

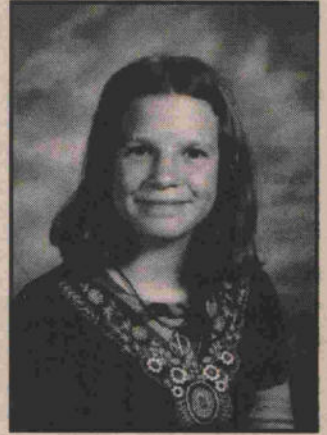
The VOXAIR

Vol. 47, Issue 7

17 Wing Winnipeg / 17e Escadre Winnipeg

April 14, 1999 / FREE

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Lana M. Hunstad

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The VOXAIR

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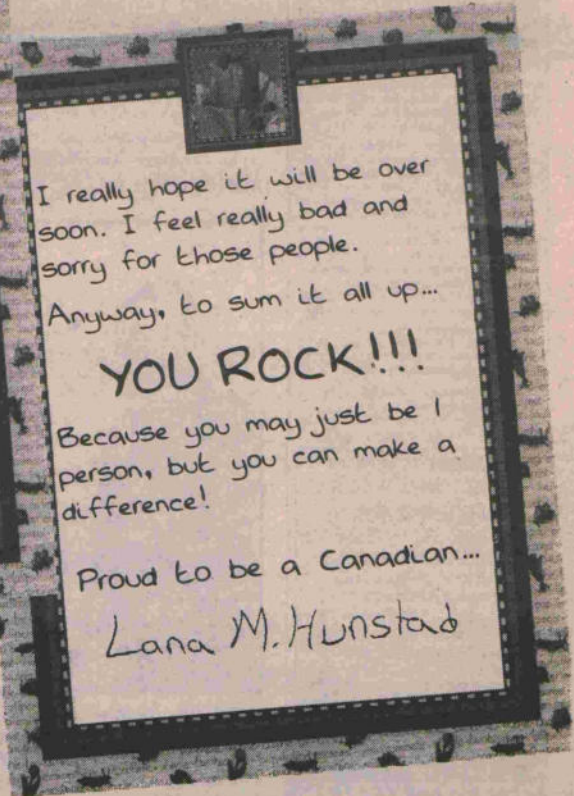
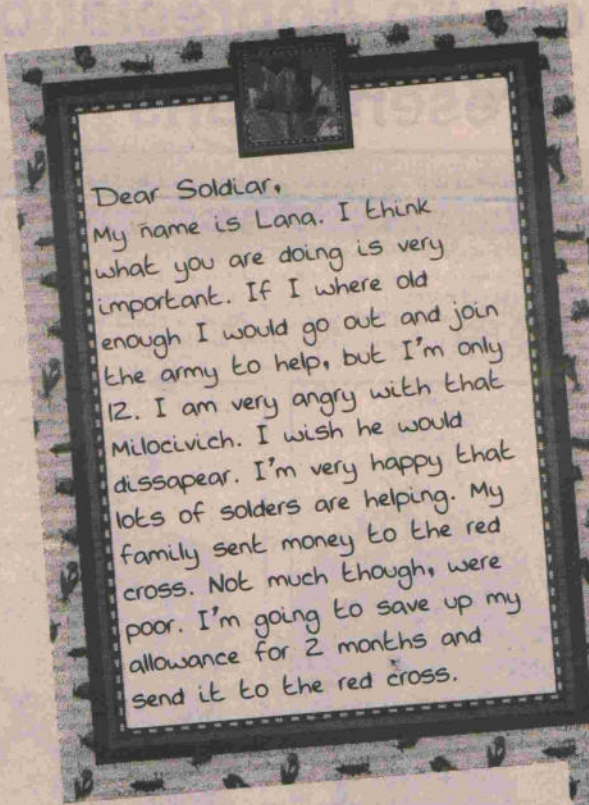
Approximately 600 people partook in a BBQ and a display in the name of energy conservation

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VOXVIEWS

Bringing Home the Bacon

By Major CM Walton-Simm
Managing Editor

The recently announced pay raise for members of the Canadian Forces (CF) couldn't have come at a better time for Canada's economic front. Of particular significance was the large increase in pay rates for Privates and Lieutenant's/Second Lieutenant's, as it represents a positive step towards ensuring all members of the CF receive remuneration that provides an acceptable standard of living.

Over the past thirty years Canadians have witnessed the end to the social contract. Between 1951 and 1976, average family incomes more than doubled, discounting the effects of inflation.

However, family incomes stagnated in the 1980's, and in the 1990's, average incomes have been mostly on the decline.

Canadian families have adopted two key survival strategies to offset the market-driven changes in their incomes: working longer hours and women working more and more outside the home. Both these strategies, however, are reaching their limits. Despite the extra work effort and the growing wealth this nation produces, an increased proportion of families are falling behind.

Although statistics show modest improvements in unemployment rates, most provinces have a significant problem with providing adequate jobs

to their populations. The number of Canadians in need of food banks more than doubled between 1989 and 1997, according to a survey conducted by the Canadian Association of Food Banks (CAFB). In March 1989, a total of 329,000 people used food banks, rising to 669,000 in March 1997.

But it's not just about how much you make. It's also about how much you have to spend. Canadians are continuously hit, from every angle, with increases in living expenses, from taxes, housing, and utilities to general goods and services. Just keeping a step ahead of inflation has become impossible for most. In addition, Canada's social wage is

also under attack. Public provision of education, health, social housing, libraries, recreation centres, public transportation and clean environments are increasingly scaled back or made more costly to the 'consumer' in the interests of debt management.

The tide may be turning, on both market outcomes and the degree to which the government(s) are willing to counteract the loss of economic security many Canadians have experienced over the last few years. DND civilians are seeing some increases in their wages and now the military has been provided with an increase in remuneration, both steps in the right direction.

Quality of Life Appreciation Awards Presentations

MCpl Maschio and MCpl Shrewsbury were nominated by their unit (435 Squadron) for their dedicated professionalism which was demonstrated in the large task of developing a qualifying technical trade exam which is used to qualify all 500 series

trade technicians. MCpl Maschio and MCpl Shrewsbury came up with the idea of making two open book qualifying exams, they also came up with a bank of 312 questions from the 11 policy CFTOs which can be used to vary the exams.

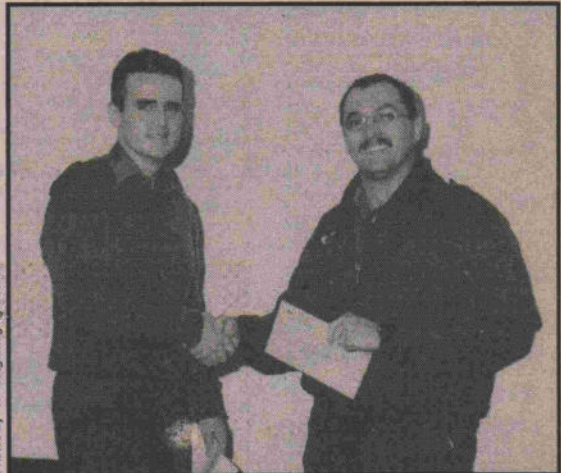
Due to a constraint time frame much of the research had to be carried out on their own time. Presently 13 Air Force units across Canada utilize the exams to qualify their technicians.

Members of 435 Squadron felt this noteworthy accomplishment

by these two dedicated MCpls made a significant contribution to a large part of the Air Force and as such they were both awarded with \$200.00.



Cpl Mike Dutcher, Quality of Life working group member, presents a \$200.00 Appreciation Award to MCpl M.R. Maschio, 435 Squadron, on behalf of the 17 Wing Quality of Life Working Group. MCpl Maschio was one of three winners for November 1998.



Cpl Mike Dutcher, Quality of Life working group member, presents a \$200.00 Appreciation Award to MCpl S.P. Shrewsbury, 435 Squadron, on behalf of the 17 Wing Quality of Life Working Group. MCpl Shrewsbury was one of three winners for November 1998.

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The Supply Line

By Major D.L. Miller
W Sup O

Wing Supply was just recently put through a 1 CAD SAV. That's a SAV not a SIEVE. SAV is just another one of those acronyms I forgot to mention several articles ago. It stands for Staff Assistance Visit. 1 CAD/A4 Log has just resurrected the long dormant SAV visit.

Back many moons ago, Air Command SAVs were called Supply Audit Visits and it certainly felt like you were being put through a sieve. SAVs were very scaarry events and the preparation by a unit was incredible. Those three letters individually meant nothing but put them together and you managed to strike fear into heart of even the most astute Supply Tech.

Usually Air Command advised the unit it was coming on such and such a date. The visit was normally scheduled well in advance and was part of Air Command's master plan. Then the preparation began in earnest. It was always helpful if some senior NCO knew someone on the visit team and was able to get a copy of the checklist. Once we had the checklist, it was just a matter of going through it

and ensuring we were compliant in every aspect. But then the SSO Sup wasn't born yesterday and usually by the time the team showed up at your Supply section they had added, deleted, and amended the checklist in some form or another. Just when you thought you knew... fear strikes again.

Well, I don't really remember any Base Supply getting off without a 20 - 25 page SAV report. The team was thorough in the areas that would "send you to jail" and could be "reasoned" within some of the lesser areas. And in the space of one nerve racking week, a team of 10 - 12 had come and gone.

That was then, this is now. When 1 CAD decided to resurrect the SAV, Supply Assistance Visit, in the fall of 97, they soon realized that things in Supply had changed. In general the overall rules and regulations had changed but more importantly the actual Supply Section had changed to meet the needs of those they supported. Basically no two 1 CAD supply sections were the same in their structure - you could not take the organization template of old and put it over the "new" Supply

Squadron. As 17 Wing Supply was handy (no TD costs involved), they used us as the guinea pig for their new SAV checklist as well as a resource to ascertain "just what has happened over time?" and "how is business being conducted now?". We were most pleased to walk them through new procedures and explain the new world.

17 Wing Supply was the fifth Squadron to be SAV'd by the 1 CAD team. While we did well, like all "audits" if you can't find something keep digging until you do. They did manage to find a few things that we will remedy and do better in the future. For Supply, a SAV is no different than an AMIT for Air Maintenance or an ATI for Land Maintenance - it's an opportunity to "open our kimonos and show the CAD our warts"

Here at Wing Supply we view the SAV as an opportunity to show the CAD what we've done and what we are doing. If in the process we find out some modification is necessary or there is perhaps a better way to do it, we'll consider it. The bottom line is customer support. In the world of ordinary service, thank heavens there's Wing Supply.

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THE FLYER

Volume 2, Issue 2

March 1999

8 AMS (TRENTON) SQUADRON WAY AHEAD

When General Dequetteville started this program he had a vision that Flight Plan for Life was going to become a way of life for his personnel. He was absolutely right and by reading this article you will see that his vision lives. In 1996, 8 AMS personnel identified, through a survey, many dissatisfactions within the squadron. The seed was planted. From there a Sqn Way Ahead initiative was started to plot the Squadron's course of action and one of its decisions was to group these dissatisfactions into Quality of Life Categories. This eventually led to the creation of an Impact committee composed of NCM's with a mandate to focus on addressing Quality of Life Issues. Their Mission was to address and help resolve, in a timely fashion, all Sqn Quality Of Life Issues/Concerns through sound recommendations to the Sqn Council. Their Vision was to provide a focal point for NCM's to express themselves, to promote innovative solutions to problems, to provide recommendations on Sqn policies, to provide feedback, to provide support for process improvements and look for ways to improve morale. From these visions came guidelines for Quality Of Life Issues such as personnel and technical development. It also included such things as job satisfaction, fairness, and accountability at all levels, work rest facility and responsibility and loyalty. The members of this committee hold the rank of CPL to MWO and are elected by the personnel in their respective section. The Committee members appoint the Committee Leader. As you can see, a dream that started in 1996 became a reality and is in place to stay and live on. We cannot go back, we simply can only go forward. Thank you Gen Dequetteville and congratulations to 8 AMS for all your accomplishments. Lately 8 AMS constructed state of the art work stations for their maintenance crews and believe me they are extremely proud of it. FPFL works if we want to make it work.

RUMOUR IN 14 WING GREENWOOD

The rumor is finally confirmed 14 Wing Greenwood will be turning in their 1941-built "Recreational Centre" for a new and improved "Fitness and Sports Centre." The schedule calls for construction to begin in the spring of 1999 with completion by the spring of 2000.

The new "Fitness and Sports Centre" will be a standard gym including the following items: a multi-purpose room, an elevated running track, a Weight Room, a Cardio Room, three Squash Courts, two Evaluation Rooms, Family and Gender Specific Change Rooms, a Sports Store, a 25 meter/8 lane pool, a wading pool with a family slide and various staff administrative areas.

We are overjoyed with the prospect of having a modern, functional facility, complete with efficient storage space, cleaning rooms, circulation routes and viewing areas that will go a long way to enhancing the Quality of Life of the folks who live and work at 14 Wing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- FPFL Working Group meeting will be held at 16 Wing (Borden) from 26 to 28 Apr 99.
- The Government will make its response to the issues tabled in the SCONDVA report, which are relevant to the CF, by Spring 99.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For the details on all FPFL issues see your Wing CWO. We are now on our new Web Page sites. You can now find us via the DND Intranet at: <http://131.134.112.25/cas/fpfl> or http://airforce.dwan.dnd.ca/cas/fpfl/intro_e.asp. Our Internet address is also up and running at: www.vcds.dnd.ca/cas/fpfl/intro_e.asp. We also have an Internet email: ad927@issc.debbs.ndhq.dnd.ca or DND Intranet email: OCdt K_Lowe@D_Air_PM_S.

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Neil Bissoondath - *A L'Aube des lendemains Precaires*.

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English Fiction: Lilian Jackson Braun, John Grisham, Dean Koontz, L.E. Modesitt, Nicholas Sparks.

Non-fiction in English:
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Martin Yate - *Knock 'em dead 1999*, & *Resumes That Knock*

'em Dead. Gary Fichette & John Alton & Kathleen Aldridge - *Where to go When the Bank Says NO*.

Children Books in English:
K.A. Applegate, Joanna Cole, Yvette Edmonds, Mary Pope Osborne, Sheree Fitch, Adelle Dueck, Lesley Choyce, Michele Martin Bossley, and Betty Fitzpatrick Dorion.

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Energy BBQ 1999

By MWO M. Nobbs

Spring has sprung and the grass has riz...or at least so it seemed at Building 21 on the 12th of March. That was when the smell of hamburgers and hot-dogs cooking on the old "Bar-b" wafted throughout the gymnasium. Approximately six hundred people filtered in throughout the lunch hour on Friday to take in the displays, games, prizes and of course the succulent morsels of culinary magnificence. I can speak in this manner because I was roped into being a cook so of course the grub was exceptional. There were several people involved in putting this awareness campaign together and a little later I will list them in no particular order, only because they were all so important. I do want to extend our thanks to the companies that provided assistance by setting up some exceptional displays, capturing the attention of the hungry crowd. They were General Electric, Manitoba Hydro,

Midwest Engineering and MCW ERS.

With the help of MCW Energy Reduction Services Ltd personnel, ESCO personnel and some impromptu volunteers we were able to present an inspiring display in the name of energy conservation. I want to mention at this time that if we hadn't received assistance from some of the 17 Wg cleaning staff, in particular Paul, Bev and Linda we would still be separating and cooking up hamburgers today! They jumped in and were saviors. Thank you.

Now our host Mr. Dave Peacock carried off this first ever energy BBQ and I think he has started something. It was well received and I want to pass on our appreciation to all of you who took time from

your busy schedules to come out and take a peek, and for your patience with the line up. Along with good food, good company and good info we also had several good prizes. The following are the winners of prizes donated by Honeywell, Seimens, Landis Division, Commercial Lighting Supplies, General Electric, Manitoba Hydro and MCW ERS Ltd. Congratulations! Ginger Pennington, Teresa Rupa, Audrey Gelineau, Linda Woodard, Stewart Bowe, Marc Durette,

Michal Bodnar, Marje McGowan, Benoit Bisson, Jill Boychuk, Mike Bartel-Ens, Regina Gallant, Maria Bamforth, Marc Michaud, Jack Simpson, Eric Hine, Dwight Smith, Jim Ventnor, Melissa Hebert, Kim Komosky, Robert Sullivan, Dan Crete, Karen Elson, Peter Cross, Scott Edwards, Ron Strong, Nancy Whalen, Norman Mayo, Rick Krcadinac, Joe Buckle, Wanda Moyer, Maj Young, Lorraine Goudie, Richard Cummings, Dale Mintenko, D. Sinclair and Harry Jackson. The winner of the Manitoba Hydro draw

was CWO B. Tremblay.

For those of you who don't believe in wasting food you will be happy to know we were able to donate some 400 or so hotdogs and hamburgers with buns and condiments to Winnipeg Harvest. So everyone benefited from MCW hospitality.

And now, last but not least, thanks to the hosts of the first annual Energy BBQ. They were... MCW-ERS: Mr. Dave Peacock (Wpg), Mr. Colin Rabnett (Tor), Ms Janet Williams (Tor) and Mr. Ian Sinclair (Tor).

See you all next year!



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'WHO' says

By Captain M. J. Rozak,
17 Wing Heritage Office

The Second Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, has the distinction (some may say pleasure) of being the only regular force army unit housed on an airforce base. Most people would find that rather odd and wonder what they could possibly have in common with those of us who wear the light blue. The rest of this article, guest written by Captain Norman White, a PPCLI officer serving at the recruiting centre, explains the connection.

From the Ground Up

Like the mythical Phoenix rising in youthful freshness from the fire that consumed it, so did the RCAF begin. As the RCAF celebrates 75 years of existence in 1999, a look back at its origin is most revealing. An often untold part of our military heritage, the early knights of the air, that would later become the Royal Canadian Air Force, rose literally from the carnage and hell that was trench warfare during World War I. A good majority of those early pilots were in fact soldiers first.

In the photo are two of those soldier/pilots. The Captain, (with the moustache), is Freddy McCall. A Calgarian, Frederick R. McCall went overseas in 1916, as a member of the 175th Calgary Regiment, (Infantry). In 1917 he became a qualified pilot and in the last year of the war racked up an astonishing 37 aircraft downed and two balloons, (balloons were used to spot artillery on to our troops and therefore very important that they be destroyed). Captain McCall was inducted into the Distinguished Service Order and awarded the Military Cross, (with bar) and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

The other pilot is Lieutenant William (Bill) Gillespie. Both were pilots in the 41st Squadron, stationed in France. Of particular note are the collar insignias Lt. Gillespie is wearing. They are the "Marguerites" of the famous Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, (PPCLI). The PPCLI were the last privately raised Regiment in the British Empire. They were raised by a Montreal business man and soldier Andrew Hamilton Gault. A veteran of the Beer War in South Africa, Captain Gault raised the regiment and asked the then Governor General of Canada, The Duke of Connaught, if the regiment could bear the name of his lovely daughter, Princess Patricia. Not only did they both agree to this honourable relationship, Princess Patricia hand titched the most prized of regimental artifacts, the original Camp Colour, "The tic-A-Dam-Doo" This maroon ilk flag, bordered in gold, flies t its center, in a royal blue circle, the Royal Signet of Her Royal Highness, Princess

Patricia, granddaughter of Queen Victoria, the initials VP, for Victoria Patricia. Torn through by bunets and ripped by shrapnel the Camp Colour was carried into battle, lost and then recovered.

The Patricias were the first regiment to carry their Camp Colours into battle and they were the only Canadian unit to see active combat in France, in 1914. (The Medical Corp was there also doing valiant service, as we will see). The Patricias were also the first unit to wear unit insignias on their shoulders titles, a tradition adopted by most Commonwealth nations, then others.

Bill Gillespie was enlisted in 1916, as a member of the 5th McGill Company. McGill University had a Regimental connection with Captain Gault in that he attended classes there in 1899. After the "Originals" were slaughtered in battle, their replacements were drawn from Canadian universities. Bill Gillespie was one of those replacements. As a Private soldier Bill Gillespie was badly wounded at the battle of Fleurs Courcelette. So badly was he wounded that after the battle, while in the cellar of a French farmhouse, he was given up as dead. Then, like a bad scene out of a Monty Python skit, he twitched while being thrown on the dead cart and someone quipped, "this one's still alive". Private Gillespie was sent to a rest station and given a blood transfusion. While recovering, recruiters from the very new and novel Flying Corps came about looking for volunteers to become pilots of the "flying machines". Private Gillespie thinking that it had to be better than spending the war up to your knees in mud, covered with lice and people shooting at him, agreed to become a pilot.

After graduating from pilot training in October of 1917, Lt Gillespie became an "Ace" in his own right with five "kills" to his claim. His fame however came from bringing down the first FoMcer Dr. 1 Tri-Plane intact. The Tri-Plane is the version made famous by Baron Manfred Von Richtoffen, "The Red Baron". The official account of the incident is that



the two pilots were above a French airfield, locked in combat, when one ran out of ammunition while the other's guns jammed, Lt Gillespie took out his flare pistol and motioned for the German to land. Considering that aircraft of that time were made of canvas, painted with a highly flammable resin called "dope", stretched over wood and held together by wire, the German pilot made the wise decision and landed. The French were ecstatic and awarded Lt Gillespie the French Croix de Guerre avec Palme" for his historic accomplishment.

The romantic version of the story then says that Lt Gillespie and the German pilot, in true chivalrous fashion, went off to Paris for four days leave after their historic battle.

Towards the end of the War the Allies were fairly confident of victory so the true "War Heroes" like Freddy McCall were sent home. Obviously the taking of thirty plus lives takes its toll on even the best warriors. Freddy McCall would have undoubtedly been suffering from immense stress. Lt Gillespie a "Hero" in his own right was sent back along with Captain McCall to ensure he arrived home in proper form. They were both in Calgary on Armistice Day, November 11th, 1918.

After the WWI, Lt. Gillespie worked as a teacher and a grain buyer. When WWII broke out he once again enrolled in the active force. Serving 1st as a pilot instructor he worked at the Number 1 Initial Training school in Toronto, then ferried

aircraft across Canada for the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. He then served at the Air Observer School in Edmonton and the Number 2 Wireless School in Calgary.

Most Patricias and Royal Canadian Air Force Pilots don't realize they are linked by the souls of men like Lt. Gillespie. Bill Gillespie was also later the President of the PPCLI Association Edmonton, as a pilot!

Strangely enough the Royal Flying Corps, from which the Royal Canadian Air Force evolved, finds its roots firmly entrenched in the mud and debris that was WWI. The gentlemen Knights of the Air", came often from soldiers of the trenches of France and Belgium. They literally came, "from the ground up". If the story could be any stranger, tying one of Canada's most famous infantry regiments to the modern Airforce it is this; Lt. Gillespie's log book reads on the front, "Royal Naval Air Service". Lest We Forget.VP

Captain
Norman A. White
3rd Generation Patricia

An interesting tale that just goes to prove that truth is stranger than fiction. While Lt. Gillespie was certainly one of the first Patricias to move over to the Air Force he definitely wasn't the last. Several people on the Wing, yours truly included, began their military careers with that honoured regiment.

Freddy McCall, by the way,

was one of Canada's top Aces and became a "barnstormer" after the war, earning his living taking fair goers up for a ride in his aeroplane or doing aviation stunts.

Heritage Trivia:
What post-war event caused the Calgary Herald to remark on McCall's "daring aviation, quick thinking, and pluck.?"

Hint: It happened within two years of the war ending.

Last issue's trivia question was "What was the original address of 17 Wing?"

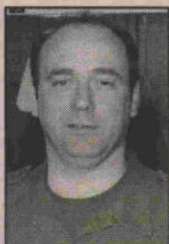
The answer is 122 Carleton St., Winnipeg, Manitoba. This was the site of the "Mansion", the building occupied by 17 Wing when it was formed in the fifties. 17 Wing was originally the administrative headquarters for Auxiliary Air Force units at RCAF Station Winnipeg. The site is now occupied by the government parking lot south of the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

Send your answers to today's trivia question to Wing Heritage Officer, 17 Wing Winnipeg, PO Box 17000, Stn Forces, Winnipeg, MB, R3J 3Y5. All correct answers will be entered into a draw for a free copy of "Wings Magazine" special commemorative edition celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the RCAF. Please, one entry only per person. The first draw will take place 30 Jun 99. Answers to last issue's trivia question will not be accepted after today.

VOXHEADS

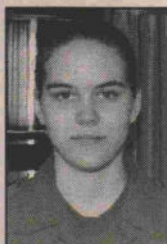
QUESTION: What do you think of the response to last week's SCONDVA report and how does it affect you?

Sgt Keith Bryne
17 Svcs Battalion
Maintenance Platoon



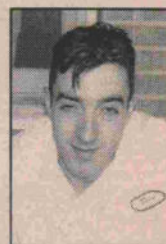
It's a good improvement, we needed it. It's about time we get recognized more for what we do.

Pt Sherry Beard
Minto Armory



It's just great! I'll enjoy the pay raise and I know if something happens down the road I'll have some money there to rely on. We have to start treating our troops a little better.

Cpl Dave Burry
WFoods



It should have been done a long time ago. We're the lowest paid government employees. We certainly deserve it. It'll give people a morale boost.

2Lt Tamara Ravenwood
CFANS



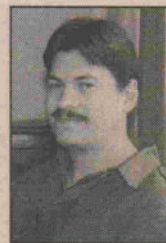
We deserve to be brought to par with the rest of the world. However, I wonder if there was some other initiatives they could have used to give more disposable income without coming up with big funds such as reducing expenses when moving to another province, not having to pay PST and GST on what we buy to our own supply, etc.

Cpl Carie Prytulak
1 Air Movement Sqn



We've got a lot more than we expected. That's great that they'll look into the PMQ issue: They're old, they need to be insulated and to be fixed. Injured members deserve that we look after their needs.

Cpl Lloyd Bowman
435 ASO Section



Nowadays, there is more and more lower ranks with dependants so that will certainly help them but I think we should get a lower increase every year instead of one big amount. Everything else will keep increasing and we will get behind again in a few years. Also, they should look into raise per location i.e. B.C. compared to Ontario.

Around the Canadian Forces

Did you know...

06 Apr 99 - Report Says Helicopter Engines Are Unreliable

Coverage notes that a report on the safety of Canada's Labrador helicopters reveals that the engines have been "unreliable, forcing at least 70 missions to be aborted in the last decade." It was also noted that recent upgrades to the helicopters have made them safer. The report is said to state that engine problems were responsible for 4 of every 10 aborted missions of the Labrador helicopter. It was mentioned that the Air Force plans to install improved engines on all 30 aging Sea Kings beginning this year. It was also reported that the Defence Department has ordered 15 replacements for the Labradors, with first deliveries to start in 2001 (NP A4, G&M A6, TStar A11, Gaz A13 - 3 April).

07 Apr 99 - Axworthy Proposes NATO Meeting

Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy has called for a meeting of NATO foreign ministers to explore the possibility of a diplomatic solution to the Balkan conflict following the rejection by the cease-fire offer. Axworthy said that Canada believes such a meeting is necessary to assess the war effort to date. He said the "problems that we are facing is the actions that are going on in Kosovo by the government there are so extreme, so severe, that it is very hard to look at a negotiation under those circumstances". He expressed the hope that NATO may be able to "find a way to get protection back to the people of Kosovo, having their rights protected, having a withdrawal of forces..." Axworthy suggested that Albanian leader Ibrahim Rugova be allowed to participate (NP A12).

07 Apr 99 - Canadian -Albanian Community Offers Help

Canada's tiny ethnic Albanian community is organizing volunteers to help at the four Canadian Forces bases which will accept refugees. Ahmet Jakupi, president of the Canadian-Albanian National Congress said his group will try to form a delegation to join Canadian officials in the Balkans to help select refugees (G&M A2).

07 Apr 99 - Russia Cuts Military Links with Canada

In protest of Canadian participation in the NATO bombing raids, Russia has withdrawn army officers who are studying in Canada and has cancelled trips to Russia by Canadian military officials (Ctz A7).

08 Apr 99 - Kosovo Crisis: Use of Ground Troops

Defence Minister Art Eggleton yesterday opened the door to Canadian ground troops being sent to Kosovo even if NATO air attacks do not force Slobodan Milosevic to agree to the presence of peacekeeping troops in the province. They said that Mr. Eggleton attempted to play this down, describing it as a matter of military prudence "to look at all possible options" in the situation. Following a special federal cabinet meeting on the Kosovo crisis, Mr. Eggleton said that "The use of ground troops has always been a part of the plan". The Minister underlined that NATO hopes to bring the Yugoslav government to the peace table, and, "on that basis, for ground troops to then go in to ensure the security of the people of Kosovo". Mr. Eggleton said if this is not possible, "military planners and the Canadian military are in the course of looking at other options as to when ground troops might be involved". Mr. Eggleton affirmed that NATO's strategy has not changed: "We have one plan and that plan is the air campaign". Prime Minister Jean Chrétien was reported to have said there is no doubt ground troops will be needed at some point. The PM said, "As to the political situation that will prevail at that time...(of course) it was the Rambouillet

solution which is still the objective that we have got in mind, even if it does have to be modified to a certain extent". The report said that Chrétien will travel to Bagotville, Quebec, to welcome back the first group of military personnel returning from duty in the bombing campaign. Lt.-Gen. Ray Henault emphasized that it is "prudent" for military planners to consider their options, "so that if we get a request (from NATO) to reconsider the force options that we have already put together, we are able to make some credible and well-documented recommendations to governments and answer the call that NATO makes to us". U.S. Major-General Charles Wald said in Washington that there are no plans to use ground troops except to enforce a peace settlement (Ctz A1, G&M A1, NP A1, OSun 11, TSun 4, Gaz B1, TStar A1).

08 Apr 99 - NATO Air Campaign in Yugoslavia

NATO estimates that a ground invasion would require as many as 200,000 troops and would require three months of planning before it could begin, which would allow the Serb forces to plant thousands of landmines. David Rudd, executive director of the Canadian Centre for Strategic Studies, predicted there would be high casualties resulting from such an operation. In his opinion, the time for talking about ground troops was four or five months ago, "but NATO, particularly the Americans, messed up" by threatening Milosevic with air strikes (Ctz A3).

08 Apr 99 - Canadian Action on Refugees

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien yesterday confirmed that the Kosovo Albanians who come to Canada will have the right to remain in this country. The PM also asked Canadians to welcome the exiles into their communities rather than have them live on military bases. He told reporters that the refugees would first be received into military establishments, but expressed the hope that "they will be able to move from there". He said requests are being received from cities, organizations and private citizens who want to receive them and help them find a better life in Canada. He added that Canada will help those refugees who want to return home to Kosovo to do so when the conflict has ended. Toronto refugee lawyer Sharyn Aiken welcomed the PM's remarks, and expressed relief that "more attention is being paid to the rights of the refugees themselves to choose" (G&M A5, NP A1, TSun 48).

17 Wg Ops Situation Report 22 March 99 - 28 March 99

OPERATION	COUNTRY	PERS DEPL
Op Calumet	Egypt	3
Op Danaca	Golan Heights	6
Op Echo	Italy	2
Op Guarantor	Macedonia	2
Op Kayak	Kumanovo	2
Op Palladium	Bosnia	4
Op Prudence	Central Africa	1
CFS Alert	NWT, Canada	5
1 CAD/Indiv Tasking*		5
TOTAL PERS DEPLOYED		30

* Indiv Tasking: Dundum (1), Entertainment Show Tours (1)

1 Air Mov Sqn Presentations

By Major J.R. Boucher
1 Air Mov Sqn 2344

On Thursday 18 March 1998, 35 members of 1 Air Movements Squadron formed up for the Squadron's annual parade. The

Wing Commander, Col Watt, was the Reviewing Officer and he presented the Special Service Medal (SSM) to six members of the Squadron for their contribution to OP ASSURANCE. This mission consisted of providing humanitari-

an relief to several organizations within Rwanda and Tanzania. In addition, WO Hank Snow was presented the Wing Commander's Commendation for his outstanding contribution in support of the Wing Chief Warrant Officer's

Office. WO Snow is departing Winnipeg for Halifax. An early posting season also brought other Squadron members departures: Capt Priestman (EA W Comd), WO McIsaac (release), Sgt Pelletier (437 Sqn), Sgt Robert

(4 CFMCU), and MCpl Marin (435 Sqn). The Squadron welcomes its two newest members: Sgt Fougere (Petawawa) and MCpl Flint (435 Sqn).



Above: Col Watt, escorted by 2Lt Wray, inspects members of 1 Air Movements Squadron while the commanding Officer, Maj Boucher, follows



Above: Col Watt, assisted by the WCWO, CWO Smith, presents the W Comd's Commendation to WO Snow for his outstanding work in support of the WCWO's office.



Above: Cpl Fraser receives the SSM - Humanitas - from the W Comd, Col Watt.



Above: Cpl Carr receives the SSM - Humanitas - from the W Comd, Col Watt.



Above: Cpl Mallet-Leyte receives the SSM - Humanitas - from the W Comd, Col Watt.



Above: Cpl MacNeil receives the humanitas bar from the W Comd, Col Watt



Above: Cpl Makarchuk receives the SSM - Humanitas - from the W Comd, Col Watt

Photos by
17 Wing Imaging Section

435 Squadron

435 Squadron's History of Air-to-Air Refueling during 1998

By Capt Jeremy Brett
435 Sqn Deputy AAR Ops O

Two major operations (Operation Determination and Operation Echo) combined with numerous other refueling exercises led 435 Squadron to the busiest and most recognized year of refueling to date.

The air-to-air refueling highlight of the year and since it's inception to 435 Squadron some six years ago was Operation Determination. This operation was in direct support of Operation Southern Watch, the enforcement of the no-fly zone over southern Iraq, established by UN resolutions at the conclusion of the Gulf War.

A crisis erupted in 1998, which led to a build up of the multinational force. It was triggered by Iraq's refusal to allow UN weapons inspectors into certain sites where weapons of mass destruction were believed to be located. The purpose of any military action would be to substantially diminish Iraq's capability to produce weapons of mass destruction and to weaken its ability to attack neighbouring countries, and to ensure Iraq's compliance with UN Security Council resolutions.

435's role in the coalition force

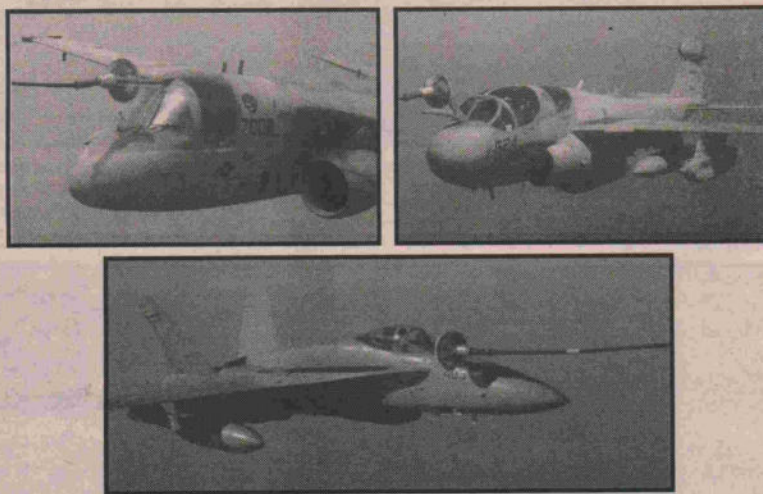
was to provide an air-to-air refueling capability to carrier and land based multinational fighter aircraft. The air refueling option allows the fighters to extend their operational range by keeping them air-borne longer. It was the first time that 435 Squadron had provided an air refueling service in an operational environment.

Operation Determination, with respect to 435 Squadron, took place in Kuwait from February 98 until May 98. The two Hercules aircraft deployed were quite literally flying gas stations, usually

orbiting over the Persian Gulf awaiting their thirsty fighters.

435 Squadron achieved many milestones including off loading more than two million pounds of fuel during the campaign. An impeccable servicing record, which would be the envy of any air force with not one mission lost due to unserviceabilities. We also refueled a wide variety of receiver aircraft some of which were new to us, the list now includes: S-3, ES-3, EA-6B, FA.2, F-1, F-14, F/A-18, AV8B, GR.1, and GR.7.

Another accomplishment achieved by 435 Squadron occurred during Operation Echo. This time the mission was to refuel our own CF-18 fighter aircraft across the Atlantic Ocean using only KCC 130 Hercules aircraft. This was another first for 435 Squadron. In the past the Boeing 707, (KC-135) was the primary tanking asset for strategic refueling as it was capable of missions that were long in duration, offering both a high speed and sizeable fuel offload. The Boeing is long retired and 435



Squadron was asked to pick up the slack.

The KCC-130 Hercules accepted the challenge and was able to accomplish the task through thorough route studies and sound planning. It involved precision timing, as the fighter aircraft would rendezvous with a Hercules aircraft on two separate occasions while crossing the Atlantic Ocean.

435 Squadron participated in a host of other refueling exercises including refueling with the United Kingdom over the Northern Sea, with the United States a number of times, and of course back home at Cold Lake, AB and Bagotville, QC.

1998 produced a year 435 Squadron will never forget. The squadron enthusiastically and with great adversity accomplished all that it was tasked to do, it benefited by gaining invaluable training and experience for future operations. The personnel of 435 Squadron can hold their heads high and proud.

CFSSAT - Trade Perpetuation

By Cpl Chris Townson

The Canadian Forces School of Survival and Aeromedical Training (CFSSAT) is staffed by Biosciences Officers, SAR Tech's, a few Administrative people, and now 18 Aeromedical Technicians (AMTs). This April marks one year from the start of the first AMT Journeyman course held at CFSAT (which recruits personnel from the Army's Medical Assistant trade), so it's only fitting to elaborate on what the new AMTs have been up to.

About a year ago, the right people said "yes" and a new direction for six Army Medics became a reality. We started out with a little familiarity among the six and soon found that we could all manage comfortably in the 'Airforce' environment, (read: not canvas or a combat trench). The course was relatively uneventful save for one route march reminiscent of an army 2 by 10. Perhaps the fact that it occurred in downtown Toronto made it easier to deal with.

Graduation, then posting, all to the thriving metropolis of Winnipeg, was tempered by the fact that all would have the disappointment of turning in our rucksacks and being issued flight suits and 'B-25 kit' in return. Trust me, very few tears were

shed with that transaction. Once the initial culture shock wore off, we all managed to adjust without too much difficulty, although the odd Warrant Officer has some difficulty being referred to as "Sir" and many still jump when one of us 'snaps to attention'. Something to do with the loud noise involved with 'lifting your right foot up six inches, and slamming it down twelve'.

We are divided equally among three sections of CFSSAT. The first two sections are actually both sub-sections of the maintenance side of the house. The first, and probably the highest profile section, is hyperbarics (known far and wide as the high altitude chamber). Cpl Abby Keagan (a.k.a. the oldest-looking Cpl in NATO) and Cpl Mike McPhail both have the pleasure of maintaining the chamber and learning its intricacies - all under the direction of MCpl Lee Marshall. It would appear that they are becoming fairly proficient, as MCpl Marshall is able to devote his full attention to the coffee fund, and planning the summer's golf tour.


The second sub-section of the maintenance cell is hyperbarics, another chamber, which puts air in rather than sucking it out (simulates going to depth as a scuba diver would, without getting any-

thing wet, we hope, right Lou?). This section was increased by two when Cpl Marc (Freak) Chiasson finally arrived a month after everyone else, to work with Cpl Terry Freeland. Together under MCpls Dale Coulson and Chris Kelly they've become part of the knowledgeable ones when it comes to the systems involved. Although the Sgt in charge still cringes when they speak, they will soon be able to fill the crew chief position for 'dive tank ops'. Speaking of Sgt Lawrence, he still hasn't figured out which one to punish for letting anonymous intruders hang curtains and decorate his coffee cup. But perhaps he'll just let it go and write it off

as one of those 'unexplained' things.

The last two, probably the most overlooked (read: hardest working), Cpls Louise Groulx and Chris Townson work in the 'nerve center', that is, the Academics cell. They, under the direction of MCpls Victor Hriech and Keith Lamothe, have learned the rules, and the headaches involved in all the paperwork that is required to show that we do work. In all honesty, the biggest headache is trying to make sure all the flying members of the airforce are current in their Aeromedical Training and listening to the new maintenance guys complain about how busy/bored they are.

It's almost difficult to believe it's been a year since we were introduced to the 'World of the Air Force'. Since switching to blue, some have traveled more than they did in 13 years wearing a 'green suit', and are still giddy at the prospects that await. So, as our first year in a new trade draws to a close, we look forward to the new challenges and opportunities that await. As well as meeting the great people that wear blue all across Canada, and hopefully some of our counterparts from other countries. If in your travels, you have reason to stop by, don't be afraid to say "Hello", and maybe one of the 'Freaking New Guys' will grab you a coffee.



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17 WING SPORTS

CFB Ladies Annual Bonnie Bonnet Bonspiel



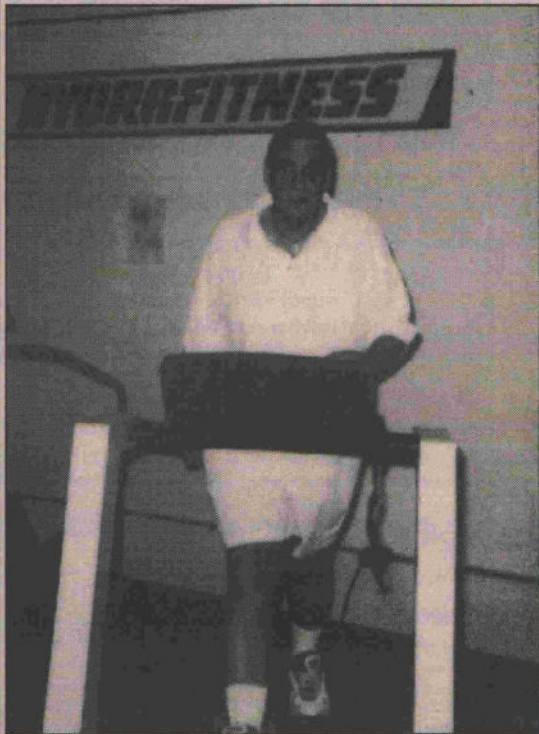
Delivering rock CWO Linda Smith, sweeping Bonspiel Chairwoman MWO Kathy Con and President of CFB Ladies Curling Club Pam Garychuk

On the weekend of 12-14 February 99 the CFB Ladies Curling Club held their annual bonspiel. Twenty-four teams participated and from those 24, three teams won events. "A" event was won by Sue McCrae from Deer Lodge, "B" event Debbie Van Bushirk from Assiniboine and "C" event was Vicky Allard from the CFB Curling Club. The weekend started with a draw at 1800 hrs and opening ceremonies at 1930 hrs. The opening rock was

delivered by CWO Linda Smith 17 Wing CWO, the ladies were piped on to the ice by two pipers from 402 Sqn and after a brief welcome the next draw commenced. Everyone enjoyed a great banquet on Saturday evening followed by a silent auction and karaoke which was enjoyed by all. My committee and I would like to thank all our sponsors who donated prizes for our auction and door prizes. They were: 17 Wing Golf Course,

Karens Flower Shop, Astra Credit Union Ness Branch, sears Hair Salon Polo Park, Pesce Hair Design Charleswood, Nutman, Domenica Floral Design and Vikki Feltham's Crafts Creations. As Bonspiel Chairman I would personally like to thank all the curlers, sponsors, CFB Curling Club staff, Chuck, and especially my committee who all helped to make it another successful bonspiel.

Athlete of the Month



By Fit. Instructor James Follette

17 Wing Chaplain (P), Major Padre Douglas Ohs.

It was divine intervention that brought Padre Ohs into our Temple of good health, and it has been hard work, determination, and faith that has kept him here. He began his crusade in August 98, since then he has lost a staggering 60 lbs, his goal is to lose 20 more. Padre Ohs always has good advice, so I asked him to share some words

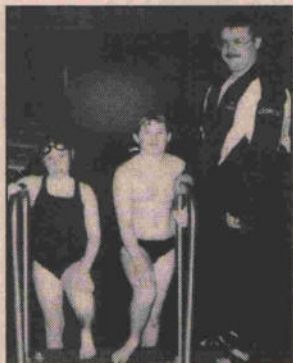
of inspiration for everybody. Actually, he had more to say than he would for his Sunday sermon, so I took the liberty of picking these two quotes: "Don't do it for anyone else, do it for yourself" and "Just one more step." It is refreshing to see people like Padre Ohs in our facility, his smile is welcomed here any time. Here is a quote that embodies our beliefs at the gym, "Fitness cannot be bought or bestowed, like honour it must be earned." Believe me Padre Ohs is a walking testament to that.

17 Wing Flying Tigers Compete at "A" Level Swim Finals

Pictured at right are Margaret Ferguson, Niall Martin and Lt Roger Bowden of the 17 Wing Flying Tigers Swim Team. Margaret and Niall recently swam at the Man-Sask "A" Finals

Full story ran March 31, 1999

Pictured below, from L to R, are Rick Bhullar, Jim DeBeer, Kristy McBey, Niall Martin. Front: Sarah Bain, Chelsea Kempe, Navdeep Bhullar, Margaret Fergusson, athletes from the 17 Wing Flying Tigers Swim Team. They ranked 6th of 13 teams at the Prov. B Finals held at Portage, 19-21 Feb. Missing swimmers: Brian Hunter, Graeme Sprange, James Bowden and David Lowry.



Photos by Sgt Dennis Mah



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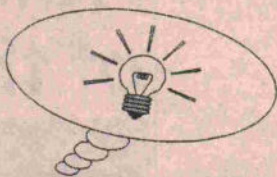
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YOUTH PROGRAMS

What's the Youth Centre About?

The MFRC Youth Centre is located across from our 350 Doncaster Street offices. The After School program for kids from grade 1-6 runs Monday to Thursday from 3:45-5:30. The teen Drop-in program for teens in middle or high school runs Monday to Thursday from 6:30-9:00. The Youth Centre also has a wide variety of activities such as School Break Activities, Summer Camp, Friday Night Movie Nights, Crafts etc. All the programs at the Centre have become very popular, which means there is a definite need for volunteers.

What are the rewards of volunteer?

Working with youth offers many challenges and rewards. Volunteering at the Youth Centre will help improve the community. All MFRC volunteers receive an orientation and training for their program. All volunteer's hours are recorded for future volunteer appreciation. Volunteering helps develop new skills and keep skills fresh.

Do you have a couple of hours a week, or a month?

Would you like to make a difference in your community?

We need volunteers for the airshow concession stand! Sign up today.

If you would like more information on volunteering at the MFRC Youth Centre please call Celine at 489-7003.

Special Needs Program

For more information call Victoria Lambert at 489-7003.

Special Needs Parents Network will meet once a month on the first Wednesday evening of the month, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the MFRC. If you are differently-abled or someone in your family is, please join us for refreshments, conversation, information sharing and laughter! For more information, contact Victoria.

Are you and your family being posted or do you know a family that is? If you have children that will be transferring to a new school, the MFRC can help ease the transition by contacting the new school ahead of time, providing parents and children with information and putting families in touch with the MFRC at the new location. If your child receives special education services, it is vital to contact the new school as far in advance as possible so that resources can be allocated for your child.

Does your family have a special need? Do you need respite, special service in the school or home, equipment or resource lists? Support, liaison, advocacy and information is available at the MFRC. Contact Victoria.

PARENTING PROGRAMS

For more information call Victoria Lambert, Coordinator, 489-7003

PARENT'S MORNING

Tuesday mornings, 9 - 11 a.m. at Westwin Community Centre.

Coffee, conversation, guest speakers and group activities.

REMEMBER THE FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH IS OUR NEW STEP AEROBICS CLASS!

Bring \$2, your gear and join us in the multipurpose room for some fun.

ALSO NEW FOR PARENT'S MORNING

Parent education classes will be held once per month during Parent's Morning by Coordinator Victoria Lambert. Scheduled for April, May & June:

1-2-3-4 PARENTS! Is parenting your young child tougher than you thought it would be? In 3 short sessions you can learn step-by-step skills to help you parent your child. Victoria will show you helpful videos and guide you through fun activities and group discussion to help you learn these skills. Join us for three FREE seminars - dates and times to be announced.

Childcare available - must be booked at least 24 hours in advance by calling Wendy 833-2500 ext. 2491. Cost \$2/hour for first child, \$1/hour for second, free for third child in same family.

Lower rates available for parents staying with their child in the playroom.

For more information, contact Natalie at 889-3882 or Victoria at 489-7003.

NEW & EXPECTANT PARENTS GROUP

Join us at the MFRC on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

This group is for expectant parents, new parents and babies under one year old. Judy, a public health nurse will be available to do healthy baby checks. We will meet ONCE PER MONTH.

For more information, contact Victoria.

RENCONTRES DES FRANCOFEMMES

Parents Francophone de jeunes enfants et bébés se rencontrent le deuxième et le quatrième vendredi du mois de 9h00 à 11h00 à la chapelle du côté sud. Un service de garde d'enfants est disponible pour seulement 2\$ par famille par session. Les prochaines rencontres se tiendront le 14 et le 28 avril. Pour de plus amples renseignements appelez Victoria au 489-7003, Isabelle au 889-1371 ou Lucie au 896-6499.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

The Military Family Resource Centre offers children's programs at two locations.

Lipsett Hall Children's Centre is located on the south side & the Westwin Children's Centre is on the north side.

Both centers are licensed nursery schools. They are licensed through the provincial government. The Manitoba government is a strong supporter of childcare and facilitates quality childcare with strict regulations and follow up inspections. Both centers are subject to regular health and fire inspections. The staff are trained in early childhood education and are all certified in first aid.

NURSERY SCHOOL

Our nursery school offers the preschool child the opportunity to socialize in a happy stimulating environment. Children are free to choose from various activities including learning centres, stories, music and movement, arts and crafts, games, drama and free play. Children must be three by the end of December to start nursery school in the fall.

Cost: \$72 per month. Annual registration fee: \$15 (non-refundable)

Lipsett Hall (English)

Westwin (English)

Mon., Tues. & Thurs.

Mon., Wed. and Fri

9:00 to 11:15 a.m.

9:00 to 11:15 a.m.

WE ARE NOW TAKING REGISTRATIONS FOR FALL 1999.

Register as soon as possible so you get the times and location that you prefer.

PRÉMATERNELLE FRANÇAISE

Le Centre de Ressources pour les Familles Militaires offre une prématernelle française au "Westwin Children's Centre" trois après-midi par semaine. Les enfants de 3 et 4 ans ont la chance de socialiser dans un environnement sain. Parmi les activités nous retrouvons les histoires, les chansons, bricolages, jeux de langage et jeux libres. Nous possédons aussi un endroit pour faire des jeux moteurs.

Coût d'enregistrement annuel: 15\$ (non-remboursable). Coût mensuel: 72\$

Lundi, mardi et jeudi 13h00 à 15h15

ENREGISTREZ VOS ENFANTS DÈS AUJOURD'HUI POUR LA SESSION D'AUTOMNE 1999.

PARENT-CHILD MOTHER GOOSE

This program is a group experience for parents and their babies and young children. It focuses on the pleasure and power of using rhymes, songs and stories together. Come out and have some fun with your children. For information call Wendy or Lois at 833-2500 ext. 6846.

To register come in to the main office at 350 Doncaster by April 9.

Westwin Children's Centre

Wednesday, 1:15 - 3:15 p.m., April 14 - June 16

\$25/family for a ten week session. Bring a snack for your child.

GYM AND MOVEMENT

Come out and play with your children. This program includes developing large muscle skills, creative movement, parachute games and cooperative games.

Westwin Children's Centre - Thursdays from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

\$20/family for ten weeks - April 15 to June 17

Off and Flying

By Captain Rob Chapman
UIO, 3CFFTS Southport

26 February 1999, three students from the Basic Helicopter School and four students from the Multi-Engine School received their Canadian Forces pilot wings from Colonel Doug McLennan, A1 Training, 1 Canadian Air Division. The occasion was marked with a Wings Presentation Ceremony and formal dinner in the Combined Mess of 3 Canadian Forces Flying Training School Southport, where families and friends gathered to celebrate.

The graduates of course 9804 are as follows (standing, back row, left to right): Captain Graham Edwards, is posted to 405 Squadron in Greenwood, Nova Scotia to fly the Aurora aircraft. Lieutenant Mark Baillie is posted to 443 Squadron in Pat Bay (Esquimault), British Columbia to fly the Sea King helicopter. Lieutenant Stephen Carius is posted to 408 Squadron in Edmonton, Alberta to fly the Griffon helicopter. Lieutenant Frederic Lord is posted to 440



Photo by 17 Wing Imaging Section

Squadron in Yellowknife, NWT to fly the Twin Otter aircraft. Lieutenant Carol Potvin, is posted to 427 Squadron in Petawawa, Ontario to fly the Griffon helicopter. Lieutenant

Scott Frost is posted to 413 Squadron in Greenwood, Nova Scotia to fly the Hercules aircraft. Captain Mark Harding is posted to 436 Squadron in Trenton, Ontario to fly the

Hercules aircraft.

Of interest, one graduate had the honour of being presented his wings by a family member who has had previous military

service. Captain Graham Edwards's wings were presented to him by his father. Mr. Edwards served in the RAF National Services from 1954 to 1956, and then between 1959 and 1961. Mr. Edwards served with the RCAF Reserves in 2403 AW & C Squadron.

Mayor Ian McKenzie presented the City of Portage La Prairie Flying Achievement trophy (awarded to the student from each school, with the highest overall flying results) to Lt. Carol Potvin from the Basic Helicopter School, and to Lt. Frederic Lord from the Multi-Engine School.

Sitting in the front row, from left to right, are Colonel Hal Wishart, our Honorary Colonel, Colonel Doug Mc Lennan, A1 Training 1 CAD and Reviewing Officer, and Lieutenant Colonel Dan Edgar, Commandant of 3 CFFTS.

Congratulations to all the Wings Graduates of Course 9804 from the staff of 3CFFTS, Southport.

UNICEF Canada Kosovo Relief Appeal

UNICEF Canada is accepting donations for its work to assist the children and their families affected by the situation of armed conflict in Kosovo.

UNICEF is already in action providing medical supplies, baby hygiene kits, children's blankets, and water purification materials. We have also deployed a trauma counselling team to the area comprising a gynaecologist, nurse and psychologist who are treating refugees as they cross the border.

The needs will continue to be great over the coming months and UNICEF will focus its efforts on health, education and water.

Canadians wishing to help the vulnerable people caught in this horrifying situation should send

their donations to:

UNICEF/Kosovo Relief Appeal
443 Mount Pleasant Road
Toronto, Ontario M4S 2L8
or call 1-800-567-4483

Donations are also being accepted at all provincial UNICEF offices

UNICEF/Kosovo Relief Appeal
UNICEF Manitoba
160 Stafford Street
Winnipeg, MB R3M 2V8
call 204-477-4600 or fax 204-477-4040

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STEPMOM You've Got Mail

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday
April 16, 17, 18, 19 April 23, 24, 25, 26
Parental Guidance, minor language Parental Guidance

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday
April 30, May 1, 2, 3
Parental Guidance

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The Silver Heights Band Parents' Association presents

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Friday, April 16, 1999

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Building 21, Sharpe Blvd.

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\$15 each or \$25 per couple

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Q. What do Tim Allen, W.A.C. Bennett, Billy Jean King & James Lovell all have in common?

A. They all belonged to Toastmasters and learned how to listen, think and speak more effectively. You can too.

West Winners Toastmasters meet Thursdays at 12:15 at the Westwin Community Centre.

Call Mike at 889-0875 or Fadel at 837-8089 for info.

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Newcomers' Club of Winnipeg

Are you new to the city?

Would you like to meet new friends at social functions?

If so, please join us for a monthly coffee party and/or general meeting. The Newcomers' Club of Winnipeg is a women's social group who meet on the third Wednesday of each month. The many monthly activities, including book club, restaurant lunches, crafts, bridge and movie night provide an opportunity to make friends in the city.

For more information, call 992-2999 and leave a message. Someone from our Hospitality Committee will return your call. Plan to join us and remember "You are not alone."

The St. James Assiniboia Divisional Children's Choir will be hosting a benefit concert

to raise funds to cover their trip to Ottawa for the Canada Day celebrations on Parliament Hill. This award winning group of young singers has been invited to represent the city of Winnipeg and the province of Manitoba as the youngest group of participants invited to participate in "Unison 99", a combined choir performing at various Canada Day functions.

The benefit concert will be held on 18 May, 1999, at 7 p.m. The evenings performance will include the St. James Assiniboia Divisional Children's Choir, the 1 Canadian Air Division Band (formerly the Air Command Band), and dancers from the McConnell School of Irish Dance (performing a tribute to Riverdance and Lord of the Dance). The emcee for the evenings events will be local celebrity Laurie Mustard. Truly something for everyone to enjoy.

Ticket prices will be as follows: Adults - \$10. Seniors and children under 13 years of age - \$5. Children under 3 - FREE. Family pass - \$25.00 (Maximum two adults and three children).

For tickets or additional information please contact one of the following individuals:
Mark Wuennenberg - 888-9563; Devon Beaudry - 889-5241

17 WING CERAMIC CLUB

Westwin Community Centre

Hours of Operation are
Mon - Wed 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Office Closes at 8 p.m.

Phone June 888-6059 or Marilyn 889-0571 for more information.

Exercise Nordic Patricia

**Pte Bowerman
2VP 7PL C-COY**

The battalion left Winnipeg on the 25th of February for CFB Shilo to Conduct Ex Nordic Patricia that was the first winter exercise 2PPCLI has done in three years. As this was to be a dismounted affair, we traded in our APCs for tent groups and snowshoes, on which a few of us needed practice - myself included. Numerous recoveries from spills in the snow made it seem that I'd become a human pretzel - contortionists have nothing on me. Upon arrival in Shilo, we got word our CO LCol Matt Overton, had directed that there would be maximum attendance to observe the 17 Wing Kodiaks play CFB Edmonton during the Regional Hockey championships conducted in Shilo. So, upon C Company's arrival in the field we promptly left it for the arena to watch our team win the regionals in a double overtime 7 to 6 game. It was well worth the lost training time.

At 1800 hrs that night we returned to the field where we established tent routine and learned the do's/don'ts of the tent group. "Don'ts" included: no brushing of teeth and rinsing one's tooth brush in the coffee pot; and, regardless how cold it is, always use the portable outside the tent (apparently, according to legend, some people have been known to use this system indoors). "Do's" includ-

ed such things as always filling the Coleman lanterns and stoves while on stove watch. On one of our first nights in the field, MCpl Thompson's section went out on patrol encountering 2 to 3 foot snowdrifts and the steepest hills in Shilo. Nevertheless, they successfully located the "Enemy" (Sgt Shane Pollock) who was promptly dispatched prior to the patrol's safe return to the company hide.

Throughout the exercise, the weather varied from one extreme to the other. One moment freezing rain was causing one's parka shell to crack, while at another moment, snow that was wet, stuck to snow shoes like glue as the temperature would return to below zero. The temperature changed hourly - one minute we were boiling while the next we were made to feel as if we were Klondike Bars. The lowest temperature reached was -28, however, our predeployment training ensured that we were ready for it.

Training progressed from section attacks to platoon, company and battalion attacks. Due to a lack of manpower, we had at least one Cpl without the Infantry Section Commander's Course qualification leading a section into battle. In some cases, Ptes were given an

opportunity to train as section 2I/C's. Soldiers at all rank levels performed admirably during the exercise. Manpower was in short supply, and with the onset of some real world casualties (routine field related injuries), at one point in the battle my whole platoon was able to fit in a ten-man tent. We thought for certain that our platoon strength would be reduced to single digits by endex. It was a learning experience where every man carried his weight and then some.

The last action on the last day of the exercise was the most arduous. We walked for over seven kms. Eventually, we moved into an Objective Rendezvous, cutoff groups were deployed and we carefully occupied our ambush positions. And then we waited - while slowly freezing for two and one half hours. Finally, a ten man patrol appeared within the range of our weapons, which sparked a horrendous 15 minute fire-fight.

Endex finally came at 0238 in the morning. With frozen Muklucs and tired bodies we boarded our trucks and went into Shilo's garrison. We were quartered in an old warehouse where we received some warmth and a much needed cup of hot coffee.

Do you know... the MFRC has a computer available for your use?

If you need a computer for a school project, write a resume or maybe to create a professional looking poster...the MFRC can help you! Our computer utilizes the Microsoft Office 97 Suite & Windows 95. You can also search the Web to find out more about your new posting location and their MFRC.

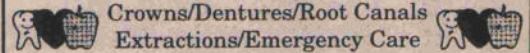


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17 Wing Karate Club & 17 Wing Fire Department Spring Car Wash. 17 April 1999, 1000 - 1600. Building 33, parking lot (Westwin Community Centre). Fundraiser for both the Karate Club & Firefighters Burn Fund. Donation basis, with a \$4.00 minimum.

WANTED

Wanted - Men's Air Force Mess Kit, 44" chest, 38" waist. Please phone 782-3406 and leave msg.

MISC. FOR SALE

For Sale - Voxair Equipment. Software and computer equipment items for sealed bids: Abaton colour scanner. Apple Classic computers (2). Microsoft Word, French and English. MYOB, Caere Omnipage, etc. Voxair @ 889-3963. Deadline for sealed bids April 16, 1999.

MISC. FOR SALE

For Sale - P215/75 R14 spare tire, complete with 14" rim, fits Ford Aerostar. Combination winter/summer Ford Aerostar bug screen. Best offer. Phone 833-2500 ext. 5902.

For Sale - Computer, \$900 OBO. Pentium 133, 32 MB RAM, 4.3 GB Hard Drive, 4X CDROM, 33.6 modem. Incl. mouse, keyboard and numerous software programs. Phone 488-8041 or 489-6332.

For Sale - Vending Cart, new cond., manufactured by Fostey's of Wpg in 1996, tows behind car, stainless steel construction, complete with Broil King BBQ, propane tanks, cooler, etc. Exc. earning potential for motivated person, student, retiree. Replacement value approx. \$7000; asking \$4500. Will consider trade for boat, vehicle, motorcycle, etc. Please leave msg at 487-2391 or 832-4496.

MISC. FOR SALE

For Sale - Wooden fence, approx. 90 ft., 2 gates, 4-5 ft. in height, 3 yrs old, pressure treated lumber. Presently ready for moving, \$125. Please leave msg at 832-4496.

For Sale - Frigidaire h/d washing machine, garden shed, fence (125'), baseball glove, 1950's RCA portable TV, 12 spd. bicycle, Nikon 35 mm camera flash, BBQ with propane tank, car alarm. Call Ron eves, at 888-5046 for prices and details.

For Sale - Mess Kit, Air Force blue, 40 chest, 34 waist, 31 inseam, exc. cond., good price. Maj T. Costello, 885-7122 or ext. 2203.

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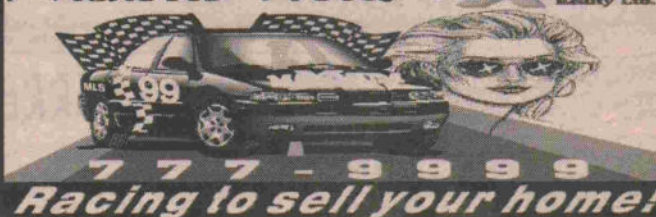
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