



PHOTOGRAPH BY/PHOTOGRAPHE PAR JOHN EVANS

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II, COLONEL-IN-CHIEF, 48TH HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA



## BATTLE HONOURS

of

the 48th Highlanders of Canada

(those Battle Honours in capitals are emblazoned on the Regimental Colour)

SOUTH AFRICA 1899 - 1900

YPRES, 1915, '17  
Gravenstavel  
St. Julien  
FESTUBERT, 1915  
MOUNT SORREL  
SOMME, 1916  
Pozières  
Thiepval  
Ancre Heights  
Arras, 1917, '18  
VIMY, 1917  
Arleux  
Scarpe, 1917, '18  
HILL 70  
PASSCHENDAELE  
AMIENS

DROCOURT-QUEANT  
Hindenburg Line  
CANAL DU NORD  
Pursuit To Mons  
France And Flanders,  
1915-'18  
LANDING IN SICILY  
Valguarnera  
ASSORO  
Agira  
Adrano  
Regalbuto  
Sicily, 1943  
Landing At Reggio  
CAMPOBASSO  
San Nicola-San Tommaso  
Cassino II

Gustav Line  
LIRI VALLEY  
HITLER LINE  
GOTHIC LINE  
LAMONE CROSSING  
Misano Ridge  
RIMINI LINE  
Torella  
San Leonardo  
The Gully  
ORTONA  
San Martino-San Lorenzo  
Fosso Vecchio  
Italy, 1943 - '45  
APELDOORN  
Northwest Europe, 1945



### THE REGIMENT

Colonel in Chief  
Honorary Colonel  
Honorary Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding Officer  
Regimental Headquarters  
Cadet Corps  
Associated Cadet Corps  
Affiliated Regiment  
Regimental Associations

Regimental Museum

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II  
Colonel FF McEachren, CVO, CM, CSI, ED, CD, ADC  
Lieutenant Colonel DC Haldenby, CD  
Lieutenant Colonel AW Jensen, CD  
Toronto, Ontario  
48th Highlanders of Canada Cadet Corps  
St Andrew's College Highland Cadet Corps  
The Gordon Highlanders  
Continuing Sergeants' Association, IODE, Ladies' Auxiliary, Life Members,  
Officers' Association, Old Comrades' Association, Pipes and Drums Association  
284 King Street East, Toronto



# THE FALCON

THE JOURNAL OF THE 48TH HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 2

DECEMBER, 1982

## EDITORIAL

In his history of this Regiment, Kim Beattie wrote "the multi clad veterans vanished . . . leaving behind them the new Regiment of Highlanders. And the veterans took with them the knowledge that these young men, their younger generation, were ably carrying on those glorious traditions hard won in the red wrath of battle".

The new regiment of Highlanders are, of course, you, the active battalion, and it is perhaps fitting at this time of year, to reassure the veterans that, although few of you have ever heard a shot fired in anger, you are every bit as good Highlanders as they are. You are doing your utmost to "carry on those glorious traditions".

Never has our country had greater need of citizens who will put duty before worldliness, and now is the time for all of us to reappraise our values—to ask ourselves if we are personally doing our share to preserve the freedoms so dearly won by the veterans—to ask ourselves if we can not only order our lives toward that end, but influence others towards the same goal.

Editor Maj JA Brown, CD  
Assistant 2Lt BR Carbert  
Advertising Lt RF Buller

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## COMMANDING OFFICER'S MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE REGIMENTAL FAMILY

Since taking over as Commanding Officer, one thing which continues to impress me is the number and diversity of the people who are working hard, in a variety of ways, for the Regiment. Now, more than ever, the active Regiment needs the support of all segments of the Regimental Family.

We need recruits; our goal is to find 100 prospective recruits between September 1982 and May 1983. We can only achieve this goal if *everyone* does his or her bit. We all have friends, co-workers, and acquaintances who have sons or brothers aged 17 - 25. You can see from the articles in this issue of The Falcon that we have been involved in some very interesting and challenging training. Why don't you show your copy of this journal to someone who might be interested in joining the Regiment? If everyone would take a little time to talk to someone about joining, we would meet our goal very easily. Please make an extra effort to help the Regiment now.

Other parts of the Regiment would also appreciate your support; whether you're a member of the OCA, the Ladies' Auxiliary or any of the other components of the Regimental Family, try to make the next meeting. There is a new vitality in our Family which many people have mentioned to me. Why not turn up, surprise your executive, meet your old friends and vote for what *you* want? You might even have enough fun to make you want to come back! If you're out of town, why not send a letter to a few of your friends in the Association; let them know how you are.

Looking for something to do? Somewhere, somehow, we'll find you something that is fun, rewarding and most helpful to some part of the Regimental Family. Writing, typing, bookkeeping, mailing, phoning; what-



LCol AW Jensen CD takes over command on 4 June 1982 under the watchful eye of Col D Pryer CD, TMD Commander.

ever you want to do, we've got something. I hope you can find just a little bit of time (or a little bit more time) to help us make the 48th Highlanders bigger, better and stronger than ever in 1983.

I hope that you and your families will all have a wonderful Christmas and that 1983 will bring you much happiness and our Regimental Family greater success.

*AW Jensen*  
AW Jensen  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding Officer

## LETTERS

LCol AW Jensen, CD  
Commanding Officer,  
48th Highlanders of Canada

Tiverton, Ontario  
August 3, 1982

Dear Colonel,

It will take me a long time to catch up to the long list of most kind and complimentary letters written to me at the time of my retirement. I am now at the point where I can acknowledge with gratitude the warmth of your words both in your letter on behalf of the Officers, Non Commissioned Officers and men and women of the Regiment, and in your gracious remarks at the lectern of St. Andrew's Church on the occasion of my last sermon there as Minister of that most distinguished church.

I shall always treasure the precious print of the perfectly appointed 48th Highlander which is one of a limited issue. That print will have an honoured place in our new home in Oshawa and will remind me of a very rich association I have had with a most stimulating company of men and women. I have always been proud to say that I am the honorary chaplain of the gallant 48th, and that I can continue yet to use that title, gives me a profound sense of satisfaction. Thank you so much for this great consideration.

When at length, I am settled in Oshawa and some routine is established, I shall look forward to Friday evening visits to the Regiment.

Please express my gratitude to all my friends at Moss Park Armoury.

Most sincerely  
Douglas Stewart

The Editor,  
The Falcon

South River, Ontario  
July 14, 1982

Dear Sir,

Since retiring from Honeywell a couple of years ago, my wife and I bought, and are operating, a golf club in the beautiful Algonquin Highlands.

We'd be glad to have any Highlanders drop in for a visit or a round of golf if they are up this way anytime—and they can enjoy a drink in "The Highlander Lounge" which features a lighted copy of a 48th Officer which I acquired from the Mess.

Sincerely  
Don Grant  
(Lt JD Grant)

## EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS

During the past 6 months, the Editor has received many letters from Highlanders regarding the new format of The Falcon, and it is thanks to you, the contributors, that the following comments have been made:

"... that was one helluva publication" JML

"... have just received my latest edition of The Falcon and I cannot say how much I have enjoyed reading every item printed therein. This publication is a grand idea and serves as a marvellous means of keeping in touch with the Regiment, even if we are too old, sick or far away to otherwise participate"

AEB

"... I feel that The Falcon is one of the most important things to have been developed in the Family in a long time. The fact that you have articles from outside contributors adds a lot to the flavour, and it should continue"

RJS

"... It is with great pleasure and enjoyment that I receive all the news from the 48th"

JAMM

"... Congratulations! That was an excellent production, typographically and in every other respect. The features on the pilgrimage to Holland were particularly good"

WAH

## DONATIONS

The Editor gratefully acknowledges donations to The Falcon from the following Highlanders:

Capt D Barclay	BGen IS Johnson
Capt J Barclay	2Lt CRB Laing
Capt DR Bennet	Capt WJ Leadbeater
Capt AE Brock	Col JM Lowndes
Maj TM Buchanan	Lt D MacDonald
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Maj CR Douglas	LCol RJ Simmons
Capt WW Evans	Lt JC Taylor
Lt JD Grant	Lt B Ward Price
Col CF Harrington	LCol T Warren
Maj GC Hendrie	Maj JAW Whiteacre

Donations from the following companies or members of the Regimental Family are also gratefully acknowledged:

Consumers Gas Company	48th Life Members
Pageantry Productions	48th OCA
48th IODE	48th Pipes & Drums
48th Ladies' Auxiliary	Association

All donations have been individually acknowledged, by letter, by the Editor.



Dileas Gu Brath

Oh God! Watch over both my sons,  
Bring them safe home to me:  
For they are part of all I love  
Until eternity.

They're serving with the Forty-eighth,  
Out there to crush the Hun,  
God grant them strength to carry high  
The Torch of World War One.

Oh God! Watch over all their friends,  
For they have mothers, too,  
Who watch and pray, for their safe return  
To the land they all love true.

God give them courage to crush the foe;  
And spirit to laugh and sing;  
And pride to be part of the Forty-Eighth,  
And soldiers of the King.

Do your best, dear sons, till the battle is won,  
"Be Faithful Unto Death";  
And proud to wear the grand old badge  
Of the fighting Forty-Eighth.

—Mrs. George MacFadyen  
to her two sons, George and Douglas  
of the 48th Highlanders of Canada

## OBITUARY

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat  
The soldier's last tattoo,  
No more on life's parade shall meet  
The brave and fallen few.  
(Theodore O'Hara)



Memorial Window to the 1,793 officers, NCOs and men who gave their lives in active service.  
(Painted by Len Falconer, 15th Batt CEF)

The following Highlanders passed on during 1982.  
To their families and friends go our sincerest sympathies.

SW Betts	JD Bishop	NE Blair
FW Bolton	A Buchanan	C Burdis
EW Burroughs	GE Burt	JH Carrick
WC Carroll	WP Cochrane	WM Dignam
WR Ferguson	T Field	D Goodall
JW Graham	W Kinnear	DS McLachlan
R Nicholson	T Pascoe	GOG Phibbs
CS Roe	JE Small	JH Townsend
B Whyte	JB Walker	

## CFB TORONTO MERIT AWARD TO MWO (RET'D) GEORGE MACLEAN EM, CD

MWO George MacLean joined the 48th in 1938 and served with dedication and loyalty until he "retired" in 1964.

Since 1964, his "retirement" has included being Treasurer of the Unit Fund, bookkeeper of the Ser-



MWO (ret'd) George MacLean shows his CFB Toronto Merit Award, flanked by Mrs. MacLean and Col WJ Penfold CD Base Commander, CFB Toronto.

geants' Mess, auditor for the Officers' Mess and the Moss Park Armoury Junior Ranks' Mess.

In addition, he prepares budgets, and capably advises Officers and NCOs on the financial administration of the Institutes for which they are responsible. He spends many hours at home doing work for this Unit, and the results of his work have shown up in the quality of our financial administration.

Earlier this year, he was awarded the CFB Toronto Merit Award in recognition of what the dedication of a former Militiaman can do for a Militia unit. Congratulations, George, from all Highlanders.

## CHARLIE COMPANY by CSM (MWO) Aiken R, CD

The training year started out somewhat slowly for Charlie Company, due to exercises being cancelled, and other commitments in or about the armoury. After the Christmas break however, training really started to pick up. We were committed to no fewer than 13 weekends and the usual assortment of Friday night parades.

Training ranged from paddling rubber assault boats to rappelling from a helicopter. This is a brief summary of what C Coy accomplished during this time.

16 JAN 82 - PRE WINTER INDOCTRINATION. Training was carried out at the armoury as preparation for Winter Indoctrination at Meaford the following week. Training included tent pitching and striking drills, snowshoeing, navigation, and use of various winter equipment. Also on this weekend, Capt Young, Sgt Jenkins, Sgt Webster, and Cpl Palmer journeyed to Ashtabula, Ohio, to conduct similar training with K Troop, 107 ACR in preparation for that unit's visit the following week.

22-24 JAN 82 - WINTER INDOCTRINATION - MEAFORD. Quite a change from past years, in fact the weather on Friday evening was so severe the road into camp was impassable. There we were, five kilometres from our equipment with continuation of the exercise in doubt. However, the Royal Canadian Legion in the town of Meaford, came to the rescue and all ranks were able to stay over until morning, when the weather cleared and the road was re-opened.

Charlie Company was again host to members of the 107 ACR Ohio National Guard. Most were from K Troop in Ashtabula, Ohio (who incidently were named the top US Army unit in the annual competition for field training, and administration. This is especially prestigious since it includes Regular, Re-


Cont'd on page 8



*150 years ago, in the  
Merchant's Exchange Coffee House  
in Halifax  
The Bank of Nova Scotia  
had its beginnings.*

*As our nation grew  
we moved west across the  
land, and far beyond  
our borders into 45 countries.*

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played a role in the life  
and commerce of Canada  
for a century and a half.*

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## CHARLIE COMPANY

cont'd from page 6



Assault boat training at Leslie Street Spit.

serve, and National Guard units).

When the exercise finally got underway, and we were able to cut loose from the base camp, the weather again turned foul. Howling wind and blinding snow could not deter us as we bashed on. The company was able to reach its objective and in fact, pushed on a few hundred metres further just to add good measure. After getting into the evening routine, recon patrols were sent out to scout a suspected enemy position in preparation for a deliberate attack the next morning. As it turned out, the attack didn't materialize, but all-in-all it was a very good weekend in respect to practising basic winter skills. CQMS Boggiss reported at the end of the trek back, "when reincarnated, he would not wish to come back as a sled dog".

12-14 FEB 82 - TURNER SHOOT, TMD INSPECTION. The company was double tasked along with D Company in providing personnel for the testing portion of the inspection as well as attending the Turner Shoot at CFB Borden. The format for the shoot was changed somewhat with the emphasis being placed on conducting a winter classification. For the actual competition itself, a team from C Company won the trophy for top team. Congratulations to Capt Young, Lt Johnson, MWO Aiken, and WO Boggiss.

Much of the next two months was spent primarily conducting qualification courses. Most members of the company were involved either in the TQ2 AVGP Driver or the TQ2 Sigs Course. These courses spanned over six weekends, both at the armoury and CFB Borden, providing much needed drivers and signallers for our new role with the AVGP.

About the time when these courses were being wrapped up, the Airborne Regiment in Petawawa invited the unit to send personnel to their battle-school on 16-18 Apr 82. This was made possible through the kind effort of Capt D Eaton (the previous



Helicopter rappelling.



HQ Group patrolling ex CFTA Meaford. L to R - Lt Beaton, 2Lt McBey, Capt Young, Lt Johnson, WO Boggiss.

USO to the Regiment), who is currently the Airborne Training Officer. C Company provided the lions share of the contingent and along with members of the 25th Toronto Service Battalion, prepared to go. The plan called for an airlift via helicopter; however, due to technical problems this was scrubbed, but thanks to some quick telephone calls by Capt L Tollas (our current USO), and Capt Bartley (USO 25 Svc Bn), we were able to secure transport from the 2nd Fd Engineer Regiment. After travelling all night we arrived at Petawawa just in time for breakfast, and then went straight out to the stands. In all, we were able to go through three stands before leaving on Sunday afternoon. These included a grenade assault range, helicopter rappelling, and demolitions (including simple charges, bangalore torpedoes, claymore mines and booby-traps). All in all, an excellent time was had by all, and more important a great deal was learned. Hopefully this opportunity will be made available again this year.

SATURDAY 1 MAY 82 - C Company conducted a one day exercise at the Leslie Street Spit. Training involved stowage of equipment, preparation of the boat, drills while in the water, and beach landings.

7-9 MAY 82 - CFTA MEAFORD. The company was assigned to provide fighting patrols to operate against the remainder of the Regiment. The entire exercise was well co-ordinated and proved to be a good learning experience. MCpl Scott and Cpl Trebels were advance scouts for the entire exercise, sending back much needed and vital information concerning locations and strength of enemy troops. Unfortunately they wandered too close and were captured. MCpl Scott kept his wits about him, but Cpl Trebels broke down under intense interrogation and signed a confession concerning his activities (in the future, he will be watched more closely). At the same time, WO Boggiss and Sgt Strachan introduced a new weapon to the battlefield, namely an AGHG (Anti-Grizzly Hand Grenade). RSM Barnes and MWO Damjanoff can report on its effectiveness.

28-30 MAY 82. C Company provided a fully staffed HQ and a lower control for the TMD Command Post Exercise. Prior to the exercise, there were a few hic-

cups, but these were ironed out and all went well. All who attended learned a great deal including Sgt Jenkins, MCpls Kingston and Scott, who did an excellent job in operating the three platoon nets.

FRIDAY 4 JUN 82. This was the occasion of the Change of Command from LCol DG Temple CD to LCol AW Jensen CD. This marked the first time that C Company was able to parade in a uniform other than combat since January and was also the strongest turnout all year by far. Our best wishes are extended to LCol Temple in his retirement and to LCol Jensen, our pledge of support during his time as CO.

18-20 JUN 82. Niagara-on-the-Lake. This was the last training weekend for the year. Emphasis was placed on section and platoon battledrills, section attacks, mount and dismount drills using on AVGP.

The company was also heavily involved in training during the summer at Grayling, Michigan, and Milcon; a special report is being made on these.

This ends the report for Charlie Company, as you can see we were very busy last year, the future looks to greater involvement in field training and without a doubt, should be just as rewarding and challenging as the past year was.

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## DELTA COMPANY

by 2Lt BR Carbert

This report on the continuing saga of Delta Company must reflect that endless cycle that D Company must exist within. Every June, the Company instructors must bid farewell to a body of men whose training they have overseen from elementary drill lectures on standing at attention and at ease, to advanced fieldcraft. Nearly 20 men earned the TQ1 Infantry and were handed over to Charlie Company. We are certain that these men will prove to be the best of that Company too. It was due to the Junior NCOs that their level of training and performance was such a high standard.

Spring training included a weekend at Borden doing advance-to-contact and an overnight defensive position. Part of this was a tactical crossing of a make-shift bridge over the Pine Creek while under smoke. The Delta Company crew learned a little about fighting grass fires also that weekend. The next weekend was a defensive exercise at Meaford, where D Company served as enemy for C Company.

The Change of Command in June saw a strong Delta Company on parade. Soon the training year ended and by summer standdown D Company had done a fine job in training a group of new Highlanders. But it was the end of their time in Delta Company. All were immediately posted to Charlie Company and served there during summer camp.

Come fall, a new training period had begun and there have been many changes in Delta Company. Captain John Legge is now OC, bringing much energy and enthusiasm into the job. Captain John Sandham leaves D Company after two great years and wishes to thank all of the NCOs (especially CSM Kevin McGuffin) and Officers who worked under him at one time or another. We in Delta Company know that Captain Sandham will do his best in Recruiting Office to supply D Company with men to train.

The CSM, MWO McGuffin, is still with the Company and we have a new 2i/c, Captain Jim Leach, and CQMS, WO Charlie Potten. Many other changes have occurred, such as 2Lt George Turner being posted to Bn HQ as Asst Training Officer. We have also lost an excellent NCO, Sgt Bob Bean, whom we wish to congratulate on his recent promotion.

Delta Company plans to run three training platoons this year. The first is already under way under Lt Mark Bossi and Sgt Kurt Shalapata. Lt Bossi has returned to the Regiment from a year at FMC in St. Hubert,



*Smoke gets in your eyes!*

Quebec. We're glad to have him back. The second training cycle will begin in November under 2Lt Blair Carbert and a third with Lt John Stewart.

Delta Company instructors include Corporal Bud Gillie, MasterCorporal Gord Miller and Sgt Stephen Meredith, whom we'd like to congratulate on his recent accelerated promotion.

Training is well under way and during Fall Classification, almost all of the nine new recruits present qualified Level 1 on the Shoot to Live programme. That's a testament to the high standard of instruction in Delta Company. These men will be continuing through in their General Military Training and TQ1 Infantry training throughout the winter. It is in these courses that the young Highlander learns the basic skills he will use throughout his military career: things like drill, shooting, first aid, and fieldcraft.

The Officers and NCOs of D Company look forward to fielding a full Company by spring but know that recruiting is a large challenge. Any article on Delta Company must end with an appeal for assistance from all parts of the Regimental Family in recruiting. Spread the word that the 48th Highlanders of Canada need young men to train as good infantrymen and dedicated Highlanders.

## PIPES & DRUMS

by Pipe WO Pringle D, CD

The Pipes & Drums were proud to be asked once again to perform this past June at the Delco Highland Games in Pennsylvania along with the Military Band. That made it three years in a row that the bands of the 48th played to the large crowds of people who attend this annual function.

The fact that the bands had been requested to attend three years in a row indicates the high regard held for them by the Delco officials. I am sure that all members of both bands have a similar feeling for the Delco officials as the hospitality and treatment accorded the bands was excellent.

While at these games a number of our pipers, including the writer, had very pleasant conversations with Pipe Major Donald MacLeod MBE, of Glasgow, Scotland, originally from the isle of Lewis. P/M MacLeod had been flown over from Scotland to be one of the adjudicators at the competitions. Many of us were shocked and saddened to learn that the week following his return to Scotland, P/M MacLeod died.

The members of the Pipes & Drums would like to pay tribute to P/M MacLeod as he was held in high regard throughout the whole world in piping circles. He had been a master player, teacher, adjudicator, composer, and had been the youngest Pipe Major in the British Army at one stage (Seaforth Highlanders) and also had instructed at the British Army School of Piping.

His services as an instructor and adjudicator had been much in demand in the U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Africa. He was held in such high regard for his piping endeavours that he was awarded the MBE. "Wee Donald" as he was affectionately known was a true Highland Gentleman and his memory will live on through the pipers he taught and the music he composed.

The members of both bands were also hosted during the Saturday evening of the Delco week-end at the home of Mr. & Mrs. W Hasler. Mr. Hasler had been an officer in the Regiment in the early fifties. An excellent dinner was provided all members along with boundless amounts of bubbly. Mr. Hasler was very proud to have served as a 48th Highlander and he wanted to show off the band members to his friends and neighbours. Many thanks to this great couple, who treated everybody like family.

The members of the Pipes and Drums continued throughout the summer to practice and perform at various functions, and this year were awarded first prize for the best Pipe Band in the annual Warriors' Day Parade.

There are numerous ceremonies and functions coming up at which the Pipes and Drums will perform and some will have passed when this article goes to press. One event the members are looking forward to attending is a tattoo to be held in mid-October in Atlanta, Georgia, where other bands from Canada, the U.S.A. and Britain will be present.

The members of the Pipes and Drums are working with vigour and dedication to keep the standard of the band high, and as always appreciate the Regimental



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The Annual Pipes and Drums Ball will be held this season on February 12th, 1983, at the Skyline Hotel. Ticket convenor is Pipe MWO Sandy Dewar. Last season was the first time we had the Ball at the Skyline Hotel and all tickets were sold by mid-January. Don't be disappointed, buy your tickets NOW.

## THE MILITARY BAND

by Sgt Harding K

I am happy to report that the Military Band has been kept extremely busy these past few months. We kicked off our busy summer season with our annual trip to Devon, Pennsylvania.

Along with the Pipes and Drums, we left Toronto by bus and arrived in Valley Forge ten hours later, a little tired, a little worse for wear, but ready for the weekend! We performed at Penn's Landing celebrating the arrival of the "Tall Ships" at Philadelphia Harbour and then displayed our talents at the Delco Highland Games in Devon. The evening found us being entertained and doing the entertaining at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hasler, he being an ex Officer of the 48th and a close friend of the Canadian Consul in Philadelphia. Another ten hour bus ride, made tolerable by the antics of our driver, and we were safely deposited back in Toronto.

July and August were busy as we made our usual stops at the Parks and Fairs around the Toronto area. A rained-out show in Orillia turned into a rollicking afternoon in the hastily erected beer tent.

This year we added a few extras to our Concert programme with Miss Danielle Bourré joining us as a guest vocalist. I'm sure you will all remember Danielle from her stunning performances at the last few C.N.E. Scottish World Festivals. Also, we were pleased to have our own Director of Music, Capt Thomas Whiteside present those traditional Scottish tunes for which he has become famous. And as Monty Python would say, for something completely different, we debuted our new Folk Singing group of Sgt Brian Harding, Cpl Rick Glover, Drummer David Beattie and the writer.

At the very least, our concerts offered great variety and hopefully, some fine musical entertainment.

In early September we performed for a group of Egyptologists who turned out to be people who study mummies. As you can imagine, they were a somewhat difficult group to entertain! What sort of music do you play for those who study dead people - the Dead March?

We have decided to bring our Dance Band back to life and have scheduled rehearsals throughout the winter months. We hope to have our act together so that we can accept engagements by next spring. We will be using a twelve piece band and Miss Bourré as our singer.

I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome Bruce MacGregor into the Band. Bruce is a solo coronetist and has already proven to be a valuable addition to our ranks.

As usual, we are on the lookout for qualified musicians and will gladly answer any questions interested parties may have regarding the Military Band. Should you know of anyone interested in music, with a desire to join a band, please direct them to Capt Whiteside or any of the NCOs in the Military Band.

A final note: It was a great pleasure to see members of the Regiment at some of our shows. We certainly appreciate the support and the fine comments.

## OFFICERS' MESS

by Maj JA Brown, CD, PMC

The highlight of the past few months was the change of command from LCol David Temple to LCol Bill Jensen. On behalf of all members, I would



Keith Wright and Bruce Beaton at a recent Mess dinner.

like to wish Colonel Temple the very best in his "retirement" and to thank him for his untiring work during the past three years. To Colonel Jensen, welcome, and you will certainly have the support of all of us during the next three years.

It is a distinct pleasure to welcome back, this time as our Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, LCol Douglas C Haldenby. Colonel Haldenby joined the Canadian Infantry Corps in 1943, was commissioned in 1945, and joined the 48th as a lieutenant in 1946. Having been Adjutant, Company Commander, Training Officer and DCO, he was appointed Commanding

Officer in 1961, and held that appointment until 1964.

Welcome back to the Mess, too, to Tim McVittie who is now carrying out the onerous tasks of DCO.

Congratulations on the birth of a son, David Cameron, possibly a future Highlander, to Anne and Bob Parry. The fact that he was born on a parade night augurs well.

We were delighted to see David Somerville, now back from Australia permanently, in the Mess the other evening.

## SERGEANTS' MESS

by Sgt Walker D

Since the last issue of The Falcon, the Mess has acquired three new members - Sergeants Steve Meredith, Bob Bean and Doug Zirk. Welcome to the Mess, gentlemen.

A new Mess Committee has been named for the 1982-83 training year. This consists of:

PMC	MWO McGuffin JK
VPMC	WO Boggis DJ
Secretary	WO Short RA
Treasurer	Mr George McLean
Members	MWO Harding CG
	WO Fullerton LA
	MWO Dewar A

The annual Sergeants' Mess Dinner was held in the Mess on Saturday, 16 October, the 91st birthday of the Regiment. The dinner as usual was well attended by active and continuing members of the Mess. In addition, we were host to many guests, and it is a well known fact that this is one of the best and well known dinners in the garrison.

We have had to say goodbye to MWO Bob Damjanoff, our regular force Unit Training Assistant who was with us for 4 years. Bob had become almost a permanent fixture in the Unit, and we wish him the best of luck in his new posting to CFB Borden. Our Unit Administrative Assistant, Sgt Bill Mitchell, has also left, having been posted to 25 Svc Bn.

In their places, we are pleased to welcome MWO Joe Frost and Sgt Leonard Chown. We also wish all the best to Sgt Bob Leek who has left the Unit to pursue other interests.

## JUNIOR RANKS' MESS

by MCpl MacKay F, Vice PMC

The past months have been a rather slow season for the Junior Ranks' Mess in the attendance aspect.

The Regiment had sacrificed many normal training nights in favour of sending personnel on qualification courses, and the mess attendance was consequently low. This slump is insignificant however, when one considers that the 48th now has many of the most highly trained people in Toronto Militia District.

MCpl Tom Scott finally finished his TQ3 Infantry course, and Cpls Gillie and Hockings also got their TQ2 AVGP Grizzly courses, with no significant crashes. MCpl Bob Bean and MCpl Steve Meredith both completed their Senior NCO courses in CFB Aldershot and were consequently promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Their presence is greatly missed among the Master Corporals, and in the mess in general.

The girls in the Battalion Orderly Room all measured up to our standard when they took top honours on the TQ2 Administration Clerk course in Ottawa. Cpl Joyce Van De Vegte came first in a class of 30, Cpl Jeanette Goguen came second, and Cpl Alia Smythe came in third, all on the same course. MCpl Price came in fourth on her senior NCO course and also completed her administration clerk TQ4. MCpl Karen MacFee came in second in her TQ3 administration clerk course and also completed her TQ3 Finance clerk course. WELL DONE!

Now that the new training year has begun, the Mess continues to enjoy hearty support and attendance of all junior ranks. The new personnel from the summer course seem to be adjusting to the boisterous spirit and gusto of the Mess quite satisfactorily. This is a good reflection on their attitude considering that higher authorities refused to let them use the Mess facilities during their summer basic training.

As this issue of the Falcon goes to press, Mess elections will take place on October 8th. Our present PMC, MCpl Arthur Jenkins has announced his intention not to run for re-election. He has done an extremely good job and worked very hard for the mess, and his successor will have a hard time coming up to the standards he has set.

In closing, the mess anticipates a very active coming year, and will continue to fulfill its function as the "Falcon's Nest".

### Members of the Mess Committee

PMC	MCpl Arthur Jenkins
Vice PMC	MCpl Frank MacKay
Secretary/Treasurer	Cpl Stephen Love
House Members	Cpl Trevor Yong
	Cpl Alia Smyth



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### FROM THE PADRE

by Maj HF Roberts ADC

In this world of rapid change, to write an article a week or two in advance of publication is a challenge. To write a note in September for the December issue of the Falcon is a supreme test.

The year 1982 will go down in the annals of Canadian history as a year of economic depression. At the same time it will be recorded that it was the year when many Canadians became despondent, depressed psychologically, and indeed just plain gave up on life.

In many ways this reminds me much of the conditions described in the Regimental History during the 1930s. The Great Depression and its impact on the whole of the 30s confronted the 48th with challenges which would have destroyed a less vigorous unit. Economically strapping times always call for cut-backs and sacrifice, making do, and ingenuity. Our forefathers stuck to their guns. In an age of passivism they continued to soldier. And thank God they did! Their foresight and perseverance not only kept the 48th alive, it enabled them to be partially prepared to go to war in 1939 when they were called upon to preserve our way of life.

I would hope and pray that we would not have to



go to war again and yet the similarities of the 30s and the 80s are too startling to overlook.

Recently I was reading the Royal Bank Letter. Its title was "A Question of Confidence". The author talked of the need for self confidence at this time of doom and gloom. He told a story to illustrate that how we think can be directly related to what we do.

"There was a man who lived by the side of the road and sold hot dogs. He was hard of hearing so he had no radio. He had trouble with his eyes so he read no newspapers. But he sold good hot dogs.

He stood at the side of the road and cried: "Buy a hot dog, Mister?" And people bought. He increased his meat and bun orders. He bought a bigger stove to take the trade. He finally got his son home from college to help him out. Then something happened.

His son said, "Father, haven't you been listening to the radio? Haven't you been reading the newspapers? The European situation is terrible. The domestic situation is worse." Whereupon the father thought, "Well, my son's been to college, he reads the papers and listens to the radio, and he ought to know." So the father cut down his meat and bun orders, took down his signs, and no longer bothered to stand out on the highway and sell his hot dogs. And his hot dog sales fell almost overnight. "You're right, son," said the father to the boy. "We certainly are in the middle of a great depression."

Ten years ago when LCol Bill Stark took command of the Regiment we were in "hard times". Our numbers were down, as were our matériel and moral. LCol Stark's catch phrase was "talk up", and it worked. The 48th revived and grew. "Talking up" became "living up". We owe much to his forethought and courage in going against the signs of the times.

Once again it is time to "talk up". To pick ourselves up and to say that there is a job to be done and we can do it because we are the 48th Highlanders of Canada.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and may God bless you all.

### ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, THE SPIRITUAL HOME OF THE 48TH HIGHLANDERS

by Dr. DeCourcy H Rayner, Interim Minister

Editor's note:

Squadron Leader Rayner was a chaplain with the RCAF during World War II, and served in the reserve as padre of 401 City of Westmount Fighter Squadron, Montreal, for 12 years afterwards. He is filling the vacancy at St. Andrew's until a successor to Dr. H Douglas Stewart is called by the congregation.

A young officer who survived the Dieppe raid was posted to our RCAF station at Trois Rivieres, Quebec. It was one of four Aircrew Ground Training Stations established in January, 1944, where the course was largely in commando tactics. The rumour was that some of the brass from Ottawa had seen aircrew struggling to board a ship in Halifax with their gear and decided that these fellows needed a little hardening up. The fact was that there was a surplus of aircrew overseas, and this was a way of keeping the boys fit and occupied. Whatever the reason, we had army officers as instructors, and you can imagine that they delighted in whipping the "fly boys" into shape.

Our young friend came to my office one morning to arrange his forthcoming wedding, and in the course of conversation Dieppe was mentioned. "It was hell on that beach," he said, "Padre, I prayed as I had never prayed before." It was a revelation of our deep human need for help higher than ourselves, the dependence that man has on the Divine.

That is why the 48th Highlanders acknowledge St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church as their place of worship. The regimental colours, the memorial window, and the Communion Table with its precious Book of Remembrance, all serve to bind the 48th with St. Andrew's.

During the past summer the interior of St. Andrew's Church has had a face lifting. Every pew has been taken up and a new floor laid. The walls and ceiling have been painted and the sketches of the Apostles on the chancel walls have been restored. New wiring and lighting have been installed, and great layers of dust removed. There have been some surprises, such as when the gallery organ was dismantled, and a beautiful rose window was brought to view. It had been hidden since the year 1883.

The restoration of this sanctuary should be completed by the time this journal goes to press, and I do hope that all of you will take the chance to visit your regimental church.

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## HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER. . . . . THE 48TH GOES TO GRAYLING

by Capt G Young OIC Grayling Trg

Although the last seven years have seen the steady development of a firm and lasting association between the 48th and the 3/107 Armoured Cavalry Regiment OANG, it was not until this past summer that the 48th was able to make a major contribution to that association. Until July 1982, training exchanges and social visits had been limited to weekend exchanges such as Winter Indoc., change of Command parades, Regimental Balls and Sgts Mess dinners. However, in July the 48th was finally able to fully participate in a long standing invitation from the 107th to send a formed unit to their Annual Training period in Camp Grayling, Michigan. The planning began in December 1981 and after a great deal of red tape, permission was finally given to attach #7 Platoon, C Company, 48th HIGHRS to 3/107th ACR at Grayling Michigan. A week long liaison visit by Captain G Young to HQ 3/107 ACR in Stowe, Ohio finalized the training and logistical details and on 31 July the platoon was transported to Camp Grayling.

The long awaited arrival of the platoon saw many old friendships renewed and many new friendships established. After settling into its new surroundings, the platoon training began in earnest. The next two days were spent conducting section and platoon level tactical training. This refresher training was required to knit the platoon together as it was composed of personnel from C Company, D Company and several personnel from the Toronto Scottish Regiment. By day three the platoon was ready to move into the live fire phase of its training and for the next two days and nights all training was conducted with live ammunition. After zeroing and grouping on a conventional rifle range, the platoon was airlifted by Huey helicopters to a section and platoon level live fire battle assault range. Although any live fire training is in itself potentially dangerous, this training was particularly hair-raising as all attacks employed the new two man fire team assault technique which requires maximum battlefield movement during the assault . . . GPMGs and LMGs moved with the rifle sections and provided covering fire for their assaults on the enemy trench-bunker systems. To say the least, all personnel found this training very motivating and morale was very high. Several US observers were highly impressed with the aggressive attacks they witnessed especially the bayonet attacks into the target trenches by Highlanders who were out of ammo. Before returning to



48th Grayling Platoon.

the main Base, the 4.2" Mortar unit of the 3/107 ACR freed up a quantity of 60mm HE rounds and the platoon was able to conduct a live fire shoot with its own 60mm mortars. (something the Regiment has never been able to do here in Canada.)

The next two days saw the platoon become mechanized as it was equipped with four M-113A2 tracked APCs. Long hours were spent over the next two days and nights training our troops and the US drivers in Canadian Mechanized Infantry tactics. Formations, drills and mounted attacks were repeated over and over again until we all became quite proficient in our new mode of warfare. This phase of the training was particularly important as it would be this platoon that would be attached to D Company (MECH) of the 7th Infantry Battalion at MILCON 82 in CFB Borden-Meaford. Many of our personnel soon came to realize that working with APCs appears to be glamorous only to those troops who do not have to put up with the difficulty of the drills and the long hours spent on maintenance. Before going on weekend leave, the platoon personnel were split up amongst K, L and I Troops of 3/107 ACR and spent the day firing 7.62mm M-60 GPMG, 50cal HMG, M-72, M-203 40mm grenade launcher and basic demolitions. Also, on the same day at 0500 hrs the platoon took part in the four mile that all personnel are required to complete once a year. However, as the description below indicates, the 48th's participation was rather novel:

"d. Observed Strengths: Overall the significant strength of the platoon was leadership. Capt Young and his NCOs were constantly making on the spot corrections and they led by example. Unit esprit de corps was also important: as an example, the 48th's platoon conducted the 4-mile run (required of US troops) in complete battle dress (while US troops ran in boots without equipment). Camouflage of vehicles and soldiers was excellent." (quoted from the US after action report.)



48th "Guards" Motorized Rifle Battalion prepares to move out.

All personnel returned from leave (consciously and unconsciously) on Sunday 07 August and prepared for the operational phase of their training which was to go to 12 August. This phase consisted of an exercise (FTX) which was conducted in a very realistic manner and saw the 48th platoon tasked to operate as a Soviet enemy force for the Cavalry and Tank units of the 107th. In fact, their IO researched the actual Soviet order of battle and found that an actual Soviet unit, the 48th Guards Motor Rifle Battalion, did exist with which we could be compared and hence Highlanders became Comrades! In order to make this Soviet force large enough to present the US forces with a realistic enemy force, D Troop of the 10th Cavalry (regular Army) was placed under the command of the 48th OIC. The US after action report indicates the resources that the US made available for our use in the FTX:

"Squadron (Battalion) FTX. US missions included mounted reconnaissance and security missions versus Canadian Forces defenders who employed a mechanized infantry platoon and an armored cavalry platoon (attached). Canadian defenders also used engineer support in the form of anti-tank ditches and obstacles, attack helicopters, and massive chemical agents (CS both from dispersers and in grenade form)."

Needless to say it has been some time since any 48th commander had resources such as those, under his command. All in all the FTX was realistic, impressive, educational and fun. It is definitely going to be the source of many "war stories" in the messes both here and in the US for many years to come. Again the US after action report gives us a good indication of the nature of the exercise and the 48th participation in it:

"The overall proficiency of the 48th in mechanized infantry operations was instrumental to the success of the Squadron's training program. Acting as an opposing force (OPFOR), the 48th and attached elements presented a realistic combat environment to advancing



48th is airlifted to its objective.



A 48th APC on the move.

cavalry forces. Each armored cavalry and tank platoon leader was required to maneuver his platoon along a route controlled by the 48th. Some met with success, many did not. Important lessons were learned by US officers and NCOs - lessons best learned at Camp Grayling against a friendly OPFOR rather than in actual combat."

The training ended on the 12th of August and after one day of maintenance and many farewell parties, the 48th platoon finally left for home station on 14 August. Many lessons were learned and a mutual respect, already established, was greatly reinforced. Difficulties were few and we could not have been more pleased with the co-operation, courtesy, friendship and professionalism that we found in all ranks of the 3/107th Armoured Cavalry Regiment. As the CO of the 3/107th and the key officers and NCOs who made the exchange possible saw us off in the early morning of the 14th of August, many of us felt that we were leaving a Unit which had become part of us and hopefully part of our Regiment's future.

# CHANGE OF COMMAND – 1982



The outgoing CO –  
LCol DG Temple CD.



The incoming CO –  
LCol AW Jensen CD.



LCol RC Hesler CD, CO of The Lorne  
Scots, hands over the Lorne Scot Dirk  
to LCol Jensen.



LCol RC Hesler CD, The Lorne  
Scots, addresses the guests.



The new CO uses the cautionary "Highlanders" for the first time.



Pipes and Drums and Military Band.



The Colour Party.



The Honorary Colonel Col FF McEachren inspects the  
Highlanders.



Now it's official! L to R – LCol Temple, Col D Pryer,  
LCol Jensen.



Receiving Line: LCol Jensen, Mrs. Jensen, Col McEachren,  
Mrs. McEachren, Col Pryer, Mrs. Temple greet the guests.

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**MILCON 82**

by MWO Goldman VR

Summer camp saw the creation of an amalgamated infantry battalion. The 7th Inf Bn was commanded by LCol Bernard of the Queen's Own Rifles, and was made up of three regular infantry companies, one mechanized infantry company and a combat support company which had 81mm mortars, 106 recoilless rifles, snipers, 50 cal machine guns and recce detts. The 48th supplied 1 platoon to A Company, a regular infantry company, and 1 platoon to D Company, the mechanized company.

In command roles were:

Captain Young - 21C D Company  
 Captain Sandham - 21C A Company  
 MWO Goldman - CSM A Company  
 MWO McGuffin - CSM Combat Support Company  
 WO Short - CQMS A Company

This year's camp was one of the best we, as a fighting unit, have participated in for a number of years.



MCpl Wood - "Maybe I can get a job at CFTR".

**SUMMER COURSES 1982**

by MWO Goldman VR, Training NCO

The summer saw Highlanders attending rank and trade qualification courses quite literally from Atlantic to Pacific - Aldershot NS to Chilliwack BC. Congratulations are extended to the following:

Cpl Goguen	Admin Clerk TQ2
Cpl Smythe	Admin Clerk TQ2
Cpl Van de Vegte	Admin Clerk TQ2
Cpl Gillie	AVGP Driver TQ2
Cpl Hockings	AVGP Driver TQ2
MCpl Meredith	Sr NCO
MCpl Scott	TQ3 Infantry
MCpl MacFee	TQ3 Fin Clerk and TQ3 Admin Clerk
MCpl Price	Sr NCO and TQ4 Admin Clerk
Sgt Walker	TQ4 Admin Clerk
WO Boggiss	MWO Qual
WO Short	MWO Qual
MWO Dewar	TQ 5/6 Piper
MWO Goldman	AVGP Driver TQ2
OCdt Carbert	RESO Phase 1, 2
2Lt Bossi	Blk 6 Inf
2Lt Howarth	Blk 3 Inf
2Lt McBey	Blk 4, 5, 6 Inf
2Lt Stark	Blk 4 Inf
2Lt Stewart	Blk 4, 5, 6 Inf
2Lt Turner	Blk 1 Inf
Lt Birchall	Blk 4 Inf
Lt Parry	Blk 9 Inf
Capt Legge	Blk 11, Advanced Staff duties



Amstel.  
 The Canadian lager with  
 the Dutch touch.

**THE GRIZZLY ARRIVES**

by Capt G Young Unit AVGP Officer

The Armoured Vehicle General Purpose (AVGP) was adopted by the Canadian Forces several years ago and is now in use throughout Canada with both Regular and Reserve units. It is manufactured in London, Ontario, by GMC under licence from the Swiss company MOWAG which designed the original vehicle known as the Piranha. The basic vehicle weighs approximately 12 tons; is equipped with a turbo-



A column of 48th Grizzlies at MILCON 82.

charged GM diesel engine; it has a cruising range of 600 K; has excellent amphibious capability with minimal preparation; sports an amazing night vision sight for the driver; has excellent speed; and exhibits, within limits, good cross country capability. The AVGP as adopted by Canada comes in three variants: (1) the infantry version known as the Grizzly is equipped with a Cadillac Gauge one metre turret with a .50 cal HMG and a 7.62mm GPMG and it carries an eight man infantry section plus a crew of three; (2) the recce/trainer version known as the Cougar is equipped with a Scorpion tank turret housing a 76mm main gun; and (3) the recovery version sporting a winch and HIAB crane is known as the Husky.

The 48th was one of the selected Infantry units chosen to receive the Grizzly and in late February of 1982 the vehicle finally arrived. One is located permanently at Moss Park Armoury while the other three are at CFB Borden in the AVGP pool. The Unit was well prepared for its shift from a straight infantry tasking to mechanized infantry tasking as it had already sent Captain Young, MWO McGuffin, Sgt Webster, Sgt Fitzgerald and its RSS personnel to CFB London in the summer of 1981 to attend to AVGP Instructors Course. Once again the Unit was well represented as Captain Young stood second and MWO McGuffin third, on the course. Then in February of 1982 the Unit ran its first TQ2 AVGP Drivers Course graduating

13 drivers. Another three drivers attended the course run in CFB Borden this summer bringing the Unit's total to 20 qualified personnel. At MILCON 82 the 48th supplied to D Company (Mech) of the 7th Infantry Battalion, one mech infantry platoon commanded by Lt Johnson, the Company 2IC Captain Young and three drivers to outfit one of the other Mech Infantry platoons. The AVGP program represents a major equipment allocation to the Militia and certainly demonstrates a welcome change in attitude towards the role of the Militia in general.

**SRTP 1982**

by MCpl MacKay F

This year's summer course appears to be the best one in years from all points of view. Having been planned through from every facet, months ahead of time, a crack staff of instructors was assembled. Captain John H Sandham was the course officer, followed by MWO McGuffin as the CSM. For section commanders and instructional personnel, no effort was spared to recruit the best junior NCOs from the ranks. MCpl Stephen Meredith commanded the first section, and was replaced by MCpl Bean when he took his Senior NCO course at CFB Aldershot (finishing as top candidate, incidentally). MCpl Frank MacKay commanded 2 section for the duration of the summer, and MCpl Scott commanded 3 section and was replaced by MCpl Bean when he took his TQ3 course also in Aldershot.

MCpl Bill Kingston was selected as the course storesman/driver and did a most excellent job. SRTP Supply and Services went off without a hitch due to his efforts and the course finished with absolutely no losses, a testament to MCpl Kingston's abilities in itself.

The 48th was tasked with training the recruits of 25 Medical Company in addition to our own, and MCpl Trevor Yong was supplied for that purpose.

The six week course passed like days as the die-hard civilians were whipped into soldiers and Highlanders. They underwent training in all phases of soldering; PT, drill, section and platoon tactics and attacks, map and compass work, route marches and many others. By the time our three week bivouac at CFB Borden rolled around, it was quite obvious that training to be a 48th Highlander was the hardest thing any of them had done. Every one of them, however, held up admirably.

Starting with a course of 24 candidates, we weeded

out the unworthy ones quickly and finished with 22 graduates. Pte Lindsay CW was the top candidate and I know the congratulations of all Highlanders go out to him. The certificates were presented on August 18 at Moss Park by LCol AW Jensen and a new generation of Highlanders was brought into the regiment.

**ADDRESS GIVEN BY  
LCol ME GEORGE  
AT THE OLD TOWN HALL, APELDOORN  
LIBERATION DAY, APRIL 17TH, 1982**

MR. BERGOMASTER:

Thank you for your generous hospitality extended to the visiting Canadians.

At this time I feel I must speak on a more personal basis, but I do know that what I have to say is shared by all my 48th Highlander Comrades who are here today and who took part in the liberation of Apeldoorn. For on that April 17th, 1945 came the realization of what the war was really all about, and why we as Canadians, some three to four thousand miles away from home, were fighting the enemy.

The day we first crossed into Holland our priorities completely changed. The First Canadian Division, of which the 48th Highlanders were a part, sailed from England towards the end of June, 1943 and on July 10th landed in Sicily on the beaches at Pachino. Our mission was clearly defined - to destroy the enemy, the Italians and the Germans. Then in early September when Italy capitulated it was to kill the Germans, and if in the process of trying to carry out this task we also captured some villages, towns and even cities, this was incidental to our main purpose as fighting soldiers.

Arriving on Dutch soil in early April, 1945 our task was to try and liberate a country whose people had endured a ruthless conqueror for five very long and hard years. The realization of our new task was not an instant reaction, but it began after advancing from the village of Wilp and capturing of Twello. This took place very late in the afternoon, just at dusk, and it took the good people of Twello, and very understandably so, some time to react to the fact that they were, after five years, free once again. However, early the next morning the 48th Highlanders pushed on from Twello towards a new objective, Apeldoorn, and

therefore were not fully aware of the citizens of Twello's reaction the next day to their new-found freedom. A few days later, when the enemy had been pushed back over the canal and withdrawn beyond the west of Apeldoorn, who among those present will ever forget our march through the streets of Apeldoorn on our way to the parkland outside the palace of Het Loo, so close to where we have been living the past three days. The Dutch flags, that had been in hiding for the past five years, and orange bunting appeared on every house as if by magic. But it was the Dutch people who made it so worthwhile for the Canadian soldiers who had fought in Sicily and Italy. Emotions were running very high, a combination of wonderful spontaneous cheers mixed with many a tear.

It was a wonderful and gratifying experience that one will never forget, tinged with sadness for comrades who could not share the victory. Those 48th Highlanders who are present today feel very honoured that our presence in Apeldoorn coincides with the date of liberation by their comrades thirty seven years ago. While we uniformed Canadians were the liberators of Apeldoorn we were not the heroes - the real heroes were the citizens of Apeldoorn and especially those who were members of the underground. You, and by your activity your whole family, lived in constant danger 24 hours of every day, week after week and month after month. We as Canadian soldiers therefore salute our Dutch comrades in arms.

Yesterday at Wilp, where we attended the unveiling of a plaque by HRH Prince Bernhard and the naming of a street in memory of LtColonel Donald A MacKenzie, our Commanding Officer who was killed in action on April 12th, 1945 just outside the village, one of the most moving events during the ceremonies was the young school children singing our National Anthem "O Canada" and then, a little later, a song composed two years ago entitled "Thank You Canada". It was an emotional few minutes for the visiting Highlanders and the tears flowed freely.

I would now ask Mr. and Mrs. MacKenzie, members of the 48th Highlanders and any other Canadians present today to rise and drink a toast, and the words we will say are "Thank you Mr. Bergomaster and all citizens of Apeldoorn."

## CADET CORPS

by Cdt WO A Paterson

This coming training year the cadet corps will be participating in many events with our sponsoring regiment, as well as by ourselves. Already this September we have participated in the Terry Fox Run as well as a training exercise at Cherry Beach. In October we took part in the Regiment's Annual Church Parade. On October 22, Capt CM Calverley CD turned over the command of the cadet corps to Capt TW White, who is now our new Commanding Officer. Some of the corp's



Inspection of the Corps by Regimental CO, LCol AW Jensen CD.



Symbolic change of command from Capt CN Calverley CD to Capt TW White by handing over of Corps flag.



Capt Calverley presents his personal drill cane to Cdt WO Reid. This cane will be carried by the Senior Cadet Warrant Officer from now on.

upcoming events will be, the Remembrance Day Parade, the Borden Training Weekend and the Cadet Tag Day, in November. In December we will be training in marksmanship at Winona. In one of the upcoming competitions our cadet corps will be defending our title at the BGen Forbes West Combat Shoot. Last year our team of Cdt WO Paterson, Cdt WO Reid, Cdt Lt Seles and Cdt Lt Lepore won the competition in a heavy downpour of rain.

This past summer, cadets attended many different courses as either cadets or instructors. Cadet R Mack and Cadet J Barry attended the Cadet Leader Instructor course and succeeded in achieving their level 3, silver star qualifications. Cadet R Leadlay attended the Cadet Leader course and attained his level 2 red star qualification. Cdt WO Paterson and Cdt Lt Seles were instructors on the Icarus course in canoeing at CFB Borden. Cdt WO Reid was an instructor at Camp Ipperwash on Cadet Leader course.

In May 1982 Cdt WO Paterson attained his Duke of Edinburgh gold award and will be awarded the certificate by a member of the Royal Family some time this coming year.

Some of the appointments for this year are Cdt Lt Seles as the Public Relations Officer. OCdt Wigle is our administration officer, Capt MacKenzie as stores officer and OCdt Scott as training officer.

The Cadet Corps is looking forward to a very productive and interesting year.

## FOCUS ON – FRANK CHARLES BLACK MM

by George J Baker

On Thursday, June 3, 1982 at the Halton Hills Library-Cultural Centre in Georgetown, Mayor Peter Pomeroy officially opened a six week retrospective of paintings of Frank Charles Black.

Frank is one of the oldest living 48th Highlanders. He will be 88 years of age on December 18, 1982, and is still extremely active, painting and framing pictures done in oil and water colour.

Frank was born to a boat-building family in Chatham, England. When Frank was 7, his father, a civilian engineer in the Royal Navy was transferred to Bermuda, here Frank received his education in the Royal Navy School, along with naval cadets, taught by Royal Navy officers.

In 1911 the Blacks moved to Toronto, and he began his education in art, apprenticing with a lithographing company, where he worked with several artists, who were later members of the Group of Seven.

By 1915 Frank had joined the 134th Battalion with whom he survived the famous "Sam Hughes" riot at Camp Borden. By the fall of 1916 he was in the



Frank C Black at work in his studio in his home at 80 Guelph St., Georgetown, in April, 1982.

trenches as a member of the 15th Battalion.

After serving with the Battalion and being wounded once, Frank, by now a Lewis gun Corporal, was one of 54 officers, NCOs, and men chosen from the 15th Battalion to take part in the trench raid known as the Loos

Raid. The purpose of this raid was to obtain prisoners. Men from the 14th and 16th Battalions were also active in the operation.

The 15th party was divided into three groups. The centre group was commanded by Lt AG Donald, who had Corporals F Black and G Duncan with him.

Though delayed by a gas shelling attack on Loos, the last of the raiding party assembled with blackened faces, and badges removed at the assembly point in an abandoned trench known as "Humbug Alley".

An excellent description of the raid is given in the first Regimental History by the late Kim Beattie.

During the action, Corporal Black received a bullet wound in the left shoulder. The bullet entered and travelled to within 1/4 inch of his heart. It is still there to this day. Despite this wound Cpl Black carried on with his duty.

For his part in the action, Frank Black was awarded the Military Medal.

Following is the Official Citation:

3rd Canadian Infantry Brigade  
15th Cndn Inf  
799199  
Battn 1st Central  
Ontario Regiment  
1st Canadian Division  
Lance Corporal Frank Charles Black  
Awarded MM  
DRO 4107/3 318

Raid on enemy trenches opposite "Hill 70" carried out on the morning of February 13th by 1 Officer and 55 other ranks. LCpl Black was in command of section detailed to block enemy front line at the north boundary of portion to be raided. The wire at his point of entry being uncut, so had to look for a more likely place. While doing so, he was shot through the shoulder by a bullet, but continued to lead his men and succeeded in entering trench he then ran towards point at which block was to be made and found it occupied by a bombing party of five men. These he engaged, killing three the others ran off, and Cpl Black established his block and remained in command until the order was given to retire. By this time he was so weak from his wound that he collapsed and had to be carried back to our lines.

signed: JW Forbes  
Lieut Colonel  
Commanding 15th Battalion  
1st Central Ontario Regt.

On the way back the party became lost in No Man's land, and took shelter in a crater. A party was sent out

to guide them in, among whom was Brock Chisholm.

On reaching the RAP, Frank was placed on a stretcher and put to one side, as the bearers did not think he would live. However, after a considerable time, someone noticed him move, and his wound was tended.

Frank's days with the 15th Battalion were over. He spent the next two years in Hospitals and Convalescent Depots, and finally was discharged in Toronto.



This painting, which was done on his discharge from hospital in 1920 was painted by the brother of Piper Jack Patterson, of the 15th Batt. Pipes and Drums, who was a long-time friend of Frank.

He returned to his old job at McLean Publishing.

Frank studied at the Ontario College of Art, Art Students League in New York, and did a stint of teaching art at Danforth Tech in the next years.

In 1930 Frank married Lillian Spears, bearer of another proud 48th name, who was a cousin of the late John Spears and his son Bob, both active many years with the Pipe Band.

Frank continued his studies under such eminent artists as Emil Gruppé and Stanley Woodward in Massachusetts. Hence his love of sea-scapes. He has had paintings accepted for exhibit by the Ontario Society of Artists and the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts in Toronto and Montreal. *Cont'd on page 28*

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REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Located on the top floor of the 48th Highlanders of Canada Memorial Hall, at 284 King Street, East, Toronto, the museum gives visitors a glimpse of our Regiment's past and its more recent history.



Part of the museum.

The uniforms, weapons, pictures, historic flags, trophies, mementos, memorabilia, documents, military equipment, etc., which are exhibited give an overview of the Regiment's ninety-one years of service, in war and peace, to King/Queen and country.

Under the Chairmanship of former RSM, WO1 Bill Elms, we are still collecting material for the museum, anything and everything that was ever "Dileas" will be welcomed. Regarding photos, please supply on the back of the pictures - who, what, when, where or why, if at all possible. We are in need of display cases, suitable mannequins, etc; anyone wishing to make a tax-deductible donation for the museum's work may do so through LCol ME George.

Several projects are under way; they take time and money. A small group of dedicated Highlanders are striving to continually improve a Regimental Museum of which we can all be proud.

We need your further help. At the end of World War I, each Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force was provided with a Grand Union, i.e. the CEF Battalions not specifically having King's and Regimental Colours. Such a Union Colour was presented to the 15 Bn CEF.

The Museum Committee would like to obtain and display the 15 Bn Union Colour, and any Highlander with knowledge of its whereabouts is asked to contact any member of the Committee.

PIPES & DRUMS ASSOCIATION

by Sgt ERL Tucker CD

As mentioned in previous issues of the Falcon, our association's "official" activities during the year are few due to so many of our members being situated across Canada and the United States. The year began with our annual dinner in January and our February elections (pres Bill Elms and his executive can look back on another successful twelve months) followed by the junior piping competition in March and our usual "wine and cheese" function at the Club in November. Our annual fall dance was foregone this year in favour of a spring dance in 1983 . . . details to come! In between times our quarterly news letter tries to keep all members genned up on the association . . . one of these letters each year carries with it an up-to-date address and phone list of all men still living and known to have served with the 48th Pipes and Drums over the years. This list has resulted in many re-contacts among ex-members.

Once again our year has ended with just 100 paid up members which proves that the DILEAS spirit

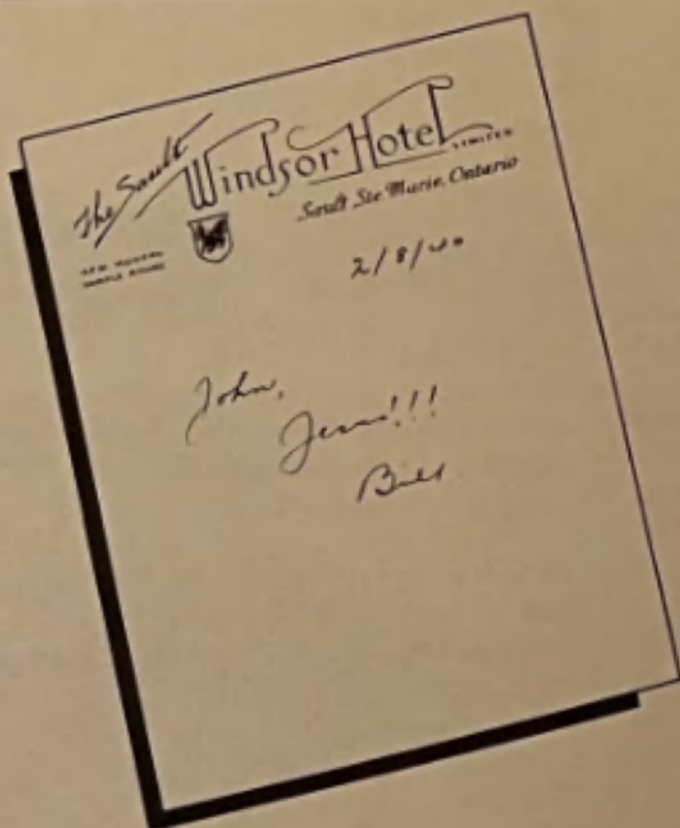


Hamilton Highland Games 1949 - 48th takes the "Best Drum Section" cup . . . L to R - Drummers G Clarke, F Fisher, C Perkins, L Tucker, W Elms.

lives on among the scattered scores who, over the many years, have provided the "Tunes of Glory" to which countless hundreds of Highlanders strode from the paved streets of Toronto to dusty or muddy



Pipe Major Fraser (left) adjusts Piper Bob Smith's chanter reed (Circa 1951) in the Old Band Room at University Armouries.



HELP!!

This letter, reprinted in its entirety, recently came to light when the Committee were rummaging in old files. Does anyone know who John and Bill were, and what earth shaking event caused this brief but descriptive letter?

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battle tracks thousands of miles away. Incidentally, the association marks its ninth anniversary in April 1983 . . . hopefully we'll be planning a special get together of some sort to mark No. 10 in 1984; this would give us all time to recover for the Regiment's 95th anniversary in 1986!



Victorious again! The winning Band at the Embro Games in 1953.

The end of any year is usually "remembering time" and we would like two of our members on the sick list, Bob Spears and Bill Willoughby, to know that our thoughts are with them. We remember, too, those association members who passed on over the years.

Remembering time, indeed . . . the old Armouries on University Avenue on Tuesday and Friday nights, the men's canteen above the riding school and, later on, the little band room under the east gallery, the route marches through Chinatown on Friday nights, the early years of the post-war competition bands, the rifle ranges at Long Branch, camps at Niagara . . . what a wealth of experience Pipe Majors Ireland, MacSwayed, Beaton, Fraser, Dewar, Stewart and now MacKay have led "the band" through . . . some good years, some rocky years but who among us past members would trade them?!

Just a final word: to the present serving Pipes and Drums, the very best for a good 1983 . . . and to all association members go the same good wishes. See you all in print next FALCON!

#### FRANK CHARLES BLACK

cont'd from page 25

In 1938 Frank accepted a job in Bermuda with a newspaper and the Blacks lived there four years. Frank returned on the last civilian boat to leave in 1942.

In 1952, after a career in commercial art, Frank moved to Georgetown and quickly established himself as one of the foremost artists in the area.

He continued to teach at various schools for many years and still is a very prolific painter. While slowing down a little on his legs, his active mind and keen sense of humour have made him one of the most popular, and well-loved residents of the town.

#### OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

by Lt GL Cassaday

The next annual general meeting of the Officers' Association will take place in the mess on Tuesday, February 1, 1983. On that occasion I shall conclude three years as President of your Association.

This tour of duty has been both challenging and rewarding to me, made so by the excellent support of the Executive Committee and the response from so many of you. Thank you for the opportunity to have been of service.

Congratulations to Jim Findlay, the Association Treasurer, on being invested as a Commander, Order of St John, Priory of Canada. This is a well deserved award, and our best wishes go to him.

Plans are underway for another successful dinner in 1983 - make your plans to attend.

Best wishes to you and yours for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



Jim Findlay, Executive Vice-President and General Manager of the Industrial Accident Prevention Association of Ontario, was invested as a Commander, Order of St John, Priory of Canada, on October 20, 1982. The presentation was made by Colonel FF McEachren, President of the Ontario Council, Order of St John. L to R - Colonel FF McEachren, Order of St John; Jim Findlay, IAPA; Leo Cassaday, First Vice-President of IAPA.

#### IODE

by Mrs. WB Turner, Regent

Our 75th year is proving to be a busy one.

The reception to celebrate our 75th Birthday held on Thursday 6 May was well attended by our present members together with past members and representatives from the National, Provincial and Municipal Chapters of IODE. There were six past Regents in attendance. Mrs. Norma Elms and Mrs. E Keeling were absent due to illness.

Our Garage sale held on Saturday, 5 June was a great success due in part to the hard work of Iona and



His Honour John Black Aird with 48th IODE Regents, past and present. L to R - Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Corbett, Mrs. Cameron, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. George, Mrs. Haldenby, Mrs. Dickie.



Colonel IM MacKay CD ADC is obviously protecting His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario from Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Robinson.

George Jeffrey who took in the items, priced them and served lunch to the members of the Chapter who worked at the Sale.

At the time of writing, plans are under way for our Bazaar which is being held on Saturday, 23 October, at the Memorial Hall.

We are having another Fashion show on Saturday, 13 November similar to the one held in April.

Our Christmas luncheon and mini bazaar is being held on Sunday, 5 December in the 48th Highlanders

Officers' Mess at 1:00 p.m.

We have had five new members come into the Chapter this year but regret to advise of the deaths of two of our Life Members, Miss Winifred Cameron and Mrs. Shirley Haldenby, both of whom had been members for over 40 years. They will be missed.

May I, on behalf of all the members of the 48th Highlanders Chapter IODE, take this opportunity to wish all members of the 48th family a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

#### LADIES' AUXILIARY

by Margaret Ritchie, President

The 48th Highlanders Ladies' Auxiliary to the OCA comprises of the wives, mothers, sisters, daughters and granddaughters of the men who served in the 48th Highlanders or the Gordon Highlanders.



Since the formation of the LADIES' AUXILIARY in 1950, our goal has been to help the OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION prosper. As you know, we do this by catering for dinners, supplying drapes and curtains for the various rooms and with our donations to the Club. Since the move to King Street the OCA and the Ladies' Auxiliary have been working and co-operating together more than ever towards making our club one to be proud of. To succeed, every one of us has to come out and support the dances and socials put on by the committees of the various family groups.



Spring Garden Party with 48th Veterans at Sunnybrook Medical Centre.

Another way we can all help is by telling our friends, and their friends, about our hall. The rental of the hall is reasonable, and the catering prices are reasonable. So let's all work together and come and support our club. Let's see more of you come down to our dances or just drop in any day or evening and see your old comrades.



48th Highlanders Chapter  
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Members are Wives, Mothers, Sisters  
and Daughters of those who have  
served or are serving with the

48th HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA

## OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

by J Cliff Weir, President

It is indeed a pleasure to be communicating with you once again through the publication of the Falcon. The Falcon, like many of us, has experienced a tightening of the financial belt and I am pleased that the membership of the Old Comrades' Association have approved financial support in order that we may continue to receive this fine 48th Family publication.

Since the last publication the OCA has been able to transfer \$15,000.00 to the 48th Highlanders' Trusts towards the costs of the heating and air conditioning system in the Memorial Hall which we hope will be in place by the time of publication. Other donations have been received, and will have by this time been transferred to the Trusts. Two significant donations which deserve special mention, are \$3,000.00 from The Ladies' Auxiliary to the OCA and \$500.00 from our very good friend and dedicated member, John Coulson. Every donation is appreciated no matter what the amount, and receipts for \$10.00 or more, will be provided for Income Tax purposes. One can never put into words the appreciation the OCA has for all the support received financially, and in every other respect, from the Ladies' Auxiliary.

The regular monthly meetings of the OCA have become more interesting through the efforts of LCol Bill Jensen who has arranged for serving members of the Regiment, with expertise in their respective fields, to be in attendance and demonstrate what is going on in the Militia today. They present things well, and are capable in making detailed comparisons between equipment of today and equipment used between '39 and '45. Come out to the meetings—you will enjoy them—you will see old friends and meet new ones. The displays and interest of the serving members of the Regiment will continue as long as we show our interest.

Since my last report I have had the pleasure of accompanying LCol Mike George and Mr. John Olivier of Marlies Travel Service on a trip to Italy to firm up the arrangements for the April-May 1983 40th anniversary of Canadian Veterans who served in Sicily and Italy. It was a very interesting and emotional experience to be with Mike George and tour those areas familiar to him in the Ortona area where many of our members were involved in the battles during December 1943.

We also visited the Canadian War Cemetery at Moro River south of Ortona and viewed graves of some of our Fallen Comrades who were as young as

18 years of age.

How fortunate it is during what many of us now consider difficult times that we can reflect back 40 years to December 1943 (BLOODY DECEMBER) and

appreciate what we have as a result of those who gave.

On behalf of the 48th Highlanders Old Comrades' Association I extend to all, a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

## THE REUNION

by WA Hunter

*Editors note - Lt Bill Hunter, a US citizen, decided to do something about World War II even before his own country joined the war in December 1941. He came to Canada earlier in 1941, joined the Canadian Army and ended up in the 48th. He served in Italy as a rifle company platoon officer, and since his demobilization has been a staunch 48th supporter, never missing a reunion.*

*He lives with his wife in Marshall, Texas, and we are indebted to him for the following article, "The Reunion", which was originally printed in Modern Age, and is reprinted with their permission.*

### FORWARD

These observations, written after my visit to the 1976 Regimental Reunion, were, naturally, directed originally toward American readers. The reference to an apparent unlikelihood of any change in the political status of Canada was obviously premature, in view of the recent adoption of the new Constitution.

## The Reunion

WILLIAM A. HUNTER

DURING the climax of our recent Bicentennial Year we were repeatedly reminded of the risks that our ancestors took in challenging the authority of the British Crown over the thirteen colonies. It is instructive, though, to consider occasionally the fact that a vast portion of this continent remains resolutely within the British Commonwealth, and, except for the French-speaking minority, seldom seems inclined to modify its status in the slightest degree.

I pondered the implications of this as I was returning to Toronto for a brief visit last spring. Ordinarily I find few pretexts for visiting Canada except once every five years, for the regimental reunions of the 48th Highlanders of Canada. This unit is not as well known to Americans, perhaps, as the Black Watch, of

Montreal, nor is it as old as some others, having been founded in 1891.

It is a "regiment" in the British sense of that term, designating no specific number of battalions. At present it is made up of one active battalion, serving on a militia or reserve basis, similar to the reserve components of the United States forces. During World War I it contributed three battalions to the Canadian expeditionary forces. In September, 1939, the existing battalion was mobilized and promptly sent overseas as a component of the First Canadian Division, returning in October, 1945, after service in the Mediterranean theater and in northwest Europe. It was replaced after demobilization by the present battalion, in which many veterans continued to serve for



several years. The 48th Highlanders are allied with the Gordon Highlanders, of the British Army.

The event that opened the official program of the Reunion was the formal change of command ceremony, held in the Moss Park Armoury on the evening of May 21. The command of the battalion was transferred to the new commanding officer, who received from his predecessor the symbolic dirk, which he will in turn carry until the end of his three-year term. These ceremonies naturally receive close scrutiny from former members of the unit, who would be disappointed to detect any deviation from the standards of precision that prevailed during their own periods of service. They would have to acknowledge this time that the color and the pageantry are still there. The 48th, one is told, is the only regiment in the Commonwealth that is still able to parade in the ceremonial scarlet doublets and feathered bonnets.

To be sure, these accoutrements are provided and maintained only by the Regiment itself, through the generous assistance of former officers and the families who for four generations have provided the leadership that has made its survival possible. The modern Canadian Army—or, more properly, the Canadian Armed Forces, since a drastic reorganization of a few years ago has almost eliminated all distinctions as to branch of service—ostensibly has little patience with individualism or tradition for its own sake. Even so, there are unmistakable signs that Ottawa is glad to look the other way if unit morale and functional efficiency are at stake. The fact that the 48th Highlanders have no difficulty in keeping their ranks filled at a time when voluntary service in a military force has never been more unpopular in the Western world seems to indicate that something is working.

It is true that a few changes are hard to accept at first. The ostentatious manual of arms that the old Lee-Enfield rifle lent itself to so splendidly has had to be eliminated. The current rifle is a nondescript compromise arrived at in response to the exigencies of the combined NATO forces, but it is no doubt a more accurate and effective weapon than anything we ever saw. It is a shock also to find that the old distinctive hand salute, with the open palm facing outward, has been discarded in favor of the perfunctory gesture that has now become almost universal. Moreover, there are even a few women in the ranks.

Fortunately, some things never seem to change. The stirring, primitive appeal of the pipes has a near-psychedelic affect upon anyone who has ever marched behind them, and when the regimental march, "Highland Lad-

die," is sounded the reaction of the spectators is indescribable. The peculiar Highland pace remains unchanged, too, since the swing of the heavy kilt against the back of the knees would make any other stride impossible.

As is customary, following the ceremony the officers' mess was open for members and their guests. A person visiting this sanctuary for the first time would probably be astonished to see the floor carpeted with the regimental Davidson tartan, but he would be reassured that it is not considered disrespectful to walk on it. Otherwise the decor might have been duplicated in any imperial mess from Gibraltar to Singapore. One might have expected the portrait of the sovereign to be that of Victoria rather than Elizabeth the Second.

If a visitor is fortunate enough to be invited by a member of the sergeants' and warrant officers' mess he may enter that retreat also. In certain ways this is even more exclusive than the officers' mess, and I have known officers (not of the 48th, I hasten to add) who eventually had to become resigned to the fact that they would never be welcome in the sergeants' mess.

The scene of more informal reminiscing the next day was the memorial hall, which serves as the headquarters of the Old Comrades' Association of the Regiment. This organization, made up of former members of all ranks, owns and maintains an attractive three-story structure in downtown Toronto, dedicated to the perpetuation of regimental traditions and comradeship. The extent to which the Regiment, in an almost mystical sense, continues to serve as the focus of the social life of these veterans and their families is hard to appreciate. This is illustrated by a remark that I overheard when a sergeant announced his approaching marriage soon after the unit returned to Canada in the fall of 1945. A friend expressed surprise that he had chosen the girl in question, but he conceded approvingly: "At least he isn't marrying outside the Regiment."

They would be amused to hear themselves described as an "ethnic group," although it is true that the Scottish heritage, and perhaps a trace of clannish loyalty, are powerful cohesive forces. It might be added parenthetically that it is not entirely accurate to regard the British Empire, even at its zenith, as an essentially "English" enterprise. The term "Anglo-Saxon" has been overemphasized, to the neglect of the Celtic contribution to the partnership of the United Kingdom. The active role of the Scots in affairs of state as well as in military and commercial ventures has been continuous since the reign of James I. A perusal of the telephone directories of Toronto, Winnipeg, or Vancouver (as well as those of Sydney and Auck-

land) would confirm the fact that the Scots were the colonizers from the beginning.

The anecdotes exchanged within the privacy of the parlors of the memorial hall are always well worth waiting five years for between reunions, though I sometimes suspect that certain comrades have failing memories for details. I am disappointed to find, for instance, that hardly anyone ever seems willing to accept my version of that memorable Sunday afternoon before the Liri Valley campaign, when an indispensable "A" Company truck was left with three inches of the top of the cab visible above the surface of the Voltorno River. For some reason they always seem to prefer the testimony of the two renegades who insisted at the time that the ferry was still operating.

Then there is the story of the regimental sergeant-major who one dark night fell into an abandoned well in northern Italy. The sentry who was walking his post a few yards away could never comprehend the lack of official sympathy for his decision to take advantage of a superb opportunity to leave well enough alone.

At times the conversation shifts to less amusing topics. For the first time I heard references to a phenomenon that all of us had observed more than once. It was not unusual to see a soldier who would awaken with the unshakable conviction that he would not be alive by sundown. Even worse, he generally knew that we knew, but ordinarily no one discussed it, sensing that no consolation we might try to offer would be helpful.

The Reunion dinner, attended by more than five hundred veterans (from points as distant as Hong Kong and the United Kingdom), was held Saturday evening in the Armoury, with music provided by the combined military (i.e., brass) and pipe bands. The traditional toasts were offered: to the Queen; to Our Colonel-in-Chief (a duplication, since Her Majesty accepted designation several years ago as the Regiment's Colonel-in-Chief); to Our Fallen Comrades; and to the Regiment. The toast to the Fallen Comrades was followed by "The Last Post" (counterpart of the American "Taps"), the regimental lament, "Flowers of the Forest," and "Reveille." An aura of dread seems to surround the melancholy "Flowers of the Forest." It is never rehearsed, is seldom spoken of, and is conspicuously absent from the several albums released by the pipes and drums a few years ago.

In a physical sense the activities of the final day, Sunday, were more strenuous. A surprisingly large representation reported to the area below the provincial parliament buildings, where ex-members fell in as a contingent representing the Old Comrades' Association. In multi except for regimental ties and glengarries, we marched behind our own pipe band,

provided by the Earl's Court Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, following the active battalion to the north end of Queen's Park.

There both units assembled around the regimental cenotaph, a granite column bearing the twenty-one battle honors won by the 48th since 1879, and dedicated to the dead of every conflict since the Boer War. At 11:00 a brief and impressively simple service of remembrance was offered by the wartime chaplain and his current successor. A wreath was deposited at the foot of the monument. As we heard "Flowers of the Forest" for the second time many of us were probably wondering how we happened to be present that day rather than having been numbered among the 84 officers (including two commanding officers) and 1,669 other ranks that the Regiment has left lying in, as Rupert Brooke expressed it, "some corner of a foreign field." Canada has followed the practice of burying its war dead as near as possible to the spot where they fell.

Next came a march down University Avenue and east on Queen Street to the Moss Park Armoury again. This is approximately two miles, and no one would have blamed participants with infirmities if they had accepted the transportation available for any one who preferred to drop out then. Remarkably few did so, and the formation still included a cross-section of several generations, with some from World War I. In the file next to me was an ex-captain alongside his grandson, a lieutenant. The father of the latter, a former regimental sergeant-major, was a few paces behind us.

The march gave me the first opportunity in several days to escape from the compulsion to engage in two or three endless conversations at once, and to reflect upon some of the events that had led to my affiliation with the 48th Highlanders. When I left Shreveport in June, 1941, for Ottawa—the only alternative would have been to join the Yankee Army—I had no reason to prefer one unit over any other. In 1943, finding myself detached from my own unit (the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders) in the United Kingdom and posted to the First Division, then serving in the British Eighth Army in Italy, I received the news that I was to be assigned to the 48th with some apprehension. Ostensibly the reassignment had been intended to allow me to return after three months' combat experience to my original unit before the invasion of Normandy. However, it was clear by then that the posting was to be permanent.

Among other Canadian units in Britain, before the departure of the 48th Highlanders for the landing in Sicily, they had been known as the "Dileas Boys." "Dileas," from the Gaelic regimental motto, "Dileas gu Brath" (Faithful unto Death), became a flexible term that



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Sergeants' Mess.....( )  
Pipes & Drums (Band Room)...( )  
Military Band (Band Room)...( )  
Cadet Corps (Orderly Room)..( )

I will pick up my order at The Memorial Hall

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summed up admirably any traits that envious rival units found objectionable. I had thought of them as dilettantes and snobs, and I was uncertain as to how an alien might be received. Except for the fact that a major later taught the pipers to play "Marching through Georgia" when I walked into the mess tent it never seemed to matter that I was an unknown newcomer.

C. S. Lewis must have been a subaltern in a regiment much like the 48th during World War I. In *Mere Christianity* he offers the wisest and most comforting analysis that I have ever read of the paradoxical moral issues that humanity has always had to face when dealing with the question of warfare. I had always been impressed by the gallantry and generosity of my comrades, even toward the enemy, and under the most trying circumstances. But it was not until many years later that I came to suspect that our adversaries also recognized this.

In August, 1958, I visited the British War Cemetery near Cattolica, Italy, to photograph the graves of many friends who had been killed during the approach to the Gothic Line and in the final assault. This small cemetery is in a picturesque natural amphitheater opposite the Castle of Gradara, the ancestral home of Francesca da Rimini. I was the only visitor that Sunday afternoon, but when I examined the register in the kiosk at the gate I found that dozens of Germans had signed in earlier that summer, far outnumbering those of any other nationality. The "Remarks" added alongside the signatures were invariably appropriate and respectful, but one comment, by a veteran from Heidelberg, was so striking that I still have it preserved in a pocket notebook: "We fought here against the fairest enemy. May God bless them all."

I would have to acknowledge, though, that some of us were also the recipients of chivalrous treatment. I recall waiting behind the battered remains of a farmhouse outside Riccione, a few kilometers to the north, for the approach of a tall young man with a huge but benign German Shepherd. After an energetic salute he extended his hand and introduced himself as Lieutenant Koepl. He remarked, as one professional to another, "That was an excellent fight, but I can't understand why you held out so long." His 98th Infantry Division, he explained, had been in Italy only five days, after three years on the Russian front. "This is a gentlemen's war in Italy, compared to Russia," he added.

By the time we turned north again at our destination, to enter the Armoury from the rear, our column had shaken off the arthritic stiffness and other consequences of three more decades in that inhospitable climate, and with

a little bit of imagination one could visualize the dusty parade ground at Piedimonte d'Alife. The active battalion was waiting inside, and there was an air of expectancy that we had already begun to dread. We halted, realigned our ranks, and waited for the commands that would initiate a maneuver that suddenly took on an overpowering symbolism. The battalion came to attention and presented arms as we marched past, with the band playing "The Boys of the Old Brigade." As we left the building again and waited for formal dismissal in the parking lot the finality of this ceremony could hardly have escaped any of us. It was 1976 again, and we were middle-aged civilians. At the next Reunion in 1981 the OCA contingent will inevitably be more compact.

The ceremonial phase of the Reunion was over, but we reentered the Armoury to resume our informal visits in the Messes. Somehow, though, we knew the rest of the day would be anticlimactic.

Obviously, after such a period of undiluted nostalgia it is painful to return to the real world. There is a trace of irony even in that phrase, for I doubt that any subsequent experiences have been more real to any of us than the memories of our service in that magnificent unit. Still, few of the institutions that represented reality to us then have survived intact. The Empire, even euphemized as the Commonwealth, is a shabby remnant, taken less and less seriously by the only elements that might have been able to preserve it. One does not need to visit the United Kingdom to sense the weariness and cynicism that threaten to paralyze the British will.

Whether a similar disillusionment is to prevail in Canada is a question that a casual visitor would not be qualified to judge. Purely political questions are not discussed in the Mess, and the Canadian party system is difficult for a foreigner (or a Canadian) to comprehend. However, there is visible impatience with the curtailment of personal liberties that recent federal policies have brought about. Outside the Province of Quebec there is little support for the Trudeau government's attempts to ensure "equal rights" for the French-speaking minority. I doubt that the residents of Toronto, for example, condone discrimination against any group, but they ridicule the fiction that Canada as a whole is now, or ever will be, a bilingual country. They especially resent the punitive and costly campaign to force every article of commerce to bear a label or instructions in French as well as English.

The pettiness and vindictiveness of some of these bureaucratic edicts almost suggest that Ottawa has enthroned a horde of Stanley Pottingers, determined to force society into a rigid

pattern, regardless of the wishes of the electorate. It is unfortunate that the French-Canadians as a class are sometimes assigned the blame for this. As in the United States, the role of the ubiquitous Left is transparent.

Likewise, as in this country, the more articulate elements of the intelligentsia are overwhelmingly liberal. This might have been anticipated, given the rapid expansion of the Canadian system of higher education during the last twenty-five years. To staff the many new colleges and universities, their administrators, evidently no less inept than their counterparts anywhere else, turned to the obvious source: the graduate schools of the United States. The damage done by some of these recruits, particularly in the sensitive area of the social sciences, is incalculable. Several of my friends confided to me the experiences of their children who have studied under these iconoclasts, who are still determined to bring down the Establishment, on either side of the border.

It may be, then, that the principles embodied by the 48th Highlanders will ultimately be found to be as anachronistic as the uniforms that they have stubbornly retained for ceremonial functions, and that they are fated to accommodate themselves to reality, just as we seem about to discard the quaint notion that West Point should try to enforce an honor code. However, I am encouraged by these remarks extracted from a Message of Welcome that the new commanding officer of the 48th Highlanders, Lt. Col. R. J. Simmons, addressed to the returning veterans:

In the years ahead there will be people in public office who will discount the traditions and customs that we have fought for and no doubt deride us for being "old fashioned," but it is my ambition to maintain our heritage and continue to show other units that the lessons and good customs of the past lead to a better and more stable future.

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