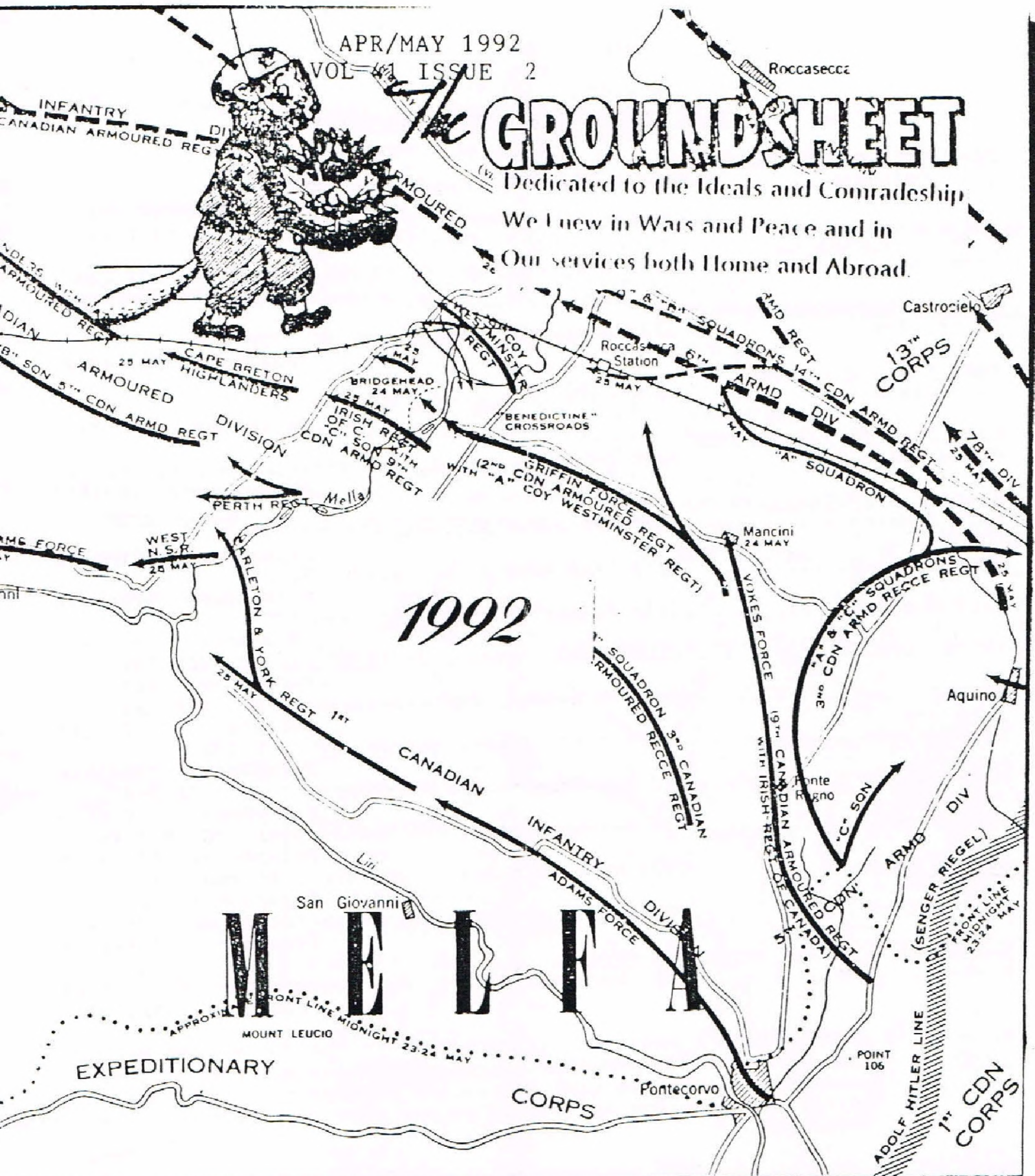


GROUND SHEET

Dedicated to the Ideals and Comradeship
We knew in Wars and Peace and in
Our services both Home and Abroad.



1992

MELFA

EXPEDITIONARY

CORPS

1992 ELECTED DIRECTORS & APPOINTMENTSPresident and Treasurer

C.J. Smithers.....670 Appian Way, Coquitlam, BC
 Telephone: 936-7328(h)
 522-5912(w)

Vice President

Jerry Gangur.....3171 Mtn. Highway, North Vancouver, BC V7K 2H4
 Telephone: 984-4515

Editor (Volunteer Position)

Ron Hurley.....2229 Bonnyvale, Vancouver, BC V5P 2G4
 Telephone: 321-8464

Past President

Doug Glenn.....6666 Walker, Burnaby, BC V5E 3B9
 Telephone: 522-0890

Hon. Solicitor Appointed

Glenn Gates Q.C.....#400 Columbia Street, New Westminster, BC V13 4Y6
 Telephone: 526-1821

Elected Directors

Dick Armstrong.....12876 99 Ave., Surrey, BC V5P 3S5
 Telephone: 581-6373

Bruce Eaton.....1223 52nd Avenue, Delta, BC V5P 3S5
 Telephone: 943-3097

Jack Hogarth.....3738 Sunset, Burnaby, BC V5G 1T2
 Telephone: 435-9507

Pat Hysaka.....12115 229th Street, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 7M9
 Telephone: 463-8150

Walter Lyle.....614 4th Avenue, New Westminster, BC V3M 1S4
 Telephone: 521-3265

Norm Palmer.....10228 128A Street, Surrey, BC V3T 3E8
 Telephone: 581-5366

Rick Spier.....321 3rd Street, New Westminster, BC V3L 2K8
 Telephone: 521-0804

Eben Sweet.....115 Harvey Street, New Westminster, BC V3I 4G3
 Telephone: 522-3808

Lt Col White CD.....2375 West 16th Ave., Vancouver, BC V6K 3B5
 Telephone: 738-1300

Lt J McNabb.....Off Mess Armouries, New Westminster, BC V3L 1K3
 Telephone: 666-4374

Volunteer Position Recording Sect'y.

W. Nelson Scott.....335 Churchill Street, New Westminster, BC V3L 4P5
 Telephone: 521-3294

Note: The volunteer positions of Nelson Scott and Ron Hurley are by their own choice for their personal reasons but they do their respective jobs the same as elected or appointed. Nelson at directors meetings and Ron edits and produces The Groundsheet from his home.

Special Notes: This is the 45th Anniversary of the formal foundation of your association and it is perhaps fitting that the 1st President Walter Lyle and the 1st Secretary Nelson Scott and your editor are still serving today.

MELFA 1992

Cocktails: 6:00 p.m.
 Dinner: May 15 - 7:00 p.m.
 Royal Canadian Legion: 2260 12 Street
 New Westminster, B.C.
DINNER Friday May 15 - \$20.00 per person
 1, 2, 3, 4 x \$20.00 TOTAL.....

~~~~~  
**GOLF Saturday May 16: Delta Golf Course**

1, 2, 3, 4 x \$26.00 PER GOLFER TOTAL.....  
 ~~~~~

SUNDAY BRUNCH May 17 - 1:00 p.m.

Armouries: No Charge

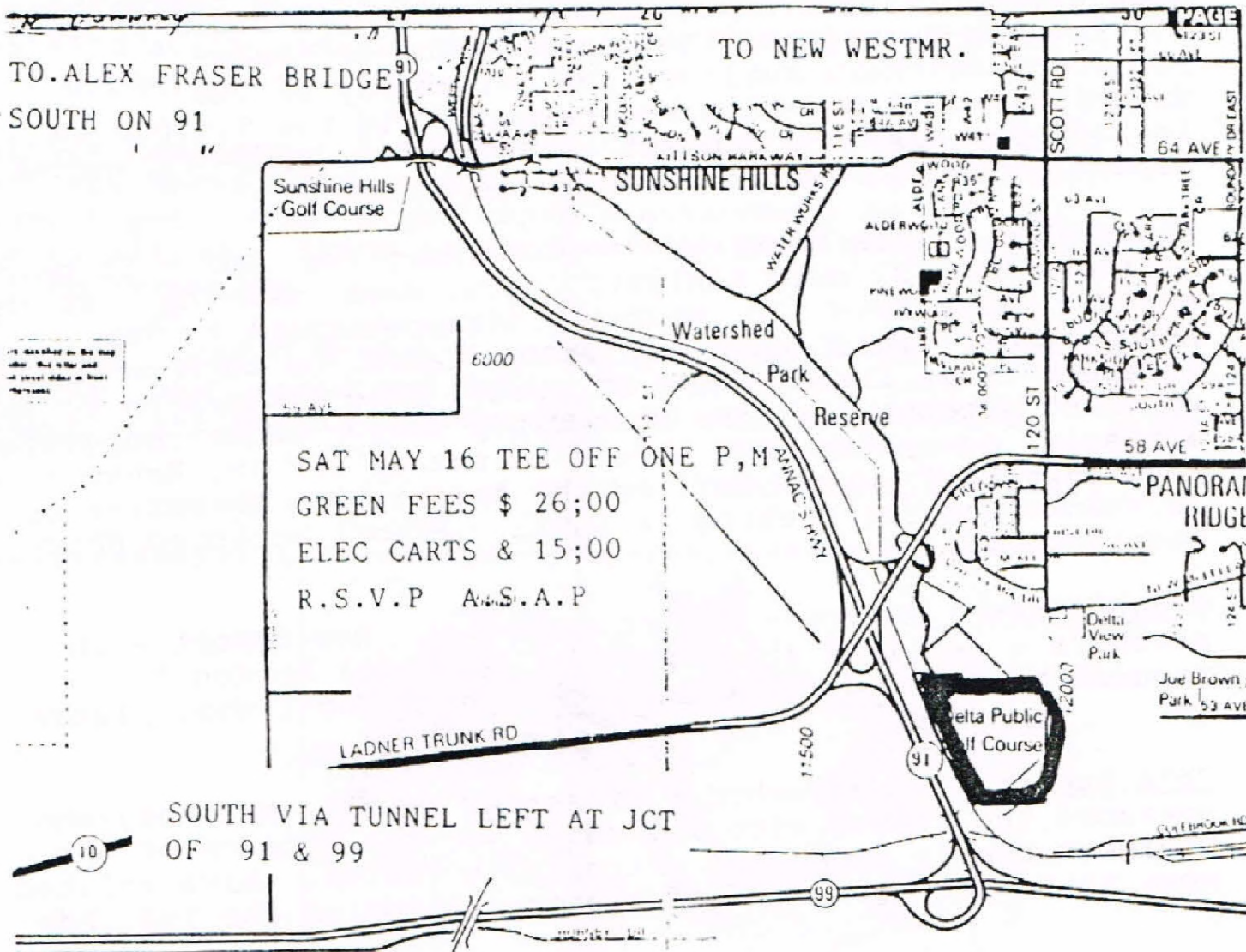
NO HOST BAR

R.S.V.P. by May 5, 1992 payable to:

Royal Westminster Regiment Association
 Box 854

New Westminster, B.C. V3L 4Z8

Note: Donations re. golf prizes would be most appreciated.



A.G.M. HIGHLIGHTS - COURTESY RECORDING SEC'Y NELSON SCOTTTHE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1992

Minutes - of 1991 Meeting accepted, as circulated.
McIntyre-Low.

President gave a review of correspondence - by motion Stephens - Hammersley. It was all ordered to be given to Groundsheet editor, in due course.

Treasurer's Report - four page report circulated. A copy of which is appended to the original of these minutes. Bank balance as of this date \$3,701.24; term deposits \$26,000.00 due July 1992. Subsequent renewals to be dated within the calendar year in order to give a true picture of interest earned during 1992. The manner of showing the budgetary loss of \$620.47 was explained. (Bracketed instead of red). Lt. Housman questioned the depreciation of "Dues". President Smithers outlined the philosophy of The Association. A question was raised; "Did the \$26,000.00 include the Eakins endowment?" Response - Yes. Financial Report accepted - motion Conway - Moorhouse.

Membership - Life Members 170. Ordinary for 1992 - 52 paid. Officers Mess 22 paid tonight. Sgts. Mess. pending - 20 in number. Mens Mess (Jr. Ranks) a disappointment to The Association. This could be our own fault. Do we show enough interest or is there mutual support? Some discussion to set up trust account for Life Membership dues? Hughes suggested a special dues structure should be set up for Jr. Ranks - reduced rates? Hyska invited the Association Executive to Jr. Ranks General Meeting in April? Report accepted Moorhouse-Conway.

Groundsheet - Editor's report appended. His report - in absentia - received loud applause. Special motion to request he continue - Eaton - Hammersley unanimous, please do.

Co's Report - As attached - presented by Bill McKinney who prefaced the report with apologies for the absence of The Regiment due to a weekend exercise in Yakima. Also related news that there would be no reorganization of the Inf. Bde

A.G.M. Highlights (cont'd.)

for 5 years. Also spoke about what the City has done to the environs of the building; also the flag pole and cairn out front. Some discussion re. The Band - a subject always good for light exchanges of banal comment. To close, President Smithers requested McKinney to accept The Associations' cheques in the amounts of \$700.00 (Command Fund) and \$300.00 (Cadet Fund). Thank you on behalf of the recipients, Gratefully accepted.

Sqts Mess - No report.

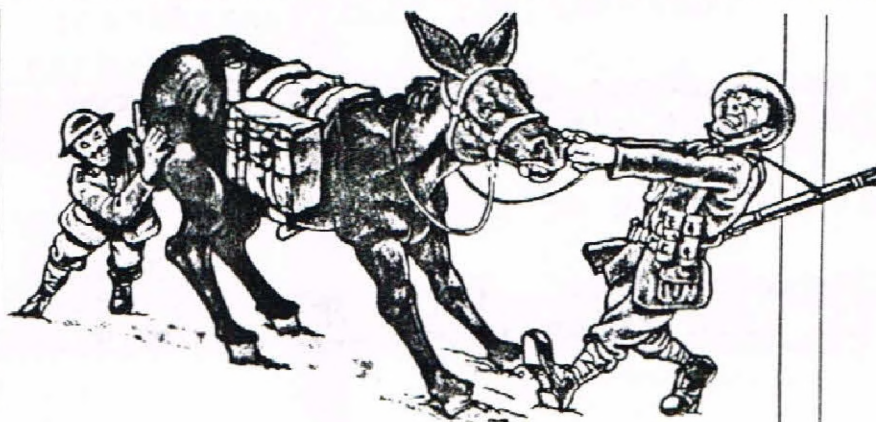
Officers Mess - No report.

Conway gave his "Sick & Visiting" Report. Last year was a tragic one with many leaving us. He named names and those in attendance prompted him to recall others. He was pleased to represent The Association on so many visitations. The budget allocation, in his opinion, should be given to the S & V Chairman to dispense.

Unfinished Business - A suggestion to bolster attendance to the "D" Coy annual picnic was to have a bus hired for lower mainland types. This might improve attendance to 40? No action finalized. Eaton to discuss with host group and report to Executive.

Adjournment ordered Motion Hammersley. Social hour followed as the Bar was opened and delicious sandwiches were available. Fellowship was the keynote at this junction.

W.N. Scott
Recording Secretary



THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION BUDGET

January 1 - December 31 1992

Projected Income

Guestimated Dues	\$ 1,500
Guestimated donations	2,000
Guestimated bond interest	4,000*
Guestimated Melfa Golf \$26.00 per golfer	936
Guestimated Melfa Dinner - 100 per @ \$20.00	2,000
Total projected income	\$10,436 =====

Projected Cost

Groundsheet - Total cost	\$ 1,800
Bookkeeping, office supplies, postage, stationary	500
Office rent	624
Melfa dinner	2,800
Melfa golf	936
Sick and visiting	200
Poppy fund	100
C.O.'s fund	700
Cadets	300
Changeover dinner	700
Annual General Meeting	150
Contingency allowance	500
Total projected cost	\$ 9,310
Estimated surplus	\$ 1,126

THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION**Notes to the Financial Statements**

December 31, 1991 (Unaudited)

The Income and Expense Statement is prepared on a cash basis which is consistent with the previous year's Statement.

Term Deposits consist of the following:

- (a) One-year G.I.C. for \$19,400.00 maturing on January 13, 1992 at an interest rate of 9.10% per annum.

Notes to Financial Statements (cont'.d)

- (b) One-year G.I.C. for \$5,600.00 with maturity date of January 13, 1992 at an interest rate of 10.65% per annum.

Note: Interest earned from the above-mentioned "Guaranteed Investment Certificates" totalled \$2,219.97 and has been deposited to our account as of January 13, 1992. We have re-invested \$26,000.00 in G.I.C. maturing July 15, 1992 at 6.5%. We plan on re-investing this to mature as of December 31, 1992 in order that the interest earned in 1992 is reflected in the December 31, 1992 financial statements.

CO'S REPORT FOR THE ASSOCIATION A.G.M.

1. Highlights of Unit Activities

(a) Hyack Festival

The Regiment and Band had an Annual Parade and Inspection immediately following the Hyack Anvil Battery salute on the Queen's Birthday at Queen's Park. The following Saturday the Regiment and Band marched in the Hyack Parade.

(b) Milcon 91

The Regiment participated in the annual Militia Concentration conducted at CFB Wainwright. Training was conducted at the Company level and consisted of section live fire attacks, fighting in built up areas, mechanised operations and fighting and urban patrols.

(c) Gun Camp - Fort Lewis

The Regiment conducted live section attacks and live house clearing drills at Fort Lewis as part of the fall Gun Camp.

(d) Regimental Dinner

General John de Chastelain CMM CD, the Chief of Defence Staff was our guest at our dinner on the 22 February 1992.

Co's Report (cont'd.)(e) Church Parade and Christening

The Regiment and Band conducted a Church Parade and Regimental Christening on the 8 March 1992 at Holy Trinity Church. Thirteen children were christened. Bibles kindly donated by the Association, for each child, were presented at the reception in the church hall.

(f) Airborne Platoon

The airborne platoon continued to jump throughout the year at such places as Reno, Nevada and Honolulu.

2. Strength

Recruiting continues to gradually increase the strength. B Company has been restarted in Abbotsford and uses our Cadet Facilities at Aberdeen Hall. The effective strength of the Regiment and Band is 132.

3. Land Forces Western Area (LFWA)

As of the beginning of September 1991 all units are under command of LFWA in Edmonton. Pacific Militia Area is now BC District Headquarters commanded by a full Colonel. This means that all Regulars and Reserves are not under a unified command structure.

DON'T FORGET - D COY PICNIC AT LINDELL BEACH
August 2, 1992

Time: Around noon - bring your folding chairs, tables and personal libations.

Dinner provided.

Directions: Take Cultas Lake exit off Highway 1, proceed around lake and just past lakes end, watch for 54 sign: Voila you are there!

This is a marvellous outing: **Don't miss it!!**

Ron, awhile ago I mentioned that I would write and explain how Jack Mahony and Bert Hoskin were responsible to help me make up my mind to join the Westies.

Prior to the war, I had been a member of the New Westminster Y.M.C.A. for a couple of years. There I met Jack Mahony. We played a lot of volleyball, and Jim McConnell, our gym instructor, decided we should try and start a local league. Jack said he would have someone from the Westies act as a representative. (Jack, at that time, being a Lieutenant.) The meeting to start the league was held in Jim McConnell's office. There were present a representative from the fire department, one from the Penitentiary, I was there as a rep for our Y.M.C.A. team. Lo and behold a blonde giant (so it seemed to me) came in and announced that he was Bert Hoskin, the representative for the Westminster Regiment. The thought went through my mind, boy you should make one hell of a good spiker.

Well, after forming this league, war was declared before we ever got out of the practice area.

I decided to join up at once and being Irish Canadian thought I would go try the Vancouver Irish. Jack said, why don't you join your home town regiment, the Westies, and it crossed my mind, if the Regiment produce men like Jack and the military correct Bert Hoskin ... then I decided to join the Westies.

At that time I was driving a truck for McLean Grain Co. and Al Harding (Captain Quarter Master) was one of my bosses. When I told him he said, "Fine, I will want you in Quarter Stores" and there I went and became K47237.

In about a week's time I went to say goodbye to Jim McConnell, who said, When you decided to join up, why didn't you speak to McIntyre, the secretary of the Y.M.C.A. and you could possibly have gone as a sports director; but not for me as Lord knows where one would wind up.

Bert Hoskins (who I immediately had to call **Sir**) remembered me and said "now you can use your knowledge of volleyball and have a good Regimental team", which the Regiment sure did, winning the Brigade Championship with no difficulty.

Bert Stephen's letter (cont'd.)

Members of the team I can well remember were Tommy Hall, Ken (Killer) Harrison, Freddie Cummings and Gerry Welsford - oddly enough, Bert Hoskins seldom played volleyball. The top spikers I had ever seen were Gerry Welsford and Tommy Hall.

Bert Stephens

FROM THE POST:

A note and greetings from Art Ward old C Coy Stalwart. A nice letter from Billy Armour of Victoria. Bill the Association appreciates your ongoing participation and extends our thanks for your attendance at Lt. Col. Bernard Neary MBE recent funeral services. It is always gratifying when an Association member takes their own time to express our condolences - and of course that extends to all those who do likewise. Regards and dues from Glen Holling of Prince Rupert, B.C. and felicitations re. my health... not much change but will try to keep Groundsheet going. Thanks to Mrs. Sam Baker re. the late M. Cpl. Adair and your Groundsheet will be honoured ...Thanks to Gwen Robertson and your order for new Association crest. An interesting letter from Ernie Dayton (a one time President) of our Association. Your remarks much appreciated Ernie ...Sincere appreciation to Mrs. Irene Hurford of Squamish for dues on behalf of her husband Hank. A. Hurford who has been a patient in Brock Fahrni Pavilion Hospital for some time. Your loyalty is most heart warming ... Dues and kind remarks from another lady, remitting dues on behalf of her husband Frank J. Richardson of Sidney, B.C. It is indeed a remarkable gesture to her and the many wives who continue to support our Association on behalf of their spouses. Sadly this seems to reflect on the incapacity of many of our loyal members who are now suffering a variety of physical indispositions which precludes them from responding themselves. This speaks volumes that the loyalties of many members remain constant via their families. Dues and kind personal remarks to me from Old C Coy friend Ed Lasher of Etobicoe, Ontario. Trust your Ontario Melfa Dinner is a huge success Ed. Sorry to hear of your illness. Ted Churchill and also for the address of ex support Coy member

From the Post (cont'd.)

Sam Dick living at 306 - 1260 Raymer Avenue, Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 5R8. Dues and regards from Don Drummond of North Vancouver ... much welcome ... From Jack Hartley in Yuma Arizona dues and greetings. Yes Jack by all means send in your dinner and golf fees a.s.a.p. A most interesting letter from long time friend an C. Coy and 9 platoon buddy Barney Jones. Yes Barney, Ian Douglas and Bert Stephens are still with us ... Somewhat bent but unbroken ... Would enjoy seeing you down here soon. Many thanks to Kitty Wilson and most sorry to learn of Vic's illness and hospitalization. Although he may not remember most things we remember him always with fondness and wish him well ... A nice letter and regards from Art Miller (another former active member of our Associate Directors). Sorry to learn of Phyls illness Art and hope things improve soon ... A pleasant word from old friend and yet another new address from Ontario Chapter Stalwart Pat McCarthy now at 560 Birchmont Road, Apartment #1007, Scarborough, Ontario M1K 1P5. Have a good dinner Pat ... Clarence (Silent) Smith has finally vacated the farm and moved to GB 303 R.R. 3, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7K 3J6. Sorry to learn of your devalued crops but you need a rest anyway ... A fine note from Tom and Nellie Smith of Kamloops, B.C. Thanks for the donation and your reference to the fine Epitaph to Wes Fehr by his wife Colleen. We share your sentiments ... Thanks to Paul Kosh for another poetic tribute to Melfa ... May be able to publish later ... Thanks to Bob Boyd for a most interesting letter and your remarks re: Copper Newitts wife are duly noted. As you say '91 was a bad year for me. Not out of the woods yet but with a little Irish luck will be at Melfa '92 ... Another fine letter from Geo Bayne of Antigonish N.S. Your letters are always most welcome and thanks for the Can Press clipping noting my remarks re: Health Services, etc. Who would have thought that this would appear on a national basis. Hope it does some good ... A note from Ben Greenhough of Ganges, B.C. Trust you have your crest by now Ben ... Thanks to Walt McNally of Kelowna and your corrected address noted ... Thanks to Bert Woolverton of Bakersfield, CA, U.S.A. and your kind donation ... Dues and thanks from Al O'Brien and Frank Reiser for dues, also to Les Griffiths of Vernon, B.C. for donation and kind remarks re: G.S. ... a note from old C Coy pal Sandy Rollo of Armstrong, B.C. Your requests re: your life membership should be resolved by now

IN MEMORIAM

Doug A. Young C. Coy	Westminster Reg't (m)	W.W. 2
Lenoard F. Pirchie	Westminster Reg't (m)	W.W. 2
L/Cpl Bill McNary K47 484	Westminster Reg't (m)	W.W. 2
Lt. Col Bernard Neary Mbe	Westminster Reg't & Corp Staff	W.W. 2
John Ratchford	Westminster Reg't (m)	W.W. 2
Percy Dawson	47th Bn	W.W. 1

SPECIAL MEMORIAM

Mrs. Anita Catherwood, widow of late Godfrey Catherwood and sister-in-law to Maj. Ernie Catherwood who gave his life so many years ago in the Gothic Line of Italy.

From the Post (cont'd.)

Many thanks to Ruth Hume for dues in memory of late husband Murray Hume. Much appreciated Ruth and I remember your kind hospitality from Williams Lake days ... Sincere appreciation to Tommy Guest of Saskatoon, Sask. for your most generous donation and kind remarks ... Thanks to Gordon Radmore of Mission, B.C. and your reference to Geo Billany has been turned over to membership committee ... a vote of thanks to Frank Pewtress and the interesting message that a man in Holland would like to honor some Westie grave sites in Putten with a memorial plaque. I can inform you that I visited the grave sites of those mentioned and they are all interred in Loppersum Mil Cemetery. He would be better advised re. further information to write to Nat Defence Headquarters Military Archives for more information ... We have none on hand. As always a cheery letter and last received before deadline from "The Ol Tapdancer" Bill Robson from his winter headquarters in Mesa, Arizona, U.S.A. Glad to know that you and Hartley will be home soon.

In closing a word of thanks to old friend and Association stalwart Walter Lyle re. his corrections to "War Diary" and to book of late Col. Bert Hoskin. Will print when I sort them out Walter.

R.H.