1924-1935). He engaged in his passion of flying; met Adolph Hitler and discovered the Luftwaffe being formed despite the Versaille Treaty. When war broke out in 1939, Gault was there to greet the Regiment when they arrived in England and looked out for their welfare. He also joined the war effort and by 1942 was a Brigadier commanding the Canadian Reinforcement Holding Units in England. He was appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment in December 1948 and then became the first Colonel of the Regiment in September 1958. The old soldier passed away on 28 November 1958, and is buried far away inside the ancient church beside Hatch Court, Somerset, England. Alexander Hamilton Gault was among the best and the last of a vanished breed in Canadian history — a true legend in his own time.

Third Battalion

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

1997 - The Year In Review

Every year brings forth different challenges, and for the men and women of 3 PPCLI, 1997 was no different in that regard. Over the course of the all too few 365 days that occurred in rapid succession, deployments occurred on an almost continual basis. The Battalion was to see two companies off to Bosnia, a deployment to flood ravaged Manitoba, a quick trip to Louisiana and many other activities that provided both challenge and reward to all members of the "Third Herd".

A Company to Bosnia - Op Palladium

A Company (Para) started the year in, what some would term, the only acceptable manner, deploying to North-Western Bosnia and the town of Zgon as B Company of the 2 PPCLI Battle Group. Under the leadership of Major Hunt and the disciplined hand of CSM Brown, the company spent six months patrolling along the inter-entity boundary line and manning, for a time, the two main check points: White Fang and Minstrel Boy. While deployed, these would be closed, however, while in use, the two check points and their section houses provided somewhat of a chance to escape the crowded warehouses in Zgon.

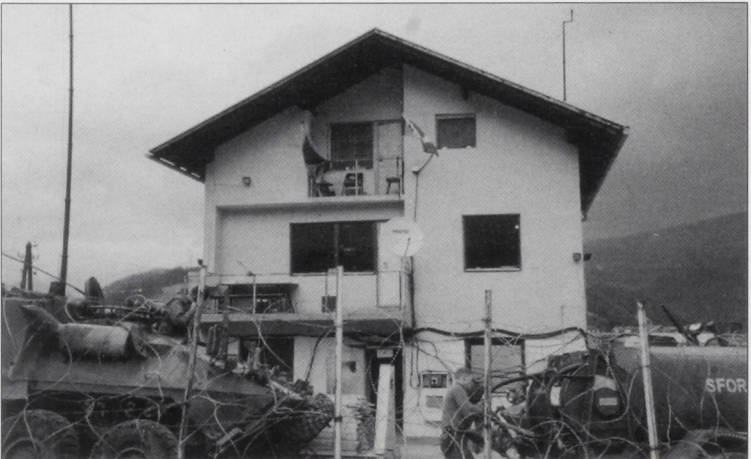


Sgt Strader and the Boys in Bosnia.

In addition to the men in the maroon berets, Zgon was filled up with the men and women of the LdSH(RC) Squadron, the contingent's engineers and a wealth of administrative experts, all dedicated to providing the required level of support. Days and nights were filled with foot and vehicle patrols, manning of check points, R&R where possible, and of course a good dose of physical training. This is, after all, the PARA company that we are talking about. On the 17th of March, Zgon got one more occupant, Lady Patricia.



WO Payette and Cpl Domingue at work in Lusci Palanka.



Platoon house in Kulen Vakuf.

Joining the troops in Zgon for the day, Lady Patricia gave out the much vaunted SFOR medals to all occupants of the camp, including the Strathconas and the Engineers, making them members of a very select fraternity indeed. The perception in the crowd was that, though she did visit the entire 2 PPCLI Battle Group, her real purpose was to see if the physical fitness level of the troops of the Para company was really as high as the reputation she had heard. She was not disappointed. The Regimental Day was celebrated by all occupants of Camp Maple Leaf with a lunch where Lady Patricia was the featured guest. Following lunch, it was immediately back to the grind.



Ptes Savage and Segal at the C7 range.



*Having coffee with the locals,
still the best way Sgt McKenzie knows to get acquainted.*

(Photo courtesy DND Imaging, Isd 97-030)



MCpl Leach on foot patrol.

B Company Op Palladium Workups

While Alpha Company was keeping the peace, activities at CFB Griesbach continued and primary among them was the preparation of Bravo company to assume duties in the former Yugoslavia. These preparations went forth, similar in fashion to that which we all have experienced before. Included among the activities were combat first aid, minefield emergency extraction drills and the immensely popular hole digging. Particularly memorable among the moments that were shared is the thought of once again viewing Captain Glen Zilkalns hard at work using his healing hands on the members of Recce platoon. Apparently Corporal Wood survived, but only through the Divine intervention of the umpire staff. As much fun as these preps were nature decided to intervene, and before you could say "Dobnar Dan" the Battalion took off to Manitoba.



Capt Glen Zilkalns attempts to heal Cpl Wood.



A fetching lass if ever there was (name withheld by request).

Op Assistance - Manitoba Floods

3 PPCLI's participation in what came to be called the "Flood of the Century" began with a Saturday afternoon phone call to the acting CO, Major Joe Pollock, who was "holding the reins" while Lieutenant Colonel Moher was visiting A Company troops in Bosnia. At first, Major Pollock thought the deployment order was some kind of practical joke ("Pigden, you fool — get off the phone!") Nevertheless, once the orders' authenticity was verified, the unit sprang rapidly into action. After a hurried bugout and a few hasty "O" groups, the Battalion was ready to head eastwards to battle the Red.

The unit area of responsibility was made up, primarily, of the three municipalities just south of Winnipeg and the Red River Floodway: Ritchot, Tache, and Hanover. This region lay directly east of the Red River, and included some of the communities hardest hit by the flooding, such as Ste Agathe, Ste Adolphe, and Grande Point. Originally, 2 PPCLI's rear party had been working tirelessly in this area, and our Regimental brethren did an excellent job at supporting and preparing us for the handover of responsibility.

While the advance party was busy expropriating the necessary church basements, town halls, and hockey rinks to billet the troops, the main body moved to Shilo to stage. The unit, only about 150 strong due to Op Palladium commitments, was reinforced by a militia company from Manitoba-Lakehead District (re-designated "A" Company), and received back under command B Company from the Op Palladium LdSH Battle Group. On 29 April, the companies began moving into their new "home towns," and 3 PPCLI took over from Major Bryan Flynn's 2 PPCLI rear party on 30 April.

Battalion Headquarters was established in a church basement in Landmark, while Administration Company took over the local hockey rink, Zamboni and all. While the people of Landmark had never before had much contact with Army personnel, the welcome we received was phenomenal — as was the steady flow of baked goods the ladies of the town kept bringing us! Landmark was chosen as headquarters because it was outside of the projected flood area, and was centrally located. The rifle companies deployed to towns that were much closer to the water, and therefore more affected by the flooding.



"The Red Sea", Op Assistance.



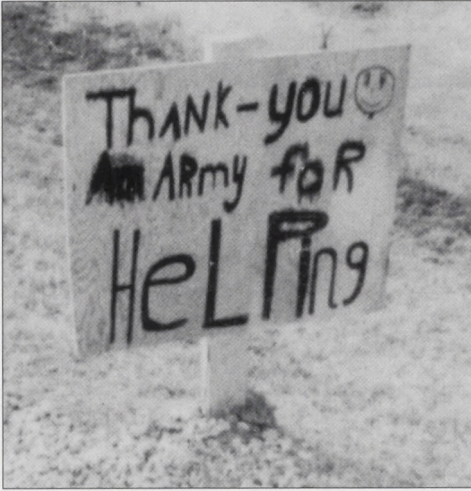
The CO briefs the masses.

A Company moved into the town of Ile des Chenes, and took over responsibility for manning a huge sandbag machine that at one point was producing over 11,000 sandbags per hour. Here they were assisted in their task by a steady stream of volunteers, the bulk of which were Hutterites from a local colony unaffected by the flood. C Company was also billeted in Ile des Chenes. Their tasks were primarily to assist in dyke building operations, and to conduct a large number of security and evacuation patrols throughout the inundated area. The cold and dangerous water conditions often made these patrols gruelling, but the maturity and intelligence of the troops prevented many possible tragedies. B Company found itself working out of the village of Niverville, carrying out patrols and assisting the locals in much the same manner as C Company was doing in the north. The entire unit was ably supported by the tireless efforts of 11 Field Squadron from 1 CER, who provided boats, bridges, and just about any other piece of engineering equipment we could ask for. Also in support were large numbers of Navy small craft and Manitoba Department of Natural Resources boats — just about anything that could float was commandeered for 3 PPCLI's growing flotilla of tiny craft.

Despite everyone's ceaseless efforts, the Red won a few battles, and many homes and businesses were tragically lost, especially in Ste Agathe and in the Grande Pointe area. Nevertheless, the hard work, tireless effort, and vigilance of the 3 PPCLI troops ensured that no casualties occurred to either civilians or military, and that the damage, though extensive, was kept to a minimum; less the temporary sinking of MCpl Strong's (our resident MSE OP) HLWV!



Another one of the DCO's great land deals!



Why we were there.



Capt Hodgins and Maj Waddell playing "Simon Says".

Lady Patricia's Visit

With the battles on the Red successfully concluded, the Battalion returned to Griesbach and Wainwright and the preparations for Op Palladium continued. However, it was not all work and no play for the Third, as in June we were proud to receive a visit from the Colonel-in-Chief, Lady Patricia. For an all too short period in June, the Garrison and our Battalion played host to the Countess and her daughter, Lady Amanda Ellingworth. With many of the troops deployed or preparing for their upcoming mission, the visit focused on the new facilities within the Garrison and its eventual destiny as home of the Regiment. (It should be noted that Lady Patricia did also visit the First, however, her heart was obviously with us.)



MCpl Cox getting the once over from Lady Patricia.

Exercise Cooperative Nugget - C Company

As June continued, C Company with its noted international traveller, Captain Dan "Check the Tan" Brister, left for Exercise Cooperative Nugget in Fort Polk, Louisiana at the Joint Readiness Training Centre. The purpose of this exercise, which included over 20 former Soviet Bloc countries, was to promote peacekeeping and cooperation as well as learn about our former "enemy". Training was conducted in the standard format at JRTC and included detailed

After Action Reviews and a demanding test exercise. The soldiers of C Company faced realistic conditions and missions, including voter registration, prisoner exchanges, civil disturbances, food distribution and convoy escort duties (does this sound familiar!). Although at times difficult, with some interesting linguistic challenges, the nations worked well together and forged a unique warrior spirit. On the first of July, the company travelled to Astroworld in Houston, Texas for some well earned R&R and awed at least half of Texas with a rendition of the National Anthem that is still being talked about.



C Company providing first aid to a wounded comrade from Latvia.

Summer Slowdown

July found the Battalion at minimal strength with Bravo Company deploying to Yugo and Alpha Company off on leave for an unbelievable five weeks. Of course, the world doesn't stop turning when you're on leave, and it fell to Charlie Company to take up the slack when on 12 July 1997, the company was tasked out to assist in a search for a young man near Fort Saskatchewan. This followed an unsuccessful search by the RCMP that had begun on 1 July. Within approximately six hours the codeword "zulu" came over the radio: dead body found. Although not a fun or joyful duty, Charlie Company took consolation in the fact that the anguish of the young man's family had been ended by a quick finish to the affair. With the search over, and Alpha Company back, the Battalion scattered to the four winds, certain that once leave was over, the work would begin again.



Private Dicapua comes across the line, winning the '97 Mountain Man competition.

Exercise Light Warrior - Dundurn

"Winds ... 12. Standby! ... Go!" With those words, followed by a hard landing and an accompanying expletive, members of 3 PPCLI kicked off Exercise Light Warrior on DZ Cowboy in Dundurn, Saskatchewan. Leave was now over, as could be seen in the somewhat bloody, and occasionally toothless, paratroopers who proceeded to the RV, ready to carry on with the mission. One man still stands out, covered in dried alkaline from the remnants of the lake that was on the drop zone: his combats were white except for two bloody streaks that coated the front of his uniform as a result of his nose trying to bend a 60mm mortar baseplate. The mortar won, but the trooper was still smiling.

For the next two weeks the Battalion carried out a number of activities including "Warrior Training", range work (PWT, pair's fire and movement, jungle lanes and all the way up to section level live fire) and patrolling. After summer leave it was good to get the rifles back in hand and feel like soldiers again. One of the highlights was the march and shoot competition. This was a scenic 20 km forced march, followed by a one shot, one kill (per coke can) shoot and a kit inspection. Although the event was won by a composite platoon from Combat Support Company, it is worth noting that Alpha Company's platoons finished very high, and the Warrant Officer that was 2IC of the winning platoon (WO Green) was cross posted from Alpha Company to Assault Pioneers just before we deployed to Dundurn.



Corporals Perkins and Bona about to rig the LSVW for double door mass.



Lt MacPherson explaining his concept of ops.



C6 working like it should.



Let's Rock!



Maj Giraldeau and CSM Brown looking for change.



Marcot 97

As we continued to wonder when we would move into our new building, originally forecasted for sometime in June, but then delayed until January 1998, Charlie company decided that they hadn't quite done enough yet, and took off to visit Work Point Barracks (those days are gone!) as the Army's "chosen few" for Marcot 97. On 15 October '97, Charging Charlie and a Recce section from 3 PCLI were deployed via C-130 Hercules for this Multi-National Joint Operation which incorporated both airmobile and amphibious operations.

The first week in B.C. was spent in Albert Head, learning and practising operations which would be required to complete the various tasks during the exercise. These operations included urban security patrolling, establishing vehicle checkpoints, searching personnel and vehicles, and conducting section and platoon hasty attacks. After several days of training in Albert Head, Company and its attachments boarded the USS Anchorage LSD-36, which eventually took them from Esquimalt Harbour to Nanoose Bay. The Anchorage has stern gates which are used for the deployment and docking of landing craft. Quarters on the ship were very cramped and uncomfortable, with approximately 25 people in a room the size of a small bedroom. The food and the sensation of sea travel also took some getting used to.

The Anchorage set sail on 21 October and on the 22nd they were able to conduct a practice landing at Albert Head. The only resistance for this rehearsal turned out to be the media armed with 35mm cameras. On 24 October the main body of the land forces were deployed. A UN scenario was used that included two separate warring factions in the nation formerly known as Vanis (Vancouver Island). Tasks included using established rules of engagement to deal with various factions, from harmless refugees to armed terrorists. In addition, a number of airmobile operations were conducted to islands off the coast searching for illegal arms caches. On 29 October, due to unfavorable conditions at sea and air, the exercise was terminated and the company redeployed to Work Point Barracks for one last look before heading back to Edmonton.

B Company to Bosnia - Op Palladium

Half a world away many of these same skills were being practised for real by Bravo Company. Stationed in the northern part of the Canadian AO, the company found itself very busy working in Velika Kladusa, Coralici and Bihac. Although the tasks hadn't changed from the previous rotation, the level of activity was constant with a lot of effort being put towards the monitoring of training and keeping tabs on 5 Corps (ARBiH). When not occupied with this the troops could often be seen on foot and vehicle patrol, supervising the movement of weapons and checking cantonement sites. The single biggest

difference (other than a lack of boats) between the pre-deployment exercise and Op Palladium was that B Company only had to go to the police station in Bihac to find illegal stores of weapons.



Sgt House and his section on patrol.



Capt Hodgins and Sgt Cooper examine the first weapon confiscated by B Company.



Platoon House in Bihac — new and improved.



Sgt Halcro meeting the Minister of National Defence.

Conclusion

As the year wound down, the Battalion continued to work. JANUS exercises, continuation para training, Exercise Ric-A-Dam-Doo, box packing and the ever present PT, filled our days. Several members of the Battalion also deployed to assist with the APEC conference. Closing the year with the traditional Men's Christmas Dinner and the Officer/Senior NCO Hockey Game al-

lowed us to focus both on where we had been, and where we were going. This is because the officers won their seventh in a row (looking to the past) and wondered if they would take the run to eight (the future). On a more serious note, other concerns were on our minds: the move to the new building, Bravo Company's redeployment, upcoming exercises, and getting back to soldiering.
VP.



*Look out!
RSM Ruck hasn't had his first cup of coffee.*



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Loyal Edmonton Regiment

The militia infantryers of the Loyal Edmonton Regiment put in a productive year in 1997. In January, an esteemed former member of the unit passed on at the age of 101 years. Major David Petrie originally served in the 51st Battalion in World War I (one of the Canadian Expeditionary Force units which the Loyal Edmonton Regiment perpetuates). He joined the Edmonton Regiment as a militia officer in 1920, and saw active service with the unit in WW II. In civilian life, he was the principal of Westmount School in Edmonton and later a Civil Defence Coordinator. Another World War II member of the unit David Gaulter, attended the April 1997 ceremony at Vimy Ridge where a representative of each participating Canadian unit was present. Both his father and his father-in-law actually fought in that great Canadian victory, the latter with the 49th Battalion.

The unit's training highlights included a busy conventional range and tactical live fire weekend at Wainwright in May, an escape and evasion exercise in September and a defensive exercise in October; including the inevitable fun involved in occupying defensive positions and withdrawing at night. October also marked our participation as part of the Edmonton militia team entered in the challenging Cambrian Patrol Competition in Wales. Much training in Wainwright, the Nordegg area, and on England's bleak Dartmoor laid the basis for the stout Bronze Medal effort in the Welsh Brecon Hills. These activities



*Sgt Tom Paton shows the way to Privates Matthew Gaulden and Antonio Costa
(Ex Infantry Sentinel III).*



were in addition to the usual gamut of individual training courses, taskings and regular force augmentation that happen whether we want them to or not.

Our Honorary Colonel, Bob Chapman, was able to accompany the unit to Wainwright in the spring and meet with the troops in the field. Colonel Chapman will retire shortly after a productive tour of duty on behalf of the Regiment, and our present Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel, Colonel Bob Matheson, will be moving up to take his place.

In November, the unit hosted business and educational leaders to a breakfast at the Prince of Wales Armoury, that included static displays and a visit to the Regimental Museum. As always, in recent years, we observed Remembrance Day in St. Albert, where the Regimental Band headed a marching contingent which included the Regimental Colours and a guard for the cenotaph service. As for the band, their high point to a very successful year was their participation in the stand up ceremony for 41 Brigade in Calgary. The band is continuing to grow and improve, and we are now hoping to restore a Regimental tradition from both wartime and peacetime by developing a unit pipe band.

Among other notable events, former RSM Bryan Read had his rank insignia ripped off in a short ceremony at the Sergeants' and Warrant Officers' Mess, then was dumped off at the front door of the Officers' Mess. There, a reception committee garbed in mysterious head wrappings which resembled the mess' chesterfield armrest coverings, presented Captain Read with his new rank badges. Additionally, a "borrowed" artifact was ceremoniously returned. The Battle of Ortona citation, presented to mark the unit's participation in the desperate street fighting battle of Christmas 1943 which was the height of the Regiment's World War II effort, somehow came into the possession of an affiliated Cadet Corps around 1964. It was returned and is now displayed in the Regimental Museum.

During 1997, the Loyal Eddies were the best recruiters in Western Canada, and more than a few of our recruits so enjoyed military life that they transferred to the Regular Force. The Regimental website is online and can be located by searching "Loyal Edmonton Regiment". All the best in 1998.



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Student Bursaries

Each year the Regiment (in memory of those members who served in the Korean theatre of war) proudly provides for a number of bursaries for deserving South Korean students to attend the Kapyong Middle School. In order for a student to be eligible, he or she must be a good student who will put the funds to good use, and need the financial assistance in order to be able to attend Middle School. The student will receive extra consideration if the father was a veteran of the Korean War or an ex-soldier. The selection committee for the awarding of the bursaries is comprised of educators and community leaders in the Kapyong Gun region.

In April of 1997, four Korean Student Bursaries were presented by PPCLI Korean veterans as follows: Mr. Ed Bastien presented to Kim, Ji-Hun; Mr. Jilfred Larkin presented to Park, Mi-Sook; Mr. Mel Lashuk presented to Nam, Myong-Hi; and Mr. Rudolph Pfeifer presented to Kim, Min-Jung.



*Korean Bursary Recipients with veterans.
Nine bursaries in total were awarded by Canadian organizations.*

In 1997, eleven \$1,000.00 PPCLI student bursaries were allocated to deserving post-secondary students in Canada by the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund Board of Trustees. All of the students are part of the extended PPCLI Regimental Family and had applied in the spring. The application date has been revised to 15 July vice 1 July in order for applicants to receive final marks from that school year. The new application form is contained, as an enclosure, in your copy of the *Patrician*, or may be obtained from RHQ, or by extracting it from your unit's routine orders.

The Regimental Museum

This past year has been very busy. While the focus of our year has been a 100% refurbishment of the collection and the creation of a new database to catalogue artifacts and archival documents, we also planned and supervised the construction of a new Yugoslavia peacekeeping exhibit.

We worked on the new UNPROFOR display from August until November 10th. For me it was an experience, as it was the first time I had to get a job done by working with the "Arts community". The people were a little trying at times, but they got the job done on the 10th at 1158 hours just as the contractor had said. On Remembrance Day, the official opening, the Museum of the Regiment was full of people, many commenting on the realism of the exhibit. Many of them were retired or serving members. Most were convinced that the APC had been cut in half and put against the wall. They even thought that we cut a hole in the wall and then cut it off. All joking aside, these comments as to how real the display is reflect well on Studio Y and Brown Bag design, our contractors.

In regards to future activities at the Museum, the Regiment has approved the addition of the names of all the soldiers killed during United Nations operations to the Regimental Hall of Honour. Consequently, in 1998 the names of our brothers in arms who died serving the Regiment in Cyprus and the former Republic of Yugoslavia will have their names inscribed in stone in the Hall of Honour. In addition, a Book of Remembrance has been completed to memorialize the names of Patricians, and others serving with the Regiment, who died in non-operational circumstances. This book is also on display in the Museum. At the end of the year, we also said a fond goodbye to Anne Marie Brothers, our civilian archivist/consultant/curator. Anne Marie has moved to Edmonton to marry into the Regiment.

— WO G.S. Crossman, Curator



The new display: "Peacekeeping in the Former Yugoslavia".



Western Area Training Centre Camp Wainwright and 1 PPCLI Battle School

1997 - A Year To Remember

The Battle School, under the able command of LCol Austdal, began the year in anticipation of the upcoming amalgamation with the Western Area Training Centre. This did not dampen the spirits of the Patricias, who showed customary zeal during the Regimental Day activities and other events prior to the amalgamation, and since.

PPCLI Battle School Stand Down

The "stand down" of the Battle School and "stand up" of Western Area Training Centre was done with due ceremony on June 19th. Lady Patricia and MGen Hewson were there to witness the event and offer words of encouragement to those who would be left behind to stand up WATC. This task has proven easier than it might have been because we have a Patricia to see us



The last RSM of the PPCLI Battle School, MWO Pryce.



through the process. LCol Dan MacLean, formerly the CO of Camp Wainwright, already had a good grip on the infrastructure changes underway and has aptly been implementing the imposed and dramatic position cuts; this while overseeing an increase in training. For those Patricias who have not seen the camp in some time (there must be some), significant changes have occurred. It seems as if there are fewer Quonset huts every day, and improvements in quarters, training facilities, and messes are significant.



Maj Gotthardt leads the School in three cheers for the departing LCol Austdal.



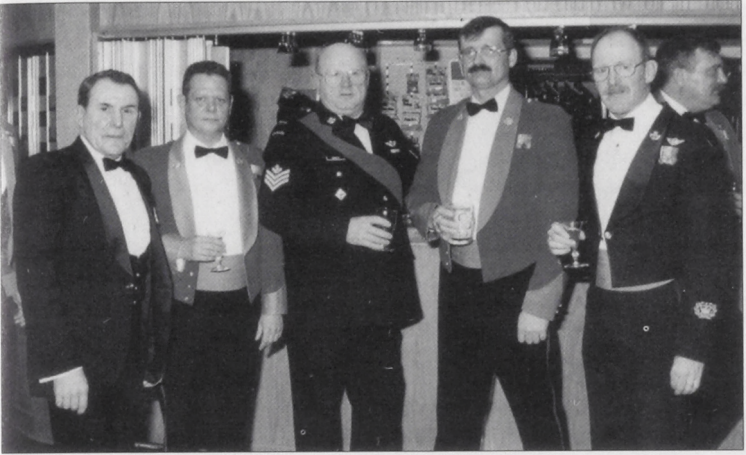
LCol Austdal with Lady Patricia.



Sgt Komidina.



*LCol Austdal quickly scribbles "Vive le Battle School"!
while LCol MacLean and LFWA Deputy Commander BGen Millar discuss WATC.
For his act of defiance, LCol Austdal was banished to SHAPE HQ in Belgium.*



L-R: CWO (ret'd) Komidina, MWO Stapleford, Sgt Scully, MWO Pryce, and MWO Schaffel.

Basic Training Company (Recruit Company)

May you live in interesting times! The past year has seen significant changes and a high tempo of operations for the whole Regiment; and for Patricia's Battle School it has been no different. Recruit Company began the year with Major Pigden at the helm, assisted by Capt Furuness as second-in-command and MWO Stapleford as CSM. Maj Pigden got going when the going was good, to return to the Second Battalion, leaving Maj Duncan to command the battalion strength influx of reserve soldiers as the first Officer Commanding Basic Training Company. The final shake-up occurred in September, with Maj Brause, Capt Heth, and MWO Schaffel coming down from Advanced Training Company, while Maj Duncan and MWO Stapleford went upstairs, and Capt Furuness moved over to the Adjutants chair to give Capt Marshall a much deserved break. WO Murphy has also added his sunny disposition to Basic Training Company, and is busy breaking the bad habits that our QL3 recruits have picked up in St Jean.

Despite all the changes and teething problems inherent in amalgamating the Camp and Battle School, QL3 training has continued with a great deal of success. In the past year Basic Training Company has graduated a total of 164 QL3 qualified Patricia soldiers, with six more courses to graduate before the summer of 1998. We also ran the first QL3 Armoured course in the Area, which needless to say was a significant learning experience for the infantry instructors. Basic Training Company was also tasked to conduct a War Correspondents Course, that was designed to educate journalists in Army operations (especially UN missions) and how to survive in a war zone. Hands-on activities



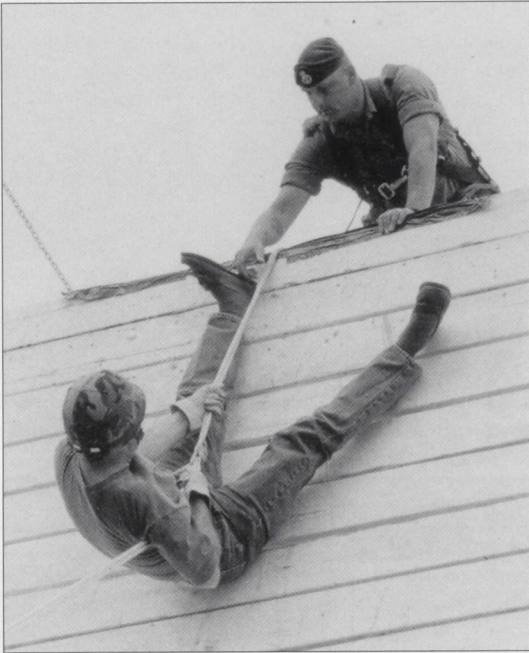
and, especially, the fire-power demonstration hopefully served to show them the dangers to life and limb they face when reporting from theatres such as the former Yugoslavia. Finally, the company is heavily augmented by the battalions, and could not hope to run the number of courses without significant augmentation of both officers and NCOs. Instructors invariably arrive here ready to instruct and set an excellent example for our future soldiers. Their efforts and personal sacrifices are much appreciated.



WO Ryan on "auto-pilot" during a QL2/3 course.



Maj Pigden shoulders the burden of command with grace.



"OK, now lean back."

WO Murphy offers advice and assistance to a participant of Executrek.



CSM Stapleford in his natural habitat.



Recruits learning the finer points of FIBUA training.



The effect of an 84mm HEAT round.



Ptes Hendry and Karigiannis of QL3 (Reg) Infantry 9706 - The Moro Platoon.



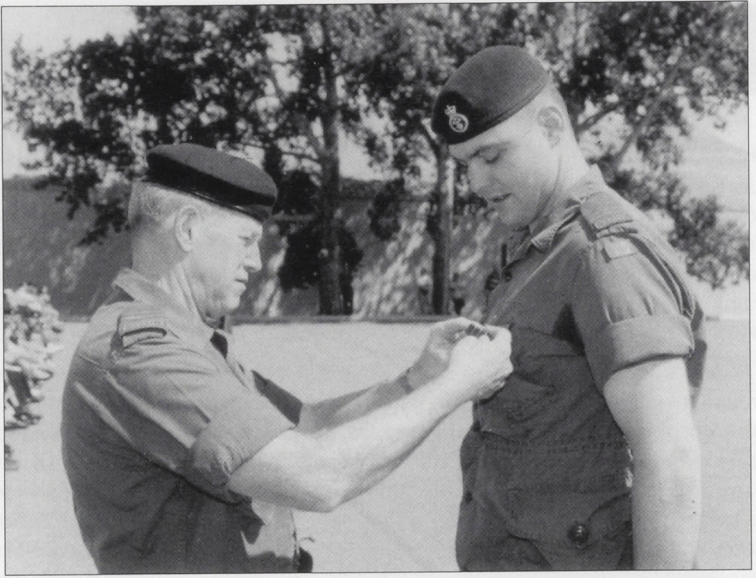
Advanced Training Company (Leadership Company)

For anyone who has spent a few memorable months in Wainwright involved in leadership or specialty training over the last few years, terminology has been a thing of wonderment. Time to bring you up to speed. Upon the consecration of WATC, Leadership Company became a memory. Advanced Training Company was born, a name more indicative of what we're all about. Leadership training is not our only forté — we also conduct various specialty training, including Basic Sniper, Machine Gunner, Rappel master, and Advanced Winter Warfare courses.

Not only have company and course names changed, the faces have as well. Sgt Hall and MCpl Klick departed for greener pastures in battalions, and Sgts Murphy, Chilton, Wyzsinski, and Davis arrived to pass on their wealth of knowledge; to corrupt young vulnerable minds. In a classic setting of Company Musical Chairs, Major Brause and Sergeant-Major Schaffel headed south to tackle the busy schedule of Basic Training Company. Advanced Training Company was open season for the likes of Major Duncan and Sergeant-Major Stapleford (you'll never find them in the office though — one's always painting his house, and the others out playing hockey or babysitting). Captain Heth also moved to Basic Training Company while Captain Folkins took up the company's administrative duties.



*MCpl Klick and Sgt Turner hiding during the
First Canadian International Sniper Competition in Gagetown.*



Capt Liebert being corrected on his dress by the Colonel of the Regiment.

But what of the regulars, those devoted to developing tomorrow's leaders? They're still here. WO Boustead and Sgt Philips took their experience (and ability to constantly look busy) to the Standards Cell. They volunteered, thinking people were finally going to listen to them! WO Semenko took on the title of "Warrant Officer with most courses under belt", which loosely translated means "They think I know what I'm doing, so they're going to abuse me with extra responsibilities". He quickly learned what the term "2IC take over" was all about when his course officer left to vacation in Ottawa for three weeks. Upon his return, WO Semenko decided to try it on Sgt Todd. "Alright," Sgt Todd replied, "as long as I can get away to do some hunting!" We're happy to report that he got Bambi ... at the expense of a radiator grill and a headlight.

The Sniper Gods — WO Primmer, Sgt Turner, and Sgt Keer — are all doing well. Sgt Keer successfully completed the Master Sniper Course. WO Primmer was tasked with a CSS leadership course in a failed attempt to mellow him out. Prior to his departure, MCpl Klick and Sgt Turner participated in two sniper competitions. At the 1st Annual International Sniper Competition in Gagetown, the team placed first overall, as well as Top Shot. Later, at the Heckler and Koch Invitational Counter-Sniper Team Competition in Baltimore, MCpl Klick placed fifth in the 3-gun match, and Sgt Turner, as well as the team, placed second in the stationary phase. Now that he's back to leadership training, it seems that, no matter what he's teaching, he's always teaching sniper. (One shot, one kill, eh, T2?)



Our Deep Freeze specialists — WO Mansbridge and Sgt Sansom — have been busy rewriting the training standard/plan for the Advanced Winter Warfare Course. They felt overworked and decided to spend valuable company funds vacationing in the Great White North. They were spewing off something about “requirement to conduct a recce”, but we know better. Why a recce if there isn’t going to be a course? Oh yeah, if you weren’t here during the summer, then you missed out on the endless entertainment provided by Sgt “Radar” Gallant. The community of Denwood was less than impressed with his accurate renditions of “Attention, all personnel — attention, all personnel”. Finally, Sgt Guitard has requested leave without pay to attend an accounting course so that he can better account for his gear. We won’t go any further into that, will we Darren? 1998 will prove to be an interesting year, with yet more new terminology, new course packages, and new faces.



*Mistaking his attempt to test the mask's seal,
WO Semenko is subsequently charged for an attempted suffocation.*



Guess who won!



Sgt Guitard, Sgt Rheume, and MCpl Maclaren beg Maj Brause to stay in Advanced Training Company.



*"So there I was with my tank hunting team, T-72s all around ...".
Sgt Grant impresses the press.*



Sgt Turner, wondering ...

Militia Training Support Centre (MTSC)

It is time again to reflect on the past and to let everyone know what the Patricias from MTSC have been up to. Over the year the Infantry Training Assistance Team One was kept busy assessing units from as far east as Thunder Bay to Nanaimo on the west coast. There was never a dull moment as we dealt with everything from pulling soldiers, and the occasional ski-doo, out of the slush on a lake in Thunder Bay (the only available training area), to filing police reports for a rental truck which was broken into in Vancouver (in a locked parkade). Despite all the problems, Capt Heth and WO Hill managed



Capt Blackburn showing how they used to do it in the Airborne.



to keep their morale high after suffering through a two week visit in BC while Wainwright was at 40 below. During this same time, Infantry Training Assistance Team Two, with Capt Folkins and WO Penney, was working hard on evaluations in Shilo, Dundurn and Wainwright. Unfortunately they encountered some of the worst weather ever to hit the region. Of course the schedule was made up in a fair and impartial fashion (by WO Hill). WO Penney was then posted (he had achieved all that he could in MTSC), and is currently a CQ in 1 PPCLI.

During the summer, MTSC supported some area/national courses, with Capt Heth moving over as second-in-command of the newly formed Advanced Training Company (Leadership Company), and Capt Folkins enjoying his summer as a Course Commander in Basic Training Company. We also welcomed WO Cutting into the fold, who has since taken his release and returned to the west coast. Presently, MTSC is awaiting their move into a new building, and have begun another collective training cycle to impart their knowledge and skill on the young Reservists of LFWA. We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Capt Zilkans, who has been swanning with SFOR for the past six months.

Operations and Training

Well, it happened. We are now no longer members of the Battle School but of WATC. Despite many predictions, it has not killed us and some will argue it has made us stronger. Lt Rob Harris of the Calgary Highlanders, the first reserve officer to run a regular force recruit course, was picked up under the Component Transfer program and by April 1998 will be a Patricia. The Battle School ambience was also responsible for converting Lt Owen Savage (formerly Seaforths), Cpl Mark Salesse (formerly BCR) and Cpl Tony Forbes (formerly Calg Highrs) to the regular force.

Conclusion

1997 saw the retirement of our Training Development Officer and long time Patricia, Captain Emery French. Captain Ed Anderson "pulled pole" a little ahead of schedule when he was offered employment by Lockheed Martin to supervise our new direct fire targetry systems. Both remain in Wainwright and with the arrival of several new Patricias (and the return of a few others, including Major Peter Hofman) there's bound to be someone here you know.

The Men's Christmas Dinner this year involved the whole camp, with the main PPCLI representation being four QL3 infantry courses, who were introduced to the tradition for the first time. They quickly got into the spirit of the event, no doubt assisted by the copious spirits secured for them by their caring course staff. Wainwright may be isolated, but all roads lead here. If you find yourself in Wainwright, look up a Patricia. You'll be made to feel at home.

U.S. Army Ranger Course Graduate

Master Corporal Mike Feyko, from the 3 PPCLI Parachute Company, was awarded the Ranger tab on completion of Ranger Course 5-97. MCpl Feyko began his training with course 4-97, but was recycled after completing the first phase (Fort Benning) in excellent order. On course 5-97, MCpl Feyko performed extremely well on both the mountain and jungle phases, and in the opinion of Maj Denne, the CFLO at Benning, "... had he not been recycled, he would have doubtless been in line for a performance award of some sort." He states further that "MCpl Feyko was a great representative of Canada, his Regiment, and his unit. It was my pleasure to be able to pin the well deserved Ranger tab to his combat shirt."



*MCpl Feyko and Maj Denne at the Tabbing Ceremony
on Hurley Hill, Fort Benning, Georgia.*

French Grey Battalion

1997 was another extremely busy year in Gagetown. At the Infantry School, almost 1200 candidates passed through the doors on various courses. Many thanks have to be given to the many Patricias who came down as augmentees. You did a great job and ensured a high standard of training. Things will be getting even busier in 1998, with the Infantry School taking responsibility for putting not only all combat arms officer candidates through Phase 2, but all land officers. Some of you can look forward to working in Gagetown this upcoming summer, as plans are being made to conduct up to 12 Phase 2 platoons concurrently.

1997 saw the promotion of Maj Blekaitis to Lieutenant-Colonel and his posting to SHAPE in Belgium. Maj Jake Bell was posted in to the Tactics School. Capt George Plumton was also promoted and left the LAV Cell for a new job in Halifax at the Militia Brigade HQ. Also promoted was MCpl Dow and MCpl Fudge. Posted in to the Infantry School was Capt Oliphant, Capt Webber, Sgt Thornton and Sgt Sandford. Sgt McManus decided to take his retirement as did Cpl Maillet and Cpl Douglas. New Patricias joined the Regiment this year as Cpl Lee and Cpl Tellerd from the RCR decided to rebadge. Capt Kerr and CWO Veysey continue their work at Trials and Evaluations, finding new and interesting weapons for us, and ensuring the durability of the Goretex clothing before it is issued.



CSM George looks on as LCol Blekaitis says goodbye to Sgt McManus.



LGen Crabbe presents WO Larabie with QL7 Top Candidate Award.

Early in the year, we were working on such courses as the JLC and the QL7. Our own WO Ed Larabie is to be congratulated for being named top candidate on the QL7. There was also a lot of training for the Patricias in Support Company to convert them to the Coyote Recce Vehicle. Capt Smith and WO Corriveau began the process of training instructors for the new Eryx SRAAW(H); in between trips to England and Norway. Capt Jasper and the Adjutant, Capt Wyatt, our sensitive new age guys, ensured that we were all "SHARPened" to a fine point. As always, we celebrated on March 17th with a game of Broomiloo and a get-together. After a close fought battle, the Senior NCOs were victorious over the Officers in Broomiloo.



WO "Hollywood" Plantz warms up the troops.



*Sgt Reid, 2 PPCLI, on the 6B course;
but wishing he was somewhere else.*

Later in the year we conducted the QL6B course. Candidate Marshall found that he was no longer welcome in the Red Sash and had to put his heels together in order to talk to his former friends, now his instructors. The School also hosted an international sniper competition that included teams from across Canada, the RCMP, as well as teams from the United States and Britain. WO Wilde and WO Treger were instrumental in making it one of the most challenging competitions the participants had ever been on. Congratulations go to Sgt Turner and Sgt (then MCpl) Click from the Battle School who emerged as the winning team.

The summer period is always the craziest of the year with hordes of officer candidates coming for training and augmentees coming to help train them. We sent nine new officers to the units after they successfully completed training and graduated from Phase 4. After more than half a year of hard work, we were all ready to enjoy our block leave in August.

Once leave was over, work began again in earnest to get ready for the fall Advanced and Small Arms courses, as well as another round of Eryx courses. Capt Szelec and WO Wiseman worked hard to complete their trials with the Coyote and integrate it, for the first time, into the Advanced Recce Course. Patricia did very well on the advanced courses, with Sgt Brodeur and Sgt Dearing from 1 PPCLI topping the Advanced Anti-Armour and Advanced Recce courses, respectively. MCpl Delvasto from the Infantry School successfully completed his Small Arms course.



The new officers with the Colonel of the Regiment.

Once all the courses were finished, we were again ready for a well-deserved period of Christmas Leave. We will no doubt see many of you in the year to come as we shift gears and get ready to put units through the conversion training for the new LAV APC. Rest assured that the Gagetown Patricias are working hard, and doing our best, for the Regiment and the Infantry.

VP.



WO Corriveau digging a hole; with his hands! This really happened!

CFB Suffield Patricias

1997 saw a significant increase in the activity level at CFB Suffield. Support to BATUS continued unabated and their Medicine Man serials remained our top priority. This year, Canada also provided three serials for the opposing forces. Although none came from Land Forces Western Area, it did provide the locals some contact with the outside world and was very much appreciated, even if they were wearing the wrong cap badges.

Fortunately, this is the second year training has been accomplished without fatalities. Range control was kept very busy containing 134 fires within and outside of the range boundaries. We also expended a lot of effort conducting range cleanups and hunting patrols, and performing engineer tasks. Much of our remaining time was consumed by Warrior Training, housekeeping duties and readiness training for our primary tasks, supporting BATUS and DRES. We also found time to re-introduce 130 elk onto the range, which has proven to be an interesting sideline and a successful experiment.

There have been some changes to the Patricia rank and file at CFB Suffield. MCpl Rheault and Cpl Dalton left the military to pursue careers in Calgary and Medicine Hat respectively. Both have not been hard to find — Cpl Dalton spent considerable time in the local hospital after a serious vehicle accident at his new job and MCpl Rheault returned to receive his Somalia Medal from Col



MCpl Lavalliere, Cpl Lennie, Cpl Carey, Col Kenward, Maj Davies, Cpl Knipstrom, Cpl Sloan, Sgt Gemmell.



MCpl Rheault (Ret'd) receives his Somalia Medal from Col Kenward.

Kenward during a formal parade on 24 October 1997. MCpl Rheault was replaced by MCpl Lavalliere from 2 PPCLI. He and his family appear to have made the adjustment to life at Suffield.

Support to Canadian and British training, DRES, Chemical Warfare Conventions, cattle grazing, oil and gas activities and a massive reconstruction program have kept us busy. The Base is now almost completely rebuilt and it is indeed a showpiece and a good place to serve. We welcome all visitors — just bring your Visa.

VP & EXIMIUS ORDO

— Col P.G. Kenward

North of 60 Patricias

This year, as in previous years, the author of this article has been deluged with requests to spread disinformation regarding the horrors of northern living. Well, the mosquitoes are not as big as ravens, although they certainly are more numerous; and yes the lake has been frozen since mid October, but the ice goes out in early June. There are only three hours of light on Dec 21st, but you can golf at midnight (if you're into old people sports) on June 21st; or if you're a real man, you can get two days worth of fishing in one day. So life isn't so bad, and what's more, we have a Canadian Tire, a Tim Horton's, and a Wal Mart; oh, and I forgot, a Mark's Work Wearhouse — for manly fashions! The one thing that the fellows up here do complain about is the lack of drill practice. It isn't uncommon for the small band of Northern Patricias to be seen marching up and down the parking lot like maddened penguins waddling to and fro, practising eyes right and left turns on the march, just to keep the rust off. When it gets below minus 40, we move into the indoor sand lot parade square and practice with the little soldiers.

The Ranger Section has been typically busy. WO Adair and his trusty scouts, Sgt Deffner and Sgt Morris, are continuously on the go, venturing from one end of the Arctic to the other conducting Ranger training and exercises. The Cadet Section has WOs MacDonald (just call me Sergeant Major) and Jure (the latter a new recruit who is working diligently on his Gold Star) equally busy inspecting and training the 17 Army and 5 Air Cadet Corps in the Yukon and NWT. Anyway, must go for now. Rest safe knowing your Northern flank is well and truly secured by Patricias. P.S.: Please call from time to time to let us know how things are going. The TV gets all jiggered up from the aurora borealis so we are frequently in the dark (news wise).



Patricia coffee break on the lake — Yellowknife style!
(L to R) Sgt Deffner, Sgt Morris, WO Adair, WO Jure, WO MacDonald, Maj Drew.



Manitoba/NW Ontario Patricias

Contrary to popular opinion, those of us in the Manitoba/NW Ontario region did not drown in the spring of 1997. In fact we found an extra Patricia, Captain Shanks. He had been hiding in AIRCOM HQ until his dike broke, forcing him out into the open. 1997 saw the retirements of Maj Peterson, MWO Doug Colton and WO Don Fry. It also saw the release of WO Perry Batchelor and the promotion of Maj Malcolm (the Bruce) Bruce (no correlation). The year ended with the establishment of the regional representatives. Thus it gives the ERE Patricias an avenue for expressing their concerns, such as "Why can't I be posted to Hawaii?"

Op Assistance or "The Flood of '97" occupied most of our minds during April and May, and after that it was watermanship training. Seriously, our thanks goes out to all our fellow Patricias who helped during the flood. I would have included a picture of all of us, but we were unable to get Captain Maerz to leave Thunder Bay, something about "It's planting season in two months you know!"

I would be remiss in not mentioning those other Manitoba Patricias, Captains Grubb, Parker (yes we found you Randy), and White. As for Captain Saunders, he is still here after the Canada Summer Games where it was reported that he became all too familiar with the CFB Shilo golf course. For the NCOs, MWO Usipick has been keeping tabs on WO Wood and Sgt McTavish. Finally, for those of you on the Continuous French Course, Faites Attention and remember that the course is almost over.

All the best in 1998. VP.

— Maj B.E. Flynn

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Borden Patricias

Borden Patricias are alive and well in the Barrie and South Simcoe areas. The past year has been relatively stable with the normal postings in and out. Capt Charlie McKnight was posted to Western Area Training Centre, WO Derek Bisson to 2 PPCLI and Sgt Rod Dearing to 1 PPCLI. Capt Dan Blanc is now the EA to the Base Commander. WO Bill Johnson is at the NBC School and Sgt Ken Surridge was posted to the Grey and Simcoe Foresters as Regular Support Staff.

1997 was a quiet year overall. We joined our fellow Patricias in Toronto on March 17th where the officers lost the broomiloo game. In April we had a mixed dinner at the Sovereign Restaurant to commemorate the Battle of Kapyong. It was great to include the wives in the evening and everyone enjoyed the extra wine at Maj Hale's place after the meal. MWO (retired) Peter MacKay took time to join us for supper and ensured that we adhered to 2 PPCLI customs and traditions.

1998 is shaping up to be a good year and if you are in the area, stop in to say hello. From all the Patricias, past and present, in the Borden area, all the best in '98. VP.



*Borden Patricias (left to right): WO Bill Johnston, MWO Al Whiteball, Maj Paul Hale, MWO (ret'd) Peter MacKay and Sgt John Brooks.
Missing: Capt Dan Blanc, Sgt Rod Dearing and Sgt Joe Wysman.*



Ottawa Area Patricias

More often than not, the Ottawa area Patricias receive little mention in the *Patrician*. Perhaps this is because the Officers and NCMs in the National Capital Region are too busy to report on their Regimental activities. More likely, no self respecting Patricia would want to brag about working so far away from the Army of the West. Whatever reason, this past year has seen some significant events within our Patricia community which should not go unmentioned.

In September, Colonel Glenn Nordick took over as the local Regimental representative from Colonel Don Dalziel. In October, we saw the arrival of Lieutenant-General Ray Crabbe to assume the duties of DCDS (and Senior Serving Patricia).

November 11th saw an impressive turnout of serving, retired and associate members of the Regiment at Lansdowne Park for the traditional wreath laying ceremony. At the preceding reception, the Colonel of the Regiment, MGen Bill Hewson, gave a Regimental update and took opportunity to announce the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel Matt Overton as the Commanding Officer designate of the Second Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel Dave Barr as Commanding Officer designate of the Third Battalion. More recently, it was also announced that Lieutenant-Colonel Ernie Reumiller will take over as Commanding Officer of the Infantry School. Who says there is no life after NDHQ! CWO McGregor will leave the Ottawa area to become the RSM of 2 PPCLI. Each of these appointments will take effect in the summer of 1998.

In December, Lieutenant-General Ray Crabbe was appointed as a Commander to the Order of Military Merit and Lieutenant-Colonel Shawn Tymchuk was appointed as an Officer of Military Merit. Congratulations to you both!

In 1997, we recognized the retirements of Colonel Don Dalziel, Lieutenant-Colonel Al Johnson, Majors Bill Plouffe, Charlie Jurek, Dave Lewis, Gene Markell, Gerry Jensen, Ross McLaughlin, and Captain Steve Gannon. We wish them all success and happiness in their future endeavours.

On a closing note, we thank all members of the Regiment who participated in Operation Recuperation in response to the devastating ice storm which hit the Ottawa and Quebec areas just after New Years 1998. Your quick deployment and hard work were greatly appreciated. As always, we are proud to be Patricias. VP.

Kingston Area Patricias

1997 was a busy year for the Kingston area Patricias. Happy hour style gatherings, roughly every two months, were the forum for serving, retired and affiliated Patricias to reminisce about stories of when we were back in a battalion.

The year's social highlights commenced with the annual Broom-i-loo game in March. The '97 winners were the officers. Prior to the annual posting season, in April, a mixed dinner was held at a local restaurant to mark Frezenberg Day. With the reopening of the Canadian Land Force Command and Staff College, the PPCLI students on LFCSC 1 led the way in celebrating the Battle of San Fortunato and inviting their course mates, staff and the local area Patricias to participate. As part of the LFCSC there is a Gothic Line Field Study in and around Rimini, Italy. The PPCLI students and staff took time out to remember the 44 fallen Patricias at the Coriano Ridge War Cemetery, 3 October 1997. MGen Hewson, Colonel of the Regiment, honoured the final gathering of the year, with a visit on 15 December 1997.

– Captain Vic Sattler



Kingston and Area Patricias, 15 Dec 97 at Fort Frontenac.

L to R, front row: LCol M. Overton, LCol D.J. Pentney, Maj (retd) L. Grimshaw, MGen C.W. Hewson, LCol (retd) M. McKeon, LCol (retd) A. Neadow, Capt (retd) J. Honey.

L to R, middle row: MCpl R. Cooke, Capt B. Ascab, Sgt Noseworthy, Capt L. Reinelt, Capt C.A. Trollope, Capt T.W. Manley, Capt R.H. Urzinger, Capt C.V. Sattler, Col W. Semianiw.

L to R, back row: Capt G. Burton, Sgt Kis, Maj K. MacDonald, Capt R. Parent, Capt F.J. Walsh, Capt N. Grimshaw, Capt J.G.H. Wiegand, LCol (retd) J.M. Lapeyre.

Patricias at CFLRS St. Jean

The year has flown by and training is now complete. The upcoming year looks to be just as challenging as the Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School continues to implement new changes to the curriculums of several courses in order to best cater to the continuously evolving CF. Regardless of the changes, the Patricias at CFLRS look forward to once again setting the standard for both recruit and leadership instruction. Working at the school gives us Patricias an opportunity to work with other trades in the CF. As you can imagine, watching some of our airforce counterparts "roughing it" in the field can bring a smile to anyone's face.

The School is separated into two divisions (Leadership/Recruit). Patricias have worked diligently in both divisions in order to provide the CF with the best possible candidates. In the Leadership side of the house, WOs Power and Skinner ensure that the leaders of tomorrow get it right the first time around. Over on the Recruit side, Patricias are keeping up the pace as recruiting requirements seem to steadily grow (despite budget-cuts). Of the more junior Patricias at the school, MCpls Sarault and Faniel are instructing in the weapons section, ensuring that the recruits know that the bullets come out of the pointy end.

We would like to wish MCpl Marino and Cpl Regis farewell and "bonne chance" as they were both recently granted remusters and will soon be switching hat badges. We would also like to wish MCpl Pete Cochrane the best of luck in his future endeavours as he has decided to go back to school and grow his hair long.



CFLRS Patricias - Teaching Tomorrow's Leaders

*Back Row (L to R): Sgt Patterson, WO Campbell, MCpl Sarault, Cpl Regis.
Front Row (L to R): WO Power, Sgt Cooper, MCpl Pierrero, Sgt Genest, Capt Dawe,
Capt Sbarra, MCpl Mullick, Pte Lamarche, MCpl Faniel, Sgt Dodds.
Missing: WO Skinner, MCpl Fullerton, MCpl Marino.*

Un Patricia Chez Les Castors

The odyssey began in the summer of 1996. Faced with the daunting task of operating in my second language, I packed up my kit and headed off to La Belle Province. I quickly found, much to my surprise, that the Van Doos, aside from the language, were not much different from our own Regiment.

My first challenge met me face on when I learned that I was to begin my exchange in a STAFF JOB. Now these sorts of positions are not necessarily the most sought after among junior officers in the infantry. Add to this the fact that I was to undertake this position in French (a language which I hadn't studied for over four years) and the expression *defi de taille* takes on a whole new meaning. I'm not entirely sure who suffered more, myself struggling in French, or those poor Van Doos who had to decipher what I was saying. I think the latter. Nevertheless, I undertook my new job as Assistant Operations Officer with all the zeal a confused Anglophone junior officer could muster.



During Ex Roughish Gator with 3rd US SFG, while acting as Ops O. "Sounds like a great plan, mon Colonel. The Americans seem pretty impressed too. The only problem is, I think they, like me, only understood the English part of it."



1997 began with the annual winter indoctrination exercise, Ex Rafale Blanche. Snow and cold temperatures are pretty much the same everywhere, save for the fact that the Quebec region received an ungodly amount of snow last winter. Everyone kept reassuring me that it was not the norm, but I suspect their motives. We followed that with the annual Brigade winter games (Jeux d'Hiver) which mirrors Ex Strong Contender ... in every respect. Next came preparations for a patrolling competition (Competition Bernatchez) which was abruptly interrupted by a call-out to assist with Operation Assistance in Winnipeg. The Second Battalion R22eR joined other Flood-Fighters from 1 CMBG, and later 2 CMBG, to help rescue Winnipeg from the "Red Sea". The operation, as most Patricias already know, was a great success, and it gave me an opportunity to see some of the folks from the "Army of the West".

The Battalion returned to Quebec in time to conduct Ex Bernatchez, though without all the bells and whistles we had expected. This was followed by preparations for the deployment on Operation Constable, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti (UNTMIH), which included a Battalion reshuffle, as only 42% of the Battalion was slated to deploy. I found myself in my current job, 2IC D Coy, and we began with the standard pre-deployment administration. We also managed summer leave before work-up training. This training was similar to home, save for the convenience of having the whole brigade in one location. There are some advantages to such a system, as units with recent in-theatre experience were on hand to assist with the planning, initial training, conduct and evaluation of exercises.

The end of September arrived, and with a final farewell to our families, we embarked for Haiti. The pre-deployment preparations had been fraught with difficulties due to the uncertainty of the mission mandate, including its potential termination date. This affected everything from the training to the leave plan. In spite of this uncertainty, the Canadian Contingent deployed with the intent of spending the next six months basking ... er ... sweating it out in the Haitian climate.

As it turned out, the mandate lasted only two months, with the contingent deployed for a three month period. The UNTMIH was replaced by the United Nations Police Observer Mission in Haiti (UNPOMIH). Our operations were limited to patrolling for the first month, to gain familiarity with the terrain and the local populace, humanitarian assistance for the second month, and packing up the mission during the third and final month. While many of the participants left thinking "Boy, that was nothing like Yugo ..." (actually they thought in French, but you get the idea), we did gain a new perspective of the situation in that troubled nation.

The past 18 months, with our Quebec brethren, has been an interesting and edifying experience, and, no doubt, the next 18 months will prove to be just as invaluable.

— Capt Rory Fowler, PPCLI Exchange Officer with 2e R22eR

Atlantic Area Patricias

(From the Far East)

Best wishes to all from those ERE Patricias in Atlantic Area. 1997 was the 500th year since Newfoundland's discovery and this province was a focal point for celebration. Two serving Patricias are located in St. John's, Captain Eugene Squires, the Ranger Liaison Officer, and MWO Rod Mole, the Station Master Warrant Officer.

For those of you who remember Tommy Anderson, he resides in Cape Ray, Newfoundland, is a member of the Canadian Rangers and attends college in Stephenville.

In Nova Scotia, Major Brian Bailey and Sergeant Gerard (Hoppy) Kennedy serve on the G3 Ops staff of LFAA, MWO Bob St. Pierre is the Training MWO with the Nova Scotia Highlanders at Truro, and Sergeant Lee Sharpe is the Training NCO for the West Nova Scotia Regiment in Aldershot.

Best wishes in 1998 to all Patricias. VP.



Commanding Officer Canadian Rangers Atlantic, LCol C.T. Russell, presenting wound stripes to Rgr G.T. (Tom) Anderson at Stephenville, NF on 18 November 1997. Rgr Anderson is a former member of 1 PPCLI who was severely injured by a land mine blast during Op Harmony in the Spring of 1994 in Croatia.

(Photo courtesy of Western Star)



Two Patricias with UNIKOM

The United Nations Iraq Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM) was established at the end of the Gulf War by Security Council Resolution 687, on 3 April 1991. The mandate of the Mission is to monitor the Demilitarized Zone between Iraq and Kuwait and deter any hostile, or potentially hostile, action mounted from the territory of one state towards the other. Canada's contribution to UNIKOM is four Military Observers. Presently, our Regiment contributes half that strength, having sent the ex-Deputy Commanding Officer of 3 PPCLI, Major Joe Pollock and the ex-Regimental Adjutant, Capt Bill Lewis to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in July of 1997.

The mission is not large by UN standards. The force is comprised of 195 unarmed military observers representing 32 nations. They are supported by a Bangladeshi mechanized infantry battalion; a troop of Argentinean engineers; an Austrian logistics company; and a small medical unit of civilian paramedics, nurses and doctors from Germany. Additionally, a helicopter unit, also from Bangladesh, provides an air surveillance capability and a much-needed MEDEVAC service. The total strength of UNIKOM is 1,075.

The DMZ extends 10 km into Iraq and 5 km into Kuwait and runs approximately 200 kilometres from North to South. Surveillance is achieved from sixteen desert Patrol/Observation Bases (POBs), each manned by seven UN unarmed Military Observers (UNMOs). These POBs also provide the Observers for the two daily helicopter air reconnaissances. In the interest of command and control, the DMZ is organized into a North and South sector. UNIKOM HQ is established within the DMZ at Umm Qasr, Iraq, in a former Iraqi Naval hospital. Support elements of the force are accommodated in Camp Khor, Kuwait, three kms South, in what was also an Iraqi Naval facility. An interesting aside is that the accommodation, referred to locally as "containers", are ATCO huts, manufactured in Calgary.

Although the mission is relatively quiet in terms of hostile military violations, there are many potential hazards that demand our attention. Primary among these are the numerous and various types of unexploded ordinance (UXO) which litter the DMZ. UXO accounts for casualties on a weekly basis. The biggest threat is the cluster bomblets and surface laid mines. Iraqi children are normally the victims of these seemingly innocent looking devices. Not knowing the threat, many toddlers — and even adults — fall prey to the temptation to pick up a strange looking piece of metal. If they avoid death, they are normally badly disfigured or left with missing limbs. In December, three Iraqi policemen determined that they would rid their Police Post area of this nuisance. They were able to collect a considerable pile of the black "hand ball" size objects (bomblets) and foolishly lit a bonfire to destroy them.



On the road to Baghdad.

The resulting explosion grievously injured all three of the police. First on the scene of the carnage was the Patrol from the nearby POB. The UNMOs applied First Aid, while summoning the MEDEVAC chopper. Their efforts were in vain as the three policemen all succumbed to their wounds. It was just one of the ten (average) monthly MEDEVACs that the Bangladesh pilots must respond to.

The desert is a harsh enough environment without UXO. Summer afternoon temperatures normally exceed 55°C and it may cool at night to 35°C. The hottest temperature was recorded three years ago (62°C). Beginning in April, the south wind, "Sharqi", is constant and can gust to 80 kph. From mid-June to mid-September, the northerly "Shamal" wind blows steadily at 30-40 kph, carrying dust and sand so that the landscape is obscured by mid-afternoon. Sandstorms occur at least twice a week.

The windscreens of the patrol vehicles are pitted and blasted by the relentless sand, making night driving considerably more challenging. New Observers also quickly learn that opening a vehicle door downwind will usually result in several hundred dollars damage to the vehicle, as the door hinges snap with the force of the wind and the car body suffers dents from the flapping door. The winds do nothing to decrease the heat.



Perhaps the most disconcerting natural threat on the desert is the wide and plentiful variety of snakes, spiders and insects. All species from the first two groups are deemed poisonous, and most from the latter are just plain overgrown and ugly, despite not being venomous. Snakes are to be avoided, as a bite can prove fatal unless professional medical help can be obtained. Notably, the First Aid for snakebite dictates that the bite area should be packed in ice. Since there are not many freezer stops on the patrol routes, it's best to stay alert to avoid the requirement to use ice. Staying alert is tough in the excessive heat.

Regarding arachnids, the desert has your basic black and yellow varieties of scorpions and they are in both cases, numerous. A British UNMO killed a black scorpion, approaching "canner" lobster size, which was allowed to feed unmolested for several months at the bottom of the bunker in November Five POB. A Chinese UNMO at Sierra Six POB regularly collects the smaller yellow scorpions to make a stir-fry, which he claims is good for his blood pressure. A French UNMO captured all varieties of the eight legged beasts and kept them alive in his room. It's therefore not surprising that he contracted a mysterious malady of the nervous system whereby he lost the feeling in his hands and was hospitalized for a two-month period.

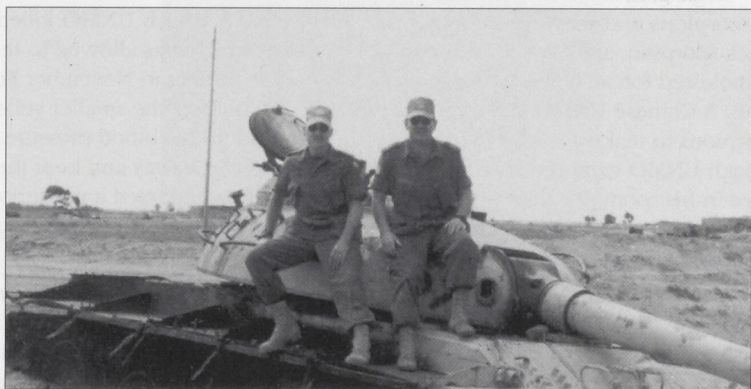
If you're arachnophobic, your worst nightmare is the camel spider. Camel spiders are brown; at least as big as your hand; move at incredible speed; and can jump and climb like Batman. They're too ugly to be displayed with the tarantulas in a Canadian pet store. The feature that immediately identifies them from all other big, brown, bold spiders is the two legs (or arms) that dangle in front of them as they gallop over the terrain. Depending on whom you listen too, it is said that they are called camel spiders because they have a hump and are brown. That's believable! It is preferable, for threat assessment purposes, not to put much stock in the tale that the spiders are so named because they can fasten to a camel's neck with their "hook arms", inject anaesthesia instead of venom, and then slowly feast off the unwitting animal, sometimes killing it. We should also be skeptical about the story told by a Danish UNMO, who related that one of his countrymen had his nose eaten by a camel spider while he slept!

The climate, the fauna, and the UXO are all basic health hazards, but most can be guarded against. Lawless banditry, however, is prevalent in the Iraqi desert and it is a serious threat to an UNMO's well being. Bandits fall into several categories. "Whiskey Bandits" are the most sophisticated. Smuggling whiskey through the DMZ from Iraq to "dry" Kuwait is a lucrative business with fake Johnny Walker Red Label worth \$160.00 US a bottle. Of course, smugglers usually have guns and they don't like their nighttime operations compromised. Thus, UNMO night Patrols are wary of surprising whiskey convoys. On the plus side, it can be said that smugglers and whiskey bandits are, for the most part, nonviolent, if left alone to practice their trade.

The same cannot be said of "raiders". Twice, in the past three years, raiding bandits have struck November Five POB, stripping it of valuables and



leaving numerous bullet holes in the ATCO huts as a reminder of their visits. The observers on duty were unharmed — perhaps because they were unarmed and did not offer resistance. Two years ago, three soldiers on patrol from the Bangladesh battalion were less lucky when they were shot during a vehicle hijacking on the Baghdad Highway close by November Five. The soldiers were armed and offered resistance. Most recently, on 18 Feb 98, raiders hijacked the night patrol vehicle from November Seven POB at gunpoint. The Italian and Polish UNMOs in their Toyota Land Cruiser did not resist, and



A sabot round (Gulf War “silver bullet”) entered this T-62 from the rear. The tank sits at a crossroads in Saffwan, a short distance from the site where the ceasefire agreement between Iraq and the Coalition was signed in March, 1991. Capt Bill Lewis and Maj Joe Pollock as the UN heroes.



This panoramic shows two of the hundreds of destroyed Iraqi armoured vehicles which still litter the desert. The fires in the background spew black smoke constantly from the centre of the Iraqi oil fields close by November Six POB.



again — being unarmed and non-threatening — they were let go. When their vehicle, containing maps, binos, GPS, radios and NVD was driven North, they followed the patrol road for 10 kms, on foot, to report the incident at the nearest POB (November Five).

Bandits, with murderous intentions, are also visitors to the DMZ. On the early evening of 18 Nov 97, four UNMOs at November Four were getting ready for the evening meal. At 1755 hrs, automatic rifle and LMG fire began to penetrate the POB perimeter, fired from a moving vehicle on the Basra highway, fifty meters away. All four ATCO huts in the compound, along with the water tanks, generator shed and observation tower were hit at lethal height. The Fijian UNMO in the Ops room saw several bullets penetrate the walls at waist level and exit through the other side, destroying the satellite receiver. The Thai UNMO, preparing dinner in the kitchen, had his supper literally shot from the stove. The Singaporean, also in the kitchen, watched rounds penetrate five stacked metal chairs next to him and exit the far wall. Not so Lucky was James Adamu-Koto, from Ghana, who was taking a shower. He was struck in the hip by a round that was partially spent after going through the shower faucet. When the shooting stopped, his POB mates applied First Aid and James was successfully treated after his MEDAVAC to Kuwait City. Ironically, James had survived two tours with the UN force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), including the 1982 Israeli invasion, and a tour in Rwanda (UNIMIR) during the tribal slaughters of 1994/5 without a scratch.

The plus side of all of this, is the advantage of working beside officers and soldiers from Asia, Europe, South and North America as well as Africa, on a daily basis. Surely, there is no better opportunity to experience the commonality of military service. Where else would it be possible to see a Greek and Turk sit together and share stories at an evening dinner on a POB. The food has been cooked by a Brit and served by an Argentinean. After the meal, the Indian is washing the dishes and the Pakistani is drying. On the speaker in the kitchen container are the voices of a Russian and Chinese UNMOs on Patrol together. Animosities are forgotten in the common cause. Even for us two (or too) old Patricias with almost sixty years of combined service, twelve total peacekeeping missions, and more “war stories” than we would admit to, it is a new and worthwhile experience. It can all be explained quite simply in the Arab parable:

A scorpion was on the West Bank of the Jordan River and he wished to cross to the East. Realizing he could not swim, he approached a frog on the bank and asked for a ride. The frog, knowing the reputation of scorpions, declined saying, “you are treacherous and will sting me in the middle of the river and I will drown”. The scorpion, however, convinced the frog by pointing out that since he couldn't swim, he would drown along with the frog if he stung him! That was logical and so the frog gave the scorpion a ride. Half way across the river, the scorpion decided to sting the frog. As he was sinking, the frog looked back and said, “why did you sting me, now both of us will drown”? The scorpion replied, “Who knows? This is the Middle East”!



The Royal Australian Regiment in 1997

The First and Second Battalions of The Royal Australian Regiment (RAR) located in Townsville, North Queensland began the year with individual and sub-unit training prior to hosting the United States Army 2/35 Task Force from Hawaii as part of Exercise Tandem Thrust 97. This was an amphibious exercise conducted at Shoal Water Bay training area with over 25,000 U.S., New Zealand and Australian Forces participating.

At the end of March, 1 RAR was put on short notice to move in order to evacuate Australian civilians from Port Moresby in New Guinea. The situation stabilised, however the Battalion remained on a reduced notice to move. 2 and 3 RAR deployed on Exercise Tasman Eagle in September and operated with a New Zealand Battalion in a low level scenario. Bravo Company, 3 RAR deployed to Malaysia for three months as part of the commitment to Rifle Company Butterworth, returning to Australia in September. They were replaced by a company from 2 RAR.

The Fourth Battalion, RAR was officially named 4 RAR (Commando) at their birthday parade in February. 4 RAR has had an extremely busy year conducting commando selection courses, parachute courses, small boat handlers courses and confirming other associated commando skills to bring the battalion on line. 4 RAR (Commando) will remain a battalion of the Regiment, however will be tasked by Headquarters Special Forces.

The Fifth/Seventh Battalion, (5/7 RAR) continue to train and prepare for their move to Darwin in the Northern Territory as part of the 1st Brigade's relocation. 5/7 RAR is the only fully mechanised battalion of the Australian Army. In the meantime, 6 RAR has become the trial battalion for the "Army 21 Restructure". The effectiveness of an embedded, Motorised Battalion (with two motorised rifle companies, a fire support company and a reconnaissance/surveillance company) will be trialed for three years and could result in significant changes within all infantry battalions. D Company 6 RAR, with the new configuration, recently exercised at the U.S. Army National Training Centre, California and performed extremely well.

The only sad aspect of 1997 was the loss of 8/9 RAR. This unit was formed in Brisbane in October of 1973 from 8 RAR and 9 RAR and was disbanded in June as a result of the Army 21 Restructure. 8/9 RAR was a fine Battalion and it was a sad day in the Regiment when the Colours were finally laid up.

The end of the year will see the Regiment contesting the Duke of Gloucester Cup, the premier competition between sections of each RAR Battalion, and the start of preparations for our Regimental 50th Birthday on 1 March 1998.

Editors Note: All Patricias congratulate the RAR on their 50th Birthday!



Fraser Valley Branch Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association

1997 was a year of disturbed feelings for many of our members, primarily because of the closing of CFB Chilliwack. The closing of Currie Barracks and the associated move of the First Battalion and the Regimental Home Station also had its effect.

A large percentage of our members spent at least part of the summer travelling. Matt and Liz Brown were the most ambitious as they drove all the way to the East Coast and back. Bob and Phil Shine took their usual trip back to Ft. Francis and then went on to visit Toronto. The Chatrys did their usual trip to Saskatchewan. The Canfields participated in the Currie closing and the Association AGM in Saskatoon. The Dixons seem to be almost permanently on the road, either going to or coming from wherever. The Grouettes and Ellis' beat up Reno a couple of times and, of course, Harold did his usual hunting trip up north.

The ones who, noticeably, didn't travel this year were the Roes and Felix Carriere. Both men spent time in hospital for surgery. Both are OK now. Fred Hart, after marrying Peggy in June (the second marriage for both), had surgery on his head in early January. We're still not sure if there is a connection between the two events or not.

Cy Hoffman is another who travels a lot, but his is mostly business related. Rollie Phillips and wife visited from Chase a couple of times last summer as did Alec and Dina Sim from Kamloops. The Wilkinsons, Bill and Erika, after doing the WO's and Joe's gathering in May, were back and forth to Vancouver Island several times.

It looks like 1998 is shaping up to be another year of travel as well, at least for our healthy members. I'm looking forward to the Regimental Association AGM in Ottawa and the visiting with old friends and comrades that is part of the event.

– Mel Canfield



Victoria Branch

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association

As 1997 draws to a close, the Victoria Branch Secretary has a problem; I have no President to guide me. A few short years ago, when I was still in my CF greens, every man and his dog felt obliged to lead me and to issue instructions — it's all very different now. None of our branch members seem to want this prestigious but unpaid position. Nevertheless I'm sure we will survive by soldiering on.

We were fortunate this year in having visits from both the Colonel-in-Chief and the Colonel of the Regiment. The Countess and her daughter, Lady Amanda Ellingworth, met with 71 branch members and serving Patricias in the Canadian Scottish Officers' Mess on the 25th of June. Jac DeBruijne did his usual CQ job with the sticky buns, so it was destined to go well.

Major General Hewson was with us on September 14th to present PPCLI Association Certificates of Merit to Doug Bell, Bruce Dickey and Bob Peacock. These three gents were the driving force behind the PPCLI Band CD and Cassette Tape project. If you have not bought your copy yet, get one soon (through RHQ) before Bruce puts you on his hit list. These two visits were the highlights of the branch social scene in 1997.



Lady Patricia meets Don Worsfold, and Marion and Charley Faye.



Jac DeBruijne with Lady Amanda Ellingworth.

The 13th of July saw us at the Victoria Horseshoe Club for our annual picnic and BBQ with the Korean Veterans Association. The KVA took the horseshoe trophy, but Frank Cheverie and Morgan Desjarlais won the bocce competition for the second year in a row.

Although I am able to report on these branch activities, they come from the notes of others since I am away from Victoria for most of the summer. I can, though, make a personal report that on my trip to England in May the aircraft captain announced that we were flying over Wainwright. At the risk of offending Wally Komadina, I will paraphrase the Prime Minister of Australia who said "...the best way to see Darwin (Australian city) is from thirty thousand feet on your way to Paris." I think the best way to see Wainwright is from thirty thousand feet on the way to London.

— John Tolley

Okanagan/Thompson Branch

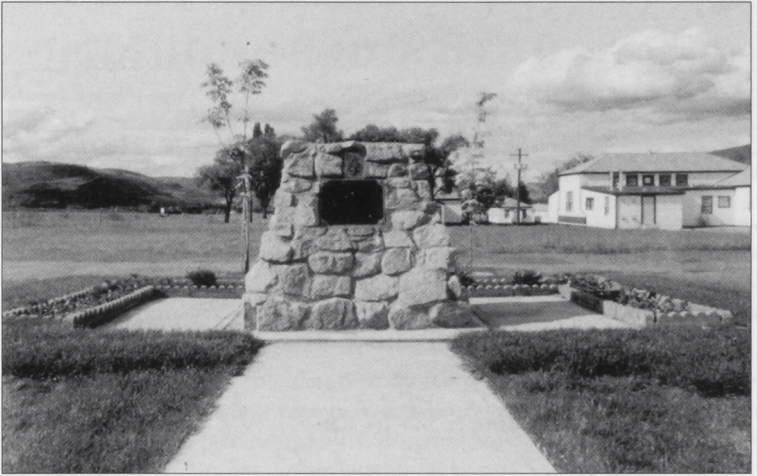
Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association

The Okanagan/Thompson Branch's contribution to the Patrician consists of a brief history of the Branch from its formation in 1983/84 to the present. The idea of establishing a Branch in the Okanagan area was the brainchild of the late Vince Lilly, then National Association President. The word was spread throughout the valley, inviting all Patricias and their wives to a gathering at Vernon Military Camp on 10 July, 1983. Through the efforts of LCol Don Ardelian, the Camp CO, a dinner was arranged at the Officer's Mess. It was through discussions at this event that it was agreed that a branch should be formed. On 23 June, 1984, at the next dinner, our first executive was elected with Vince Lilly as President and Don Ardelian as 1st Vice. Lady Patricia first visited us on 7 October, 1985 for tea at the Vernon Armoury.

At a 75th Anniversary planning meeting in 1985, it was decided that a memorial cairn be constructed on Camp property to honour all Patricias serving there over the years. Construction was approved and we planted several maple trees under the watchful eye of LCol Brian Munro, the new Camp CO. Actual construction began in early spring 1988 and was completed in June 1989 with the finishing touches on the Patricia Way and the planting of flowers. Unfortunately, Vince Lilly did not live to see the completion of his dream



Looking down "Patricia Way" towards the cairn.



A close up of the cairn.

due to his untimely death on 23 October, 1988. The dedication of the cairn took place on 22 July, 1989 with the Honour Guard and Corps of Drums being provided by 3 PPCLI, and with Major-General C.B. Ware performing the unveiling. The prayer of dedication was read by the Battalion Padre. Lady Patricia again visited the Branch on 24 May, 1990 and laid a spray of flowers at the base of the cairn.

At the 6th Annual Branch meeting in 1989, Tom Tyson was elected President, and due to a lack of willing candidates, his term of office was extended well beyond the normal period; until 14 June, 1997. The Branch was privileged to host the 45th Annual General Meeting of the PPCLI Association from 4-6 June 1993 at Vernon Military Camp and regularly celebrates Regimental Day (minus the broom-i-loo), Frezenberg Day, San Fortunato Day, and Kapyong Day.

Membership in the Branch has increased gradually from the original 25 to the present 57, however our survival is of vital concern to all of us who are quite long in the tooth. We appeal to all of you more recently retired Patricias to fill the depleting ranks. We are indebted to Grace Hoffman for the publicity she generated while reporting for the Vernon Daily News.

– Jerry Richard, President

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Edmonton Branch

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association

We report continued interest in the Branch and the Association, shown by the lively meetings held every 4th Friday of the month at the Jasper Place Legion, 156th St. and 102nd Ave. Visitors are welcome at meetings, which begin at 1130 hours with buffet lunch and business following. Inevitably some members stay around to "keep up with each other", and to "swap stories".

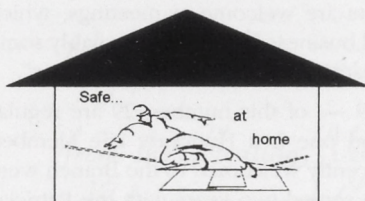
The family nominal roll stands at 69 — of this number, 29 are regular members, 13 are Associate members and one is a Honorary Life Member. Of late we have averaged 30 persons. Recently welcomed to the Branch were Pam Borland and Rálpħ McArthur. Ralph served two years with the Patricias from October '52 to November '54 in the First and Second Battalions. He then transferred to the RCAF and retired as a pilot in 1977.

Pam Borland was largely responsible for the success at Garrison Edmonton of Operation Santa Claus. She exuded enthusiasm and subsequently the Branch members responded and contributed generously. Jack Slater, for one, brought in over 1000 packs of playing cards. There was a good turnout of volunteers to attend to the massive task of packing, and the consensus was that it was the least we could do to help spread the cheer to the soldiers in Bosnia and elsewhere. The Branch donated \$200 to help defray costs.



Left to right: Col Nette, Col Joly, Col Sutherland.

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Capt Steve Newman, the Regimental Adjutant, received a warm welcome to the Branch. He has kept us up-to-date in regards to Base activities and the Regiment. In addition Col (now retired) Bill Sutherland has spoken to the assembly from time to time as have other Battalion members.

The annual Christmas luncheon of December 12th brought out 42 members. Business was kept to a minimum. A lively raffle was enjoyed (donated prizes) with President Wayne Taylor and Col Bill taking home most of the loot.

Last spring the Edmonton and area Patricias journeyed to Wainwright, for many years the site of the PPCLI Battle School, now Western Area Training Centre. It was an informative and friendly gathering and many have expressed the desire to participate in a similar meeting again this year. This is also an opportunity to keep in touch with the recently formed Wainwright Branch.

Don Manuel found it necessary (due to his health) to resign as Vice-President and Bert Reed was unanimously voted in to fill the vacancy.

THE WELCOME MAT IS ALREADY OUT! As you all know, Edmonton will host the 85th Anniversary Reunion and the '99 Annual General Meeting. Committee members, headed by Wayne Taylor, President and the Regimental Major, are meeting on a regular basis. It's shaping up to be a good one, so save a prominent space on your calendar for the celebrations, from 2-4 July, 1999 in Edmonton. We have room for one and all!

Calgary Branch

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association

Here we are in 1998, and the changes continue. On the Calgary news last week they showed Harvey Barracks being demolished. It was hard to watch. The rumour mill has it that Currie Barracks has been declared a historical site. This includes the Patricia lines. They plan to dig the Parade Square down about three feet and grass it, turning it into a park. A little bird has said that a restaurant has bought the Officers' Mess. The PMQs are being rented out with some problems arising, i.e., health concerns about insulation. We will keep you up to date on the changes with each newsletter.

The Calgary Branch has kept itself busy with a few gatherings. Since the last newsletter we have had our golf tournament, which was held September 27th. The golf course had a sign that asked that you pay fifty cents a game. The father of Don Munro, one of our Branch members, put this there in the 1920s. We had a very slow start; the day was sunny but the wind in Carstairs was something else. It was not really cold but it was blowing like a gale off the coast of Newfoundland. Putting was easy if you were going with the wind;



*John Demerchant presents Matt Hall his prize as the Top Golfer
in the Calgary Branch Golf Tournament.*

all that you had to do was stand there and the wind blew your ball into the hole. The last group finished after 1900 hours. Most of us were extremely tired after playing eighteen holes, except Heinz Keese. Heinz was smarter than the rest of us and would leave a club behind at different holes so his bag was much lighter by the end of the game. But the look on his face when he realized that he would have to go after them was something to see. Our top golfer was Mat Hall. I thought I had that one because I had the highest score, about 198 strokes. Not bad, hey!

John Demerchant and I attended the AGM in Saskatoon, along with about a dozen members from the Calgary Branch, during the August long weekend. The Saskatchewan Branch put on a great show. And all of us had a good time meeting old friends and making new ones. We saw Don Vardy, who stopped in for a short visit, and is doing extremely well as a cabinetmaker. The weekend went by all too quickly and we had a very pleasant drive home on one of those rare, perfect summer days.

Rod Middleton is presently working on the Book of Remembrance. If you know of a Patricia who died while serving with the Regiment, but not on active duty, please pass on the information to Regimental Headquarters. Rod, thanks for your hard work and dedication.

The Calgary Branch held its second annual Oktoberfest Friday, October 17th at the Kensington Legion. The food was good and the music superb. We had the Brabec Brothers playing accordions during supper and a Regular Oktoberfest band after supper.



The Oktoberfest Band, getting the crowd going with a swinging Polka tune!



Lyle Saumer and Eric Bailey explaining to the ladies why they are the best dancers on the floor.

Everyone had a good time with plenty to eat and drink. There were several 50/50 draws that night and Bynki (Neal Bynkoski) wore out his arm measuring tickets. Steve Stanley and his wife Sandra were also able to make it to the party. And we also took time out during the evening to wish Lyle Saumer good luck on his retirement. Lyle has moved to Barrhead to play golf in the summer and do light work in the winter. The entire Branch wishes you the best and hope that you will visit us when you can.

November brings busloads of school children, from kindergarten to grade twelve, through the Museum. The veterans of the Branch are out in full force during this time, both at the Museum and at schools. Their task is to inform visitors at the Museum and the school children about their war experiences. They explain their training and the feelings that they had, and how high the cost of freedom is. They did an outstanding job, for on November 11 over 4500 people attended the services at the Museum. We had 20 members on parade with George Smith laying the wreath on behalf of the Branch. Bob Adams represented us downtown while Jack Rayner was at Strathmore for the second year, Ed Laplante was in Drumheller, and Doug McNeil was in Black Diamond.

The Branch has started holding happy hours on the last Friday of the month. Our first one was at Erika's Deli with 25 members attending. We hope that the next one, in January, will be even more successful. Each happy hour is moved to a different location in the city so there will be no excuse for not attending; so if you're in town the last Friday of the month just phone for the location to 249-8107.

We are always recruiting new members into the Branch. If you know a Patricia who is living in Calgary, or if you're getting out, please give us a call. For those Patricias who are posted to Calgary and have left their families here, please remember your wife or children can become members of the Association.

– Bob Zubkowski



Manitoba/NW Ontario Branch

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association

The river has subsided, the sandbags have disappeared and over 8,000 Armed Forces personnel who assisted the citizens of Manitoba in their desperate battle with the "Red Sea" have returned to their home bases. As far as we know, none of our members were directly affected by the flood, but many of us were involved in assisting friends and relatives in the flooded and threatened areas, and the branch donated \$500.00 to the Salvation Army "We Care" Flood Relief Fund. Many Manitobans whose homes were destroyed or badly damaged are now engaged in another battle with various levels of government over compensation for their losses. Some were not able to rebuild their homes before this winter but, for most of us, life has returned to normal. The APCs and assault boats have disappeared from our streets and waterways but they will be long remembered by thousands of grateful citizens. A local artist has memorialized our recurring war with the Red with a large mural on an exterior wall of the Saint Vital Curling Club depicting flood fighting operations in the area from 1776 to 1997, where Canadian Forces personnel, Regular and Militia, are prominently portrayed working shoulder to shoulder with the local civilians in their desperate battles with the Red and Assiniboine Rivers.

As the floodwater receded, a few of our Branch Members got involved with the Winnipeg PPCLI Cadets and their annual fund-raiser, helping them deliver 15,000 sets of phone books for Manitoba Telecom Services. Many of these cadets proudly sported the Regimental t-shirts they had proudly worn working on the dikes a few weeks earlier.

Our next big event was the return of the Second Battalion from Bosnia, where they had served with distinction and, remarkably, without losing a single person. We celebrated the event by attending a "Welcome Home" barbecue in the WOs and Sgts Mess. A few of their members were "mugged out" on posting or retirement and Branch President Jerry Franc presented an Association Certificate of Appreciation to MWO Darby Whitebone, CSM of Second Battalion's Rear Party, who went more than the extra mile in support of our Branch while the Battalion was away in Bosnia.

Although not quite on the scale of the Flood of the Century, the Branch's Eleventh Annual Golf Tournament was our second disaster of the year. Twenty-two golfers from the Association, the WOs & Sgts Mess and the Jr Ranks Club bravely teed off in a rainstorm that developed into a torrential downpour accompanied by gale force winds. Five hardy souls actually completed 18 holes, probably because they couldn't find a shortcut back to the clubhouse,

but most quit after the first nine, and a few didn't make it that far. Suffering from hypothermia and 'trenchfoot', we all retired to the Junior Ranks Club, where a little liquid refreshment and an excellent barbecue restored our spirits. Because most teams did not complete the game, there was no equitable way of scoring, so the trophies were not awarded.

On the 5th of September, quietly and without ceremony, our long-awaited memorial (see photo) was erected on the grounds of the former Fort Osborne Barracks, now known as the Asper Jewish Community Campus. Erected to mark the Regiment's occupation of Fort Osborne Barracks between the two World Wars, the monument is prominently located in a landscaped area immediately south of the old Headquarters Building, now the anchor of the Campus complex. A formal dedication ceremony, with 2 PPCLI participating, will take place in 1998.



*PPCLI Memorial at former
Fort Osborne Barracks, Winnipeg.*

Our fall social season began on Saturday, October 18th, when 50 Branch members and guests celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the PPCLI Association with a scrumptious dinner in the Second Battalion WOs' and Sgts' Mess.

Although we mustered only a corporals guard for the Remembrance Service at All Saints Church on November 10th, we were backed up by 2 PPCLI Mortar Platoon, giving us a nominal Regimental presence. The Second Battalion's service on November 11th proved more popular with 22 Association members on parade and one "light duty" member sitting with the spectators.

Our final "official" function of the year was the Second Battalion Men's Christmas Dinner, which some of us have been attending and enjoying for many years.

The membership of the Manitoba/North West Ontario Branch wishes every serving and retired Patricia all the best in 1998.

"Always a Patricia."

— D'Arcy Best

South West Ontario Branch

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association

Greetings to all Patricias, past and present, from the S.W. Ontario Branch. When one looks at locations, you may question the name of our Branch. We have members from Sault St. Marie to Montreal and Fort Erie to Windsor! Suffice to say that one third of our membership does reside in the Hamilton/Burlington/Niagara area. Sadly this past year we lost three members, George Cameron and Robert Caughill, who both served in Korea, and Orma Meeking, wife of the late Mick Meeking. On a happy note however, we gained a few and at year's end our membership total was 81.

All those who have read the Association Newsletter (Fall '97) will have read that we have adopted a Niagara Peninsula Winery as our very own. Its logo is a VP so what more could we ask? VP Estate Wines is owned by Messrs Vidal and Philbrick. Jack Murray and myself discovered the winery just before their first bottling which happened just before our May AGM weekend. Because Jack and I were such good tasters, they gave us some wine for the event. The wine is of excellent quality of course and a visit to the winery is worthwhile. Speaking of our 1997 May weekend, it was well attended with 73 showing for dinner. MGen Bill and Nora Hewson were our guests and a most enjoyable evening was had by all.

George Biggely attended the national AGM in Saskatoon and gave us his report at our annual BBQ and meeting on the property of Elaine Gillespie in Peterborough on 6 September, at which we had 23 in attendance. George, by the way, had circulatory surgery on his legs following the AGM and was last seen doing well — although he isn't any taller.

In November, Doug Armstrong, Jack Murray and myself attended a small Patricia gathering at the Royal Military Institute in Toronto. It was hosted by Charles Scot-Brown and Phil Tweedie and it was a very pleasant afternoon.

We are not asking you to guess who it is in the photo; it's Frank Stringer, age 15, 22 May 1938, heading off for his first parachute jump. Apparently he had lied about his age! Probably wasn't the last time either!

— Bruce Paxton



Atlantic Branch Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association

Chatham, New Brunswick, or as it is now called, Miramichi East, was the location of our fall social and meeting for the Atlantic Branch. We were very pleased to welcome Major General and Mrs. Hewson to our weekend activities.

With members travelling great distances, four to five hours driving time, not all of our members could be present for our meet and greet Friday evening. However, the ones that were there had a great time. George and Ann Springer greeted the members as they arrived; George dressed for the occasion in full battle dress, complete with jump boots (shone) and L/Cpl hooks. A huge display of Patricia memorabilia was on hand, which attracted members as they arrived and made for some excellent conversation (war stories).

Saturday morning we had a very productive meeting. We were very pleased to welcome two local Korean Veterans who joined our Association. The Colonel of the Regiment and his wife Norah joined us for lunch and a tour of the Legion museum. A dart tournament was held for some of our younger members. There



*Hilda Ray receives her 1917 Patricia Dollar from Rick Muise
(Atlantic Branch President).*

were a lot of prizes including hats, T-shirts, etc ... and two door prizes. A \$15.00 gas voucher was donated by Joe Yvonne's Ultramar Service Station, which was won by Errol Monkley, and a \$25.00 gift certificate was donated by Sobeys Inc. This was won by Fred Bridges. All in all, a great afternoon.

The winner of a 1917 Patricia Dollar, which the Association sold tickets on, was Hilda Ray. Thanks to all who helped out and to those who purchased tickets.

We all sat down to a delicious roast beef dinner prepared by the ladies of the Legion. Wine was supplied by Rick Muise and Bev Earl.



MGen Hewson presents the Certificate of Merit to Jamie Reid as Edith Reid and Rick Muise look on.



Bill and Norah Hewson with Rick and Marg Muise.



The Colonel of the Regiment gave a very interesting and informative talk on the activities of the Battalions and the Regiment and then presented Jamie Reid with a well-earned Association Certificate of Merit. Jamie has been, and continues to be, one of the most active members of the Atlantic Branch. He has served over 10 years as President, as well as on the Executive. Congratulations Jamie, the recognition is long overdue. An evening of dancing followed the presentations and all members and guests had a most enjoyable evening.

Sunday morning was bright and at the early Church Parade at the Cenotaph, Rev. Don Britt conducted an excellent service, with his knowledge of the Patricias coming as a pleasant surprise to us all. After the church service we gathered at the Legion for a light lunch and farewells, until our next weekend get-together in Halifax.

In closing, we congratulate and thank George and Ann Springer for all their hard work to make the weekend the success it was. If any member of the Association or the serving component of the Regiment plans to be in the Halifax area in September, they would be most welcomed to join our weekend get-together. Norm and Sherry Richardson volunteered to host the 1998 reunion in Halifax. Plans are already in the works.

— Rick Muise

"It is the soldier, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.

*It is the soldier, not the campus organizer,
who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.*

It is the soldier, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.

*It is the soldier, who salutes the flag, who serves under the flag,
and whose coffin is draped by the flag,
who allows the protester to burn the flag."*



2901 Estevan Elks PPCLI RCACC

In the past year, the cadets of 2901 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps, located in Estevan, Saskatchewan, have been very busy with regular Tuesday night training, drill team practices, annual field exercises, and our new shooting program.

In February, our cadets attended the annual Exercise Skillbuilder III in order to prepare for Exercise Cold Blast that took place in March. "Cold Blast", ended up being a lot of fun for all participants, despite the cold weather.



Exercise Cold Blast — ever tried doing drill on snowshoes. FUN!!!

Next on the agenda was Saskatchewan's tri-service drill competition in April where our corps participated and won the award for best army cadet drill team. After the competition was over we spent most of the remaining training year preparing for our annual final inspection in May. Here, the awards and presentations for the year, including service certificates to c/CWO Johnson, M. and pipe band member c/Sgt. Woodhouse, A. were given out. Lastly, we ended the training year with the usual sunset ceremony in front of the Estevan Legion.

After many of our cadets came back from summer training in Vernon and we had recruited our new cadets, we started the new training year in September. While the cadets were carrying out their regular star-level training, the pipe and drum band started their year in a much bigger way by attending the Longs Peak Scottish Festival at Estes Park, Colorado. There, our own Drum/Sgt. Blakeney, A. received top honors by being named "drummer of the day". The pipe band then spent the rest of the year competing at many regional contests and supplying the community with pipers and drummers for local events such as the Legion's South Saskatchewan Association Reunion. As 1997 comes to a close we hope that 1998 will be as successful as the last.



Cadet Chief Warrant Officer Johnson, M. receiving her certificate of service.

— C/CWO Melanie Johnson

2701 PPCLI Cadet Corps

1997 has proven to be a challenging year for 2701 PPCLI Cadet Corps in Winnipeg as cadets and staff were kept busy with both field and garrison training. The band and drumline had another successful year, filled with many performances, and the rifle team enjoyed a very rewarding year of competition.

We started off the new year quietly with FTX Bigfoot; learning how to snowshoe and navigate. The spring saw the unit awarded the Thompson Memorial Trophy for the top major army cadet unit in Manitoba/Northwest Ontario at the annual sports tabloid meet. In addition, three of our senior cadets undertook and passed the series of practical and written tests known as the National Star Certification Examinations, in March.

The beginning of April was marked with a blizzard that brought the city to a halt, and threw a wrench into our plans for a spring exercise. But all was not lost — our cadets were provided with an opportunity to help out the community. The Red River's "flood of the century" saw our cadets and staff helping out, getting wet and sandbagging, alongside other soldiers and local volunteers.

With the coming of summer, the unit again sent officers and cadets to Vernon and Whitehorse to be employed as staff. A group of approximately 30 cadets also attended camp and participated in the challenging summer training available. As well, two of our senior cadets participated in the CF Basic Para Course. Our RSM was employed as the course CSM while one of our platoon Warrant Officers was a candidate. All cadets did well on their various courses and had a great summer.

2701 PPCLI Cadet Corps extends a special thanks to the 2 PPCLI members who have volunteered their time and effort on our behalf.



*Major Flynn, OC Rear Party 2 PPCLI,
inspects the band at our 35th Annual Inspection.*



In Memoriam

Major (Retired) R.F.S. Robertson, MC 1918 - 1997

It is with sadness that the Regiment learned of the passing of Major (retired) Robert Frank Struan Robertson, MC on May 18th, 1997. Following schooling at Victoria and UBC, Major Robertson joined the PPCLI in 1940 and served the Regiment into 1945.

In the Villa Rogatti operation on 6 December, 1943, then Acting Captain Robertson was in command of B Company. At midnight his company led the Regiment down to and across the Moro River at the beginning of this silent attack. Following the unopposed crossing, the company came under machine gun fire. "Captain Robertson swiftly made his dispositions. He determined to break through the enemy outpost line on the left ... flank. Using Bren guns and two-inch mortars firing in flat trajectory two platoons sped to the attack. By now the main enemy garrison in Villa Rogatti was aroused; there was firing in every direction but for the most part on fixed lines and so easily avoided. The main difficulty was to pinpoint or identify the enemy weapon pits and fortified houses. Firefights continued for more than four hours and it was dawn before "B" Company had made good its ground and had reached the tiny square of the village. Captain Robertson split his men up into small groups and ordered them to winkle out the defenders. Prisoners were taken rubbing the sleep from their eyes; in a number of houses breakfast stood on the tables ... ; the enemy had not taken the first assault seriously."¹

In the early afternoon, following an artillery barrage on Villa Rogatti, a German counterattack consisting of nine Mark IV tanks and an infantry escort "... burst from cover of the olive groves and swept against the Patricias. The attack fell upon B Company in two thrusts, the enemy tanks raking the Patricia positions while small groups of infantry dashed against the outlying posts. B Company stood firm and met the attack grandly, with Captain Robertson moving about in the open under heavy fire to direct his men. For two hours sharp fighting continued. Five attempts to pierce B Company's front failed."² Between the forward two companies, 40 prisoners and a number of mortars, machine guns and an anti-tank gun were captured in the enemy counterattack. Captain Robertson was awarded the Military Cross for his leadership and gallantry in the Villa Rogatti operation on December 6th, 1943. The following day Captain Robertson was injured. Having rejoined the Regiment as Adjutant, Captain Robertson was injured again on August 31st 1944, at the Foglia River on the Gothic Line.

Following the war, he received a PhD in chemistry and was employed by Atomic Energy Canada at Chalk River and the Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment. His last government appointment was as the Nuclear Liaison Officer to NATO in Paris. He retired to Saltspring Island in 1976 and will be missed by many Patricias.

1. Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry 1919 - 1957, G.R. Stevens, p. 125

2. Ibid, p. 128

Last Post

NAME	SERVICE	DATE	PLACE
Appleton, Roy H., MM, CD	Korea, Reg F	4 Nov 96	Agassiz, BC
Aspinwall, R.S. (Bob)	Reg F	10 Jun 97	Victoria, BC
Baswick, Sandy	WWII	10 Sep 97	Carstairs, AB
Bell, William Charles	WWII	20 Feb 97	Logan Lake, BC
Bouley, Valmont	Korea	26 Aug 96	Timmons, ON
Brown, Gordon	WWII	28 Sep 97	Herschel, SK
Burdeiny, Steve	WWII	3 Oct 97	Winnipeg, MB
Butler, William	WWII	13 Oct 96	Oshawa, ON
Cameron, G.W. (George)	Korea	12 Jan 97	Newcastle, ON
Caughill, R.G. (Robert)	Korea	21 Jan 97	Niagara Falls, ON
Clark, Alexander	Korea, Reg F	21 Jul 97	Unknown
Collins, Patrick W.	—	24 Jul 97	Westport, ON
Copp, G.E. (Graydon)	—	23 Feb 97	Red Deer, AB
Cottel, Lorne H.	Reg F	24 Jun 97	Tillbury, ON
Coulter, J. (Jerry or Jack)	WWII	23 Nov 96	Lethbridge, AB
Crofton, Pat	WWII	26 Jun 97	Victoria, BC
Cross, William L.	Korea	23 Aug 97	Cambridge, ON
DeLeeuw, Albert	WWII	21 Dec 97	Edmonton, AB
Delisle, Rene	WWII	29 Aug 97	Winnipeg, MB
Derrick, Bill	WWII	2 Nov 96	Winnipeg, MB
Forbes, James Stewart	WWII	11 Apr 97	Dauphin, MB
Ford, Harvey P.	WWII	16 Oct 96	Ninette, MB
Green, Alfred	WWII	28 Sep 97	Winnipeg, MB
Harding, Calvin Eugene	Korea, Reg F	17 Mar 97	Winnipeg, MB
Howe, Chris	Korea	30 Sep 97	Whitehorse, YK
Hughes, Daniel J.	Reg F	7 Dec 96	Eckville, AB
Inglis, Charles H.	WWII	31 Aug 96	Kelowna, BC
James, Raymond L.	WWII	20 Oct 96	Winnipeg, MB
Keep, Robert Harry Noble	WWII, Korea, Reg F	9 Jan 97	Winnipeg, MB
Kowalski, Bernard	WWII	18 Oct 97	New Glasgow, NS
Labutte, Henry J.	Korea	27 Jul 96	Windsor, ON
Lague, Robert D.	Reg F	4 Aug 97	Petawawa, ON
Lanphear, Clifford J.	WWII	30 Nov 97	Devon, AB
Leary, H. Frank	WWII, Korea, Reg F	27 May 97	Calgary, AB
Long, Arthur J.	Korea	11 Jul 96	Winnipeg, MB
Luckwell, George	WWII	31 Jan 97	Texas, USA
Luostarinen, Arne	Reg F	23 Feb 97	Airdale, AB
Mainprize, R.B. (Buzz)	WWII	10 Mar 97	Saanichton, BC
Marchessault, Marcel Henri	WWII, Korea, Reg F	12 Mar 97	Winnipeg, MB
Mark, M.L. (Len)	Reg F	10 Jun 97	Lac du Bonnet, MB

Last Post

NAME	SERVICE	DATE	PLACE
Mathews, Ron	WWII, Reg F	5 Sep 97	Duncan, BC
McCoy, Russel	WWII	15 Dec 96	Fraser Lake, BC
McKercher, Donald J.	Korea	9 Aug 97	Edmonton, AB
McKinnon, George	WWII	15 Jan 97	Winnipeg, MB
McManners, Terry	Reg F	31 Oct 96	Brockville, ON
Moore, Herbert	WWII	27 Aug 96	Vancouver, BC
Nicholson, Lorne W.	Reg F	22 Oct 96	Kelwood, MB
O'Grady G.S. (George)	-	Oct 96	Mt. Uniacke, NS
Perks, John	Korea	23 Aug 97	Rawdon, QC
Pettinger, John Everett	WWII	14 Jun 97	Winnipeg, MB
Rehill, Cecil M.	WWII, Reg. F	3 Mar 97	Summerland, BC
Robertson, R.F.S., MC*	WWII	18 May 97	Saltspring Island, BC
Sanders, Francis O.	WWII	2 Aug 96	Atikokan, ON
Schulz, Art	Korea	13 Jul 97	Winnipeg, MB
Sexsmith, Larry Edward	WWII	4 Sep 97	Kelowna, BC
St. Pierre, Joseph Real	Reg F	18 Jan 97	Winnipeg, MB
Steha Rueban	Korea	13 Sep 97	Swift Current, SK
Swaenepoel, Leopold A.	WWII	14 Nov 97	Souris, MB
Swanston, William Frank	WWII	29 May 97	Victoria, BC
Thompson, E.A. (Tommy)	WWII, Korea	12 Jan 97	Kelowna, BC
Trapp, Elmer Reinhold	Korea	9 Apr 97	Winnipeg, MB
Turnbull, Archibald T.	WWII	12 Dec 96	Winnipeg, MB
Webber, R.C.	WWII	15 Jul 97	Winnipeg, MB
Weitzel, Harold Charles	WWII	9 Apr 97	Winnipeg, MB
Whitehawk, Eben	Korea	6 Jul 97	Kamsack, SK
Wilkie, W.	WWII	17 Jul 97	Deep River, ON
Wray, Hugh	WWII, Korea, Reg F	14 Dec 96	New Westminster, BC



*Because I could not stop for Death,
He kindly stopped for me:
The carriage held but just ourselves
and Immortality.*

- Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)



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