



THE VOXAIR

Our Military Community Newspaper, 17 Wing Winnipeg

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FREE

Ex-Charging-Bison-Roams-Winnipeg



Soldiers from the Defense and Security Platoon (D & S) of The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment move forward as they practise helicopter load and unload drills on the Griffon helicopter provided by 427 squadron.

By Avery Wolaniuk

Winnipeg looked a little greener last week, with 632 soldiers from Saskatchewan to northern Ontario arriving in the city for Exercise Charging Bison. The army reserve troops belong to 38 Canadian Brigade group, and they were all here for a collective training event in preparation for potential deployment overseas.

The first three days of the exercise, which ran from 30 April-6 May, were spent setting up the Task Force Main Base at the Red River Exhibition grounds. From there, troops established two Forward Operating Bases (FOB) to work, eat and sleep in.

The first was Camp Pioneer, at Pioneer Arena on Logan, and the second, Camp Voyageur, in St. Boniface. There was also a third camp established to house the 100 military personnel who played the role of enemy in the exercise. They spent the week challenging the Task Force with IEDs (improvised explosive devices) planted on vehicles, drive-by shootings, taking shots

(with blank ammunition) at foot and vehicle patrols, and other unexpected simulated attacks.

Charging Bison is the largest urban environment training exercise to happen across the country in the last decade. The goal is to train soldiers who may be deployed as part of a larger task force; 38 CBG is expecting to send 200 to 350 soldiers overseas in 2008 as part of Task Force 3-08. "The purpose is to ensure the soldiers are given the best possibility of being ready to enter into the rigorous training that they have to undergo for such a mission," said LCol Jim Fitzgerald, 38 Brigade Chief of Staff (COS). "The intention is to train and develop independence of thought and action at the lowest possible level—the soldier, their section commanders — in working through a full spectrum environment."

The "full spectrum environment" is also what is referred to as "the three-block war." In operations such as Afghanistan,

troops could be engaged in fighting, peacekeeping, and humanitarian efforts all within three city blocks. That scenario, compared to wars of the past where enemy troops met on an open field for battle, is a new challenge for military forces and requires adapted training methods, like this one.

LCol Fitzgerald said that holding the training in the city provides experience for the soldiers that is now necessary when deploying to contemporary operating environments. "It provides the white noise of a functioning urban environment that will allow the soldiers to see that the traffic is moving, the market is open, yet they still have military tasks to perform," he said. "Without adding that noise of the complex operating environment in there, you don't get a true picture."

Because 38 Brigade Group is comprised of 14 units that come from Saskatchewan, Manitoba and northern Ontario,

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Sgt Browning of the MSS fires an M-72 at the Simulated Arms Trainer (SAT).

Video War Games

By Avery Wolaniuk

“Load your weapons,” says the officer in charge. “Watch and shoot.” He’s WO Dave O’Donnell, the soldiers are part of the Mission Support Squadron (MSS), and the enemy is right in front of them. On the video screen.

The screen is the Small Arms Trainer (SAT) at Minto Armouries, and it belongs to 38 Brigade. Wing TEME Training Instructor WO O’Donnell is using the trainer with all of the personnel assigned to the MSS, the support unit that deployed to Exercise Maple Flag last week and will head out to Camp Mirage this summer. “This gives them an opportunity to use the weapons more. You get to handle it, you get to fire it, and you get to do the drills a lot. You get to be more comfortable,” he says.

There are eight stations on the trainer, and the

computer can run target practice or Rules of Engagement (ROE) scenarios. C7, C9 and C6 rifles, M72 rocket launchers and grenade launchers can all be connected to the computer, which registers the trajectory of the invisible shot. The computer analyzes the trainees rounds so that they can see their progress. It’s like a giant video game, but with guns instead of control pads.

WO O’Donnell was posted to Minto when the SAT was installed for 38 Brigade seven years ago, and he noticed the benefits right away. 38 Brigade, Winnipeg Training Detachment was very cooperative and agreed to share this asset with 17 Wg. Since then he has brought several commanding officers down to check it out and experience the benefits for themselves. Maj Stephane Parent, Com-

mander of the MSS, was one of those who got to see the benefits. When the MSS stood up at the beginning of March, he told WO O’Donnell the 100 personnel should all experience the trainer.

Logistically, the SAT is easy. There is no need for weather contingency plans, for organizing group transport, or boxed lunches. Eight members come down for a three-hour period, which is about three times longer than they get on the range at St. Charles. And because there are only eight of them, as opposed to the about 80 that head out to the range, there is a chance for individual instruction. You can just strictly concentrate the fundamentals,” WO O’Donnell says. “You can actually give instruction and see the results right away.”

The computer provides immediate feedback, and

with features like the one that tracks how the barrel of a gun moved directly before and after the trigger was pulled, trainees can see what mistakes they are making.

“I noticed that the scores actually improved when we went to the outdoor range,” says WO O’Donnell. “When you go to an outdoor live range, you don’t have to spend as much time teaching the drills again, because people keep current.” And for units that don’t go out on the range more than once a year, it’s good practice to have before deployment. “Being a support trades, we don’t get a chance to do house clearing, we don’t get a chance to practice Rules of Engagement, and prior to deploying it’s very important to do that,” he says.

In the Rules of Engagement training, soldiers are given the scenario and reminded on when they can use up to and including deadly force, and when they can’t. A scene shows up on the screen, with characters walking on and off the visible area, approaching the soldiers, yelling or sometimes pulling a weapon. Trainees have to react to these situations as they would in real life. You can’t look down the scope of a weapon at a civilian who is just walking by continuing about their day. You can’t shoot someone thrusting a knife at you who is standing 10 feet away. When a gun is pulled and aimed at your forces, then you can engage. All of these factors are part of the training.

“It gets them so they’re not afraid of their weapons,” says WO O’Donnell.



Two Griffons lift off on route to their next location. 427 Squadron provided the Griffons.

Ex Charging Bison

Continued from page 1

meeting in a central location like Winnipeg just makes sense. The locations within the city were chosen because they met specific criteria.

“Ideally, we needed areas that had a good mixture of residential and industrial and commercial activity,” said the COS. “It wouldn’t have given us that same flavour to take it into Tuxedo, where it’s heavily residential and no business. The dynamics were just entirely different.”

Forty troops from the Minnesota National Guard also came north for Charging Bison. The Americans were brought in to more realistically simulate a deployed operation with coalition forces. “Whenever we deploy outside the country, we don’t deploy independently. We become part of a larger mission, a multinational effort, and the use of the Minnesota National Guard adds that combined nature to the training. It’s good training for both sides,” said the COS of 38 Brigade.

There was opposition to the exercise being held in an urban environment from the time it was announced in a local paper in December. Protesters showed up at the camps and held events in the city throughout the week. “Citizens of Canada have the right to protest. That’s the wonderful thing about a democracy. Our intent is to run this exercise in a non-confrontational manner and let the protesters carry on in a peaceful manner,” LCol Fitzgerald said. City police were responsible for law and order issues.

Whether the exercise happens again next year depends on the training required by the CF, said LCol Fitzgerald. “There’s the need to continue the series of exercises if we’re going to continue to send soldiers to environments such as Afghanistan and Bosnia, or other such missions around the globe,” he said. “We need to tackle the training in a far different manner than we have in the past.”

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Padre's Paddle Ponderings

By Padre Grant Schapansky

Family holidays have been a significant place of learning for me. Last year my family and I were fortunate enough to have successfully taken four canoe trips together. Two of these trips were on the mighty South Saskatchewan River. One trip was on Kingsmere Lake (north of Waskesiu) and in August we paddled six days on the Churchill River System, ending our trip at Stanley Mission, SK.

My Top 10 Lessons Learned from paddling with my family last summer include:

1. Pick trips equal to the level of group ability. Disaster family trips are often trips picked to suit the level of the leader's competence. This is usually a "Dad problem."
2. Make a commitment. Making a decision to go is often "The Big Decision." After all is said and done regarding planning and preparation, there comes a time when we had to decide if we were going or not. There is a time to Dream, and a time to Do.
3. Set the course. Gathering maps, compass, brushing up on navigation skills, and obtaining advice from those who "have been there," are all good ideas before dipping one's paddle in the water.
4. Prepare! Prepare! Prepare!

A check-list is a necessity. Where we paddled there was no Canadian Tire or Macs convenience store.

5. More stuff is not always better. This lesson is usually learned on portages. In our preparation we now ask ourselves, "Do we have the essentials?"
6. Expect resistance. Canoe tripping is wonderful when the sun is shining, the wind is at your back and you're paddling with the current. This happens sometimes. Other times; other realities. Wind, waves, cross currents, and sharp rocks are all part of the journey.
7. Be flexible. The shortest distance is not always the best way to go. In the planning stage charting the direct route across a large lake may have made sense. In practice it may be wiser to hug the safer shoreline. I'm hearing my wife shout a big "Amen!" Enough said.
8. Progress is made one stroke at a time.
9. Teamwork works.
10. Perseverance pays.

As you might expect, I think these ten lessons have some pretty good life journey applications. I'll leave the reader to ponder how these principles might fit for you.

Our Churchill River trip ended at Stanley Mission, SK (a place I had never been

before or even heard about). The story of Stanley Mission is an adventurous river-boat journey all of its own.

In 1845 James Sette, a lay aboriginal minister, established a tiny Anglican congregation in the community which is now known as Stanley Mission. In 1850 Rev. Robert Hunt was commissioned to the area from England. Shortly after his arrival, Robert Hunt began the process of building a church, which he named Holy Trinity Church. Hunt constructed his church of logs hand cut locally by aboriginal workers. The original reddish paint for the church came from local ochre clays, similar to the clays used in ancient rock paintings near Stanley Rapids. Hardwood, locks, hinges and 1,000 pieces of stained glass for the windows were shipped to Stanley Mission from England, twice! The first set of building supplies were lost when the boat carrying the load capsized in rapids along the Churchill River. Hunt's church was completed in 1856, six years from his decision to build. Today, the church is maintained as an official Saskatchewan historic site. Holy Trinity Church is recognized as the oldest standing building in Saskatchewan.

Now there is a paddling story!

Statement By The MND On The Passing Of Four Canadian Soldiers

National Defence

OTTAWA - (April 22, 2006) Gordon O'Connor, Minister of National Defence, issued the following statement:

"I would like to express my deepest condolences to the families and friends of Corporal Matthew David James Dinning, Bombardier Myles Stanley John Mansell, Lieutenant William Turner and the grieving family of a fourth soldier that has requested that his name be withheld.

These four brave Canadian soldiers were killed when their armoured G-Wagon was struck by a roadside bomb near Gumbad at about 7:30 a.m. Kandahar time this morning.

The thoughts and prayers of all Canadians are with their families and their comrades

who must carry on the important work they were performing in Afghanistan. They will be sorely missed, and while we mourn their loss, we can take comfort in the fact that their ultimate sacrifice was made for a noble and worthy cause.

Our mission in Afghanistan is not without its risks, but the brave men and women of the Canadian Forces should be proud of the fact that they are bringing hope to a country that has known only despair, destruction, fear and oppression.

Today, Canada's foremost objective remains to prevent Afghanistan from reverting to a safe haven for terrorists and their destructive networks. This is in our national interest. By preventing Afghanistan

from becoming, once again, a base for the spread of terrorism, our troops on the ground are protecting Canada. Our troops are putting themselves on the line for all of us.

We will not abandon the Afghan people, and terrorists will not thrive. More than ever before, we must stay the course so that the sacrifices made by the members of the Canadian Forces are not made in vain.

On behalf of the Government of Canada and as Minister of National Defence, I am proud to know that people of their character and courage exist and extend to their families and friends the sympathy and humble thanks of an appreciative nation. Their courage, commitment and selflessness will not be forgotten."

Plains, Trains, And Military Automobiles

By Avery Wolaniuk

Sunday, June 4th is Armed Forces Day at the Prairie Dog Central Railway.

"It's more than just a train ride," says Murray Brown, director of marketing at the railway. "We've got lots to see and do and experience."

The Prairie Command Military Vehicle Association has been invited to display their restored vehicles at the historic station, located on the north side of the Inkster Blvd. between Route 90 and Sturgeon Rd, before the train departs promptly at 10:30 a.m. Onboard, the Air Command Band will entertain passengers with Dixie-style music,

and you'll hear melodies on the pipes and drums from the 177 Air Cadet Pipe Band.

The train stops at Gross Isle, where there is a miniature version of the train for the kids to ride, and lots of snack and refreshments available. The other stop is further up the line at Warren, where there are more refreshments and crafts to peruse and a Farmer's Market, as well as places to pick up crafts and souvenirs. There is also an interpretative tour of the grain elevator there, one of the last remaining original grain elevators in western Canada. Or, you can tour the coaches and the locomotive of

the train with one of the Crew as a guide.

The Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre will be at both stops along the way to answer any questions. The return trip is non-stop, and you can expect to arrive back at the station around 2:45 p.m. Fares are reduced on this special day—adults ride for \$15, and children for \$10. There is also a \$2/person reservation fee.

Reservations are strongly recommended, as the train rides are often full. You can make reservations online at pdcrailway.com, or call and leave a message at 832-5259.

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One of two CF-18's from 4 Wing Cold Lake flying over the frozen north between Inuvik and Cambridge Bay on Good Friday, 14 April as part of the first ever aerial sovereignty patrol in Canada's North for Canada Command.



A CC-130 Hercules tanker and CF-18 seen in the reflection of a fighter pilot's visor during the first ever aerial sovereignty patrol in Canada's North for Canada Command between Inuvik and Cambridge Bay on Good Friday, 14 April.

CF-18s Conduct 1st Northern Sovereignty Patrol For Canada Command

By Major Andy Coxhead, Sr PAO, 1 Cdn Air Div

WINNIPEG – On Good Friday, two CF-18's from 4 Wing, Cold Lake conducted the first-ever aerial sovereignty patrol in Canada's North for Canada Command.

The fighters and support crews deployed to a forward operating location in Inuvik on Wednesday 12 April to conduct a routine NORAD mission. Once that mission was complete, the aircraft and crews turned their attention to providing an air presence in Canada's North in support of Canada Command. The CF-18's were supported by a CC-130 Tanker, refueling aircraft from 17 Wing Winnipeg and flew a route between Inuvik and Cambridge Bay.

"This is the first time that 1 Canadian Air Division has

conducted a sovereignty patrol under the new command structure outside of the scope of NORAD," said MGen Charlie Bouchard, Commander 1 Canadian Air Division. "The patrol allowed the Air Force to both project air power and demonstrate sovereignty in Canada's North."

As an integrated national operational command headquarters, Canada Command allows the Canadian Forces to bring the best available military resources from across Canada to bear on a crisis or threat, wherever it occurs, nation-wide. 1 Canadian Air Division is prepared to support that mission anywhere in Canada, including Canada's North.

Life At WTISS

By Cpl Van Buskirk

Things are extremely hectic and busy around WTISS these days. CCSS Flight, like most Wing orgs, have temporarily transferred personnel over to the MSS in preparation for exercise Maple Flag, which in turn is prepping for their impending deployment overseas on Op Archer. We should see them back with us early in the New Year. Meanwhile, despite the decrease in manpower, work just doesn't cease and there is just as much work as ever.

Here in CCSS (Command and Control Systems Support) flight, we are saying welcome to Mr. Mickey Hill and Mr. Lola Fashola, two civilian contractors recently brought on board to help carry the load through this very busy time. In addition to our regular AOC support, there are several ongoing major infrastructure upgrade projects in bldg 25 taking the bulk of our time, the first portion of which should be completed by sometime in early May.

The summer will bring several military personnel changes to CCSS Flight with the posting out of the Flight Officer, Capt Charles Kerber. He's off to CFSAS (Canadian Forces School of Aerospace Studies) to become a student once again, this time on the year long Aerospace Systems Course. Capt Kerber has served the last three years as the CCSS O and we'll definitely be sorry to see him go.

MCpl Ben Mitchell has recently been appointed to OCdt after a successful application to the University Training Plan for NCM's (UTPNM). He will soon attend the IAP course this summer and soon thereafter be off to the Army side, honing his skills as a fledgling Armoured Officer, and then on to the University of Manitoba for the commencement of his UTPM training program.

MCpl Ian Arnett is posted to CFB Shilo and Cpl Stephane Thomas to G Squadron in CFSCE (Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electronics) CFB Kingston as instructional staff. Because of our heavy and demanding workload, we're anxiously awaiting on their replacements.

Also, congratulations are extended to Mr Allen Hamilton (formerly MCpl) on his new position as 1 Canadian Air Division ISSO. As a former MP turned ATIS Tech now turned civilian, he is very familiar with the job requirements and I'm sure he will have a long and happy new career.

I think that about wraps things up around CCSS flight for the moment, the summer will bring new personnel and new projects for us to look forward to, but that is for a future article. Meanwhile, stay safe, at home as well as at work, and enjoy the warm spring weather.

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The 'Changing Face' Of 402 Sqn

By Capt Kevin Miller

Winnipeg's 402 Squadron proved itself unique from day one. In the late 1930s, tensions were rising throughout Europe and war seemed inevitable. On Sunday, 3 September, 1939, Great Britain and France declared war on Nazi Germany. A sense of pride and duty was felt when this was heard by those serving in 112 Sqn located in Winnipeg. The adjutant, Flight Lieutenant DM Edwards, addressed the troops and announced, "Anyone who is not available for active service take one pace forward." One man, out of 100, stepped forward and 112 Sqn was going to war seven days before Canada officially declared war on Germany on 10 September, 1939.

Over the next several years, Winnipeg's non-permanent force Sqn was re-named numerous times, eventually becoming 402 Sqn on 1 March, 1941. The Sqn was one of the first of two RCAF Sqns to deploy overseas. Before departure, the mayor of Winnipeg presented the Sqn with its colours and officially named it the "City of Winnipeg" Sqn. Since then, 402 Sqn has undertaken many roles as fighters, bombers and transport support.

Today, the unit flies in support of the Canadian Forces Air Navigation School. Equipped with the new CT-142 Dash-8, 402 Sqn has been re-designated as a training Sqn, training Air Navigators, and Airborne Electronic Sensor Operators. Recent modifications on the CT-142 allow students to operate their own independent Global Position System and Inertial Navigation System while carrying out crew-related duties. Throughout the world, this system is seen as one of the most modern and high tech navigation trainers in the world.

402 Sqn is also known as a "Total Force" Sqn, and is comprised of a mixture of Regular, Reserve and civilian personnel. Those involved with 402 Sqn, past and present, Regular and Reserve, have worked endlessly in the continued improvement of its operations. Many man-hours, from the Commanding Officer, down to the newest Private, have been spent on programs such as "Operation Phoenix" and AF9000+. These projects focus on the common goal of producing the best possible product for 402 Sqn's operational and secondary tasks.

402 Sqn is unique as it is the only fixed wing "Total Force" sqn in the Air Force. "Total Force" refers to the seamless blend of Regular and Reserve personnel working together throughout the unit. All operations, from administration to maintenance have evolved to cater to this mix. Due to its distinctive setup, 402 Sqn personnel can have their administration and/or pay queries actioned by the sqn. In addition to a normal 5-day workweek, the Sqn Orderly Room also operates Tuesday evenings and alternate weekends in order to better serve the Reserve Force.

Aircraft Maintenance Reserve Coordinator (AMRC) integrates Reserve technicians with the Regular Force. It

Continued on page 10



Military Housing Available For Rent

By CFHA

Houses in and around Kenaston Boulevard are available for rent. The Canadian Forces Housing Agency (CFHA) manages these houses, located east of Edgeland and south of Tuxedo. The opportunity to rent these homes is now open to all members of the Canadian Forces (CF) regardless of household size, employees of the Government of Canada, and others working in support of the operations of 17 Wing, the Air Force Base in Winnipeg, or other units of the CF.

Houses in the southeast side of Winnipeg that were formerly reserved solely for the use of CF members with families are not fully occupied. 17 Wing and CFHA are opening up these units to people who haven't been able to occupy them in the past.

If you are a Single member, if you are a Reserve Force member, if you are an indeterminate or term employee of the Government of Canada, if you are a PSP employee with employment of 25 hours per week, or if you work in service of the CF here in Winnipeg, you are now eligible to apply for one of these houses.

Single-detached and semi-detached one and two-storey homes are currently being prepared for occupancy. These are suitable for many different kinds of households and the surrounding neighbourhood is well served by city buses and provides ready access to community and recre-

ational facilities. Although not all houses may be contemporary, DND has invested significantly in the portfolio to ensure that housing is in a satisfactory condition vis-à-vis the immediate health and safety of occupants.

The rent for these houses is between \$550 and \$800 per month.

The departure of the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry for Shilo left a number of houses available on the South Site. It is anticipated that all DND properties on the south site of Winnipeg will be transferred to the Canada Lands Company over time, but the residential land will remain the responsibility of DND for several more years to come. The Department of National Defence is examining its housing requirements in Winnipeg and is preparing plans. Discussions with Canada Lands Company are ongoing, but the process is a lengthy one. It may take two to three years or more before new development begins on the south site. In the meantime, houses that are not required for CF members will be available to all eligible occupants.

Anyone interested in occupying one of these houses should contact the CFHA Management offices at (204) 833-2676, or drop into our offices in Winnipeg at 215 - 530 Kenaston Boulevard.

Logements Militaires Offerts En Location

Les maisons situées sur le boulevard Kenaston et autour sont offertes en location. Ces maisons, qui se trouvent à l'est d'Edgeland et au sud de Tuxedo, sont gérées par l'Agence de logement des Forces canadiennes. La possibilité de louer ces maisons est maintenant offerte à tous les membres des Forces canadiennes, quelle que soit la taille de leur ménage, aux employés du gouvernement du Canada, et aux autres personnes qui travaillent au soutien des opérations de la 17e Escadre, de la base de la Force aérienne à Winnipeg ou d'autres unités des Forces canadiennes.

Certaines des maisons situées dans la partie sud-est de Winnipeg et qui étaient auparavant réservées exclusivement aux membres des Forces canadiennes ayant une famille sont inoccupées. La 17e Escadre et l'Agence de logement des Forces canadiennes offrent ces unités à des personnes qui n'auraient pas pu les occuper dans le passé.

Si vous êtes membre de la Réserve des Forces canadiennes, si vous êtes un employé du gouvernement du Canada nommé pour une période déterminée ou indéterminée, si vous êtes un employé des PSP cumulant au moins 25 heures de travail par semaine ou si vous travaillez au service des Forces canadiennes à Winnipeg, vous êtes maintenant admissible à faire une demande de location pour l'une de ces maisons.

Des maisons individuelles et des jumelés à un ou deux étages sont présentement préparées en vue de leur location. Ces maisons sont en bon état et conviennent à divers types de ménages. Le voisinage donne un accès facile

aux installations communautaires et récréatives, et il est bien desservi par le service d'autobus de la ville. Même si les unités de logement ne sont pas toutes contemporaines, le MDN a investi des sommes importantes pour assurer que tous les logements sont en bon état et qu'ils ne représentent pas de danger pour la santé et la sécurité des occupants.

Les maisons se louent entre 550 \$ et 800 \$ par mois.

Le départ du 2e Bataillon, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry pour Shilo a libéré un certain nombre de maisons dans la partie sud. Il est prévu qu'avec le temps, tous les terrains du ministère de la Défense nationale (MDN) dans la partie sud de Winnipeg soient transférés à la Société immobilière du Canada, mais que les terrains résidentiels demeurent la responsabilité du MDN pour plusieurs années à venir. Le MDN examine les besoins en logement et prépare des plans d'aménagement du site. Des discussions ont présentement cours avec la Société immobilière du Canada, mais ce processus prend du temps. Il pourrait falloir jusqu'à deux ou trois ans avant que le nouvel aménagement commence. Entre-temps, les maisons qui ne sont pas utiles aux membres des Forces canadiennes seront offertes à toutes les personnes admissibles.

Si vous êtes intéressé(e) à occuper l'une de ces maisons, veuillez communiquer avec les bureaux de gestion de l'Agence de logement des Forces canadiennes, au 833-2676 ou passez à nos bureaux, au 215 - 530, boulevard Kenaston.

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Wreaths displayed at Vimy Ridge monument.



The Honourable Vic Toews greets Master of Ceremonies Hugh McKenzie and Gisèle Toupin, Regional Director General, Veterans Affairs Canada.

89th Anniversary Of The Battle Of Vimy Ridge

By Veterans Affairs Canada

A commemorative ceremony honouring the sacrifices of the Canadian Corps who participated in the Battle of Vimy Ridge was held at Vimy Ridge Park on 9 April 06.

The Honourable Vic Toews, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, on behalf of the Honourable Greg Thompson, Minister of Veterans Affairs, took part in the ceremony commemorating the Battle of Vimy Ridge. Also in attendance were representatives from the Province of Manitoba, the City of Winnipeg, family members of First World War soldiers who fought in the Battle of Vimy Ridge and the Battle of the Somme, Canadian Forces members, and representatives of local Veterans' and youth organizations.

"History tells us that the Battle of Vimy Ridge was a great military victory. With only three known Canadian survivors of the First World War, it was more important than ever that we remember and honour their legacy with ceremonies such as the one today," said the Honourable Vic Toews. "It is now the responsibility of our youth, our young Canadians, to proudly carry the torch of remembrance and to ensure that the sacrifices and achievements of our Veterans are never forgotten."

This year is the 89th anniversary of this historic battle, which is deemed to be one of the defining moments in the development of Canada as an independent nation. It was largely due to the hard-won victory at Vimy Ridge that Can-

ada was awarded a separate signature on the Treaty of Versailles — the treaty that ended the First World War.

The battle of Vimy Ridge marked the first time that all four divisions of the Canadian Corps fought together as a single unit and their conquest was swift and complete. They succeeded where the previous attempts of the British and the French had failed. But their victory carried a heavy cost. On Vimy Ridge, Canada suffered more than 10 000 casualties, of which 3 598 were fatal — a huge toll for a young nation of less than eight million citizens.

There are currently three known surviving Canadian Veterans of the First World War. Charles Reaper of Winnipeg, who passed on March 1, 2003, was the last of Canada's identified Veterans who fought at Vimy Ridge.

The monument in Vimy Ridge Park originally stood on the crest of "the Pimple" in Vimy, France. It honours the 44th Battalion (recruits from the Royal Winnipeg Rifles) who stormed and captured the Pimple, an out cropping packed with German defences. The Pimple was the highest point on the ridge and the most difficult to conquer. When France gave the land to Canada for the construction of the Canadian National Vimy memorial, battalion members from around the world raised money to dismantle the original memorial and ship it to Winnipeg. It was rebuilt in its present location in 1926 where it remains to this day.

Dress For Success MFRC Career Development Night

By Avery Wolaniuk

Do the words "job interview" send shivers of terror up your spine? Are your palms sweating already? They are, aren't they? Wipe them off and keep reading.

On 16 May, the Military Family Resource Centre is hosting a career development evening and fashion show at the Base Theatre from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. For two bucks, you get an evening of entertainment and advice that can turn your next encounter with an employer into a career.

It's called Dressing for Success. "We don't just mean the outer. It's also dressing yourself on the inside, preparing yourself with your research, preparing your communication skills. It's not only about looking good, it's about feeling good, and knowing yourself," says John Chabih, co-chair of the organizing committee and employment assistance counselor at the MFRC.

The event is open to everyone and is relevant to everyone. For youth who are about to enter the work force, they will learn about what will be expected of them in a job. For people looking to re-enter the workforce, perhaps after several years out to raise children, there will be information on how to access your skills so you can compete in the changing job market.

It is also for military members who are soon retiring and will be looking for a new job in a new culture — the civilian

culture. "There are some things that they need when they're applying for civilian jobs," says Mr. Chabih. "This will give them some extra tools in their toolbox for how to be more competitive when they are applying for jobs."

The evening has a little bit for everyone. Hot 103 radio hosts Ace Burpee and Chrissy Troy are hosting the show. Sponsors Laura and Laura Petites are teaming up with Pinstripe Menswear to put on a fashion show for work wear for men and women, and there will be a speaker from Laura. Models will be civilian and military, male and female. Winnipeg Free Press career columnist and respected human resource expert Barbara Bowes is the keynote speaker for the night.

"It's not just a fashion show. It's not just a lecture. It's a career development evening that will address many, many facets of your job search," says Mr. Chabih.

Speaker Barbara Bowes will address how to access your skills — some you never knew you had. She will also talk about how people who have worked in the hierarchical, strongly structured military can successfully cross over to the invisible hierarchy of the civilian working world.

There will be a silent auction at the fund-raiser, with all proceeds going to the 17 Wing Youth Advisory Council. For more information, call the MFRC at 833-2500 and ask for John Chabih (ext 4511) or Diane Brine (ext 4508).



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Afghanistan Roto 1 – Engineer's Point Of View

By Maj Beal

Well folks, we have now reached the halfway point and we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. I hope the light is from the exit and not a train coming the other direction.

It has been a rough month for all Canadians. One of the US Forward Operating Bases came under attack; unfortunately there were Canadian Forces personnel present. During the attack, Pte Costall was killed and two others were wounded. News of the death of Pte Costall hit everyone very hard, especially those in the Battle Group who knew him. He was the first soldier killed as a direct result of enemy action during this tour. However, a few days after the incident it was rumoured that Pte Costall was killed by friendly fire. A board of inquiry has been convened to investigate the incident. They have their work cut out for them in order to make their finding. Until then, we can only speculate what really happened until the finding is released. However, an incident of this nature (confusion of a night time fire fight) is somewhat more palatable than the Maj Harry Smidt incident.

On the 22nd we lost four soldiers to an IED (improvised explosive device). They were traveling in a G-wagon when the

explosion occurred directly under them. The force of the blast threw the vehicle at least 20 feet. For the sake of the soldiers, I am confident they never knew what happened and perished instantly. As a result of the incident, morale at KAF plummeted to an all time low. Now more than ever, we have to pay extra attention to the soldiers under our charge. Everyone deals with these issues differently and we must be available to assist in any way possible to help all of us get through this tough period.

I am guessing we celebrated Easter a bit different than most— we worked for most of it. However, the Engineers did take all of Sunday off so that the troops could rest and recharge their batteries. I thought they would all sleep in and enjoy the break. Boy was I wrong; at 0730 hrs most of the troops from the Engineer Support Unit were busy working on the deck extension at Canada House. Everyone was in good spirits and I think they enjoyed the work because they made the choice to be there, vice being told they had to do it. With all hands helping the extension was completed just after lunch, giving the troops time to enjoy the rest of the afternoon. Many of us just sat in a lawn chair and took in some rays. Unfortunately, we over did it a bit and as a result, the light brown appearance we were seeking

turned into a bright pink. Having a shower became very interesting for the next couple days. That was our Easter, I trust yours was considerable different.

On the engineering front, we have a couple capital projects that are progressing in very different directions. We are constructing a trilateral ammo supply point with the British and Dutch; this project is progressing very well. The three Canadian facilities are completed minus the electrical and HVAC. We have troops coming in from Canada to complete the outstanding work. We are hoping the facilities will be 100% completed within a month or so.

The other capital project we are managing is the Battle Group Semi-Permanent Accommodations. I only wish

this project was progressing as well. It has been one problem after another with this contractor. They seem to have an excuse for everything; can't get workers badged so they have access to the base, delivery of ISO containers are well behind schedule, can't find a civil sub-contractor to do the cement pads for the facilities and so on. On top of this, the contractor has had some bad luck as well. While they were pouring the second pad, the cement truck lost its clutch and went into gear driving into the middle of the first pad. All we could do was shake our heads and walk away. Looking back at it, they were lucky no one got hurt and we got a good laugh out of it. The pad has been repaired and work is now progressing.

Because of problems in this contract, we have had to go to weekly meetings with minutes in order to keep Public Works and Government Service of Canada informed as to our problems. This will provide us the documentation required to invoke the penalty clauses associated with contract delays we will be experiencing. The unfortunate issue with all this is that the Battle Group continues to be housed in the three BAT (big ass tents) tents. There are 150 soldiers in each tent, accommodations that are somewhat less than ideal. We have been doing everything we can to have this contract completed in a timely manner to provide adequate accommodations for the troops.

Due to weather conditions, the heat, we have had to change our work hours. The troops now start work at 0700 hrs and take a 2-hour break during the heat of the day, finishing their day at 1800 hrs. Unfortunately, our PT program has suffered because of it but those who want to go to the gym always find time for it. The others, well, they will always have an excuse. I will continue to push the officers to the gym, lead by example, hoping that some of those who always have an excuse will follow along.

The 29th was the Engineer Birthday and we celebrated it with an afternoon of sports (ball hockey, volleyball and football) followed by a barbecue. We had engineers from the United Kingdom, United States and Netherlands. Fun was had by all. The afternoon of sports was something I have never experienced before. Playing football in 40 degrees was like running on a treadmill in a sauna. It was hot but still enjoyable.

I was talking with my daughters, Robin and Morgan, the other day and they indicate that they wanted to be in the article. So ladies, here you are! By the way, remember that your Dad misses you very much. Only another month and a half until I am home for my break. Can hardly wait, I understand you have sprouted and are almost as tall as your mother.

I guess that is all for now. Until next edition, I hope all back home are enjoying the spring.



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Think Of Switzerland

By Alf Brooks

What comes to mind? Chocolate? Cheese? Watches? Mountain scenery? Banks? Yodeling? The story of Heidi? William Tell?

This year Swiss Post begins a four-year series, inviting four foreign artists to each design four stamps to visualize Switzerland with its four different seasons, stamps that are characterized by their personal experience and visions. For 2006 French cartoonist Patrice Killoffer has designed four stamps picturing cows and mountains in each season, stamps that illustrate his comic style.



Winnipeg's Crew Checks In On Their City

By Avery Wolaniuk

Thirty members of the city's namesake ship, the HMCS Winnipeg, were in town last week. While they were here the sailors stopped by the Mayor's office, visited local high schools, sat down with the veterans at Deer Lodge centre, and marched in the Battle of Atlantic Parade on Sunday, 7 May.

One of the main events on their busy schedule was a visit to both the children's and adults' burn units at the Health Sciences Centre. HMCS Winnipeg's charity is the Fire Fighter's Burn Fund, and through them the crew donate money that ultimately helps make a stay at the hospital a little easier by providing things like portable DVD players that can be used in treatment rooms when dressings are being changed, and movies and other necessary amenities.

"The burn unit is the primary charity of HMCS Winnipeg and over the years we've raised money for the DVD players, movies — anything to make the stay here more comfortable and take their mind of the reason why they're here," says Master Seaman (MS) Ryan Redwood, one of the crew members visiting.

"Operational dollars often pay for all the equipment we need to provide care, but it doesn't give us what we need to provide those extras," says Heather Falk, Manager of Patient Care in the children's burn unit. "In terms of the TVs, the VCRs, and the portable DVD players — those are the extra that make

a huge difference for these kids. It helps them deal with pain, it helps distract them from what's going on."

Armed with stuffed bison for the kids, the sailors toured the facilities, learned about the treatment the burn victims have to endure, and visited each of the patients that were able to receive visitors. "The kids are thrilled, they've been waiting since this morning—the uniforms are a big thrill. We've shown them a picture of ship the crew has given us," says Mrs. Falk. "It's really neat for the kids. Anytime someone comes in in uniform, they sort of appear larger than life."

PO1 Mark Kraitberg, originally from Winnipeg, has been with the ship for three years. This was his second visit to the unit. "It's emotional," he says, adding that the nurses always express their heartfelt appreciation to the crew for their support.

The crew of the HMCS Winnipeg have been donating to the Burn Fund since the ship was commissioned in 1995, and that support is important to the staff at CK3, the children's burn unit. "We're extremely grateful," Mrs. Falk says. "These kinds



Crew from the HMCS Winnipeg handed out stuffed bison to all the kids at the Children's Burn Unit.

of relationships are great for the kids, but it's also wonderful for the staff to know that there are outside organizations that recognize the work that's being done here and support them. It makes a huge difference for the staff to be able to provide these things to the kids. It makes daily life here a whole lot easier for everyone."

The visit is also an opportunity for the sailors to put some little faces on the charity that they collect for all year. "A lot of times on the ship you're just donating money and you're not really seeing the results of where it goes. This is good to see that it's actually being used and appreciated by so many people," says MS Redwood.

MSS Deploys

By Avery Wolaniuk

"From the top down, from the Private level up to the Major himself, we've become a close-knit group. We're not a large unit, and that allowed us to grow as a team," said Squadron Warrant Officer (SWO) MWO Tim Rousseau, of the Mission Support Squadron (MSS).

The MSS is the first of six units that will stand up across the country, as part of the Air Force's new focus on a readiness to deploy

anywhere in the world at a moment's notice. Instead of having a handful of personnel from various bases meet and start working together in a theatre of operation, the new units are formed and trained together in Canada. The goal is to have a more productive environment with squadrons that are already used to working together.

Exercise Maple Flag at Cold Lake is the MSS' opportunity to demonstrate their capabilities as a unit before

they deploy to Camp Mirage on 16 June. Their job is to establish and support an Air Expeditionary Unit (AEU) during the first 10-day period of the three-period exercise.

A 13-person Reconnaissance (Recce) team led the way to Cold Lake on 6 May, traveling to Alberta care of 435 Sqn and the Hercules aircraft. Their job was a camp survey, and to set up for the Advance Party of 40 troops, who traveled by land from Winnipeg to Cold Lake, leaving early Saturday morning and arriving on Sunday. The last 40 members of the squadron left 17 Wing on Monday morning.

17 Wing Logistics branch hosted a parade for the MSS on 4 May as a way of saying goodbye to the personnel who will be deploying overseas for six months after they return from Maple Flag. The MSS drew personnel from several units across the Wing, including many from the WLog and WAdmin Branches.


The support from the Wing has been a big boost for the unit. "The Wing was a huge contributor to the training, in particular Wing Ops—Readiness Training Flight. They were instrumental in the whole training program," said MWO Rousseau.

"I think it's helped the Wing come together and work towards one common goal."

For the squadron, the biggest challenge has been preparing for two missions at the same time. "We're concurrently training for two missions at the same time—that's the big task," said the SWO. Because the unit is formed before they arrive in theatre, one of the major benefits is that people have a chance to learn each other's strengths and weaknesses, and commanding officers can move people around to better suit their talents and abilities. "Currently when the Air Force Admin

and Logistics troops go into theatre and you don't know your people, you can spend a couple months sorting everybody out," he said.

And ultimately, the biggest benefit is traveling as a united squadron. "I think that the obvious rewards is the building of team spirit. We developed from the ground up. We started out as a group of individuals and become a cohesive team," said the SWO. "I think we're going to have a very successful exercise in Cold Lake, and that's a direct product of that (esprit de corps). The mission to Camp Mirage will be easier because of it."



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The Seas Are Building At CFS MET

By MWO Rick Carleton

One of the shortest and “most intense” courses held here at CFS MET, the Meteorological Technician Course QL5A Serial 0601, graduated eight students on Thursday 9 March, after nine fun-filled weeks. These students, who came from various units across Canada, were quickly reminded on how much they truly missed our wonderful city and its unique weather.

The QL5A Course, formally named “The Advanced Observers” course, which began on 10 January, is very interesting and challenging. The main purpose of this course is to provide operational commanders with Met

Techs who can provide quality control of weather observations and present basic environmental briefings to support military operations. Subjects taught include: meteorological theory; presentation of meteorological information to aviation, marine and climate users, quality control procedures, instrument maintenance and administration. Upon successful



Front Row L-R: Sgt Vivian (CC), CWO Roy (SCWO), Maj D. Beerman (Maritime Helicopter Readiness 1 Cdn Air Div), Mr. K.L. Stewart (COMDT), MWO Carleton (STDS WO).
Middle Row L-R: WO Rivet (Instr), Cpl Viens, MCpl Rusconi, Cpl Bell, Cpl Heron, Cpl Hoffman.
Back Row L-R: Cpl MacDonald, Cpl Sergerie, Cpl Kroeker, Sgt Fournier (Instr), MCpl Cleary (Instr).

completion, most graduates can anticipate a posting to either a land or marine unit, where they will further hone their new skills.

We were privileged to have Maj D. Beerman from Maritime Helicopter Readiness 1 CDN AIR DIV as our Guest of Honour. An Air Navigator, Maj Beerman provided many

words of wisdom and shared his sea going experiences as a member of a Sea King crew with our aspiring sailors. Maj Beerman also assisted in presenting MCpl Andrew Rusconi of 4 Wing Cold Lake as winner of the Canadian Forces School of Meteorology “Certificate of Achievement,” for obtaining the highest academic mark. The whole graduating class should be commended for their overall success and academic achievement. No doubt, they will be very valuable team members wherever they go.

Till next time, “Cognitio Caeli”



MCpl Andrew Rusconi received the certificate of achievement on QL5A 0601 for the highest academic mark of the course presented by Major David Beerman (Maritime Helicopter Readiness 1 Cdn Air Div).

SCAN SEMINAR

The Wing Personnel Selection Office will be hosting a Second Career Assistance Network (SCAN) Seminar. The objective of this seminar is to provide information to both military personnel and their spouses on the benefits and services available to them when releasing from the CF. It also addresses aspects of the transition from employment to a second career outside of the CF. Details of the seminar are as follows:

DATES: 23-24 May 06

TIME: 0800 - 1630

LOCATION: 17 Wing Theatre

DRESS: Appropriate civilian attire

WHO: Military members and their spouses

Details for registration and the seminar agenda can be found on the 17 Wing DWAN site at

http://17wing.winnipeg.mil.ca/main/activities/activities_e.htm.



OC DT Mockford's Promotion was effective 30 Apr 06, CO 1 Air Mov Sqn (MAJ Dewar) made the presentation. Also in attendance was 1 Air Mov Sqn (SWO) CWO Newhook.



CPL Leonard's Promotion was effective 14 Apr 06, CO 1 Air Mov Sqn (MAJ Dewar) made the presentation. Also in attendance was 1 Air Mov Sqn (SWO) CWO Newhook, CAPT Stuebing and MWO Nowe.



PTE (T) Goodfellow's promotion was effective 05 Apr 06, CO 1 Air Mov Sqn (MAJ Dewar) made the presentation. Also in attendance was 1 Air Mov Sqn (SWO) CWO Newhook.



PTE (T) Smart's promotion was effective 04 Apr 06, CO 1 Air Mov Sqn (MAJ Dewar) made the presentation. Also in attendance was 1 Air Mov Sqn (SWO) CWO Newhook.



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402 Sqn

Continued from page 5

ensures that Reserve technicians practice the same service and hold the same responsibility as their Regular Force counterparts. This is done by the Chief Technical Training Officer (CTTO), who provides CT-142 Dash-8 technical training to both Regular and Reserve Force personnel within 402 Sqn. It is, however, the responsibility of the Employment and Training Organization (ETO) to monitor and attend to the ever-changing employment needs of the Sqn. ETO assist with management, technical training and career progression for Regular and Reserve Force personnel. These departments, and others, have truly made 402 a "Total Force" Sqn.

402 Sqn is not only unique for being the only fixed wing "Total Force" Sqn, Operation Phoenix also set the Sqn apart from others. Operation Phoenix moved all of the planning and coordination of the CT-142 Dash-8 engineering and logistic support activities to within the Sqn. Engineering support involved the delegation of the life cycle management functions and other responsibilities unique to the Dash-8's operation by 402 Sqn.

The logistic support, now the responsibility of 402 Sqn, involved four main aspects. The first being to coordinate financial estimates, reports and forecasts. Second, to purchase spare parts and repair and overhaul of items unique to 402 Sqn's operation of the Dash-8. The last two responsibilities given to 402 Sqn are the contract management of out-of-house services and managing inventory unique to the Dash-8 aircraft by developing and maintaining future stock of spare parts and equipment.

Engineering support involves the delegation of the life cycle management functions to the unit. Aircraft Engineering Organization (AEO) section conducts the In-service Life Cycle Material Management (LCMM) of the Dash-8 aircraft and is responsible for the overall airworthiness. This means that experts for the airframe, engine, avionics, hardware, software and record keeping are located within 402 Sqn. This enables the LCMM to physically check an aircraft and discuss technical and logistic matters with experts and techs on the floor. Instant feedback from Sqn Operations and the techs allows the unit to recognize the benefits and downfalls of their decisions immediately, enabling quick corrective action.

Co-location of all support, logistic and engineering staff within one location has proven to be a great success. The target of being as cost-effective as our civilian counterparts has been achieved with no loss or downgrading of essential services. Due to the co-location of these services, operations have become busier; however, job satisfaction and performance has improved within the unit. The unit is better able to meet the challenge of re-organization due to its pro-active nature.

402 Sqn, to this day, continues to be a pioneer in excellence. Most recently the Air Force implemented a quality policy known as AF9000+, which encourages "prevention through continuous improvement." 402 Sqn has been recognized by the Air Force as a model squadron on how it has effectively implemented the program and the beneficial results it has seen. This could be due to the fact that the "City of Winnipeg" unit, as in its formative years, is still willing to take action, rather than waiting to be directed to do so.

402 Sqn will continue to cultivate the integration of both the Regular and Reserve Force personnel into one working group; a Total Force. The high quality of performance that has been provided is due to the implementation of in-house training programs for all personnel in the unit. Due to these accomplishments, who better than 402 Sqn can promote public awareness of the Canadian Forces through its participation in air shows, community involvement and performances by the Squadron Pipes and Drum band.

Sparky's Corner:

Burns

Burns are a significant cause of death in our province and each year hundreds of victims suffer from these terrible injuries. Combined burn prevention efforts of the fire service and medical profession can increase public awareness and work toward reducing burn injuries and deaths.

In the Kitchen: Never leave cooking foods unattended as oil or fat can ignite. If you are faced with a grease fire, carefully slide a lid over the pan and turn off the heat source. Always turn pot handles to the back of the stove when cooking to avoid pots being pulled or knocked off. Never leave hot liquids or food unattended or at the edge of a table or counter where they may be pulled down by a child. Avoid wearing loose fitting sleeves when cooking that may contact stove burners and ignite.

Water Temperature: When running a bath always run the cold water into the tub first, then add hot water to the desired temperature. Before placing a child in the bathtub, test the temperature of the water by moving your hand through the water for several seconds. If the water feels hot add cold water until the temperature feels comfortable.

Matches and Lighters: Many fatal burns to children are the result of their playing with fire. Teach children that matches and lighters are tools not toys. Use child-resistant lighters and store all matches and lighters out of the reach of children.

Stop Drop and Roll: If your cloths catch on fire- Stop immediately, Drop to the floor, cover your face with your hands and Roll over and over to extinguish the flames.

Cool a Burn: If someone is burned, cool the burned area immediately with cool water for 10-15 minutes. Never put ice, very cold water, butter or lotions on a burn. If the burn blisters or chars, seek medical help immediately.

UL Warns of Potentially Hazardous Self-Ballasted Lamps



NORTHBROOK, Ill., - December 5, 2005 - Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) is notifying consumers that self-ballasted fluorescent lamps manufactured by Turolight bear a counterfeit UL Mark for the United States and Canada and may pose a risk of fire or electric shock. These products have not been evaluated by UL and do not meet UL safety requirements.

Name of Product: Model EL-20W-ES and TL-GLEOM13
Units: Unknown quantity
Manufacturer: Turolight
Date of Manufacture: Unknown

Hazard: The products have features that present potential fire and shock hazards

Identification: The base of the lamps is marked with the Model No. "EL-20W-ES" or TL-GLEOM13", electrical ratings "120V 60Hz", followed by "11W, 13W, 15 W or 20W" and may be marked "TUROLIGHT"

What you should do: UL recommends that users stop using the lamp immediately and return it to the place of purchase.

Consumer Contact: Consumers with any questions should contact Turolight at +1-416-736-0447, or customerservice@turolight.com.

Hot water burns like fire!

Burns from hot tap water can result in death or second and third degree burns which require hospitalization. For each burn hospitalized at least three more are seen, bandaged and sent home. It only takes a second and children should never be left alone in the bathroom. With lower water temperature the potential for such accidents is reduced. A water tank temperature setting of 54°C (130°F) allows a 30 second safety margin before serious burns occur. Reducing your thermostat also cuts energy costs and increases the life of your water tank.

The Old Lady suggests that homeowners turn down the thermostat on their water tank to 54°C; that homeowners purchase a mixing device to control the water temperature of the bath and shower; that adults be careful to never leave young children or the disabled unattended at bath time, to run cold and hot water together, and to test the bath water before letting a child get into the tub.



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The Great Eagle - Albatross Controversy



By Wing CDR F. H. Hitchins, Air Historian / Reprinted from *The Roundel*

Time was, say the oldsters, when a simple statement in a Service Mess about the bird that appears on the RCAF buttons and badges was sure to start an argument that would last far into the night.

This once-burning issue about the bird's true identity has all but flickered out, and (it is hoped) new members of the Force are correctly "indoctrinated" that the bird is an eagle. Mention that to a veteran wearing First World War ribbons, however, and you run a risk of becoming involved. If he flew in the Old Royal Naval Air Service (and three of our four Chiefs of Air Staff did), a gleam will come into his eye and he will begin convincing you. By the third round you will find yourself tactfully agreeing that it isn't an eagle at all, but — as any clot can plainly see — an albatross.

Actually, the controversy was settled — officially — long before it even began, and, for the benefit of those who have endured, or have yet to face, the argument, here are the facts.

It all started in the summer of 1914 when the Board of Admiralty took it upon itself, in defiance of Cabinet orders issued two years earlier, to rename the Naval Wing of the Royal Flying Corps as the Royal Naval Air Service, and issued regulations for the organization, rank titles and uniform of the Service. These regulations of 23 June, 1914, clearly stated that the officers of the RNAS would wear an eagle on the left sleeve above the rank lace. An eagle was also substituted for the anchor on buttons, cap badges, and other insignia. According to tradition, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty adopted the eagle design (outstretched wings with the head inclined to the right) from a brooch which the wife of a naval officer had purchased in Paris. So, from the very moment it was hatched, the bird was an eagle.

But, as many will tell you, regulations are meant to be printed, not heeded. It may be that the out-break of war a few weeks later caused the details of the regulations to be overlooked for forgotten — or read in true Nelson fashion with telescope to the blind eye. Or maybe the Navy fliers decided that the eagle, a land bird, had no place in a naval service. At any rate, before long the members of the RNAS considered as high treason any suggestion that their bird was other than a proper sea-going albatross.

Then, in 1918, the RFC and RNAS were merged into the Royal Air Force, and the new Air Force took over the RNAS rank insignia — and the bird. Quite naturally, ex-RNAS members carried with them into the RAF their unswerving loyalty to the albatross, although there is nothing to show that the RAF

ever regarded it — officially — as anything but an eagle.

When the CAF was formed in Canada in 1920 it carefully sidestepped the issue by adopting a uniform with army rank badges and insignia that contained wings but no bird. When the RCAF emerged in 1924, however, it adopted the RAF style uniform with all its appurtenances, including the bird. The first dress regulations issued for the RCAF in 1925 leave no doubt that the feathered creature was still officially, as it had been since 1914, an eagle.

Many of the RCAF's early personnel were veterans who had flown with the RNAS, and, true to the traditions of the "Silent Service," they eloquently and persuasively spread the myth that the bird worn by the RCAF was really an albatross. The argument smouldered for years, mostly in the messes, although occasionally someone actually sat down to write a memo about it.

When the Second World War came along, the controversy flared up again. Thousands of war-time recruits were told that the bird they wore on their shoulders and brass buttons was an albatross. Thousands more were told that it was an eagle. To others it was simply a bird, although one officer irreverently suggested it was a pregnant duck. Of course, no one bothered to consult the regulations.

The controversy should have been settled, once and for all, in January 1943. Ever since 1924 the RCAF had been using as its "official" badge the badge of the RAF, modified by the addition of a scroll bearing the words "Royal Canadian Air Force." After 18 years of use it was, somewhat belatedly, discovered that this RCAF badge had never been officially approved or sanctioned. The Chester Herald, who had been appointed Inspector of RCAF Badges, accordingly prepared a proper design, improving upon the 1924 version, and in January 1943 this general badge of the RCAF was approved by H.M. the King. The Chester Herald's description of the badge clearly and specifically refers to the bird in the design as "an eagle Volant affronté, the head lowered and to the sinister." In short, it was still an eagle and always had been — although the albatross was a very nice bird, too. Nevertheless, rumblings of the controversy were still heard until the end of the war.

Today, former members of the RNAS are so few in the RCAF that there is little they can do about it except mutter in their beer. But even so, if the subject should ever come up and there's an old veteran about, be careful. He may be an ex-RNAS type, and if he is, it's still an albatross to him.



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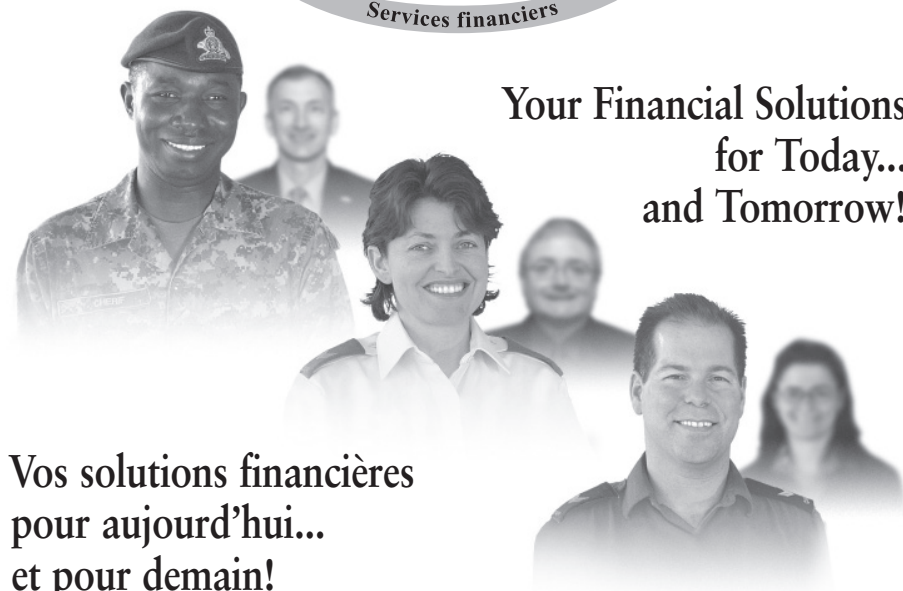
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The Demise Of Hudson 768

Part 4 Of 7 – The Crash Site

By HCol Wishart



In a series of articles, Hcol Wishart tells a story from his early days in the Air Force. He left off the last instalment with the four men huddled around a fire that night their plane crashed somewhere in Newfoundland.

Tuesday, January 28th, first light — Still blowing and snowing as hard as ever. Our fire was still burning, but under difficulty. It had melted its way to ground level, about two feet. There was nothing to do but put out the fire and see what kind of shelter we could build.

Both Winnipeggers, McGregor's background and mine were quite similar; shooting rabbits for the stew pot in winter, canoeing, tenting, etc. Taylor was a most willing worker and would do anything you asked, but did not show much initiative. I'm sure this will read as if McGregor and I were the only two survivors. I hope not.

We retrieved the two paddles from the dinghy, and, starting where the fire had melted to ground level, we dug a circle about seven feet in diameter. We then opened three parachutes and, with great difficult because of the wind, we piled one on top of the other, and using a trimmed spruce for a centre pole we set up a makeshift bell tent. We had mils of shroud lines and we tied it down every which way and banked snow around the bottom. We tied back an entrance, lined the bottom with spruce boughs, inflated dinghy down first, then the boughs, because on occasion the tent would leak and water would freeze on top of the dinghy. We cleared a space in front of the entrance for our fire and used the pop-out panel from the door as a reflector. We then carried the four ration boxes to tent and began to set up house.

The ration boxes presented a real challenge. Each box measured approximately 14" X 14" X 30" and was made of one piece of tin with all edges soldered. With only the crash axe, it took a lot of chipping and cursing to peel off the top. Surprise! Inside was an identical tin box with all sides again soldered! With more chipping, and increased profanity, we were at last able to peruse the contents.

The box contained a menu for one person for a four-week period — four weeks, God forbid! I can't recall numbers, but there was a supply of ship's biscuits, tins of corned beef, tins of butter (but no can opener), packages of powdered soup and York one-pound dark chocolate bars. There was also an aluminium cooking pot in each box, plus knife, fork and spoon.

We also had removed the First Aid box that was in a sealed box in the aircraft. It had been rifled of all the morphine injection capsules, but did contain thirst quencher tablets, Band-Aids, mosquito lotion, plus a small box of fishhooks. Hell, we were equipped to last the duration of the winter! At least four weeks. Taylor commented that when the blizzard stopped, he'd rearm the rear turret and with luck he'd supply us with some moose for a barbeque. We were gradually getting organized, and our spirits were good. If we could survive the crash, we could certainly survive the blizzard.

Now that we had set up house, our biggest chore was keeping the fire going. Where we had finally stopped was just sparsely treed, with dead wood, most trees being four to six inches, in diameter but still a challenge for our crash axe. Walking through the snow was difficult, and 40 feet from the shelter the fire became invisible in the snow, which was still blowing horizontally. The drill was taking turns — first tying a long line made up of three or four shroud lines around your waist and heading out. Through experience, it was best to find two trees close together, chop both of them down and drag them both back with the cut end tucked up under your armpit. A hard tug on the line was your signal for the others to gently steer you back to shelter. We tried a few times, tying the trees to our guide line, but it was a poor experiment as three people got tired out all at the same time.

Well, here it was Wednesday and we hadn't fared too badly. We had set the panel from the door behind our fire and it acted as a very good reflector. We burned two trees at the same time, feeding both ends in towards the centre. We hadn't organized meals yet; it seemed to be every man for himself. Although McGregor had volunteered to be cook, there were too many conflicting schedules. McGregor and I left Taylor to look after the fire and we both went to the aircraft on a scrounge trip.

We had decided to dig under one of the wings and drain the oil into one of the empty rations for eventual use as a smoke signal. We also decided to fill the door, which was easily detached from the aircraft, with oil. We filled both with twigs and broke open two Very cartridges, and stirred the contents into the oil. We dragged the ration box to the shelter and left the door at the aircraft. We both noted that the wind was not blowing as hard and was shifting to some degree. It will be nice when the wind stops altogether.

Around 1300 hours, we heard an aircraft and we immediately set fire to the oil in the ration box. Unfortunately, the wind was still strong enough to blow the black smudge along the ground rather than up into the sky. We took the Very pistol

and some cartridges and ploughed through the snow to the big bog where we'd attempted to land. We spotted the aircraft very low north of us and we fired three cartridges. While the wind took the flares away from the usual altitude, the aircraft altered course and flew directly over us and began to circle.

Mac and I got the others to join us and we tramped "OK" in the snow and them stomped out a second message: "CIGS." Most important! Soon the aircraft dropped a parts bag that contained several packs of cigarettes (some almost full), a crash axe, plus a note that told us that the weather was deteriorating and they had been recalled to base. The aircraft was a Douglas Digby from 10 (BR) Sqn stationed at Gander. When the aircraft left, we went back to the shelter and Mac announced he was going to cook supper in celebration. Good show!

Into the pot he put three cans of bully beef, a couple of ship's biscuits, a package of powdered soup and many handfuls of snow. We sat around the fire holding our little bowls like something out of Dickens. Soon the moment of truth. Our supper was dished out — much to hot to eat, but, after a lot of blowing, something that tasted quite appetizing. Within minutes, it was cooled enough to eat without the blowing, but then another minute and the aluminium bowl had dispersed all BTU's and we now had a cold blob of something quite unpalatable. Mac was disheartened as his effort was dumped in turn into the fire and everyone started to make some soup.

To make matters worse, the wind had picked up and it was snowing horizontally again. We'd need more trees tonight.

Posted to COMOX

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Our Programs

- ✓ Volunteer Services
- ✓ Personal Development & Community Integration
 - Information and Referral Services
 - The Newcomer Program
 - Employment & Education Assistance
 - Services Francophones/Second Language Services
- ✓ Prevention & Intervention Services
- ✓ Family Separation & Reunion
- ✓ Child & Youth Development
- ✓ Parenting Support

MFRC Monthly Community Coffee Break



The 1st Thursday of EVERY month
10-11 a.m.
102 Comet St.

Resources

The MFRC has Internet-ready community computers, a fax machine, tape recorders, digital camera, and video camera available for use site during normal working hours.

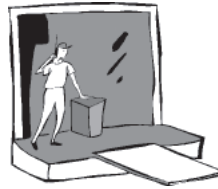
Other Numbers

MFRC: 833-2500 ext.4500
Emergency Childcare: 935-7733
MFRC Childcare Centre: 837-3653
Youth Centre South: 488-8563
Youth Centre North: 833-2500 Ext 4502

Military Family Resource Centre

Are you leaving us?

Here are some MFRC services to help make your move go smoothly.



- ✓ Check out the Posting Information Packages You can find have an informative package from each CF location to help you become familiar with your next home. Sign one out overnight or stop in on an extended hours evening for "Just Posted" (@4506)
- ✓ Community Access Computers allow you to check out the housing market, find schools and surf for job opportunities at your future locale. Send a quick e-mail to your new MFRC and have them send your orientation package!
- ✓ Get your resume ready, gather your reference letters and connect with the Employment counsellor at the MFRC. (John @4511)
- ✓ Book casual childcare or hire a Teen Sitter for your moving day, call Wendy for ideas (@2491)



- ✓ Borrow tables from the lending library for your yard sale! (@4500)
- ✓ When time comes to begin packing for your new posting... Find ReLeaf Consider donating your houseplants or perennials to the MFRC. Your plants will be nurtured by caring volunteers and presented to Newcomers in the coming year.

- ✓ Drop off at the MFRC during regular working hours or call 4506 to arrange for pick up.
- ✓ Borrow toys from the Toy Lending Library for those long days in the hotel with the kids. More info @ 4500

MFRC Nursery Schools

Our nursery schools offer opportunities for the preschool child to develop emotionally, socially, physically and intellectually in a happy stimulating environment. Children are free to choose from various activities including learning centres, stories, music, movement, crafts, games, drama and free play. Children must be three by the end of December to start nursery school in the fall.



Cost: \$75.00 per month
Annual registration fee: \$15.00
Location: Westwin Children's Centre
684 Whytefold Road
Mon., Wed. and Fri.
9:00a.m. to 11:30a.m.

French Immersion Nursery Programs

This program will help prepare your child for a French Immersion kindergarten. It will give your child the unique opportunity to be exposed to a French environment during our nursery program.

Westwin Children's Centre
Mon, Tues and Thur. 1:00pm to 3:30pm.

FALL 2006 Lipsett Hall Nursery School will Reopen at Ecole Tuxedo on Corydon. French Immersion will be offered Wed. Fri 1:00pm to 3:30pm Cost:\$60.00

Please call 833-2500 ext. 2491 for information.

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Just Joining Us Here In The "Peg"?

Welcome

Here are some great services and events to make you feel at home!



- ✓ Make sure you stop by the Centre to pick up your Welcome package, full of resources, handy numbers, map and Winnipeg tourism information. Make your package as unique as your family with additional resources available from the Resource Library. Pick up education and training guides, deployment support information, special service resources and much more. Open Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30
- ✓ www.mfrc.mb.ca - Open 24hrs! Our website offers service descriptions, the latest program guide, education and training info, helpful links, a complete listing of all the schools in the Winnipeg area and much more. Look on our site for the Better Business Bureau Military Family Line #. Your direct link to consumer advice and protection.
- ✓ Casual Childcare for Unpacking days call Wendy @ 2491 or try the Teen Babysitters Listing. Info @4500
- ✓ In the Hotel? Borrow a toy from the Toy Lending Library to keep the little ones busy. Keep connected with your e-mail with Community Access Computers. For your convenience the Fax machine is available for your use during regular working hours.
- ✓ Don't lose your way!...pick up "The Sherlock Map of Winnipeg" The guide used by Wpg police and fire services...every community centre, sports complex, church hospital etc. can be found in this guide. A family must. Only \$15 at the front desk.
- ✓ Want to learn more about Winnipeg? It would our pleasure to provide one on one or group orientation sessions on our Great City. Join us for "Newcomer Nite". June 14 & 28, Jul 12 & 26, August 9& 23, Sept 13 & 27. Registration required one week in advance.
- ✓ Join us for a 17 Wing Highlight at our monthly coffee morning. Pick up some resources; register for a class, meet the staff, other newcomers, community partners and Wing personnel. Put your name in for the free monthly draw; enjoy a cup of coffee, scrumptious snacks and find out why they call us "Friendly Manitoba".



COMMUNITY COFFEE BREAK 10-11am the FIRST Thursday of EVERY month

- ✓ MFRC Annual Newcomer Event
The 2nd annual Buffalo Social
Friday September 15th - 8pm
You are invited to "a social event" in celebration of your arrival to 17Wing. Enjoy a traditional Manitoba experience featuring plenty of fun, great food, lots of prizes community. Watch for more information and your invitation this, a chance to get to know your new home & the folks in your summer or call the MFRC to register (@4506).



Together in Church



CATHOLIC

Chaplains

Padre Lance Magdziak
Roman Catholic
Office 833-2500 ext 5272

Administrative Assistant
Carol Cochrane
Office 833-2500 ext. 5087

Masses

(English only)
Sunday 1100 hrs
Saturday 1630 hrs

Religious Education

Religious Education classes are available to all students from Preschool to Grade 6. Please call the office for information on registration.

Confessions

The sacrament of reconciliation is offered 20 minutes before mass and by appointment. Contact the chaplain's office.

Baptisms

We recommend that you contact the chaplain's office for an appointment prior to the birth of your child.

Weddings -Marriages

Contact the chaplain at least six months in advance. A marriage-preparation course is a requirement.

Catholic Women's League

Meets in the Chapel Annex the third Monday of each month at 1830hrs.

Protestant

Chaplains

Padre Bruce MacKenzie
(United Church)
Office 833-2500 ext 5417

Padre Bob Brinn
(United Church)
Office 833-2500 ext 5349

Padre Paul Southen
(United Church)
Office 833-2500 ext 4277

Administrative Assistant
Carol Cochrane
Office 833-2500 ext. 5087

Sunday Services

(English Only) 0900 hrs

Sunday School

Sunday School is held during the service for children ages 3 to 12, except on the last Sunday of each month. Childcare is provided on an as-required basis for children under 3 years of age.

Marriages

Six months' notice is required for marriages, as counselling is necessary to prepare couples for Christian marriage. A Marriage preparation course is also required.

Baptisms

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is available by contacting a chaplain. Time is required to give sufficient instruction about the meaning of baptism.

Protestant Chapel Guild

The Guild meets the first Sunday of the month at 1800 hrs in the Chapel Annex. All women are welcome.

Food Bank

The Food Bank is a joint undertaking by both Catholic and Protestant congregations. Please help by giving any food you can spare. The donation box is located at the rear of the chapel.

Emergency Chaplain

After normal working hours, the Emergency Chaplain can be reached through WOps Duty Centre, 833-2700.

Other Phone Numbers:

For your convenience, a phone number has been set up to provide callers with info on service times and contact with the chaplain of your choice. Phone 833-2500 ext. 6800 and follow the prompts. Those with access to the DIN visit the chaplains' Web Site at <http://17wing.winnipeg.mil.ca/main>, then click on 'Services.

Interfaith Prayer Room

Rm 305 in Bldg 62 is avail during reg working hrs for private prayer or meditation, or for small groups to worship in the manner of their faith.

STRENGTHENING
THE FORCES
ENÉRGISER LES FORCES

The Importance Of Hand Washing For Your Health

Staying healthy is in your hands. Good, frequent hand washing is the best way to prevent infectious diseases of all kinds. Hands spread an estimated 80 per cent of common infectious diseases like the common cold and flu. For example, when you touch a doorknob that has the flu virus on it and then touch your mouth, you can get sick. But these disease-causing germs slide off easily with good hand washing technique.

The mechanical action of hand washing – rubbing your hands together with soap and water – breaks down the tiny bits of grease, fat and dirt on your hands that bad germs cling to. Soap doesn't actually kill the bad germs. Instead, it's the combination of soap, rubbing, rinsing and drying that helps these bugs slide off your hands.

Antibacterial soaps offer no benefit over regular soaps in preventing common illnesses and their widespread use can cause antibiotic resistance.

Alcohol-based hand sanitizers should only be used if you don't have soap and water. For example, if you're at the mall and you sneeze or when you get off the bus you should use an alcohol sanitizer. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers don't contain antibiotics. But the alcohol kills both good and bad bacteria on your skin, so use it sparingly. And keep in mind that they don't work well if you have a lot of dirt and grease on your hands.

Steps for good hand washing technique

- Remove all rings and wet your hands with warm running water.
- Put a small amount of liquid soap in the palm of one hand. Bar soaps are not as hygienic as liquid soaps because they stay moist and attract germs. If a bar soap is the only option it should be stored on a rack so that the bar doesn't sit in water. Rub your hands together for 20 seconds so you produce lather. Make sure you scrub between your fingers, under your fingernails and the backs of your hands.
- Rinse your hands well with clean running water for at least 10 seconds. Try not to handle the faucets once your hands are clean. Use a paper towel to turn off the water.
- Dry your hands with a single use paper towel. If you use a hand towel be sure to change it daily. During cold and flu season you may want to give each family member his or her own hand towel.
- Use hand lotion to put moisture back into your skin if your hands are dry.
- Model good hand washing techniques to your children. Have them sing a song like "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" while rubbing their hands together to teach them the amount of time it takes to clean their hands properly.

STRENGTHENING
THE FORCES
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**BIG BIKE
FOR STROKE**



Finding answers. For life.

Invest in Heart and Stroke Awareness & Research



17 WING PARTICIPANTS
GETTING INTO GEAR!

The Big Bike for Stroke is an exciting annual fundraising event held across Canada. The Big Bike will be rolling into Winnipeg on June 19 at the Polo Park Mall. 17 Wing will be participating Monday, June 19th @ 2:25 pm. Participants will need to fundraise before getting on the bike to pedal. The ride should prove to be exciting. Riding in and around Polo Park and end up at the Stadium, with a possible appearance by the Blue Bombers! There will be free appetizers available to all participants at the Earl's Patio after the event.

Teamwork, fitness, fun, and fundraising that is what this event is about. For the past three years the 17 Wing has participated in the event. The Big Bike spans eight feet across and is thirty feet long with seating for 29 riders and one driver. Each ride takes approximately 20 minutes to complete. Let's get a team together for a really great cause and show our community that we support a worthy cause.

If you are interested in participating in this event and need a pledge sheet or if you have any questions contact your STRENGTHENING THE FORCES REP or the Health Promotion Team, Christa and Penny @ local 4160 or 4150.

Seats on the Big Bike will be on a first come first served basis. We would like to make this year's event bigger and better than ever!

PUT YOUR HEART INTO IT!!

When to wash your hands

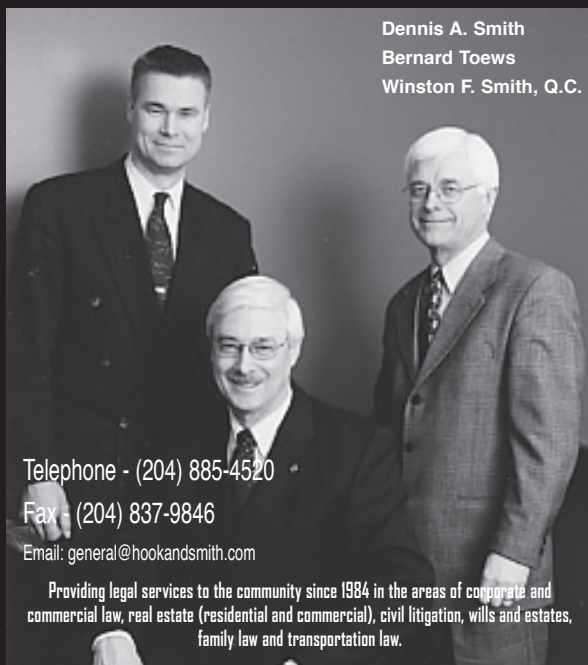
- After using the toilet
- After changing diapers or helping a child use the toilet
- Before and after preparing food
- Before meals
- Before feeding children, including breastfeeding
- After blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing
- After playing with shared toys
- Before and after visiting people who are sick
- After handling animals or their waste

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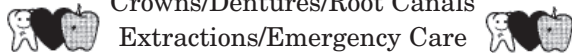
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Aries (March 21 - April 19): Instead of trying to remain calm and sensible, use your dynamic energy, which is one of your strengths, to kick into action and deal with the turmoil and disorder around you. You are not at the mercy of others. The only things that limit you are the restrictions you put on yourself.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20): Something you start requires more effort than you anticipated. This is not a sign to quit but a sign to get out there and collect the necessary information, materials and knowledge needed. Network; cultivate connections, even with those you don't like, for they can teach you things too.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21): When events have you feeling like everything has turned upside down, it's a chance for you to determine or affirm what you believe in. All you require are strength and courage to explore your inner psyche. Go deeper into the unknown aspects of yourself to find your own answers.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22): So much is going on around you and you're eager to experience all that is offered. Conversations focus on expectations and outcomes and underline the importance of being mindful about how your words and actions impact on your own life and the lives of others.

Leo (July 23 - August 22): What you ask people to implement now is so unconventional that they drag their heels. They want a guarantee that everything will work out well. Because the benefits are so obvious to you, it may be frustrating, but respect their need to know, take the time to explain the situation fully.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): When promoting yourself, be honest. Honor your teachers and colleagues. Show you know the value of cooperating by considering someone's words. Look at things from all angles. Don't just ask, "What is the cost of doing this." Ask, "What is the cost of not doing this."

Libra (September 23 - October 23): You can make anything happen if you want it bad enough. You have a lot of luck on your side just now. Still, it's essential to pay attention to timing; give a speedy, accurate response when an opening occurs. Look at patterns that unfold to find the flaws and the gold.

Scorpio (October 24 - November 21): This is a time when you can expect more from yourself and others. Change is in the air; it's inevitable and could come in surprising ways. Being prepared is best. Fostering strong relationships that are respectful and supportive help to keep you from being overwhelmed.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): What is unsaid is often more powerful than the spoken word. Things that have remained in stasis too long frustrate you, yet you remain silent because you don't want to be perceived as interfering. Stay away from those whose indecisiveness and lack of action irks you.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19): You can blend some of your interests and what you love into what you are currently doing. Don't let doubts creep in, you are extremely good at what you do and now it's just a matter of using your strengths more and making your passion the centre of your world.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18): Try some creative visualization. Form a picture of your life as more exciting and "the best it could be," in areas that need improvement. You'll be surprised to see that when you believe it's possible, it is. Keep track of what happens and adjust your efforts accordingly.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20): Your chameleon quality has served you well in the past but now it's time to promote the real you. You are seen as one who maintains a standard. Continue to complete what you've begun but also plant new seeds through the contacts you are now making. Be diplomatic but firm.

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