



THE ROYAL MONTREAL REGIMENT

# INTERCOM



## WORD FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

Soldiers, NCOs and officers of the Regiment: Our mission is to produce high quality infantrymen for service to Canada, and this requires a bit of sacrifice from all of you. It is our duty to set the standard for others to follow, so make the effort and push yourself a little further than you think you can go and you will be amazed at your results. As of 29 Aug 06, 58 RMR members have risen to meet the "RMR Fitness Challenge" (3 x Gold, 36 x Silver, and 19 x Bronze). This is not an easy challenge, otherwise it wouldn't be worthy of the RMR, however I'm proud of all of you who have taken the challenge and hope to see everyone wearing their "RMR Fitness Challenge Pin" come this Autumn.

Bravo Company will be conducting some very demanding and interesting training this coming year and the focus of this year's training is patrolling – the ultimate Infantry skill. A patrol member must be a highly skilled and well-trained infantryman able to move quickly across any type of country, independent of roads; being prepared to fight by day or by night equally well; and be capable of working as a member of a small group or as an individual. Canadian soldiers currently find themselves actively patrolling from a variety of transport platforms: LAV III, LUVW, ATV, helicopter, assault boat, etc.

I'm very pleased to welcome our old brothers-in-arms, the Black Watch, into the RMR's GPE Company this year. For those who don't know, the RMR (14th Bn) and the BW (13th Bn) fought side-by-side in 3rd Brigade throughout the entire Great War 1914-1918. It is only fitting that the descendants of those great warriors reunite to train together for the operational challenges that lie ahead of us. On a sadder note, the Regiment extends its condolences to the Black Watch on the loss of Corporal Warren who was killed in Afghanistan at the end of July 2006. Many RMR knew and had served with Cpl Warren, including myself, and I was pleased to see so many RMR at his funeral. We will remember him.



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.



## LETTERS FROM AFGHANISTAN

### **"ON SOLDIERING"**

**CAPT NICOLAS GAUTHIER**

**KANDAHAR, 05 SEP 06**

Brothers- and sisters-in-arms, as I write this Canada is spearheading the first brigade deliberate attack of its 57 years of history. At this time, over 300 enemy fighters have been killed in fierce fighting and another 80 have been captured; 19 soldiers have already paid the ultimate price to make this possible, 5 of which were Canadians and many more were wounded. Presently, an enemy stronghold is being cleared of insurgents and Afghan citizens are being offered a second chance, an opportunity to put over 25 years of constant warfare and terror behind them and grow into a prosperous, peaceful nation.

All of us joined the RMR for different reasons; all of us have different motives to uphold the RMR's history. In the cur-

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rent world order, the Soldier is someone very

special, someone that believes in the greater good and in his duty so much that he accepts to give up his comforts, to give up his time, to give up his innocence, to leave behind his family and his job, maybe even his life so that the world can become a better place. I pay homage to those soldiers, Canadians and Allied, that have died during Operation Medusa, I respect them for their choices and thank them for their dedication.

I also thank you, my fellow RMR soldiers, for your devotion in your service to this Unit and this Country. The men and women fighting today are no different then you and you are no different then them. You, like them and I, have made the choice that Duty is more important then self. The consequences of that choice are very real. Very real is the newfound freedom in southern Afghanistan, very real is the positive change in these peoples lives, very real is the threat that our Nation would face without you and very real the danger that you accept to face.

Being a soldier is going beyond oneself and beyond self-interest to give people whom you may never know in Canada and abroad, and who may not even be grateful for it, a chance at a better life. It is also defending Canada's interest as a nation, and defending what Canadians believe to be Just, Right and Moral. Because being a soldier is doing what is Right, it is not a job; it is not a thing that you can leave behind and go home; once you truly wear the uniform, it never truly comes off.



Captain Gauthier giving map directions in Afghanistan

In my opinion, there is only one way to be a soldier. It is to give it everything you have to give, to give it everything you are. To hold back anything is to endanger those that fight under you, beside you and yourself. Your only choice is to be the best you can be, anything less is unacceptable. Duty Before Self. Be the most fit. Be the fastest. Be the most intelligent. Be the most dependable. Be the most skilled. Be the most knowledgeable. The golden rule for being a good soldier is to be the soldier you would want as your fire team partner. If you are a leader, the golden rule is to be both the leader you would want to be lead by and the soldier you would want to lead.

You are an RMR soldier. We have a reputation at the RMR, a reputation for excellence, a reputation for being demanding and for delivering results, for being proud infantryman. But a reputation does not win wars. Every day of our lives, and even in death if it is required of us, we must strive to fulfill that expectation that the men and women that wore our cap badge before us have built. We must be the best, not talk the best. We must be silent professionals, striving to be the best, yes, but open-minded enough to respect the best in other people, so that we may learn from them, whether they are from another unit, another trade or another country.

Being the best is easier than it seems. It means playing the part given to us, whatever it is, to its fullest;





not trying to play other peoples part. Being the best, doesn't mean changing everything. It means focusing on every little detail, and improving it. Yes, it means getting down in the mud if it offers you a better firing position than standing in it. Yes, it means going to the FATS until you are an expert with your rifle. Yes, it means showing up for training nights and weekends, even when the exercise doesn't interest us or when we would rather stay in bed with our loved one. It means always doing the right thing, not the easy thing or the cool thing.

For the truly professional Soldier, nothing is too simple or too unglamorous that it can be neglected. Actually, in my view, modern warfare is so complex that you can never train for the exact situation you will face. A battalion airmobile urban winter raid is definitely interesting and an excellent test for anyone's skill. But the really useful skills, the ones that really save lives are in each component, taken individually and perfected. Because each of those you will use in every operation, in every battle and in every war. It is the weapon handling skills, the fieldcraft, the navigation, the trench digging, the alert mind, the arc covering in a patrol, the ability

to make instant decision and the physical endurance to march and fight that make the difference between a good and a dead soldier. I would much rather be in a battle with soldiers who can do each of these simple things to perfection, than with soldiers with a whole series of war stories from cool exercises.

We all know what we should be doing and who we should be. We have all been in the company of soldiers, non-commissioned officers or officer that we would be proud to follow into battle, or anywhere. We all have read enough war books, listened to enough war stories from our Veterans and seen enough war movies to know what is expected of each of us. Now is the time to make ourselves live up to those high standards and set the standards for those who will come behind us.

Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.

Captain Nicolas Gauthier  
Second-in-Command  
Tactical PSYOPS Company  
Regionnal Command (South)  
Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan.

## REGIMENTAL HISTORY

### THE VICTORIA RIFLES OF CANADA 1861 - 1965

CAPT ERIC PROVENCHER

In 1855, Canada passed a Militia Act creating cavalry, infantry, and artillery units, made up of volunteer, part-time soldiers. Strained Anglo-American relations during the American Civil War (1861-65) led Britain to send 11,000 troops to protect its North American colonies. The "Victoria Rifles Company" was organized in Montreal in September 20, 1861 by members of the "Beaver Lacrosse Club". In 1862 the



"Rifles" were officially recognized as a Canadian militia unit under the name, the "Third Battalion Victoria Volunteer Rifles". The first commanding officer was Major William Osborne Smith. The battalion participated in the defence against the Fenian Raids of 1866 and 1870 and its members also served in the Boer War, mainly in the "Second Battal-

ion, Royal Canadian Regiment". In the First World War three overseas battalions were recruited from the "Rifles", the 24th under Lt. Col. J.A. Gunn, the 60th under Lt. Col. F.A. Gascoigne and the 244th under Lt. Col. F.M. McRobie. During the Second World War the 1st Battalion was broken up to supply reinforcements in England while the Second (Reserve) Battalion remained in Canada. The battalion also acted as an aid to the civil power during the 1885 Montreal smallpox epidemic, a strike in Valleyfield, Quebec in 1900 and at the 1903 dock labourers strike in Montreal. At the end of the Second World War the battalion was re-organized as a militia unit under the command of Lt Col. R.L. Grant and later, Lt. Col. George Ross Robertson.

The "Victoria Rifles of Canada" called the present day "Régiment de Maisonneuve" Armoury home from an undetermined date until 1965; year of their disbanding following the Suttie Commission (although we have found proofs and accounts that it wasn't their only Armoury, but this is a matter to be confirmed). The "Régiment de Maisonneuve" was supposed to have the same fate, but was left in service after much lobbying with political contacts. The



"Régiment de Maisonneuve" even moved into the "Rifles" Armoury in approximately 1965. The "Rifles" have also been stationed in an encampment located near the Stuart Fort on Île Sainte-Hélène at the end of the 19th century to prevent the American invasions. At that time, the Île Sainte-Hélène was military ground as it was a strategic point to control maritime traffic on the St. Lawrence River.

#### BATTLE HONOURS

Here are the battles of which the "Rifles" were part of as a unit

Eccles Hill, 1866-1870 (Fenians Raids)  
South Africa, 1899-1900 (as part of the 2nd Bn, RCR)  
Ypres 1915 '17  
Festubert 1915  
Mount Sorrel  
Somme 1916 '18  
Flers-Courcelette  
Thiepval  
Ancre Heights  
Arras 1917 '18  
Vimy 1917  
Arleux  
Scarpe 1917 '18  
Hill 70  
Passchendaele  
Amiens  
Hindenburg Line  
Canal du Nord  
Cambrai 1918  
Pursuit to Mons  
France and Flanders 1915-18

#### EDITOR'S NOTE:

The Victoria Rifles were one of the three regiments that originally formed the RMR.

#### THE VRC LIVES ON...

"Victoria Company" (they call themselves the "Vics") is the Combat Service Support company of "The Queen's own Rifles of Canada". They handle the logistics of the Battalion; Quar-

termaster Stores, and Transport which are the traditional roles in a Light Infantry Bn, and the "Vics" also takes in the responsibilities of Signals and Recruiting administration. The Victoria Company perpetuates the "Rifles", reduced to nil strength in 1965. The Montreal based Regiment was a sister Regiment of "The Queen's own Rifles of Canada". They still have the badge of the "Rifles" as their insignia. Victoria Company operates out of Moss Park Armoury and provides support to all aspects of

the A McCord Museum's photograph of the officers of the "Rifles" (1889) Regiment's training and operations.



## BATTLE OF ECCLES HILL

By Charmion Chaplin-Thomas

May 24, 1870

The Maple Leaf, May 19, 2004.

It is the Queen's birthday, when regiments of the Canadian Militia hold their annual muster, and the soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, Victoria Volunteer Rifles of Montreal are arriving at their downtown Montreal armoury when orders are received to despatch a company to St-Jean-sur-Richelieu for deployment along the border – the Fenians are coming.

While the English-speaking units of the Montreal garrison head out to confront the Fenians in the field, the city's French-speaking units are to keep the peace in town, in case of riots and agitation in Irish neighbourhoods.

The latest in a series that began in 1866, this incursion has been expected for months, and anticipated since April 10 with intelligence-gathering and troop mobilizations, especially on the south shore and in the Eastern Townships. The highest state of alert is in the Missisquoi region of the Townships, close to the Vermont border, where the farmers organized an unofficial Home Guard after the 1866 Fenian attack on Pigeon Hill, which cost them draft animals, vehicles, liquor and food, stolen by the raiders.

The Montreal contingents arrive at the St-Jean rail depot in the evening, and are quickly distributed to tactical positions among the villages dotting the hilly, forested border country. The 90 men from the "Rifles" and a troop from the Montreal Cavalry Regiment are allocated to the Missisquoi hamlet of Stanbridge. At nearby Eccles Hill, where intelligence reports say the Fenians will cross the border, the local Militia battalions form up during the night. To the soldiers' surprise, the forward position is taken by 37 farmers of the Missisquoi Home Guard, led by their elected captain, Asa Westover, and armed with heavy Ballard sporting rifles.

The Fenian force numbers about 600 men, mostly infantry, accompanied by one breechloading field gun. They have been told that their invasion of Canada will be supported by the French farmers of the Eastern Townships, who will give them horses, and the Irish working men of Montreal, who

will provide weapons. Their commanding officer is General John O'Neill, who led the force that invaded Ontario in 1866, seizing Fort Erie and trouncing the Militia at Ridgeway. Gen O'Neill and his men are a splinter group of the American Fenian movement, which is now focussed on invading Ireland, and their best hope is to forge an alliance with Quebec's French-speaking Catholics, perhaps even Louis Riel.

Every move they make is faithfully reported to Montreal by British secret agent Thomas Miller Beach, also known as Henri Le Caron, who Gen O'Neill considers a close friend. At 11 a.m. on May 25, while Lieutenant-Colonel Osborne Smith of Number Six Military District is shaking his head over the low turn-out of the 60th Missisquoi Regiment—a mere 40 men—the Fenians begin their advance to the border. Leaving LCol Brown Chamberlin of the 60th Missisquoi in charge at Eccles Hill, LCol Smith rides off to Stanbridge to bring up the "Rifles" and the Montréal Cavalry. As soon as he is out of sight, the Home Guard farmers start shooting at the Fenians, so effectively that the Fenian advance breaks down immediately, raiders turning to take cover or flee back over the border.

The Missisquoi Home Guard keeps the Fenians pinned down for three hours, until the "Rifles" and the cavalry arrive. At about 6 p.m., the 60th Missisquoi Regiment and the Home Guard begin to advance through the bush down Eccles Hill toward the Fenian front, while the "Rifles" station themselves on a spur of the hill as a reserve. This warlike movement sends the Fenians hurtling back over the border, leaving two dead, nine wounded and their gun on the field. The gun ends up in the possession of the Missisquoi Home Guard, who take it to Cowansville as a prize of war.

The "Rifles" claim Eccles Hill as a battle honour. Two days later, the same Fenian force attacks again at Huntingdon, Quebec, where they are sharply turned back by a mixed urban-rural Militia force. After the battle (again, no Militia casualties), the soldiers take a refreshing dip in the Trout River.





## **DP 1 SQ, INF 0627**

### **VAL-CARTIER 2006**

**PRIVATE BRENT MCNAIR**

**2 Section of the course enjoys some much needed relaxation time with this display of Val-Cartier geology.**

Grand Prix weekend in Montreal was a distant memory as 21 RMR Candidates hit the ground at Camp Vimy Sunday the 21st of June. What would soon become our home away from home, we settled in to our platoon mod tents within F company lines. Course 0627 was a three week soldier qualification followed up by a four week DP1 Infantry Course. 0627 was made up of candidates from the RMR the Black Watch and a handful of CGG. The RMR which had the most candidates of all three units was also represented by course 2IC WO Ho, and Sect Commanders Sgt. Ladd, MCpl Lavigne, Sgt. Lee, and MCpl Halle.

The Soldier Qualification passed quickly as we learned the C-6 GPMG, C-9 LMG, and familiarized ourselves on the ranges. Before we knew it we were in the field. We were quickly put into defensive positions and over the course of a very long night our section commanders taught us how to dig in and defend ourselves from the enemy forces attack-

ing our position. The following day we spent setting more defensive obstacles such as low wire and concertina wire. Our final days in the field were spent perfecting section attacks and getting lessons from RECON expert MCpl Blais from the Van Doos. It was over this EX that the RMR candidates got their first taste of real soldering; this sure beat Tuesday night's RIC. Although sleep was a constant oasis, it finally felt like we were doing what we had joined the infantry for.

With SQ's final Ex behind us we were soon joined by some new faces for the DP1 Infantry course. The new additions to our platoon brought our numbers up to a grand total of 46 candidates. Not a conventional size for a platoon however all were ready to get our trade course under way. The course was filled with weapons lectures of the 60mm mortar, M203, The Claymore as well as 3 days of practical C-7 shoots, which included night firing the C-7 and PWT Level 3. Once





**MCpl Lavigne waits with his chalk before conducting a raid.**

again in true RMR style the best score on the PWT 3 was RMR candidate Pte. Bell.

Our last two weeks of course were spent primarily in the field, putting into action all the theory we had learned on offensive operations. For the most part the weather machine at Valcartier kept us somewhat dry and we soldered on well into our final days of the course. The highlight of the course for all involved would have to be the last day on course where we conducted a raid one of the enemy's compounds.

The day started at 0400 as we awoke and packed up camp ready to step off. We conducted some early morning rehearsals before stepping off for a short walk to the LZ. Air Mobile would be our transport, exactly what 0627 had been waiting for. The Griffon moved us swiftly to our location; it was a heck of a ride for some of the guys who had never even flown before.

the first to use the flight engineers motion sickness bag ended with nobody needing his services. Once all chalks we're on location we moved quickly to the ORV and then security teams, support and assault teams moved to their positions. The raid was perfect example of one of the many infantry credos "improvise, adapt, and overcome." Due to time constraints the location of the support team was changed and we had to get into position quickly. H hour came and went and the raid went off without a hitch. With a short march back to Vimy, the EX and course came to an end.

At the end of the course 46 Candidates received their cap badge by their respective CO's and 28 RMR we're among that proud group badged by Lieutenant-Colonel Robinson and RSM Furholter. Congratulations to Pte Duma who was first on course and Pte. Duknic who finished second on course, both from the RMR. Thanks goes out to all staff from the RMR Candidates for great instruction and keeping the RMR standard high!

Unfortunately the pool we had going for who would be

Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense

## ALL YOU CAN EAT STEAK BBQ

CDE GREG BIEZING



Now that I've got your attention bear with me before you toss this edition of the RMR Intercom into the "Toilet literature" basket next

to the throne for there is a promise of a free steak BBQ. Good steak too, not the stuff I get in the \$1.99 to \$2.99 bin.

Before I joined the Regiment I used to celebrate Canada Day by taking the roof off my Jeep and strapping Canadian Flags to the roll bars and driving up and down the streets in a convoy of friends until we'd bored of waving and honking our horns like we won the World Cup. Eventually we'd pull over somewhere and join in on some of the daily activities that each community organized. Since then I've done a few parades with the brigade, worked in Valcartier and missed the opportunity to celebrate it and I once even went to hill to see the ceremonial guard do their "thing". But none have had as much an impact on me as the Canada Day I celebrated this year.

I was asked if I would like to spend the day in Morin Heights for the Legions annual Canada Day BBQ. I figured what better way to celebrate Canada Day than with the people that fought and served for our great nation. In the beautiful mountains, all you can eat steak BBQ, inexpensive beverages and great company who could refuse?

RMR's Branch 14 arrived "en force" in a bus shortly after lunchtime and we immediately moved to the mess to meet other Legion members from across the region. We spent the day enjoying cold drinks, good food, visiting a local flea market and even lawn bowling. There were prizes drawn and stories exchanged but the most noteworthy part of the day for me was mingling with all the veterans and their families.

We all know people throughout the Brigade through various courses or taskings and know just how small the military community really is but when you meet someone who served with or alongside the Regiment during the great wars and you listen to their stories about the Regiment it really makes you swell with pride. I had the opportunity that day to sit down with a gentleman who fought on the flanks of the RMR. He spoke very highly of the RMR. I met a past RSM, a past Branch 14 President and his wife of 70 years. I don't know

how many times I was stopped and asked about the RMR. A family who saw the RMR crest tattooed to my leg approached me and began asking if I knew some friends of theirs from the RMR several years ago. I told them the names wring a bell but that they were before my time. It wasn't long before they broke out a cellular phone and I found myself chatting away running up their long distance minutes.

I even found out when talking to Cde McConachie, Branch 14 president, that a corporal made \$1.20 a day during WWII. After I told him I make roughly \$120 a day he kindly sighed and pointed out "And nobody is shooting at you!"

BBQs roared and the smell of it was in the air, day turned into night and the festivities carried on into the evening where prizes were drawn and final words of goodbye were said before we headed back home.

So, if next Canada Day you're sick of left and right turns with Brigade I cordially invite you all to next year's Canada Day ALL YOU CAN EAT STEAK BBQ with the members of RMR Branch 14. And, if you're tired of watching reruns of Band of Brothers or Saving Private Ryan and want to get a close up and personal dose of reality and Regimental pride I strongly urged you to stop by RMR Branch 14 and attend one of our meetings.

On a more personal note I would really like to thank on behalf of MCpl Langlois and myself everyone from RMR Branch 14 for all the work they did and especially for inviting us. RMR Branch 14 was the biggest branch to participate and several people commented to the fact.

All gave some, some gave all.

Cde Greg Biezing.



**GET YOUR "SUPPORT THE TROOPS" PIN AT:**  
[HTTP://WWW.LEGION.CA/ASP/DOCS/SUPPLY/FEATUREITEM7 \\_E.HTM](http://www.legion.ca/asp/docs/supply/featureitem7_e.htm)



## RMR FITNESS CHALLENGE

SGT BRUCE CASTONGUAY

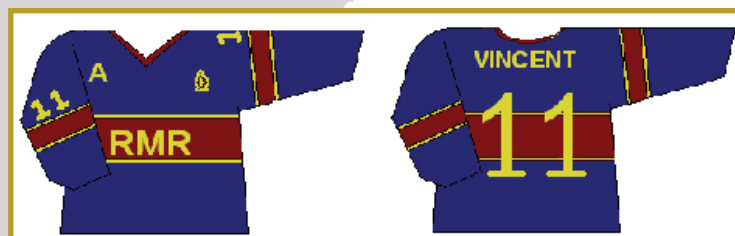


**RMR Fitness Challenge Pin, awarded in Gold, Silver and Bronze to soldiers who complete the challenge.**

En décembre 2005, le cmdt, Lcol C.A. Robinson, m'a demandé de mettre sur pied un test d'évaluation physique qui se déroulerait d'une façon mensuelle. Il cherchait un challenge qui serait plus exigeant que le CF Express, actuellement en place dans les Forces Armées canadiennes, et qui serait propre au RMR. Le test fût administré pour la première fois, le 24 jan 06, et cette soirée là, il n'eut aucun volontaire pour s'y frotter. Lors de

la soirée du 21 fév 06, les deux premiers membres à tenter leur chance furent le Cpl Yeung et le Sgt Yu. Il obtinrent tous deux la mention argent ! Depuis, nous avons fait beaucoup de chemin et, le Cpl Kayzak, qui est en charge des évaluations, avec l'aide du Cpl Masson, ont maintenant évalué plus de 58 membres du RMR. Sur ce nombre, trois ont atteint le niveau or et 36 le niveau argent. Alors n'hésitez pas plus longtemps et venez vous y mesurer afin d'afficher votre distinction 2006 sur votre uniforme ! Prochaines dates d'évaluation : les mardi soir 26 sep, 24 oct et 14 nov 06.

## VINTAGE JERSEY'S FOR THE RMR HOCKEY TEAM



The RMR hockey team is receiving vintage jersey's, from the 1944 hockey team.

## RMR BALL HOCKEY TEAM IS LOOKING FOR NEW FACES

### PTE BRENT MCNAIR

A new season is fast approaching for the Royal Montreal Regiment ball hockey team. The RMR is hoping to make another memorable run for the championship this year and we may need some new faces to join the team. The RMR team plays games against other regiments within the 34th Brigade on Thursday nights at home and away. If you can dedicate Thursday nights to games, practices and the odd team night out then we may have a spot for you! New recruits with hockey skills and want to play with a team that sets the standard should contact Sgt. Castonguay at (514)-496-2003 Ext. 300 or Castonguay.B@forces.gc.ca

## RMR 06-07 ACTIVITIES

30 Sep-1 Oct 06 - FTX 2

14-15 Oct 06 - FTX 3

28-29 Oct 06 - FTX 4

4-6 Nov 06 - Remembrance Day Activities

6 Nov 06 - Pointe-Claire & Westmount Parades

25-25 Nov 06 - FTX 5

16 Dec 06 - Honourary Col XMas Dinner

1 Jan 07 - Levee Day

6-7 Jan 06 - Winter Ex Prep

13-14 Jan 06 - FTX 6

20-21 Jan 07 - 34 GBC TEWT

27-Jan 07 - FTX 7

10-11 Feb 07 - 34 BC CPX (FTX 8)

17-23 Feb 07 - Ex POLAR STRIKE II

17-18 Mar 07 - 34 GBC OFFERS' & NCO's SYMPOSIUM

31 Mar - 1 Apr 06 - FTX 9

6 May 07 - Church Parade

## LA GARDE DE CÉRÉMONIE OTTAWA 2006 SOLDAT MARC BELLEY

Le régiment est rempli de rumeurs à propos de la garde de cérémonie (G.C.) 2006. Cette année, il n'y avait pas beaucoup de choix pour ce qu'on pouvait faire pendant l'été, alors cette tâche, avec un contrat de trois mois, était assez attirante pour plusieurs soldats. Une douzaine de nous se sont retrouvés aux portes de l'université Carleton (U.C.) au début du mois de juin. Les soldats Belley, Cusson, Dinh, Duchesneau, Hanna, Jahkovets, McGillivray, Rutkowski, Rivas, Turner et Watson sont ceux qui ont été assignés à faire un service parlementaire.



Les histoires du manque d'organisation à la G.C. étaient un peu exagérées. Je vais commencer par vous raconter les points faibles de la G.C. D'abord la nourriture était médiocre comparativement à celle du camp Vimy et de la cafétéria de CFB Val-Cartier. Le personnel (staff) civil de l'U.C. était malpropre et n'était pas motivé pour donner de la nourriture de qualité. Il y avait généralement assez de nourriture, mais la qualité laissait trop souvent à désirer.

L'autre point faible est la tâche elle-même. Nous savions tous que nous avions été envoyés à Ottawa pour faire de la drille. Pas de problème. La drille intensive n'était pas trop pire; du P.T. le matin et après cela de la drille de 0800 à 1700. Cela a duré trois semaines et ensuite on a commencé les parades et la maison.

Le problème commence alors qu'on doit se lever à 0435 pour aller faire de la 'drille PT'. Je comprends qu'on est dans l'armée, et que notre mission est de faire de la bonne drille, mais réveiller le groupe aussi tôt n'est pas une manière d'assurer la bonne qualité de la drille. À part de cela la G.C. n'était pas trop difficile. La plupart des après-midi où nous n'avions rien d'attitré on était libre et alors on pouvait partir se promener plus tôt.

Une des critiques que mes ``buddies`` avaient à faire concernait le cours de Q.A.S.P dont ceux qui n'étaient pas qualifiés étaient forcés de suivre. Pendant que la moitié du peloton

relaxait eux recevaient leur qualification de DP2. Certaines personnes n'ont pas apprécié que ce ne fut pas un choix et qu'ils n'aient pas la possibilité de le suivre pendant les fins de semaines. Mais bon, maintenant ils l'ont fait et ça va leur permettre de faire d'autres choses.

Comme points positifs, la vie à Ottawa est très différente de celle de Val-Cartier quand on est ``basé`` pendant un été. En 10 minutes d'autobus on est au centre-ville avec plusieurs bars et clubs. Ce n'est pas Montréal, mais nous avons plusieurs bons souvenirs.

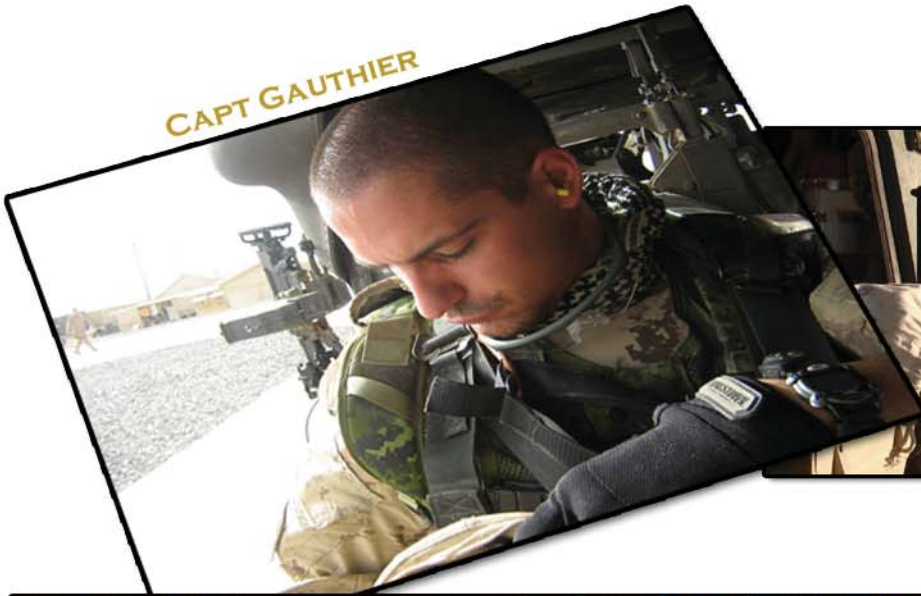
Après ça, il y a les 'barraques'. Les chambres de l'U.C. ne sont pas trop mauvaises, et certaines avaient même de l'air conditionné (qui ne marchait pas trop fort). Mais la propreté laissait beaucoup à désirer. Elles avaient toutes l'internet haute-vitesse et une ligne téléphonique. Nous étions généralement deux par chambres et certaines personnes avaient des chambres simples.

L'été a passé vite, et j'ai ramassé pleins de bons souvenirs. Avec un bon groupe du RMR c'était beaucoup moins pénible que ce que les gens racontaient. De plus comme notre drille s'est améliorée, cela va sûrement nous aider quand on va devoir instruire des QMB.



# PHOTO GALLERY

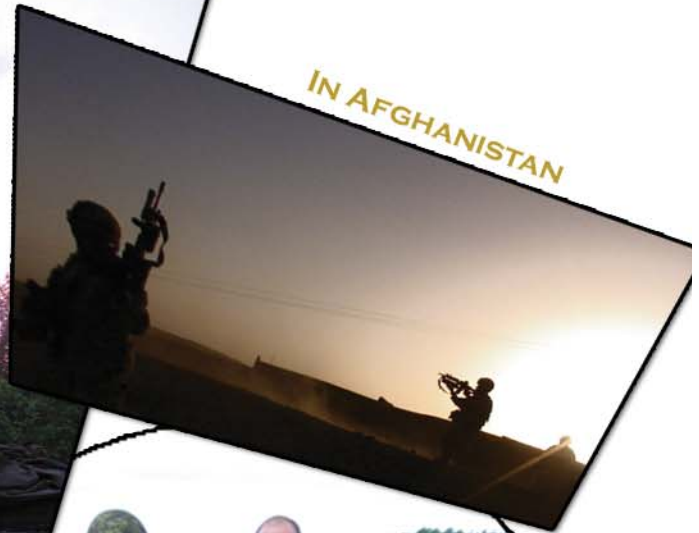
CAPT GAUTHIER



TRUE CANADIANS



IN AFGHANISTAN



C.A.P 06





## THE BACK PAGE

### HONORABLE MENTIONS

#### RMR Graduates 28 New Soldiers

The CO and the RSM had the pleasure of badging 28 new graduates from the BIQ on Saturday 12 Aug 06. Even better news is that the RMR continues to "Set the Standard" as the two best candidates and the Top Shot, were (naturally) all from the RMR:

1. Pte Duma
  2. Pte Duknic
- Top Shot: Pte Bell

### PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to:

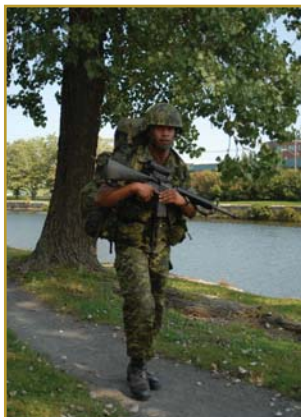
2Lt Moragheb, promoted 19 Sep 2006

2Lt Olivieri, promoted 19 Sep 2006

Sgt Damant, promoted May 2006

### BACK BREAKER

This years' winner is Pte Rivas who posted a time of 1h 47min - Well Done! Also Congratulations to all who participated in this year's Battle Fitness Test, including Honourary Colonel Trent.



### RMR WEBSITE

<http://www.royalmontrealregiment.com>

A great resource for all things related to the Royal Montreal Regiment from mess events to an interactive web forum where everyone can join the discussions. Visit us today!



### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

#### OFFICERS' MESS

Sat 30 Sep 06 - Informal Dining-In

Tues 31 Oct 06 - Halloween Party

Fri 10 Nov 06 - Annual Reunion Dinner

Sat 16 Dec 06 - Christmas Mixed Dining-In

Tues 19 Dec 06 - Informal Dining-In

Mon 01 Jan 07 - Levee Day

Sat 03 Feb 07 - Liar's Dice Competition

Tues 13 Mar 07 - St-Paddy's Day Party

Fri 06 Apr 07 - Informal Dining-In

Sat 05 May 07 - Spring Mixed Dining-In

#### WO'S AND SERGEANT'S MESS

Sat 21 Oct 06 - Wine and Cheese

Sun 19 Nov 06 - Grey Cup party

#### JUNIOR RANKS MESS

TBC

