



A forerunner of the RMR Intercom, the 14th Battalion Bugler, was published in October 1914 aboard the SS Andania carrying the first Canadian contingent overseas.

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THE COMMANDING OFFICER SAYS

The Regiment has been engaged in some very hard and challenging training since we returned from Exercise En Garde. Your efforts and support in 1990 are recognized and appreciated. Our hard work was further confirmed with the winning of the Gzowski and Waters Trophies for 1990. Much of this energy has been fuelled by the present situation in the Middle East, as well as by our own experiences here at home. Members of the Regiment served with distinction in support of the Aid to Civil Power "OP SALON" which held us all enthralled over the summer and into the fall. Other members of the Regiment are today serving with the United Nations Emergency Force in Cyprus, walking the line.

If we had any doubt that the manner in which we are training and developing our young soldiers was inappropriate, the performance of 5 Brigade this fall should have eliminated any uncertainty. Also, as we watch our fellow citizen soldiers to the south being mobilized and dispatched "in harms way" we can only wish them well and pray for their speedy and safe return home. These events also make us wonder about our own future as Reservists. Unfortunately I have no answers to these questions and any speculation on my part would not clarify the situation.

Notwithstanding, at this time of year in general, and specifically in the context of current world affairs, we should remind ourselves of all the good things that our country and society provides us with. We must not forget that this standard of living and this political and economic freedom we take for granted and enjoy was bought and paid for years ago by our fathers and forefathers. That price was not cheap. Just a few weeks ago the Regiment paid homage, as we do annually, to those men and women who made those sacrifices.

At Christmas, it is a time to be with your family and friends. Try to spend time with them and take a moment to reflect about all the good things we do have. Deliberate about those who are less fortunate than us. Return in 1991 recharged and invigorated to continue our training year. 1991 will bring many new challenges. I know we can, as a team, overcome anything thrown our way. May the blessings of the Lord be with you and your loved ones. Happy Holidays and a safe and healthy New Year.



Harry F. Hall
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer

WEDDING BELLS

Editors Note:

Charles Hume Wilkins continues the serial he commenced in January 1990. He recounts the experiences he shared with others in the RMR during the Second World War.

When we arrived at Valcartier, I put in for marriage leave through the Corporal of our section. When I asked him about it several day later he said "Oh, I forgot!". (Suppose HE'D been getting married!?). However, he took me off at once to see the Quartermaster Sergeant, who took me to Major Douglas, who was at ease in the Officers' Mess.

"Sir, this is Private Wilkins. He would like permission to be married."

"Are you serious about this Wilkins?" (I had never been more so in my life!)

"Yes, sir."

"All right. I'll sign the papers in the morning, and you can make arrangements for leave."

"Oh, thank you, sir!"

"Dismiss."

We did.

I wrote to Norma, told her the facts, and on July 5 took the soldiers' train at Quebec to Toronto.

The issue shirts were made of khaki wool, hot and itchy. I put on a blue Machine Gun Training Centre sweat shirt instead, buttoned up my battle dress -- it was regulation, anyway -- called at the barber's and drove with my parents, brother and sister to Norma's house. She was waiting for me in a new pink dress with a velvet collar, which she had made to be married in. Clothes had to last in 1940.

We stood up in Norma's parlour with our folks around us, and my young cousin, Rev. Hal MacBain, married us, his first wedding. He must have done it right -- it lasted 48 years, till Norma died in 1988.

I took her back with me to a Y.M.C.A. Hostel for wives, a few miles from Camp Valcartier, where we could have occasional weekends together. Stan Wisdom's wife was there too, and

Mme Bolduc, whose husband was an officer in the Fusiliers de Montreal.

The summer rolled on. Nothing seemed to happen except the daily parades and training sessions in marching, rifle, and Vickers Machine Gun Drill. Meals in the Mess Tent were standard, with constant cherry pie, which caused universal mirth. One night two green corporals were convulsed over their dessert, and a much older private soldier exploded with wrath, and gave the corporals the edge of his tongue for the ribaldry. I shall never forget it. They looked pretty subdued, and didn't dare put the enraged soldier "on the peg".

One morning the Sergeant called us on parade and announced, "Private Brown (one of my pals) and Private Wilkins are to report to Major Douglas at 10:00 hours, properly dressed, boots polished, brass shining and webbs blanched!"

What now? I wasn't conscious of any major crimes, but I must have done something contrary. Bill Brown was above reproach.

We soon found out. Lined up before the Major with several other well dressed rascals, we got the word. "Stand at ease. Stand easy!"

"Men, you have been selected for promotion to help train other recruits, if you wish to accept the stripe."

We accepted it without protest and emerged as Lance Corporals, with new and dizzy powers, and a trifle more pay.

That wasn't all. Nobody had told us, but in a few days a contingent of the RMRs and Toronto Scottish received orders to move overseas as reinforcements. The new Lance Corporals had the choice of remaining in Canada for the time being or going to England.

Bill Brown went, I stayed, and finally went over in 1943. Would the war have ended sooner if I had gone in 1940? We'll never know. But I'm sure nobody missed me in Blighty. (To be continued)

OLD GUARD BATTALION by Colonel GJ Javornik, CD

The Old Guard Battalion continues to be active in its support of the Regiment. Our INTERCOM group has received some extra help. With it, it has been able to advance the development

RMR ASSN. - QUEBEC BRANCH 14
by Gordon R. Allen, President

Since my last column in the Intercom in June 1990, which highlighted the presentation and consecration of new colors ceremony on May 17, 1990, Branch 14 has spent a relatively quiet summer. Our activities consisted mainly of our regular monthly visits to Ste Anne's Military Hospital.

However, our regular activities for the fall and winter commenced in September with a special dinner and dance held on October 13th, 1990 for members and spouses or escorts in the Sergeants Mess. This gala affair was financed by assessing each member a nominal charge, with the remainder being provided from the Harold Armstrong Fund.

The Harold Armstrong Memorial Fund was established in the mid-sixties from the distribution of assets from the estate of the late Major Harold Armstrong, a former member of The Royal Montreal Regiment, and has been administered since by a committee formed from our Past Presidents.

Proceeds from the investment of these funds have always been used for worthy Branch 14 projects for the benefit of the membership. Therefore, on a suggestion from Past President J. McConachie, authority was granted to plan a dinner and dance for the members to be partially subsidized from the Harold Armstrong Memorial Fund.

Through the cooperative efforts of the planning committee, the dinner and dance was held on October 13, 1990. The event was a complete success and will long be remembered by all who attended as one of the most enjoyable functions ever held by Branch 14. A special thanks is extended to all for a most enjoyable evening.

The Greater Montreal Poppy Fund Campaign was held again with Branch 14 is doing its part to ensure the 1990 Campaign was a glowing success as in previous years.

In closing, I would like to remind all members of the Regimental Family that Branch 14 would welcome your membership as an alternate means of carrying on your association with the Regimental Family.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL R.J. BROOKS ASSUMES NEW COMMAND

All members of the Regimental Family will be pleased to learn that LCol R.J. (Bob) Brooks, CD has been appointed Commanding Officer of The Stormont Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders. He succeeds LCol J.K. Simpson, CD.

The change of Command ceremony took place in the modern armoury of the Regiment at Cornwall, Ontario on Sunday, 25 November 1990 before a large audience, including members of the RMR.

The Stormont Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders have a long, proud history with Canadian roots extending back to the Kings Royal Regiment of New York and to the 84th Highland Emigrant Regiment who were settled in the area during the American Revolution. The first militia unit West of Montreal was organized there in 1787 and the regional militia also played an important role later in defending Canada during the War of 1812.

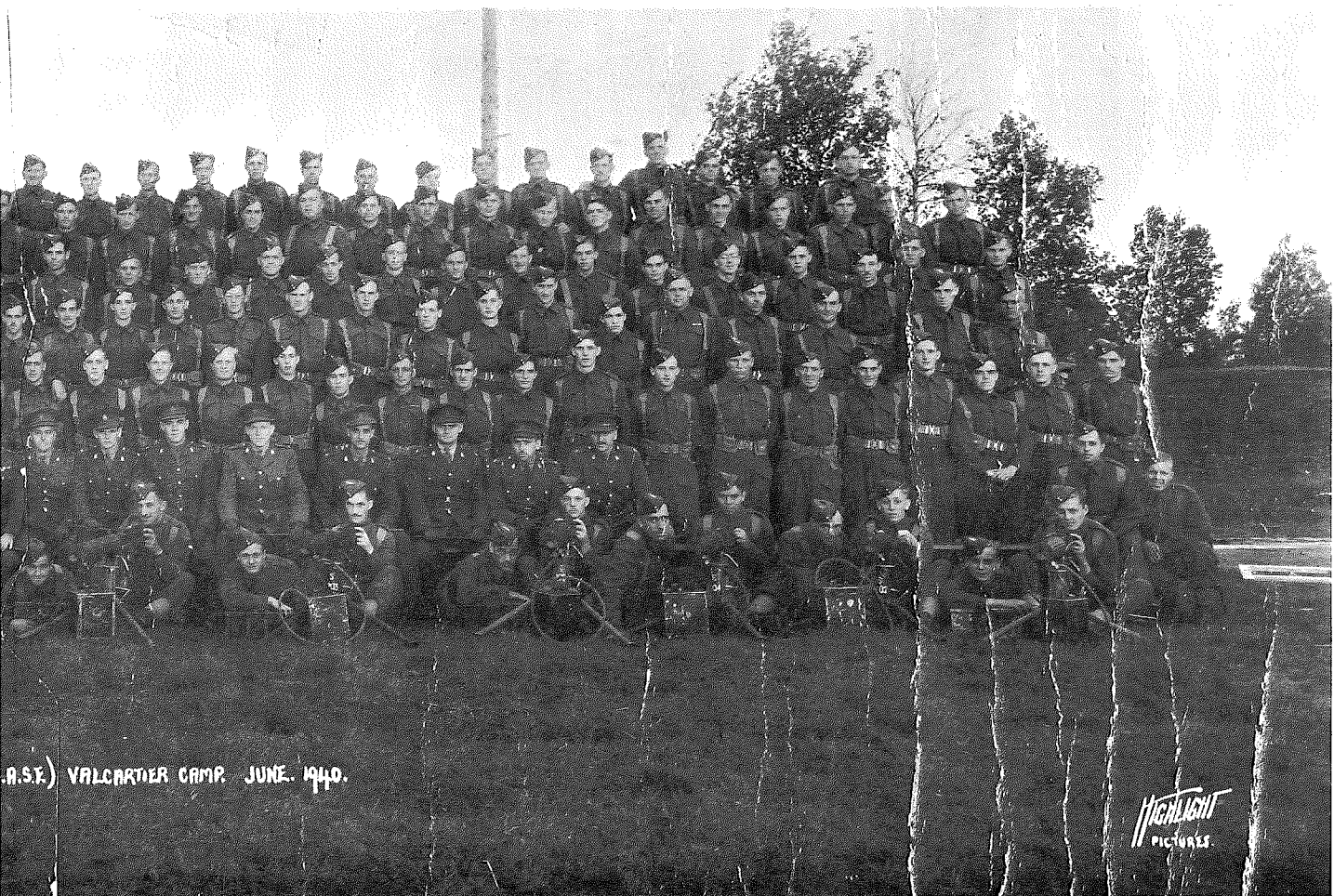
The Regiment served in France and Belgium in WWI as the 154th Battalion. During the Second World War the unit landed in Normandy with the 9th Infantry Brigade, 3rd Canadian Division and won many battle honors. Second and third Battalions were mobilized as reserve units in Canada.

As the only military formation authorized to wear the tartan of MacDonnell of Glengarry, the Regiment continues to maintain its proud traditions in Canada's modern militia. We all wish LCol Brooks well in his new command. Those who served with Bob Brooks in the RMR from 1982 on, congratulate the D and GH for their good fortune in having such a highly qualified and capable new Commanding Officer.

2806 POINTE CLAIRE CADET CORPS

2806 recently published another issue of the "Platoon Post" under the able editorship of OCdt Canton who has succeeded 2Lt Asch to the prestigious chair. Now in its second year, running to some 20 pages, The Post will appear every two months. It is full of useful information about this highly successful unit which is not entering its 25th year of service in the West Island.





THE BEST INFANTRY UNIT IN CANADA CELEBRATES REMEMBRANCE DAY



THE COMMANDING OFFICER
PROUDLY DISPLAYS THE SIR
GZOWSKI TROPHY FOR ALL
TO APPRECIATE

WO W. HUNTE RECEIVES THE
MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD
FROM COL LAWSON

mored Personnel Carrier or Leopard C1 Main Battle Tank for which the LAV is a training substitute. Training value was achieved in a few mechanized attacks on enemies of differing sizes (depending on the color of the flag on the objective) there was never an opportunity, however, to have infantry and tanks rolling over the objective together.

Following the FTX the Regiment stood down until Remembrance Day, when tradition took us to back to Pointe Claire and Westmount to commemorate the Regiment's fallen and missing from the two World Wars. The events of November 11th included the customary parades, the payment of the regiment's \$1. per annum land lease, the change of the Honorary Colonel ceremony and the presentation, by LGen Belzile, Colonel Commandant of the Infantry, of the Sir Casimir Gzowski and the General Waters Trophies to the Regiment.

The Sir Gzowski Trophy is awarded annually to the best Militia Infantry Regiment in Canada, while the General Waters trophy is awarded to the Militia regiment with the best marksman-ship record. This is the first time in history that a regiment has won both trophies simultaneously - this recognizes the dedication, hard work, and sound soldiering skills of the Regiment's members.

Upcoming B Company training will include the Small Arms Coach course and the Basic Reconnaissance Patrolman course, to be run into spring. EXERCISE SWAMPY TRENCH in early December will include section fire and movement and platoon night ambush ranges. EXERCISE BACK BREAKER will be 50 pounds and 10 km. unfortunately CFB Valcartier is not a good place to do desert training - especially in winter.

NEW HCOL AND HLCOL APPOINTED NOVEMBER 11, 1990

HCol John C. Eggenberger, OMM, CD, KH, PHD

Colonel John Christian Eggenberger was born at Fairview, Alberta in 1933 and graduated B Ed from the University of Calgary in 1969, obtaining his Masters in 1971 and Doctorate in 1976.

LCol Eggenberger joined the RCAF in 1955, and was commissioned in 1956 and posted to 409 AW(F) Squadron. Promoted to Flight Lieutenant in 1961 he served as aircrew with 445 AW(F) Squadron in Manville, France until 1963 and subsequently was appointed Wing Intelligence Officer at Grostenquin, France then Wing Mission Planning Officer at Weibruken, Germany before commanding the Radar Unit at Baden-Sollingen, Germany from 1964-65.

Promoted Major in 1970 he was appointed as DCO of the RSU Unit at Winnipeg in 1972 and was promoted to LCol in 1976. From 1977-79 he was Professor and Head, Dept of Military Leadership, RMC Kingston following which he served in senior positions at NDHQ, Ottawa until 1982.

In 1985 Col Eggenberger was appointed Hon LCol of The Royal Montreal Regiment where he formed the Old Guard Battalion. Col Eggenberger is married and has four children.

HLCOL George J. Javornik, CD

Colonel George John Javornik was born in Montreal in 1947 and graduated from the Faculty of Arts, Université de Montreal, Loyola College, in 1971.

Colonel Javornik began his military career with the Royal Canadian Hussars Cadet Corps in 1960. After three years, he transferred to the Signal Corps and joined the Student Militia Program with 11th Signals Regiment. He served in the ranks as a Driver-Lineman and as a Radio and Telegraph Operator. As an NCO, he served in Germany and in the cold sub-Arctic. Following a tour as the unit's Chief of Communications Operations, Col Javornik was selected to attend the first Reserve Officers University Training Program (ROUTP) in 1969, and was commissioned.

With the reorganization of Signals in Montreal, Col Javornik subsequently served in the successor units to the 11th Sigs, that is, the 15th Independent Signals Squadron and 712 (Montreal) Communication Squadron. He commanded the latter unit from 1974 to 1977, during which time the unit's strength in numbers challenged major units locally. In 1978, he accepted a transfer to the Infantry and commanded The Royal Montreal Regiment during a re-building phase. He commanded for four years, to 1982.

On completion of regimental duty, Colonel Javornik proceeded to District Headquarters as Deputy Commander. In 1984, he was appointed Commander, District No. 1 du Quebec; an appointment he held for four years until his retirement in 1988.

Colonel Javornik is a graduate of Canadian Forces Militia command and Staff College, and the United States Marine Corps Reserve Officers Command and Staff College. He is Past President of the Canadian Forces Communications and Electronics Association, and a Life Member. He is also a member of the Canadian

Infantry Association, and has served on the Executive of its West Quebec Branch.

Colonel Javornik is currently a Director of United Services Club in Montreal, and serves on the board of Governors of the Montreal Chapter of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires. He currently represents Quebec as Vice-Chairman of the Conference of Defence Associations, an organization that represents Sea, Air, and Army Branch associations nationally. Regimentally, Colonel Javornik is the CO of the Old Guard Battalion.

For those who would like to maintain an interest in the Regiment, by having an activity within the Regimental family and only limited time to spare

OPPORTUNITIES EXIST IN THE OLD GUARD BATTALION

HELPING WITH

- The production of "RMR Intercom" the Regimental Newsletter: writing, chasing up articles for publication, proofreading, telephone volunteers, and serving on the Editorial Board, etc.
- Food Canteens for the Gun Show and (possibly) the Gem Show: helping limited to **THREE HOUR SHIFTS ONLY**, serving food and drinks, collecting cash, stores purchasing, inventory control, bookkeeping, opening and closing the canteen.
- **THE MONEY MADE ON THE FOOD CANTEEN FINANCES THE PRODUCTION AND PUBLICATION OF REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTER**

WE KNOW YOUR TIME IS VALUABLE

- Young families have many demands on their time. Consequently, the helping for "RMR Intercom" has been divided into small chunks. So that people can enjoy the comradeship and fun of having an activity within the Regimental family, without the guilt of neglecting other activities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE TELEPHONE

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