



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DCO)

INCREASE IN NUMBERS AT ANNUAL INSPECTION

TURNOUT BRINGS COMMENT FROM BRIGADIER

BC Area Commander Joseph Bishop, speaking to The Regiment at the annual inspection paid tribute to smart and fine turnout, commenting on the increase in numbers of last year and the number of young men on parade.

"I hope, and I'm sure, you will increase the numbers by next year," said the Regular Force officer whose inspection counts heavily in the scoring for the Wallace Trophy, won last year by The Dukes.

"I'm sure you will gain strength--it is up to you. No one else can do it for you," he added, voicing what Col Lungley has said about personal recruiting on many occasions.

Brig Bishop, too, urged that everyone attend camp "for that is where all your important training comes into play.

The Navy Helped. . .

TANKS COULD HAVE ENDED FIRST WAR

A LOT SOONER

Tanks had been invented before World War One and if they had been used at the right time and in the right manner it could have broken the German line. Such was the opinion of H.G. Wells in his Outline of History. Following is the interesting sidelight on the birth of armour.

Reference is to the year 1916.

By 1916..."the use of the Tank against trenches was an altogether obvious expedient. Leonardo da Vinci invented an early tank. Soon after the South African War, in 1903, there were stories in magazines describing imaginary battles in which tanks figured; and a complete working model of a tank, made by Mr. J.A. Corry, of Leeds, was shown to the British military authorities, who rejected it in 1911. Tanks had been invented and re-invented before the war began."

"It was Mr. Winston Churchill, who was at the British Admiralty in 1915-16, who in-

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AN ODE TO A GUARDSMAN

By RJP Lyon

In the hut, one day, the Colonel said,
With face set firm and hard,
That some of those among us
Would parade in the Quarter Guard.

"Bur Sir", said one, with great remorse,
"I, for one, am taking a course."
Talk of courses went not well,
For the Colonel said "courses could go to,
well."

From D & M came Mickey Prousey,
Who wrote his "clock" with marks quite
lousey.
And 'cuz he didn't know his mech
His D & M went all to heck.

From wireless wing came Corporal Geddes.
Gosh, look at all the breaks that guy gets.
Whenever the Guard goes on parade
He sneaks off to fix wireless sets.

The experts of the gunnery wing
Are brothers Terry and Ted.
Their gunnery now includes arms drill
They'd feel so much better in bed.

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Authorized by Lt Col A F Lungley, CD
Commanding Officer

Tank History (cont'd from p. 1 col 1)

sisted upon the manufacture of the first tanks, and it was in the teeth of the grimmest opposition that they were sent to France. To the British navy, and not to the army, military science owes the use of these devices. The German military authorities were equally set against them. In July, 1916, Sir Douglas Haig, the British commander-in-chief, began a great offensive which failed to break through the German line. In some places he advanced a few miles; in others he was completely defeated. There was a huge slaughter of the new British armies. And he did not use tanks. In September, when the season was growing too late for a sustained offensive, tanks first appeared in warfare. A few were put into action. . . in a not very intelligent fashion. Their effect upon the Germans was profound, they produced something like panic, and there can be little doubt that had they been used in July in sufficient numbers, and handled by a general of imagination and energy, they would have ended the war there and then."

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And then we have dear Sergeant Crawford. Some call him "Buttermilk Bill". In the mess he drinks nothing but "buttermilk". But still comes out looking quite ill.

Mr. Robertson, the Guard commander, Makes us shake and shudder. Some months ago he had one pip-- Last month he got another.

And when we're seen by folks unknown, They gape and say "Oh brother" 'Cuz the Corporal of the Guard grew one way While the Sergeant grew the other.

When the Colonel inspected the Guard, He thought the author would have a papoose. For he said in a very encouraging voice, "Son, you just gotta reduce" But now:

The Guard in silent slumber rests
While the Unit is merrily writing tests.

SERGEANTS OPEN POSH QUARTERS WITH

COLORFUL PARTY

One look at the spacious, beautifully draped and decorated new Sergeants Mess and visitors invited to the official opening made a few offers.

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Cont from colm 1

Lt Col Lungley offered to lend the Sgts the adjoining officers' mess for big affairs--- if the officers could borrow in return. And Col The Hon Clarence Wallace suggested the Sgts paint three stripes on his arm in his picture and he would revert to a rank he held for a while in World War One. Coming in for the cheers and huzzahs from both the hosts & the visitors were those keen, hard-working and charming ladies of the Women's Auxiliary to the Sgts Mess who did a wonderful job.

"A" SQUADRON NEWS

Once again it's time to bring forth news about the best squadron.

First of all, the Stork Report. Congrats to Lt. Grady, the proud father of a baby girl, and to Tpr Towell who received a boy at the fine time of 0400 hrs.

With another Nanaimo weekend over we find "A" Sqn well represented. However we must report one of our members injured in line of duty. Tpr Gunderson received wrist and rib injuries while on D & M training. It was not serious, luckily.

The first call for summer camp came on Tuesday 29 Mar parade and 15 members of the Squadron indicated that they would be attending. This is 47 percent of our strength. "A" Sqn hereby challenges all other squadrons to beat them for percentage of strength at camp! What about it?

Another news item concerns Maj Vaughan. He has gone on a year's leave of absence due to pressure of business and for the past month Lt Romer has filled in. However Capt Blockberger, chief instructor has taken over as O/C and we know he will receive the co-operation of every man to keep "A" the best.

We would like to welcome to the Sqn O/C John Hall who recently joined the Regt. Welcome also to Tprs Thomson and McDonald who while newly joined have pitched right in and are carrying their recruit training with (we sincerely trust) great enthusiasm. Congratulations are in order to, for Lt Keith Robertson on his recent promotion.

LADIES AUXILIARY TO THE SGT'S MESS

Hi! fellas, here we are throwing out, or I should say dishing out some more news. Well how do you like the new Sgts. Mess, even if it does have a few leaks here and there. Us gals think its just fine, especially the Ladies Room.

Have you noticed the new drapes? I think Mrs. Glady (Sgt) Brown deserves a little pat on the back for devoting her time and skill in making them up. We thank you very much Glady. While I'm at it, I would like to thank Sgt. Gil Murphy who helped us in our time of need while were hanging the drapes.

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LADIES AUXILIARY (cont from p 2 Col 2)

It seems like the new Mess has already affected some of the Sgts. When you see the dice floating around in somebody's drink, it is time to go home.

_____ , so I will leave you with that thought and see you next month.

"The Pest"

ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE MAY 5

HIGHLIGHTS FULL SPRING PROGRAM

This year the annual church parade will not be held the morning after the Officers Mess Dinner but May 5. As usual The Regiment, band and cadets will parade to Christ Church Cathedral for the morning service to be conducted by Padre Capt Lennox.

Other important dates are Officers' Mess Dinner April 27; Guard Mounting Competition, this year at Brockton Point Oval, May 25; Garrison Church parade and inspection by General Vokes June 2; Nanaimo's Empire Day parade, weekend of May 18-19; Pay parade June 25.

And SUMMER CAMP. Off to Wainwright June 28.

Next Nanaimo scheme is April 12-14 and "C" Squadron has a joint exercise with the Westminsters April 20-21. Blair Range shoot is May 4.

THE PADRE'S CORNER

By Capt. The Rev. Harry Lennox.

The other day I saw what I thought was a very fine motto on the bulletin board outside the YMCA--"Courage is the Conquest of fear, not the absence of it."

That is so true. The bravest men I have ever known were not the men who were unafraid but those who in spite of their fears went out to do their duty.

This applies not only to military campaigns; it has to do with daily living.

You will usually find that heroes of that sort have faith in God which is the true source of courage.

THE NEWSLETTER OF HEADQUARTERS

The Unit held its Annual Inspection on March 5, when Brigadier J W Bishop took the salute at the march past in the Armouries. Although short of a full turnout, The Regiment nevertheless distinguished itself with a smart display and earned the plaudits of the Area Commander.

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A LITTLE RIVALRY HELPS

SOME QUOTABLE QUOTES

By "Uncle Jeff."

Howdy! Well, I'm back with a bit of gossip, oh, excuse me, news.

Fellow members, did you know there was a club within the Regiment? Of course you did--everyone knows about the "Goldbrickers." It doesn't seem too bad a club at all. I've heard along the orange vine that L/Cpl Williamson is an honorary member and in time will be bucking for director. I say if Willie can get into it ANYBODY can.

If you want in, here's the dope. First you ask one of the boys if you can get to meet the rest of the gang; they look you over and see if you are doing okay in D & M and then they hold a small "O" group to think about it. If accepted you must go into the mess and say nice and loud so everyone can hear, "FELLOWS THE BEERS ARE ON ME!" If you don't get trampled in the rush and live to tell about it and live through it with your pocket book, you're in.

Well, so much for talk, let's get into quotes.

"Keep quiet in this hut, I'm doing too good in this poker game to let your noise make me lose now." That sentence was actually quoted by your every loving Cpl Geddes. Of course you know I never mention any names but it seems that when Cpl Geddes said this, he didn't know Uncle Jeff was around.

While I was down in the QM stores I happened to bump into Mr. Robertson and his quote is "If everybody that thinks he is really good enough to get into guard will try and pitch in we wouldn't stand a hair of a chance of losing." More "guardsmen" are needed.

Rivalry. It seems that the Goldbrickers are going so strong that another club is starting up. The name is "The MISSFIRES" and of course it is with the Gunnery Wing.

When talking to Tpr Glover (smile when you say that) he quoted: "I don't think our club will be better than the Goldbrickers--I know it will. And I'm trying very peaceably to get votes." (Say, by the way, Tpr Glover, did you ever get to clean the pistol you were trying to get votes by?).

To close off my column I might add that Sgt Murphy had a letter from his son who left The Regiment to join the Straths. Sgt Murphy says "Bob wrote home and said he would like to have a letter from some of the guys. Sometimes he gets lonely."

Finally I would like to say that the last Nanaimo scheme was the best one I've been on. And the Goldbrickers aren't a bad bunch of guys at all. Try and join--they want recruits but you must be in D & M.

WELL THATS ALL FOR NOW, SEE YOU NEXT DUKE.
UNCLE JEFF (soon to be Grandad)

HEADQUARTERS (cont from p 3 Col 1)

In keep with the Commanding Officer's wish The Regiment continues to grow in numbers. The latest additions to our ranks are Tprs. George Elgie, Bill Hatch, Jim Manning. Also added to our growing steno staff is Pte. Diana Pires, who has recently arrived from Hong King. However, the Regiment still has room for many more recruits and this is a job we must all continue if we are to attain the CO 's figure of 200 all ranks by next October.

The first phase of "Jericho I", a cloth model Regimental Exercise, was held on March 21 at Jericho Beach, and wound up with a similar tactical exercise without troops March 28. It was held for all officers and senior NCO's of the Regiment and concentrated on the principles of the Company Battalion in the attach with tanks. Such demonstrations which involve practical participation should prove invaluable reminders to all tank commanders preparatory to summer camp in June.

H.Q. Squadron has been well represented at the Thursday Night recreational shoots on the Indoor Range, and have been more than holding their own as regards the other squadrons. Such stalwarts as Sgt Bud Lay and Tprs. Fuller, Zaholuk, Woodruff, Schneider, McLaughlin have been regular firers and their scores are indicative of their determined effort. We were very sorry to lose one of our best shots in the person of Cpl. Robinson who left the Regiment earlier this month to return to Victoria. She was not only a steady 95 plus shot but more important was a constant help to the newcomers who benefitted from her advice. We wish her well in her new surroundings and hope that she will find time to visit us again soon.

REMEMBER SUMMER CAMP FROM JUNE 28TH TO JULY 7th.

REGT WILL COMPETE INBLAIR CUP SHOOT

by Lt. C E Peck

This year, as in the past, The Regiment will turn out a full bore rifle team of six men to compete for the Col. Blair Trophy at Blair Range June 2.

Team will consist of two officers and four other ranks with at least two spares on call at all times. Under the able coaching of Capt. Arthur Goodson the team's 303's were zeroed in perfectly at Nanaimo. All that is needed now is a little luck and at least three practices and your regimental team can take on all comers and come up with the trophy.

"B" FOR BEST SAYS A BIT

Well, dear "BEST" squadroners, how's everyone? I hope good and that you all know that your in the best squadron.

First of all, did you all know, that Cpl. Bob McRitchie, is back in the Regiment after a few months (quite a few) holidays? Its good to see you back, Bob, but why did you say you were taking it easy when I asked you where you were during your absence. Everyone knows a good N.C.C. like you wouldn't dare take it easy when you left the Regiment to work. Anyway its good to see that you got your old rank back and that in the D & M wing with your old number. Since Tpr. Lamb left when you did, hows about asking him when is he going to do his good deal and come on back to the good old Corps, "B" squadron will be really whooping if we get all of the old boys back again.

Well I see Cpl. Williamson sneaking out the Armouries door the other night after he found out he had to buy beer for all of the guys in the men's mess, oh well, Willy, congratulations on your full Cpl. hook and after this don't sneak out.

Lads, don't worry if you come on down to the Armouries on a Tuesday night and find only a few fellows down here that have fallen in with B Squadron,--it seems that everybody we have is writing their exams for school, but don't worry boys Mousey's still here.

No doubt you've all heard of the Goldbrickers, well there is now a Gunnery club and it is called the Missfires (and I mean Miss) and who do you think is boss, you 've guessed it one of our boys, Tpr Glover. (the crest of the Missfires is going to a 30 cal machine gun firing).

After asking Major Gourlay about how he thinks the annual turn out of B Squadron is doing he said "Don't quote me, I would'nt like to say what I think". (he's not mad just starting to steam.)

Good bye all your "B" Squadron Buddy,
"MOUSEY".

NEW IDENTITY CARDSDOINGS OF DUKES

Another B.C. Regiment "first" has turned up with the smart new identity cards now being issued through squadrons. Of business card size but doubled, the front contains the Regimental crest and room for your name, signature and the signature of the Commanding Officer. It is done neatly in our green color. Inside the fold is information on parades. Below this are spaces for the home and business 'phone numbers of Sqn Commader etc., and 'YOU ARE A 'DUKE'--BE PROUD OF IT!