

THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 854, New Westminster, B.C. V3L 4Z8



RETURN
REQUESTED

The GROUND SHEET

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

104th — 47th — 131st — The Royal Westminster Regt.

Dedicated to the Ideals and Comradeship We knew in Two World Wars

VOL. 30 NO. 2

BOX 854, NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. V3L 4Z8

MAR. - APR. 1981

W. NELSON SCOTT "SCOTTY" - PRESIDENT - 335 Churchill Avenue, New Westminster, Phone: 521-3294
ED SHANNON - EDITOR - 20250 43A Avenue, Langley, B.C. - Phone: 534-0108
NORM McASKILL - SECRETARY - 7828 Canada Way, Burnaby, B.C. - Phone: 521-4280

"MELFA 1981"

GOLF AND DINNER

SATURDAY MAY 23RD

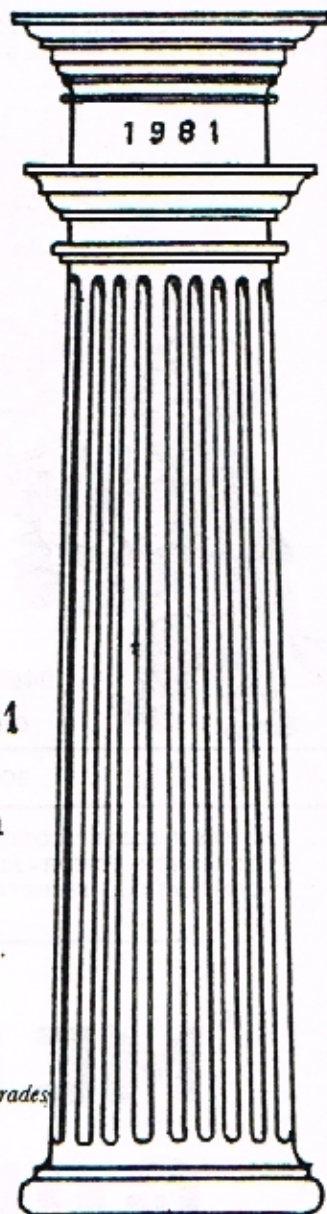
(DETAILS INSIDE)



1944

16th ANNUAL MELFA
GOLF TOURNAMENT
Newlands Golf Course

Tee Off 8:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 23rd 1981

1981

MELFA DINNER

Saturday, May 23rd 1981

The Armouries, New Westminster, B.C.

Doug Glenn, Chairman

PROGRAMME

HAPPY HOUR—FELLOWSHIP 6:00 p.m.

(Bar Opens 5:30 p.m.)

CENOTAPH SERVICE—7:00 p.m.

DINNER 7:45 p.m.

*One Minute's Silence in Memory of Departed Comrades**Grace—Regimental Padre**Toast to Queen**Introduction of Head Table**Toast to City of New Westminster**Toast—The Regiment**Toast—Comrades in Arms**Introduction of Speaker**The Melfa**Chairman's Remarks**Bar Re-opens—Fellowship*

1939-45



37TH ANNIVERSARY

SOMME 1916
ARRAS 1917-1918
VIMY 1917
HILL 70 1917
YPRES
PASSCHENDAELE
GROUCOURT QUEANT
CANAL-DU-NORD
AMIENS
VALENCIENNES.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGT. ASSOC.

ANNUAL MELFA DINNER

1944 - 1981



MELFA CROSSING
GOTHIC LINE
CORIANO
LAMONE CROSSING
HISANO RIDGE
NAVIGLIO RIDGE
ITALY 1944-1945
IJSSSEL MEER.
DELFIJL POCKET.
NORTHWEST EUROPE 45

MENU

SMORGASBORD

ENTRANCE FEE: \$10.00

DRINKS: \$1.00

Place: THE ARMOURIES, New Westminster, B.C.

Date: Saturday, May 23rd 1981

Time: 5:30 P.M.

1914-18

MELFA GOLF TOURNAMENT

23 May 0800 hrs Newlands G.C. Langley City

If you want to play (and we hope you do) ACT NOW!

Tell Ian Douglas

522 3415 824 Ladner Street, New Westminster

What's the rush?

1. There is room for 40 entries only
2. We have guaranteed 36 entries (@ \$10 per)

Why so tight?

Our Tsawwassen booking, for May 16, was lost with the change of Melfa Day to May 23. The Committee (after he woke up) had to scramble hard to find a course on a Saturday.

Newlands-- the much improved "executive" size" course, with fine new clubhouse facilities-- offered us one hour-- 0800 to 0900-- no more. The \$10 greens fee is about normal, these days, these parts, on weekends.

Last year we had 36 players. This year the Regiment is in town and free to play. We should get our 40 players. We bleed for those who register too late because the prize list will be better than ever. (Ray Roberge has again, and already, been thinking and acting for us!)

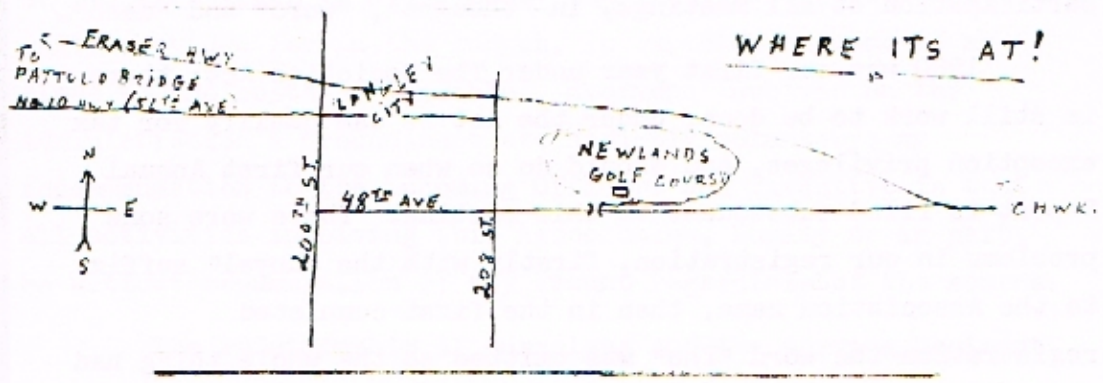
So-- Get your names in. Guests welcome as usual. The first 40 play golf. The lates on parade could try raquetball in Newlands' new courts. Ha!

If we don't get 36 players, The Association meets the difference!

It's about 35 mins from New Westminster

via Patullo Bridge, Fraser Highway to 48th Ave on South edge of Langley city, the 48th SW by signs to course.

P.S. Entries to this date, Apr. 15, 10.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ANNUAL MEETING

March 19, 1981

I have searched in vain for some trite phrase to cover the fact that March is again with us, heralding yet the close of another year in the life of our Association, but at the same time giving renewed hope and plans for the year ahead.

We paused, for a moment, as this Meeting opened, to remember our comrades; their passing in times of conflict was more or less expected — the hurt was there, but it is even greater today as our numbers decrease. Our memories grow larger as our ranks thin out.

The success of a President can be measured in direct proportion to the calibre of those who serve on his team. Last March you elected a good team, and I think we have had a

year of accomplishment. I believe that the Reports attached will bear this out. Great care should be exercised in your choice of Executive Members to first assure genuine interest in the progress of your Association, then attendance and active participation at all meetings, in "thought", "word" and "deed".

1980 was our first year under The Societies Act; there is still work to be done; under the Act we can qualify for tax exemption privileges, and should do so when our first Annual Report is filed subsequent to this meeting. There were some problems in our registration, firstly with the "Royal" suffix to the Association name, then in the first completed registration the word "The" was omitted so the whole thing had to be done over.

The Melfa Dinner & Golf was a successful event; some doubt is in the minds of the Executive as to the format of the Dinner. What should it be? Speakers have covered every aspect of the battle itself, from both sides, and it is increasingly difficult to come up with a new angle. The "Melfa" is the one occasion when we pat ourselves on the back or have others do it, therefore certain formalities should be inherent to the Dinner. The Melfa Committee strives to put on a good show, knowing that they can't please everyone and the vociferous minority will always be with us.

Financially our position is stable. We must never let money supercede our main purpose of "fellowship". However, historically we have set up a certain supportive financial role with the Regiment; the Museum is an ongoing requirement, and the Groundsheet is a must. Dues will never cover all this so until someone comes up with a better idea, the Xmas Draw will be with us. My special thanks to all of you who responded to the

President's fund for the Diorama lighting. It was most gratifying to have so many donate that extra from the ticket sales, and the founding members of the Museum again came forth on request. On the other side of the ledger, the day of the free lunch is over, every function that is put on, while provided for in the budget, is expected to come in as close to "no cost" as possible. Everyone involved on the Administration & Groundsheet are strictly voluntary; my recommendation to the incoming Officers and Executive is that all activities involving this Association, wholly or in part, be without remuneration of any amount regardless of the source.

The relationship of ourselves and the serving Regiment are good; we enjoy and cherish certain privileges of use not only of the Armouries, but specifically the Officers Mess for our Meetings. It has always been assumed that the serving members of the Regiment would fill the holes in The Association as attrition takes it toll. There is a definite lack of enthusiasm for this role, which is to be expected because, thankfully, there has been no need for them to be thrown together as we and the 47th. were, thereby that spirit of close comradeship is still latent and we, singularly and collectively have done very little to educate them, save and except a round of beer on special days. We should and could adopt a more aggressive educational role.

Gerry Gangur, the current C.O., is proud of his Command, particularly the Band. As your President, I have attended many parades, both Cadets and Regiment, and was generally most pleased with what I saw; appearance, stature, drill, etc; was always disappointed that there were not more bodies on parade, however, my expectations were too high. Gone also is

the day of \$1.00 per diem -- the pay rate is good, so are the amenities for creature comforts -- sleeping bags yet!! I'm old fashioned and maybe a wee bit narrow of mind, so I'll never get used to the female of the species in a training role of, or for, combat.

Some disagreed with my special call to attend the Armistice Parade in New Westminster, they went fishing instead, but there is no argument with success -- our turnout was good -- our strength in numbers exceeded that of the Regiment. A greater effort will be required in 1982 because the Regiment wont let it happen again, unless!!

Those two Charter Groups, Chilliwack and Toronto, are doing nicely, thank you. I was not in attendance at either of their functions but had very complimentary reports. Toronto is holding their Melfa Dinner on the same date as ours. The Chilliwack Reunion Picnic is a must for those in this area.

Read the Ground Sheet Report to be completely secure in your own opinion that it has been in good hands. Singularly, it is the most demanding of time and money in our entire organization. Its use as a media is best summed up in those words -- print it even on toilet paper, but keep it coming. Four issues a year take a lot of material; it would certainly help if some of you would put pen to paper and send it off. I sat down the other evening with a glass of suds to ponder "where are they now". Certainly, most of us are retired, but it would make interesting reading to have a resume of what you had accomplished since "Dismiss" in Queens Park.

The Museum --- I only wish you could all see it, so much in so small a space --- well presented and maintained. There has to be an answer to the space problem? The future is in the hands

of dedicated people who will give unstintingly of time and effort. We have a good public image and public relations. "Never was so much owed by so many to so few" is very apt in this case.

Head dress for Association members has been varied since our formation --- originally it was the Blue beret with the printed crest; then the Red beret which was adopted mainly because the supply was for free. Never turn anything down that is free --- but these had no historical connection with our Regiment or those who went before. Through the courtesy of the C.O. of the Regiment, the Executive accepted last September, the permission to wear the new issue beret which the Regiment has adopted. I will be proud to wear it, as I hope you will be. It may be the link we seek to unite the past with the present.

In all it has been a great year; my thanks for the opportunity to serve. I have deliberately omitted any names, you all know who they are and if, accidentally, I missed one I would be most depressed, therefore none. No one could ask for a group of people of greater dedication than has been my pleasure to work with. As I said as I took office last year, this is not a one man show, nor has it been.

We all have our periods of highs and lows, and I am no exception. At times I have been frustrated but never disappointed. My instructions to the Nominating Committee, for the coming year, were very simple --- "select an Officers and Executive slate that has the interest of the Association at heart and who will dedicate a year to work towards furthering our aims".

COMMANDING OFFICER'S ANNUAL
REPORT - MARCH 1981

At last year's Annual General Meeting I delivered what I believed would be my final report as commanding officer of the Regiment. You will recall a change of command date was set for the end of August and Major Glen Holling was to be my successor. His employer, the Royal Bank of Canada, saw things differently, and transferred him to Williams Lake. Maj. Holling was a dedicated Westie and would have made a good C.O. The Regiment will miss him and his charming wife Faye.

A second retirement date was announced and Maj. Howie Lee was nominated to be C.O. This was not to be. A decision made at FMC HQ ruled that all infantry battalions across Canada must be commanded by infantry qualified officers. Major Lee is qualified service corps.

In very quick succession the unit thus lost two good potential commanding officers.

In January of this year Major Fred Wilks transferred to the Westies and will assume command of the Regiment effective March 28/81. A background report on Major Wilks will appear in this issue of the Groundsheet.

The first part of my report will deal with the status and activities of the Regimental Band. Maintaining a static

strength of thirty members, this band has been described by many as the finest military Band in western Canada. The untrained observer will note that the physical appearance of many uniforms has improved and that even three or four new uniforms have appeared on parade. The quality and quantity of our scarlet uniforms has improved thanks to the generous donations of many members of our Association. You will recall it was our goal to purchase ten new uniforms complete, so we still have a way to go.

Listed below are some activities the Band has participated in during the last year

- Jan./80 - Change of command Rocky Mtn. Rangers
- Mar.- Band concert, New Westminster.
- May - Debutantes Ball, Dinner music.
- Honour Guard, Royal Vancouver Yacht Club; Band Sunset Ceremony.
- July- Sunset Ceremony, Queens Park.
- Aug.- lead PNE Parade.
- Concert, CF Pavilion, PNE.
- Sept- Terry Fox Benefits, CFB Chilliwack and BCTV.

The surrounding community is the life-blood of the Regiment. From the community we expect to draw all our recruits and financial support to maintain the Regiment. I have always felt that the Regiment must be prepared to give something back to the

community in return for this support.

Whenever a civilian service club or organization has requested assistance or use of our facilities we have made every effort to respond positively. Users of our facilities include the New Westminster Gyro Club, New Westminster Lions Club, the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program of the YM-YWCA, and numerous other groups. One contribution to the community which I am proud is our annual visit to the veterans at George Derby Hospital.

For the last four years, officers, warrant officers and senior NCOs visited the veterans on Nov. 10th. This year we requested and received a \$50.00 donation from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #2 to offset our expenses for this visit. On the suggestion of the administrator we purchased and distributed combs and shoelaces. The visits were conducted without fanfare and each veteran was approached on a one-to-one basis. I can assure you that these visits were appreciated by all the hospitalized soldiers, and on more than one occasion a soldier was brought to tears.

'Milcon 80' was an enjoyable experience. The Regiment, by some miscalculation or good fortune, adopted a defensive position on the perimeter of an airfield at Fort Lewis. Unknown to us the Americans had planned massive air drops of

equipment from their huge C5A on precisely this airstrip. On at least three occasions we were treated to a sight that the entire Canadian Air Force would not be capable of staging.

Helicopters were plentiful and well used by the unit. When we returned home from Milcon 80 the New Westminster paper "The Columbian" ran an article on the concentration with a bold headline: "Westies Are Tough." Morale and enthusiasm were naturally high.

In July I had the honour and privilege of visiting our allied regiment, the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, with headquarters in HM Tower of London. The Fusiliers proved to be magnificent hosts, and with the kind permission of the Editor of the Groundsheet I will describe my visit in the next issue.

As of March 1st, I completed my fourth year as your CO, and I have much to be grateful for because of these four years. During my tour as CO I have been honoured to deal with three fine gentlemen who have served as your President. Stan Moorehouse, Ron Mannering and Nelson Scott were and are delightful individuals with whom to deal. They were always more than polite and more tolerant of me than perhaps they should have been. With men of this calibre the Association will continue to do well.

In conclusion I would like to tell you that the Regiment

is strong and has a good core of people serving in it, and I have few concerns about its future. Finally, and for the last time, I thank each and every one in the Association for your support during these past four years.

J.N.Gangur
Lieut.-Col.
Com.Officer

The Royal Westminster Regiment
The Armoury
530 Queens Avenue
New Westminster, B.C.
V3L 1K3

10 Mar 81

Mr. W.N.Scott
President
The Royal Westminster Regiment Association
The Armoury
New Westminster, B.C.
V3L 1K3

CHANGE OF COMMAND

Dear Sir:

Effective 28 Mar 81 Lieutenant-Colonel F.T.H. Wilks assumes command of our Regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel Fred Wilks served with the British Army from April 1950 to December 1968. His regiment while in service was the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, which later became the Royal Irish Rangers.

He emigrated to Canada in 1972 and joined the Seaforth Highlanders in September 1979. In January 1981 he was transferred to the Westminsters and is with us to-day.

Fred Wilks has three children, all well into their chosen careers, and is presently residing in Vancouver.

J.N. Gangur
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding Officer

MUSEUM ANNUAL REPORT
1980 - 81

The past year has been very successful. Financially, the Museum is in better shape than it has been for many years. In addition to the funds received from the Association, we received our usual grant from NDHQ. As in past years, we received only a portion of the amount requested.

However, towards the end of the fiscal year we received notice that we could claim an additional \$2500 if we would undertake to spend it before the end of the financial period, 31 Mar 81. As this was an unexpected windfall, we elected to spend the funds on projects for which we had had no money in the past. For example, we will have sufficient funds to re-surface the Museum floor, to purchase a new typewriter, and to buy supplies of a specialist nature.

During the year many friends of the Association and Association members have provided donations to the Museum for which we are most grateful. We are very pleased to have this continuing support. In addition to these donations the Museum has received the sum of \$300 in memory of B/Gen E.G. Bakins. The General was a strong supporter of the Museum and we will miss him.

During the past summer we were fortunate in having a young lady from Simon Fraser

University employed by the Museum, under the Provincial Student Employment Program. This was the fourth year that we have received a grant for this purpose.

In addition, we applied for, and received, a grant under the Canada Community Development Program, which permitted us to hire three people for a period of three months. The total value of this grant amounts to \$7770. They are currently being kept very busy annotating and cataloguing artifacts, refurbishing some of the old trophies and re-searching artifacts. They will also be employed in microfilming many of the documents which we hold in the archives.

It has been our concern for many years that if a fire should occur, much of our history would be lost. The micro-filming of these documents, and the preservation of the film in a secondary location, will do much to ensure that any fire loss would be minimized.

Through the untiring efforts of Vern Ardaugh the Diorama has been virtually completed. It was a monumental task and we are most grateful to Vern for his tenacity and dedication.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Museum Committee for their unending support. Without their effort, advice and guidance, the Museum would not be the success that it is.

(cont'd)

and my job would be much more difficult.

M. H. H. Steede
Chairman
Museum Committee

Your trustees plan on re-investing in short-term deposits while interest rates continue to fluctuate, in order to maximise our income with no risk to the fund.

Allan Coe
Chairman
Trustees Committee

TRUSTEES REPORT, 1980

In 1980 the trustees fund was jointly administered by the three appointed trustees, Allan Coe, Pat McCarthy, and Bert Stephens.

Early in 1980, the trustees agreed with the executive that a review of the trustee administered investment fund was long overdue. As a result, it was decided to sell off our low-yield bonds (4%) and to reinvest the proceeds in higher yield term deposits.

The sale of the bonds was completed on Jan. 16th, 1980, yielding the Association the amount of \$9,681.20. The Association loaned the fund an additional amount of \$318.80 to bring the fund up to an even \$10,000.00 for investment.

In order to take advantage of rapidly increasing interest rates, your trustees decided to invest the money in short-term deposits with Canada Trustco. This has proven to be a wise move and the funds are presently earning us 14.5% interest.

In the year 1980 the investment of \$10,000 earned the Association \$953.76 from Jan. 18/80 to Dec. 31/80.

GROUNDSHEET

ANNUAL REPORT

Production of the Groundsheet was maintained successfully through 1980, with the normal five issues appearing more or less on time. Printing of the copies was changed from Meek's Printing, North Vancouver, to The Printing House, Vancouver, with a considerable reduction in cost and pick-up and delivery time. And these new people deliver the finished sheets to New Westminster for us. (As this goes to press we have changed printers again, to the miracle Printers in Langley, with a further reduction in cost and five minute accessibility for the editor.)

The budget for the Groundsheet for 1980 was set at \$1700, and actual cost was \$1322 (we changed printers for the Sept.-Oct. issue) so the change was an improvement financially. For the year, at 700 copies per issue, it works out at about .37¢ per copy.

The change in format, to

save space and decrease the number of sheets, aroused no comment from the readers, so I guess they were still able to read it. As one who wrote in remarked: "If it was written on wrapping paper I'd still enjoy it."

Help is always available to assemble an issue, which is 2½ to 3 hours work for five or six people, and I would take this opportunity to offer a very hearty vote of thanks to those who have so readily given their time to the task; in particular, the President, whose enthusiasm is unflagging.

Two problems that are always with us are the Mail Service and keeping the mailing list up to date, but these, like inflation, are ever-present, so with Trudeau's help with the one, and the Secretary's constant toil with the other, the Groundsheet will no doubt continue to appear as usual. Thank you.

Ed. Shannon
Editor

47th. REGT. COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

A year ago we were very pleased to receive a fair quantity of artifacts from the son of one of the Quartermasters of the 47th. Battalion. The material included pictures

diaries, note-books, etc., which were turned over to the Museum.

Another clipping of interest was sent to us showing a weathered gravestone from Raratonga in the Cook Islands, by Ron Park of West Vancouver, who was visiting in Raratonga.

The stone reads: "In Loving Memory of our dear Dad, 628048 Pte. Duncan Monroe, 47th. Battalion, 1914 - 1918, beloved husband of Teina J. Tuka Monroe. Born Scotland 12.8.1890, Died Raratonga, 11.6.1954. Blessed are the dead which dieth in the Lord." He had left Canada, landed in Raratonga, and met and married a Maori girl, Teina Tuka. So here in a field is a spot that is forever Canada.

Ms. S. I. MacLean wrote to the Regiment seeking information of her uncle, whom she said enlisted with the 47th. Batt., and as far as she knew was the Regimental Sergeant-Major. This letter was passed over to me, but I regret to state that I have been unable to get any information whatsoever about this man.

I would also like to report that my present list of ex-47th. members only amounts to ten. There must be more somewhere, but we never hear from them.

Fred Bass
47th. Representative

The three cocktail lounges nearest the Pentagon in Washington are known as the Chief Joints of Staff.

REPORT FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

I was instructed by your Executive to ascertain how many Libraries, in the Fraser Valley, Lower Mainland area, had copies of the Westminster War Diary. It was found that very few of the libraries had a copy of the book, as a matter of fact, the complete Fraser Valley Regional Library had two copies for the Fraser Valley from Delta to Boston Bar. The Executive approved of the distribution of forty copies of which twenty-eight have been delivered, and on completion of the C.U.P.E. strike, the remaining twelve shall be delivered. The Libraries receiving books are as listed below.

CLARK MORRISON.

Libraries Receiving Copies of War Diaries

Chilliwack	West Vancouver (2 copies)
Port Coquitlam	North Vancouver (3 copies)
Maple Ridge	North Vancouver City
Mission	Burnaby (4 copies)
Abbotsford	Cloverdale
White Rock	Newton
Matsqui	Whalley
Agassiz	Guildford
Langley	Ocean Park
Fort Langley	Port Kells
Aldergrove	Mount Lehman
Clearbrook	Pitt Meadows
Delta (3 copies)	Boston Bar
Coquitlam (2 copies)	Fraser Valley College (2 copies)
Hope	War Amputees of Canada

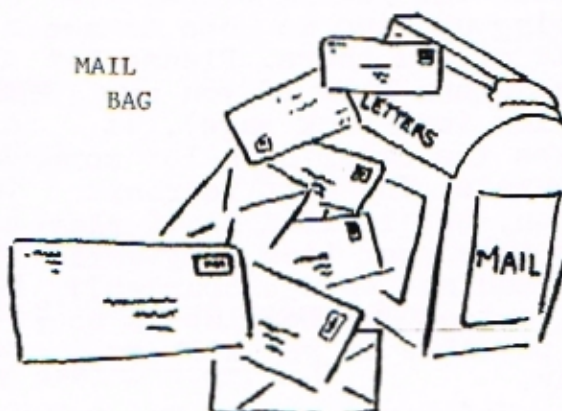
INTELLIGENCE STATUS

During World War II a group was assigned to training in intelligence work. They were pretty smug at the prospect of joining such a top-drawer outfit as intelligence. Disillusionment came quickly, however.

On the first day of training, the instructor began his lecture by saying, "Gentlemen, the encyclopedia lists intelligence under three headings--human, animal and military." After a short pause he added, "In that order."

EXECUTIVE for 1981

Nelson Scott, Pres. 521-3294
 Norm McAskill, Sec. 521-4280
 Walter Lyle 521-3265
 Stan Moorhouse 522-3507
 Bas Morgan 943-4177
 Bill Robson 254-2876
 Ed Shannon 534-0108
 Clarke Morrison 936-1256
 John Rosso 525-2910
 Fred Bass (47th) 325-0456
 Gerry Gangur 929-5785
 Mike Steede (Mus.) 987-2787
 Terry Oliver (OR REP)
 Lt.-Col. F. T. H. Wilks (CO Regt)



CAR ACCIDENT INSURANCE
 CLAIM FORM BONERS:

The pedestrian had no idea which direction to go so I ran over him.

The guy was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him

I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law in the other seat and headed over the embankment.

An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my vehicle and vanished.

I had been learning to drive with power steering. I turned the wheel to what I thought was enough and found myself in a different direction going in the opposite direction.

It would almost appear to have happened to our correspondents, this modern trend to go for study sessions, or go on strike, since the amount of letters we have received since last issue has been zilch. However, with the situation in Poland, the aberrations of our politicians, the cost of living, etc., etc., I agree that it's difficult to concentrate on the smaller matters.

There was one letter got through, from Hugh Shannon, (President of Branch #3), 45308 Bernard Ave., Chilliwack, B.C., with a nice donation for the Museum, which is always appreciated and for which our hearty thanks, old son. Glad to hear you were among those who enjoyed reading Jack Usher's trip to Holland. Your opinions on our Western troubles were interesting and logical, and you have the honour of being the first to answer my query as to what the members thought

of the situation.

As you have probably noticed, the "Melfa Dinner" is coming up, and we hope to see lots of you there. Please let Doug Glenn know if you are coming (see back page). It makes the catering a lot more accurate. The Golf Tournament is on, but limited to 40 players this year (too many golfers and not enough courses!) so contact Ian Douglas as soon as possible if you wish to play.

We'll see you on May 23rd and cross the fiume once more. Cheerio!

Editor.

WAR DIARY (CONT'D)

We got fair billets at our new place, and settled down to shining boots, cleaning web, daily inspection of rifles, ceremonial guard mounting and town picquets, and cleaning up and overhauling the carriers. On the 26th I snagged a '7 day' to Rome.

A leave there without pots of money is bound to be a very quiet affair, for all types of amusement come high. All civilian billets were supposed to be 'out of bounds to troops, but practically all soldiers on leave stayed in them, and paid from \$1.50 a night up for them. Didn't see much of Rome, beyond the Canada and Alexander Clubs, for, as aforementioned in this scr-

eed, the tourist urge is not in me. Got squiffed a few times on 'Spumante' at 300 lira a bottle, of which it took several yo produce a glow. Returned to the Regt. on the 3rd, after repeating the 150 mile drive over the Apennines in the rear of a 60 cwt. truck. Big rumour going around that we move again soon, and to anywhere from back to the Senio, to the Fifth Army front to right out of the country.

Around the 14th it became fact, and we packed up and got ready to roll, the carriers by rail, and the wheeled vehicles by road. We, with the carriers, pulled out first, driving 50 miles over the mountains to Foligno, where a train was waiting for us. Lot of tanks loading there, too, so now we were sure that the Div. was going to the 5th's front. All Div. and unit markings were removed from uniforms, vehicles and anything else that carried them. Another big secret move. Seems that every time we moved it was under heavy security regulations.

We loaded up on the flats and pulled out in the late afternoon. Rolled all that night and next day found us heading north, up the coast, with priority over practically all traffic on the line. We lived, ate, and slept in and around our machines, which carry their full battle equipment. Saw our first 'Black Widow' night fighter that afternoon. (TO BE CONT'D)

MELFA DINNER

MAY 23, 1981

TO BE HELD AT: The Armoury,
 6th Street and Queens Ave.,
 New Westminster, B.C.

MAKE YOUR PLANS EARLY!

WILL YOU BE THERE ? YES NO

RSVP - - MAIL THIS PAGE TO:

DOUG GLENN
6666 Walker Ave.,
Burnaby, B.C. V5E 3B9

MELFA COMMITTEE: Doug Glenn
 Bert Hoskins

CATERERS DEMAND PAYMENT OF ESTIMATED
GUESTS, NOT ACTUAL ATTENDANCE

(We have lost our crystal ball)

