



The Communicator

Journal of the 32 Signal Regiment



The Communicator – December 2011

32 Signal Regiment

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Commanding Officer

Maj H. Buller, CD
DCO &
OC Toronto (709) Sqn

Capt Alfred Lai, CD
OC Borden (700) Sqn

Capt Mike Tu, CD
Adjutant

MWO Rob Carter CD
RSM

WO Steve Graham, CD
SSM Borden (700) Sqn

HCol. S. Horsfall SSStJ, CD RN
Honorary Colonel
and Chair Regimental Advisory Council

HLCol Alex Moseanu,
SBStJ, GCSJ(J), KGCSG, MOC, ORCB, CD, AdeC

LCol. J. Lee, CD
Patron Lieutenant Colonel
and Unit Historian

The Communicator

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editor709@yahoo.ca

Cover: Upper left, MWO Scott Bridger salutes during the 9/11 10 year anniversary ceremony at Camp Phoenix in Kabul. Upper right, Logistical Support Group (LSG) begins the re-deployment of materiel as Canada's Combat role ends.

From the Editor's Desk

Canada's Combat role in Afghanistan, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, comprises all Canadian Forces personnel and assets deployed in southwest Asia on Operation ATHENA, Canada's military contribution to the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan.



The task force deployed on Op ATHENA from July to December 2011 is Rotation 11 of Joint Task Force Afghanistan, known as the Mission Transition Task Force (MTTF). The soldiers, sailors, airmen and airwomen of the MTTF come from bases, wings and garrisons across Canada.

Roto 11 of Joint Task Force Afghanistan is the Mission Transition Task Force (MTTF), responsible for concluding all aspects of the Canadian military mission in Kandahar Province by December 2011. BGen Lamarre took over from BGen Milner on 17 July 2011.

The majority of personnel deployed on Roto 11 are logisticians and technicians to pack and ship vehicles, equipment and materiel being transferred to Canada, and handle the transfer of infrastructure and goods to be left in Kandahar Province to coalition partners or the Afghan government. The bulk of this work is done on the base at Kandahar Airfield.

In this edition we recognize those from 709 & 700 who have served in Afghanistan over the past eleven years.

Also in this edition... 32 Signal Regiment stands to at a parade held at Fort York Armoury on Saturday 05 November 2011

Finally, we now feature the **Mail Bag** as a result of many letters to the Editor. Letters to the Editor can be sent to editor709@yahoo.ca.

The Communicator Delivered to your computer

You can now download your Communicator to your computer. You can also find back issues to complete your library. Simply copy the link below and paste it in your browser address bar.

[simcoeenvtech.com/download/Jimmy-and- Associates](http://simcoeenvtech.com/download/Jimmy-and-Associates)

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Commanding Officer's Message – LCol. Greg Stasyna, CD.

I am pleased to announce the “stand up” of 32 Signal Regiment! For myself, I am proud to be the last Commanding Officer of both 709 (Toronto) Communication Regiment and 700 (Borden) Communication Squadron and the first Commanding Officer of the new 32 Signal Regiment.

This will complete the process of transformation which all of the former 23 Communication Reserve units have undergone for the past two years. As you may recall, 2 Operational Support Group (formerly 70 Communication Group) was dissolved in September 2010. At that time both 709 and 700 Comm came under command of 32 Canadian Brigade Group (the army reserve). Earlier this year the Military Organization Order (MOO) was signed by the Minister of National Defence that formalized the establishment of 10 Army Reserve Signal Regiments along with 21 Electronic Warfare Regiment in Kingston (formerly 2 EW Sqn and 772 Reserve EW Sqn).

The blending of 700 and 709 will bring both opportunities and challenges to form a strong and united 32 Signal Regiment. The traditional 709 Regimental family will merge with the 700 Comm Sqn associations. Mutual respect and synergistic operations will make this new unit a success. As your Commanding Officer I invite everyone to participate as equal partners in our new unit.

On another note, as we approach the end of 2011, I would like to take time to thank all of our soldiers for the hard work throughout the year. All deployed soldiers have returned home safely from both domestic and international operations. I am very proud of the efforts of our troops in support of numerous exercises and operations that have occurred over the past year. Without the efforts of our rank and file soldiers, are unit simply ceases to function.

I would also like to thank all our regimental associates for the ongoing support that they have provided to both 709 and 700. This includes our two honorary officers – Honorary Colonel Sally Horsfall and former Commanding Officer and Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Jack Lee. Both have provided support to fund raising, leadership to ceremonial activities and to all of the regimental associations through their volunteer work. Another significant name includes Major (Retd) Alex Moseanu for his continued leadership with our veterans association, “Jimmy and Associates”. I encourage all to purchase a membership to support the growth of this group. I would also like to mention the efforts of the 700 Comm Sqn Social Committee, the Hong Kong Ex Serviceman's Association, the Dutch War Veterans, The Toronto Signal Band which is celebrating the 85 anniversary and our affiliated cadets including the 709 Ca-

det Corp and the 2250 Muskoka Pioneers Cadet Corps and the American Legion Post.

Best wishes on a festive Christmas Season and to a Happy New Year for 2012.

Spiritus Manet

G.J. Stasyna
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer

32 Signal Regiment

Deputy Commanding Officer's Message - Maj Hal Buller, CD



Hello from the desk of DCO of 709 (Tor) Comm Regt. This is my first article submission for The Communicator, and may be the last from the desk of an office within 709 Comm Regt.

We are currently deeply engrossed in the busiest time of our annual trg year cycle. There are many activities going on, and we have soldiers working on almost every weekend. The main emphasis is on the completion of the IBTS, followed by participation with the brigade on Defensive Ops trg. In the later trg efforts, we will support the CBG in it's need to have a functional CP to be in contact with it's subordinate units as they conduct BTS qualification trg, all while we complete our own unit level BTS trg.

While this unit level trg is taking place, we are busy meeting the demands of the annual business cycle. Our last quarterly budget review is due 8 Nov. This is our last chance to ensure that we have enough money to complete our scheduled trg, and to ensure that we are not tying up any surplus funds that any other unit could apply to their much needed trg. And then just to make sure we are well stressed, our annual Staff Assistance Visit (SAV) (take note that “It is not an Inspection”) is scheduled to happen end of Nov. Also due is our preliminary budget forecast for next year.

All this while we continue to change the unit structure and transition over to the new 32 Sig Regt. One of those changes is the end of my full time service. I have been the Adjt for six years now. That has been an enjoyable service, being a full time cadre mbr as part of Maj Greg Stasyna's team. A welcome addition to the team is Lt Jim Clarke, who has been selected to fill a new full time position as Ops O for 32 Sig Regt. This is one of the new positions, and is slated to be filled by a Reg Force mbr in the future.

We have many unit mbrs employed else were throughout the GTA. Some we see regularly on unit parade and training nights. Overall, it is a good sign of our unit strength that we are able to support the amount of posi-

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tions that are filled. We do miss them though, because these positions take away our best leaders at the NCM level.

Hal F Buller
Maj
DCO

RSM Rob Carter, CD



What a start to the year! We have been going at full speed this training year and it is only 3 months old. First, I am glad to hear all the excellent comments coming back from all the courses and Maple Defender.

We have welcomed back from tour in Afghanistan WO Corrado, Sgt Major, MCpl's MP and Lloyd, job well done. We have also Cpl Semionov and Major Kiss still there on Op Attention. We in the near future will have Lt. Caron, MCpl's Lau and Campbell starting their preparation training for the next rotation of Op Attention, we wish you well.

The unit has participated in many exercises with our brigade training group. We have provided signals training for many units of 32 Brigade. We have said good-bye to Sgt Bromstad, MCpl Gajewski who have gone to Ottawa and Capt Perry who has retired from the Canadian Forces.

By the time you read this 709 Communication Regiment and 700 Communication Squadron will have become 32 Signal Regiment on November 5 2011. In the last few months I have reflected on the fact I will be the last 709 RSM. It has been a great honour to be one of those chosen for such a prestigious position. 709's history has been impressive in the time since it was created in the 1970's. There have been many events and people that have shaped this unit and this forum would not do them justice. I would like to just thank them for all their hard work and dedication to the unit and the Canadian Forces. I would also like for those who read this to remember those we have lost in those years, and pray they have found peace.

In closing it will be a great honour to be designated as the new RSM for 32 Signals Regt. It is a great unknown that like those in the past is something to get excited about. I challenge all the soldiers of the new unit to set the bar higher than ever before. Just because we are Signals does not mean we settle for second best!

VVV
MWO Carter CD

“Spiritus Manet”



HCol Sally Horsfall, SSStJ, CD

Throughout this edition you will hear that 700 (Borden) Communication Squadron and 709 (Toronto) Communication Regiment are now merged as 32 Signal Regiment and part of 32 CBG, so it is finally official, of course at time of writing we have yet to hear about the headquarters and certain

other rippling effects.

It was a wonderful year for our soldiers and the really good news is that all of our soldiers have returned from Afghanistan safe and sound. Welcome back.

The Regimental Advisory Council is once again asking for donations to the SHE Bursary Fund as well as to the Regiment (700 and 709), the 709 Cadet Corps, and Toronto Signals Band. In celebration of our new status, this year a pledge has been made to **MATCH ALL YOUR DONATIONS DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR** (to a maximum of \$1,000.00 per gift).

For example - if you donate \$100 to the SHE Fund, the Fund will be richer by \$200.00 - if you choose to support the band with a \$50 donation, the SHE Fund will also get \$50. SO PLEASE “go big and I’ll double your money” (sounds like the guy on T.V. asking for your gold “OH YEAH!”) Of course you also get a charitable tax receipt for all donations over \$20.00 so get your cheque in before year end and ensure a “win win” for everyone.

On another note, our soldiers had a busy training year - a chilling time on Winter Warfare, a hot time on Maple Defender in Wainwright plus lots of training elsewhere including learning the changed trade specifications. It is so nice having 700 and 709 back working together again after approximately 37 years, and great to get to know everyone involved.

In closing, a special thanks to Capt. (Ret'd) Butler-Caughie our Editor and our unit historian Hon. LCol. Jack Lee for all of the effort that they put into “The Communicator” a truly first class journal. It is hard to believe but the first edition of The Communicator was published twelve years ago this December -- the vision of Major Ken Lloyd, Eric Cozens and of course Jack Lee lives on. Thank you all.

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

HColonel Sally Horsfall, SSStJ, CD

Spiritus manet.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear HCol. Sally Horsfall:

Thank you for presenting me with the S.H.E. Bursary. The bursary will go toward my schooling to help further my post-secondary education. It will help pay off the many bills that come with post-secondary education.

I do appreciate how the Regimental Advisory Council plays an important role in the support of soldiers like myself through morale, funding and esprit des corps. Without such associations the Regiment would lose part of its sole and history.

Sincerely,

L.A. Kennedy
Private
Borden Sqn

Hi Jack: I just received my Communicator:

Please convey to the Editor & regular contributors, the following: "Being away from the Regiment, I have always appreciated and enjoyed the Communicator! Congratulations to the Editor and Assistants for their continual improvement in quality of this important communication tool!

In closing, Thank You! Unknown

Well done all ... it is a huge task and gets better every edition. Cheers and a good summer to all. Sally

Jack ... What a great publication – very well put together. Many thanks for all the good work you are doing and for taking the time to a plug in for our 90th. Well done. All the best. Sharing with all of our team as I am sure they will also enjoy it. Sgt. Bob Thomas

Guess I better pay my dues, eh? J&A member

Sir: I have a website and manage the website. I can make a page for all 709 Communication Regiment to access this page if required. Gary

Sir: Awesome job to the editor and all the staff. I really like the electronic version! April.

Jack: Thanks for putting me on this dist list. Susi

Jack ... Thanks for the continued postings which help me keep up to date with the activities of all Signal Corps units. Especially thanks for the link to Communicator! VVV Jon

Jack: Communicator looks great. I have not read everything yet. Right now I noticed two things; one CO of Total Force 706 Comm Sqn was Gravel not Gavel, and I could not find continuation of MWO Woodward's story. VVV Gary

Jack: I only look at the Communicator from time to time. The picture of 8th Sig Regt marching at the old grand stand must be later than 1956, since it was led by Bill Sawchuck. VVV Gary

Hi Jack, this is pretty good. Gerry

Hi Jack: In the event there may be some people who do not have any availability to the website (and I realize they may be in the minority), have the publishers been able to decide if it would be feasible for them to make extra copies of the Communicator available to such personnel or to those who may not have a coloured printer, someone like myself? I would be prepared to pay the copy of printing and mailing. Otherwise, I could print a black and white copy. This, of course would tend to de-glamorize the publication. Do I have a choice? Len

Printed copies will remain available—Ed.

Hi Jack: Would you believe it? This morning's mail brought me a copy of the Communicator. I will be sending someone (I don't know who) a cheque to cover the cost of the publication plus the postal charges. It is money well spent. Thanks for the such a quick response. Len

Hi Jack: Got my "hard" copy of the Communicator in the mail today and enjoyed perusing it. Although I could read it "online", I still prefer to relax with a paper copy and read it at leisure, so thanks for sending it! I'll have to contribute to help cover the production and mailing costs. Cheers. Nigel

Hi Fred – Jack Lee shared with us a copy of your recent Communicator. We would like to extend our thanks and sincere appreciation of the article covering our Warriors' Day Parade 90th anniversary. I received some very positive comments covering your journal, including: "One of the best Regimental Newsletters that I have ever seen". It is fitting that the communications experts of the Canadian Forces would produce the premier Regimental Journal. Have some experience producing newsletters, I know the tremendous amount of work that goes into such an undertaking. You and your team are to be congratulated for producing an excellent, top notch product. Again, on behalf of our 90th Anniversary organizing team, please accept our thanks and best wishes for continued success in your Regimental Journal Bob

Hi Jack: Always enjoy receiving the Communicator - I find it very informative and interesting. The electronic format is great. Keep it coming. I should to be in Toronto in the fall sometime - I'll give you a shout and maybe we can get a few together for lunch. Cheers. Lucien

Captain Butler-Caughie: Although never an Army Signalman, I appreciate receiving a copy of your recent "Communicator." My father, Brigadier Clarence McKee

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was an RCCS for much of his life, after the Corps of Guides was disbanded in 1929. This included commanding 1st Div and 1st Corp Signals, the latter throughout the Italian campaign. He was very proud to have been the senior Militia Signals officer with an active field command in those battles. And a Brigadier was never a Brigadier General in those days.

Despite his history, going back to being a Trooper in the Guides by 1913, I joined the Navy in 1943 as I'd done quite a bit of sailing and knew that if I joined the Army, and Signals in particular, if I got anywhere it would be...."Oh that's just because his father is the 1st Div Colonel...." etc! I stayed in the Naval Reserves until 1975, retiring as a Commander. As well, like you, I edited two naval newsletters for about 15 years in all.

Like many, I am puzzled by the constant changing of titles of the Toronto Signals Unit, from a pre-war 2nd Div Sigs to the present change being implemented to 32 Signal Regiment. It must be nice to be a 48th Highlander or a Royal Regiment soldier, with their continuity. Admittedly, they too have had a few changes, especially temporarily during WW1, but only in part even then.

Your Padre, Lt. Beriault's column drew to memory a prayer I've used on many occasions:

Before the Battle of Edgehill, in Warwickshire, England, as the opening battle of the Civil War, King Charles's army was about to face the Earl of Essex's Parliamentarians and Sergeant Major General Jacob Astley's infantry were in the centre of Charles's force. He is reputed to have prayed: "Eternal Lord God, thou knowest how busy I must be this day. If I forget thee, do not thou forget me. For Christ's sake, Amen.

- Fraser McKee

Dear Editor

I love the fact that I can now download the Communicator from the net. It allows me to keep in touch with my other military family. I miss you all.

I'd like to express my heartiest congratulations to Captain Alfred Lai on his selection as 32 CBG Soldier of the year. This brings great honour to the Regiment and I am proud to have served with you.

Congratulations to Captain Mike Tu on his promotion. BRAVO ZULU.

I am alive and well at 7 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps (the Elgins) here in St. Thomas, but a piece of my heart is still there at Fort York.

Captain Steve Brickenden

Former Editor

709 Communicator

Send your letters to editor709@yahoo.ca
or

Letters to the Editor
18 Mossbrook Crescent
Toronto, ON, M1W 2W9



Appointment of new Honorary Lieutenant Colonel 32 Signal Regiment

After a 2 1/2 year process, I would like to announce the appointment of Major Rt'd Alex Moseanu, CD as our new Honorary Lieutenant Colonel.

As you will see in his letter of appointment, Major Moseanu is appointed to 700 (Borden) Communication Squadron. During the past weekend we stood up the new 32 Signal Regiment through a very successful ceremonial parade. However, at this time, both 709 and 700 are still separate units with their own Unit Identity Codes. I suspect that on 01 April 2012 that 32 Signals will adopt the new UIC with HLCol Moseanu then becoming the official HLCol of 32 Signal Regiment.

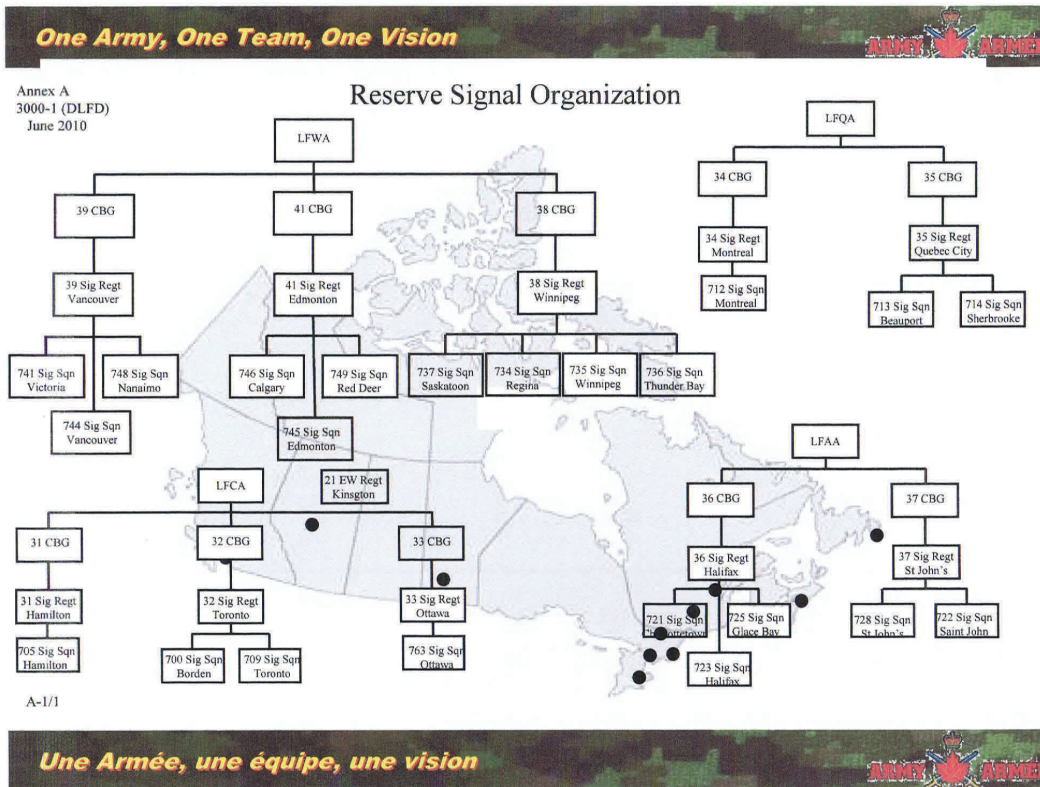
We will plan a formal ceremonial parade for our outgoing HLCol Jack Lee in the near future. I would like to ensure a suitable ceremony for to honour his outstanding service to the Regiment as both HLCol and of course acknowledging his work as a former Commanding Officer.

Until then, I would ask Jack Lee to continue as a patron Honorary Lieutenant Colonel through the transition process.

Regards,

G.L. Stasyna
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer
32 Signal Regiment





Above is the outline of the new Army Reserve Signal establishment across Canada. It illustrates how the original twenty-three Communication Reserve Units (less 772 EW Sqn) have been realigned into ten Regiments within 10 Reserve Brigades. In April of 2010 772 (Kingston) EW Sqn merged with 2 EW Sqn (Regular Force) to form 21 EW Regiment in Kingston.

Stand-up of 32 Signal Regiment

On Saturday 05 November 2011, Major Greg Stasyna was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel by 32 Brigade Commander, Colonel Jay Cleggett and appointed Commanding Officer of 32 Signal Regiment.

A special parade to recognise this milestone was held at Fort York Armoury. Turn out was very good.





Above: Cutting the Ceremonial Cake
Below & Right: Stand-up Dinner



Capt Raymond Wu & Capt Alfred Lai
Capt Andrew Milligan & Capt Rick Leswick



32 Signal Regiment Stand-up Dinner

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THE CURRENT CRISIS IN LEADERSHIP IS THE GREATEST POVERTY OF OUR AGE.

In an age where many of the world's leaders have chosen paths of selfishness, men and women of authentic values have never, ever been more in demand. Just because we can go to Starbucks for a coffee and don't have to go through checkpoints to get there, that doesn't at all mean we are free. The greatest battles are in the realm of ideas and these ideas are what infuse hatred or defuse violence. It is only in times of peace that the deadliest wars are avoided. So you may ask, "How can this be?" I say, do what you hear this great woman saying and you will lead the world away from violent solutions:

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.

- Mother Theresa

If you follow these simple, though easier said than done words, you will succeed at becoming a good leader. The world is in need of good leaders. You are called to lead, but are you ready to succeed?

Submitted by Padre Lt. Flavia Beriault



David Lea, OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF
Jul 21, 2011 - 2:12 PM

Afghanistan a vastly different world

After nearly a year in Afghanistan, Master Corporal Duncan Lloyd, 24, was not sure what his homecoming would be like, but he certainly didn't expect this.



On Monday, Wales Crescent, where Lloyd's parents live, was lined with yellow ribbons hanging in bushes, around telephone polls and mailboxes, all conveying the message 'thank you' and 'welcome home.' The neighbourhood's sentiments caught Lloyd completely off guard.

"I was absolutely, 100 per cent blown away," said Lloyd, a graduate of Queen Elizabeth Park High School. "I saw the yellow ribbon on everyone's house and I thought, 'This can't all be for me.' It's humbling, I think is the best way to describe it, very, very humbling. I didn't think anybody, other than my family, really cared about me personally being there. I'm just humbled and thankful."

Lloyd, a Canadian Forces reservist and signal operator, was stationed in Afghanistan's volatile Panjwaii District from August 2010 to mid-July 2011.

This was not his first deployment, having served a tour in the Golan Heights as part of the United Nations peace-keeping mission from 2005-2006.

Afghanistan, however, was to prove a far different experience. "You go through emotional phases as the tour draws closer and closer," said Lloyd.

"You are anxious to get over there because you have been going through the training and you just want to go and get your job done. You're also nervous because you are going to a theatre of conflict. I was nervous because although I had confidence in my training, my training had never been tested."

Leaving his family and starting a new job in a new environment also added to the mixture of emotions Lloyd said he was feeling prior to deployment to Afghanistan, the start of which he said marked the end of one chapter in his life and the beginning of a new one.

Lloyd's first impressions of Afghanistan revolved around the intense heat and the intense beauty of the surrounding mountains. The way the people of Afghanistan live also left a lasting impression on Lloyd.

"In the Golan Heights it was more developed. In Panjwaii it wasn't very developed," said Lloyd. "Panjwaii is more of a rural district. It was exciting to see the whole area. They live in a completely different culture, they have a completely different mentality and, of course, because the

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education system there has fallen to pieces, they do have a different mindset. It was just interesting to see the way they would go about their daily lives. So many of the locals are poor and so they lead more simple lives, have more simple desires and they are just happy with what they have. I found that fascinating.”

Headquartered within a command post set up inside the Panjwaii District Centre (offices of the government representatives for the area), Lloyd’s unit supplied the International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF) present there with computer and radio communications.

Panjwaii has seen considerable Canadian blood spilled over the years through both conventional fighting and Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attacks. Lloyd said the area can still be violent at certain times of the year, although progress appeared to be being made while he was there.

“We arrived in September, at the end of the 2010 fighting season, and there were occasions there when you could tell Panjwaii was still unstable. Insurgents still roamed around, it wasn’t as dangerous as everyone gives the impression of, but you had to be on your guard,” said Lloyd. “When fighting season ended around winter time, things kind of calmed down and then when fighting season started up again, ISAF had made such an impact over the winter that Bazar-e Panjwaii was far better than it was when we arrived, far less insurgent activity. We definitely saw a massive improvement there and we were happy to see it.”

Even so, the Taliban still made their presence known from time to time. On one occasion a rocket was launched in the direction of Lloyd’s compound, but missed by a considerable distance and caused nothing more than the lights to flicker briefly.

At other times, small groups of insurgents would approach the compound at night, fire off a few shots and then disappear into the darkness. Lloyd said this was probably done to merely test the response of the security surrounding the facility.

During his tour, Lloyd’s duties also saw him join foot patrols, which would scale the nearby mountain and walk through the mud brick villages and grape fields of Panjwaii, searching for insurgent activity. “Basically you’re thinking, ‘Boy I hope I keep my head screwed on,’” said Lloyd.

“You pay attention to what’s unusual. You sort of have a heightened sense because you know you are in a danger area. You look around to see who stands out in a crowd or ‘Should that wire be there?’ There is the danger, but you just go out there and do your job.”

These foot patrols also gave Lloyd the opportunity to see how regular Afghans reacted to the presence of the Canadians. “Some people stared at you like they really, really

hated you and some people stared at you and said, ‘Hi,’ and gave you a wave. It was a very odd mix up,” he said.

“When we went on patrol, kids were approaching us and asking for pens and things like that and one of our guard commanders said that was a very good sign. I asked why that was. He said that kids reflect what their parents think and if their parents didn’t like ISAF or were afraid of ISAF, the kids would not approach. The fact that the kids were approaching us showed their parents are really positive towards ISAF.”

Lloyd said during his time in Panjwaii he also saw progress such as the building of a major road and the establishment of several schools. Seeing these things and hearing from some of the locals that they appreciated what he was doing made turning over the Panjwaii District Centre command post to the Americans in July almost bitter-sweet.

“We did feel bad handing it over to the Americans because you feel like you are saying, ‘Here you go guys. Our job’s not done, but you guys can carry on,’ but then every tour feels like that,” said Lloyd.

“At the end of every tour, you feel the job is not done yet and so I want to stay, but you have to go home, you have to hand it over to someone else because one person cannot stay there forever. There really was the feeling of unfinished business though. You want to see it through to the end.”

While Canada’s combat mission in Afghanistan has come to an end, some Canadian soldiers will remain within the country to continue training the Afghan National Army. Lloyd said he is happy Canada is not completely pulling out of the war-torn nation at this time.

“I am happy we are staying at least in Kabul because there is still a lot of work that needs to be done,” he said. “They have been at war for 30 years. They still need our assistance because they have been at war for 30 years and they have had that holding them back and with just a little bit of help they can get that push to do so much better. At the end of the day, they just want to live in peace.”



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Coming Home

Over 40 countries are participating in the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), a NATO-led formation that operates in Afghanistan under the authority of the United Nations. Canada is ending its NATO-led combat mission in Kandahar province and beginning a non-combat, Kabul-centered training role that will continue until 2014.

From the beginning 709 Communication Regiment and 700 Communication Squadron has supplied Signals members in this theatre. The last of our Combat troops will be home by the end of December 2011.

Having just observed Remembrance Day services across the length and breadth of Canada and for the last time in Kandahar, we now give thanks to our Members who have served in Afghanistan and have or are in the process of coming home.....Well Done!

From 700 Borden Communication Squadron:

WO Neil Gibbenhuck

Cpl Evan Gorman

Cpl Sean McKee

From 709 Communication Regiment:

Capt Alfred Lai

WO Dan Morin

WO Carmin Corrado

Sgt Helena Major

MCpl Leonardo Mawbey-Puglia

MCpl Won-Ho Kim

MCpl Duncan Lloyd

Still There:

Maj Steve Kiss

Cpl Alex Semionov



Major Steve Kiss, CD Status

Below is an email between Major Steve Kiss and myself received in August 2011— J. Lee

Hi sir:

Great to hear from you, and apologies for dropping off the face of the earth the last few months. Based

on the landscape around here and as any of the troops that have done the tour can tell you, this place is actually somewhat off the face of the earth!

Here's the email that I sent to John. I've have to edit it a little bit for OPSEC reasons, so please feel free to publish this one. I've also included my "GI Joe" picture; feel free to use that as well if you wish.

The network that we're on here is pretty restrictive as far as content coming in (won't allow e-links or connections to any non-military social sites, and no pictures/ attachments over 5 megs) but I can receive emails.

Please give my best wishes to everyone, and I'll see all again when I get home next March.

All the best,

Steve

S.A. (Steve) Kiss

Major, Canadian Forces
S6 / OIC Headquarters Advisory Group, Consolidated
Fielding Center (CFC)NTM-A/CSTC-A Camp Blackhorse,
Pol-e-Charki, Afghanistan



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32 Signal Regiment – Church Parade 6 November 2011

The Sunday of November 6 the 32 Signal Regiment, Toronto Signals Band, 709 Cadet Corps and associations experienced the best weather conditions in the history of Unit Church parades. As November would have it, the weather at best would be very cool and breezy. It would cause many to don your woollies the underneath the uniform. This Sunday the sun shone down on us with 14c temperatures.



have given those on parade a wonderful appetite. All those attending the parade agreed of the parade success due to a large turn out and superlative weather conditions.

On behalf of the 32 Signal Regiment, we express thanks to Reverend Nick Athanasiadis and the Leaside Presbyterian Church for allowing the Regiment for a place of worship on a day of Remembrance every year.

LCol Greg Stasyna and the troops of 32 Signal Regiment was well turned out with extraordinary numbers with 709 Cadets in unexpected numbers lead by Capt. Andrew Mulligan. The Toronto Signals Band set the pace with the scarlet and brass at its best. The associations in the parade must be given credit for its turn out in good numbers too.

Padre Lt. Flavia Beriault gave a heart stirring sermon with readings from CO LCol Greg Stasyna, HCol Horsfall and RSM MWO Carter.



Major Don Kerr, CD Recognized by Canadian War Veterans

Major Donald Kerr, CD of Port Perry was one of 19 persons from across Ontario to receive the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation on July 27 at an impressive ceremony held in Mississauga.

This is awarded to individuals, who in an exemplary way, contributed either to the care and well-being of veterans or to the remembrance of the sacrifices and achievements of Canadians in armed conflict.

After the parade, all were invited for a reception at the Officer's Mess, Fort York Armoury. The weather must

Mr. Kerr, a well known figure around Scugog, is a retired major of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals who served during the Second World War. He was also an aide de



camp to two former Lieutenant governors of Ontario.

In 1999, under the auspices of the Dominion Institute, Mr. Kerr began speaking to countless public and high school students in the GTA about the sacrifices of the Canadians in war.

In 2005, Mr. Kerr sensed a waning interest among the youth he spoke to, so he decided to produce a DVD of the CF in action. He viewed more than 100,000 feet of film at the Library and Archives in Ottawa and ultimately was able to produce a DVD which commended the attention of youth. The DVD was also made available to Veterans as well as Legion branches, where it has been shown to hundreds of school children, service clubs and other organizations across Canada.

A tremendous amount of effort and time was involved in assembling details, photo, etc., in order to produce this first-class DVD which honours the Canadian Forces.

Don is shown in the photograph being presented a framed commendation from Canada's Minister of Veteran Affairs, Steven Bleney.

**Stephanie Longstreet-Sturino
Member of the Toronto Signals Band**

My name is Stephanie Longstreet-Sturino. I play the second soprano trumpet for the Toronto Signals Band. I was first really interested in music when I saw my brother perform in his school's Christmas concert. I had my heart set on playing the saxophone for when I entered high school. But no. My mother made me pick the trumpet so that one day I could join the Toronto Signals. She told me it would be the easiest instrument to play because it only has three keys. Ha! I was then assigned the mission of learning the trumpet.



But it definitely paid off; playing came very easily to me. By the second year

of school I was the lead trumpet player in the school band and in my third and fourth year I was a soloist for my school's senior and stage bands. I joined the SIGS when I was fifteen and my playing only became better as I learned different techniques from the band. The new style was different from what I was used to, but I was learning in a totally comfortable environment.

Aside from the playing, I had to learn how to march. The thought of having to perform a drill show was terrifying. "Chalk talk" might as well be in Chinese, because I could never understand what was going on. But when we went to the floor, things got a lot better. I was put in between Connie and Jenn. With them and Pappy in my section to help me, I caught on quite well. I was in uniform two days after my sixteenth birthday and it's been two years since I've been an official member of the SIGS.

Being a member of the band is not only a fun experience, but it's also a very important part of who I am. My great grandfather founded the band 85 years ago, my grandfather was a member for 39 years, and my mother is the current drum major. Now I am a fourth generation member and I am so proud to be a part of the Longstreet legacy.



Being a marching member has been rewarding in so many ways; not only have I met the most amazing people and have had the greatest experiences, but I have been recognized for the hours I have put in with the band. Thanks to the Signals, I was able to accumulate enough volunteer hours to be receive the Lieutenant Governor's award when I graduated high school this past June. I really hope that young men and women continue to join this organization, because it is so easy to take part in practicing and performing while maintaining an average, working a job, and participating in other activities.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Longstreet-Sturino

**709 Comm Regt at the 41st Annual
Ontario Open First Aid Challenge**
by Pte Lau and Pte Ramsey

Rebecca Black in her infamous song Friday states that "everybody is looking forward to the weekend," this was especially true for the first aid team of 709 (Toronto) Communication Regiment during the weekend of the Challenge. Leading to the provincial event, this unit took first place in the 32 CBG First Aid Competition. The team then decided to test its skills in the 41st Annual Ontario Open First Aid Challenge on Saturday, May 7, 2011 at



Durham College - University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT). The Challenge is a first aid skills competition that became an annual event in 1971, with the first recorded competition in 1918. The unit's first aid team was divided into three entries in the Adult Standard category: Team Sparky - Cpl Lopez, Pte Song, and MCpl Ghosh (spare); Team Jimmy - MCpl Jothirajah, Cpl Lo, and Pte Huang (spare); and Team Signals - Cpl Ngo, Cpl Szczesniak, and MCpl Pham (spare). Numerous practices were held on Wednesday nights to prepare for the long awaited Challenge. Precisely at 0730h on the day of the competition, the team departed from Fort York Armoury and headed towards Durham College. Arriving at the campus were two other CF units that were also competing in this competition, 25 Field Ambulance and Queen's York Rangers. Other competitors included personnel from St. John's Ambulance Brigades, York Region Police, Durham Police and many more. Cpl Robinson, a medic from The Royal Regiment of Canada, was a volunteer casualty simulator.

There were two other events occurring on campus, a science fair and soccer game. The science fair was held at UOIT and allowed guests to view science experiments and stargaze through expensive telescopes. Experiments included bottle rockets, and mixing dry ice in beakers with a stopper. Those who volunteered at the fair were students from Durham College. At this fair, our uniforms caught the attention of many young children who approached us to ask questions or just to say hello.

Teams reported to a holding area where all electronic

devices were surrendered, and where they awaited further instructions. At 1030h, the competition began and the team started off with a scenario involving campers who caught themselves on fire. Cpl Lo was such a gentleman using his combat tunic to keep the casualty warm. Other scenarios included a student stabbed in the cafeteria, a unconscious homeless man found by a janitor, a hunting accident in the woods, and a gymnastics accident. A second scenario was completed in the morning, and three scenarios after lunch. Everything that the Challenge threw at the team, the team threw back with the reassuring quote of "help is on the way" in many varieties. Upon conclusion of the Challenge, the winners in each category were announced. Unfortunately, 709 Comm Regt did not place in the Adult Standard category and neither did our neighbour, the Queen's York Rangers. There was only a two percent variance between the scores of the top three teams. When it seemed that all hope had vanished for 32 CBG in the contest, it was announced that the team from 25 Fd Amb composed of Pte Chung, Pte Rogers, and Charlie Wu won gold in the Adult Advanced category. Pte Chung is quoted as saying, "A strong showing from the Queen's York Rangers and 709 Communication Regiment, and having 25 Field Ambulance win the Advanced category for a second year in a row demonstrates that the Canadian Forces are involved in the community, and possess the necessary skills to maintain the safety and security of Canadian citizens." At the end, we claimed some 'space age blankets' that were used during the Challenge and are extremely warm and lightweight.

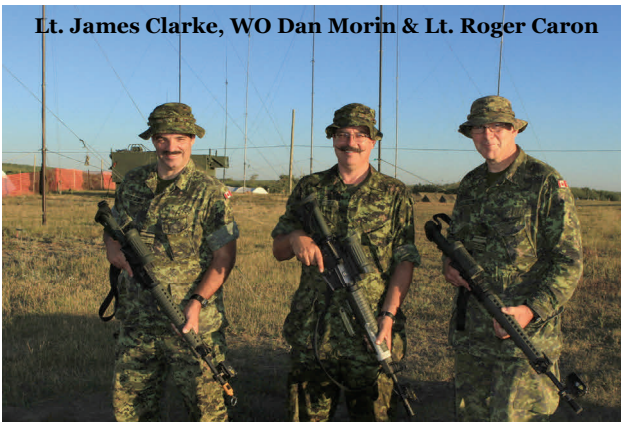
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The 709 first aid team thanks all those who helped them prepare for the competition including Ptes Kwon, Lau, Low, Ng, and Ramsey for being casualties at training nights and Pte Jaggi for originally being involved in the team, but unable to continue due to civilian employment commitments. Capt Chang initially got the team organized and running, conducted the team's administration, and coached the team. MCpl Chan, an attached medic from 25 Fd Amb, also coached the team. Hopefully, MCpl Chan remain with our unit next year so that the first aid team can continue to profit from his invaluable expertise. If you are a member of this unit, the first aid team is looking for new members and casualties, so come out and join the fun in September.



EX MAPLE DEFENDER 1101

EX MAPLE DEFENDER was a Military Concentration (MILCON) of Reservists from across Canada (more than 1200) with over 650 from central Canada. The exercise was held in CFB WAINWRIGHT at the Canadian Maneuvers Training Centre (CMTC) which was designed as a Reserve exercise focusing on Level 3(Platoon) training in



Lt. James Clarke, WO Dan Morin & Lt. Roger Caron

a Level 4/5 (Company/Combat Team plus) context. Ex MD 1101 was not to training soldiers for deployment to Afghanistan, rather it was to training soldiers in the basics as general purpose combat capable soldiers. To accomplish this, CMTC redesigned the training, taking a step away from the Afghanistan model and used the Common Contemporary Training Scenario (CCTS).



This was significant because as the CF combat role in Afghanistan draws to a close, the Army has a more pressing requirement for a generic exercise scenario that serves as a basis for collective training at all levels. This permitted training in Full Spectrum Operations with a Force on Force kinetic focus. The intent was that the opposing force would replicate a threat that continued to involve insurgents and IEDs but also increased the threat level with conventional combat skills that was "near-peer" to the Canadian Forces.

The exercise consisted of two days of company stand training that focused on three specific objectives: How to execute a Convoy Escort, a Fighting Patrol, and a Cordon and Search. Following the stand training, the Battle Group then spent approximately four days conducting Force on Force training, using the Weapons Effects Simulation system fighting an enemy.

Signaler's from 700 Comm Sqn and 709 Comm Regt supported the Ex in various capacities from Battle Group (BG) HQ Sig O and Camp Sig O to Tactical Operations Centre (TOC) watch signaler's, Commander's Signaler and Company and Platoon level signaler's. Soldier's left with their personal kit and rifle to arrive to a facility that provided virtually everything else. With the assistance of an advance party most of the camp facilities were ready for our arrival. It only took a couple of days to settle in and be tactically ready, which is nothing short of a record. Vehicles, equipment, radio's etc. were provided by CMTC greatly reducing costs associated with moving an entire Battle Group.

The following images were taken at various times throughout the deployment at CMTC: (images to follow)

Cheers,

Roger Caron
Lt





Promotions & CO's Parade— 03 October 2011
Promoted to Pte are Pte Giang, Lau, Low, Ng, Zhu



and Slattery
Upper Right: Captain Mike Tu receiving the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD) for twelve years service in the Canadian Forces.



The Toast to Jimmy
Latin translation by Frank Price

Magnus erat Pheidippides,
Cursor Graecus,
Et magnus erat Mercurius,
Deus Romanus,
Sed nuntium ex omnibus optimum,
Vobis do nostrum Jacabum.

Great was Pheidippides,
The Grecian runner,
And great was Mercury,
The God of the Romans,
But the finest messenger of them all,
I give you - our Jimmy.

Ladies and Gentlemen - our Jimmy



Jimmy & As-

sociates



It has certainly been a very busy summer for all of us. That included our annual BBQ at Lou Lombardi's place. As usual because of his hospitality all of us enjoyed the event.

Now that fall is here, many events have taken place. Last week a new wing has been opened at the St John's rehab center, thanks to our Hon Col Sally Horsfall and John Eaton who made a very substantial contribution to that center. Some Canadian Forces soldiers are treated there when they return from Afghanistan.

Our regimental band has again won trophies at the Warriors day parade in August. Well done, we are very proud of you.

Of course the most important event just occurred this week end, i.e. the formation our newly amalgamated units 709 and 700. There were many spectators and the troops as well as the cadet Corps looked absolutely spectacular.



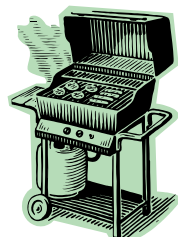
But wait...as they say on TV...our CO Major Greg Stasyna FINALLY got a well deserved promotion to Lt Col after serving as the CO of 3 units (700, 705 & 709) Comms. simultaneously...BRAVO ZULU to your promotion ,Sir!!!

Furthermore, Just a reminder to all members the Annual Jimmy and associates Xmas get together will take place on Sunday December 4th at the Sergeants Mess .

looking forward to another successful training year within our regimental family. Remember, if you know anyone that is interested as a past or present serving Jimmy, invite them to join our association.

That said, annual dues are coming up and should be renewed for 2012.

SPIRITUS MANET
VVV
Alex Moseanu
President
J&A



Annual
BBQ



**Lieutenant Colonel Greg Stasyna
Invested a Knight (Chevalier) of St. George**

The Investiture took place on Saturday 22 October 2011 at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Toronto. There were about 28 persons inducted including Honorary Colonel Blake Goldring (Canada Company) who is the Army Honorary Colonel.

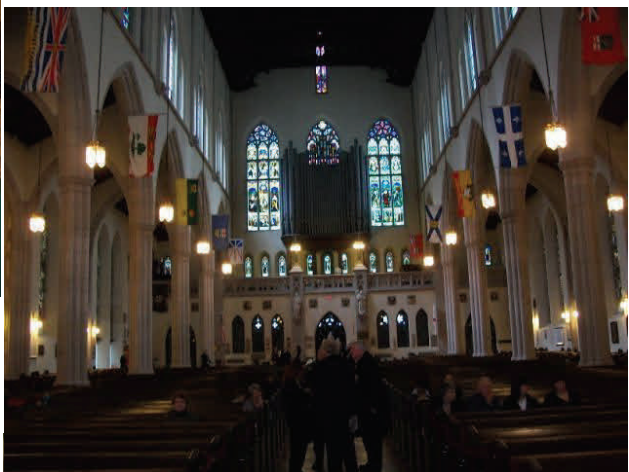


Mission Statement

Charity is the most important part of the work of the Order. In addition, the Order contributes funding in support of our wounded or fallen military personnel, Military Family Resource Centres, Sunnybrook Medical Sciences Centre (wounded military personnel), 56th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, the Anglican Church of Canada, Royal Canadian Sea, Army and Air Cadet Corps and other worthy causes.

Description

The Order of St. George – inspired by the Fraternal Society of Knighthood of St. George founded approximately 680 years ago – was established as a Canadian Priory in Canada and was consecrated at Christ Church in Niagara Falls on 01 March, 2003. It subsequently gained charitable status in October 2006. Charity remains the most important part of the works of the Order.



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709 CADETS CAN-DO

By Captain, Rick Leswick, CD

About eighty cadets fill the “parade square” at the Fairbanks Community Centre located on Dufferin Street, just south of Eglinton Ave. W.

This is the new home of the 709 Toronto Communications Cadet Corps that meets every Wednesday night between 1900 to 2100 hrs.



“We have had a phenomenal increase in interest,” said corps commanding officer Captain Andrew Milligan, CD.

“Last year we held an open house and this year recruiting has been steady so we are expecting an exciting training year.”

The schedule is full of great activities and on the weekend of 21 October the corps participated in its annual garrison exercise. Seventy cadets joined a similar number from 2824 Mississauga COPS at Blackdown Park, CFB Borden to train in everything from shelter construction to abseiling.

Double duty was done that weekend as six cadets also competed in the area orienteering competition at Glen Haffey conservation area.

The corps will have a very busy weekend starting on 5 November as cadets will conduct a special remembrance ceremony at Sanctuary Park Cemetery and then move to Fort York Armoury to participate in the 32 Brigade parade.

The following day the cadets will join the regiment in the annual church parade.

The corps is looking for assistance with staffing, and welcomes any potential volunteer to contact the commanding officer, Captain Andrew Milligan by emailing him at andrew.milligan@sympatico.ca.

St. John's Rehab Hospital Opens New Out-patient Rehabilitation Wing

On Thursday 03 November 2011 a special ceremony was held at the St. John's Rehab Hospital on Cummer Avenue in Toronto. The occasion was the opening of the John C. and Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Ambulatory Care.

Funded by all three levels of government and a 2 million dollar grant from the John C and Sally Horsfall Eaton Foundation, this facility is state of the art.

It should be noted that Canadian soldiers who have received catastrophic injuries in Afghanistan have gone through rehab at this facility.

Thank you John C. and Sally Horsfall Eaton for your compassion & generosity. - ED



We will remember them.....

Adams, Frank



It is with sadness that we report the recent passing of Francis Adams.

Frank or Frankie as he was known to many of us, played the baritone horn in the band for a number of years and was a proud member of the Sigs family.

His internment took place on Saturday, May 28th, 2011 at 1 p.m., at the St. John's Dixie Cemetery, 737 Dundas Street East (east of Cawthra Rd.) in Mississauga.

There were two Toronto Signals members at the grave site service. One will carried his remains and the other one played the last post.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Frank's family and friends. - ED

WHITE, Michael Hewitt

June 14, 2011

Classified Type: Obituaries & Death Notices

Location: Hamilton

WHITE, Michael Hewitt With saddened hearts we wish to announce the passing of Michael on June 14, 2011 at Joseph Brant Hospital, at the age of 46. Predeceased by his parents Thomas and Georgina White. He will be sadly missed by his special friend and past fiancée Creigh Johnson, his former wife Rosanna Dayrit, his brothers Tom, Terry (Lynne), Gary (Maddy), Robert (Colleen), Jonathan (Ambyr), nephews Greg (Khuong), Thomas (Stacey), Sam Misner, his grandniece Darla and his grandnephew Bodhi. Michael will also be sadly missed by his many friends and colleagues. Michael was a Corporal of 705 Comm. Squad. He graduated from Sir Winston Churchill in 1982 and HCI in 1983 and from Mohawk

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College, Comp. Tech. in 1990. He served as a Hamilton Auxiliary Police Officer. Michael was a very devoted son to his mother until her passing in 1999. He was a passionate student and an avid comic collector.

Brickenden, Shirley L.

Shirley Brickenden, mother of Captain Steve Brickenden passed away at about 9:30 on the evening of Sunday 27 June 2011.

On behalf of the Signals Family, please accept our deepest sympathy and condolences for the loss of your mother.
- Jack Lee

Chappelle, Arthur

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Alumni Member Arthur (Art) Chappelle. Art played soprano horn and was also an instructor. Art had also been a member of the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps Trumpet Band. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

Passed away peacefully on Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at North York General Hospital. Predeceased by his wife Alice and beloved son John (Jayne). Art (85) will be missed by children Diane (Rudy) and Ken (Annie). Art was a proud Grandpa to Alyson, Anthony, Daniel, Amy, Adam and Aaron. Friends will be received at THE SIMPLE ALTERNATIVE FUNERAL CENTRE, 275 Lesmill Road, Toronto, 416-441-1580 begin on Thursday, July 14, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Funeral service will be held in the chapel on Friday, July 15, at 1 p.m. Interment Highland Memory Gardens. Those wishing to make a donation, please consider the Canadian Fallen Fire Fighters Foundation, in memory of his late son John.

DIACOVO, Anthony

DIACOVO, Anthony (Tony) - (Former Member of the Toronto Signal Band) At Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket, on Monday, September 19, 2011 at 90 years of age. Beloved husband of Viola (nee Gibbs) and dear father of Helen (Tim Hewlett), Donna (the late Charles Bergin) and Toni (Danny Perugini).

Guzkowski, Andrew

Guzkowski, Andrew - Passed away on Saturday, November 5, 2011 at the age of 89. Beloved husband of Zofia for 42 years and loving father of Monica (Jean-Charles) and Adam. Dear brother of Elizabeth and the late Christopher and uncle of Liz, Jan and Dorothy. Born in Poland in 1922, he lived a remarkable life; he fought in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944, worked with the Toronto Transit Commission and was an active leader in Canadian Polish Scouting. He will be missed by family and friends in Can-

ada, Poland, the UK and the US. Thank you to Dr. Kirmani and the staff of both Credit Valley Hospital and Trillium Health Centre. Friends may call at the Turner & Porter Peel Chapel, 2180 Hurontario St., Mississauga (Hwy. 10, N of QEW), from 5-9 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8th; Rosary at 5:30 p.m. Funeral Mass will be held at St. Maximilian Kolbe Church, 4260 Cawthra Rd., Mississauga, on Wednesday, November 9th at 10 a.m. Cremation to follow. In lieu of flowers, donations to Copernicus Lodge or a charity of your choice would be appreciated.

Published in the Toronto Star on November 7, 2011

Thomson, Garry Gladstone



It is with sadness that we report the passing of Alumni Member Garry Thompson. Garry played the soprano horn and had a long love of marching bands. He was responsible for starting the Vanguard Sea Cadet Band which gave many young boys the chance to learn to play music and march. We will miss him.

Long-time member of the Toronto Hydroplane & Sailing Club; Past President of the Toronto Sea Cadet Alumni Association; member of the Naval Club of Toronto; and member of Toronto Signals Trumpet Band Suddenly at home on June 4, 2011 in his 75th year.

Beloved son of the late Ethel and Gladstone.

Loving brother of George (Sharon), Bonnie (Harry), Valerie, Ralph, Suzi (Billy), and the late Lois. Fondly remembered by several nieces and nephews and by all of his family and friends. A celebration of Garry's life will take place Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 12 noon at the Toronto Hydroplane & Sailing Club, Ashbridge's Bay, Toronto. If desired, donations in memory of Garry may be made to the Canadian Diabetes Assoc

Master Corporal Byron Greff

3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (3 PPCLI)

Sadly, Canada once again mourns the tragic loss of one of her Canadian Forces heroes. Master Corporal Byron Greff, from Alberta, was a member of the 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (3 PPCLI). MCpl Greff, and 16 other NATO soldiers were killed when a suicide bomber attacked the armoured bus they were travelling in. MCpl Greff has been added to the list of brave Canadians who have fallen in the Afghan mission, bringing our national sacrifice of Canadian Forces personnel to 157. Additionally, a Canadian Diplomat, a Canadian journalist and two Canadian aid workers have been killed in Afghanistan