SIOUX LOOKOUT

1953

1983




CF Bases



Greetings to all past and present members of Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout on this occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the establishment of the station at Sam Lake, Ontario as a long-range radar site on the Pinetree Line.

I am sure that this yearbook will bring back many fine memories of your stay at Sioux Lookout. Whether you were a member of the United States Air Force, Royal Canadian Air Force, Royal Canadian Army, Royal Canadian Navy or Canadian Forces you can be proud of the part you played in the making of the history and traditions of this station. I congratulate all of you in your efforts to establish and maintain Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout as "Tops on the Pinetree Line".

A special thank you is extended to the members of the towns of Sioux Lookout and Hudson as well as the other surrounding communities whose unselfish support to the station created a friendly and welcome atmosphere for all servicemen throughout the years.

This yearbook is a tribute to all of you. Once again, congratulations Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout on your 30th Anniversary and may you celebrate 30 more.

I.R. Snow
Major
Commanding Officer
Canadian Forces Station
Sioux Lookout

THE EDITOR'S PAGE

In my past career as a wild eyed bush pilot I had many opportunities to gaze down on CFS Sioux Lookout and wonder what went on inside those shiny, white domes. I developed a rather healthy pilot's distaste for the site, perched as it is on the highest hill for miles around and surrounded by probing antennas. Little did I know that one day I would be staring back.

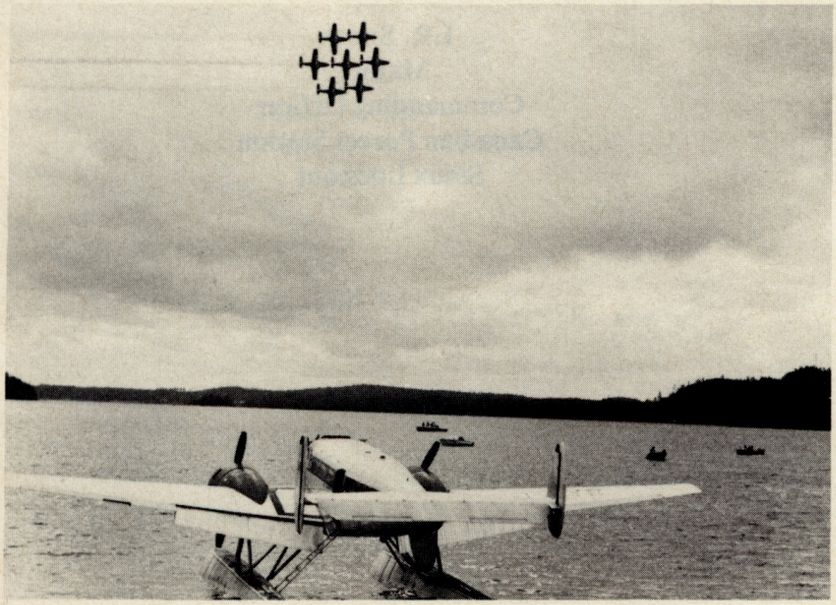
After I was posted to Sioux Lookout in July 1983 I was told my new job would be 30th Anniversary co-ordinator and yearbook editor. My initial reaction was one of shock tempered by my total ignorance of the complexity of the situation. Thanks to the co-operation shown to me by everyone on the station and the townspeople we were able to put on a show and have a good time to boot. Some of my best memories are flying an old Beech Expeditor in the air show, the Freedom of the Town Parade and the music of the Lake Superior Scottish Regiment band.

After putting the 30th Anniversary to bed I turned to the task of the book. It was at this time, I fully realized the difficulties involved. I should mention before I go any further that we have built this book around the original 1978 publication by revising it and adding a sixteen page supplement. The success of the 1978 book is evident to anyone who tries to obtain one of the original copies.

I hope that this new book with the addition of colour pages, the supplement covering the past five years and a new cover will prove as interesting as the original edition. Our aim has been to cover as many events as possible. I apologize for anything that was left out or could not be included due to space constraints.

At press time we estimate the total cost of this project to exceed $6000 of which well over a third has been covered by advertising from businesses in Sioux Lookout, Hudson and Dryden. This support speaks for itself and I would like to personally thank everyone who has supported us during the 30th Anniversary and publication of this book.

B.A. Edwards
2nd Lieutenant
Editor

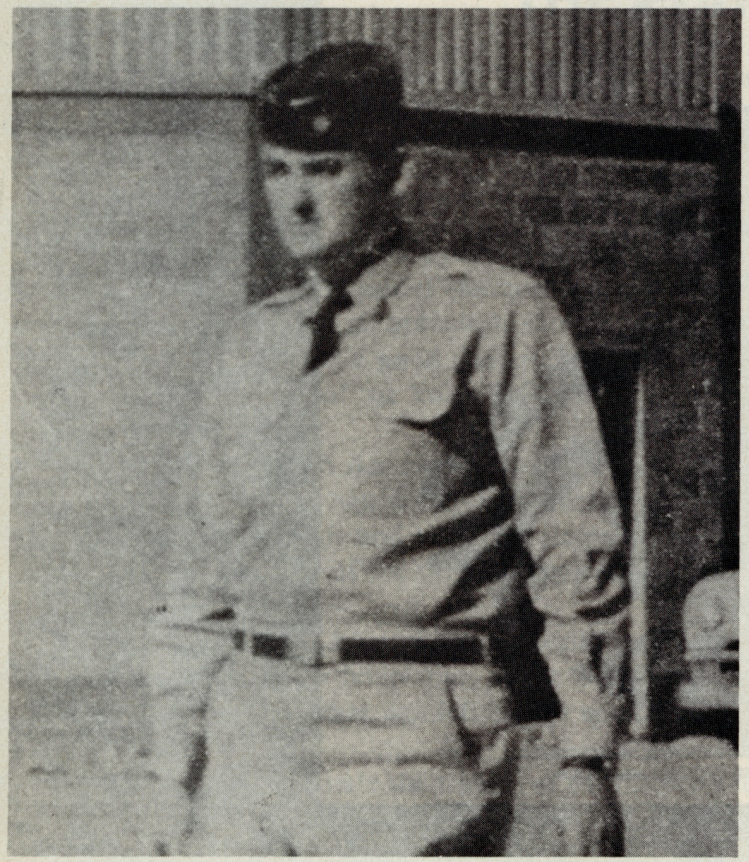


30th Anniversary Co-ordinating Office



915th AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON

OCTOBER 1953 - JULY 1955



F.W. Greenough
Major
Commander USAF
(Deceased)

Major Greenough arrived in Sioux Lookout shortly after the station had become fully operational.

One of Major Greenough's main objectives was the development of good relations with the civilian community. He seemed to have succeeded fairly well in this respect.

No major operational changes were experienced nor were any major projects started. Major Greenough's prime concern was to develop the brand new radar station into the most efficient operational unit possible.

Major Greenough died of a heart attack in his home in New York in 1970.

JULY 1955 - JULY 1957



It was a real pleasure to hear from you folks at the Sioux Lookout Canadian Forces Station. I sincerely hope the small contributions I have enclosed with this letter will add to your 25th anniversary magazine. I consider it appropriate that I mention the fact that the two years I spent in Sioux Lookout were two of the most pleasant years of my 30-year military career. This, of course, was the result of the outstanding hospitality extended me and my personnel by the Canadian civilian populace and members of the Canadian military.

To all personnel at Sioux Lookout I extend good wishes for success and good luck throughout your tour.

Sincerely yours,

Vincent E. Nash

V.E. Nash
Lieutenant Colonel
Commander USAF
(Retired)

Major Nash arrived to commence duties as Commander of the 915th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron in July 1955.

In 1956 Major Nash instituted "Operation New Look". This included the setting up of a mobile home park to accommodate 18 privately-owned mobile homes. Another five trailer pads were procured from the contractor for a total of 23 pads.

The Commander's office and Administration building were situated where the Junior Ranks' Mess is now. The Officers' Club was where the Officers' Mess is now and the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess was referred to as the Enlisted Club (Other Ranks) and housed all other ranks.

The Recreation Hall, Canex outlet and the Special Services Personnel (Physical Education and Recreation Instructors) were located in what is now the Headquarters building. "Operation New Look" renovated it into a combination chapel with adjoining pool tables and recreation area.

In the fall of 1956 Major Nash began the building of the curling rink.

In 1957 Major Nash was posted out of Sioux Lookout. He is now Lieutenant Colonel Nash and is retired and living in Orlando, Florida.

JULY 1957 - JULY 1959



Reception of your letter certainly brought on a flood of memories. Mrs. Lucas and I have thought many, many times of the two years we spent at Sioux Lookout. We have spoken often of the challenges and the victories and even some of the defeats. Fortunately time serves to diminish the defeats so that most reminiscing is pleasurable. Most pleasurable of all are the recollections of the fine people we met and the lasting friendships that endured. And oh – how I'd like to go fishing for pickerel at Rice River and English River Falls again!

Sincerely,

L.R. Lucas
Lieutenant Colonel
Commander USAF
(Retired)

Major Lucas arrived to commence duties as Commander in July 1957. During his tour at Sioux Lookout he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. His major concerns were to improve personal supplies and community relations.

As part of the latter, he completed the station curling rink with the aid of the townspeople.

An art club for the town was also organized by station personnel, while the wives' club put together a variety show called the "Pine Tree Review".

The living quarters on the base were redecorated to help morale and many other projects, both major and minor, were completed during Lieutenant Colonel Lucas' tour.

In July 1959 Lieutenant Colonel Lucas was posted to Colorado Springs; he is now retired and living in Charlottesville, Virginia.

JULY 1959 - OCTOBER 1962

When I think about Sioux Lookout what immediately comes to mind is the community relationship that existed between the town and the station. Our people were warmly received by the people in Sioux Lookout.

We had a station open house every year to which we invited people from Sioux Lookout, Hudson and even as far as Dryden. We also held many joint bonspiels with the civilian populace.

We had a fine program with the town. I don't know of any of my people who, when leaving, didn't have a warm feeling towards Canadians and especially towards the people of the Town of Sioux Lookout.

Carl T Ashinhurst

T.E. Ashinhurst
Lieutenant Colonel
Commander USAF
(Retired)



Lieutenant Colonel Ashinhurst arrived in Sioux Lookout in July 1959.

While he was in command, a new FPS 20 radar system was installed. When Lieutenant Colonel Ashinhurst arrived the site was fully manual; towards the end of his tour the site was just going into Semi-Automatic Ground Environment.

The station participated in many community activities, the biggest being the "50 for Sioux in 62" celebrations. The station supplied men to march in the parade as well as arranging for a United States Air Force Air Show.

In October 1962 Lieutenant Colonel Ashinhurst handed over command of the Sioux Lookout radar site to the Royal Canadian Air Force.

The now Colonel Ashinhurst is retired and living in Oklahoma City.

915TH AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON

DESCRIPTION OF CREST

DESCRIPTION: An Ojibway Indian scout, in his natural colours, wearing in his hair a red feather, banded with a yellow thong, and his trousers of the last colour; the Indian supported in a green pine tree; and scanning the sky around him; all superimposed over a red, white and blue ribbon, and a radar scope with black grid lines.

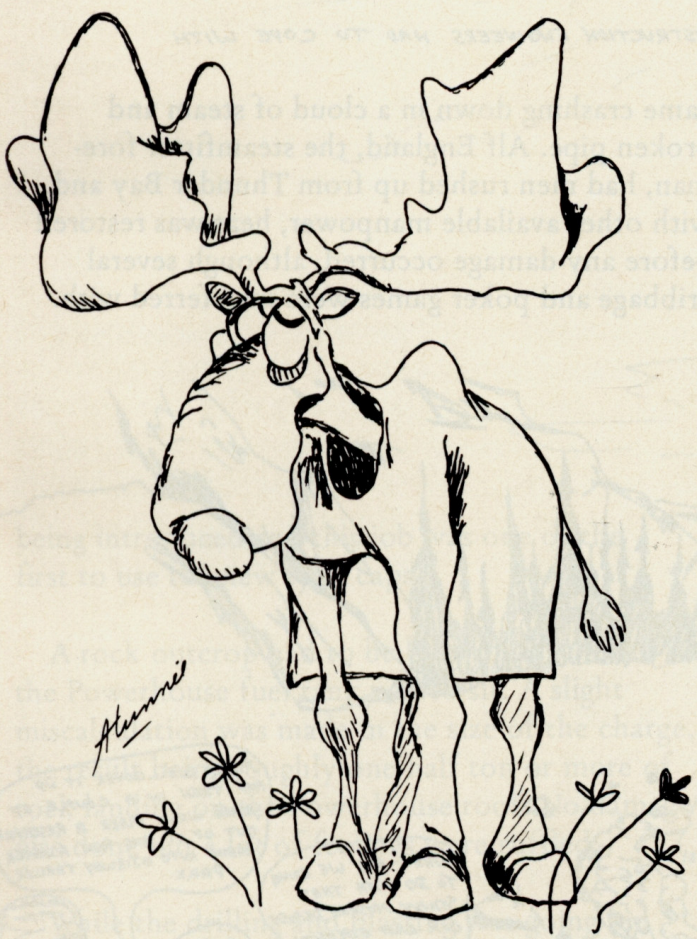
SIGNIFICANCE: The Ojibway Indian, peering at the sky, symbolically portrays the Squadron mission – that of scanning a particular area with radar. The unit's work is a part of the "Pinetree project".

HISTORY: The 915th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron was constituted 11 February 1952 and activated 17 March 1952 at Grenier Air Force Base, New Hampshire. It arrived in Sioux Lookout 05 December 1952 and was fully operational as a radar unit by April 1953.

THE FIRST WINTER

Submitted by J.H. Blackie, C.E.T.

In 1951, the United States Air Force Civil Engineer Canada, originated a building contract through the Department of National Defence and Defence Construction Limited. This contract was awarded to the Claydon Company Limited, of Thunder Bay, Ontario, and it was for the construction of a radar scanning station at Sioux Lookout, Ontario. The chosen site was adjacent to Pelican Lake and had been a former Lands and Forests tower area. There were, at the time, no roads, power lines or telephones near or at the site.



MOOSE ABOUND IN THE AREA

The late Mr. W.G. Brown was sent down to Sioux Lookout as the Defence Construction Limited Project Engineer. Mr. Brown and his assistant, Mr. E. Locke, did the preliminary survey work and organization for the job. The first thing was to get a road built into the site. This was accomplished by Hewitson Construction. A telephone line was then run in from the highway to Hudson but the service was not too good.

Claydon Company then built a mess, office and bunkhouse, which is now the Headquarters building, and three small cabins for supervisors and visitors. Power was supplied by a caterpillar generating plant. The cook was top notch, and all the crew was well fed and content. Working hours were ten hours a day, seven days a week, with every second Sunday off.

Construction work on the barracks, combined mess and garage were well under way when winter set in, quite early that year. The installation of sewers and water mains for the domestic area proceeded slowly due to frost and rock. A great deal of blasting had to be done to get down to the correct depth.

As buildings were closed in, the question of heat arose and it was decided to install a temporary boiler system. A large, old ship's boiler was obtained in Thunder Bay and set up on the site, adjacent to Barrack Block 5, with temporary overhead steam and condensate lines running to all buildings where connections were made to temporary units or the building system. The building heating systems were of American design and of much too great a capacity, so I am afraid a great deal of heat went out the windows to help heat Ontario.



WOLVES WERE A PROBLEM CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS HAD TO COPE WITH

The high point of the winter and the cause of great excitement, was the blowing down of the main steam line on an afternoon with the temperature hovering around -45 degrees F. The contractor was blasting rock and frost and set off a charge too close to the steam mainline, which came crashing down in a cloud of steam and broken pipe. Alf England, the steamfitter foreman, had men rushed up from Thunder Bay and, with other available manpower, heat was restored before any damage occurred, although several cribbage and poker games were interferred with.



While all this activity was going on at the domestic site, work was proceeding apace at the Operations site and the road to the Transmitter and the Receiver sites.

The rock elevation on the powerhouse site was too high and a great deal of rock had to be blasted off and over the bank to come to grade. The rock in the Operations area was very hard and a great deal of difficulty was encountered in drilling same.

At this time, short delay blasting caps were just being introduced and this job was one of the first to use the new type caps.

A rock outcrop had to be blown off where the Powerhouse fuel tank was to sit. A slight miscalculation was made in the size of the charge, the result being roughly one-half ton or more of rock landing on the Powerhouse roof. No damage was done but a lot of feelings were ruffled.

While the drilling and blasting was going on, the site for the Operations building and the Tower bases were being cleared.

A pocket of muskeg was encountered under the Operations building and the stink of this mass of rotted material was worse than the Dryden Paper Company on a bad day.

The bulk of the concrete work and the block laying at the Operations site was done in extreme winter weather. The cold alone posed many problems which were overcome with a great deal of boarding in and heating.

Bears gave everyone an interesting time, as did the wolves. One Stationary Engineer came rushing down from the Operations site crying there were three or four hungry wolves sitting there watching him. The engineer was given a rifle, but must have been a poor shot, because after a box of shells were expended, there were no dead wolves to show for it. However, another worker shot a bear right in front of his cabin.



Curling was a favourite pastime that winter. Rinks, made up of contractor's people, would take on all comers. A regular game every Sunday morning was with "Moose", the Provincial Policeman in Hudson. A bottle of rum, paid for by the losers, was the prize. As one can well imagine, the Hudson Curling Rink in those days was a cold place so the prize was consumed before the winner was decided.

Then of course there was the Hudson weekend bonspiel with the first draw at 3 a.m. and four sheets of ice on LacSuel. A great time was had by all and the hospitality of the Hudson people is well remembered.

OPERATIONS



Supplied by Albert F. Simpson Historical Research Center, USAF

On 28 October 1952, a supply officer and 14 enlisted men arrived at Sioux Lookout from Grenier Air Force Base, New Hampshire, to begin construction work for radar and communications equipment for the 915th Aircraft Control and Warning (AC&W) Squadron. The main body of the 915th was at Sioux Lookout by 5 December, and immediately assumed construction tasks. By April 1953, 915th Squadron completed most of the major construction projects, including installation of teletype lines and long-range radar search units.

Operations began in April 1953, although the unit was not fully operational until 15 July. General air surveillance and long-range search were principal emphases of the 915th during this time, as it participated in a steadily increasing number of actual and simulated air defence operations. The 915th operated and maintained a radar and communications facility in Canada as a Manual Air Direction Center for the North American continental air defence. The 915th supported the Central Air Defence Force until 1 January 1959 when overall direction shifted to the 37th Air Division of the Eastern Air Defence Force.

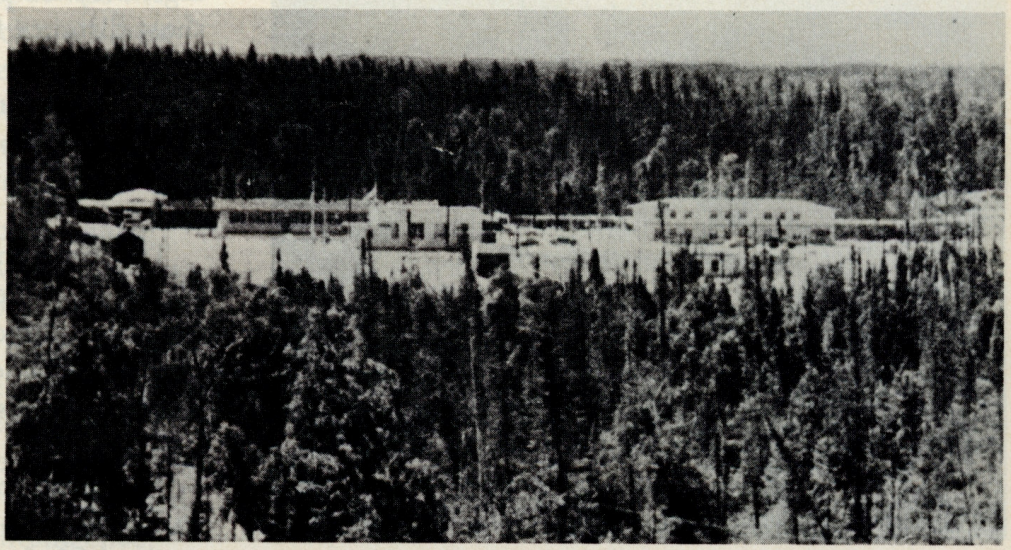
Following the inactivation in April 1959 of the 37th Air Division, the 915th operated under the 30th Air Division (Semi-Automatic Ground Environment) until July, when it became a part of the Canadian extension of the Duluth Air Defence Sector. During the 1950's the 915th acquired increasingly sophisticated radar and communications equipment, with the last major construction project being a radar tower completed in 1961 at Sioux Lookout.

The decommissioning and dismantling of the first sizeable elements of the 915th occurred in early 1961, when a large radar tower and the rigid radome were shipped to Royal Canadian Air Force Station Moosonee, Ontario, and to Royal Canadian Air Force Station Chibougamau, Quebec, respectively.

Gradual cutback in other 915th elements took place in October 1962; meanwhile, 915th personnel assisted in planning for assumption of responsibility at Sioux Lookout by Royal Canadian Air Force.

ON GUARD TO THE NORTH

The following article has been taken and edited from the Courier Journal Magazine, January 16, 1955. Story and photos were by H. Harold Davis, Courier Journal Chief Colour Photographer.



DEEP IN THE DISTANT CANADIAN WOODS, RADAR STATIONS MANNED DAY AND NIGHT BY AMERICANS AND CANADIANS WATCH FOR HOSTILE PLANES.

In an area where even gravel roads are scarce, chances are that you would hardly notice another road, recently constructed, angling gently off to the right and a white board about 6 by 14 inches on which had been painted three stars with an arrow beneath them.

After three or four uneventful miles of driving, I had just about decided that there was nothing up this way when the first of a barrage of warning signs loomed before me. Gently dissuading against further travel at first, they became progressively more vehement until one flatly asserted that unauthorized personnel traveling beyond this point would be tossed into the clink without further ado.

When I reached another sign which proudly proclaimed this to be the base of the 915th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, it dawned on me that I had stumbled onto one of the unpublicized radar installations which guard our northern boundary.

The first sentry post was upon me. So I explained to a smartly attired air policeman that I was a newspaperman and would like to speak to the commanding officer.

The base commander, Major Francis W. Greenough, was away but Captain Hugh Brooks, temporarily in charge, invited me to headquarters for a cup of coffee. My attention was drawn to American and Canadian Flags fluttering side by side.

When I suggested that I write a story about the operation, Captain Brooks reminded me that permission would have to come from the United States Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force, but that he would try to obtain the necessary clearance.

A few days later the clearance had arrived and I called on Major Greenough, who had returned to the base, and found him to be a very busy young man.

As we chatted, Major Greenough explained something of the organization of the vast network of which his unit is a part. In the first place, one of the major commands of the United States Air Force is the Air Defense Command (ADC). The ADC, with headquarters in Colorado Springs, is divided into three operational areas - the East, Central and Western Air Defense Forces. These forces, in turn, are manned by air divisions, which are composed of air wings. These wings are broken down into groups, which control the aircraft control and warning squadrons, of which the 915th is just one.



This cryptic sign on a dusty road is the only evidence to the public of the hidden station.

Bases such as that manned by the 915th AC&W squadron cost upwards of $4,000,000. Canada and the United States share in the financing. Some stations are manned entirely by Americans, others entirely by Canadians, depending on whether the station in question watches over the approaches to an area most vital to Canada, or to the United States. All air defense activities on Canadian soil, however, come under the operational control of the Canadian Air Defence commander.

Finally, I was invited to look around.

The barracks seemed especially inviting. Our tour reached the kitchen resplendent with its stainless steel equipment, where my concentration on the facilities was disrupted by the disconcerting aroma of freshly baked apple pies being cut for lunch.

These comfortable living conditions have been provided to help the men of the 915th better to carry out their mission. That mission, stated simply, is to warn both Canada and the United States of approaching hostile aircraft by means of unrelenting air surveillance. Science has provided the weapon in the electronic marvel of radar.

"Antenna farms", comprising powerful radio receivers and transmitters, are the ears and voice of the radar. Housed in compact concrete buildings, they are perched on separate granite hills a short distance from the radar mechanism and controls. They provide the means for instant communication with other centers or the top command. Ground-to-ground, ground-to-air, air-to-ground communication is on a 24-hour basis.

The long-range search radar equipment was placed atop the highest point in the area. Looking in any direction, we saw an almost limitless expanse of pine trees, broken now and then by vivid blue lakes.

The radar control tower dominated the site. A half-sphere rubber dome capped the circular structure, which from a distance resembled a silo. I was told that the rubber dome housed "prime gear", whereby the rotating antenna of the radar could be sheltered from the 50 - to 60 - degree below zero weather. Constant air pressure keeps the dome inflated, and heat from infra-red bulbs prevents the accumulation of snow or the formation of ice on its surface.

We then proceeded to the control room known as DMCC. The weird surroundings were dominated by the "plotting board", a large piece of transparent plexiglass about the size of the conventional movie screen. Seated directly in front of the plotting board were two airmen who relayed information obtained from radarscopes, the viewing devices of the radar antenna, or other sources to an airman-recorder perched on a step ladder behind the board. With headset clamped in place, he moved about writing his coded designations backwards so they could be read from the front.

On the board the flight patterns of aircraft in the area were traced with different colored lines to distinguish them as "known", "unidentified", or "hostile". Plotted also was the location of jet interceptors which could be dispatched almost instantly to intercept an unknown, or do battle, if necessary. Thus, the everchanging picture of aircraft activity in the zone was graphically available at a glance.

The radarscope positions were placed on different levels rising in amphitheater fashion so that an unobstructed view of the plotting board was available to all. Occupying the top spot was the dais surveillance position, from which the entire operation was directed. Here sat the controller, crew chief and control technician, who kept a complete log of all activities and communications.

On the radarscope, a blip was spotted which indicated a plane was traveling eastward at seven angels (thousand feet) at bomber speed. No flight plan had been filed for this aircraft. (A flight plan is an advance flight schedule required of all military aircraft before taking off, and of all other craft in certain areas.) Since it had not been possible to learn the identity of the "bogie" (unidentified aircraft) by radio contact or other intelligence, the controller was faced with the decision to "scramble" interceptor planes to make contact with the mysterious craft.

The decision was made to scramble two interceptors.

Now all business transactions between the controller and interceptor pilot were carried on in a colorful jargon but all meaningless to the uninitiated. Unversed in this dialect, I could only surmise the ensuing events as the blips from the interceptors first showed on the dial of the radar scope. The exchange might have gone in this vein.

"Black Magic control to Santa Claus. Scramble red rooster, two aircraft, heading zero nine zero, altitude twenty. Call Black Magic Control on ford. Over..."

"Santa Claus to Black Magic Control, Roger and out."

Probably within three minutes the jets were aloft on the directional heading given by the controller.

"Red Rooster to Black Magic Control. Airborne with one chick. Going to twenty on zero nine zero. Over..."

"Directions follow, Red Rooster, port zero three zero toward bogie."

"Roger, Black Magic Control. Port zero three zero. Over..."

Red Rooster and his chick were now speeding northeastwards at a speed of 500-plus miles an hour, while the bogie was winging southeasterly at 250. Computing azimuths or headings on the scope dial with a crayon, the controller established a theoretical spot high above the earth where the courses should have converged. It was amazing to watch the blips traveling unerringly to the predetermined point of interception.



The Canadian and American flags, fluttering side by side, symbolize the friendship and co-operation between these two countries.

From Red Rooster came a clipped "Tally Ho. Have sighted bogie aircraft. Await orders. Over..."

"Roger, Red Rooster. Proceed to make identification pass. Over..."

Tension was visibly relieved when the bogie was identified as a light Canadian bomber and its number was recorded in the log. Perhaps it had only been a practice run. On the other hand, someone may have goofed by not filing a flight plan for travel over the area. Such negligence can result in distinct reverberations around the offending flier.

As a by-product of the defense operation, the radar units give valuable assistance to civilian aviation in an area which is so dependent on air transportation. Night or day, exact positions can be given to lost aircraft. Locations of forced landings can be given to search parties on many instances, which may avert loss of life or searches costing thousands of dollars.

The 915th AC&W Squadron is in a sensitive location. From this point the presence of hostile planes speeding towards this section of the country might first be detected. And a visitor gains great respect for the efficiency of the young men and for the highly technical training which the United States Air Force has given them. The Canadian and American flags stand out straight in the stiff breeze to attest the complete co-operation of the two governments for a common purpose. As I left, I passed the sentry post with a good feeling that the situation was well in hand.



The American domes before they were painted. This picture was not included in the original article but was submitted separately.

MEMORIES OF SIOUX LOOKOUT

Article submitted by Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Robert Orton who was stationed with the 915th AC&W Squadron as a Captain.



The welcome sign once located across the access road to the station.

Looking back, I can still remember the reaction when I received my change of station orders to the 915th AC&W Squadron. Of course, no one knew where Sioux Lookout was, while some just barely knew where Ontario was - just outside of Toronto wasn't it? ?

Well, after searching the maps, we found Sioux Lookout and wondered how in ! x? & anyone survived way up there.

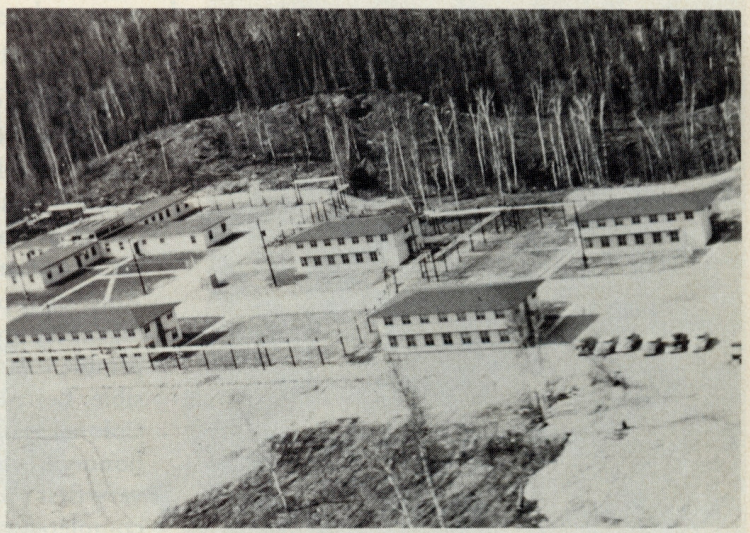
Finally, in June 1954, I went to Sioux Lookout, alone. All station personnel had been cautioned (ordered would be more like it) not to bring their families until "suitable" quarters could be located. I found a house to rent a month after I arrived.

The summer I arrived, a trailer park was started on base and about ten trailers were in place by the next summer. Housing became critical in Sioux Lookout and families arriving later in my tour could not find adequate housing.

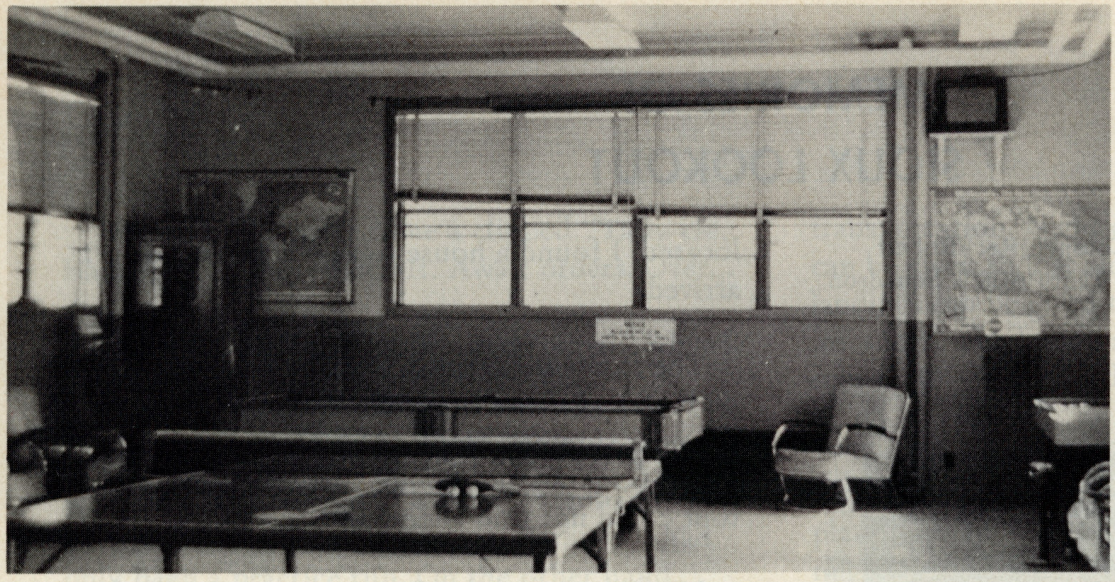
My first year, radar Ops crews consisted of one officer and four or five airmen. The officer on from 4:00 PM to midnight slept in the Ops room from midnight to 7:00 AM; at least we tried to sleep. Scandinavian Airlines started over the pole with DC6 flights to Los Angeles, and were usually off course into Winnipeg at about 3:00 AM! !

Shortly after my family and I got settled, we were introduced to our first Ontario winter. Even though my wife and I had been born in Northern Illinois, we did not know anything about 50 degrees below zero or headbolt heaters or frozen batteries, but we sure learned fast.

All in all, we really enjoyed Canada and we have many fond memories of Sioux Lookout.

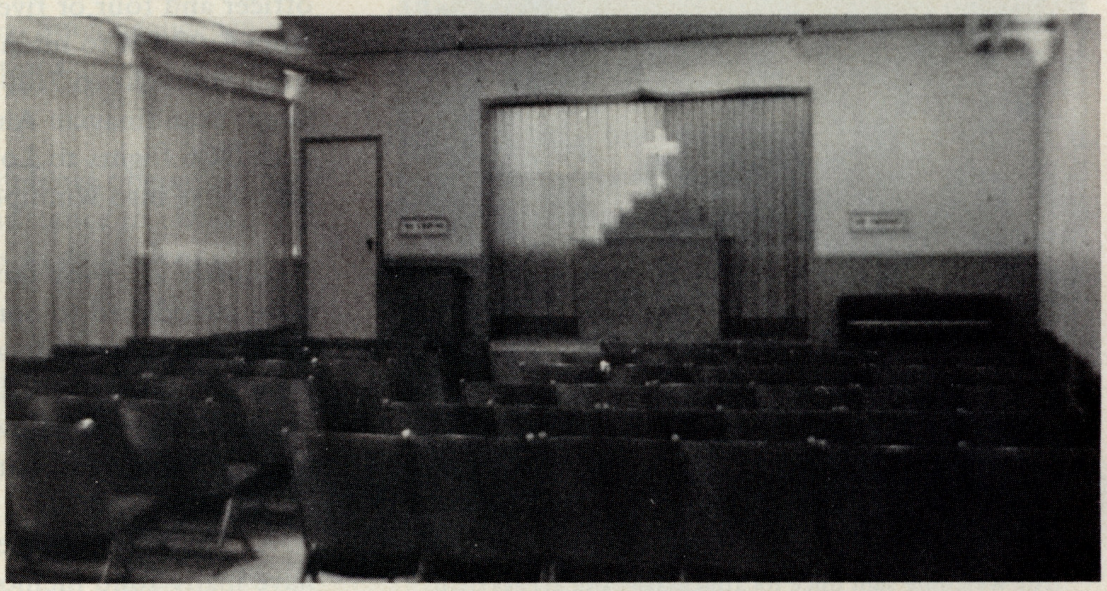


Aerial view of on-base quarter area. The mess hall and administration building are located in the main upper left building. The Operations site is located off to the left.



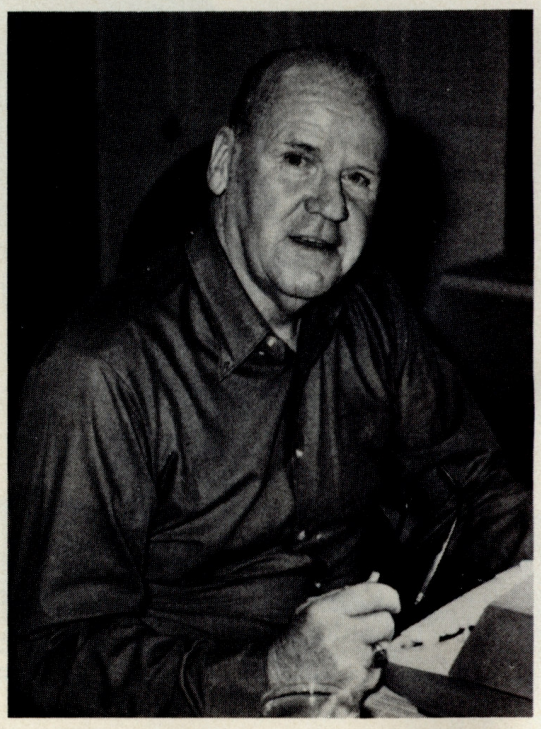
The following pictures and information were submitted by Lieutenant Colonel Nash.

During the early days some amenities were provided but only on an adequate basis. Under "Operation New Look" the recreation center and Airmen's Club, pictured above, were renovated and transformed into a combination chapel and theatre with adjoining pool hall and recreation area, (right).





The curling rink was the one project of "Operation New Look" of which Lieutenant Colonel Nash was most proud. It was truly the result of Canadians and Americans pooling their ingenuity and willingness to gamble to attain the impossible. Left, Lieutenant Colonel Nash does the honors of throwing the very first rock in the semi-completed curling rink. Right, Lieutenant Colonel Nash today.





Lieutenant Colonel Lucas today

The following article was submitted by Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Lucas, former American Commander.

Mrs. Lucas and I arrived at Sioux Lookout Air Force Station early in July 1957. Major Vincent Nash was the Commander at that time and the 915th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron was a well organized and efficient unit.

Before my departure to Sioux Lookout, I reviewed reports and concluded that two areas offered opportunity for improvement of operational capability - personal supply and morale. However, the 915th was blessed with some extremely competent officers in the fields of operation, maintenance and communications. There was also a solid core of equally competent and dedicated noncommissioned officers. What more could a new commander ask?

A two-front campaign was mounted. The first was to better our personal supplies, with emphasis on arctic clothing and on foodstuffs. Regarding the latter, the appointment by the Canadian Army Supply Center in Winnipeg of a Lieutenant Colonel to the specific task of feeding the people all across the Pinetree Line was one of the best things that could have happened to us. He and my Mess Officer rapidly reduced our problems with staples, meats and fresh produce to practically zero.

The personal equipment problem did not go away so quickly, but the breakthrough, when it came, was just as dramatic. Division Headquarters staff scheduled an inspection of uniforms. Officers and men were to be inspected in ranks out of doors at 0730 hours. Uniform was specified: Service blue with low quarter shoes and Service caps (these were items that everyone had). The time was late fall; there was snow on the ground and daytime temperatures were in the 20s. The inspecting party, which included the Commanding General, arrived the afternoon before. Overnight, however, the weather turned sour and morning saw us with a temperature well below zero. I pondered: here was an opportunity seemingly too good to pass up, and surely the health and comfort of the men were my responsibility regardless of who else might be on the base. So at 0600 I countermanded the uniform order and directed that cold weather gear be worn. Sight of the motley



THE HUDSON-SIOUX LOOKOUT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL, CLOCKWISE, From Left Front: Jake Cope, A. Beaudry, Bill Fuller, Mayor Alex Hanna (hidden), Lieutenant Colonel Lucas, Major Stephens, Chief Constable Eady, W.H. 'Paddy' Houston, Leo Bernier.

crowd that assembled caused more than a little consternation. Some men were well outfitted. Some men had no arctic clothing at all and wore regular Service uniforms. Others wore parkas of white, sage green or olive drab. Lengths were from too short to much too long and serviceability ranged from passable to virtually rags, but all were as they had been issued. The General called me aside and I fully expected to be relieved on the spot. To my infinite relief he said, "I see what you've been trying to tell me. Have the men return to barracks for a standby inspection."

The second part of our campaign concerned community relations. Whatever the history, our men were not generally welcome in Sioux Lookout, nor did they by their actions especially deserve to be. Several different approaches were tried. The one which really started things moving was the completion of the curling rink on base. This was done with volunteer labour, airmen, officers and townsmen. The material was "scrounged" and donated by many sources, one of the most generous being the Beaver Lumber Company.

While the rink was still being built, we formed the Commander's Community Advisory Council, calling upon leaders of the Town of Sioux Lookout and the Hamlet of Hudson to serve as advisors to me and to assist in resolving our mutual problems. It helped immeasurably to make us a part of the community and toward having us accepted as such.



Lieutenant Colonel Lucas throwing out the first rock while bonspielers look on.



Members of the Sioux Lookout Art Club

Another of our successes was organization of the Art Club. Mrs. Lucas worked closely with Mr. A. Morris, of the Railroad YMCA to get it going; Captains Edwin Klein and Robert Wilson donated their talents as instructors. (Examples of their work are the portraits in the Uren-Dadson Memorial Recreation Center). The Art Club was a tremendous success, culminating in a combined exhibit at "The Y" from which a few items were selected to accompany a trans-Canada travelling art exhibit.

Another high spot was the Pinetree Review. This was a variety show sponsored by the base Wives' Club. Captain Joe Kennedy integrated and directed the various acts, bullyed and sweated it into being and then "emceed" it into a smashing hit. Scheduled for an afternoon and an evening performance at the Mayfair Theatre, it was called back literally by popular demand for another performance three weeks later. The Wives' Club donated half of the profits to the Sioux Lookout Community Board, and a quarter of the profits to the Base Servicemen's Club. The community



Captain Klein (left) and Captain Wilson (right), artists and founders of the Sioux Lookout Art Club. The lady is Alice Kendall.

response and support of the Pinetree Review was almost unbelievable: merchants and business people donated their time and facilities and even a couple of acts on stage.

Meanwhile, back on base, the curling rink had been completed and a Snack Bar operated by the Servicemen's Club was in operation. Arrangements were made to designate the building as a recreation center for year-round use and to dedicate it jointly in the memory of a Canadian and an American killed in action in World War II. Dedication ceremonies were held on 18 May 1958 in conjunction with our Armed Forces Day open house.

Also during the period, improvements had been made in the Airmen's Quarters and the Base Officer's Quarters. Previously the interior of all the buildings had been painted forest green; it was like living in a cave. In the winter airmen tended to hibernate like bears and even developed the same personality traits. A contract was let to refurbish the hallways, stairwells and washrooms. "Rocky" Thompson, my civilian (Canadian) Base Engineer - bless him! - worked a deal with the contractor to substitute imitation marble for the cheap enameled Masonite specified for use as wainscoating throughout. Rocky assured me that it was all legal, or at least he thought it was, or at the very worst no one would ever be able to prove anything. We all agreed that it certainly was not immoral. Money was set aside from the Unit Fund to buy paint for the individual rooms and the airmen were allowed to select their own colours and do their own painting. There were really some popped eyeballs when next we were visited by people from headquarters. The "unmilitary appearance" was reported to General Gillespie who, as I was told, asked "What is their operational capability? " A grudging "Superior". "How about morale? " "Outstanding." "I'll look at it." He did - the very next time he came up. The last I heard about the paint job, and the only thing he ever said to me about it was "Well, Luke, it IS different". Then we went fishing.

Another innovation that worked out well was our project list. I set up a small Board to consider every possible project to improve base facilities. Operational areas were given first priority, then support, then living area. When the list was completed we went over it with a very critical eye, then everyone on base was solicited for additions. When I was satisfied that every possibility had been suggested, Rocky and his staff made up complete sets of plans and cost estimates for everything considered worthwhile.



One act from the Pinetree Review

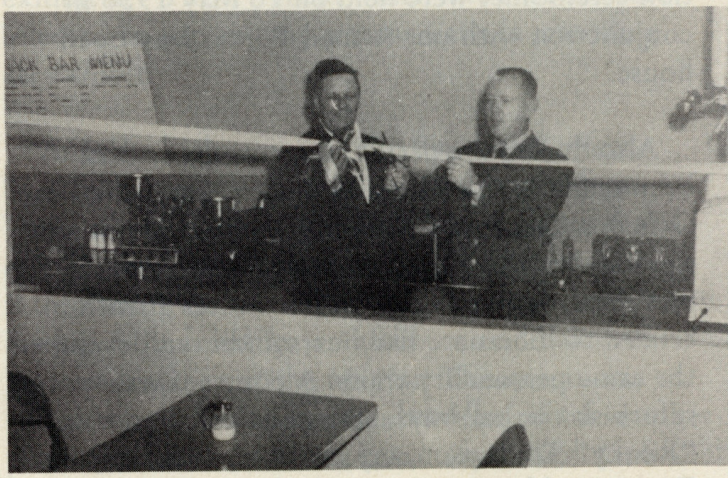


Another scene from the Pinetree Review.

For the next year and a half we lived "high on the hog" because we got more projects completed than any other station - nearly as many as all other United States Pinetree stations combined. The explanation was, simply, that quarterly and annual funds adjustments nearly always turn up some money that must be obligated quickly or returned for reallocation. We were prepared to respond within minutes to inquiries about our needs and to immediately obligate amounts varying from less than $100 up to several thousand on one or a combination of projects already engineered, costed and approved. By the time the authorities caught on, we had another gimmick.

Our television station came about because of the on-site representative of the company which held the maintenance contract for our radar gear. He calculated that we should be able to get reasonably good TV reception via reflection off the ionosphere. We gambled a small amount from the Unit Fund to erect a large rhombic antenna and did get a usable signal; more funds and some diligent scrounging resulted in more improvements. Summertime reception was not so good but boating, fishing and other activities compensated.

One could read this narrative and conclude that our operational mission was being systematically neglected. Not so; our operational capability showed continual improvement. Also, during this time our main radar (search) was upgraded, the Ops room dais was remodeled giving me a Battle Staff area, and sophisticated director consoles replaced the old, bar Planned Position Indicator scopes. We remained as a manual control site while sites to the south of us became Semi-Automatic Ground Environment (SAGE). As SAGE became operational through the northeastern United States, the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff directed a massive exercise to evaluate its effectiveness. Preliminary planning, co-ordinating and checking seemed to go on for months. We were the most northwesterly station involved, and only as an observation point. Then only days before the liability period for the "invasion", the 915th was added as a tasked unit. I believe we were the only manual site so designated. When the exercise was over, we had detected every aircraft that had penetrated our airspace, had controlled nearly three times as many interceptors



Opening of the snack bar. Lieutenant Colonel Lucas wields the scissors while Mayor Alex Hanna assists.

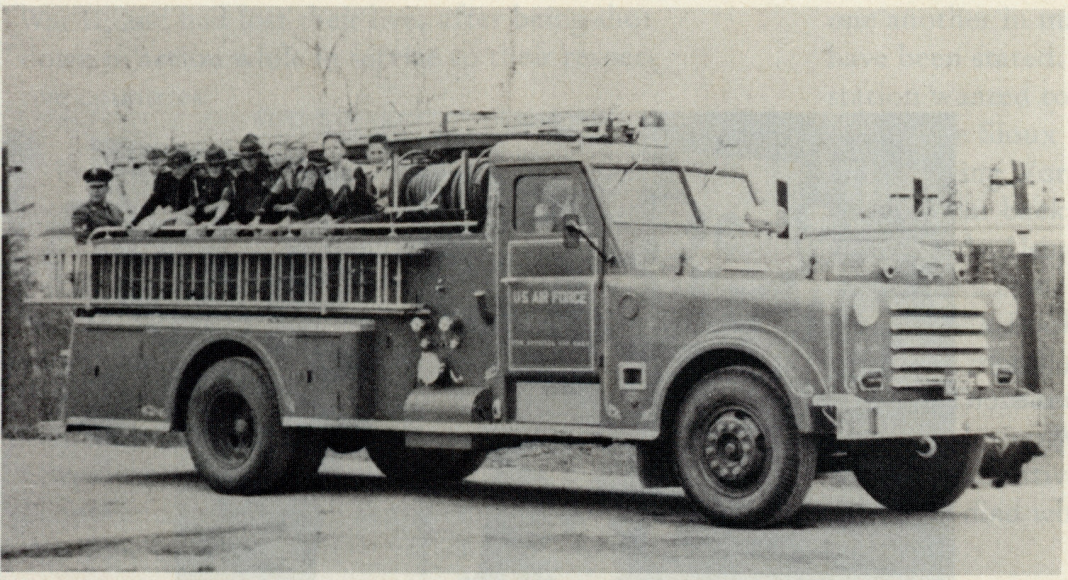
as the planners expected us to call for and achieved a better Mission Accomplished rate than most of the automated units. At last many others were repeating what we had been saying all along: "The 915th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, Tops on the Pinetree! "

In July 1959 my family and I left Sioux Lookout enroute to my next assignment. I was confident that the 915th was better able to fulfill its air defence mission than it had been two years before. The facilities of the base were considerably better than they had been. The living conditions of its people were measurably improved, and the base with its complement were now accepted as a part of the communities of Sioux Lookout and Hudson. We like to believe that our being a part of the scene for two years helped to bring about those changes.

In the fall of 1956 under "Operation New Look", Major Nash began the building of a curling rink. The plans included three sheets of ice, a bar downstairs and a snack bar upstairs. However, construction commenced without the official go ahead from the United States Air Force Support Base in Ottawa. When the project



Aerial view of the site before construction of the curling rink. Entrance to the base located at the upper right hand corner of the picture. Administration and the Mess Hall are located out of the picture to the left. The center building (which is presently the Headquarters building) contained both the Airmen's Club and Supply. The long black building directly behind it housed the Construction Engineering Section. The curling club was built in the blank area located in the lower portion of the photograph.



Scouts riding the Fire Truck on the curling rink dedication day.



Sign over the front door of the curling rink.

had been suggested to the 'Higher Authorities in Ottawa' (HAIO), they had commented that 'it would be nice'. On the basis of the 'it would be nice', 915th proceeded to build their curling rink.

By the time the building was up and the sheets were in, $12,000 had been spent and 915th had run out of money. At this time, Ottawa suddenly realized what was going on, and the 'fat was in the fire' so to speak. After much heated discussion with the HAIO, 915th decided to let construction lapse for awhile. Even so, by the time Major Nash left in July 1957, 915th had themselves a building and three sheets of ice.

When Major Lucas arrived to replace Major Nash, he decided to finish the curling rink. Information was sent to the HAIO with the appeal that 'it can't be left that way'. The HAIO relented and so construction continued.

By May 1958, the curling rink had been finished and was complete with a bar and a snack bar. The dedication ceremonies of the Uren-Dadson Memorial Recreation Center was held on May 18, 1958.



Relatives of Staff Sergeant Dadson and Sergeant Gunner Uren present at the dedication ceremonies.

S/GNR UREN



SSGT DADSON



The portraits of the two young men painted by Captains Klein and Wilson. These paintings have been restored and still hang in the main lobby of the curling club.

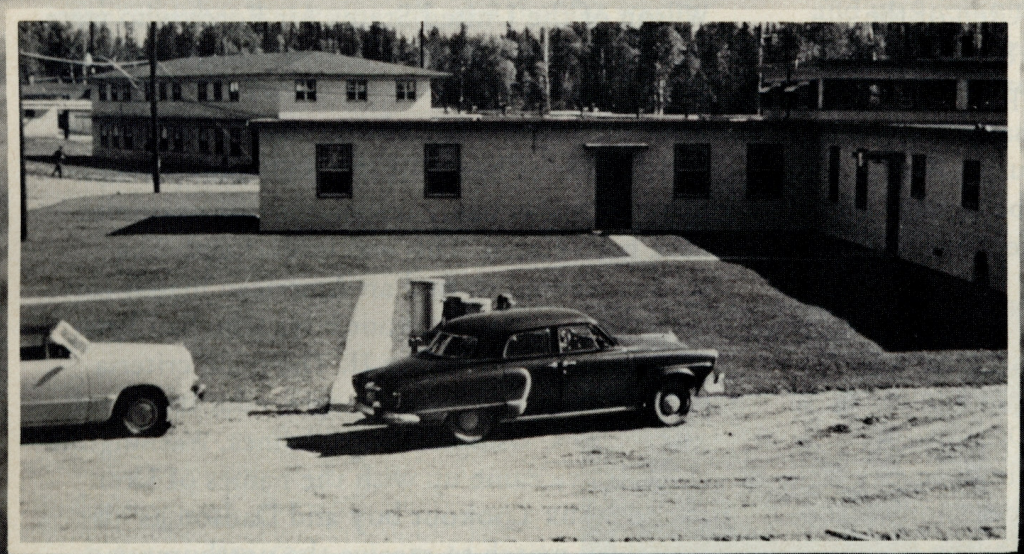
On May 18, 1958 the dedication ceremonies of the Uren-Dadson Memorial Recreation Center took place. The center was named jointly in memory of Sergeant Gunner Edwin Uren of the Royal Canadian Air Force and Staff Sergeant Pat Dadson of the United States Air Corps. Both these young men were of about the same age (22), had held similar rank and position during World War II, and had lost their lives after being shot down in action while in service to their respective countries.

Present at the dedication as honoured guests were members of the Uren family from Sioux Lookout as well as members of the Dadson family from Dryden, Ontario, and Winnipeg, Manitoba. Also in attendance at the ceremonies were members of the Canadian Legion, the Canadian Legion Band, Legion Auxiliary, United States Air Force, Sioux Lookout Cadet Corps, the Sioux Lookout Girl Guides, Boy Scouts and Cubs as well as the Hudson-Sioux Advisory Committee.

As part of the dedication ceremonies, two portraits of the young men were unveiled. These portraits were painted by Captains Klein and Wilson of the United States Air Force who were stationed at the Sioux Lookout radar base during 1958.

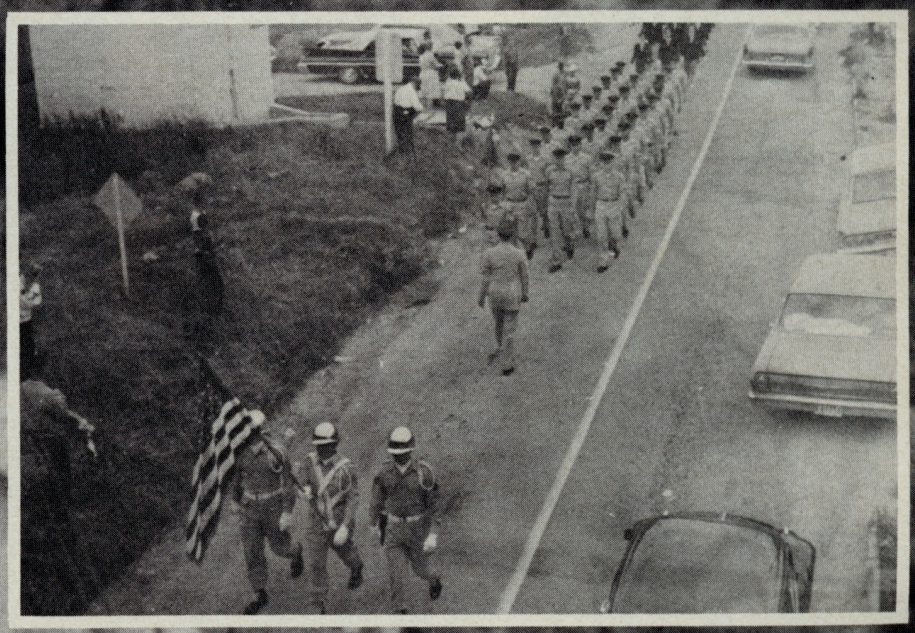
The lives of both Uren and Dadson parallel one another in many respects; some examples have been stated. This was intentional. The station wanted to find an American match for one of the Sioux Lookout boys who had been killed during World War II. The main criteria were similar backgrounds, ages, education and war records. Using these guidelines, Washington and Ottawa came up with the names of Uren as the Sioux Lookout boy and Dadson as his American match to receive the posthumous honour. These two young men did nothing extraordinary during World War II; they are simply two representatives of the thousands of young men who died while serving their countries.

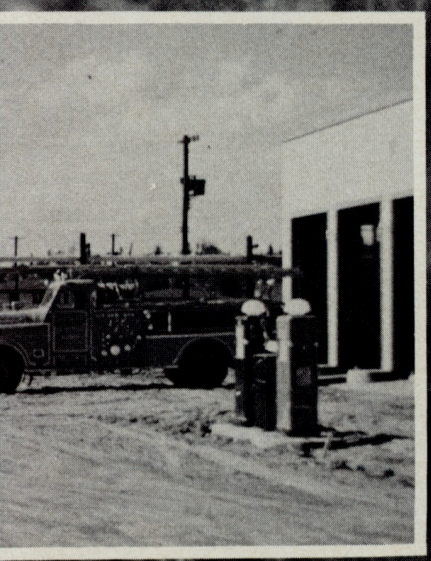




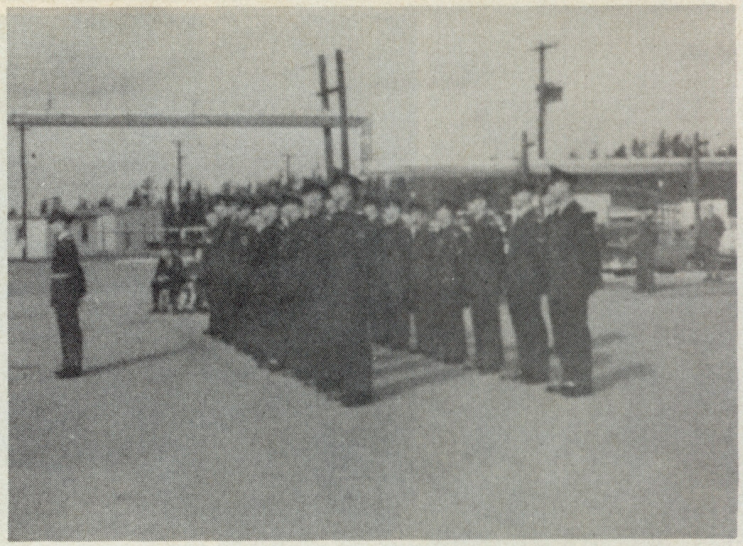






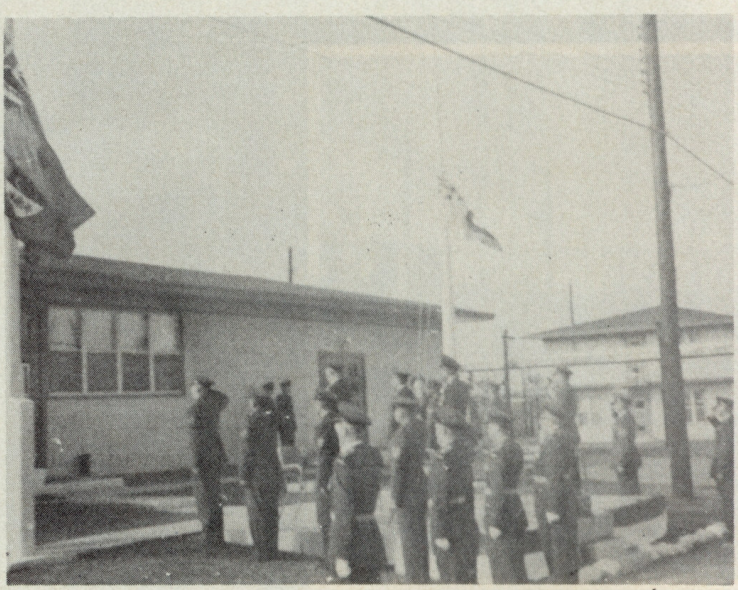


HANDOVER
USAF-RCAF
OCTOBER 1962











39 RADAR SQUADRON

OCTOBER 1962 - AUGUST 1964



There is little doubt that my fondest memories of my time at Sioux Lookout were concerned with fishing and boating on the beautiful lakes in summer, and curling and bonspieling in the winter! In both these activities I recall the many good friends on the station and in the town. Unquestionably, the warmth and hospitality of our neighbours and the people of Sioux Lookout made our stay there one of the happiest of my Air Force career. On the operational side, I have nothing but sincere thanks and admiration for the loyalty and professional ability of the many technical Servicemen and civilians who did indeed make Royal Canadian Air Force Station Sioux Lookout "Tops on the Pinetree".

R.E. Ratcliffe
Wing Commander
Commanding Officer RCAF
(Retired)

Wing Commander Ratcliffe arrived in Sioux Lookout in October 1962 to take over command of the radar site from the United States Air Force. At that time, the site was renamed the 39 Radar Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Force Station Sioux Lookout.

At the time he took over, the site was still operating manual mode; however, in early 1963 the site became fully data tied to Semi-Automatic Ground Environment. Also at that time, the newly built FPS 7 Search radar and the data link gear became operational.

Recreational and social activities were improved by the building of a softball diamond, skating rink and rifle range. Also, Mrs. Ratcliffe organized an all ranks wives' club.

Wing Commander Ratcliffe is now retired and living in Sydney, British Columbia.

AUGUST 1964 - OCTOBER 1965

I have very fond memories of Sioux Lookout and can sincerely state that I thoroughly enjoyed my stay. It was a fine place in which to end my Royal Canadian Air Force career. It was with very real regret that Mrs. Kent and I took our leave of such a beautiful and friendly area.

W.C. Kent
Wing Commander
Commanding Officer RCAF
(Retired)



Wing Commander W.C. Kent arrived at Royal Canadian Air Force Station Sioux Lookout in mid-August 1964.

Housing was critical since there were only 20 trailer pads. Also, the recreational facilities were limited to the curling rink, a softball diamond and an outdoor rink.

Despite all these setbacks, morale was extremely high. This was attributed to the area and the good relationships with the town.

During Wing Commander Kent's tour a ski club was formed in 1964 and the Hobby Shop was opened in 1965. This improved the recreational facilities. To improve even more, the good relationships with the town, associate mess memberships were initiated.

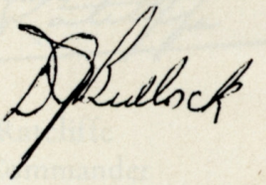
Finally, a station post office and gas station were opened for the convenience of station personnel.

Wing Commander Kent is now retired and living in Owen Sound, Ontario.

OCTOBER 1965 - JULY 1967



My impressions of Sioux Lookout are all favourable and I consider my tour there as the highlight of my Air Force career. During those moments when people reflect on things past, I can still capture the serenity of the beautiful semi-wilderness of Northwestern Ontario with those gorgeous summers and clean, sparkling winters. Most of all though, I remember the people - both Service and civilian. Their type of camaraderie and complete sincerity is rarely found in the more populated areas of this or any other continent and it was deeply appreciated at that time, and still is for that matter. For all our friends in Sioux Lookout, and those who have moved on, we extend best wishes and hope that some day we can deliver them in person.



D.J. Bullock
Wing Commander
Commanding Officer RCAF
(Retired)

While Wing Commander Bullock was here the station went to full implementation of BUIC Phase II. This resulted in the abolition of Manual Mode III capability. Also, an addition was built to the Construction Engineering building.

The usual curling and other sports activities occurred. As well, the unit became more involved in the sport of cross-country skiing. The 39 Radar Squadron established a team to represent Zone 3 in the Canadian Forces National Ski Championships at Valcartier, Quebec in 1967. Also in 1967, the station designed and arranged a garden in the town of Sioux Lookout as a Centennial project.

Finally, 1967 almost saw the end of the existence of the 39 Radar Squadron. A fire of undetermined cause (suspected man-caused) necessitated the evacuation of the station and the surrounding area.

Wing Commander Bullock is now retired and living in London, Ontario.

JULY 1967 - JULY 1969

The one item that sticks in my mind (about Sioux Lookout) is the fact that my first sight of the station was on a Monday in June 1967, after the unit had just suffered the experience of fighting a forest fire all weekend that could have destroyed it. I had flown into Sioux Lookout from San Francisco to have a look at my first command and thought for awhile that it was going up in smoke.

Despite the rough start, my whole family and I tremendously enjoyed our stay at Sioux Lookout. We have many marvelous memories of the area and its people. Royal Canadian Air Force Station Sioux Lookout, being my first command, remains vividly impressed upon my mind as a great place to work.



J.L. Twambley
Wing Commander
Commanding Officer
RCAF

Several major events happened while Wing Commander Twambley was here. The first was the 1967 fire which occurred shortly before his arrival. As well in 1967, the unit created and presented a floral garden/park to the Town of Sioux Lookout as a centennial project.

The second event took place throughout the three Forces of Canada. In 1968, through unification, the Canadian Armed Forces was born. January 31, 1968 marked the last day of existence for the Royal Canadian Air Force. At that time Wing Commander Twambley assumed the new rank of Lieutenant Colonel and the 39 Radar Squadron Sioux Lookout became Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout.

In 1968 the Canadian Biathlon Championships were held in Sioux Lookout.

Another noteworthy event was the presentation of the Steinhardt Trophy to the station; the first radar station to receive it.

Lieutenant Colonel Twambley is presently serving as Base Administration Officer at Canadian Forces Base Trenton.

39 RADAR SQUADRON

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE STATION SIOUX LOOKOUT

DESCRIPTION OF CREST (UNOFFICIAL)

DESCRIPTION: A copper-coloured Indian on a black horse with azure background and white clouds.

SIGNIFICANCE: The Indian on horseback is watching from a high point. This is symbolic of the history of the area. The motto 'Watch and Warn' is indicative of the squadron's function as well as that of the Indian on horseback.

HISTORY: The Royal Canadian Air Force took over the site from the United States Air Force in October 1962. They held it until 1968 when the Royal Canadian Air Force was disbanded as part of the amalgamation of all three branches of the Forces to form the Canadian Armed Forces.



Welcome sign over the roadway entrance to the station. In the early years of the Royal Canadian Air Force the unit was known as the 39th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron. Later it was known simply as the 39 Radar Squadron. This sign was destroyed during the 1967 fire and was never replaced.

A second unofficial crest. As can be seen this crest was very similar to the 915th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron crest. This crest was never authorized but it was used on informal station publications.



Aerial view of domestic site taken in 1962.



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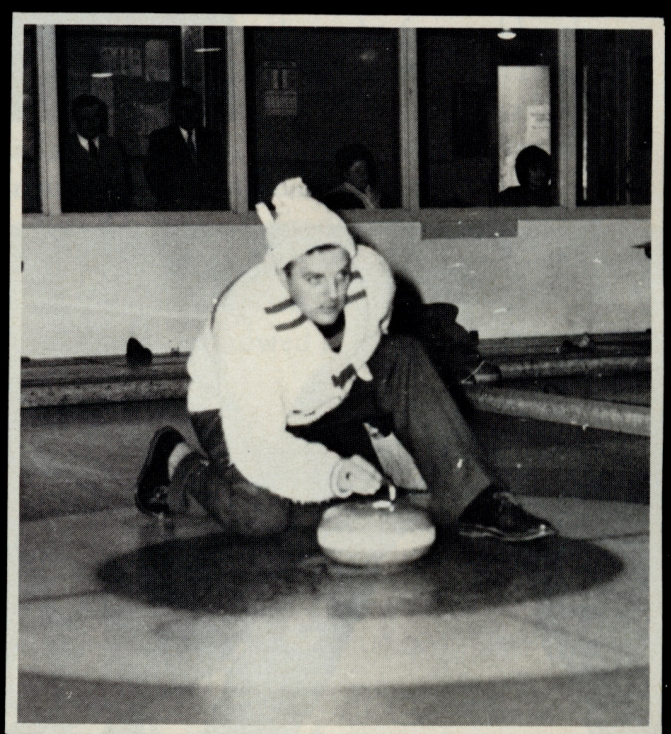
WELCOME
EXPORT
EXPORT


WELCOME CURLERS
Players Please
Players Please
Players Please
Players Please







1963-1964 CURLING CLUB EXECUTIVE, LEFT TO RIGHT: Les Scribner, Knobby Clark, Al Wilje, Squadron Leader Smith.



Knobby Clark presenting Lieutenant Colonel Twambley with a personalized "curling rock" - 1969.



Lieutenant Colonel Twambley handing the Radar Open first place trophy to Mrs. Uren for presentation to the winning rink - 1969.

FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

Taken from the February 16, 1965 issue of the Daily Bulletin.



Coincident with the National Flag-raising ceremony at Ottawa and across the nation, the new Maple Leaf Flag was raised in a fitting ceremony at the Royal Canadian Air Force Station here.

The short ceremony held at 12 noon CST was attended by several distinguished guests, including Mayor Howard Keffer, and Mr. William George, President of Branch 78, Royal Canadian Legion.

Approximately eighty airmen were on parade and visitors and guests numbered about fifty persons.

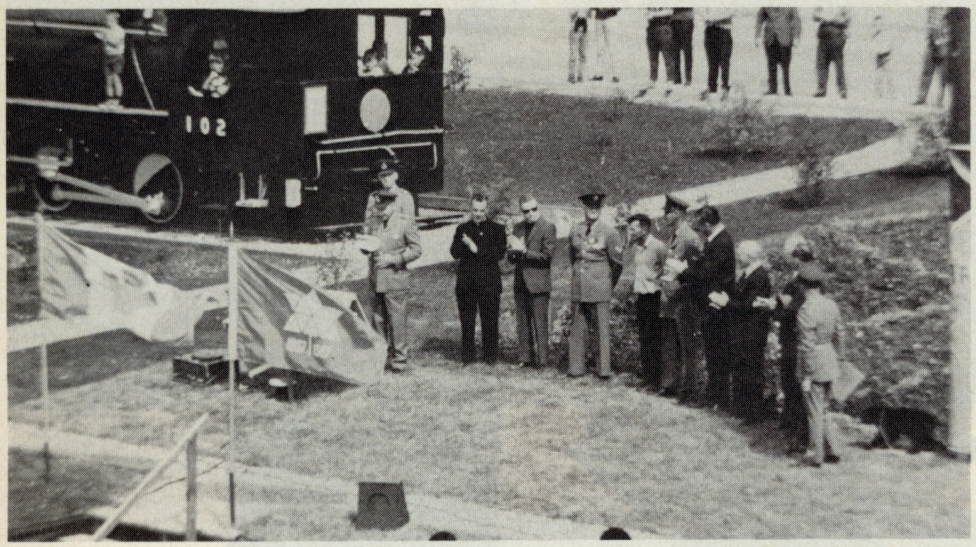
Wing Commander W.C. Kent, Commanding Officer of the Station read the Queen's Proclamation of the new flag and Reverend R.E. Lundy offered a prayer of thanksgiving before the Red Ensign and the Royal Canadian Air Force Roundel were lowered by the Colour Party, under the command of Flight Lieutenant Stalker, to the strains of the national anthem.

As the new flag was brought forward by the Colour Party, it was blessed by Reverend Lundy and then slowly raised to the masthead as "O Canada" was played. It was a nostalgic moment for many as the Red Ensign and the Royal Canadian Air Force Roundel were lowered for the last time and perhaps the cold weather with a slight wind which prevailed was not the only reason a few eyes showed signs of moisture after the ceremony.

At the conclusion of the formalities, officers, airmen and their guests proceeded to the various Messes for cocktails and a delicious buffet lunch.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN

Taken and edited from the July 18, 1967 issue of the Daily Bulletin



Saturday, July 15 saw the official opening of the Royal Canadian Air Force Centennial Flower Garden and the handing over of same to the Town.

The garden, which is laid out in the form of a floral map of Canada, was the brainchild of Corporal Les Scribner who worked untiringly toward its completion, assisted by several Service personnel and civilian workers at the Royal Canadian Air Force Radar Base.

Included in the garden layout are a wishing well, the coin proceeds from which will go to the Retarded Children's Association, and a large Centennial Floral Emblem, with the official flowers of the province growing in their provincial soil. This will be suitably marked with a plaque containing information on the floral emblem of each particular province.

The whole project is a joint one, in which the Royal Canadian Air Force, the Town, the CNR and the local Hydro Commission have taken part.

Preceding the ceremony was a flypast of 4 Royal Canadian Air Force Thunderjets from Gimli, Manitoba. Also, the band of the Lake Superior Scottish Reserve entertained the crowd with several selections.

The ceremony itself was officially carried out by Mayor E. Farlinger and Flight Lieutenant G.R. Keirstead of Royal Canadian Air Force Station Sioux Lookout. The Ribbon cutting and dedication were performed by Reverend R.E. Lundy and Father D. Pruner, O.M.I.



BIATHLON 1967







In December of 1967, the 1968 Canadian Biathlon Championships and Cross Country Ski Races were held at Sioux Lookout. These events were sponsored by the Sioux Lookout Centennial Committee and many personnel from the Royal Canadian Air Force Station Sioux Lookout helped with the administration. Wing Commander Twambley, acted as one of the Honorary Chiefs of the races.

The most physically demanding of Winter Olympic sports, the biathlon combines into one event the two radically different sports of shooting and skiing. Although the true origin of biathlon is lost in antiquity, it is believed to be a modern day representation of the ancient hunter on skis who tracked, overtook and shot his prey. As previously stated, the biathlon is the most demanding of the Winter Olympic sports for not only does the biathlete require the agility, skill and muscular endurance necessary to ski a 20 kilometer (12 1/2 mile) course, but he must also possess the muscular control and co-ordination to deliver 20 well aimed shots under extremely adverse shooting conditions.

The competitors included the Canadian National Biathlon team, the American National Biathlon team and many individuals from across Canada and the United States. The events included Biathlon Relay and Individual Races as well as straight cross country ski races.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Captain John Gauthier, Canadian Biathlon Team Manager; Leo Bernier, Member of Parliament; Wing Commander Twambley, Commanding Officer of Royal Canadian Air Force Station Sioux Lookout. These gentlemen are admiring the trophy for the Individual Biathlon Event won by Leading Seaman Esko Karu.

FIRE THREATENS-
TOWN EVACUATED

Taken and edited from the June 6, 1967 issue of the Daily Bulletin

What must be one of the town's most exciting weekends and one which drew the attention of the Nation to Sioux Lookout was the fact that the town was threatened by forest fires which were raging to the south, west and north. According to a Department of Lands and Forests spokesman, the fire started about noon Saturday on the shore of Patara Lake, approximately six miles southwest of the town.

Definite evidence points to the fact that the fire was caused by man - fishermen who drove into the area by car. The spokesman said that the Police had the matter under investigation and that cars had been seen in the area prior to the fire.

Fire fighters were moved into the area in an attempt to check the fire which spread rapidly, fanned by a strong wind, in a northwesterly direction, and then turned northeast jumping the Hudson highway, and coming close to the Royal Canadian Air Force Radar Station and Pelican School, both of which were evacuated Saturday evening with evacuees being billeted in town at various halls and in private homes.

On Saturday afternoon a thick pall of smoke hung over the town and plans for evacuation were made with every householder being phoned personally and advised to pack a few belongings and be ready to evacuate when the town siren sounded.

Meanwhile the fire had jumped across Pelican Lake to a point northeast of town, at the same time following the southerly shore of the lake towards the CNR railroad bridge. By this time the Department of Lands and Forests with the assistance of the Police pressed into service, an army of fire fighters which according to our information is now 300 strong, and is being assisted by the two Canso water-dropping aircraft, four helicopters, Lands and Forest planes, and other commercial aircraft.

When Sunday dawned, the situation had worsened and there was fear that should the wind shift into the north or northwest, the town would be threatened.

An emergency meeting of Council was called with representatives of the Fire Department, Police, CNR and Lands and Forests and the situation was assessed. The general opinion was that the town be evacuated and the decision would rest with the Distrist Forester, A. Baxter, who would give the word to proceed.

The order came about 1:15 p.m. Sunday when the sirens were sounded and people proceeded by car to Dryden and also to the CN station where a train of box cars was standing by.

The neighbouring town of Dryden, through Mayor Alan Durance, had issued an invitation to

citizens of Sioux Lookout to come over and they would be billeted and looked after.

Patients were evacuated from both hospitals and pupils from the Indian School were alerted once more and loaded into box cars.

After the train had been filled it moved slowly out of the yard and headed for its destination about eight miles east of town.

The fire fighters then concentrated on the fire area to the north of town while crews were spotted at danger points along the route taken by the fire to the west.

At one time, it looked as if the TV tower on top of Sioux Mountain as well as Moosehorn Camps would be engulfed but, although the fire came very close to both places, they both escaped.

After supper, the situation appeared to ease somewhat and routine patrols were kept on during the night. Finally the word came through for the return of the train, which arrived back at the CN Station about 11 o'clock, the passengers being none the worse for their enforced journey, and glad to get back to their homes.

On Saturday afternoon the fire cut the Hydro line and power was cut off in town and rural areas, from 2 p.m. Saturday until 6 a.m. Sunday.

Residents who left by car are not able to return until all danger is past. This will depend on the wind direction and velocity coupled with the present state of the fire which is described as "not yet under control".

Representatives from CBC TV Winnipeg and various newspapers flew into town on the trail of news and pictures and were in full agreement that the length of the airport runway left a lot to be desired. This brought once more into action the representations made for years on this very subject by the local Chamber of Commerce.

Had the present situation been such that a last minute evacuation of citizens by air had to be ordered because of exits by road or rail being cut, the resulting catastrophe is a grim one to contemplate of a populace caught like rats in a trap because of the short airport runway which cannot accommodate larger aircraft.

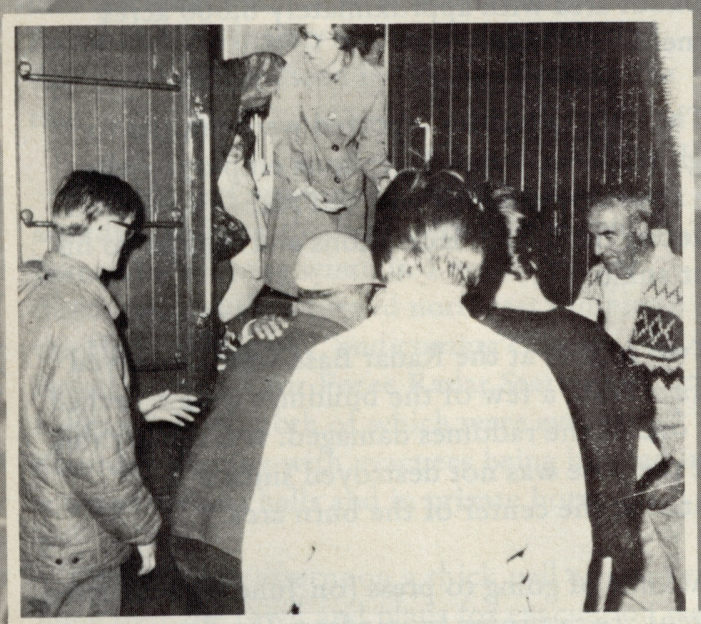
According to Lands and Forests officials there has been a total of 18 fires to date in the Sioux Lookout area with approximately 8,000 acres burned.

The only casualties reported were injuries to Hugh Williams, a Bell Telephone employee who was struck by a falling tree and rushed to hospital suffering from back lacerations and injuries to his right ankle.

Two trailers at the Radar Base were destroyed by fire. Also, a few of the buildings were scorched and one of the radomes damaged. It is remarkable that the Base was not destroyed since it is located at the center of the burn area.

At time of going to press (on June 6), evacuated citizens are returning by car from Dryden.

Circled portion shows the radar station in the middle of the burn area, the burn area being lighter in colour than the unburned woodland. The Town of Sioux Lookout is stationed in the lower left hand corner.

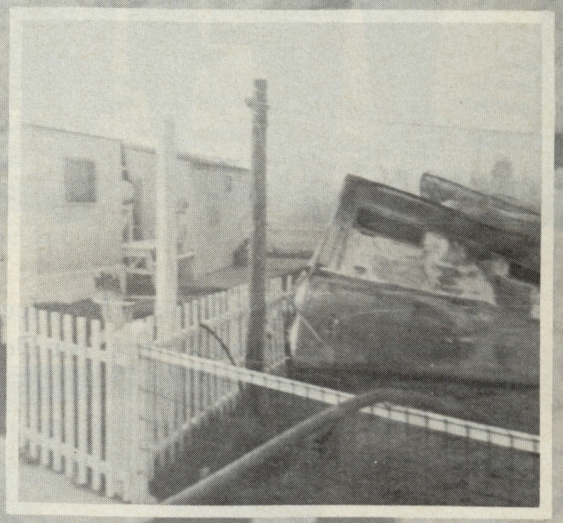


Residents of Sioux Lookout being evacuated in CN boxcars.





Looking west on Queen Street in front of Central School



One of the trailers destroyed by fire in the station's Ojibway Village trailer park.



This picture, taken just outside one of the radar towers, shows how close the fire came to destroying the radar complex.

STEINHARDT TROPHY

PRESENTED IN JUNE 1969

Reprinted from Dryden Observer



Major-General Maurice Lipton and Lieutenant Colonel Twambley inspecting the troops.

The visit of Major-General Maurice Lipton, Commander Canadian Forces, Air Defence Command and Northern NORAD Region, to CFS Sioux Lookout Wednesday marked a very special occasion for the officers and men.

The Steinhardt Memorial Trophy awarded annually for top proficiency, was awarded to the Sioux Lookout Base this year and it is the first time that a Radar Station has been so honored.

A brisk breeze had the flags flying as the visitors arrived at the station. Chairs had been arranged outside the headquarters building for invited guests and dependents of base personnel. Between the twin flagstaffs a table displayed the impressive trophy. Promptly at 11:15 the men had fallen into a parade under the command of CWO Rankin and were inspected by Lieutenant McGillivray prior to the arrival of the official cars.

When the official party, consisting of General Lipton, Colonel Richards and Major MacGregor with Sioux Lookout Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel J.L. Twambley, Major Battye and Captain Taylor arrived on base, the Major-General's pennant joined the Canadian flag and the Canadian Forces ensign on the flagstaffs. Lieutenant Colonel Twambley took command of the parade and General Lipton received a general salute. The guest of honor accepted the Commanding Officer's invitation to inspect the company and then the actual presentation of the award took place.

The Steinhardt Trophy was donated to the RCAF by Mrs. A.A. Sherlock in memory of her late father, Lawrence A. Steinhardt, United States Ambassador to Canada from 1948 to 1950. It is under the trusteeship of the Commander, Air Defence Command, and has been awarded annually to the most proficient Air Defence Command All Weather Fighter Squadron. However, the number of such squadrons has been reduced to three CF 101 Squadrons and so in the fall of 1967 the Commander secured the permission of the donor to alter the basis of eligibility for the trophy to include all Bases or Stations within the Command. This is the first time that a radar station

has been honored with the award.

In his remarks, General Lipton told the assembled company and guests that the competition this year had been unusually keen and that a number of units had scored very highly. For this reason the winners could take particular pride in their accomplishment. He closed with congratulations on a first class performance.

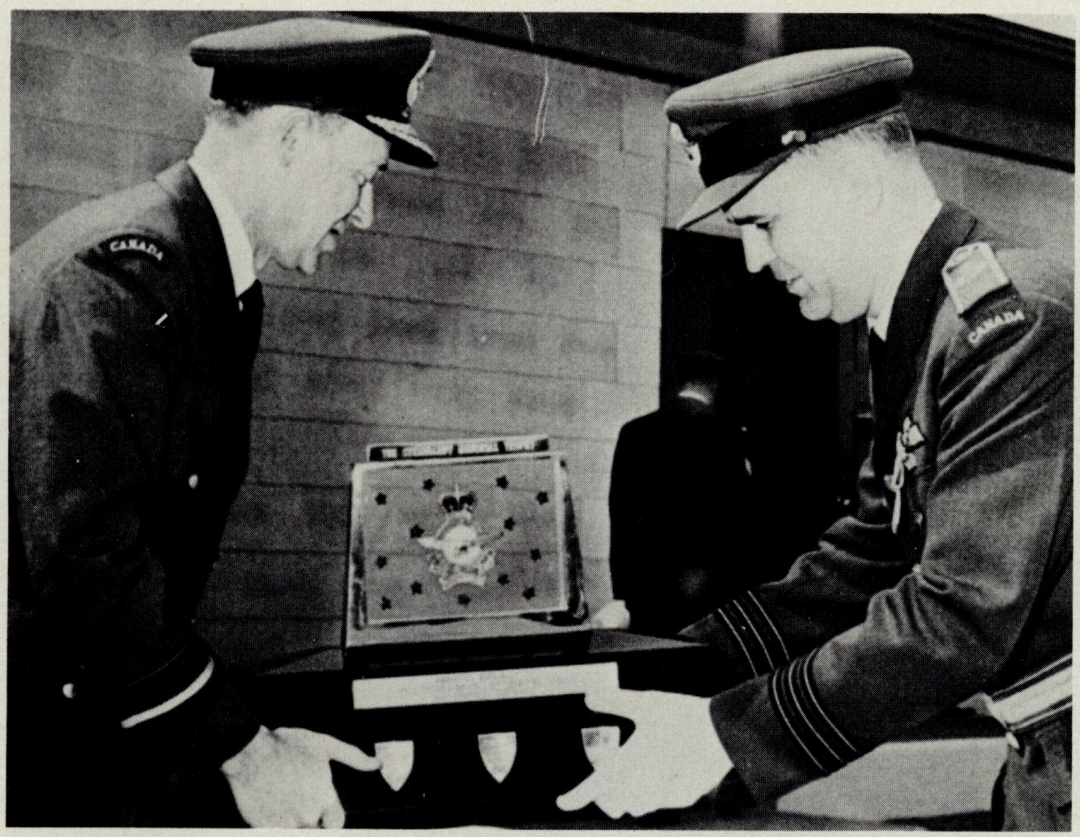
A march past concluded the final portion of the ceremony and the careful organization and meticulous attention to detail which must have been responsible for the award were evident to guests watching. Even the rumbling clouds which had threatened the parade held their downpour just long enough to allow the official party to reach the officers' mess for a reception and luncheon.

Invited guests included Father Pruner and Reverend N. MacIntosh; E. Ariano, Chamber of Commerce; C. Carlbom, Lions Club; F. Donnelly, Rotary Club; and A. Baxter, District Forester. A delicious dinner was served for the official party, officers and guests.

The Steinhardt Trophy had been moved to the officers' mess and rested on a mahogany base, some five feet high. The trophy itself has a rich black base displaying silver crests engraved with the names of previous winners. The top is a clear plexiglass rectangle embedded with the Air Force crest and gold stars.

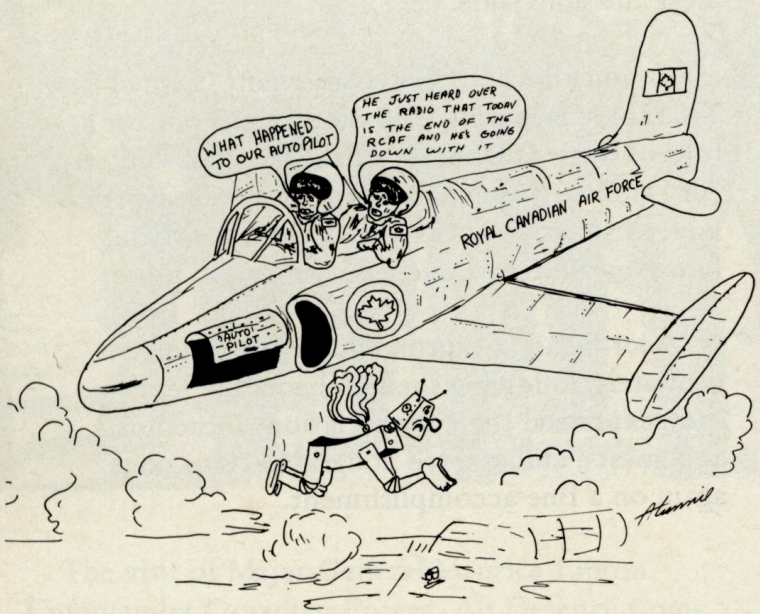
Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Lew Twambley is leaving CFS Sioux Lookout for a tour of duty as Director of the Combat Unit at Air Defence Command Headquarters at North Bay; this occasion was one of his last official functions here and one deserving great pride.

Major-General Lipton and his party left immediately following the luncheon. On leaving they expressed their appreciation to the hosts, and guests, and offered congratulations once again on a fine accomplishment.



Major-General Lipton and Lieutenant Colonel Twambley with the Steinhardt Trophy.

DEATH OF THE RCAF



ODE ON A DISILLUSIONED FLYER

When I was but a lad of three
My wise old mom, she said to me
Go join the AIR FORCE my young dear
They'll let you fly both far and near.

So when I got to joining age
I wrote my name upon the page,
To serve my COUNTRY and my QUEEN,
No one ever mentioned GREEN.

Them guys in Ottawa, they thunk and thunk,
'Bout how they'd get me in a tank,
So without so much as a how-do-ya-do,
They took away my AIR FORCE BLUE.

So now I'm dressed in Jolly Green,
The blues are gone, they've never been,
My orders come from Admiral's now,
O wise ol' mom, tell me how.

So goodbye AIR FORCE, you good ol trooper,
We won't forget, despite PAUL'S blooper,
We'll serve out time right to the end,
In the FORCES ARMED CANADIENNE.

- a poem by John Q Airman
(Moosonee Exposure)

RCAF WAKE



On 31 January 1968 Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout held an "RCAF Wake" mess dinner to mourn the death of the Royal Canadian Air Force. As is the case with most wakes, mourners hid their feelings of sorrow well. It was not until such things as the Royal Canadian Air Force signs being replaced with Canadian Forces ones, hat badges being changed, and the familiar blue uniform being replaced with the new green one that the amalgamated Canadian Forces became a reality in the minds of the majority of the Servicemen.



CANADIAN FORCES STATION
SIOUX LOOKOUT

JULY 1969 – JULY 1971



My two years were all too short for a tour that remains as the happiest and most satisfying of my Service career. It is difficult to isolate highlights at this point: the commencement of the trailer park; the final approval of the design for our station badge (with one Indian instead of the original two because of manning shortages); the '71 Open when the blizzard confined us to the station, limited us to one rink and 48 hours of round-the-clock curling; all these things come to mind as possibilities, but the real highlight in my mind will always be the people. Military and civilian, station and town, the people that we worked with and lived among for those two years were outstanding in every way. It is to these people that I knew, and to those who came before and after, that I say well done and congratulations on the first 25 years for Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout.

W.J. Campbell
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer

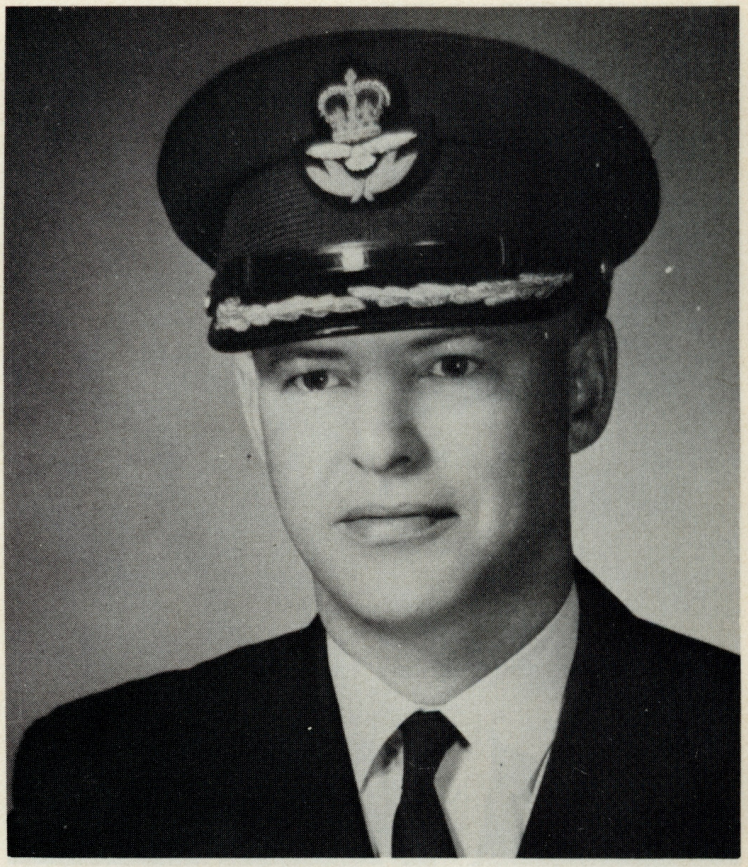
Lieutenant Colonel Campbell assumed command of Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout in July 1969. During his tour, the station maintained its high standard of operations and morale.

Construction of Pinetree Trailer Park commenced during this period and, before Lieutenant Colonel Campbell's departure, a few families were already living in these new married quarters.

On the operational side, preparations were made to replace the old FST-2 Data Processor equipment with the compact FYQ 47 Common Digitizer computer. At the same time, plans were developed to convert the space from the large FST-2 into a new office complex containing six offices and a coffee room for all Operations personnel.

Lieutenant Colonel Campbell is presently working as the Director Personnel Career Administration Other Ranks, National Defence Headquarters, Ottawa, Ontario.

JULY 1971 – JUNE 1974



In almost 28 years of military service in some 18 different postings and locations, I look back on my three years at Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout as the highlight of my career.

There are too many memories and people to cover in a short article. Sunny days fishing with "Clark Fark" and the soaking wet PERI; wet miserable days in Trapper Jim's Marchington Heights subdivision or opening Stan Smith's Stranger Lake Hotel; Old Sailor ceremonies in the quiet confines of the NCO mess; culture tours of the Hudson Hilton and Club 72; Knobby Clark and his ever-ready airline; the summer festival and Remembrance Day in the Legion. It was a grand time!

Above all, there was our excellent relationship with the town.

Having made my home in many places between Comox Valley and the Suez Canal, my family and I always refer to Sioux Lookout as our real home. We'll be back.

C.R. Hallowell
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer

Lieutenant Colonel Hallowell took command of Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout in July 1971.

The highlight of Lieutenant Colonel Hallowell's tour was the completion and official opening of Pinetree Trailer Park on 3 September 1971. In the fall of 1973, eight more mobile homes were acquired; three were placed in Ojibway Village on the station and the remaining five in a civilian trailer park in town.

It was also during this period that plans for construction of a gymnasium/recreation centre were approved.

Lieutenant Colonel Hallowell is now employed as Operations Officer at Canadian Forces Base Comox, British Columbia.

JULY 1974 – JUNE 1976



It was not the first time that Una and I were posted to an isolated radar unit; consequently, we had an idea of what to expect. But we were curious nevertheless, since our experience in the boonies was mixed: one good tour and one not so good. The third proved to be the best.

The "extra curricular" activities, however, provided the texture of our Sioux Lookout experience. There were many with the sum and substance of them all being simply "living". The name Sioux Lookout will always conjure up rich and varied memories of a delightful two-year experience. It has been said that once you have lived in Sioux Lookout you will sometime return. We hope so.

J.E. Norenius
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer

Lieutenant Colonel Norenius arrived in July to take command of the station from Acting Commanding Officer Major Ron Ismond.

Shortly before his arrival, the station sponsored the 'Sam Lake Streakers' relay run to Winnipeg.

While Lieutenant Colonel Norenius was in Sioux Lookout, the station obtained six additional mobile homes, one of which was modified to become the official Commanding Officer's residence. In the spring of 1975, a mobile home in Pinetree Trailer Park was gutted by fire; the shell of this trailer eventually became the CANEX Minimart. Also in the spring of 1975, the FPS 26 Tower was closed out.

During Lieutenant Colonel Norenius' tour there were several activities, some of which included the development of a station cross country ski trail; a Snowbirds Air Show; a 35-day adventure training canoe trip; opening of Ojibway Gardens, the new gymnasium; the commencement of the station's wilderness recreation area at Bindo Bay; the opening of the CANEX Minimart in Pinetree Trailer Park and the hosting of the Prairie Region Cross Country Ski Championships.

Lieutenant Colonel Norenius is now working in Colorado Springs at NORAD Headquarters.

SEPTEMBER 1976 – DECEMBER 1977



Greetings from Australia! This year finds us 10,000 miles from Sioux Lookout, living in a completely different environment from that we experienced during our tour in 1976-77. Distance, however, has not dimmed memories or washed away reflections of my tour as Commanding Officer of the best station on the Pinetree Line.

I recall with pride the professionalism of all who worked tirelessly to maintain the exceptionally high standard of performance that has been the norm for CFS Sioux Lookout over the past 25 years. I remember also the way our people gave their time to improve life in the community, both Service and civilian. Add to these memories the personal association of being one member of a top team and it becomes an unforgettable tour.

In closing, let me wish all members of CFS Sioux Lookout a happy 25th with many more to come. New technology can never replace what you have going for you: People. Cheers,

G.E. Morrison
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer

Lieutenant Colonel Morrison arrived in September 1976 to take command from the Acting Commanding Officer Major Walt Beazley.

While he was here, Lieutenant Colonel Morrison was greatly involved in the improvement of station facilities. Some of these included expansion of the CANEX Minimart, obtaining automatic pinsetters for the station's bowling alley and laying the groundwork for the expansion of Pinetree Trailer Park.

He also encouraged station participation in community activities such as the renovation of the Sioux Lookout Arena, the Scouts and Guiding Movement and minor hockey.

The only major incident which marred Lieutenant Colonel Morrison's stay at Sioux Lookout was the burning of the Junior Ranks' Mess after it was struck by lightning. However, the building was not completely destroyed and plans were immediately activated to construct a new mess.

After leaving Sioux Lookout, Lieutenant Colonel Morrison attended a six-month course at the Joint Services Staff College in Australia. On his return to Canada he assumed the position of Base Operations Officer at Canadian Forces Base Moose Jaw.

DECEMBER 1977 - JULY 1980



Congratulations to all at CFS Sioux Lookout on the advent of your 30th Anniversary. I am sure that each of you must feel justifiably proud to be a member of a Station that is Tops on the Pinetree Line.

I will always remember my two and one-half years at CFS Sioux Lookout as being the highlight of my Service career. The most memorable of all has to be the people, both Service and civilian, who made up the Station and who through their dedication and untiring efforts got the job done and got it done well. Often with aging equipment, limited supplies and finances as well as manpower shortages, they kept the Station operationally capable at all times. My family and I will cherish forever the many friendships both Service and in Town that we made during our stay at Sioux Lookout.

Some specific recollections come to mind such as Polar Panic days and Galactic Games, headquarters renovations, weekly phone calls to Aircom to get the Jr Rank's Club renovations speeded up, Dale Broad's root beer at the CD section, the 25th Anniversary celebrations, the move of trailers from the Station to Pinetree Park, Old Sailor routine in the NCO Mess, the threat of forest fires, late night NORAD exercises and Level V with George Roberts, pickerel and trout fishing with Reg Drew, the outstanding results achieved during OPEVAL, the very severe financial restraints we had to work under during the 1979 Oktoberfest, Remembrance Day parades, good work by our SAR Team, Mess Dinners and Jr Ranks' Christmas Dinners, the annual round of PERs, station inspections, setting up playgrounds in Pinetree, fencing the Operations site and working on the acquisition of more trailers.

I recall that overall we worked hard yet had time to play hard. The sincerity, friendliness, loyalty and dedication of all personnel made my task as Commanding Officer most worthwhile and enjoyable. My recollections of CFS Sioux Lookout give me nothing but profound admiration for all Sam Lakers.

K.F. Hoffer
Major (Ret'd)
Commanding Officer

Major Hoffer was the first CO to serve with the rank of Major. The CO's position had been previously filled by Lieutenant Colonels.

Upon retirement and leaving DFS at NDHQ, Major Hoffer has been employed with Transport Canada at Lester B. Pearson International Airport in the Airport Operations Management field. He and his wife hope to return to Ottawa some day on their final move and ultimate retirement.

CANADIAN FORCES STATION SIOUX LOOKOUT

DESCRIPTION OF CREST

DESCRIPTION: Per fesse vert and barry wavy argent and azure. On a mount regulay an Ojibway warrior crouching with bow and quiver all or, looking inwards towards seven flames proper in a semi-circle above.

SIGNIFICANCE: The motto 'Watch and Warn' is indicative of the station's present day role - as was the role of the Ojibway sentry those many long years ago.

HISTORY: Station Sioux Lookout obtains its name from the town of Sioux Lookout, which in turn derives its name from a precipitous hill overlooking the area. In days gone by, the Ojibway, whose land it was, kept watch from this hill for raiding parties of the notoriously savage Sioux.

One early morning, the Ojibway sentry from his lookout position atop the hill spotted, through the early morning mists, the approach of the Sioux war canoes as they plunged wildly down the chute. Quickly he warned the camp and a bold plan of battle was formed. Women and children along with all the tribal valuables were immediately loaded into canoes and placed on Squaw Island for safety (from which incidentally it supposedly derived its name). Huge fires were built to create the impression of much activity in the Ojibway camp and the warriors, armed to the teeth, moved in a semi-circle up the side of the hill. Only the old men remained behind and they busied themselves with fish snares down by the waters edge.

Screaming their war cries, the invading Sioux leaped ashore, past the old men and rushed the camp, leaving their women squatted in their canoes. Quickly the old men overturned the canoes drowning the women; at the same time the Ojibway warriors descended and encircled their camp.

In the great slaughter that followed all the invading party were killed, except for one small boy who was saved, adopted into the tribe and in time became a respected Ojibway chief. The name Sioux is believed to be derived from the French addition of the termination "ioux" to Nadouessi (Nadouesioux) which in turn is derived from the Algonquin Nadowesiwug. The Sioux were divided into seven clans, hence the name Otceti Cakowin "The People of the Seven Council Fires". This badge depicts the Ojibway sentry watching the council fires of the Sioux.





OPENING OF PINETREE TRAILER PARK



On September 3, 1971, Pinetree Trailer Park, housing 39 Public Mobile Homes (PMHs), was officially opened.

Prior to the construction of this park, accommodation in the Sioux Lookout area was very limited for married personnel. Ojibway Village, the trailer park located on the station, contained 25 pads for privately owned trailers.

In 1972, 8 additional PMHs were obtained and negotiations with the town resulted in the acquisition of more land adjacent to Pinetree Park where 5 of these PMHs were eventually relocated. In later years more PMHs were obtained and located in Ojibway Village. However Ojibway Village had been designed in the early days of the station for much smaller trailers, and the larger modern models greatly overloaded all utilities supplied to the park. Consequently plans were formulated to again expand Pinetree Park to relocate all PMHs to this area and completely close out Ojibway Village. During the summer of 1978 these plans became a reality.

A total of 59 PMHs are now located in Pinetree Trailer Park in the town of Sioux Lookout for use as married quarters by the personnel of the station.



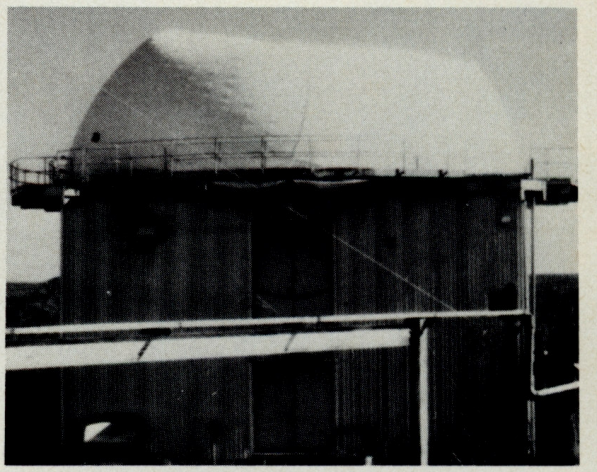
LEFT TO RIGHT: Leo Bernier, Lieutenant Colonel Hallowell, Arnold Beebe unveiling the cairn at the official opening at Pinetree Trailer Park.

CLOSE OUT - FPS 26



LEFT: Lieutenant Colonel J.E. Norenius throwing the switch to close out the FPS 26 equipment.

RIGHT: The pressurized dome, which had housed the FPS 26 height finder antenna, being deflated.

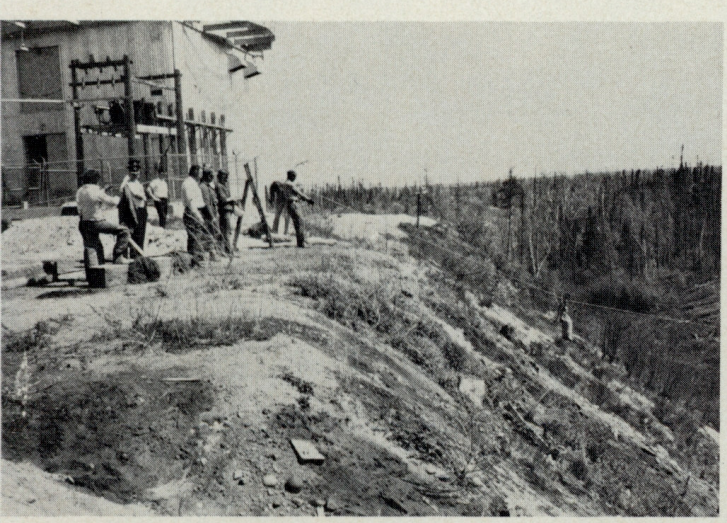


OPERATION SNAIR LAKE

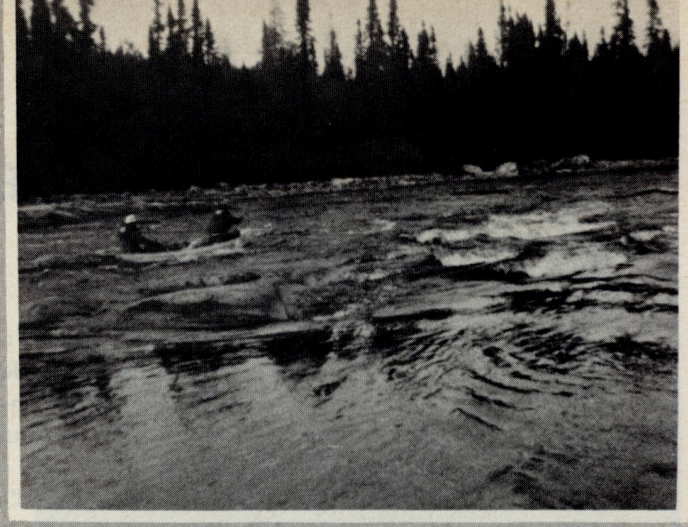
In late May an oil slick was reported on Snair Lake, a small lake 3/4 of a mile southeast of the station. Snair Lake runs into part of Pelican Lake, the town's water supply. The Construction Engineering Officer at that time investigated the area thoroughly and immediately commenced construction of a clay sandbag dam at the stream outlet below the tower hill. The Department of the Environment (DOE) arrived on site and recommended floating booms for Snair Lake and an additional clay sandbag on the stream inlet to the lake. A military chopper was required to airlift materials into the lake from the gravel pit. The booms and additional dam were constructed as requested. The entire operation from initial observation to construction finish was completed within four calendar days.

Skimming operations were continued throughout the summer. Several collection holes were blasted in the low-lying areas in mid-June.

The Commanding Officer, representatives of DOE and the Construction Engineering Officer resurveyed the area again in October and found little trace of oil remaining. The blast holes were clean with signs of animal and vegetable growth. With removal of the dams and final cleanup during the spring of 1974, the project was officially complete.







CANOEISTS TO JAMES BAY

On Sunday, 1 June 1975, Sergeant Bob Butterfield, Master Corporal Bob Crosby, Corporal Rick Schnare and Private Andy Bateman embarked on the first leg of a 550-mile canoe trip. All were excellent canoeists, outdoor enthusiasts and members of CFS Sioux Lookout's Search and Rescue Team.

The journey was from Sioux Lookout to Cedar Rapids by vehicle (150 miles), Cedar Rapids to Fort Albany on James Bay by canoe (550 miles) and return trip home by aircraft.

Fort Albany was reached in 25 days; the maximum days allotted was 35. The early finish of the trip was due to poor weather conditions: it was decided to travel rather than take the planned rest periods.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Master Corporal Crosby, Sergeant Butterfield, Corporal Schnare, Private Bateman departed Sioux Lookout 0500 hours 1 June and arrived Fort Albany 1030 hours 25 June. 402 Air Reserve Squadron picked personnel up at Fort Albany 2000 hours 26 June and flew them to Moosonee; they departed Moosonee 0800 hours 27 June and arrived Sioux Lookout 1500 hours the same day.

EXCERPTS FROM PRIVATE BATEMAN'S DAILY DIARY

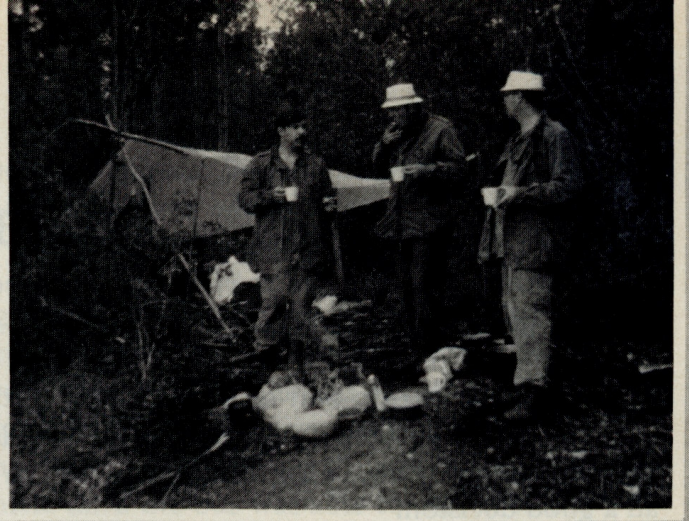
1 June - 0500 hours the trip is on. Leaving the base we proceeded to town to pick up the others and then be off on a trip that was to prove most educational in water craft, human judgment and the effects a trip of this sort can play on a person's nerves as well as his personality. Arrived at Cedar Rapids and had a talk with an outfitter who told us that the river was low which made things more difficult. He himself was not bothering to run the river until the water level rose. Team started out on Osnaburgh Lake, making good time for the rest of the day with no difficulties. 1430 hours a thunder storm was evident and a decision made to stop for the night. This day was going to set a pace for the rest of the trip, mostly a wet one.

2 June - 0900 hours on the water and on the move to our first rapids. Write ups do not compare with the maps. Either rapids aren't marked or the low water has created new ones. The portages are proving hard to find or else they're not there. As time goes on I expect we should improve.

3 June - decided to crawl out and have a look at the weather. Rain and fog; mutual agreement was made not to move.

4 June - bad day from the start. The write ups are proving to be a bigger pain than anything else. Portages are hard to find or just don't exist. As a matter of fact we found 1 out of 3. At one of the rapids a near disaster was avoided when Rick jumped in after a canoe that had slipped loose when it was being lined down a shoot.





5 June - again problems with the portages. 1 out of 4. I swear someone must be going out of their way to hide those things. Did manage to get in a few sets of rapids to run. One in particular proved to be the only mishap of the trip. Rather than have the whole canoe go over I decided to do some swimming and believe me swimming in full combats is no fun. All in all no harm done and a dry canoe.



6 June - cold morning but no rain to start out in. We made good time even with a strong head wind. I'd like to find the person who did those write ups. The two Bobs spotted a moose today as we were waiting for them after a set of rapids, and wouldn't you know it, Bob C. had to have a picture of it. Bob B. wasn't very impressed because they got grounded and wet. Conclusion: don't take pictures of moose in the middle of a rapids.



7 June - the portages were there for a change. We ran into a few Americans up doing some trout fishing. They were of the firm belief that we were all crazy. Progress was approximately 23 miles today.

8 June - woke up to a beautiful day and an early start for a change. Excitement picked up around 1200 hours. I'm glad we were able to find this portage because if we didn't we wouldn't have made it at all. At the bottom of the falls there is a set of rapids to be run; terminology - tricky in low water. My god, halfway through the waves were four times as high as the canoe! Heart beat - what heart; I lost mine when I saw what was coming. Both canoes took on water but that was all. The treat of the day was having Rick and Bob C. making bread. Surprising what you can do when you set your mind to it. A swim and a bath - the end of a very successful day.



9 June - once again it was a nice sunny morning but cold. Progress good and portages easily found.

10 June - a strong head wind seems to be with us all the time. Nothing exciting today. Supper is all we eat unless we have a snack at night - that way we don't waste any time in the morning or stopping for dinner.

11 June - the day was a good one and we would have gone further except for the wind. Again it was bread time and I'm telling you those boys know how to bake. To end the day off it started raining - par for the course.

12 June - the storm that hit us last night is still with us and we decided not to move. The lake is 16 miles long, the swells big and fog low. All in all a good decision.

13 June - the morning didn't look too promising but we left anyway. As it turned out OK. Tried to run a set of rapids when were unsuccessful in finding the portage. End result was one heck of a mess. Rick and I were up to our rears in water and I mean it. The canoe was full but still afloat. The two Bobs made out better not taking as much water on. Did washing after we stopped and weather stayed nice just long enough for us to finish, then started to rain. FRIDAY THE 13TH..BOO! !

14 June - the rain was bad and again it was decided not to move. Discovered that not more than two miles away were a group of Americans with cases of beer, and if that didn't make us move then the weather was bad.

15 June - six portages were made in the 21 miles travelled. One set of rapids not shown on the maps caused a few problems with Bob and Bob getting wet this time. The day's end came with a rain storm as usual. Will it ever stop raining for more than a day.

16 June - again we came to a stand still. The fog was too bad to see in and we were afraid of missing another portage which could spell disaster. These portages were meant for a reason and if you could see them you would see why.

17 June - starting out with a portage first thing in the morning is no way to get going. After that we made three more putting us at Martins Falls. Here is where the big let down was. The falls - where was it? We couldn't find it. The portage was made and when we rounded the corner there was a dandy set of rapids. Made good time after the falls - 17 miles in 2 1/4 hours.

18 June - good time again today arriving Ogoki Village around 2 o'clock. Spent the night at the old post as we were not allowed to stay on the Reserve. No beer was found but there was pop - fresh eggs and other little treats that were picked up.

19 June - looks like rain again but we're due after two whole days of sunshine.

20 June - made 32 miles today but when camp was set up the first sign of tempers began to rise - was due more or less to being tired than anything. It gets hard to take sometimes but things cleared up in a matter of minutes with everything back to normal.

21 June - seems a good nights sleep will cure anything. Everybody was up and ready for a good start this morning. Found the campsite that was marked in the write ups for a change. 37 miles were made; only 160 left to go.

22 June - seems the Sundays are the only days to travel on; the weather was fine and paddling not too hard. 41 miles were made and then the rains came again.

23 and 24 June - these two days were much the same - up early and on the water. The 23rd averaged 44 miles while the 24th gave us 53 miles, thus leaving us only a few miles to go to reach our goal. The only noticeable difference was the flies. Not too much the blackflies but horseflies. They take your whole arm off when they bite.

25 June - everyone was up early and ready to reach the big "A" - Fort Albany proved to be a nice spot, the Indians being very friendly. Again no liquid refreshments were to be found other than pop. A shower and clean clothes made all of us feel a lot better. The thought of sleeping in a real bed again was a beautiful thought.

All in all a very successful trip with a minimal amount of problems.

26 June - HOMEWARD BOUND.

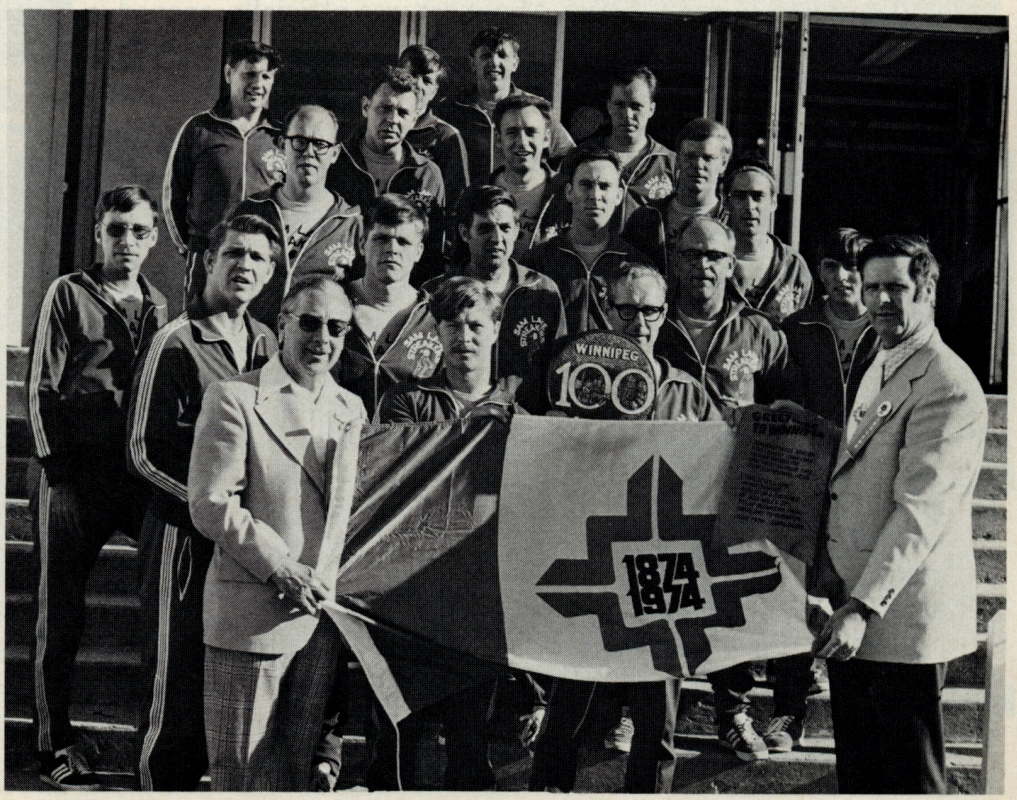
SAM LAKE STREAKERS

Personnel from Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout completed a continuous 295-mile relay run adventure training exercise to Winnipeg, Manitoba. With physical fitness as the motivating factor and Winnipeg as the ultimate goal, 25 enthusiastic personnel, ranging in age from 22 to 44, began preparing for the run which was scheduled for 20 June 1974.

After two months of training, the team was established at eighteen runners, average age 33. On 13 May, a ten-hour exercise was conducted on the confines of the station to test eating arrangements, the reaction of participants when confined to a crowded bus for an extended period of time, and to experiment with half-mile and mile run theories. In order to test the team's ability to run during hours of darkness over the hilly terrain of Northwestern Ontario, an 88-mile night exercise was conducted between the station and the community of Dinorwic, Ontario. The final preparatory exercise was a run to Dryden, Ontario. The purpose was to investigate traffic conditions and problems to be encountered on the Trans-Canada Highway. A better day could not have been chosen! There was a steady downpour of rain throughout the run. The bus experienced temporary problems but despite those adversities, the runners continued with the aid of the support vehicle until the bus was able to return to the action.

Dressed in identical running uniforms, the runners departed for Winnipeg at 0200 hours, Thursday, 20 June. Exactly 34 hours and 20 minutes later our runners entered the city limits of Winnipeg. Afterwards on stage at the Red River Exhibition, our oldest runner, Captain Stu Taylor (44), presented the city with a hand-carried scroll that contained a congratulatory message regarding Winnipeg's Centennial.

An undertaking of this magnitude, particularly on a small isolated unit, requires complete co-operation amongst various station sections, a high degree of esprit de corps amongst individuals and a tenacious group of organizers and participants.

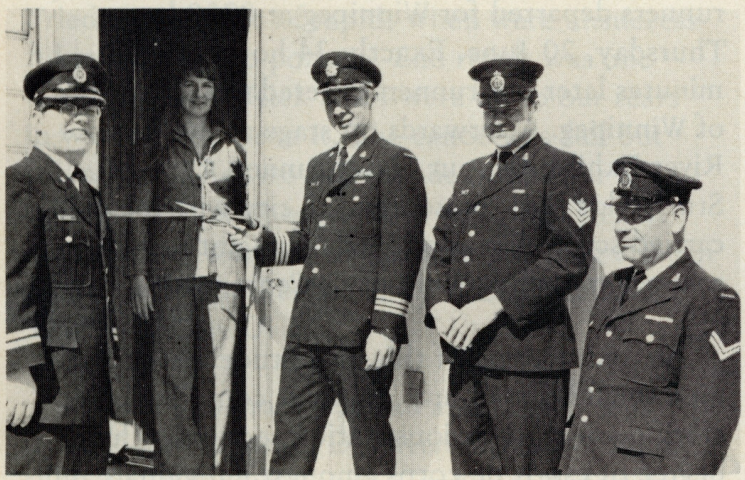


"Sam Lake Streakers" presenting commemorative flag and scroll to the City of Winnipeg on the occasion of its Centennial.
FRONT ROW, Left to Right: Ron Oliver, Stu Taylor. SECOND ROW: Owen Cleary, Barney Cameron, Bill Stevens, Des Desrosiers, Dave Martin, Scotty Flynn, Joe Kennedy, Andy Anderson. THIRD ROW: John Byrne, Bob Crosby, Bob Butterfield, Gary Maude, Bob Davis, Al Jones. BACK ROW: John Toupin, Al Brazeau.



CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout hosted the first Prairie Region Cross Country Ski Championships 26-28 February 1976 in conjunction with the station Winter Carnival. The race for the championship was a 15 kilometer course and was won by Captain K.E. McGill, Station Comptroller, from Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout. The participants enjoyed the two day competition and this station will offer to host this championship in future.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Captain Hatcher, Christine Demarbre, Lieutenant Colonel Norenius, Sergeant Rouleau and Corporal Draper officially opening the new CANEX Minimart.

OPENING OF CANEX MINIMART



Christine Demarbre ringing up the first sale in the new convenience store.

On 10 April 1976 the CANEX Minimart was officially opened in Pinetree Park. The store was designed along the lines of an express mart with the majority of the stock being convenience items. On 9 June 1977 the store was moved to larger quarters and now stocks a wide variety of merchandise from toys to dishwashers.



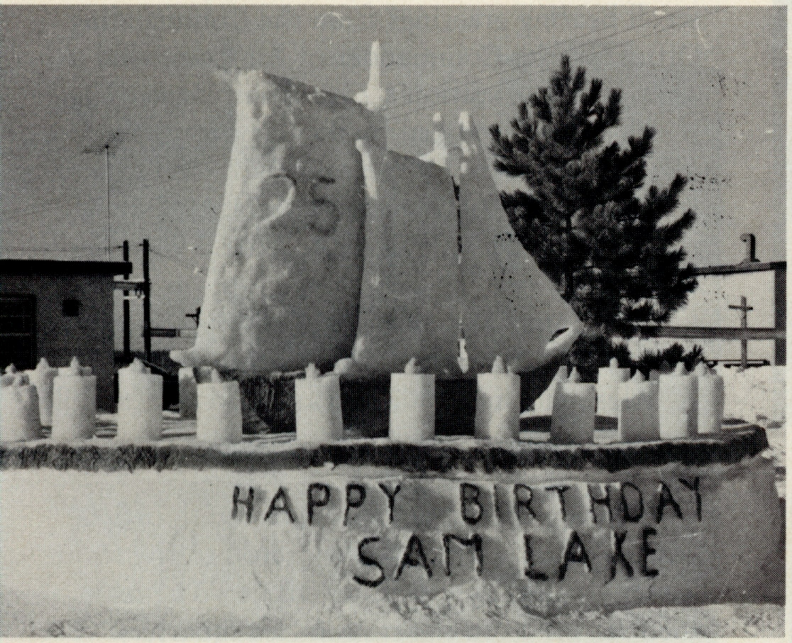
Lieutenant Colonel Morrison congratulating Master Corporal Lil Davis.

OUR BOWLING CHAMP

Master Corporal Lil Davis won the Ladies' Singles World Championship in five-pin bowling held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, from 19-21 May 1977. She accumulated 87 points in match play over 14 games to win the gold medal by 11 points over her closest rival.

Lil's average for the 14 games was 244, including a final game score of 385. The first day, after five games she was leading by one point. After another four games on the second day she was trailing by one point. The final day told the story.

25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

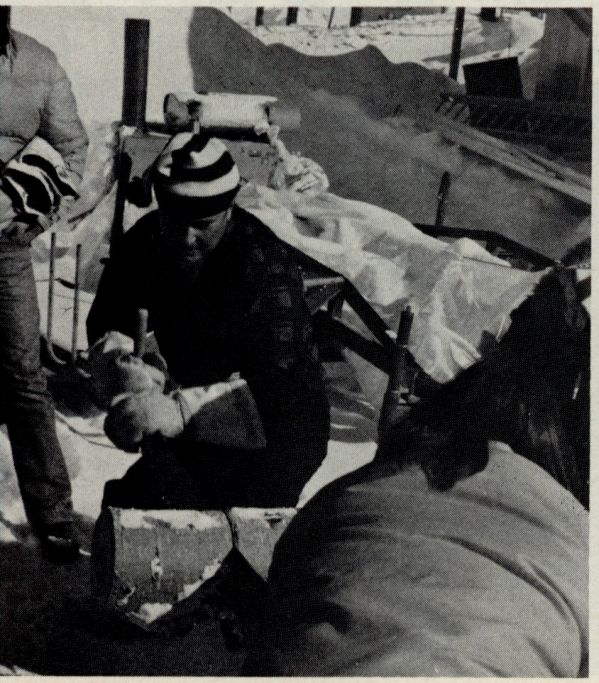


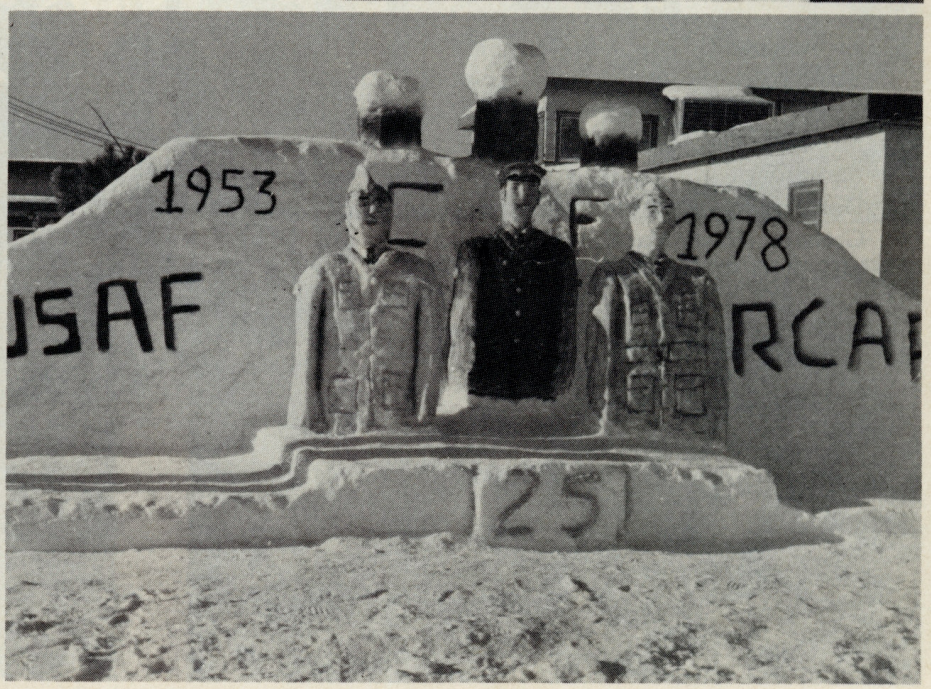




POLAR
PANIC
1978







SAM LAKE SPROCKETS



Anniversary scroll being presented to team leader, Lieutenant R. Church by Major K.F. Hoffer, Commanding Officer of Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout, while riders look on.

A bicycle relay to Air Command Headquarters was conducted on 11 May 1978 to present a scroll bearing greetings from the Commanding Officer to the Commander of Air Command in honour of the station's 25th Anniversary. The scroll was transported by bicycle over the entire 295-mile distance and was received, still intact, by Brigadier General J.J. Veronneau on behalf of the Commander, Lieutenant General W.K. Carr.

The "Sam Lake Sprockets", as they were called, comprised 8 riders and 5 support personnel in 3 vehicles, which included a camper truck (mobile kitchen) and two vans (rest vehicles).

The event began at 1000 hours with official entrusting of the anniversary scroll to the team leader by the Commanding Officer. The team then set off from the station Headquarters.

Riders were rotated every five miles. Hills around Kenora were the chief obstacle, but no riders were forced to dismount on any of these formidable inclines.

The Sprockets arrived at 0509 hours on 12 May 1978, having completed the journey in 19 hours and 9 minutes for an overall average speed of 15 1/2 miles per hour.



Lieutenant R. Church Presenting Scroll to Brigadier General Veronneau
LEFT TO RIGHT: Tim Renner, Mitch Palmer, Mike Eaton, John Sorenson, Ray Meehan, Dennis Proulx, Don Boudreau, Al Thompson, Gord Graham, Frazer MacKillop, Rob Webb.
MISSING FROM PHOTO: Les Graham.

RUN TO SIOUX LOOKOUT



On 31 May 1978, 18 personnel from Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout ran a relay to the Town Hall in Sioux Lookout. They presented a plaque to Mayor Fred Hakala commemorating 25 years of co-operation between the Town of Sioux Lookout and the station.



BINDO BAY FAMILY PICNIC

28 May 1978 was a day for all the family to have fun at Bindo Bay. Boats were provided to transport everyone to and from the recreation area, and pop, hamburgers and hot dogs were available free of charge.

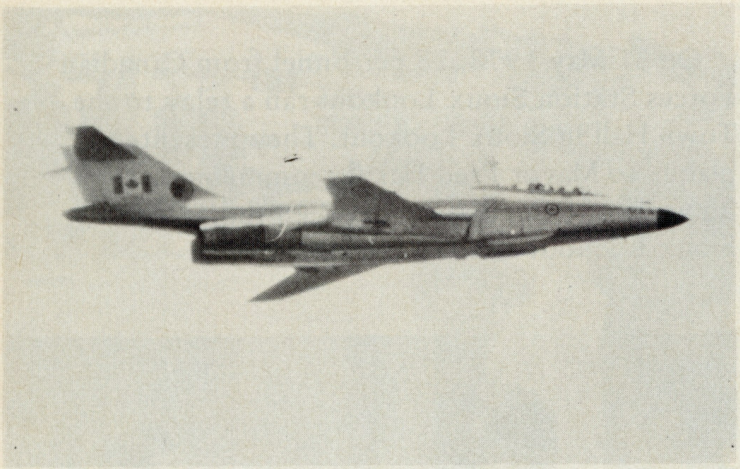
There were many games for the young such as a treasure hunt and scavenger hunt. Surprisingly, the water was even warm enough to go for a swim. There are few events today that are geared for family enjoyment; this was certainly one of them.



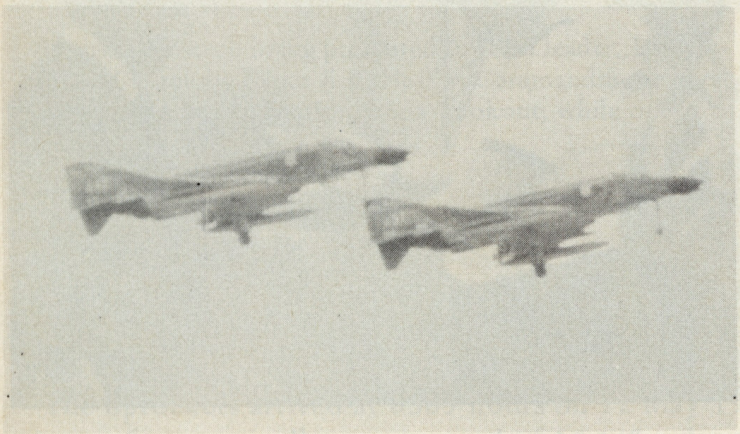




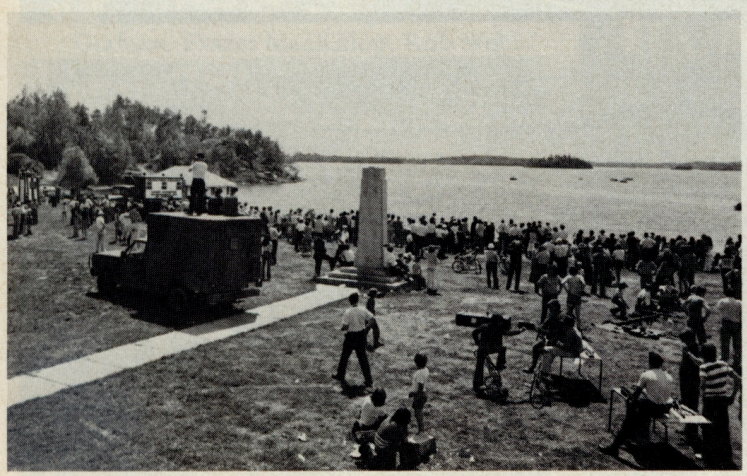
ARMED FORCES DAY 1978







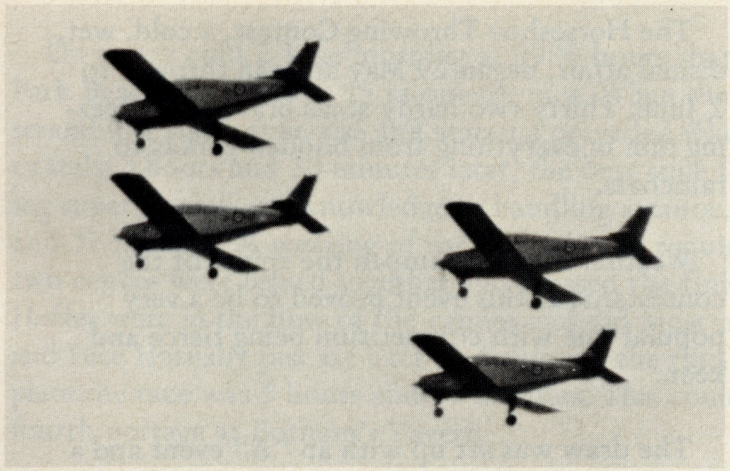




Armed Forces Day, 27 May, started at 1000 hours when several displays opened at the Town Dock in the Town of Sioux Lookout. The Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre from Thunder Bay, Ontario, set up a mobile recruiting office in the back of a large office van, and ran a series of movies showing the Armed Forces in action around the world.

The three Cadet Corps supported from Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout, Number 2072 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps, Dryden, Ontario; Number 215 Provider, Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps, Dryden Ontario; and Number 256 Patricia, Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps, Balmertown, Ontario, each provided information on the aims and objectives of the cadet movement.

The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment from Thunder Bay, Ontario, brought a good sized display of some of the equipment currently provided to the Infantry, including personal weapons such as the pistol, sub-machine gun, rifle, light machine gun and an anti-tank rocket launcher. Heavy weapons on display included a general purpose and a heavy machine gun, an 81 millimeter mortor and a Carl Gustav anti-tank rocket launcher. A jeep was camouflaged in one corner of the area. A radio circuit was set up using both vehicle-mounted and man-packed radios and this whole circuit was controlled from a one-ton radio van. All this

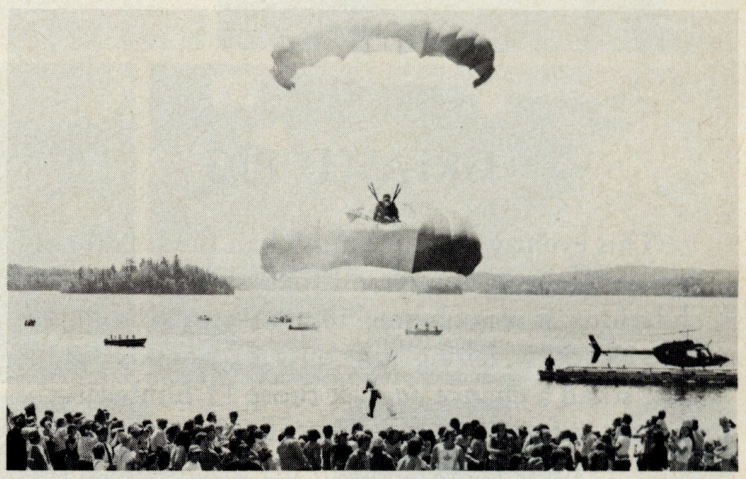






equipment had people available to explain its operation. The ten soldiers doing the explanation were dressed in the different uniforms currently worn by the Lake Superior Scottish Regiment and other elements of the land forces.

The highlight of the day was an air show beginning at 1400 hours with the Sky Hawks, the Canadian Forces Parachute Demonstration Team, dropping onto the beach. The Sky Hawks were followed by fly pasts of various planes, including a CC-130 Hercules, a CP-107 Argus and CF-101 Voodoo from the Canadian Forces and F-106 Dart, T-33, and F-4 Phantom jets from the United States Air Force. The show ended with an air demonstration by the Musket Gold consisting of four Muskateer aircraft from Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. Each aspect of the show was covered by a commentary which was broadcast over the local community radio station as well as over the public address system set up at the Town Dock.



Colonel T.E. Ashinhurst, the last American Commanding Officer of 915 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron Sioux Lookout, was one of the many distinguished guests present. All members of Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout were also in attendance and in uniform for the day.



HORSESHOE THROW





The Horseshoe Throwing Contest, a cold, wet, dismal affair, began 29 May and ran through to 2 June. Thirty-two hardy souls braved the freezing rain in everything from hooded parkas to raincoats.

Weather did not dampen the spirits of the contestants as this event proved to be a very popular one with competition being fierce and keen.

The draw was set up with an "A" event and a "B" event with the "B" event winners, Bill MacKenzie and Al Hunnie, getting a chance to win the competition by defeating the "A" event winners, Rocky Thompson and Ritchie Hamilton, twice. After all horseshoes had been thrown Rocky and Ritchie took the "A" event trophy, while Bill and Al won the "B" event. Runners-up in the "A" event were Bill Powley and Rick Schnare with Les Adams and Gus Camirand coming second in the "B" event.



GREASED PIG

This event was held on the ball field. Although it was exciting, funny and for a short time hilarious, it was obvious that Wilbur, Wild Pig of the North, weighing in at only 92 pounds did not stand a chance against those 11 lumbering brutes. After some fancy footwork on Wilbur's part, evading six or eight of his would be captors, he was finally caught by four of them at the same time. The officials quickly stepped in and broke up that hold as it was illegal, immoral and downright hard on poor Wilbur. By this time the pig was fairly well exhausted and it was a relatively easy time Dave Reid had of catching Wilbur and carrying him the prescribed distance to the cage.



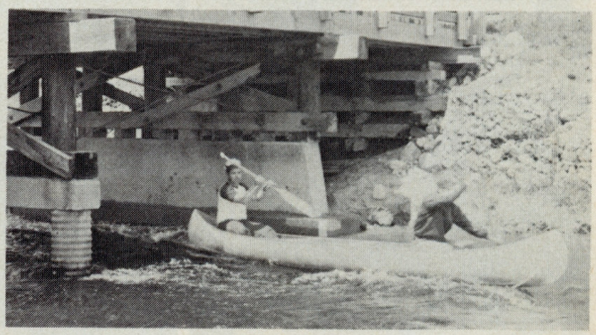
25 KM CANOE RACE

On a very cold 2 June morning at 0900 hours sharp 22 canoeists took to the water at Ojibway Provincial Park Beach for the long 25 kilometer race. When the sand and water had finally settled, after a frantic and scrambling start, expertise and stamina prevailed when Mitch Palmer and Knowles McGill crossed the finish line exactly 3 hours and 30 minutes later, the best time for the race. Sharon Palmer and Jane McGill, also displaying superior skill and knowledge in handling a canoe, easily won the women's division with a time of 4 hours and 37 minutes. A meeting of the officials was required to "decide" on a winner for the mixed division. The two canoes were lashed together and crossed the finish line at the same time. Since Trisha Humby and Sue Hoffer were in the bow of the canoes and did most of the work, they received the trophies. Roger Boisjoli and Pete Hornsby just sat back and enjoyed the ride. It must also be mentioned that the longest time to complete the race was 5 hours and 59 minutes. This could probably be attributed to the unscheduled, unmarked fourth portage at Botham's Tavern.













SOAP BOX DERBY

A large crowd was on hand on Saturday 3 June for the First Annual Soap Box Derby.

It was exciting, to say the least, as the second run in the time trials saw a lot of fancy driving as Frantic Fraser MacKillop treated the crowd to a spin out on the Supply corner.

The first heat of the race had lots of action as Little Ricky Schnare had a spectacular spin out. Since there was some confusion as to the lanes the drivers were supposed to be in it was decided to run the first heat again and everybody was to keep to their proper lane.

The trophies and all hardware went to the Common Digitizer section with Big Bad Bill Powley driving "The Great Root Bear" car, hedging out Lippy Lin Thompson from the Refrigeration and Mechanical Shop by a slim three-tenths of a second and Frantic Fraser MacKillop from the Height section by one-half a second.







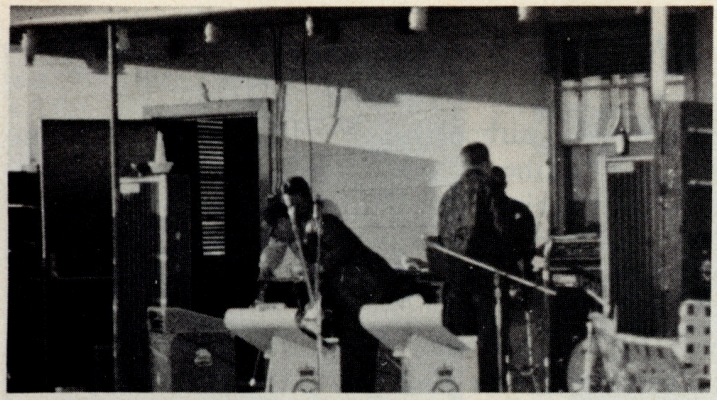






LEFT TO RIGHT: Lippy Lin Thompson, Big Bob Charbonneau, Frantic Fraser MacKillop, Doggy Doo Williams, Little Ricky Schnare, Handbrake Bill Gillman, George Chamberlain with his Mobile Repair Unit. Big Bad Bill Powley missing from photo.

SILVER JUBILEE DANCES



LEFT: The Air Command Band setting up their equipment for the "Meet and Greet" street dance and barbeque on Friday night, 2 June. The theme for the evening was "The Fifties" and several people dressed in costumes of that era. Unfortunately, inclement weather forced festivities indoors to the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess.





LEFT: Major K.F. Hoffer accepting, on behalf of the station, a gift of two silver goblets from Mayor F. Hakala, town of Sioux Lookout. The inscription on one goblet reads "Canadian Forces Sam Lake 1953" while the other reads "Town of Sioux Lookout 1978".



The crowning glory of the Silver Anniversary Ball on 3 June was the cake designed and made by Mrs. Nola (K) Dyck. In the foreground, the present-day station crest is depicted in full colour. LEFT: Major K.F. Hoffer hesitantly cuts the first piece of cake as Mrs. Wendy Callahan, Mrs. Dyck's assistant, looks on.

PRESENTATIONS

These pictures show winners of various events receiving their trophies at the Silver Anniversary Ball.















THE LAST WORD

As this article is being written the main section of our 30th anniversary yearbook has already gone to press. Without the dedicated efforts of the staff who researched the material for the 25th book, this book would not be possible. The information included in this book could never have been obtained without the cooperation of many of the townspeople and past and present station civilian and military personnel. To all those people who donated articles and loaned us pictures, we the yearbook staff are truly grateful.

There are many events which have taken place during the past 30 years and without a doubt we have only highlighted the events which have occurred throughout the Station's history. There may be events which we have not covered but that is only because our information was so sketchy or pictures of the events were not clear enough for reproduction. I hope that readers of this book will not feel slighted in any way for incidents that were not included.

There are many fond memories of this Station that I can personally relate to, having spent two tours here. This Station has always had a very fond and friendly relationship with the surrounding populace as stated in articles submitted by all Station Commanders.

There were so many things that happened and so many people helped out that it would take another book at least twice as large as this one to cover all events and acknowledgements for support of the yearbook staff. However, I would like to acknowledge the staff of the present and a special thanks to the staff of the 25th anniversary book.

25th Anniversary Staff

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Advertising	Lt P.A. Humby		

30th Anniversary Yearbook Staff

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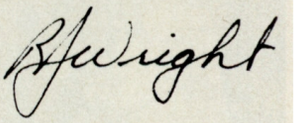


R.J. Wright
Warrant Officer
Editor

REFLECTION ON 1978-1983















JULY 1980 - JULY 1982



Having spent three previous tours at radar units, Lorraine and I looked forward to a very enjoyable two years at Sioux Lookout. To say that our expectations were surpassed is an understatement.

Like many of my predecessors, I cherish innumerable pleasant memories of Sioux Lookout, most of which involve the super people we came to know both on the Station and in the surrounding communities.

The professional and personal dedication of the folks at Sioux Lookout which has enabled them to achieve so many successes over the years was a great source of pride to me. I was delighted to be a member of a team that survived OPEVAL 81, added ten trailers to Pinetree, paved the access road, started the auto hobby/community centre, organized the first Terry Fox Run and accomplished many other things on the Station and the community.

Then too, the Oktoberfests, Christmas Dinners (where my hat was auctioned), Winter Carnivals, RCAF Anniversary Dinners, Remembrance Days with the Legion, Cadet Corps Inspections and a host of other events helped to make my years at Sioux Lookout the most enjoyable and satisfying in my career.

To all members of the Sioux Lookout family, past and present, Lorraine and I raise our glasses in toasting you for helping to make our favorite station "Tops on the Pinetree" for 30 years. Outstanding!

I.J. Wawryk
Major
Commanding Officer

Major Wawryk arrived to take command in July 1980 from Major Hoffer. During his tour, the Station maintained its high standard of operations and morale.

While he was here Major Wawryk was involved in the initiation of many worthwhile Station and community projects such as a dry TV/lounge and library for living-in personnel, installation of five new 14-foot wide trailers, an extension to the Station gymnasium, and rebuilding of the ball diamonds in the town.

Major Wawryk oversaw the initial plans for rebuilding the curling club. This project was designed in three phases with the final phase being completed at the present time. This will allow Station and town personnel to enjoy, once again, some of the fine curling bonspiels which have taken place over the years, especially the Radar Open.

Upon leaving Sioux Lookout, Major Wawryk attended Staff College for one year. He is currently employed at Boston, Mass. Major Wawryk and his family have journeyed back to Sioux Lookout for a visit and some fishing with the many friends made during their stay in Sioux Lookout.



I first heard of Sioux Lookout in 1966 when it was a radio navigation point for student radio officers flying from Winnipeg. In 1969 I found myself living next door to F/L Remple who had just arrived from a tour here as CAdO. Needless to say it was with more than normal curiosity that my family and I headed up Highway 72 for the first time.

My fondest memory will always be the Freedom of the Town ceremony, but it is only one of a flood: OPEVAL, Exercise Polar Gloom, Ted Sitar sitting in shelter "collecting overtime", putting the siding and roof on the new Drake building as Little George and Ted Sitar pulled the old one away, "escaping" from the jail after Christmas dinner, Geoff Todd's promotion, forming Operations and joining Canada East Region, re-opening the Curling Club and completing the Pinetree Park Social Centre. And I will never forget Maud's affection for the "train" at 44 Merit.

It has been an honour to serve with so many dedicated service and civilian personnel. The station enjoys the highest of professional reputations. The building renovations and your efforts to rebuild aging equipment speak volumes about your desire to remain TOPS ON THE PINETREE. To all who have served here I assure you that we are building on what you started as I am sure those who follow us will. Congratulations on thirty years of service.

I.R. Snow
Major
Commanding Officer

Major Snow arrived in July 1982 to assume command of Canadian Forces Station Sioux Lookout from Major I.J. Wawryk. Since his arrival many of the projects that were in progress were completed and new undertakings started and completed.

One of the major activities on the Station since Major Snow's arrival was the 30th Anniversary celebrations. This involved an air show, static displays, open house with tours on the station, inter-branch sports day challenge and a Freedom of the Town parade which involved townspeople, Station personnel and cadet corps from the surrounding area.

Energy management has been a great concern at all levels in the CF. Major Snow was involved in many projects on the Station such as re-insulation of buildings, replacing flat roofs with sloped or peaked roofs, and the "off-oil" conversion to propane fired boilers and furnaces.

Major Snow continues to encourage station personnel to become involved with local community activities such as minor hockey, minor ball, Boy Scouts of Canada, cadet corps, town museum and day care centre. Therefore the Station receives excellent support and continues to have an excellent rapport with the surrounding communities.

Major Snow departs Sioux Lookout in the summer of '84 for the Staff College in Toronto.

LOOKING BACK - THE PAST FIVE YEARS

CFS Sioux Lookout has been involved in many activities over the past five years. These activities were both military and civilian in aspect and were in support of both the station and the surrounding communities. The civilian and military citizens have worked hand-in-hand over the last thirty years, and with continuing good relations between the two groups this should be the norm for many years to come.

Many of the station personnel have been involved in the community in such things as helping to put new siding on the town museum and helping with the renovations to the local arena. Our people are also involved in and fully support all of the local youth groups. Many are Cub or Scout leaders or are on group committees. Others support Guides or Cadets, and still others coach youth hockey. More recently a group of station personnel were primarily responsible for completing the playground at the town day care centre.

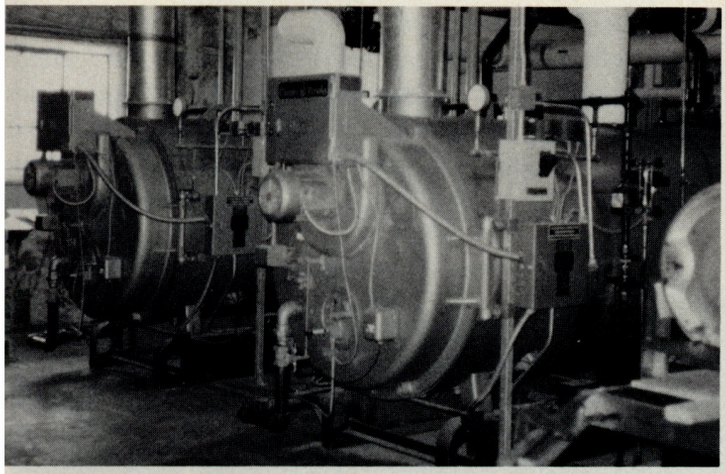
Over the past five years the station has organized several events to raise funds for charity, the most successful being the annual Terry Fox Run. Another annual fund raiser is the Station Christmas Dinner where this past year the Commanding Officer and Station Warrant Officer spent time in the "Crowbar Hotel". The time in jail being auctioned at one dollar per minute. Three hundred dollars was raised, much to the chagrin of the two gentlemen who went to jail. The money raised was donated to the needy through local churches.

The past five years has also seen several improvements to the station facilities. Pinetree Trailer Park saw the addition of ten new trailers, and the construction of a much needed community centre. A Social Centre was built on the top floor of barrack block seven for the convenience of the single living-in personnel. There was also an addition to the gym in the form of a weight training room.

When a station has been around for thirty odd years there are obvious things that must be done to modernize and economize. The most noteworthy event has been our "off oil" project. The entire station was converted from oil fired high pressure steam boilers to low pressure propane steam generators. Included in the energy saving program was the replacement of the windows in many buildings with energy efficient thermopanes and an insulation upgrading project. These efforts have resulted in a very substantial savings in energy costs. Other improvements worthy of note were the new roofs put on the combined mess building and the Mobile Support Equipment building.

The station continues to maintain two specialized teams to assist the local authorities, namely, the Search and Rescue Team and the Volunteer Fire Fighter Force. Over the past years both teams have been used on numerous occasions and have been commended for their professionalism and dedication.

As the "raison d'etre" of this station is to be militarily ready to defend North America from attack by providing continuous uninterrupted radar data, we have, as is necessary, been involved in numerous exercises. Such names as "Polar Warrior", "Polar Gloom", and "Sioux Warrior" will bring back many memories of the long hours spent on guard duty in the dead of winter to ensure that we were indeed militarily ready. In addition to our own evaluation of our capabilities, we must convince others of our capabilities as well. Every two years we are required to submit to an "Operational Evaluation" and a "Technical Visit". Happily, we have survived these tests and can say with pride that we are indeed still "Tops on the Pinetree".



During the past five years the Station has been gradually but continually upgrading equipment and facilities. This article is an abbreviated version of the happenings over those years in and around the branches on the Station. By no means does the order in which this article is written place branches or events in order of priority.

CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING

The propane conversion represents the most important project undertaken by the Station Construction Engineering Section in the last five years. The heating fuel is now propane and individual furnaces have replaced the central heating system. Initially, the Junior Ranks' Club and five barrack blocks were converted to propane heaters in fall of 1982. This project showed substantial savings in heating costs as it was paid for in just a few months. The decision was then taken to convert the entire central heating system to individual propane heaters. Two tanks of 68,150 litres each and one of 11,500 litres supply the fuel to each building. The $200,000 project was completed in August 1983.

The drake building was renovated in October 1983 to make room for the electrical, plumbing, and roads and grounds shops.

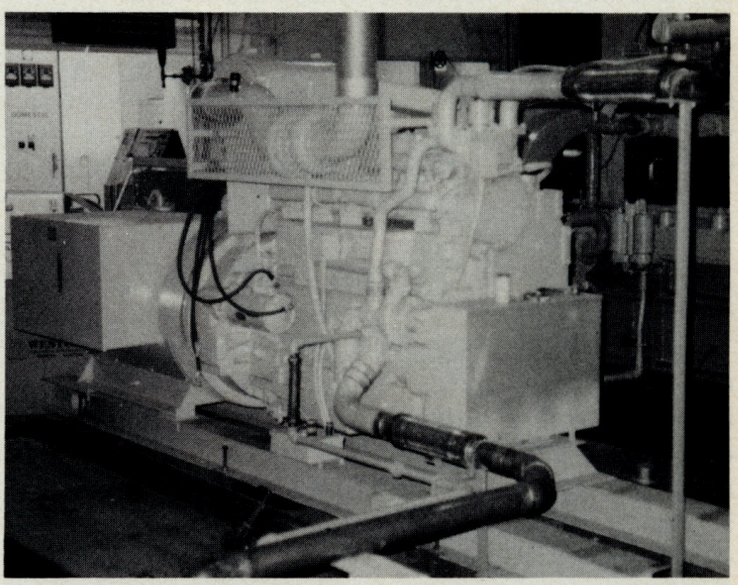
Many maintenance projects were also implemented. The roofs of MSE garage and Mess Hall were replaced in summer 1983. The main septic field was replaced in October 1983. The paving of the access road was completed in summer 1982. Some projects were also designed for the community. The Curling Club has been under renovation from November 1982 to the present. A weight room was added to the gymnasium in February 1982 and ten additional trailers were installed in the Pinetree Trailer Park in December 1981.

The fire hall and the lower bays area has been partitioned. Fire hydrants in PMQs and on station have been replaced along with hose huts. Station VFF have aided Sioux Lookout fire fighters in one and Hudson fire fighters in two major fires.

CGE BRANCH

Chief Warrant Officer Drew, filling the position of Radar Warrant Officer and Station Warrant Officer (RadWO/SWO) became Captain Drew under the Limited Duty Officer Program and now fills the position of Systems Standards and Training Officer. Master Warrant Officer Williams (RadWO/SWO) received a Medal of Military Merit in November of 1982.

GE has had numerous modifications; Search has two new plan position indicators, Height Finder has a new transmitter system and CD has a time division data link interface unit to improve communications with the Regional Operation Control Centre, which is also a new entity.





Our Ground to Air Transmitter Receiver (GATR) site has been given an added responsibility. Energy, Mines and Resources Canada has installed a seismograph machine at the site and our personnel are responsible to forward the data obtained to Ottawa every week.

In 1981 and 1983 we were subject to Tech Visits, a very stringent evaluation of all our equipment and personnel, we came through with excellent results on both, which is why we are known as "Tops on the Pinetree".

OPERATIONS

Operations in the last few years has undergone many changes mostly as a result of the transition from SAGE (Semi-Automatic Ground Environment) to ROCC (Regional Operation Control Center). This transition although many years in the making and finally completed in 1983, now means this site is under the jurisdiction of Canada East ROCC.

Along with many procedural changes, new ROCC associated equipment and new radar consoles have given the Ops room, formerly called the Data Maintenance Control Centre (DMCC), a new look. With ever increasing responsibilities the reformation of operations from a section to a branch recently took place at the station level.

LOGISTICS BRANCH

The MSE section now has a modern fleet of vehicles with the newest arrivals being a new 44 pax bus and a new snowplow. The newest establishment change has been a multi-stop van for CE personnel to carry out preventive maintenance in the PMQ area.

The maintenance section is continually receiving new equipment to help them maintain the vehicle fleet. Their biggest dream is to have the maintenance area enlarged to house the larger equipment for maintenance.

CANEX has a retail store on the station for consumer goods and warehousing and a minimart in the PMQ area. The minimart has recently had an extension added on and will allow the store to stock more grocery items and operate as a groceteria.

Supply now boasts a semi-private office for the NCO i/c and a separate function office and work centre for the Traffic section. In addition, the CE stores has received a facelift of new storage equipment and a new bulk storage facility. Main Supply, i.e., clothing, stationery and pubs stores have been moved from the old drake building and main supply backroom operation to a one-site distribution centre with the conversion of what was previously known, and even now affectionately called by some, FPS 26 Tower.

Supply is constantly making a conscious effort to maintain or improve its operational facilities with the motto in mind ... SERVITUM NULLI SECUNDUS.

ADMINISTRATION

The Headquarters building has recently had most of the private offices renovated and plans are in the works for separating the administration and accounts sections.

The recreation centre boasts of new facilities for personnel to use such as mini gym and weight lifting room. The recreation clubs include archery, cross-country, skiing, snowmobile, wood hobby, bowling alley and recently a ceramics club. The curling club is in the final stages of a major renovation programme from the pipes up and plans are in the making to host a "Radar Open" bonspiel in the spring.

The Mess Hall was given a new roof in 1983 and a new electric boiler has replaced the steam boiler. The old steam tables were replaced by an electric food table.

All extensions and increased areas have put a greater workload on the cleaning services staff.

The medical section has also been very busy. They have replaced old dental equipment including chair and X-ray machine. Dentists are coming from CFB Winnipeg twice a year to conduct dental work. The medical side received a new emergency cart, ECG machine and life pack 5 (defibulator and monitor).

The MP section has received minor renovations to their building and a small extension for Commissionaires' Access and Control Point. Concertina wire and lighting were installed for security in the Ops area.

ACCOUNTS

The offices of the NCO i/c and the Cashier received minor renovations in the past. More modern equipment has somewhat eased the staff's workload.





CHIEFS 82

BACK ROW, Left to Right: B. Thornhill, M. Pelletier, A. Jones, W. LeBlanc, S. Denault, G. Littlewood, Little George, J. Wright, Mgr.
FRONT ROW: D. Patterson, G. Crawford, B. Suppa, D. Oxley, D. Mallioux, W. Roberts, R. Reid, Coach.

Silver Medalists 83.



Ball team arriving, Wainwright, 1980.





HOCKEY 83

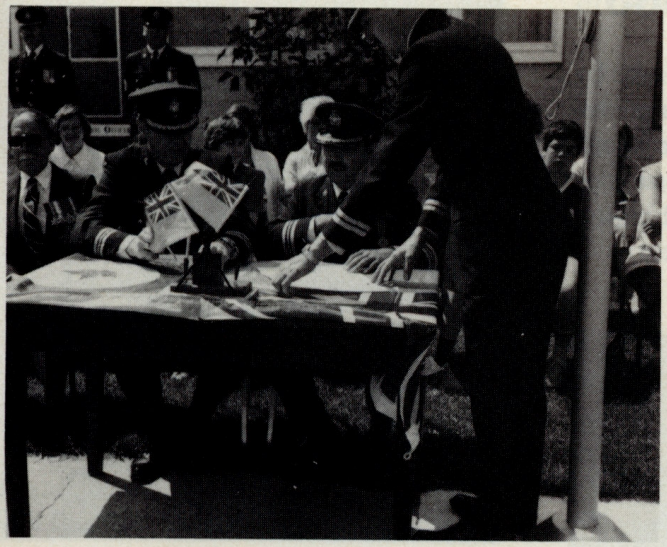
BACK ROW, Left to Right: J. Wright, Mgr.; M. Galvin, P. Wilson, P. MacMullin, G. Pegg, G. Carbert, B. Young, D. Patterson, B. Suppa, G. Gale, Trainer.
FRONT ROW: B. Stevens, W. Saulnier, B. Goch, M. Barham, K. McLean, R. Reid, Coach.

BALL 83

BACK ROW, Left to Right: M. Galvin, R. Mackley, G. Carbert, P. MacMullen, D. Chatman, T. Smart, A. Corriveau.
FRONT ROW: B. Kaine, M. Barham, B. Suppa, W. Saulnier, R. Blackmon, M. Mykytyshyn.

The station ball and hockey teams have been known as the Chiefs for a few years now representing the station in the Small Base Regionals and local commercial leagues. In 1983 both teams came home with silver medals, thus being labled "Bridesmaids". Better luck in years to come for the gold.

FACES OF 1982







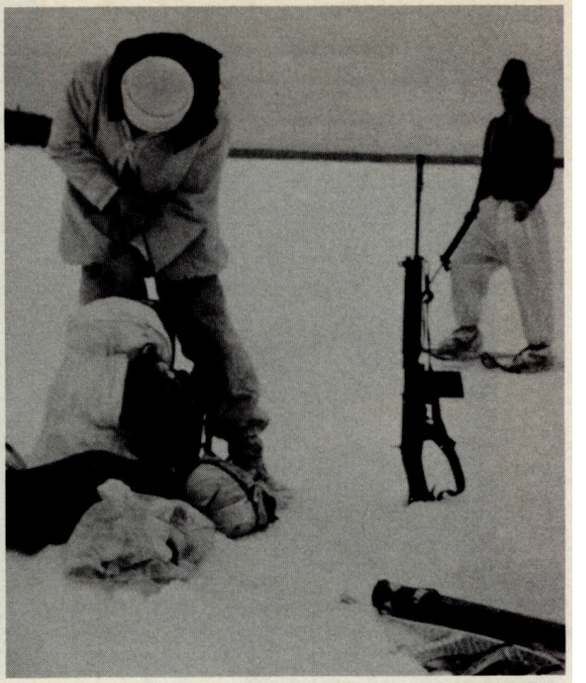






EXERCISE POLAR GLOOM 1983

Exercise Polar Gloom was a training exercise designed jointly by the Airborne Headquarters and Signal Squadron of the Canadian Airborne Regiment and CFS Sioux Lookout and provided realistic training for both units. The Airborne troopers practiced winter jumps with full equipment, infantry patrolling, combat techniques and winter field living skills.



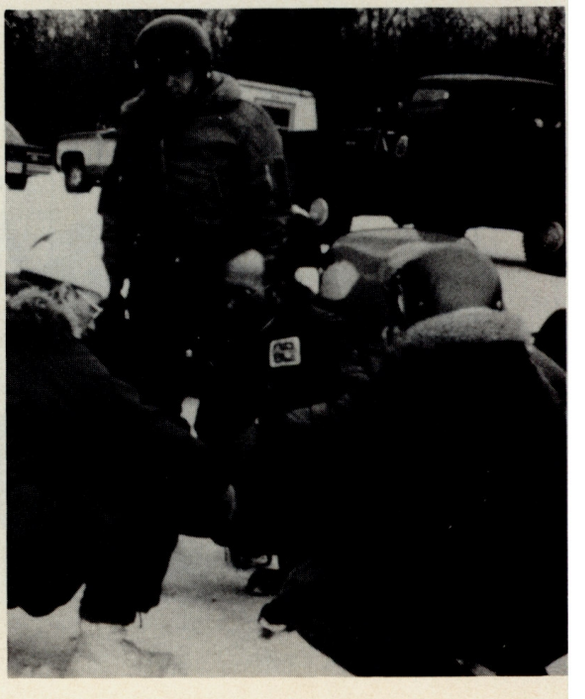


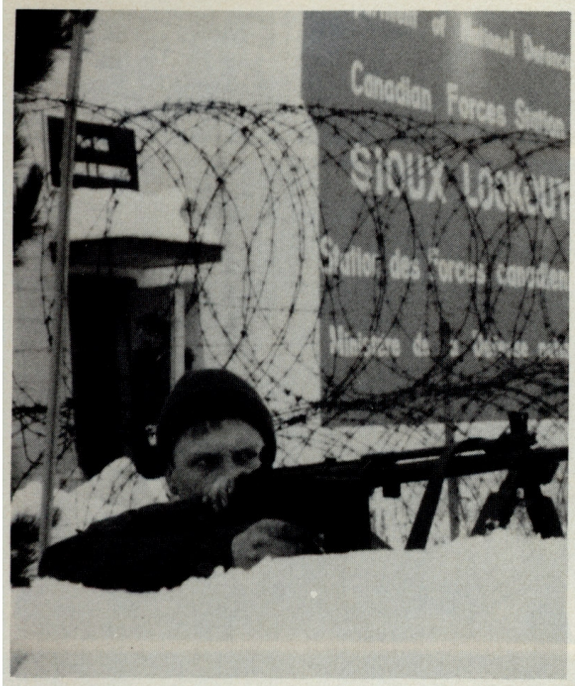
The same was true of the drivers, clerks and techs of the station base defence force.

Using the Airborne soldiers as live training aids, they were able to practice BDF drills, tactics and staying power against a realistic enemy. As well, Polar Gloom allowed the CO to practice a complete nuclear scenario with the remainder of the personnel on the station.

The big question was "would the station survive the airborne's visit?" Five days later the station had its answer. Several days of winter tenting and constant patrolling by the





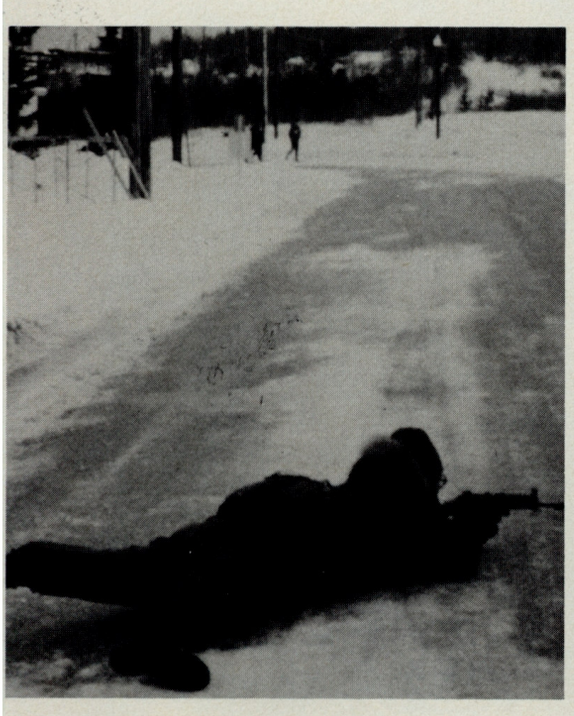


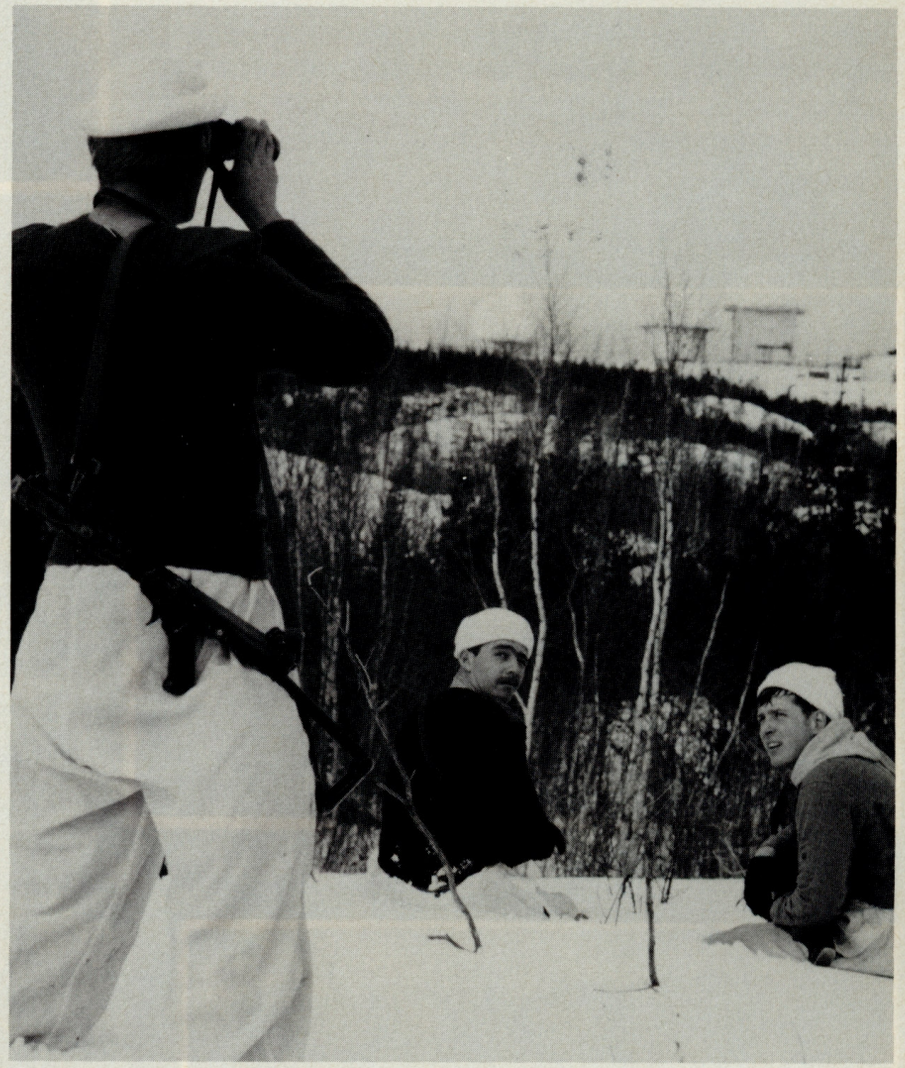
Airborne had ended in three gut wrenching and sweat-soaked attacks over Sioux Lookout's steep slopes. The station still stood despite the thousands of rounds of blank ammunition, smoke pots, tears gas, arty simulators and thunderflashes that had exploded around it. Moreover, both sides now have a certain respect for one another and each learned some valuable lessons.

The Airborne attempted to take the ground-to-air receiver and transmitter site and found it had been ingeniously rigged with a series of microphones on the surrounding terrain to pick up enemy movement. The airborne concluded that they were surprised by the strength of the station's defence force.

This is one of many of the planned joint exercises to be held by the station during work-ups for the next OPEVAL. These types of exercises have both sides as winners, because everyone learns new lessons and relearns some old ones.

Courtesy of Sentinal 1983/2







ADVENTURE

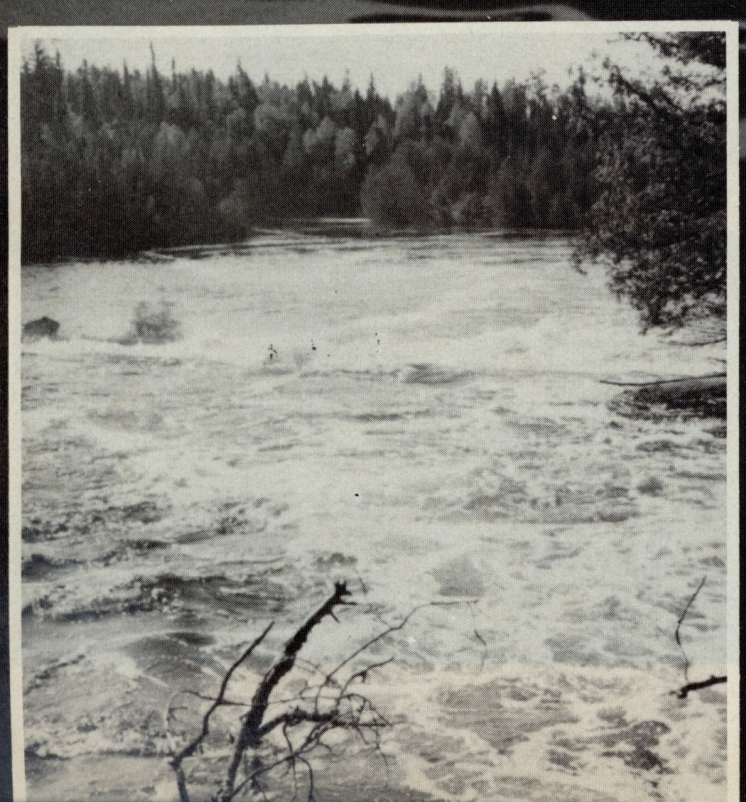
Adventure training allows personnel to become experienced, to varying degrees, in navigation, canoeing, survival and living in close contact with one another in wilderness areas. On many occasions the weather conditions and campsites are less than ideal. Personnel voluntarily participate in normal daily routine. Each canoe is given a complete set of maps and alternate daily navigation tasks. The pre-training makes the physical challenge of expeditions an acceptable endurance for all participants. All participants benefit greatly in wilderness survival and travel.



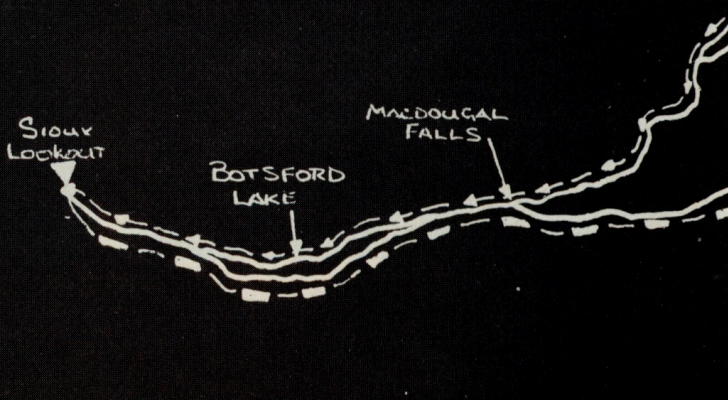


OPERATION EVER GREEN

In the Spring of 1982 CFS Sioux Lookout planned an adventure training expedition called Ever Green. The expedition began 29 May until 5 June and covered a distance of approximately 150 km down the Marchington River System with a team of six male and two female members.

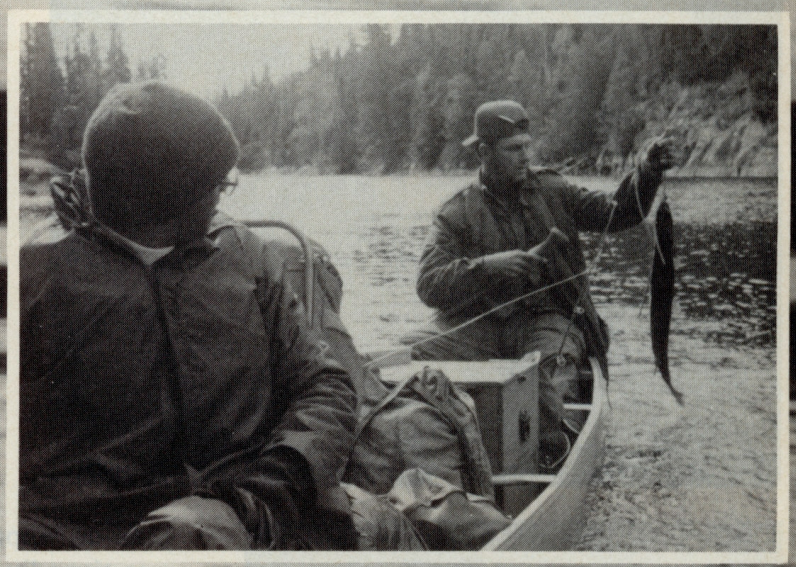


ADVENTURE TRAIN
EXPEDITIONS:
1982-Ever Green
1983-Dark Water



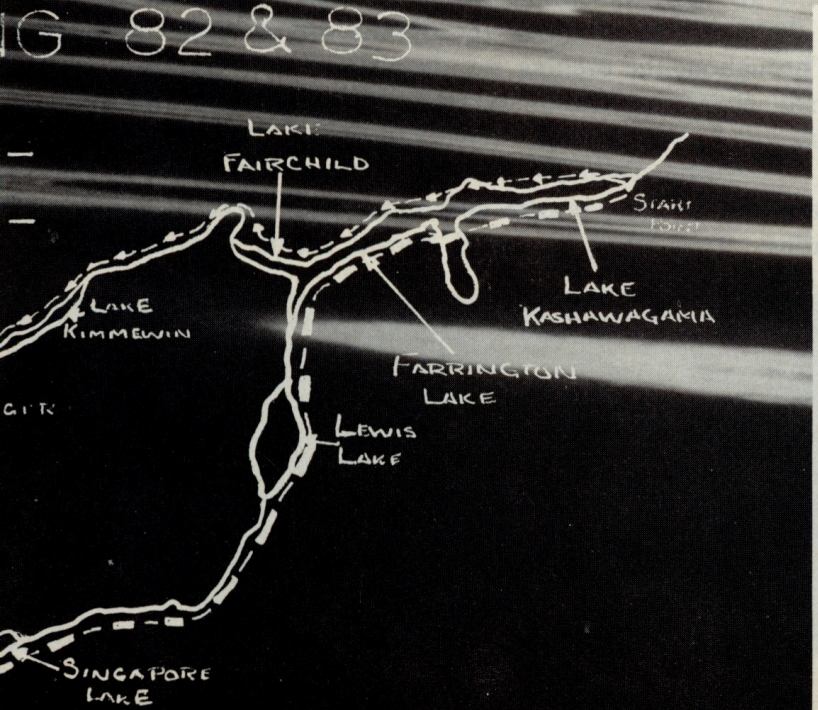
TRAINING

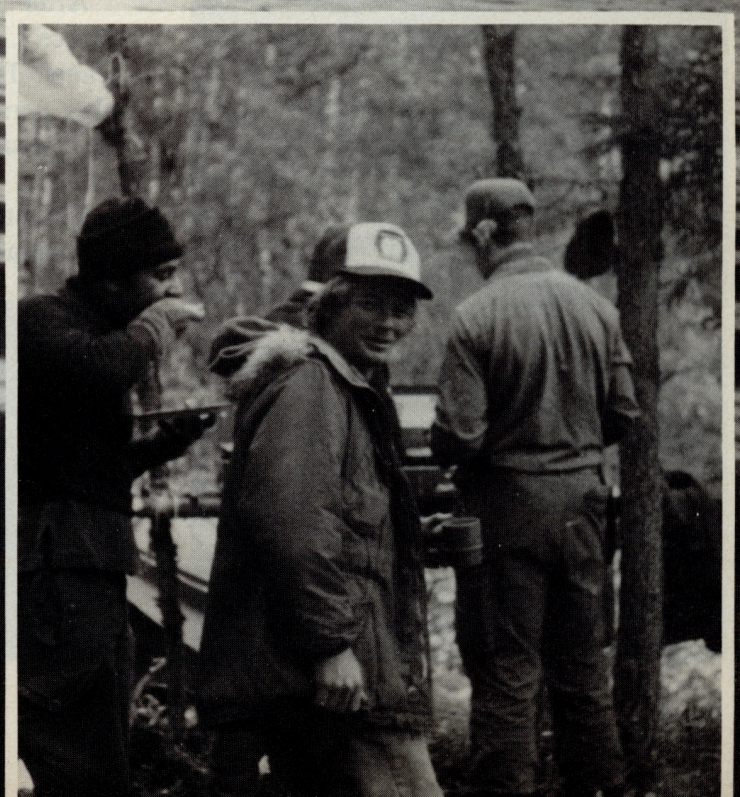


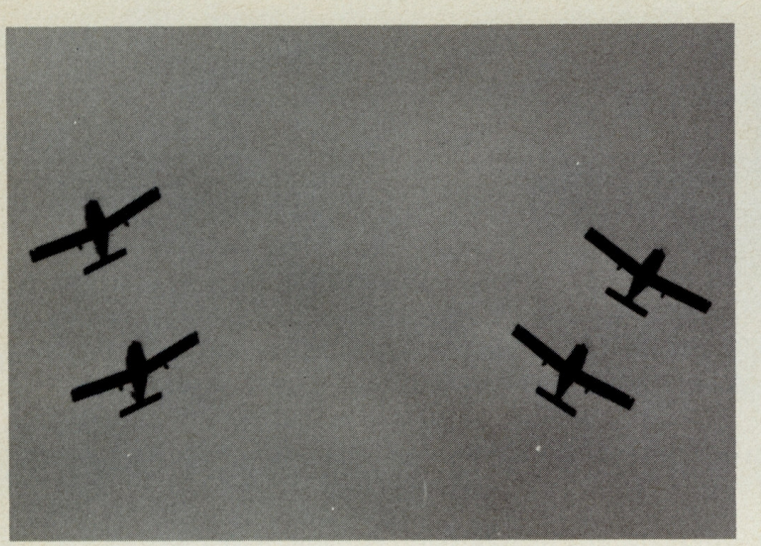


OPERATION DARK WATER

On 19-25 September 1983 an adventure training expedition called Dark Water was held. The expedition, involving ten personnel, covered 141 km along the Twatina River and into the Marchington River system.











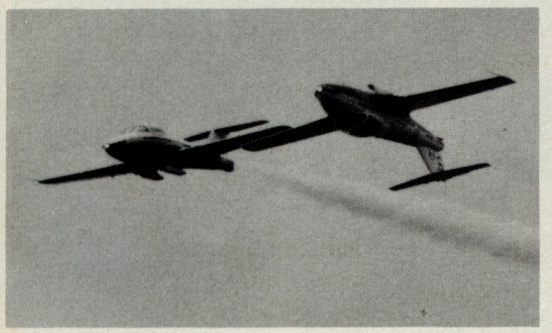
The station celebrated its 30th Anniversary from the 7th to 10th September 1983. The events started with a series of static displays including Armed Forces recruiting van, military police team, Search and Rescue team, fire fighting equipment and a display of communications equipment.

The displays were located at the town beach area and led off a military airshow with a demonstration by the "Sky Hawks" parachute team from Edmonton, Alberta. They were followed by formation flying by the "Musket Golds" from Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. The show wound up with an impressive aerial display of high speed formation aerobatics by the internationally-famous "Snowbirds". Due to low cloud cover, the Snowbirds had to be content in performing their low altitude routine. This involved close formations of nine "Tutor" jet aircraft, near misses in head-on approaches, and many more aerobatic stunts. The airshow was given live coverage on CBLS radio.



After the airshow, the station hosted a "Meet and Greet BBQ and Dance". This offered everyone the opportunity to meet the display teams. Throughout the evening station plaques were presented to display personnel in appreciation for their contribution to the station's 30th year.

Thursday saw an inter-branch sports day with all station personnel participating. The many modified sports events provided an en-









tertaining day for everyone. During the afternoon a beer tent was open and in the evening all messes were open for socializing and talking over the old times with former station personnel.

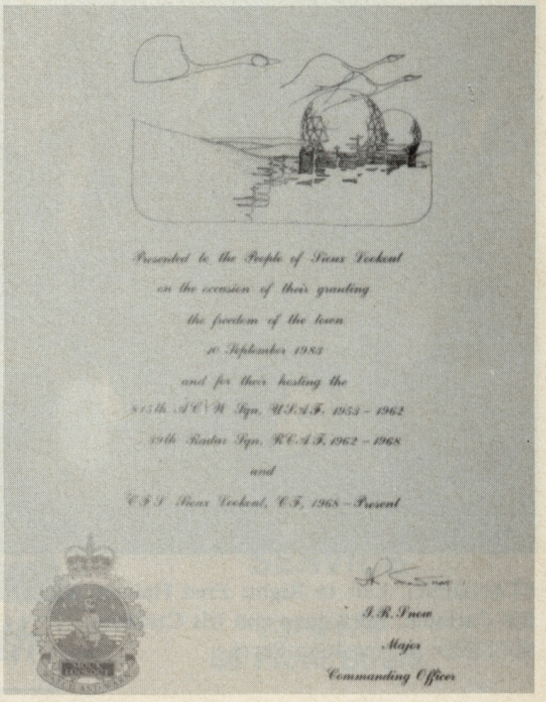


Friday was set aside for final preparations for Saturday and for personnel to take our guests out for a little fishing.

On Saturday, station personnel were awarded "Freedom of the Town" by the Mayor of Sioux Lookout. This is the greatest honour that can be bestowed on a military unit by a town. This commemorated thirty years of formal relationships and cooperation between the town and the station for which they both can be equally proud.

After the ceremony, the marching band from the Lake Superior Scottish Regiment, Thunder Bay, led a parade through the town to a formal reception hosted by the Town of Sioux Lookout. In addition to station personnel, cadet squadrons and corps affiliated with the station participated in the parade.

The celebrations came to a close with a gala "30th Anniversary Dance" held in the station gymnasium. A seventeen piece Lake Superior Scottish Regiment dance band provided excellent music for dancing.





THE TOWN OF SIOUX LOOKOUT

Extends Its CONGRATULATIONS
to the

CANADIAN FORCES STATION SIOUX LOOKOUT

on the celebration of your

30TH ANNIVERSARY

We extend the thanks and gratitude of the people of Sioux Lookout for the very real and significant part the station, and its men and women have had in the life of the community.

May we say that the reception given every one of us personally, and every community undertaking has indeed made the Canadian Forces a very real and important impetus to our efforts.

Will you please, then, take this message as our expression of sincere appreciation from all the contacts we have had with you and your people throughout the years.



STANDING, Left to Right: Fred Hakala, Richard Hamilton, Major I.R. Snow, Phil Salem, Bill Carlbom, Ed Ariano and Iris Czinkota.
SITTING: Mayor John Parry.

Thank you
Mayor John Parry

Councillors:

Fred Hakala
Richard Hamilton
Bill Carlbom
Ed Ariano
Iris Czinkota

Clerk-Treasurer: Phil Salem

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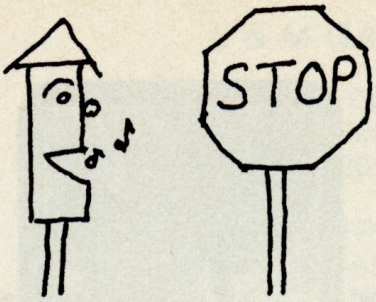

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"We Will Remember Them"

"They Served Till Death - Why Not We?"

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on Their 30th
Anniversary

from the
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LEO BERNIER

Minister of Northern Affairs
MPP

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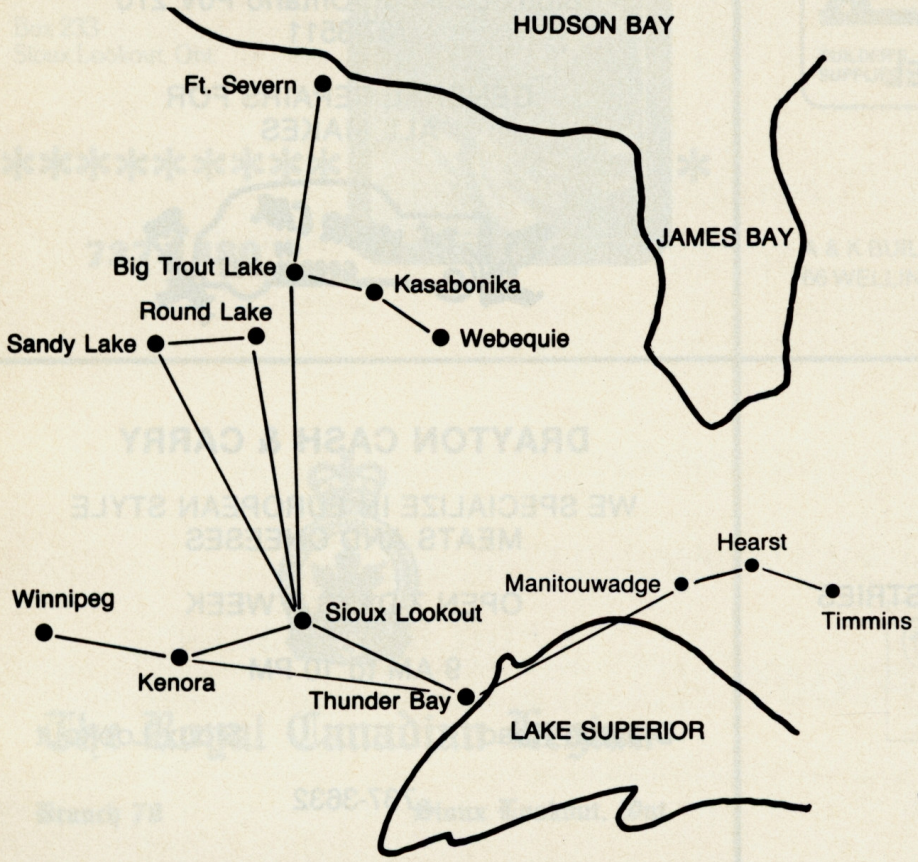



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Big Trout Lake 807-537-2261
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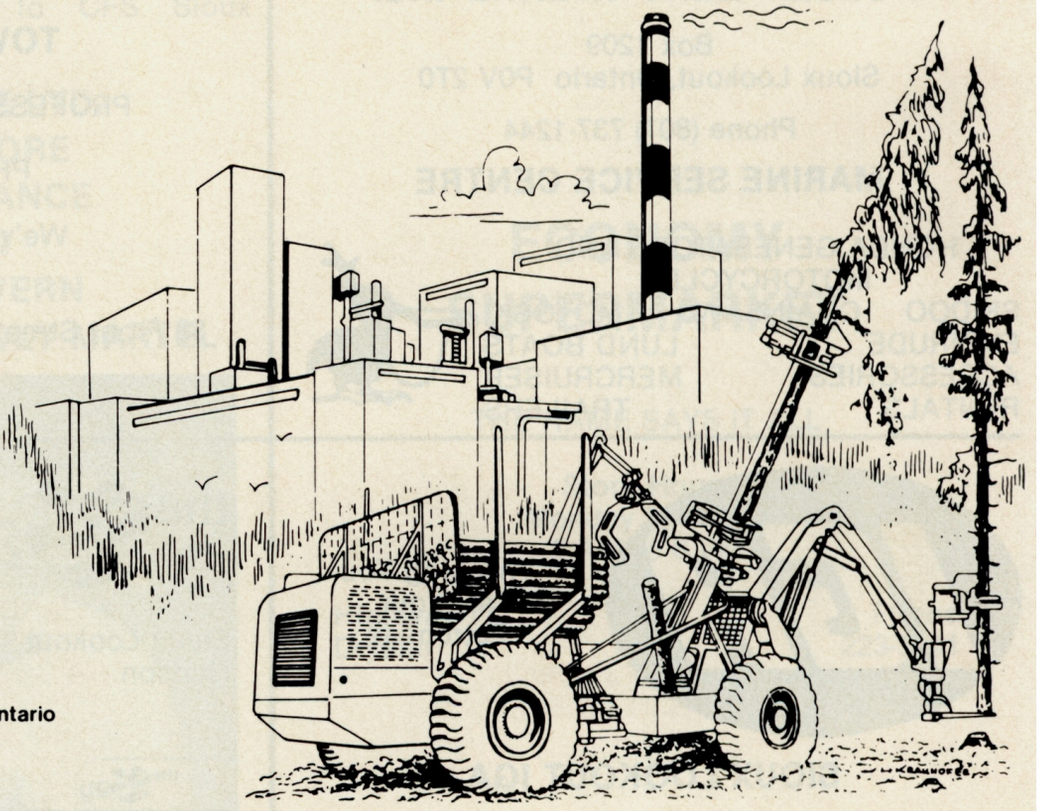

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