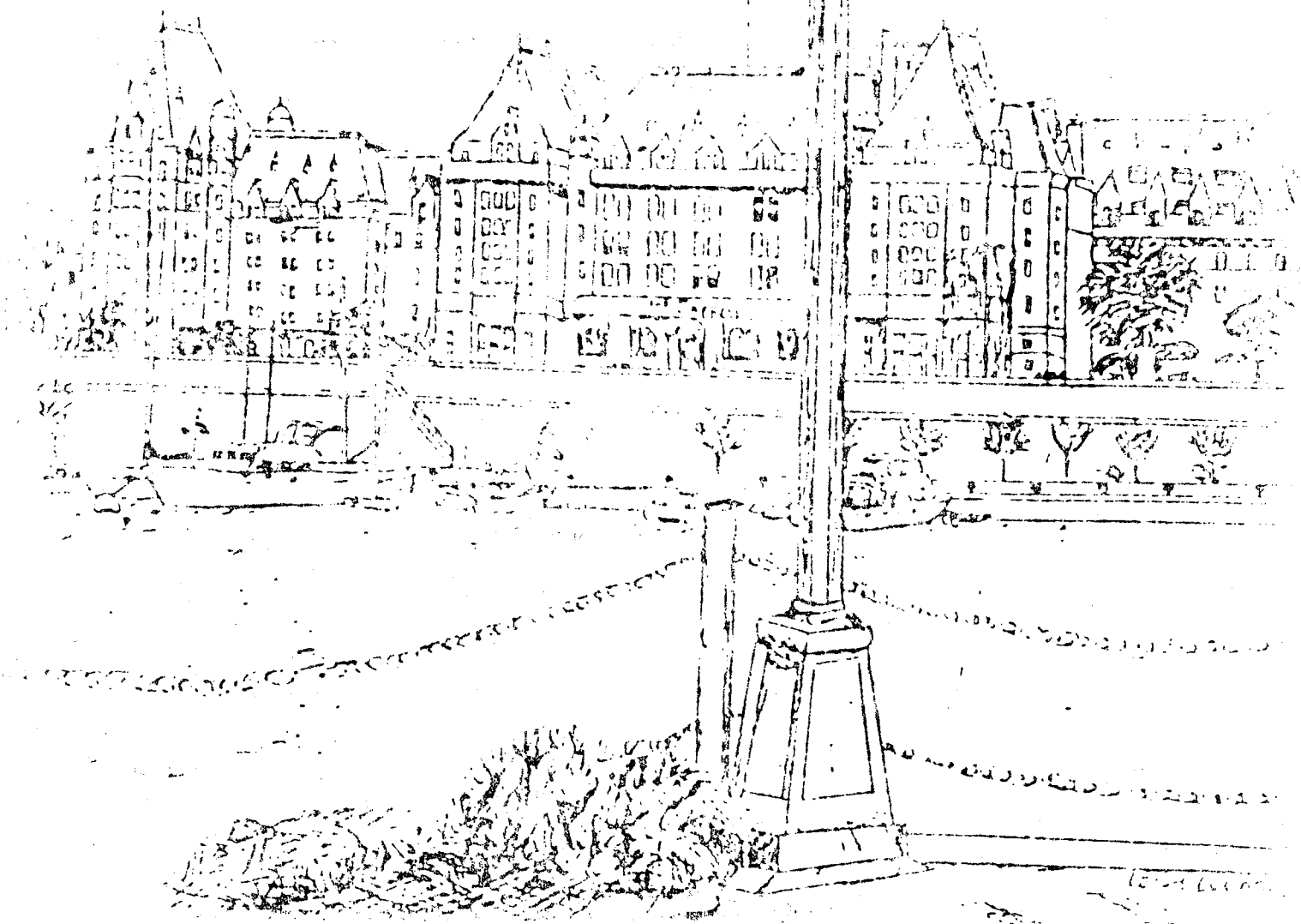




741 (VICTORIA) COMMUNICATION SQUADRON

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1985



SUNRAY SPEAKS

My subject for this months newsletter will be the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals (RC Sigs). This seems appropriate as RC Sigs is the oldest communications organization within the Commonwealth. October 24, 1903 marks the beginning of a militia unit formed by Captain Bruce Carruthers. Training included: Heliograph, lamp, flag and semaphore. Telephone and telegraph, at that time were the responsibility of the Engineers. Later these responsibilities would be transferred to Signals. In 1908 the "Sounder" a first step toward telegraph signalling was introduced. The Corp also received their hat badge with the motto "Velox, Versutus, Vigilans (Speed, Accuracy and Watchfulness). Since then the RC Sigs have fought in two World Wars and Korea as well as playing a large role in numerous peacekeeping operations. Signals opened communications in the Yukon and N.W.T. CBC's northern stations were built and manned by signalmen who doubled as DJ's. RC Sigs having earned an enviable reputation, were absorbed along with the land element portion of the Communications Branch to form the organization we represent today. We can be proud of our corp and continue its role of passing messages under all conditions.

VIGOR PER COMMUNICATIONEM

EDITORS CORNER

Happy Halloween! ! ! Time to don those old costumes again. Fortunately for us, the Forces provides them for us, Now wasn't that a Mess Dinner or what? That is, all that were there. Don't you wish we had one once a month. Boy, I can't wait for the next one. (If you believe that, I've got some land in Florida) Well, since the last issue this fellow was places. You've heard of the "Great White North", well I was there, along with Ocdt Paxton, Mcpl White and Pte Kyle. You're asking why we would be so foolish? It was so we could take part in Ex Nanook Lark, an HF Radio exercise. Oh what fun we had too ! Oh well all good things must come to an end. But the fond memories will stay with us forever.

Special Congratulations to LGen Clark on receiving his 4th Clasp on his CD. Well done Sir! Or as some would say, "Bravo Zulu!"

Better late than never, congrats go out to Mcpl Rachel Zuckermann for being "Top Candidate" on her SLC this past summer. Also to Mcpl John Sambrooke for receiving the "Dedication and Morale Award" for the JLC.

Birthday Wishes are awarded to the following people for the month of November:

Mcpl White JR Nov 4	Lt Whittier Nov 13
Sgt Snider Nov 5	Capt Collins Nov 14
Mcpl Milling Nov 8	Cpl Simons Nov 20

Until next month remember, "Max Flex!" The \$69.00 question today is: What former member of the unit said that. I'll give you a hint, he retired as a MWO.

NOTES FROM THE RFTA

One of the most frequent complaints I have heard since arriving in June is "all the (expletive deleted) paperwork we have to do". Having spent most of my career either passing paper or creating it I have developed the theory that: Reports and returns increase in direct proportion to the importance placed on your activities by outside agencies.

NOTES FROM THE RFTA cont.

To think of an example of what I mean I look out my window at the vehicles lined up in the compound and I think elephants! Not just any elephants but the ones Hannibal took from Spain overland across the Alps into Italy.

They were the forerunners of the modern day tank and I can imagine the general being deeply concerned about the status of his secret weapon as the army moved slowly and with great loss of life through the mountain passes. I visualize some poor little elephant keeper (a Sgt or WO to be sure) painfully detailing the condition of each elephant for the General's daily briefing. Knowing that if anything unexpected happened to one of his charges he would be executed for his failure (no C&P in those days). So his reports were his security, (today we call it C.Y.A. - covering your ass).

I know this is of little comfort to the section head that sees his "in" basket always overflowing but keeping on top of your reports is important and yes somebody does actually read them and it has been known on occasion to result in action.

NOTE: Anyone not familiar with the Carthaginian/Roman wars, will be happy to know that Hannibal and his elephants were never defeated in the field the entire time they were in Italy. What finally made him give up and return to Carthage was lack of supplies (the Romans controlled the sea lanes) and that he couldn't capture the cities (no artillery). He was finally defeated in a battle outside of Carthage and the Romans proceeded to completely level the city so it could never again threaten the power of Rome. And the rest as they say is "History".

O.R. NOTES

Hello, from the people forever on coffeebreak (as Mcpl Hall implied in last newsletter), well its untrue! We work for our money . . . and we take money for our money (don't we Sgt Bloo... I mean Sgt Hebb). If anyone can find the time and/or the heart to drop a line or two to our buddies in far away lands:

718 417 066	720 915 818	717 405 963
Pte Turlock, G.C.	Pte Currie D.J.	Mcpl Sandahl V.
CANCONSYN NICOSIA	Commanding Officer	(same address as Pte Currie)
LOG COY/SIGNALS SQN	Comm Sqn Lahr	
CFPO 5001	CFPO 5000	
Belleville, Ont	Belleville, Ont	
KOK 3R0	KOK 3R0	

And just remember... if you need anything we're not here.

SUPPORT TROOP NOTES

First of all, let me start by saying that we have had a major personnel change (it's major when you only have six people in the whole troop). We have lost Sgt Snider to the SSM's office. In exchange, Sgt Homuth (ex-Reg force) will be taking over as the troop Sgt. So let's have a big welcome for Sgt Homuth.

Secondly, we have finally gotten rid of that plague known as the linemen out of the Tech shop! The linemen are now where the old Rad Stores used to be and vice-versa. Hopefully, the Tech shop will now look (and smell) better.

Finally, the Driver Non-trade course is underway. It's a miracle considering that the older vehicles require refurbishing and the new ones have not yet arrived (at press time). But Mcpl White R.D. is trying his best. So run for cover when you see a bunch of green trucks on Colville Road. That's all for now.

OP TROOP NOTES

Do you know what I miss most about being in Radio Troop? I miss those wonderful exercises where you can sleep out in the rain and wind with the roar of the generator to lull you to sleep. I miss the hours of endless "Radio check, Radio check, over?" I miss those stubborn generators that refuse to start at three a.m. while your pod lights slowly become dimmer and finally flicker and die. I miss the... what? You want me to go to Port Angeles on Ex Autumn Leaves? Are you crazy? It's cold out there! I'll get dirty! I don't miss Radio Tp that much. Well on to the real meat of this story. What's been going on in CommCen since last month;

- 1) Some of the personnel from thsi tp decided to help out Rad tp in their time of need and augmented themselves to Ex Autumn Leaves. I would suggest a good psychiatrist, but I don't know any.
- 2) Brave fearless Lt Clark volunteered himself to help run the cadets range, and is still alive today.
- 3) Instructors have been working dilligently on their lesson plans for TQ1A. Okay, maybe not dilligently but the idea is there.
- 4) A refresher course on the Model 40 was conducted. Kind of like stuffing cantaloupes into olives.

And that is about the sum of our past month's activities to date. This weekend we will all be participating in exercise "Inspired Whammy" (whoever is naming these exercises should really see a doctor), sending "original" messages to all our friends in 74 Comm Gp. Now we'll see who's the King of Trivia in the West! Have a Happy Halloween and like little Stevie says "Don't Drive Drunk".

RAD TP NOTES

"Ach, its a grrreat, grrreat month down here at Radio Tp", he said, downing his thirteenth cup of coffee, the Rad Tp Rhyzoolies have earned their pay this time.

This overheard in the office lately, the buzzing beehive of perpetual activity that has been the plague of young officers and coffee room regulars for the last little while. What with the Range Ex, the mess dinner (from which a few are still trying to recover), and Autumn Leaves, we've barely had time to relax. We've had a few good times, and even managed to get a bit of work done. Special thanks to: PO1 Eversfield, for actually showing up in combats and sleeping in a (ugh!) tent; Pte's Duckett and Wescott, for trying not to be too obvious; Cpls Harris and Harris, for keeping Cpl Harris in line.

THE SQUADRON IN WAITING - 3005 Victoria Signal RCACC

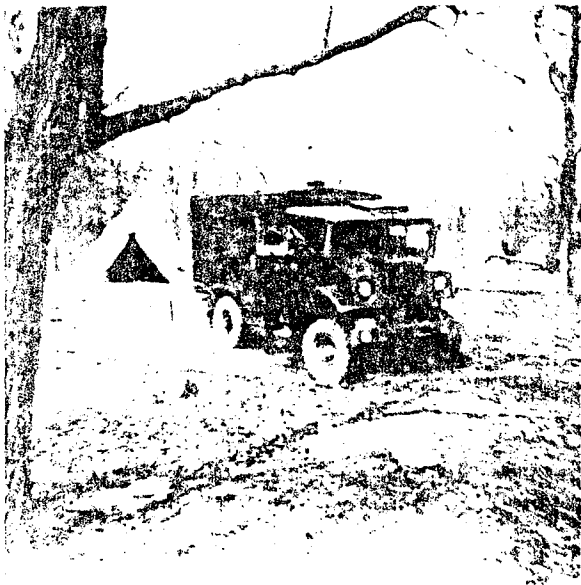
The cadet corps has started an active training year.

We have completed an exercise on Outdoor survival at Mary Hill, and Oct 19 and 20 we will fire the FNCl and also four Anshuss 22 rifles we have purchased. In November is a map and compass exercise.

We will soon start an archery programme and a computer club and Radio communication training.

We have entered four competitions which are the drill, patrolling, and biathlon competitions. We have been chosen to represent all army cadet units in B.C. against air and sea cadets in the First Aid Competition.

The cadets are very receptive to learning military subjects. I first discovered that as a Primary Reserve Sgt in 1970, I found in instructing cadets it gave me good practice and the cadets were well motivated students.



SIGNALS LOOKING BACK:

Trg conducted on the C52 HF radio at the School of Signals circa 1961. Installation was mounted in the back of a left hand frive radio vehicle commonly referred to as the "Gin Palace".

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Whether the subject is training, fire control, target detection, target destruction, ground or air defence, electronic surviellance or logistical support, being in control of the situation requires coherent links between the operations to be undertaken in order to meet the demands of a changing scenario as armies conduct battle.

"RAISON DETRE 741"

I kept six honest serving men, they taught me all I know, their names are:
What and Why and When and Where and How and Who.

RUDYARD KIPLING

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sirs,

You know how every time you come down to QM stores to ask for something and I tell you, "No you can't have it!" Well from now on I'm not going to do that anymore. I really don't think I have the right to do such a thing. Especially since the equipment is not really mine to begin with. So from now on we can be friends and I'll never refuse you even so much as a roll of toilet paper. Besides, I've programmed my computer to do that for me.

Jay Harper
On Leave



"82nd Anniversary of the
Royal Canadian Corps of Signals"

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

It's PARTY-TIME, Mcpl Dennis Hall is having a party this weekend, that is to say, on Saturday Nov 2nd at his place - 1249 ESQUIMALT (rear). Its B.Y.O.B. and some food would be appreciated. (Right beside Grinders and Chili).

Don't forget to read Routine Orders each week, it would make the OR staff feel so much more appreciated and loved.

Don't forget to brush your teeth after each meal.

"ODE TO A DUTY OFFICER"
(With apologies to Edgar Allen Poe)

Once upon a night shift dreary
As I pondered, weak and weary
Over a many quaint and curious volume of the SOP
When suddenly there came a pounding
As if someone, with blows resounding
Grew tired of sleep, and came a hounding
To steal rack time from Sigs like me.

"Who's that?!?", I cried, and with a bound
Lept from my truck and towards the sound
I hoped to take the life from he who dared to spoil my little snooze
I'm glad I hadn't been much bolder
For there he stood, with bars on shoulder
Denting my truck with a fair-sized boulder
The DSO, topped up with booze.

"Dispatch a hundred jeeps!!", cried he
"There's a message on base, a Priority!
Before I write my Sitrep I've just got to have it sitting here
Dispatch a troop, and make it fast
To Svc Bn, we need more gas
Take loaded weapons, don't take no sass
And while you're at it, buy more beer!"

Before I could think of what to say
He turned around and staggered away
He must have thought 'twas Gagetown by the way he lurched from track to track
And as I stood there in the dark
Where the rock had made it's mark
I heard the Sergeant-Major bark
"Get your carcass off my rack!!"

Once upon a weekend ex
As I looked upon the wretch
Of a DSO who lay there bound up at the Sergeant-Major's door
He really didn't look too well
With bloodshot eyes and breath like hell
And over and over with a tortured yell
I heard him cry out, "Never More!!!"

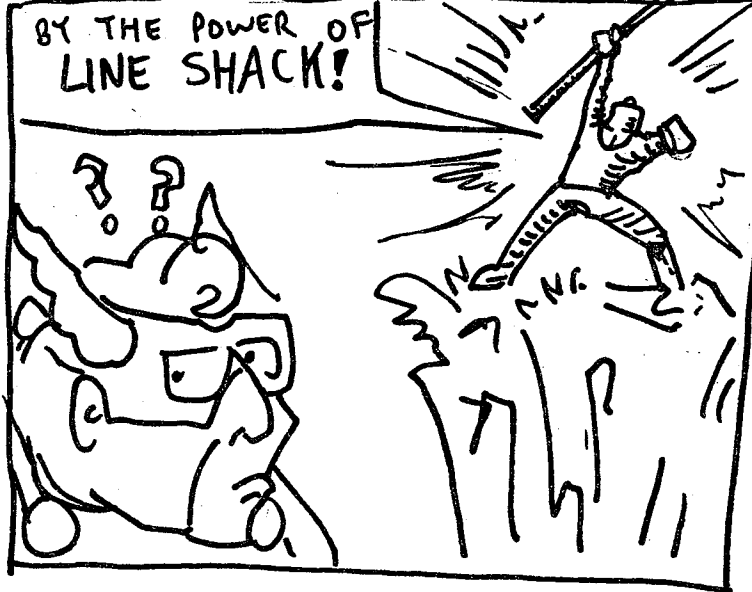
WHEN THE LITTLE LUCKY HERO
SUPER SIGHE WAS TRYING TO RESCUE
THE CO. BUT HE HAD TO GET PAST
THE EVIL LINEMEN TO DO IT!!



FIRST CAME HE-CRAIG!!!



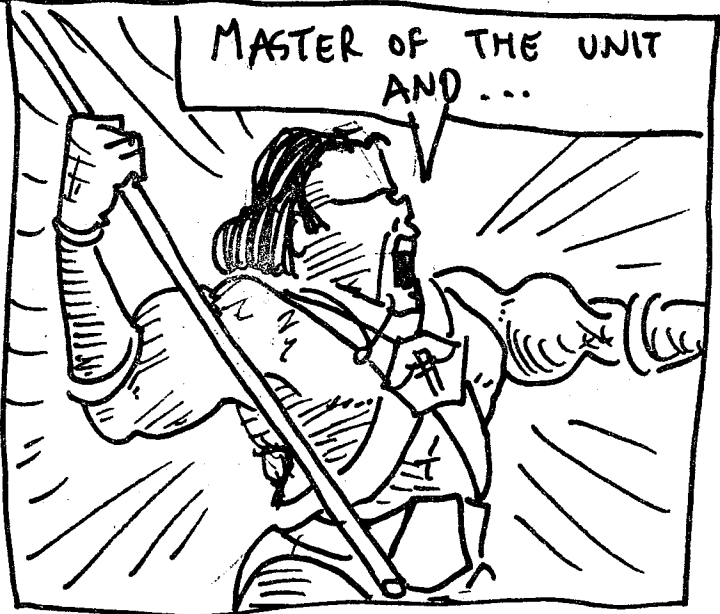
BY THE POWER OF
LINE SHACK!



I AM HE-CRAIG!!!



MASTER OF THE UNIT
AND ...



... ALL THE WORLD! NONE
CAN CONQUER ME!!!



WITH MY STAFF OF CROOKS AND MY TRUSTY
BATTLE TRUCK ... GLAH GLAH... CONQUEROR OF.. ETC.
GLAH... MORE POWERFUL
THAN... BLAH... WOMAN'S
WORK ... BLAH... ETC...



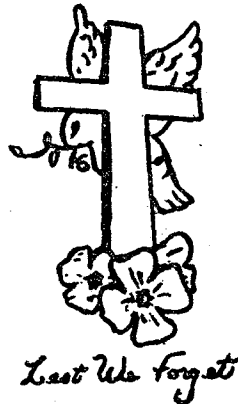
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Letters to the Editor - Sgt Ellis
Super Sig Cartoon - Mcpl McCallum

Editor - Mcpl Hall

General Editor - MWO Greenwood

Publisher - Major McMullen



THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD
AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM
NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN
AND IN THE MORNING
WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM.



741 (VICTORIA) COMMUNICATION SQUADRON
NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 1985

SUNRAY SPEAKS

My topic for this newsletter will be planning for meetings. Recently I had the opportunity to read an article on this subject in a civilian publication. It occurred to me that many of the suggestions put forward would apply to a military meeting as well. For example:

1. Detail is critical, get everything down in writing, keep track of comments;
2. Questions which must be answered: Who?, What?, Where?, Why?, When?, How?;
3. Murphy's law: If anything might go wrong assume it will. Create a contingency plan and build in allowance for failure and disaster. When the staff say "no problem" that should raise a "red flag";
4. Arrange for audio/visual support to your presentations;
5. Know who your attendee's are;
6. Proofread your material carefully, errors can cause embarrassment;
7. Be there early and stay till the last participant leaves so you can tie up loose ends;
8. Arrange if practical for different speakers to create interest and change of pace; and
9. Never make assumptions, ask if you are not sure.

While these tips may not be relevant to every meeting organized in a unit, they do serve as a common sense guideline. Some activities such as meetings easily cross the normally rigid distinction between the civilian and military environments.

VIGOR PER COMMUNICATIONEM

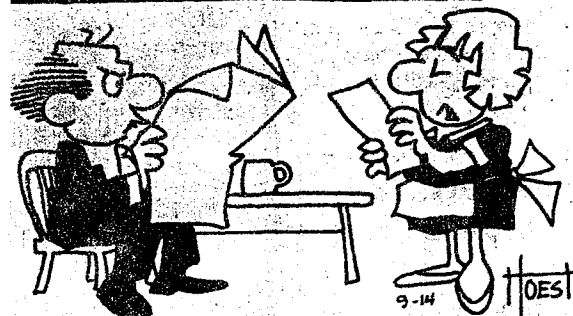
EDITORS CORNER

Well it seems just like yesterday, that I sat down to work on the newsletter. My, how time flies when you're having fun! In fact you might just want to "Whistle While You Work". So how many of you have been outside to have fun in the snow? No doubt making snowmen and snow angels. Oh the life of it all. For all those people, who shall remain nameless, who got stuck in the snow. I may have the solution, "W-A-L-K". Or go see our resident expert, Cpl Dan Mayo. In fact he even knows the "Meaning of Life". On his days off, you'll find him high on top of a mountain enriching the knowledge of others.

But getting to the meat of the action (suspense music please), I have been assisting Mcpl Bob White on the "Driver Non-Trade Course". That's one way of getting gray hair, especially when you instruct on the "PIG". Its another way of finding out the meaning of life, you might say its the condensed version. Another course worthy of mention is the "Refresher Course". Though rumour has it, all they do is drink "5-ALIVE".

Oh well until next time, don't throw snowballs at passing military vehicles.

THE LOCKHORNS



"FIRST I'LL READ THE MINUTES
OF OUR LAST DISCUSSION."

O.R. NOTES

T'was the eve of Thursday
When it snows through this town
The streets were all covered
It was time for a standdown.

Get on those phones
Let everyone know
Phone Support Tp, Operations,
SSM and CO!!

The Staff was kept busy
and one other note
Don't forget Saturday's dress
BATTLE ORDER (with our coats).

The O.R. phoned for hours
all that they could
Then stayed behind to work
Like a good O.R. should.

A Word from Support Tp

Supply end. What can we say? Jays class "D" emporium is having its Xmas sale. Take advantage of him - He loves it.

Transport end. The infamous driver non-trade has started again, so careful on the roads! By the way, has anyone seen our vehicles?

Technical end. Anyone interested in either veh tech or computers (teltech) should see the techs for more info. So much for recruiting. If you have been wondering where the radtechs have been, GOOD! They have just spent another month on their OJT down at 3PPCLI.

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

You know how if you play some "heavy metal" records backwards, you can hear satanic suggestions? Well I played some Michael Jackson records backwards and they told me to be nice to my little sister. My question is this, is this in any way funny?

Angie Hebb
The "O.R."

Dear Sir,

People tell me that you should boil things in hot water for ten minutes before you use them to kill germs. Well let me tell you something, before I brush my teeth in the morning, I run my brush under hot tap water. Man, that water is so hot if you touch it you'll burn yourself and if after ten minutes those germs are still alive, then well I'm proud to have them living on my toothbrush.

Mike Hora
At the Hair Salon

SEAGULL'S DROPPING

Well, as you are all no doubt aware, Seagull's Droppings has been on 'hiatus' since the early summer, but just like the network season reruns we're back again! As I finally write this article, my creative ability aided significantly by the cold metal of Dennis Hall's automatic against my neck, I think back on all that has transpired since Droppings last appeared.

A number of us have been away to see the world - or at least Wainwright - with 11 HQ & Sigs Sqn; a few new faces have become established as part of the woodwork; and a whole new trg year started.

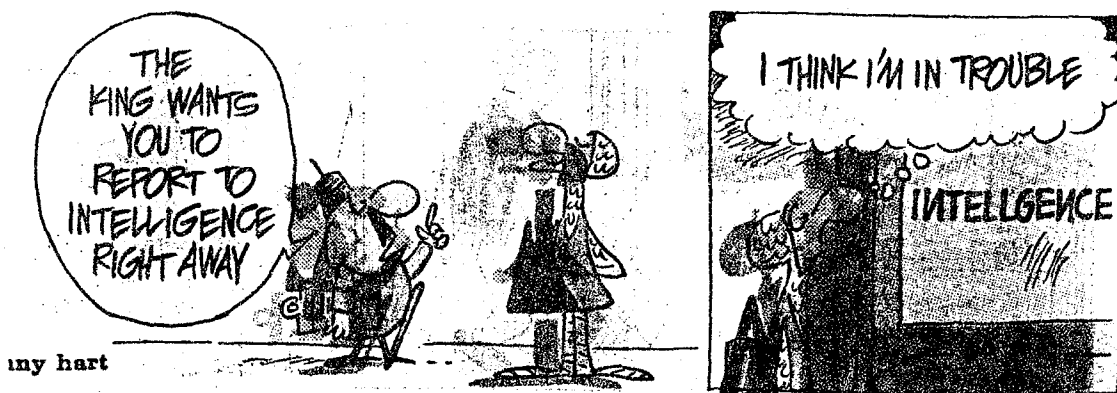
In Ops/Trg office we are striving day by day to maintain a sense of reality - but its no picnic! Lt Tim (Monthly Exercise Forecast) Reilly says that digging the car out of a snow drift is nothing strange, we do the same with paper every Thursday. WO Dave (Its in my Notebook) Rennie has valiantly fielded all the odd ops planning items that might otherwise have been left to thankful oblivion. Sgt Lyn (Its been a Quiet Week) Brooks has revamped the trg library and keeps a running 'tote' on unit trg as well as callouts, but has been heard to mutter under her breath remarks like: "That's enough of that foolishness!" So she is settling in nicely!

Mcpl Cheryl Riddell has been seen doing trg work of great import - just what nobody here yet knows, but she is applying the 'need to know' principle with a vengeance! Cpl Deblois and Pte Thom are seen to support all this activity, and although I haven't been watching too closely across the 'green line' recently, they are either actioning all the trg msgs or have a damn good tape recording going!

Last but not least Cpl 'Cookie' Hebb has developed a talent for 'rapid' interoffice movement! The problem with this is that when you see her standing still and start talking to her, chances are that its an illusion and she's already moved on!

Anyway despite all this activity we still love people to come and chat with us, preferably to let us know what's going on!

Christmas will be upon us soon, and we'll all welcome the break no doubt! So from Ops and Trg all the best wishes of the season, and don't forget to invite friendly Ops or Trg types to your Tp parties!!

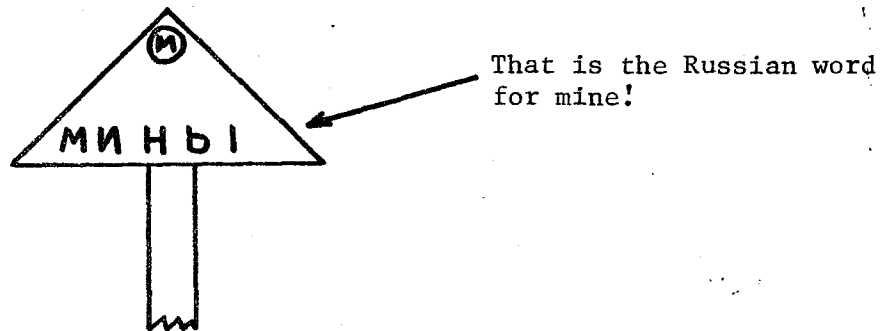


ACORN'S CORNER

As promised 'Acorn' has found time in his incredibly busy schedule, (ie: between coffee breaks!) to bring you another thrilling instalment.

This month's missive is entitled: 'VENGEANCE IS MINE SAYETH THE LORD' with apologies to the Platoon Comds Division of School of Infantry Warminster.

Obviously mines can be laid singly but it is more practical to sow large numbers fairly close together. Mines are naturally gregarious. When such minefields are created it is normal practice to mark their presence, so its helpful to know those tell-tale signs which will inform you of the fact. Unfortunately the Soviets do not use the established code of practice as shown in better war movies. The skull and crossbones below 'ACHTUNG MINEN' is not currently in vogue as a battlefield sign. You should be looking for something more like this:

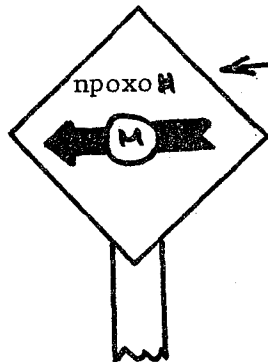


However, if your local POZ (Engineer Mobile Obstacle Det) commander is being inordinately secretive, your side of the minefield may only be marked by sticks and stones. Now things can get rather tricky if the minefield has been laid by a POZ that isn't Soviet - remember all those other eastern European countries that aren't in NATO ?! You should know the other Warsaw Pact countries words for MINE. They are as follows:

- a. Polish - Miny
- b. Czech - Miny
- c. German - Minen

That wasn't too difficult, was it ?

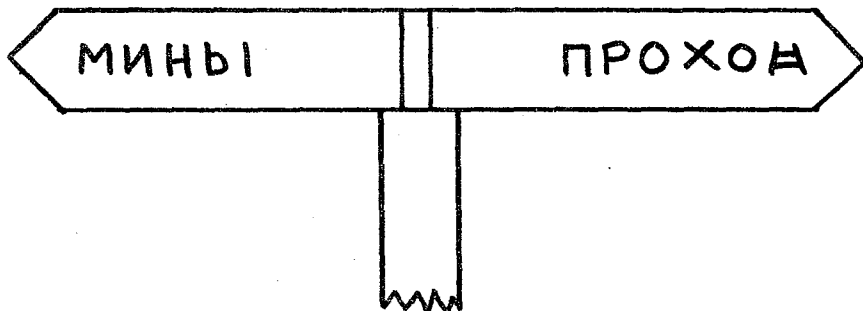
Now, the sign I have drawn above is not the only sign you might see in and around minefields. If by mischance you arrive on their side of the minefield you might encounter this sign:



This is the Russian word for 'passage'

This sign tells you that you are in the vicinity of a Soviet rectangular minefield. Contrary to popular belief the arrow points you in the direction of the nearest safe lane, NOT the minefield itself. Ignorance of this small point could lead you into a fairly traumatic experience!

Your next problem is finding out exactly where this minefield gap is. At this juncture you want to get up off your hands and knees and start looking for a sign like this:



This is a very well thought out little sign. If you travel in the direction of МИНЫ there will be a large bang and you could be fined 50 roubles for littering the countryside. If on the other hand you head for ПРОХОД you stand a fighting chance. Now if the Soviet POZ fellow has run out of signs or is being a bit devious he might mark the minefield lane another way. Flags are normally no problem for the Soviets, especially red ones, and if you see two pairs of crossed flags rather like this.

MINES



GAP



MINES

you want to be aware that the minefield gap lies between them.

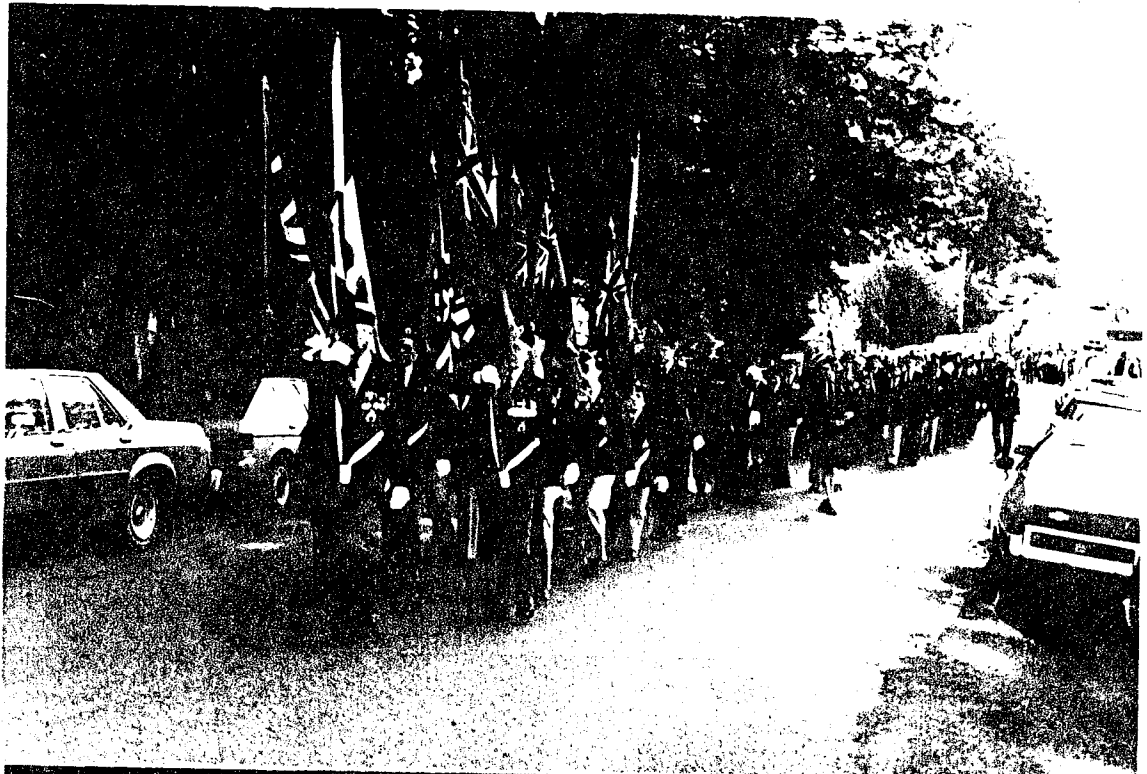
Alternatively, the man from the POZ might opt for using his Super Soviet Socialist semicircles, multi-coloured, minefiled lanes for the marking of. The reason for different colours in the set is quite simple. Your actual bold colours are used to mark the lanes on their side, while the camouflage drab ones are used to mark the gap on our side. All of which is rather unsporting. Everybody, especially linemen should bear these points in mind; and remember the old Chinese proverb:

MAN WHO DOES NOT KNOW SIGNS HASN'T LEG TO STAND ON!

On Remembrance Day, this unit traveled to Cobble Hill to represent the Canadian Armed Forces at their services. After a Church service, the Veterans led a parade to the cenotaph. At which, Major McMullen laid a wreath for the military.

Below: Top picture - The Veterans Colour party lead the parade.

Bottom picture - Lt Earmme leads the unit members, with WO Rennie D. as SSM.





After the Rememberance Day Services, there was a chance to relax at the local Legion.

"Mary had a little lamb..."

"Happy Birthday to You!!!" For the Month of December.

Cpl Hora - Dec 2

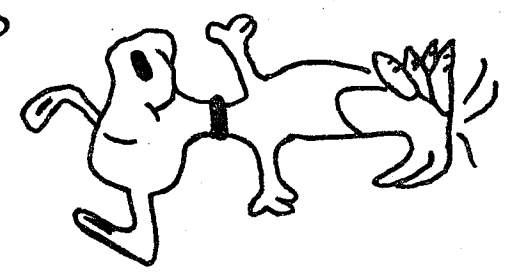
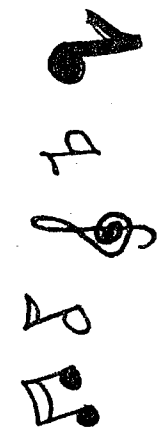
WO Rennie D. - Dec 13

Cpl Mayo - Dec 21

With Big Open Hearts, let us Welcome back Mep1 Glen Turlock, back from the Middle East for a second time. I'm sure he's got some pretty interesting stories to tell. All you need is a couple of weeks to sit down with him to hear all of them.

CHRISTMAS

DANCE

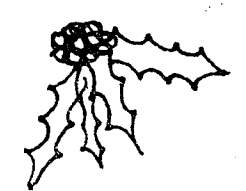


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1988

BAY STREET ARMOURIES

8:00 P.M.



DECEMBER



All unit members and guests are cordially invited to attend Mcpl Dennis Halls " 8th Annual Christmas Party ". It will be held at his place on December 14th at 8:00pm. Members are reminded to bring their own refreshment. It would be appreciated if people could bring some food. See Mcpl Hall.

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Editor - Mcpl Hall

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Christmas Dance Poster - Cpl Mawdsley

Seagull's Dropping/Acorn's Corner - Lt Reilly

UNIT ASSESSMENT



(January 13, 1970)

"... it's only money."