

## 44<sup>th</sup> anniversary D-Day/44<sup>ieme</sup> anniversaire de Jour-J

by Larry MacDonald

par Larry MacDonald



The men of the 3rd Canadian Division embark for Normandy and the D-Day invasion of France. (RCN Photo by Lt G. Milne, RCNVR)

Les hommes de la 3<sup>e</sup> Division canadienne s'embarquent pour la Normandie, où ils participeront au débarquement du Jour-J et à l'invasion de la France. (Photo par le lieutenant G. Milne, RCNVR)

D-Day, 6 June 1944 — When we fell, literally, into our landing ship tank (LST), we could hear the bilge water sloshing about. We thought we were the first aboard, but the place was already jam-packed with troops. It was hard to see in the semi-darkness or early dawn, but a few curses let us know that we were last and not first.

There was a terrible smell. It didn't take us long to figure out that it came from a witch's brew of vomit and sea water. Floating around in this unholy broth were hundreds of leaflets with the SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force) crest at the top.

I am, and always have been, an inveterate collector of anything and everything dealing with the military. My heart was set on that piece of paper, but my stomach rebelled. As daylight increased, I was able to partially read one of the leaflets as it drifted by. "Enemy well equipped... battle hardened... will fight savagely." This did not increase my confidence or buck up my courage. Whether the rest of the war was short or long, it was going to seem long.

If you are wondering why we were on a landing ship tank and not a landing craft infantry (LCI),

it was simply because all, or nearly all, of the LCIs were being used in the initial assault landings which included heavy punches in the form of the first and second waves.

I was not in either wave, for which today I am thankful to the planners. My lot went in later. We

didn't have a single tank on board. We did have some very queasy Canadian soldiers who, after hearing, "keep your bloody head down!" stared uneasily at that porridge in the bottom of our craft as it continued to slosh from port to starboard, starboard to port.

So there we were, 44 years ago, most of us in our early 20s. It's hard to believe just how much equipment we carried. Besides razor, extra socks, extra shirt, knife, fork, spoon and sewing kit, there were tow belts of .303 ammunition, water bottle, field

*Continued on page 7*

Jour-J, le 6 juin 1944 — Quand nous sommes tombés, et le mot n'est pas trop fort, dans notre bâtiment de débarquement de chars (BDC), nous pouvions entendre clapoter l'eau de cale. Nous pensions être les premiers à bord; c'était pourtant loin d'être le cas, le bâtiment était déjà bondé de soldats. Il était difficile de distinguer quelqu'un dans la demi-obscurité de l'aube naissante, mais, après avoir entendu quelques jurons, nous avons vite compris que nous étions les derniers et non les premiers.

Il y régnait une odeur épouvantable. Nous nous sommes rapidement rendu compte que cette odeur provenait d'une affreuse mixture de vomit et d'eau de mer dans laquelle flottaient des centaines de tracts portant l'emblème du SHAEF (Le Commandement suprême du corps expéditionnaire allié).

Je suis, et j'ai toujours été, un collectionneur invétéré de tout ce qui touche au domaine militaire. Je ne parvenais donc pas à me détacher les yeux de ces tracts, mais mes haut-le-cœur m'incitaient à ne pas y toucher. Au fur et à mesure qu'augmentait la lumière du jour, j'arrivais à lire partiellement un des tracts qui dérivait près de moi. "L'ennemi est bien équipé... La bataille s'intensifie... combattre sauvagement." Ces quelques mots n'avaient rien d'encourageant. Aussi, que la guerre dût ou non durer encore longtemps, je savais qu'elle me semblerait interminable.

Vous vous demandez peut-être pourquoi nous nous trouvions dans un BDC plutôt qu'à bord d'une barge de débarquement d'infanterie (LCI)? Eh bien, c'était tout simplement parce que toutes les LCI avaient été utilisées pour

*Continué à la page 7*



LCol (retired) Joe Greenberg (right) and Maj Willy Williamson were recently presented awards for their donations of "the gift of life" by the Lt-Gov George Johnson.

*Photo by MCpl J.P. Forget, Base Photo Section)*

## "The Gift of Life" Blood Donors Honoured

The Manitoba Chapter of the Canadian Red Cross recently honoured Manitobans who have donated 50 plus units of blood. Among those receiving the awards were retired LCol. J. (Joe) Greenberg, 17 Battalion and Maj. N.H. Williamson of the Provincial Cadet Office. Lieutenant-Governor George Johnson, who presented the awards, thanked Greenberg and Williamson for their donations of "the gift of life" and praised all awardees for their selfless contributions.

LCol Greenberg, a native of Flin Flon and a resident of Winnipeg, served 22 years

with the Reserves here in Winnipeg before retiring from 17 Service Battalion. Greenberg is currently employed at the University of Manitoba where he is the program coordinator for medical education in the Department of Continuing Education.

Maj Williamson, a resident of Stonewall, Man., first joined the RCAF in 1943 as an air-gunner and went on to serve 38 years in the regular force before he retired in 1981. Since then he has served continuously with the Provincial Cadet Office for Manitoba and North West Ontario.



## The Base Chief Said...

When I got home last night (26 May), Quincy noticed that I was very quiet. I think he thought that I was upset with him. Can you believe that? All you have to do is look at his big brown, sad eyes, and it would melt your heart, so there is no way that I could be mad at him. I reassured him that he was not the problem, the reason for my demeanour was that I had spent the first day on the job without my "right arm". He went around the side of the chair to check and see where my right arm had gone. I laughed when he did that. Leave it to a dog to cheer you up! Anyway, I went on to explain that, my assistant Sgt Mike Ramsden had left that morning on his posting to Comox.

I have known Mike for the past three years, and have worked with him for the past two. I want to say right off the top, that no person could have been better served, than I was by Mike. He is a unique character, with a great sense of humour, and on those occasions when I started to take myself too serious, or take situations too serious, I could always trust Mike to come up with a quip, to break me up, and make me realize that there were more important things in the world. He was my sounding board for ideas, making decisions, and the whole way we approached our job in the Base Chiefs' office.

I used to marvel at his talent for dealing with people. He could tell a senior officer to go to hell, giggling while he was doing it, and make them anticipate taking the journey. Magnificent! If I wanted to tell a difficult person, "no", I would get Mike to call him. Now I'll have to do all that stuff myself. I'll probably be sarcastic, get into a p—g contest, and end up in jail. Oh well, now I'll have to take my chances.

Mike Ramsden is not the only one leaving this summer on posting. This Base will see an exodus of many fine men and women. I'll miss a lot of them, because a lot of them have done so much for me and the Base. There are some of those people right here in Base Headquarters. I've already mentioned LCol Ross our BTSO in a previous column. MCpl Mike

Power is going across the air field to Air Command. I'll miss Mike's straight forward approach to things. His total ineptitude at playing cards, and his smiling face.

Pte Sandy Lee is another character who is leaving. A young lady from the Province of Newfoundland, she is posted back "home", and is very happy about it. Sandy is one of those unique individuals, who cannot be replaced, not because there won't be another person to do her job, but there is only one of her, with her unique personality. There are so many stories that I could tell you about Sandra Lee, but I just don't have the room to do it here. However, I think there is one, that is worth relating to you.

It concerns her "Outside" of Canada screening, for her posting to Newfoundland. She had heard that a certain individual had not been considered suitable for special employment because he was slightly over-weight. This was upper most in her mind when she was doing her screening, because if anything stood in her way of the posting home, she would have been inconsolable. What worried her was that she has always considered herself to be bordering on pleasingly plump. Personally, I liked the way she was packaged.

Anyway, she found herself in the Area Social Work Officers' office. He invited her to sit down, they chatted for awhile, then the Capt asked if he could see her form. Sandy promptly got up, did a couple of slow turns in front of him, then realized that he was talking about her screening form. To say she was embarrassed is an understatement. However, Sandy is the type of person who doesn't mind sharing these little stories with her friends.

Quincy got quite a charge out of that little gem too. He was eating when I told it to him, and almost choked on his puppy chow.

So to all the Col Ross', Mikes, and Sandys of this Base who will be leaving, from all Units/Sections/Branches, all the best to you. I'm sure that you will be missed in your sections as well. I know I'll miss you. Thank you, and God speed.

I guess the following should sum up how I feel about people and how I would like them to feel about me. I'll call this one, "THAT EXTRA SOMETHING".

There are some people everybody likes to work with. You probably have some favourites yourself. If certain people ask you to do something for them you jump at the chance. If anyone else asks you to do the same work you would probably grumble. Have you ever stopped to wonder what makes these people different from the rest? If you think it over, you would usually find that the people you like to work for are APPRECIATIVE. When you work for them you get more than money. You get that extra something we all yearn for, from Pte to CO.

People you like to work for don't take you for granted. They don't throw work at you as if you were a machine and would turn it out automatically. When they ask you to do something you know that they have thought it over and appreciate the effort you will have to put into it. They seem to sense your point of view and they are quick to notice any hardships or difficulties under which you work. If you put out extra effort, it is sure to be noticed and appreciated. A good job never goes unnoticed.

This kind of talk may seem like molycoddling. After all, why should you praise a man or woman or thank them for doing what they ought to do anyway? It is easy to say "that's what they get paid for, isn't it?" That is perfectly true; we all get paid and we ought to do a good job, but we don't do our best for money alone. Human nature isn't made that way. Most of us need the personal touch, a pat on the back, some sincere thanks and appreciation, before we really give.

If you want the best results in handling people, don't let Thanksgivings come only once a year. Be thankful every day. How long since you've thanked your wife for having a good breakfast ready and waiting? How long since you've told someone how much you appreciate their promptness, instead of merely criticizing those who are late? Be APPRECIATIVE. People are hungry for your understanding, thanks, and appreciation.

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### To the Editor

It is with the gravest concern that we bring to your notice the plight of the Canadian War Museum. Unbelievable as it may seem, at a time when enormous sums of money are being spent on its sister museums, the Canadian War Museum has been relegated to a lower level and in consequence, placed on a pathway to obscurity, if not oblivion. We have nothing but admiration for the visual arts natural history and scientific discovery, but is the preservation of these more important than preserving the memory of the cream of our youth, who in South Africa, Vimy, Normandy, Hong Kong, Gaza and all places in between, sacrificed themselves in order that we may have a heritage to preserve? To the vast majority of Canadians, we think not. The Canadian War Museum is a national shrine. It does not glorify war, in which there is no glory, but gives to us a realistic understanding of horrors, and the sacrifices of those who felt their country was worth fighting for.

For this reason we believe that the Canadian War Museum is worthy of considerably higher priority than it is given at present. We believe that the Canadian public is with us, and surely the Government of Canada cannot have forgotten our war dead so soon.

It is, therefore, our aim to ensure that the Canadian War Museum has at least equal status to that of the other national museums, with its own mandate, its own objectives, and its own budget. It simply cannot operate as a dependent entity under external control and with a budget which barely maintains its present unsatisfactory status.

If your readers are interested in preserving the Canadian War Museum, they should write to the Friends of the Canadian War Museum, Secretariat, P.O. Box 11243, "Station H", Nepean, Ontario, K2H 7T9. It would also help if they made their feelings known to their members of Parliament.

Yours truly,

(P.A. Neatby, Major General)

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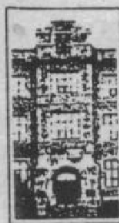
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À la rédaction

Nous désirons porter à votre connaissance la situation alarmante dans laquelle se trouve le Musée canadien de la guerre. Aussi incroyable que cela puisse paraître à un moment où des sommes énormes sont dépensées pour les autres musées nationaux, le Musée canadien de la guerre a été relégué au second plan et risque donc de tomber dans l'obscurité, voire dans l'oubli. Nous n'avons que de l'admiration pour les arts plastiques, l'histoire naturelle et les découvertes scientifiques, mais n'est-il pas tout aussi important de conserver la mémoire des jeunes de notre pays qui, en Afrique du Sud, à Vimy, en Normandie, à Hong Kong, à Gaza et ailleurs, ont sacrifié leur vie pour que nous ayons un héritage à protéger? Nous croyons que ce l'est pour l'immense majorité des Canadiens. Le Musée canadien de la guerre est un sanctuaire national. Il ne glorifie pas la guerre, qui n'a rien de glorieux, mais nous offre une vision réaliste des horreurs de la guerre et du sacrifice fait par ceux qui ont jugé utile de se battre pour leur pays.

C'est pourquoi nous estimons que le Musée canadien de la guerre mérite qu'on lui accorde un rang de priorité beaucoup plus élevé que celui auquel il a droit actuellement. Nous croyons que les Canadiens partagent notre point de vue et que le gouvernement canadien n'a certainement pas pu déjà oublié ceux parmi les nôtres qui sont morts au combat.

Nous avons donc pour but de faire en sorte que le Musée canadien de la guerre ait au moins un statut égal à celui des autres musées nationaux, avec un mandat, des objectifs et un budget en propre. Il ne peut tout simplement pas fonctionner en tant qu'entité dépendante assujettie à un contrôle de l'extérieur et avec un budget qui lui permet tout juste de maintenir sa condition actuelle qui laisse à désirer.

C'est pourquoi nous invitons ceux qui parmi vos lecteurs ont à cœur de conserver le Musée canadien de la guerre à écrire aux Amis du Musée canadien de la guerre, Secrétariat, C.P. 11243, Succursale H, Nepean (Ontario), K2H 7T9. Ils pourraient également faire connaître leur point de vue à leur député fédéral.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur/Madame, mes salutations distinguées.  
Le président des Amis du Musée canadien de la guerre,  
P.A. Neatby, Major-général

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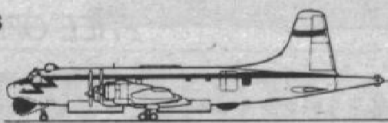


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# A Hero Who Was In Our Midst

The sudden passing in Winnipeg on February 12, 1988, of Bob Kellow, who was a member of the famous R.A.F.'s No 617 "Dambuster" Squadron in the Second World War, leaves all who knew him with a void in their lives, but the bravery, kindness and consideration he radiated lives on.

Bob was born and raised in Newcastle, Australia where he enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force in 1941. After being selected for wireless operator training, as part of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, he was sent to No. 3 Wireless Training School in Winnipeg. He then went to Dafoe, Saskatchewan to take further training at the Bombing and Gunnery School there. While in Canada, Bob met "Pal", the girl he married shortly after the war ended.

Bob Kellow's life reads like an Alistair Maclean thriller! On completion of training in Canada, Bob went to England and became a member of a crew of No. 50 Squadron, where he completed a successful tour of operations. Just at that time, the newly formed No. 617 Squadron had been selected to carry out a very special assignment and Bob was amongst the best crew members who were posted to No. 617 Squadron.

The special assignment was to break the Moehne and Eder Dams in the Ruhr Valley and thus cause a serious disruption to the

power plants and industrial capacity of that region of Germany. A book was written about that raid and Bob's picture is in the book. Also a movie was made of the event and it is still periodically shown on television.

The special raid on the dams was carried out on the evening of May 16/17, 1943. The aircraft Bob was in made an initial bombing run in the first wave of bombers to attack the Moehne and Eder dams; however, as they were unable to meet the specific requirements, which were to be exactly sixty feet above the water and a specified distance from the dam, they could not drop the specially designed bomb. On their second run, which was against the Eder Dam, the bomb was dropped and it blew a large hole in the dam with resultant major disruption to Germany's war effort.

Bob continued to fly on special raids with No. 617 Squadron and while returning from one of those raids at low level, their aircraft was damaged when they hit some trees on an unseen high bluff of land. The pilot, Les Knight, was able to gain sufficient height for the crew to parachute out because the aircraft was on fire. Before jumping Bob was the last person to speak to Les Knight who was trying to stabilize the aircraft enough to permit the crew to exit. Les Knight was unable to get out and

gave his life to save his crew.

Bob parachuted safely and landed near the town of den Ham in Northern Holland and, after removing all identification markings from his battledress uniform, was able to walk and even ride on trains, often in the presence of German service people, without being detected. He eventually met some people in the Underground Organization who, after extensive interrogation to determine who Bob really was, enabled Bob to make his way through Belgium, France and Spain to Gibraltar, from whence he was flown back to England within twelve weeks from when they took off on their fateful mission.

As Bob was no longer permitted to fly over occupied territory, he returned to fly in Transport Command of the Royal Australian Air Force in the Pacific area. After serving five years, he was demobilized in April 1946 and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal for his bravery and courage in the successful Dams Raid.

After the war, Bob married Pal, whom he had met while training in Canada, and they lived for five years in Australia. They returned to Canada and took up residence in Winnipeg where Bob worked for twenty-nine years for Manitoba Hydro, starting as a draftsman and retiring as an Ex-

ecutive Assistant in 1982.

Bob was very active in the community throughout his life and served in many capacities, including: member and past president of the Wartime Pilots and Observers Association; active membership at Sturgeon Creek United Church, where he served as an elder as well as chairing many committees; chairman of a group committee of scouts; member of the Royal Air Force Escaping Society; member for many years of the RCAF Auxiliary (Reserve) in which he was Commanding Officer of the Recruiting Unit; and active leader in the Down Under Club.

Bob devoted much of his time in helping others and enjoyed his energetic lifestyle. He was a loving husband and father of two children, both of whom are now married and living in Winnipeg. The junior Bob works as an electronics technologist for Transport Canada, and Janice is a radiology technologist at Misericordia General Hospital.

Bob Kellow had been very involved in the planning and organization of the Commonwealth Aircrew Reunion that is scheduled to take place in Winnipeg in September 1988. Bob's valued efforts in that respect and his contributions to all his activities will be sadly missed by all. Bob's tremendous sense of humour, his knowledge, his giving ways and

his friendliness are devastating losses to his family and to all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

When Queen Elizabeth II formally opened the new Western Canada Aviation Museum in October 1984, she spoke to Bob Kellow, one of the most decorated persons in attendance; a beautiful colored photograph of that occasion is on permanent display in the Museum.

In view of the great contribution made by Bob Kellow, a scholarship fund is now being established so that each year a scholarship may be given in each of the five high schools in the St. James-Assiniboia area, where Bob lived. These scholarships will be given to students who in their Grade XII year have participated the most in school, and community activities while maintaining reasonable school marks.

Anyone wishing to contribute to this scholarship fund should make their cheque payable to the St. James Scholarship Foundation and mark it for the "Robert Kellow Scholarship Fund". Receipts for income tax purposes will be issued. Contributions should be mailed to:

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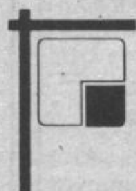
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## Major Canex Study Underway

The Canadian Forces NPF Board of Directors has recently approved a major study of the Canadian Forces Exchange System (CANEX) to be conducted by the well-known consultant firm of William M. Mercer Limited over the next several months. This study follows from a diagnostic review of CANEX that was carried out late in 1987 that identified a number of management issues facing CANEX, not the least of which were declining sales and flagging profits. As Tim Plumtre, principal of William M. Mercer, indicated "It is obvious that some competitive repositioning of CANEX is called for".

One of the key elements of this study will consist of a professional market survey consisting of detailed telephone interviews

with literally hundreds of service persons, dependents and other CANEX patrons at various bases and stations. Since it would be too time-consuming and too costly to survey every individual CANEX patron across the country, a representative sampling will be taken. Colonel Ray Audet, Director of CANEX emphasizes that if someone is called and asked to participate in this CANEX survey, they should take the time to reply honestly and conscientiously since every response is important. In the 20 years of CANEX's existence, this is the first time that a system-wide market survey of this magnitude has been conducted.

CANEX is a network of outlets at bases, stations, ships and in the field operated for the

benefit of military personnel and their families. CANEX outlets may consist of retail and grocery stores, service stations, snack bars, canteens, vending operations, barber and beauty shops, and various other services, including the popular home heating oil program and a newly opened travel agency Voyages CANEX Travel in Ottawa. Since the profits from CANEX support a wide variety of base-level recreational, sports and amenity programs, provide grants and loans for new NPF buildings and recreational facilities, and finance Personnel Assistance Fund loans and grants to individual service members, the continued health of profitability of the CANEX system is vital to everyone in the forces.

## Une étude approfondie portant sur les Économats est en cours

Le conseil d'administration des Fonds non publics des Forces canadiennes a récemment approuvé une étude approfondie portant sur les Économats des Forces canadiennes (CANEX). Cette étude sera menée au cours des prochains mois par la firme des conseillers très réputée William M. Mercer Limited. Celle-ci fait suite à une analyse diagnostique des Économats qui a eu lieu à la fin de 1987 et au cours de laquelle un certain nombre de problèmes au niveau administratif ont pu être identifiés, dont les ventes décroissantes et les profits languissants ne sont pas les moindres. Tel qu'énoncé par le directeur de la firme William M. Mercer, monsieur Tim Plumtre: "Il est évident qu'une prise de mesures plus compétitives pour les Économats s'avère nécessaire".

L'un des éléments constitutifs de cette étude comportera un sondage professionnel fondé sur les résultats de plusieurs centaines d'entrevues détaillées effectuées par téléphone auprès du personnel militaire, des personnes à leur charge et d'autres clients des Économats de diverses bases et stations.

Étant donné qu'il serait trop coûteux et trop long de faire un sondage auprès de chaque client des Économats au Canada, un

échantillonnage représentatif sera effectué. Le colonel Ray Audet, directeur des Économats, suggère fortement à tout individu appelé à participer à cette enquête de répondre aux questions de façon honnête et consciencieuse étant donné que chaque réponse est importante. Depuis le tout début des Économats, il y a vingt ans, c'est la première fois qu'un sondage de cette envergure porte sur tous les aspects du système.

Les Économats c'est un réseau composé de points de vente situés dans les bases, les stations, les navires et au niveau des activités opérationnelles à l'intention du personnel militaire et de leurs familles. Les divers points de vente Économats peuvent comprendre des épiceries, des magasins à rayons, des stations-

service, des casse-croûte, des cantines, des distributeurs automatiques, des salons de coiffure pour femmes et pour hommes et d'autres services divers, incluant le populaire programme d'huile à chauffage domestique ainsi qu'une toute nouvelle agence de voyages CANEX située à Ottawa. Puisque les profits des Économats servent à subventionner les programmes d'activités de loisirs, de sport et de commodités, à fournir les allocations et prêts servant à acquérir de nouveaux édifices des FNP et des installations récréatives, et à financer les prêts et allocations de la Caisse d'assistance au personnel des Forces canadiennes, la rentabilité toujours croissante du système des Économats s'avère fondamentale au bien-être des membres des Forces.

## AirCom commissions senior Communications Technician CWO



CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER Jim Fletcher is shown here accepting his Commissioning Scroll from the DCOS Communications and Electronics, Colonel M. Charron. CWO Fletcher, the senior Communications Technician in Air Command, has been active for the past three years on the CWO Advisory Committee to the Branch Advisor's Group. CWO Fletcher's primary duty has been as Staff Officer Navigational Aids (SONA 2-2) in Aircom HQ. Following a short course in Chilliwack, he will take up a position within the Division's C & E Plans Section.

L'ADJUDANT-CHEF Jim Fletcher reçoit ci-dessus sa Commission des mains du Sous-chef d'état-major communications et électronique, le Colonel M. Charron. En tant que technicien senior en communications du Commandement aérien l'adjudc Fletcher participa de façon très active au cours des trois dernières années, au comité consultatif des adjudants-chefs de la Branche des communications et de l'électronique. L'adjudc Fletcher occupait le poste d'officier d'état-major pour les aides à la navigation (OEM NA 2-2) au QG du Commandement aérien. Suite à un cours de courte durée à Chilliwack, il occupera une position d'officier d'état-major au sein de la section des plans de la division C & E.



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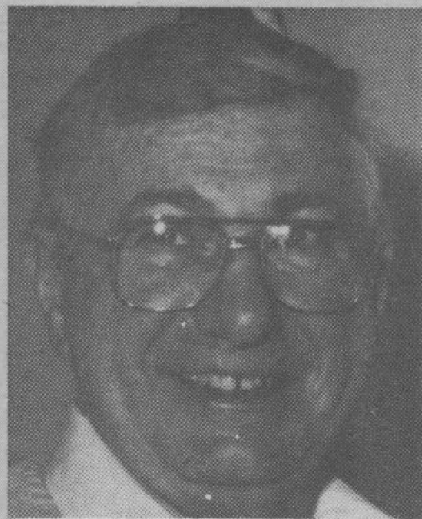
# 73 Communication Group HQ

## Course certificate



LCol Eric J. Sim, Commander 73 Comm Group, is shown presenting a course certificate to Mr. Nicholas G. Jackimec. Mr. Jackimec attended a course on "Conflict Resolution Skills for Support Staff" in Feb 1988. Mr. Jackimec is a Telephone Services Clerk in the Defence Commercial Telecommunications section of 73 Comm Group.

## 35 Years of Service



Mr. John Connors recently received his 35 year medallion for long association with DND.

## Promotion

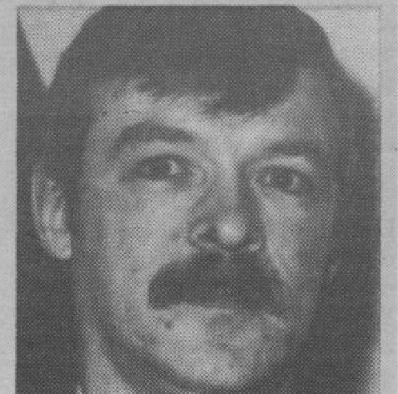


WO Les J. Closs promoted to that rank effective 1 June 1988. WO Closs is a Regular Force Advisor (Training) with 735 (Winnipeg) Comm Regt located in the Minto Armouries. WO Closs is transferred to 708 Comm Det Kingston as the Det Commander.

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# 44<sup>ème</sup> anniversaire du Jour-J

continué de la page 1

les deux premières vagues d'assaut qui devaient asséner les coups les plus violents.

Je ne faisais pas partie de ces deux premières vagues d'assaut et, aujourd'hui, j'en suis reconnaissant aux planificateurs du débarquement. Mon tour est venu plus tard. Nous n'avions pas un seul char à bord; nous avions toutefois des soldats canadiens qui avaient très mal au cœur et qui, après avoir entendu: "Baissez vos damnées têtes!", contemplanent avec dégoût la bouillie qui se trouvait au fond de notre bateau et qui se balançait de bâbord à tribord et de tribord à bâbord.

Voilà où nous nous trouvions, jeunes hommes au début de la vingtaine, ce fameux Jour-J. Il y a de cela 44 ans. C'est incroyable tout l'équipement que nous pouvions alors porter. En plus de vêtements de rechange, d'accessoires de toilette, d'une gamelle et d'un ensemble de couture, nous portions deux ceinturons de munitions de calibre 303, un bidon d'eau, deux pansements individuels, l'un dans une petite poche de pantalon et l'autre sous le filet de camouflage du casque, ainsi qu'un fusil Lee Enfield ou Sten, une baïonnette et un tapis de sol. Les moins costauds disparaissaient littéralement sous la charge.

Pendant que nous roulions et tanguions au gré des vagues et que les embruns nous trempaient, je réfléchissais aux propos du général Eisenhower que j'avais lu sur le tract: "Votre ennemi est bien entraîné, bien équipé et endurci au combat", et je me demandais s'il était également endurci contre le mal de mer.

Ma division (la 3<sup>ème</sup> Division d'infanterie) a réussi à se rendre jusqu'à la plage, mais elle l'a payé cher: 340 hommes de tout grade ont été tués, 547 ont été blessés et 47 ont été faits prisonniers.

En 1969, à titre de reporter de Radio-Canada, je suis retourné sur cette plage pour assurer la couverture du 25<sup>ème</sup> anniversaire du débarquement. Je me

suis installé aussi près que possible de l'endroit exact où le panneau du BDC s'était abattu et où nos chefs avaient crié: "Courez vous mettre à l'abri!" Mais où? Je ne voyais alors qu'une plauge immense qui semblait s'étendre à l'infini. Je ne pensais pas pouvoir m'en sortir. Pourtant, 25 ans plus tard, je me suis rendu compte que cette plage que j'avais devant les yeux couvrait à peine la moitié d'un pâté de maisons.

J'ai parlé à quelques-uns des anciens combattants. J'ai ainsi appris que les premiers Canadiens à mettre les pieds en France furent les membres du 1<sup>er</sup> Bataillon canadien de parachutistes de la Compagnie C. Le médecin du bataillon, le docteur C.N. Breadner, m'a raconté qu'il avait atterri sur un arbre. "Je me suis retrouvé avec le bassin disloqué et un bras cassé, a-t-il précisé. Mon expérience au combat venait de prendre fin. Elle avait duré 20 minutes!"

Quant au major Lorenzo Robichaud du North Shore Regiment, il a souligné qu'il n'y avait vraiment pas de temps pour penser. "Les hommes tombaient... l'aumônier s'arrêtait pour les aider," a-t-il expliqué. Puis le sergent Bill Watts des Royal Winnipeg Rifles m'a confié: "Nous étions 130 quand nous sommes débarqués; seulement 30 d'entre nous ont réussi à quitter la plage. Le chef de mon peloton était le lieutenant Rod Beatty de Winnipeg; il est devenu paraplégique."

À l'occasion, j'ai entendu une pointe d'humour. Ainsi, un soldat des Regina Rifles m'a déclaré: "J'ai été touché sur la plage. Quelqu'un m'a alors donné une orange. Je ne sais pas qui. Mais je me demande encore d'où pouvait bien venir cette orange..." Moi aussi, puisqu'on n'en avait pas vu une seule depuis quatre ans!

Les hommes qui sont tombés sur les plages et durant les batailles acharnées pour établir la tête de pont reposent dans le cimetière de guerre canadien de Beny-sur-Mer près du village de

# 44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary D-Day

continued from page 1

dressing in small pocket trousers another under the camouflage netting on the helmet. We carried a Lee Enfield or Sten gun, a bayonet and a ground sheet. Some of the skinny guys looked like Groucho Marx bent over in his famous crouch.

As we rolled and tossed over the rough water, spray drenching us, I wondered about Gen Eisenhower's line in the leaflet: "Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle hardened." Battle hardened against the seasick? My division (3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Infantry) made it up the beach, but at a price. Three hundred and forty all ranks killed, 547 wounded, 47 prisoners.

I went back to that same beach area in 1969 for CBC news to cover the 25th anniversary of the landing. I came as close as possible to the exact spot where that LST door crashed down and NCOs were screaming: "Get off the beach! Get off the beach!" Then, non-protective cover stretched from beach to infinity. It was miles. I would never make it. Twenty five years later I see the distance is about half a city block.

I talked with some of the veterans. The first Canadians in

Beviers. Pour le maire et les citoyens de Beviers, c'est un endroit spécial... comme si ceux qui y reposent étaient des leurs.

Dans ce cimetière flotte le drapeau canadien. Au printemps, les cerisiers entre les rangées de pierres tombales sont les premiers à fleurir. Des haies ornent l'entrée, et le bâtiment où l'on s'inscrit est entouré de plates-formes d'où les visiteurs peuvent admirer tout le cimetière. On se rend alors compte du talent et de la dévotion de ceux qui ont planifié et conçu ce cimetière.

Les 2 049 pierres tombales bien tenues et ordonnées se dressent fièrement sur leur bout de terrain respectif soigneusement conservé, comme si elles se préparaient à participer à un défilé longtemps oublié.

France were "C" Company, 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion. The medical officer was Dr. C.N. Breadner, "I landed in a tree and wound up with a dislocated pelvis and a broken arm. My entire combat experience lasted 20 minutes."

Maj Lorenzo Robichaud of the North Shore Regiment: "I really didn't have time to think. Men were falling...the padre stopped to help them."

Sgt Bill Watts, Royal Winnipeg Rifles: "We landed with 130. Thirty of us walked off the beach. My platoon leader was Lt Rod Beatty of Winnipeg. He is a paraplegic."

Here and there, but rarely, a touch of humor. A private from the Regina Rifles: "I was hit on the beach. Someone gave me an orange. I don't know who. Where the hell would he get an orange?"

Where indeed. We hadn't seen one for four years.

The men who fell on the beaches and in the bitter bridgehead battles are buried in Beny-Sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery near the village of Reviers. For the mayor and citizens of Reviers it is a special place. They feel that it is their own.

There the maple leaves flutter. And in the spring, cherry trees between the rows of headstones are the first to flower. Hedges decorate the entrance and flanking the registry building are platforms from which visitors can see the whole area. Such a view brings home the skill and devotion that has gone into the planning and design of this superbly tended place.

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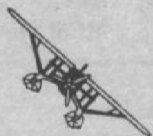
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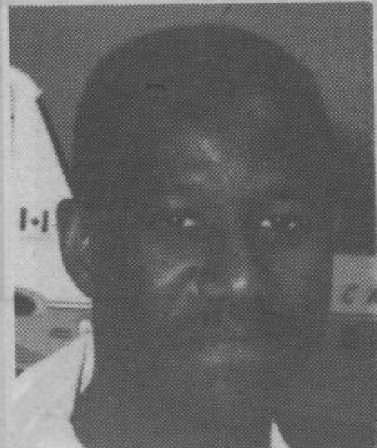
Pte Lafreniere



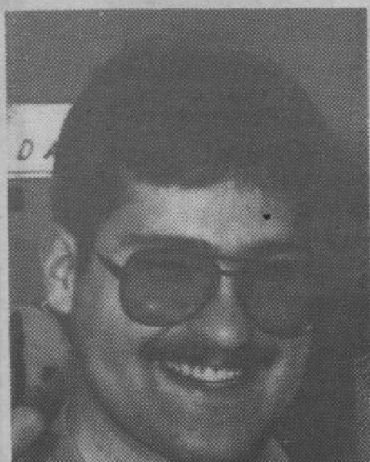
Pte Sytsma



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# BAMEO

## Farewell on posting



Sgt Denis Dupont receives his farewell BAMEO plaque from Maj Tudor on his posting to Portage.

## Promotion to Sgt

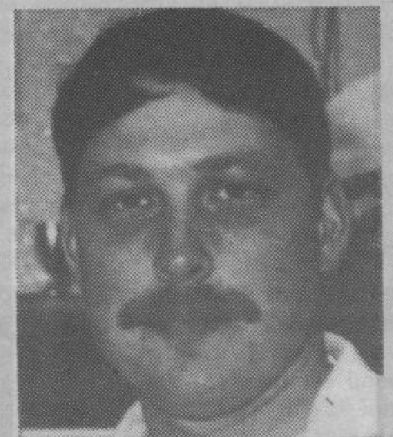


Sgt Sutherland

## MCpl Promotions



Cpl Royer

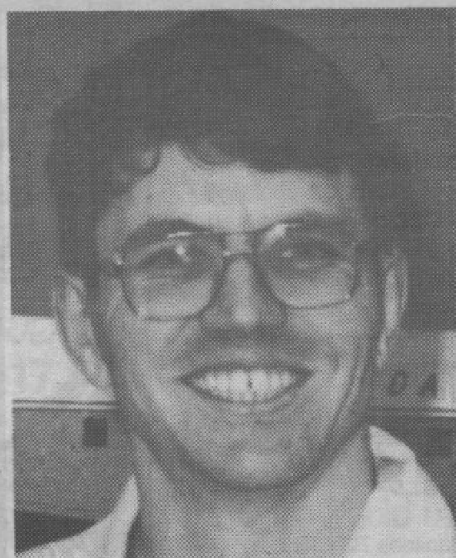


MCpl Magierowski

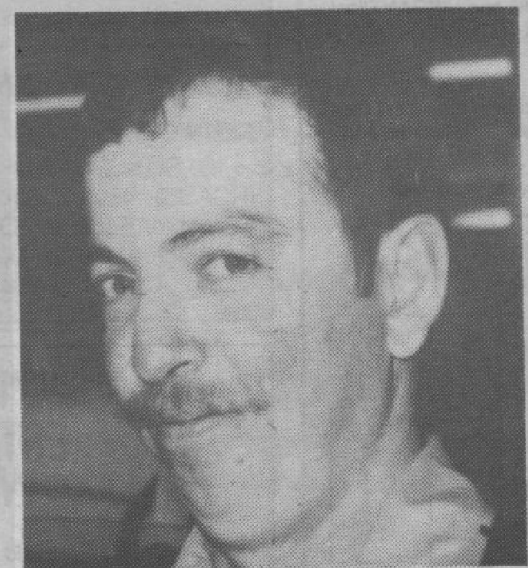


MCpl Stewart

## ATAT Excellence



Pte Jackson is all smiles as he accepts his certificate in recognition for his attaining 89% on his QL4 ATAT exam and on receiving his first hook.



Cpl Cail attained a score of 85% on his QL4 ATAT exam.

# CFS Met

## NWS #8801

QLC #8801

**Highest Academic Average**



Back Row L-R — MCpl J.E. Swanson, MWO R.D. Frosst, Sgt D. Bishop, Mr P. Dillistone (COMDT), Mr R.A. Howell (CI), Miss D. Quinn (CSO)  
Front Row L-R — Mr R. Wilson, Mr J.D. Kelly, Mr R. Rowe, Mr R. Howell

With the advent of the new North Warning System in the Canadian Arctic, the Canadian Forces School of Meteorology has been tasked with providing basic meteorological training to the civilian radar technicians who will occupy the radar sites. The initial North Warning System Weather Observer Course has recently been completed at CFSMet. The successful graduates were Mr Bob Wilson, Mr Desmond Kelly, Mr Bob Rowe and Mr Ralph Howell.

Although their primary duty is the maintenance of the radar units, the graduates are also responsible for taking weather observations in support of land and air operations.



*Certificate of Achievement* — Cpl D.D. Dunn, a recent graduate of the Meteorological Technician QL3 8801 course, received the Certificate of Achievement from LCol K.W. Doerksen, Base Administration Officer. The Certificate of Achievement is given to the student who has attained the highest academic standing on that course.

# QL6A #8801

The Meteorological Technician QL6A 8801 Course Graduation was recently held at the Canadian Forces School of Meteorology.

The graduates were MCpl S.T. Allan (CFB GOOSE BAY), MCpl W. Whitaker (CFB GREENWOOD), MCpl J.T. Grimster (CFB COLD LAKE), MCpl A.C. Black (METOC CFB HALIFAX), MCpl K.W. Rideout (CFB BADEN) and MCpl R.J. MacDonald (CFB NAMAQ). QL6A Graduates are employed throughout the Canadian Forces Weather Service as Briefers. They provide weather briefings in support of land, sea and air operations.



Back Row L-R — MWO R. Frosst, Mr L. Richard, MCpl S.T. Allan, MCpl W. Whitaker, MCpl J.T. Grimster, MCpl A.C. Black, MCpl K.W. Rideout, MCpl R.J. MacDonald, Mr S. Silver, WO B. Roy

Front Row L-R — Mr R. Howell (CI), Miss D. Quinn (CSO), Col L.H. Reynolds (BCOMD), Mr P. Dillistone (COMDT), CWO F.P. Smith (BCWO), CWO R. Hawkins (SWO)

**For Initiative**



*Congratulations* — Pte. L.S.J. Dupuis, a recent graduate of the Meteorological Technician QL3 8801 course was awarded a CFSMet plaque. The plaque was presented to Pte. Dupuis by LCol K. Doerksen in recognition of the initiative and ingenuity he displayed in the design and construction of a training aid which will assist future students in the development of their plotting speed and accuracy.

# QL3 #8801

The Meteorological Technician QL3 8801 Course Graduation was recently held at the Canadian Forces School of Meteorology.

The thirteen graduates were presented with their certificates by LCOL. K.W. Doerksen, the Base Administration Officer.

QL3 graduates are employed throughout the Canadian Forces Weather Service as weather observers in support of land and air operations.



Back Row L-R — MCpl Noseworthy, Cpl Richard, Cpl Ryan, Cpl Merrill, Cpl Blendeman, Pte Cochrane, Cpl Dunn

Middle Row L-R — Pte Marion, Pte Porter, Cpl Munteanu, Cpl Woodhouse, Pte Blanchette, Pte Fry, Pte Dupuis, MCpl Swanson

Front Row L-R — Cpl Milley, WO Demarbre, MWO Frosst, CWO Hawkins (SWO), LCol Doerksen (A/BCOMD), Mr Dillistone (Comdt), Mr Howell (CI), Miss Quinn (CSO), Sgt. Totton, Sgt Van Der Horden

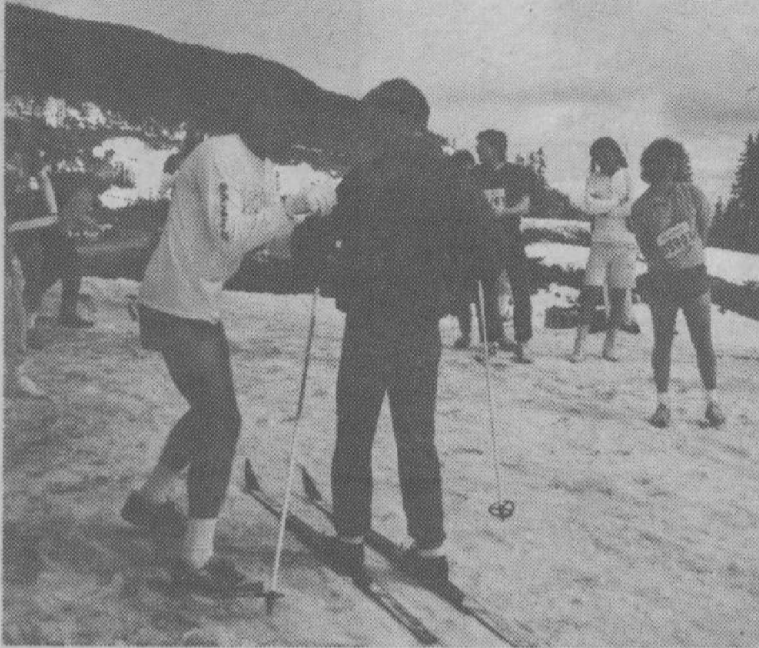
**For Excellence**



*Certificate of Merit* — Cpl. M.J.W. Milley, a recent graduate of the Meteorological Technician QL3 8801 course, received the Certificate of Merit from LCol. K.W. Doerksen. The Certificate of Merit is given to students who have excelled in all aspects of training, and who have demonstrated through attitude and leadership ability, a high potential for continuing excellence in the Meteorological Technician Trade.

# Snow to Surf Competition Comox B.C. April '88

## STAGE 1 DOWNHILL



Downhill skier, Cpl Dave Berman, hands off team armband to cross-country skier, Pte Fred Plourde, upon completion of first leg.

Once again, CFB Winnipeg was represented at the annual Snow-to-Surf Competition, held at Comox BC 24 Apr 88, by a team of nine BAMEO members. This year's competition featured 150 teams, of which ten were military. The Winnipeg entry placed 95th overall (20th in the mixed at least 3 females — category), while the AETE CFB Cold Lake team took home the Commander's trophy for the top CF team as a reward for a 21st place finish overall (18th in the men's open category).

For Winnipeg, the first relay was done by Cpl Dave "Dastardly", "Crash and Burn" Bergman. It entailed starting halfway up

the hill in ski boots, running up to the top, putting on skis, and finally, skiing down the hill.

Next, Pte Freddy "Flash" Plourde cross-country skied a hilly 7 km course before turning it over to the runners.

Two runners split the 15 km run down a rough, gravel mountain road, as Cpl Steve "the Deer" Appleton ran the first leg and Pte Gigi "Go Go" Greer ran the remainder.

From there, Cpl Lynn "Cyclone" Cheffins took over and cycled 30 km over a mountainous terrain.

The final stretch of about 7 km over water was canoed by Cpl Colleen "Are we there yet" Cap-

stick and Pte "Long" John Szabolcsi.

The team was coached and athletically supported by Sgt Ron "Send me back to Comox" Douglas. The manager/spare was Lt Horm "Are we lost yet?" Irani.

The competitiveness of the events and its associated social events, along with the cooperation of the weather, made for a lot of fun.

Hopefully, next year the Commander's trophy will end up in Winnipeg — by honest means of course.

The team wishes to acknowledge the administrative efforts of the B Per O staff, particularly Capt Peet, Sgt Piper and MCpl Woodward.

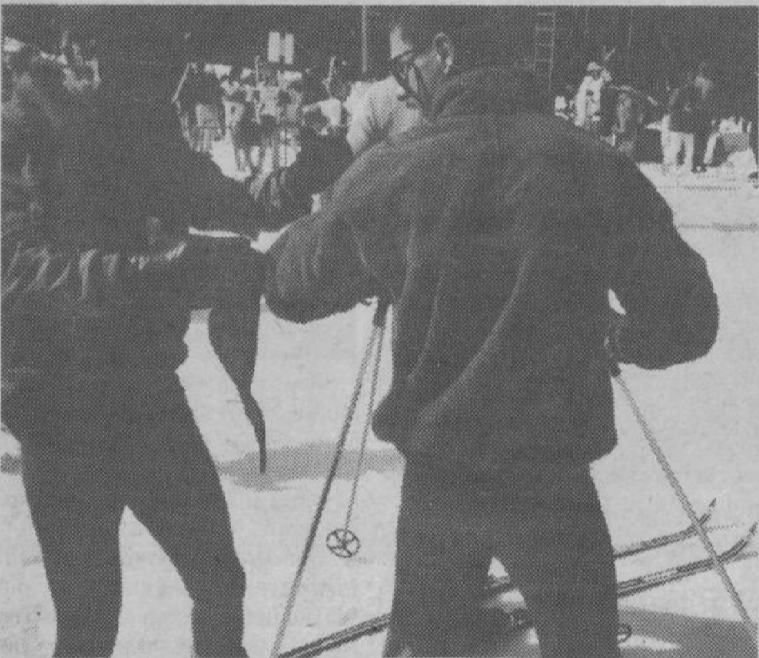
## Team Members



(Top to bottom, left to right):

Lt Irani (spare/ground support), Cpl Colleen Capstick, Cpl Steve Appleton, Pte John Szabolcsi, Pte Fred Plourde, Cpl Lynn Cheffins, Cpl Dave Bergman, Pte Gigi Greer, Sgt Ron Douglas (coach/manager).

## STAGE 2 CROSS COUNTRY



Cpl Steve Appleton seems anxious to get the armband off Pte Plourde to commence the first stage of the run.

## STAGE 3 RUN



Pte Gigi Greer starts off on the second stage of the running portion.

## STAGE 4 CYCLING



Pte Gigi Greer handing off to the cyclist Cpl Lynn Cheffins.

## STAGE 5 CANOEING



Canoeists, Pte John Szabolcsi and Cpl Colleen Capstick, steer the canoe to the finish.

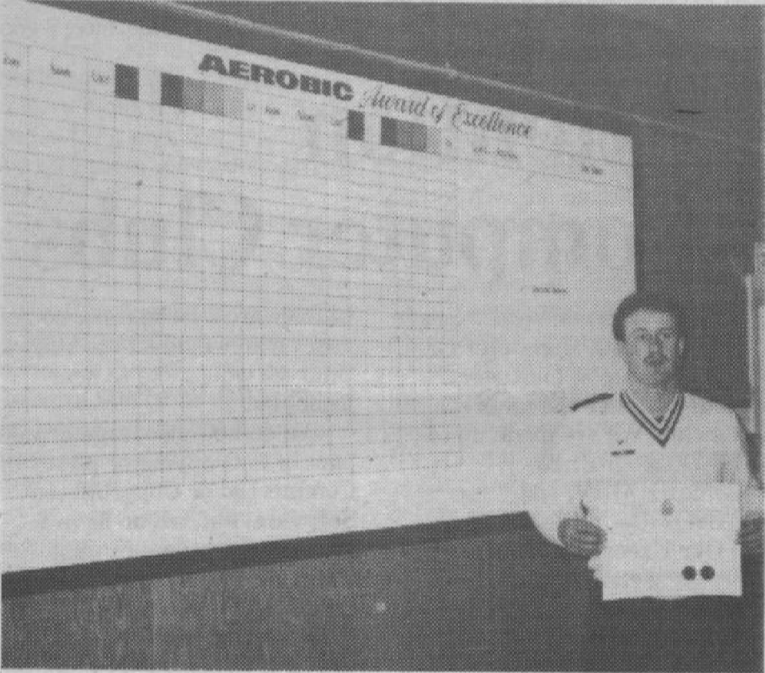


## 100 Mile Club and Aerobic Award of Excellence

If you are into Aerobic exercising this can be your incentive to keep going or join the club. What club you ask? There are two! The first one is the Aerobic Award of Excellence, details in CFAO 50-1, Annex C. Or check the new board in Bldg 90 across from the squash courts, and then check with the PERI staff. The second club is the 100 Mile Club which is designed to get the Beginners out and give them immediate goals. For example:

<b>Jogging</b>			
250 M	500 M	1000 M	1500 M
Bronze	Silver	Gold	Plaque
<b>Swimming</b>			
250 M	500 M	1000 M	1500 M
Bronze	Silver	Gold	Plaque
<b>Cross Country Skiing</b>			
250 M	500 M	1000 M	1500 M
Bronze	Silver	Gold	Plaque
<b>Cycling</b>			
250 M	500 M	1000 M	1500 M
Bronze	Silver	Gold	Plaque
<b>Rowing</b>			
250 M	500 M	1000 M	1500 M
Bronze	Silver	Gold	Plaque

If you are so inclined you can work towards both awards at the same time. Any units or mileage already attained does not count towards the 100 Mile Club. You must sign up and register with the Base gym, Bldg 90 during normal working hours. For more information call us at loc 5514 or 5511.



## Inter-section Curling season ends successfully thanks to Executive



Executive 1987/88. (L-R) WO Stan Schneider, Sgt Rod Frankum, MWO Roy Downing, MCpl Bob Graham, MCpl Gary Sutherland, MCpl Bud Burgess.

Another curling season to an end and a very successful one for the CFB Winnipeg Inter-Section Curling Club. A great deal of thanks to those personnel who made it all happen: Executive President, WO Stan Schneider, Vice-President, Rod Frankum, Treasurer MWO Roy Downing, Draw Master, Bob Graham, trophies, MCpl Gary Sutherland and finally, PERI Rep, MCpl Bud Burgess. Thanks again for an excellent program.

The final results from the Round Robin League play by divisions were as follows:

A League	Winner	DCOS MAINT
B League	Winner	BOPS
C League	Winner	CF/FP
D League	Winner	14 Trg Gp

The final Bonspiel as a climax to a great season involved all 32 teams and the results were as follows:

A Event	Winner	AMCRO	(No picture available)
B Event	Winner	DCOS MAINT	
C Event	Winner	BEME	
D Event	Winner	SSO TN	

Final presentations were made by BPSVCSO, Maj Brazeau representing the BComd of CFB Winnipeg and BPERO, Capt G. Peet. Many thanks for a great year.

## Summer 1988 — Effective 5 Jun Gym and Pool Schedule

### Lipsett Hall

GYMNASIUM			POOL		
MON	Noon Fitness	1200-1300	MON	Noon Swim	1200-1300
	Aerobics (Lounge)	1200-1245		Casual Swim	1330-1530 (July & Aug)
	Casual Rec	1800-2000		Casual Swim	1800-2000
	Aerobics 1/2 Gym	1900-2000			
TUE	Noon Fitness	1200-1300	TUE	Noon Swim	1200-1300
	Casual Rec	1800-2000		Casual Swim	1330-1530 (Jul & Aug)
WED	Noon Fitness	1200-1300		Aqua Fit	1800-1900
	Aerobic (Lounge)	1200-1245	WED	Noon Swim	1200-1300
	Casual Rec	1800-2000		Casual Swim	1330-1530 (July & Aug)
	Aerobics 1/2 Gym	1900-2000		Casual Swim	1800-2000
THU	Noon Fitness	1200-1300	THU	Noon Swim	1200-1300
	Casual Rec	1800-2000		Casual Swim	1330-1530 (July & Aug)
FRI	Noon Fitness	1200-1300		Aqua Fit	1800-1900
	Aerobics (Lounge)	1200-1245	FRI	Noon Swim	1200-1300
SAT	Casual Rec	1300-1600		Casual Swim	1330-1530 (July & Aug)
SUN	Casual Rec	1300-1600		Casual Swim	1300-1500

For further information regarding the gymnasium schedule call local 6185

### Building 90 (Westwin)

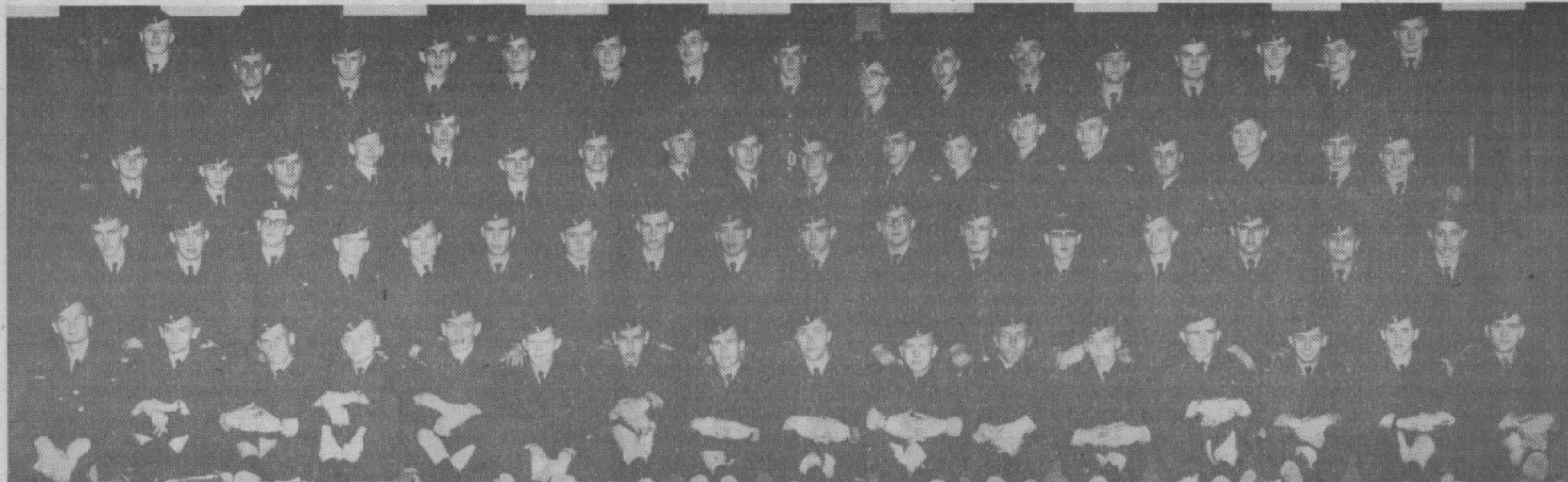
GYMNASIUM			POOL		
MON	Military Training	0730-1130	MON	Military Training	0730-1600
	Noon Fitness	1130-1300		Noon Swim	1145-1245
	Military Training	1300-1800		Casual Swim	1330-1530 (July & Aug)
	Casual Recreation	1800-2000			
TUE	Military Training	0730-1130	TUE	Military Training	0730-1600
	Noon Fitness	1130-1300		Noon Swim	1145-1245
	Military Training	1300-1800		Casual Swim	1330-1530 (July & Aug)
	Casual Recreation	1800-2000		Casual Swim	1800-1930
WED	Military Training	0730-1130		Adult Swim	1930-2000
	Noon Fitness	1130-1300		Scuba Club	2000-2100
	Military Training	1300-1800	WED	Military Training	0730-1600
	Casual Recreation	1800-2000		Noon Swim	1145-1245
THU	Military Training	0730-1130		Casual Swim	1330-1530 (July & Aug)
	Noon Fitness	1130-1300	THU	Military Training	0730-1600
	Military Training	1300-1800		Noon Swim	1145-1245
	Casual Recreation	1800-2000		Casual Swim	1330-1530 (July & Aug)
FRI	Military Training	0730-1130		Casual Swim	1800-1930
	Noon Fitness	1130-1300		Adult Swim	1930-2000
	Military Training	1300-1600		Scuba Club	2000-2100
SAT	Casual Recreation	1300-1600	FRI	Military Training	0730-1600
SUN	Casual Recreation	1300-1600		Noon Swim	1145-1245
				Casual Swim	1330-1530 (July & Aug)

NOTE: Bowling Alleys are closed during the summer months, special functions may be arranged by calling the Bowling Alley Manager at loc 6701.

For further information regarding the gymnasium schedule call loc 5511.



# RCAF Basic Training Course 5809



Proving once and for all that all airmen are good listeners, even after 30 years, members of the RCAF Basic Training Course 5809 (Mar-May 1958) pose with their ears on straight and their wedgies on every which-way.

The back row features two 14 Training Groupies before they needed bifocals; on the left end, AC2 Bob Shawcross and fifth one in from the left AC2 Garry Stuart. PER ARDUA AD ASTRA!

RCAF Photo

## 14 Training Group HQ

As Spring's gentle breezes waft over Winnipeg, it is plain to see that Manitoba and its southern neighbour North Dakota have jumped the gun and concluded their own free trade deal. We give them snow, they give us topsoil.

Leaving this lovely situation behind, more Groupies have received their marching orders.

Firstly, congratulations go out to Major Ann Logan on her promotion and subsequent posting to Toronto, where in all likelihood she will have to wash cars and take in laundry to pay the mortgage.

Cpl Ken Campbell of the Admin Staff is off to Germany for some oom pah-pah and weinerschnitzel in June.

Major Jim Fowler will climb all the way to the third floor of 16 Hangar to join the Central Flying School staff, WO Dennis Milton will slide on over to Regional Support staff and Cpl Sheila Swedberg is heading back to the Flight Line, this time here in Winnipeg.

Arguably the world's oldest Air Defence Technician, WO Garry Stuart of the Training Control Shop has received a posting so

jammy it should be typed on a slice of bread. But, let me digress a bit. For the uninitiated, an Air Defence Tech is trained to sit behind a radar set and guide fighter planes toward an interception with an intruder. Apparently, Garry was the one who pointed Billy Bishop in the direction of the Red Baron and he did it with binoculars and smoke signals. And now all this talent and experience is about to keep the continent safe and sound for the next four years, as Garry and Marg pack up for a posting to NORAD HQ in Colorado Springs. A great posting and it couldn't happen to better people, after 30 years of hitting just about every little radar outpost on the Pinetree Line and the DEW Line.

So far, the only newcomer is Capt Dave Lawe to the Training Development Section, having escaped from Base Headquarters and the smoking typewriter of the Base Training Administrator. Welcome to the Big Sombrero's gang, Sir.

Ace Training Controller Big

Bad John Stevens will be sporting Master Warrant Officer badges as he and Linda and family head for Cold Lake in July.

It's time to pick on Navigators again.

They are a strange breed indeed. No doubt they are praised by their fellow crew members if they manage to direct the Pilot of their aerodyne to its intended destination at the approximate intended time. More often than not, however, they are objects of scorn and malicious gossip. Which is why Aurora Pilots study zoology and some Navigators reclassify as Training Development Officers.

The Staff Officer Navigator Training at 14 Trg Gp HQ is Maj Chuck Verge, who has more Navigator stories than Winnipeg has pizza restaurants.

For example, he tells of the days many, many years ago when he was a student here at Winnipeg.

They used to drone around the prairies in Expeditor aircraft using grain elevators as check-

points. This was fairly simple since every small hamlet has its name painted in big letters on the side of the elevator.

On one particular training mission, the Pilot asked, "What's our position, Verge?"

"We just passed UGG, Saskatchewan, Sir," replied our

fledgling. Strange name it was. It appears that he had read the initials of the United Grain Growers off the wrong side of the grain elevator. Our Major got his wings anyhow, and learned a valuable lesson that day. Always read the side of the elevator closest to the railway tracks. Very elementary.



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80 Dodge Omni, 2-dr, AT, 1.7 litre, new paint, good cond. Ph 257-2022.

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LOST & FOUND: One Winnie-the-Pooh swimming pool with slide. Last seen by baseball field North side gym. Reward offered. Ph 832-9534.

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 **Misc. For Sale**

FOR SALE — Smith Corona Electric Typewriter, picnic bench, barbecue gas tank, children's spring rocking horse, custom built sandbox 4' x 4' includes 9 bags of play sand, booster seat, assorted books and clothes.) Ph 489-5398

FOR SALE — White picket fence, 225' with hardware. \$350 OBO. Wooden shed 8' x 10' with window. \$300. Ph 837-2931

100 ft — 4 ft vinyl chainlink with top rails. \$235.00. Available 1 Jul. Ph. 889-7196 after 5:00 pm


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73 Lionel tent trailer, hard-top, sleeps 6, \$1,000 OBO. Ph. 832-2115.

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**JULY AND AUGUST**

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**THE CHAPEL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**  
0900 hrs — Eucharist (ACC)  
1000 hrs — Regular Sunday Service

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 **Mary Berchard**

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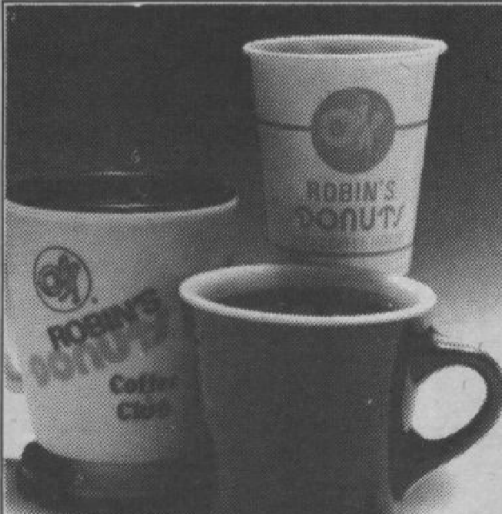
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