



eCommunicator - Fall 2020

Journal of 32 Signal Regiment

eCommunicator

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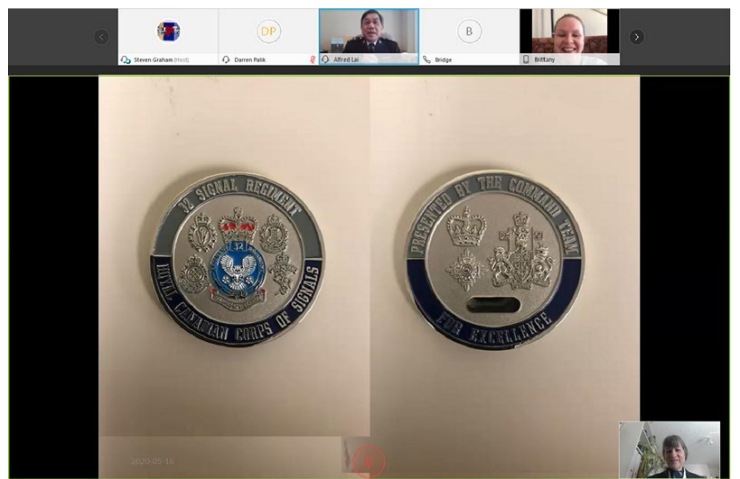


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About the eCommunicator

This is a limited domestic publication produced with the permission of the Commanding Officer for the purpose of recording the activities within the Regiment and the Regimental family. It is intended to provide a wide variety of material relating to military communications and military affairs, both at home and abroad.

The views and opinions expressed in this periodical are those of the contributors and not those of the Department of National Defence, its Units or Officers, including the Commanding Officer of 32 Signal Regiment.

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Command Team

Commanding Officer's Message



LCol Mike Duteau, CD, BSc Compt Sc (York University)

Major Duteau joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1983. His early career was as a Naval Supply Technician, which included three years travelling the oceans aboard HMCS SASKATCHEWAN. In the '90s he followed his passion of computers and obtained his degree in Computer Sciences in order to be selected as an Army Signals Officer.

Early leadership responsibilities established Captain Duteau as the Detachment Commander of 2 Area Signal Squadron (Toronto) providing computer and information systems support to the Canadian Army units in the Toronto region. He worked as staff at both Division command and Army command levels. While working on the Army Commander's staff, he spearheaded the requirement to establish the Army Network Operations Centre in 2008. From 2009 to 2015, Major Duteau was the J6 at Canadian Forces College. As the J6, he worked on significant advances, enabling delivery of education in an academic setting while balancing security concerns of the Department of Defence. In 2015 he returned to 4th Canadian Division Headquarters as G1 Services, leading a dynamic team to provide staff results on Human Resource issues for the Commander of 4 Canadian Division. In 2016 his section led the 4 Canadian Division fight for Operation HONOUR which is execution of the Canadian Armed Forces plan to change culture in order to stamp out sexual harassment. For his final regular forces post after 37 years of service, Major Duteau returned to the G6 staff to support the Commander of 4th Canadian Division in capacity of G6 Strategic Planning, developing plans to reinforce the Army Reserve Signal capacity (also known as named DWAN Uplift), Information Systems infrastructure, and signal support to Force Generation for the division.

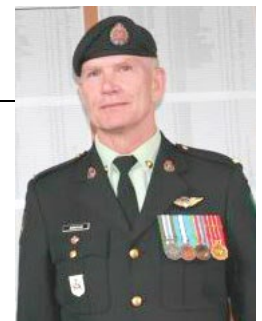
Operationally Major Duteau deployed on United Nations Deployed Observer Force to Golan Heights. Most recently, in 2017 Major Duteau had the opportunity to deploy as Gender Advisor to the commander of Task Force LATVIA in support of Operation REASSURANCE. This represented the first operational deployment of a Gender Advisor for the Canadian Armed Forces.

Major Duteau graduated from York University with a Bachelor of Computer Science in 1999. When not working, or at his North York home he currently enjoys travelling with his lovely wife Jennifer, a registered nurse, who manages professional nursing practice in one of Toronto's busy hospitals. His passion for computers and technology is born out of a love of all things nerdy. When time permits, he can be found re-configuring his home network, or joining friends for computer games or board games.

After 37 years in the Reg Force, he decided to retire from the Regular Force and continue to serve as Army Reserves (Ares). He's particularly excited about this next stage of his career, as he will finally get to see if his hard work at Division staff has made a difference for the ARes. He will age out in May of 2022, so that does not provide him a great deal of time.

Regimental Sergeant-Major

COVID-19! What more can I say. It slowed us but it didn't stop us. On the contrary it forced us to look and work "outside the box" finding different ways to continue training. And as always, everyone in 32 Signal Regiment exceeded expectations. Meetings were conducted remotely and virtually, IBTS quals continued through DND Learn, and training plans were created to help ensure success in the future. OP Laser/OP Lentus gave the Army Reserves the opportunity to exercise one of our main roles, defence of Canada. Luckily Mother Nature was on our side and there was only minimal localized flooding which did not require the activation of the DRC. This allowed all efforts to focus on OP Laser



which was in defence of COVID-19. A large number of our personnel were placed on Class C and relocated to CFB Borden Blackdown Park and later throughout different locations in the GTA. As reported in the local news, once again the Military did a stellar job and I am extremely proud of all the soldiers who put their lives on hold to support this domestic operation.

There are also a number of our personnel who have trained with 2 CMBG and have or will deploy to Operations around the world. 32 Sig Regt continues to provide highly trained and motivated soldiers in support of domestic and international operations. We have had many successes in the past few months as well. A number of personnel graduated PLQ/AJLC, we hosted a successful BMQ course and some DP2 ACISS testing plus another exported DP1 ACISS course. Well done to all those involved.

As you read this edition of the Communicator, we will have a new Commanding Officer, LCol Duteau. Our former CO, LCol Lai gave 110% to the soldiers, the Regiment and the CAF. Mission first, people always; he continuously put the soldiers' welfare ahead of his own, working tirelessly to support where needed. He was also the driving force behind the Cyber Mission task assigned by the CA. I expect all soldiers in 32 Signal Regiment to give our new Commanding Officer their full support as I know he will continue on from where LCol Lai left off.

In closing, as provincial restrictions allowing us to begin some training collective training, I would like to congratulate all those who earned well deserved promotions and those who have worked hard behind the scenes to ensure the Regiment is always ready for anything.

VVV
CWO Steven Graham, CD
RSM

Honorary Colonel Jim Leech, C.M. CD

I hope that you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy through this Covid-19 pandemic – particularly our veterans and retirees, many of whom are clearly at higher risk.

I also want to thank our serving soldiers who were activated for Operation Laser and willingly accepted that they could be placed in harm's way in order to help their fellow citizens. The fact that only a very few actually contracted the virus is a reflection of precautions taken and training received over the years. I was so proud to watch the professional way that our military undertook the challenge of Long Term Care homes in Ontario and Quebec and the dispassionate, factual report that exposed the scandalous conditions.

Covid-19 Reflections

It is amazing how fast, and how slow, time passes when we are in partial lock down and so focused on, and preoccupied by, a single factor – corona virus. And we have all become experts in epidemiology and biological science.

But the "down time" has given us all an opportunity for reflection – What is important in our lives? What changes/improvements might this pandemic allow us to make in our own lives and in society? Hopefully in a year, we will not just return to "normal" (and not even a "new normal"), but rather, we will find a "better normal".

My experience is that this pandemic has acted as an accelerant for trends, good and bad, that were already active in our society – we might not have seen them as they were below the surface, but they were already there. For example:



Honorary Colonel Jim Leech, C.M. CD

- Bad
Demise of our Long Term Care system – it had been deteriorating over decades, inadequately able to keep up with the maturing of our population. Anyone who had dealt with aging parents knew the system was broken, but we chose to ignore it. Covid exposed the fundamental systemic weaknesses which must be addressed in our “better normal”.
- Good
On-line learning – in one week in March, 150,000 university courses were moved on-line across Canada. If we had purposely set out to do that, absent Covid, it would have taken over a decade (and several lawsuits). Not all course conversions were executed flawlessly (some will need redoing) but remote education is now a big part of our “better normal”.
- Bad and Good
Equality/Diversity/Inclusion/Indignity – It is easy to see the bad side: Covid had the effect of exposing the ugly truth of systemic inequity and racism in our society. The fact that most Covid deaths were among our poor and racialized citizens is appalling. And, perhaps because we had more time on our hands, we were forced to witness the last anguishing 8 minutes and 46 seconds of George Floyd’s life.

But it is heartening to see that these atrocities have shaken many of us out of our comfortable complacency and into action. Widespread peaceful demonstrations by citizens of all colours, business leaders signing up to pledge change, sports teams addressing the chronic issue of “mascoting” our First Nations, Metis and Inuit citizens, etc. I personally have taken time to better understand Canada’s complicity in slavery (was not taught in my history class) and its impact on today. Covid has re-awakened Canadian decency – it was always there, but never a priority given other demands in our lives – which I hope will be the defining feature of our “better normal”.

Family Reorg

I want to acknowledge the work of HCol (Designate) Lloyd, who with help from Hal Buller and input from many of our Regimental Family members, have completed a recommendation to put our “Family” organization on a sustainable footing. The details are elsewhere in this edition; but I want to say that this refreshed structure will be the key to revitalizing the support for our Regiment.

Catto Donation

The last edition of eCommunicator highlighted HCol John Catto and his many years of association with Signals in Toronto. To honour John’s devotion to the Regiment, his family has made a substantial donation to our Regimental Fund that supports the welfare of the Regiment and its members. Over the next few months, the Regimental Advisory Council will announce a new award in John’s name to be awarded annually. All input to the design of the award is welcomed.

Change of Command

In early fall we will be celebrating the retirement of our Commanding Officer, LCol Alfred Lai, and welcoming our new CO, Major Michael Duteau. Details with regards to COC Parade and other celebrations have yet to be finalized.

Honoraries Comings/Goings

In March, we welcomed HLCol Shannon Regan as our new Honorary Lieutenant Colonel – please read her inaugural letter to learn more.

The appointment/promotion of former HLCol Ken Lloyd is expected shortly, at which point Ken will succeed me as Honorary Colonel of 32 Signal Regiment.

As this is likely my last eCommunicator letter, I want to thank all in our signals "Family" for their support over the past seven years.

VVV

HCol Jim Leech CM, LL.D, CD

Honorary Colonel Ken Lloyd, CD, M.A. (Designate)



Family matters and Governance

With all the changes that we now have in our lives, it is amazing that the eCommunicator keeps going, many thanks to Jack Lee and his team of helpers. Thank you all for making this edition become a reality.

The theme for this letter is Family Governance. Three changes have recently happened that will influence how we operate on the family side of our Regiment.

Increased involvement of families and retirees in Brigade Regiments and the C&E Branch

Firstly, there are changes within some of our brigade units and within our own Communications and Electronics Branch. Some of our fellow regimental organisations are changing the way their senates and associations work. There is a move to broaden the involvement of the families and associations in the military life of the regiments.

During this year I have been part of the C&E Branch Working Group that designed the 'Communication and Electronics Branch Family Senate.' Its Charter was approved at the Branch Annual General Meeting and the Family Senate is now operational.

C&E Family Senate held its first meeting on the 28th May 2020 with representatives from across the C&E Family. The representatives included the Regular Force, the Reserves, the Honouraries, the C&E Association, affiliated organizations, the Museum and the Foundation. The aim is to give the Signals Family a voice and the opportunity to work in collaboration. The next meeting will be in October 2020.

The Agenda for the October meeting of the Family Senate will include further work on the Family Charter, discussion on the C&E Week, The Netherlands Battlefield Study, the potential Royal visit, C&E Association, honours and awards, as well as the selection process for honouraries and the Colonel Commandant.

Signals Honouraries from across Canada meet

Secondly, the role of honouraries has broadened with the recommencement of meetings for the Honorary Colonels of the Communications and Electronics Branch. In Ontario our Honorary Colonels are regularly invited to meetings with brigade and divisional honouraries. Now we have the opportunity meet and share ideas with fellow signals units. On the 8th June we met with honouraries from as far away as Labrador and British Columbia. It was so interesting to hear the ideas and thoughts of other signals units., such as bursary projects, cyber initiatives and "Fields of the Fallen". Projects abound across our signals world.

Toronto Signals Family Council

Thirdly, with the family focus coming from the brigade regiments and our own C&E Branch we have had a small Working Group creating the "Toronto Signals Family Council". The Working Group has reported to the Regimental Advisory Council and is due to make its recommendation in September. The Family



Council will be separate from the Advisory Council and will have its own coordinating committee. The council includes members from the regimental messes, the Cadets, the associations, the Band and the VST. It allows all our affiliates to meet, create projects, and provide for the welfare of both regimental members, cadets and our affiliates. This is very close now to completion with an enthusiastic Working Group.

If you would like to know more please contact me kenlloyd.mediator@gmail.com.

Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Shannon Regan, CD



Hello, I am proud to be your new Honourary Lieutenant Colonel and I am excited and happy to step up to the position. I'm looking forward to getting to know you better and support the Regiment as your Honourary. The HLCol role is to be a guardian of unit traditions and history, promote the unit's identity and support the Commanding Officer. I was provided with the Honouraries handbook, and it has a list of duties which include spending time with the Regiment and to get to know all ranks. I am fortunate to have worked with great role models for the position, with past Honourary Lieutenant Colonels (and Honourary Colonels) LCol (ret'd) Jack Lee, LCol (ret'd) John Catto and HCol (ret'd) Sally Horsfall.

I was told you may be curious about my background, more than the list of duties that the role entails. I was a cadet and I spent almost 30 years in the Reserves. I joined as a Private and was selected for officer training when I was a MCpl. An interesting fact? HCol Lloyd and I share the same day for our birthdays, 5 February.

I started my military experience as a flautist in the Governor Generals Foot Guards cadet band in Ottawa. I joined 30th Field Regiment in Ottawa in 1975 in the summer general military training program as a Private. I trained as an administrative clerk, finance clerk and Artillery signaler. I was a MCpl when I was selected for officer training (RESO) in 1979, and was sent to the Infantry School, Combat Training Centre Gagetown for my officer training. I went on to train as a Logistics Transport Officer in Borden and returned to my Regiment as the Transport Officer.

I graduated from university in 1982, in the middle of a recession. Many of my classmates did not find work for the first year or two after we graduated, I found a job as a programmer analyst at Manulife in Toronto. I really intended to come just for 3 years of work experience and return to Ottawa. I also thought that maybe it was time I leave the Reserves and concentrate on my career. Well, I transferred to 7 Toronto Regiment. 7 Tor was a 'task regiment' and had over 120 trucks, which was absolutely lovely for a Transport Officer! It was an exciting and busy few years, and I got to make many friends in Toronto. 709 Comm was tasked to 7 Tor to provide signalers and I got to know (then) Capt Hal Buller and (then) Lt Greg Stasyna. There was collaboration between the Regiments, and we got to know people in both units.

My civilian work was in IT, and I worked with telecom and datacomm. I ran projects installing new phone systems and upgrading phone systems and data switches. The COs talked and it was suggested that I transfer to 709 and remuster to be a Signals officer. I started to get to know more people in the Signals family, and after working with the Regiment for a year transferred. I'd already completed Command and Staff College at Fort Frontenac Kingston, and was accepted to the United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College in Quantico Virginia. I worked in the support squadron, the training squadron and the field squadron before working as DCO for LCol Lee. I remustered to Signals and changed my cap badge. I commanded 709 (Toronto) Communication Regiment (today this is the Toronto portion of 32 Sigs) from 1995 to 1999. HCol Lloyd and I worked together and have known each other since he joined 709.

What have I done since 1999? I went on the work in the Directorate for Reserves and Cadets in Ottawa until I retired in 2004. I've volunteered in schools for anti-bullying programs, Junior Achievement and

project related coaching. I've taken up activities I've never had time for, such as scuba diving and tae kwon do, and am learning to play piano. I've been married to my husband Larry since 1990 and our son was born in March 2000. I enjoy camping, hiking and travelling with him. He is also a certified scuba diver. I've worked at IBM for over 20 years, and today I manage projects for IBM.

Lieutenant Colonel Alfred Lai, CD (Ret'd)

It wasn't that long ago that Col Jack Lee asked me for my first contribution for the Communicator as the Commanding Officer of 32 Signal Regiment. Now I am writing, again on his behest, a reflection on this very hectic and final chapter of my military career.

To begin with, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the people that have trained, mentored, guided, advised, directed and served with me throughout my military career, in peace and at war, from the first time I put on the Queen's uniform as a member of the Ruthin School Combined Cadet Force (CCF) in North Wales, U.K., to the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) in Hong Kong. In Canada, from the Governor General's Horse Guards to 709 (Toronto) Communication Regiment and 700 (Borden)



Communication Squadron, now 32 Signal Regiment. It is too numerous to mention each individual by name but in particular, I'd like to thank all our soldiers that have served under my command.

As a team effort, the Regiment has grown into being the largest and strongest Reserve Signal Regiment in Canada with a nominal strength approaching 200 members and with significant increase in enrollment of female soldiers. We have contributed massively to two major Domestic Operations, namely OP LENTUS 19 and OP LASER as well as numerous taskings. Our members continuously volunteer for overseas missions; we have members who have served and are serving in the Baltics, Jerusalem, Jordan and the Persian Gulf as well as a significant number of members on extra-regimental Class B full-time service. Junior leaders in MCpls continued to increase which adds to the strength of the Regiment. I take particular pride in 32 Signal Regiment given the important role as the lead unit in the Cyber Mission Task. Our members have already achieved initial successes in supporting CAF Cyber operations.

At the institutional level, we have published our Regimental History, believed to be the first unit history of any signal unit in the Canadian and the Commonwealth armies. We have also established the 32 Signal Regiment Regimental Family Council, which brings together our disparate associations in order to better serve the Regiment. Without your efforts, the Regiment would not be able accomplish what we have achieved.

Looking back on my time as your Commanding Officer and indeed my entire military career, I have a few thoughts that I'd like to share.

Firstly, on the importance of the Army Reserve. When I first became a Reserve soldier, all that I looked forward to was some camaraderie, fun and physical adventures on the weekends. At the same time I earned some pocket money and perhaps even a uniform to impress the ladies. As I progressed through the ranks and participated in numerous operations and missions, I came to appreciate the tremendous contribution reservists made to the safety and security of Canadians. Overseas, from the World Wars to UN duties in the past, and our recent commitments in Afghanistan, these missions could not be accomplished without reservists. At home, we could be relied upon to assist Canadians in distress anywhere in the country. Only reservists like us could provide the skills and knowhow in a formed and disciplined body to take on these important tasks. It was fully demonstrated in the recent call out on OP LASER in mitigating the effects of COVID 19 pandemic. With the increase in military Cyber operations, contributions by reservists are becoming even more important. The unique skills set required in this new, 5th War-fighting Domain, could only be sufficiently met by bringing in reservists with training and experience from their civilian professions. As Sir Winston Churchill once said Reservists are "Twice the Citizen". So be proud of who we are and the importance of what we do.

Secondly, Canadian society is now going through a period of self-reflection. Old prejudices and attitudes are being recognized as what they are and rejected. However, we still have a handful of members in the CAF who have yet to let go of these harmful attitudes. The CAF is determined to forge a safe and inclusive environment for all our members. From my experience and the support given as a CO in handling OP HONOUR and hateful conduct issues, I can attest to the fact that all levels in our Chain-of-Command are taking these issues extremely seriously. Victims were given all the necessary assistance and support. Perpetrators are dealt with through due process and fairness within our military justice system. However, there is still much to do. When such attitudes and conducts are detected in our Regimental family, the perpetrators must be confronted directly. Call them out, educate them and enlighten them! If such an attitude persists, such a person should no longer be part of our family. We have no place for that.

That said we must look at our CAF institution from a different perspective. As a visible minority, an immigrant, I was given the privilege of commanding the premier Reserve Signal Regiment in the Canadian Army. The fact speaks for itself; it speaks for our institution. It speaks for our Corps, the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, and speaks for our Regiment. It speaks to the fact that dedication, hard work, empathy, commitment to our mission and putting our soldiers before self will be recognized.

The final point I like to discuss is the Regimental Family. A regiment is a family, more likely a dysfunctional family. Inevitably there will be frictions between family members. Siblings will lock horns with each other. The reason is simple - we all are leaders, all committed soldiers; all Type A personalities. We all think that only my own way is the best way for the Regiment to achieve our End-State, and accomplish our objectives. However, we have proven to ourselves that team work is the secret of our success. When we work together collaboratively as a team, we become each other's force multipliers. The end result is a stronger and more capable Regiment contributing to the safety and security of Canadians - our shared family goal!

As one chapter is closed, it is the beginning of a new one. In this new chapter, instead of leading the Regiment, I will be working with our former Commanding Officers, our Honorary Colonels as well as our associates to continue contributing to the well-being of the Regiment and the Regimental Family. You haven't seen the last of me yet!

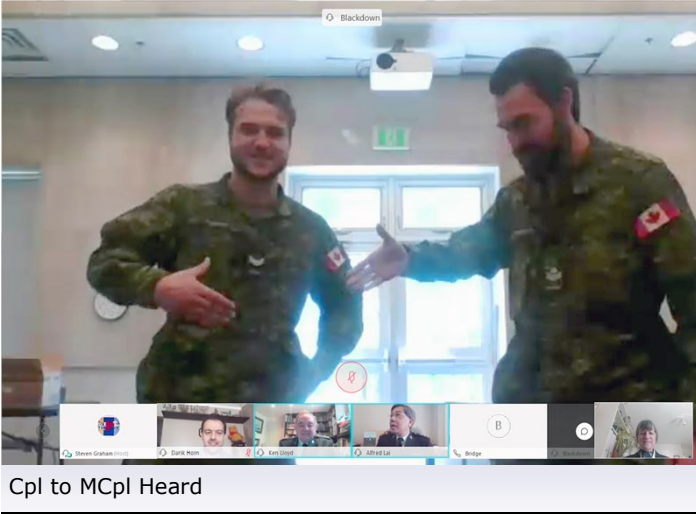
Again, I'd like to thank you all for all the support given to me during my time with 32 Signal Regiment and in particular my tenure as your Commanding Officer!

Cheers!

Alfred Lai
Lieutenant Colonel (Retired)

From the Regiment

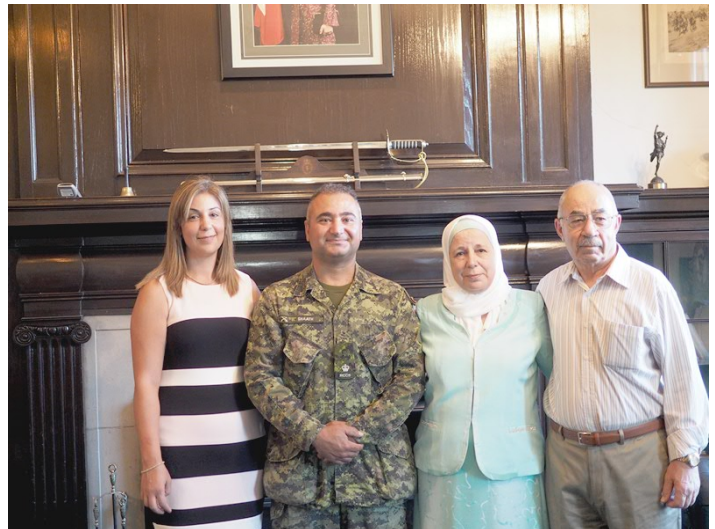
Awards and Promotions



2Lt Horn



MCpl Julia Krebs-Vangeloosrecht



Major Said Shaath



Cpl to MCpl Konlin

From the Regiment

Awards and Promotions

It is always a pleasure to share good news. We have many outstanding and notable members within our Regimental family. We would like to recognize those members who have been honoured and sadly, this is sometimes missed. If our members who have been recognized for outstanding achievements have been missed, please let me know by email kenlloyd.mediator@gmail.com.

In November 2019, our Honorary Colonel, Jim Leech received further notable recognition with an honorary degree from the Royal Military College of Canada (RMC). He said, "Being recognized by one's alma mater with its greatest honour is quite humbling. I am fortunate to have graduated from the two best universities – RMC and Queen's." Our Honorary Colonel is also Chancellor of Queens University, Chairman of the MasterCard Foundation, Senior Advisor with McKinsey and Company, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on the Canada Infrastructure Bank and retired President and CEO of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan. Outside of his business connections, HCol Leech has taken leading roles in the "True Patriot Love Foundation" for which he received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and the Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation, for which he was honoured with an outstanding citizen award. He has co-authored *The Third Rail: Confronting Our Pension Failures*, which received the 2014 National Business Book Award. In 2014, he took part in an expedition to the magnetic north pole to raise awareness and funds for military veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. He was invested as a member of the Order of Canada in 2014. The honorary degree by RMC is a worthy recognition for our Honorary Colonel.

Andy Barber, a member of the Vintage Signals Team is a veteran of The Royal Canadian Navy who served on HMCS HAIDA. He received the Minister for Veteran's Affairs Commendation in July 2019. Andy received his award for his compassion and dedication to veterans. He is active as a member of the Friends of HMCS HAIDA, Director of HAIDA volunteers, Secretary for the Korea Veterans Association; Secretary for the Burloak Naval Veterans a member of the Canadian Legion Branch 139, Chairman of the Veterans Committee of the Halton Naval Veterans Association and Duty Veteran at Citizenship Courts for new citizens. Andy has been active in raising naval memorials to Korea veterans and visits schools with the Vintage Signals Team to share his story as a Naval Signaller.

Maj Hal Buller (Ret'd) received the Minister of Veteran's Affairs Commendation in July 2019. Since leaving the Canadian Forces in 2012 Hal has been the Flag Party Commander and the Regimental Sergeant Major of the Commissionaires Ceremonial Marching Unit which parades across South Western Ontario. Hal is also a member of the 32 Signal Regiment Advisory Council. The Council raises money and assists the Regiment and associated units such as the Cadets and the Band. Hal's efforts as a volunteer extended to being a Civilian Instructor with the Oakville Army Cadets, helping the Oakville Legion to raise funds for Veterans and Cadets. Hal is a member of the Warrior's Day Parade Council and assists in the communications and operations of the parade. As a member of the friends of HMCS HAIDA, Hal also volunteers in the radio room and shares his experience by explaining and demonstrating military communication.

Hal is a long time member of Jimmy and Associates and is in his third consecutive term as President. He is also the commander of the Regimental Flag Party. In 2017 Hal's volunteer service since 2012 was recognized with the presentation of the Queen's volunteer medal in 2017 by Mayor John Tory. The medal was awarded for his service in the Commissionaires Great Lakes Ceremonial Marching Unit and his participation in various events honouring veterans and as a member of 32 Signal Regiment Advisory Council. More recently, Hal was one of the first volunteers to join the Governance Working Group tasked by the Advisory Council to make recommendations for reviewing the Regimental Advisory Governance.

Major Ric Rangel-Bron is the Commanding Officer of 709 RCAC, the previous Commanding Officer of 142 Mimico "Determination" RCAC Sqn and Aide de Camp to Honorary Lieutenant-General Richard Rohmer. In July 2019 Ric was presented with the Minister of Veteran's Affairs Commendation for his active involvement in recognizing and supporting Canada's veterans and still serving military personnel for a number of years. He demonstrates a remarkable dedication to this cause. Ric has assisted with the

From the Regiment

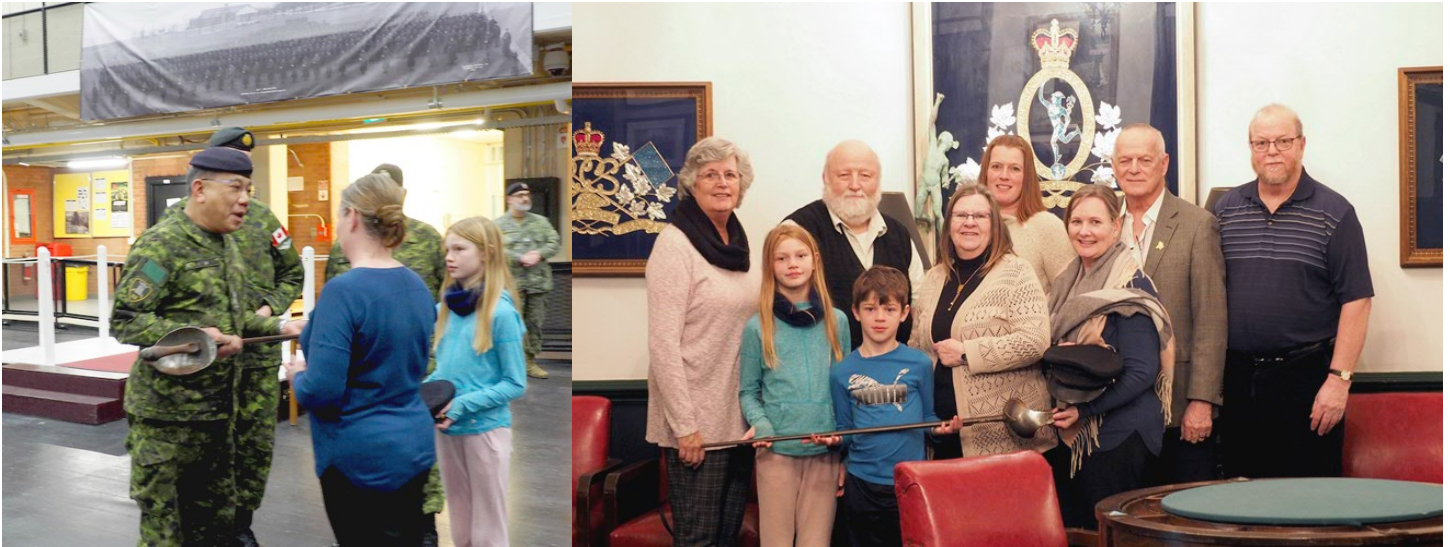
planning and delivery of commemorative events for the anniversaries of D-Day and V-E day as well as the Ontario Veteran's Memorial and Premier's Ceremonial Advisory Committees. In Christmas 2006 he created "Operation Booster shot" which collected magazines, cards and chocolates for troops deployed overseas. In 2008 Ric started "Share a Cup with a Brave Canuck" which encouraged 45,000 Canadians to donate a \$10 Tim Hortons Card to troops in Afghanistan. In his work with Toronto Paramedic Services, Ric has provided medical support to families and participants of the repatriation of fallen Forces members and played a role in the renaming of Highway 401 to "The Highway of Heroes". In 2014 Ric led a medical team supporting 100 veterans attending the commemorative ceremonies in Normandy. As a Canadian Armed Forces Reserve Officer, he created, coordinated and led educational and cultural trips to the United Kingdom, France and Belgium for cadets in 2008, 2012 and 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Change of Command



From the Regiment

Presentation - Herriott Sword



Summer Activities

DP1 & 2 Field Visit, Borden Ontario | August 21st, 2020 | Ken Lloyd

Camouflage netting, guard positions and exercise traffic; signallers under exercise conditions being tested to qualify for DP1 and DP2 qualifications. The woods of Borden Training area were home to 31, 32 and 33 Sig Regt soldiers and training staff for the Development Training (DP).



I was invited by LCol Lai the CO of 32 Sigs and RSM Graham to accompany them on a visit to the DP1 and DP2 courses on Friday 21st August. The CO surprised Julia Krebs-Vandeloosrecht at her station then with RSM Graham formally promoted her in the 'field' to MCpl.



The CO surprises MCpl Krebs-Vandeloosrecht



The CO promotes MCpl Krebs-Vandeloosrecht

From the Regiment



Cpl Vernon briefs the CO

Cpl Vernon took time off the radio net to welcome LCol Lai into her Truck and provided an excellent briefing of the exercises.

Training was organized by WO Limbert and WO Corrado who guided, coached and challenged our signallers with Detachment workings and even a Field Expedient antenna from WO Corrado.

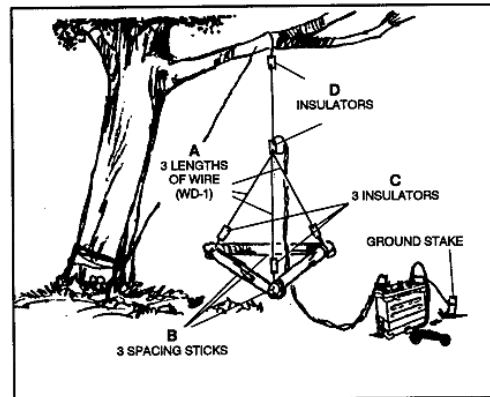


Figure 7-13. Expedient 292-type antenna.

Three wires separated by three twigs hanging from a tree, do not make a clear photograph. Here is a drawing of WO Corrado's Field Expedient Antenna

Royal Canadian Logistics Service Branch

The Royal Canadian Logistics Service Branch Newsletters are available online:
<https://www.cfla-alfc.org/log-branch-advisor/>

Canadian Forces Logistics Association
<http://www.cfla-alfc.org/>

Logistics Branch Kit Shop
<http://www.canex.ca/military/military-kit-shops/logistics-branch.html>



"SERVITIUM NULLI SECUNDUS"

From the Regiment

Junior Ranks Mess Committee

Toronto Ontario | by Cpl Bright, PMC, Junior Ranks Mess Committee

Hello Signals Family,

I hope all of you are doing well during these turbulent times. As I sit here and wonder what announcements I have to make, I begin thinking about what I would have been writing if this pandemic had never happened.

I would begin by thanking all the members that attended our successful 41st Junior Ranks Formal at Fort York Armoury. I would have thanked the generous donators for the items we auctioned off during our raffle to raise money for future events.

I would have written about how after many years of ideation (Cpl Gelman, thank you for all your support), the JRs finally completed their own adventure training in Algonquin Park in July. We had planned a multi day guided canoe trip through the scenic landscape, which would have culminated in white water rafting. I'm sure I would have some memories to share and members to thank for all their hard work and dedication.

Perhaps I would have ended my article with an open invitation to everyone in the regiment for our next social event, whatever it may have been.

But alas, that is unfortunately not the situation we find ourselves in. During the summer, the JRs Mess Committee has remained quiet, tending to our families and staying home, rather than holding regimental events. The future is currently uncertain, but when the time comes to pick things up again, the JRs will be hard at work.



Accolades for the eCommunicator

Ken,

This is an impressive newsletter. I believe we as a C&E Family can learn from this. Might I ask you who puts this together. I would like to speak with him/her about how I might develop a similar C&E Family Newsletter.

Thanks ... stay safe ...

Kevin

Kevin G. O'Keefe, OMM, CD
Brigadier-General (Retired)
Colonel Commandant, Communications and Electronics Branch

The Corps of Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

The Corps of Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers
<http://rcemecorpsgemrc.ca/>



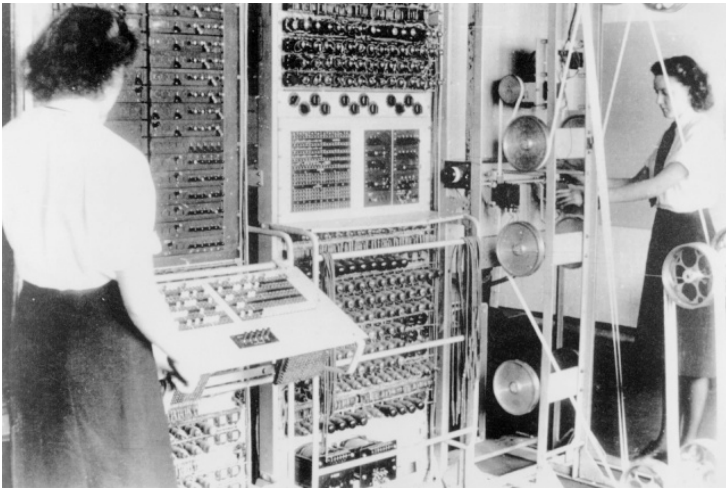
Quantum Supremacy

by Ken Lloyd

On Friday 10th July the Conference of Defence Associations Institute's Metro Expert Series held a Webinar on **Quantum Supremacy and Its Many States of National Insecurity**.



The topics included the awareness of the Quantum potential in Communications, weather prediction and Intelligence analysis. Speakers itemized the impact for improvements in artificial intelligence and target acquisition through improved navigation capabilities. The thoughts from speakers periodically returned for their examples to the last great innovation in Cryptography and Computers, the Second World War and Bletchley Park.



The speakers recalled what may be learned from Bletchley: 1) Innovation came from a "Life and Death" struggle. 2) The Germans risked all by relying on one cipher system. For the Germans it was Enigma. Today we rely on Public Key Cryptography. 3) Bletchley recruited "intelligent people" from varied backgrounds; today the "Whitehouse" excludes foreign Quantum researchers while China has "1,000 talents" programme to retain its researchers in China 4) Bletchley had a bureaucracy and organisation that kept its secret and could intercept information. 5) The German organizational policy was open to human errors and exploited by Bletchley. The Speakers said this taught the importance of creating an organisation and

developing the people who could respond to social and geopolitical trends. One speaker spoke about learning from the past as the past was still relevant, especially in developing agility readiness. He was referring to Elliptic Curve cryptography as an approach for public key cryptography rather than RSA. He could easily have been describing the achievement of Bill Tutte in breaking the "Lorenz" 12 wheel cipher machine in 1942. Mental agility enabled Bill Tutte to break the code without ever seeing the machine; he listened to the sound it made.

The speakers conjectured what may have happened had the British "commercialized" the last major breakthrough in digital development, the first computer named "Colossus" which was "ordered" destroyed in 1945.

The past may reveal some of the reasons for choices that may have been made. At the end of the War there were 30,000 Enigma machines available. Some were distributed amongst emerging nations and offered to the new Germany as a proven secure cipher machine. In 1974 Winterbotham published his book revealing the breaking of Enigma. In the same year the German Border Patrol (Bundesgrenzschutz) part of the Ministry of the Interior, ceased using the Enigma to record names.

The Soviet Forces in 1945 may have seized intact the Lorenz teleprinter cipher hubs in North Ukraine, East Ukraine, Central Belarus, Konigsberg, Bucharest and Berlin. Britain had five Russian spies in the secret service known as the Cambridge Five. John Cairncross actually worked in Hut 3 at Bletchley. Kim Philby rose to a senior position in MI6. They reported regularly to the Soviets.

Officially the Collosus and the Bombes were destroyed. Several "Bombes" capable of breaking Enigma and "Collosus" capable of breaking the Lorenz teleprinter code were thought to have been retained by GCHQ.

A thoroughly enjoyable Webinar. If you would like to know more, please contact me at kenlloyd.mediator@gmail.com

Communications during Battle of the Atlantic

by Terri McGillivray

Out of the pandemic a new movement has arisen - history from home. Since people cannot leave their homes and go to museums, the museums are coming to them. Juno Beach has done a number of great podcasts, as well as battlefield historians Paul Woodage and Dan Hill.

With the pandemic shutting down every event the Vintage signals Team were scheduled to participate in this year, the Team have decided to use this opportunity to continue to share the story of Signals as well as to do more research so that when the all clear is finally given, they will be able to present even more stories of our Signals history.

The VST were honoured to be given the opportunity to learn just how important communication was to the final victory of the Battle of the Atlantic. Marc Milner is a preeminent Canadian historian whose specialty is the Royal Canadian Navy. He says that without Canada and our communication network, the Germans may have had a better chance to win the Battle of the Atlantic. He says unlike what people have been taught, the Battle of the Atlantic was Canada's longest battle. He says the battle actually started in 1939 when war was declared. But the Germans had been preparing for many years before that. As a matter of fact, so had the British.

The Germans started to produce and use the Enigma machine to hide the fact that they were slowly rearming themselves in contravention to the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. The British were also secretly preparing by setting up the code breakers at Bletchley Park. And even more telling was the fact that plans had been prepared and were set into motion immediately after war was declared. These plans included cutting all German undersea cables, so that they had to use other methods of communication. And so important was this plan that two weeks after the cables were cut, they were actually dug up and rendered unrepairable by the British.

Marc Milner, who wrote his doctoral thesis on the history of the Royal Canadian Navy, says that the Battle of the Atlantic was actually a series of campaigns whose goals changed as technology changed. He says the early role of the Canadian Navy began in September 1939, after the Athenia was sunk, to ship material and men across the ocean in escorted convoys. In these early days the convoy escort consisted primarily of moving convoys out of Halifax Harbour and about one day out, putting them south of Newfoundland where they would head back. If they met another inbound convoy on the way in, they would escort them.

Canadians were able to build successful corvettes. These ships were used in the beginning of the war, 1940, when they finally hit the water to do inshore convoy escorts in the Eastern and Western Atlantic. By the time the Americans officially joined the War in 1942, Canada had almost 200 ships in our Navy. It was during this time that Canada started taking on roles that the larger Allied countries had reserved for themselves. Roles such as convoy escorts from Halifax to the UK and even more telling, the Naval escorts made by Canadians along the Eastern US seaboard all the way to Aruba. They initially did escorts from Halifax to Boston, then to Boston and New York as well as tanker runs to Aruba. It was during this time, that the St Lawrence River suffered because it was no longer used. It added two weeks onto a journey that was already critical and as a result that decision was made to send the goods that needed to be transported across the country onboard trains.

Dr Milner says that one thing we need to remember about the Battle of the Atlantic is that the escort was the last line of defence. The goal in the Battle of the Atlantic was avoidance – they didn't want to enter into battles on the ocean. It was a system of systems in which intelligence, air cover and Naval forces were designed to suppress the U-Boats to keep them underwater, and to divert the convoys to safe areas.

Dr Milner says that throughout the war the objective of intelligence was to find the U-boats and divert the convoys to where they were not. This intelligence became crucial in the middle of the ocean as the convoys were more at risk from the Wolf Packs, who by the time 1943 rolled around were becoming larger and larger as they toured the North Atlantic looking for targets.

Communications during Battle of the Atlantic

He says that as the Battle continued and evolved, the time when the British were actively looking for U-boats to sink ended with one exception in the spring of 1943. It was, he said, a system of avoidance. There was one area in the Atlantic that caused a lot of problems and resulted in the sinking of several ships. This problem needed to be overcome so that the Allies could turn the tide and ultimately defeat the Nazis.

This was the area known as the Black Pit. It was an area that could not be reached by airplanes from Canada or Britain. Nor could radio signals penetrate this void, until two things happened. The development of radar and the expansion of air power made a difference. The radar was key, especially when you got into ten centimetre and then three-centimetre radar to drive the U-Boats down under water where they would lose their tactical and operational effectiveness.

After the fall of 1943 the subs were forced to operate almost wholly submerged and had to stick a snorkel up to charge their batteries.

After the fall of Germany in 1945, Dr Milner says we were able to go through the German reports and confirm just how crucial our intelligence was in the victory over the Nazis. In particular, the Ultra intelligence coming out of Bletchley Park. He said directional finding was another crucial element as well as traffic analysis. This combined intelligence and signals were key to winning the war.

As a wonderful aside, by 1944 the North Atlantic was another Canadian Great Lake. The Canadian Navy was doing 100% of the mercantile North Atlantic convoy escorts. As well, one quarter of the air crew and aircraft for the convoy were RCAF.

Another unknown part of the Battle of the Atlantic was the role of Canada in the diversion room for convoys north of the Equator and the west of the middle part of the North Atlantic. Canada was running the diversion room from Ottawa for all convoys crossing the ocean, including the convoys coming out of American ports. We were so efficient at running the convoys because our Naval intelligence was so good. This led to Canada controlling one theatre of war – the North Atlantic. (Commander Admiral Murray)

The Battle of the Atlantic came to an end with a victory over the Nazis. Canada's contribution is finally coming to light and receiving the recognition it deserves, and the role of communication comes out of the shadows.

Dr. Marc Milner is a preeminent Canadian historian whose specialty is the Royal Canadian Navy.

Dieppe and Pigeons come together at the LEX

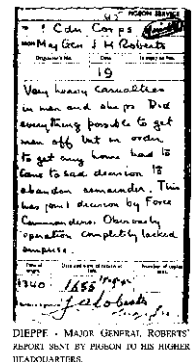
"Beachcomber remains the only Canadian pigeon and one of only three Canadian service animals to be awarded the Dickin Medal" (Veterans Affairs). Radio silence was imposed on the Dieppe Raid and the first message to get back to Britain was carried by a pigeon known as "Beachcomber".



4,963 Canadians embarked to Dieppe and only 2,200 returned to Britain. Many were wounded, with 1,950 taken prisoner.

"Beachcomber" flew through shrapnel, winds and hawks released to capture Carrier pigeons. Beachcomber delivered the message from Maj General Roberts swift and sure. The second pigeon, released only 20 minutes later, was badly wounded and only managed to get back very much later. The Vintage Signals Team and the Victoria County Historical Society collaborated to create a Signals Messenger pigeon display for

their LEX "Drive-through Museum in the "Commonwell" Exhibition in Lindsay, Ontario. Carl, Ken and Julie from the VST with Barbara and Zack from the Museum hauled and pushed our 1911 Mobile Pigeon loft with display pigeons into position for the display ending in September. If you want to know more contact Ken Lloyd.mediator@gmail.com



Technology Topics

Loop Antennae

by WO Richard Lacroix, CD

I have seen my fair share of antennae over the years — from the historic Radio Canada International (RCI) towers in Sackville New Brunswick, the exotic log periodic and rhombic antennae at MACS Trenton, the portable Near Vertical Incident System (NVIS) antenna to the simple wire dipoles and end-fed wires. All good if you have ample real-estate to erect them but what if there is limited space?

I spent a good part of this past summer experimenting with different antennae variants for long distance (DX) and shortwave listening (SWL) purposes. Some were met with success and others were complete failures.



Stoddart Loop Antenna.

One particular antenna which has fascinated many over the years is the loop antenna. It is believed that the first "loop antenna" dates back to circa 1830 as part of the first experiments conducted by



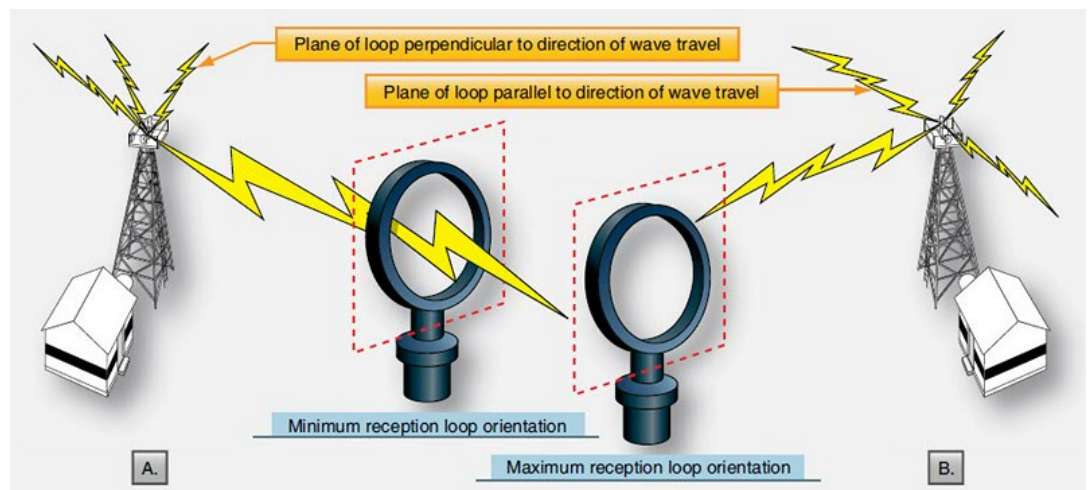
McKay Dymek Directional Ant.

Faraday involving the coupling of electricity and magnetism. Loop antennae have been in use since the age of radio, sometimes not always obvious or visible. For instance, many vintage radios had a "coil" of wire looped around their receiver back panel acting as a loop antenna. Remember rotating that radio around to achieve better reception? Loop antennae have a directional pattern and made them a staple in aviation radio navigation aid as Automatic Direction Finder (ADF) applications and in military use as radio direction finding (DF) applications.



Rohde & Schwarz TACLOC PA1100 Direction Finder.

Small loops, also known as magnetic loops, are equally effective in DX and SWL. Their diameter is small in comparison to their operating wavelength, typically 5% to 30% of a wavelength in circumference making their size viable for home receiver applications.



MACS Trenton TX Site

Fascinated by radio, Amanda Dawn Christie produced a series of short films such as *Ghosts in the Air Glow*, *Requiem for Radio* and *Spectres of Shortwave* which are accompanied by hundreds of amazing photographs complementing her creative work. [Amanda's products can be seen at web site.](#)

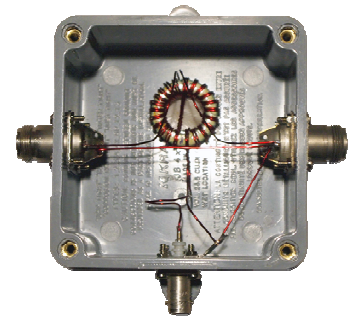


Crosley Vintage Antique Receiver.

I have owned my fair share of commercial loops over the years and armed with a desire to achieve directionality and a lower received noise floor for DX SWL, I ventured into an experimental loop construction project. At 1 metre in diameter and 100% homebuilt, including the matching transformer (BALUN), this loop antenna was a success and performed well. The drawback obviously being that the robust construction makes this suitable for a permanent outside use but is not overly portable to travel with or use on DXpeditions.

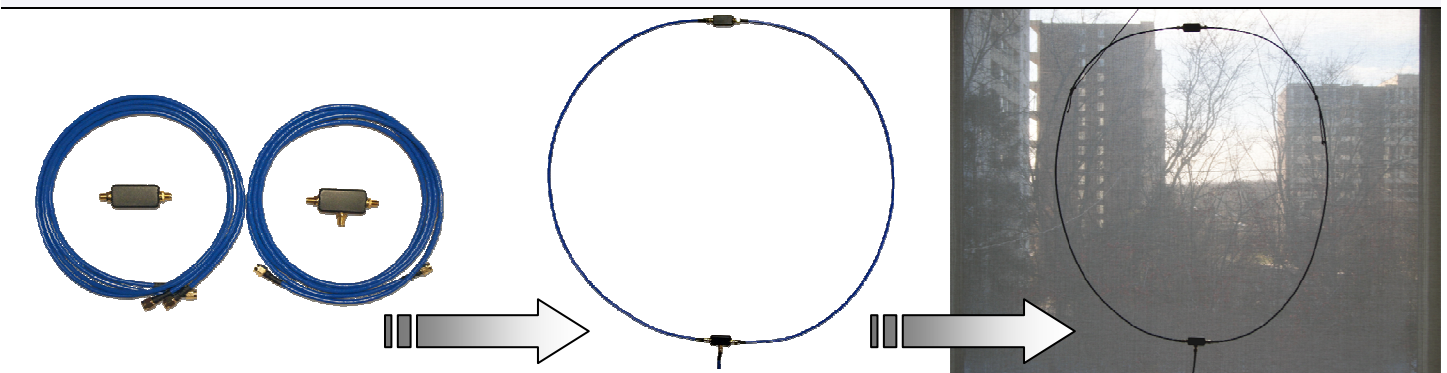


Home built Magnetic Loop Antenna.

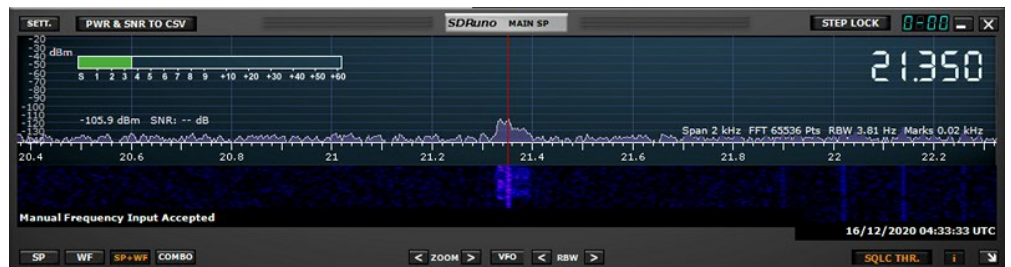


Home Built Antenna BALUN.

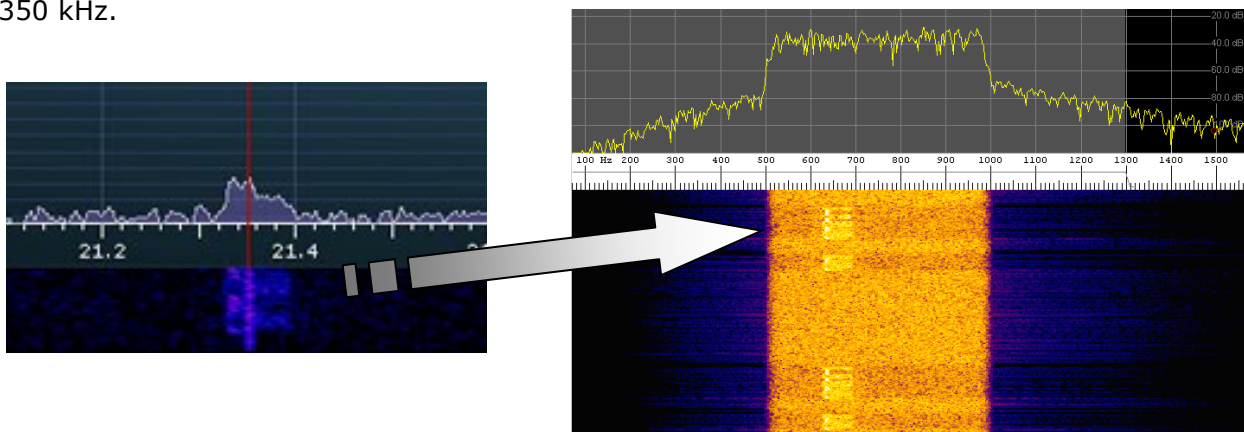
AirSpy YouLoop - Passive Magnetic Loop Antenna.



To add to my arsenal of antennae, I have recently purchased an [Air-Spy YouLoop](#). At approx. 70 cm in diameter, this little devil is lightweight and completely portable. To my disbelief, this loop performs very well. Despite being installed inside and in a window, it was remarkably comparable to my external loop. Even at very low frequency (VLF) frequencies (3 to 30 kHz), the YouLoop intercepted an unidentified (UNID) narrowband frequency shift keying (FSK) transmissions at 21.350 kHz.



Narrowband FSK Signal.



Perhaps there is a loop antenna in store for you in the near future? In the upcoming months and just in time for the winter DX season, my antenna farm will see the permanent addition of a professional exterior loop antenna from [Wellbrook Communications](#), complete with rotator.

Test Environment:

Receiver: SDRplay model RSPduo

Antennae: Homebuilt 1 metre loop and AirSpy YouLoop

About the author:

Richard Lacroix has been a radio hobbyist since the mid 1970s and has been professionally active in both the commercial and military communication field since the mid 1980s.

Remember When



709 (Toronto) Communication Regiment
660 Fleet Street
Toronto ON M5V 1A9

1000-1 (CO)

26 February 1999

All Members of the Regiment

Freedom of the City Parade 31 October 1998

1. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped organize and everyone who participated in the events during Reserve Appreciation week. It was a significant event for the Reserve of the Canadian Forces. The last time the Regiments in Toronto paraded as a Garrison was over 20 years ago.
2. It is with pleasure that I am able to give you this picture of the units on parade at Nathan Phillips square. You were part of a remarkable event; thank-you for your participation.

Spiritus Manet!

S.M. Regan
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer

Cadets

709 Signals Army Cadet Corps

Spring 2020 Newsletter | by Maj Ric Rangel-Bron, CD

Who knew?! I doubt that anyone could have predicted how our lives and world was about to change as we started the training year in September 2019. As Covid-19 has changed every aspect of our daily lives, the same is true for Canada's Cadet Organizations and how the programme is changing to meet the new reality of our world, but more about that later. In looking back on the 2019 – 2020 training year, the first half was very much like most other years...other than someone putting an Air Force Officer in command of an Army Cadet Corps!

In reality, the Corps stood up as it normally does with the return of our 'seasoned' Cadets and the introduction of new faces into the 709 family. Many Cadets would take on new roles and responsibilities as the training year started, and of course, there were changes to Officer staffing with the departure of the past Commanding Officer, Training Officer and three of the Civilian Instructors. A new CO from the 'Air side', and new assignments for most of the remaining staff brought challenges for everyone. In time, we would welcome a new Training Officer, which helped bring balance to the work on hand and the staff cadre.

OK, so the start of the year wasn't exactly 'normal', but the Cadets and existing Corps staff responded to the changes in stride and commenced work on a robust training year, just as one would expect them to do! We didn't know how this start would prepare us for what was to come.



We did accomplish a few things in the first half of the training year, starting with the annual Biv FTX 27 – 29 Sep 19, only two weeks after we stood up. This was a good opportunity for our Cadets, new and seasoned, to spend time out in the field, learning and refreshing their field craft training, including being under canvas for a number of our senior Cadets.

Specialized training for our Gold Star and Master Cadets was undertaken at the local and regional levels on weekends in Oct and Nov, enhancing their skills and preparing them for future challenges within the Cadet programme and life after their Cadet career. Additionally, the regional Silver and Gold Star Expedition training was held in Oct.

Of course, traditional LHQ training continued every week with a mixture of classroom lessons, sports and fitness training, and an orienteering night in a local park. We also held weekly marksmanship training at FYA for the Corps, which also lead to enhanced development of a number of Cadets on the 709 Marksmanship Team who a number of awards in the RCSU Zone 10 Marksmanship Competition in Feb. Please see the "Congratulations" section for details.



Being part of our community remains a cornerstone of the Corps, and the 709 family has continued to thank our good friends at Branch 75, Royal Canadian Legion, for their continued support of our Corps. Cadets, Corps staff and our Corps Support Committee assisted with the annual Poppy Campaign. Of course, Branch 75 has always been there to provide facilities for our annual Tagging sessions and other activities for the Cadets. We could not do some of the things we need without

Cadets

709 Signals Army Cadet Corps



the support of the Veterans and Associates of Branch 75, so thank you!

2019 also saw the first time that Cadets from an Army Cadet Corps participated in the annual Ontario's Ceremony Of Remembrance held on November 11th at Queen's Park. I am pleased to tell you that 709 Cadets represented the Army Cadets proudly, and we intend on doing so in the future. Of course, we are proud and honoured to have participated in the Remembrance Day ceremonies with Branch 75 and with our Home Regiment, 32 Signal Regiment, at York Cemetery.

In another first, 709's own Cdt MCpl Gazzellone represented 709 and Army Cadets in RCSU Central at the National Aboriginal Veterans Day Ceremony sponsored by the ScotiaBank Veterans Network on 8 Nov 19. MCpl Gazzellone was joined by members of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets and the Canadian Rangers.

We also participated in the Op Raise A Flag at Sunnybrook Veteran's Centre on 10 Nov 19, with a large number of the 709 family (Cadets, staff, parents and siblings) 'planting' Canadian Flags in the grounds surrounding the Veteran's Centre. We planted some 15,000 Canadian flags for the Veterans to see when they woke on November 11th.

709 Cadets also participated for the first time in the Lieutenant-Governors Christmas Tree Lighting on 6 Dec 19. The presence of Sgt Adarkwa, Sgt Chan, Sgt Fisher, Sgt Kalu and WO Bogle was well received by Her Honour, Elizabeth Dowdswell, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, and the guests of this special Christmas event.

On 6 Mar 20 we were privileged with a tour of the RCCS Home Station at CFB Kingston. With the support of Capt Carter, OpsO, 32 Sigs, arrangements were made for 709 to visit the Home Station, with a guided tour of the RCCS Museum, a tour of Fort Henry, and we enjoyed meals in one of the Base Mess Halls. This was a fun and very informative day for all, and brought about a greater knowledge of the RCCS and its role within the Canadian Armed Forces from inception to today. Thank you Capt Carter for your assistance in making this happen!

COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic brought changes to the entire world. Everyone's life is different now, from who and where we work and learn, to how we shop, how we socialize and how we communicate. Like the rest of the world, all groups within the Canadian Armed Forces have ordered efforts that do not impact force generation to "stay home" – sound familiar? This includes CAF, civilian and Cadet members of the Canadian Cadet Organizations. Corps and Squadrons across Canada have been ordered by the Formation Commander to stand down until 31 Aug 20.

Virtual activities have continued to be conducted at the Corps level to help keep our Cadets engaged. From information being distributed, Skype meetings and small taskings on our Facebook, 709 has worked to maintain the flow of communication to Cadets, parents and staff.

Whilst there are no Cadet Training Centre courses being offered this summer, the National Cadet & Junior Canadian Rangers Group have a variety of 'virtual CTC' sessions underway for Cadets across Canada to participate in. There are 21 courses that provide insight to a broad spectrum of learning interests across the three elements of the CCO.

Cadets

709 Signals Army Cadet Corps

We are fortunate to have eight of our Cadets on summer employment engaged in a number of CTC activities. Each of these senior Cadets were hired as Staff Cadets for CTC employment, and DND has honoured their commitment to employ the Cadets for the summer engaged in virtual Cadet focused initiatives.

We are not sure what the 2020 – 2021 training year will look like as of yet. It is believed that we may stand up in Sep 2020, but there are many unknowns at this time. What we do know is that when we do return to LHQ training, the safety and health of all members will be of the highest priority. Physical distancing, DND issued non-medical masks will be required to be worn, no overnight and some of our training may continue to be on a virtual platform.

CONGRATULATIONS!

As usual, the Cadets of 709 consistently do their best to succeed and achieve. From their efforts in learning at LHQ and FTX training, to the Zone 10 Regional Marksmanship Competition, to their "Cadet career", the young men and women of 709 Toronto Signals continue to go above and beyond in their desire to do their best.

Zone 10 Regional Marksmanship Competition Results

Category – Overall Team

GOLD Medal – 709 Toronto Signals – "Team Jimmy"

Category – Individual Competitor

GOLD Medal – Open – 709 Toronto Signals – MCpl Yogyog

SILVER Medal – Open – 709 Toronto Signals – Sgt Chan

Category – Individual Competitor

SILVER Medal – Junior – 709 Toronto Signals – Cpl Zarembo

BRONZE Medal – Junior – 709 Toronto Signals – Cpl Best

Promotions

Congratulations are extended to all of our Cadets who were promoted in June 2020 after a long and challenging year. For a full list of the Cadets who have recently been promoted, please visit our Facebook site at www.facebook.com/709army.

That said, we do need to recognize our most senior Cadets who have successfully completed the Merit Review Board Interviews for promotion to Master Warrant Officer and Chief Warrant Officer. Congratulations to MWO Medeiros and MWO Perrin. And, congratulations to our new RSM, CWO Adarkwa.

Awards

709 Cadets continue to achieve and succeed! In recognition of their efforts, the Corps Awards Committee have recommended the recipients of the 2019 – 2020 Training Year Awards. For a full list of the Cadets who have received awards please visit our Facebook site at www.facebook.com/709army.

We will note the following Cadets have been awarded either the Royal Canadian Army Cadet Service Medal and/or Bar, the Royal Canadian Legion Medal of Excellence, or the Lord Strathcona Trust Fund Medal.



Cadets

709 Signals Army Cadet Corps

Royal Canadian Army Cadet Service Medal - Awarded for four years of service in the Cadet Programme: Sgt Oguntuga, WO Bogle, WO Brillo, WO Medeiros, WO Perrin.

Bar To The Royal Canadian Army Cadet Service Medal - Awarded for every year after four years of service in the Cadet Programme: **First Bar** – WO Mallawarchchi, MWO Bado, MO Monteleone, MWO Ramsey, CWO Adarkwa.

Royal Canadian Legion Medal Of Excellence – The highest Cadet medal awarded by the Royal Canadian Legion: WO Medeiros.

Lord Strathcona Trust Fund Medal – The highest medal awarded to a Canadian Cadet: Sgt Monteleone.

Retirements

Of course, it is always difficult to say goodbye to someone who has completed their Cadet career and is forced to retire. This year we say a fond farewell to the following Cadets who have either aged out, are leaving for post-secondary education, or are leaving the Corps for a career in the Canadian Armed Forces. The 2019 – 2020 'retirees' are:

Sgt Tromblay, MWO Bado, MWO Ramsay, and our RSM, MWO Monteleone.

CWO Dave Lowry, CD

We do have one member who must be recognized as he reaches mandatory retirement after 48 years of service to the Canadian Armed Forces and Canada – Chief Warrant Officer Dave Lowry, CD. We all know CWO Lowry as our Supply Officer and Range Officer for the last number of years, roles that he has performed with dedication and passion. CWO Lowry joined us from a long career with the Royal Regiment of Canada. Whilst CWO Lowry must now 'hang up his uniform', he has chosen to remain with 709 Toronto Signals as a Civilian Instructor. Congratulations CWO Lowry on your outstanding record of service, and we are grateful that you are remaining with the 709 family!



Finally, I would like to thank our Cadets, Corps Staff, Corps Support Committee and parents/guardians, RCL Branch 75, the Regiment, Jimmy & Associates and the Regimental Advisory Council for your continued support throughout the last training year, and look forward to when we are back together once again.



Cadets

142 Mimico Determination Squadron

by Capt Sarah Hind-Powell, Command Officer

There was much uncertainty when 142 Squadron received word last March that training was being suspended, but in keeping with the squadron motto of "Determination", the cadets and staff rose to the challenge to complete the training year and prepare for the future. Virtual training was soon established via Zoom, and cadets were able to engage with their friends and participate in fun activities in a safe manner. Additional engagement was provided through challenges posted to the squadron Instagram account @142mimico, allowing the cadets to show off their skills in diverse areas such as boot polishing, building improvised shelters, and fitness and sports.

The training year culminated, as usual, with the Annual Ceremonial Review, although this time conducted in a virtual format. 142 Squadron was honoured to have LCol Chris Bowen, CD, Head of Curriculum Development at the Canadian Forces College, as our Reviewing Officer. LCol Bowen provided inspirational words and helped present awards to outstanding cadets. This event also allowed the squadron to recognize the retirement of Cadet Warrant Officer 1st Class Cooper Pickering, and to mark the passing of the Cadet Squadron Commander role to the newly promoted Cadet Warrant Officer 1st Class Daria Quinn. Last, but certainly not least, 142 Squadron was presented with a very generous donation by LCol Alfred Lai, on behalf of the 32 Signals Regiment Advisory Council.



Cpl Siddiqui participating in the Virtual Vimy Memorial.

dedicated cadets and staff and, with the help of our partners at the 32 Signal Regiment, we are confident that we will still be able to serve our cadets and deliver the finest youth program in Canada.

Summer is traditionally the time when cadets of all ages embark on the adventure of summer training. Unfortunately, this year the COVID pandemic resulted in all in-person summer training being cancelled. In preparation for this, the Canadian Cadet Organization prepared a whole host of virtual summer training opportunities for the cadets. 142 cadets were able to participate in a diverse range of interesting courses, including Air Operations, Introduction to Drones, and the Build and Fly an Airplane Challenge.

As we move forward to the new training year, there are many challenges to face. The uncertainty surrounding access to facilities and restrictions on training present continual barriers to the delivery of the cadet program. 142 Squadron is fortunate to have a group of



Sgt Yang in her improvised shelter.



Cpl Ideas showing off her boot polishing skills.

Associations

Toronto Signals Family Council

CHARTER OF THE TORONTO SIGNALS FAMILY COUNCIL

- "We need a kit shop ..."
- "We need \$2,000 by tomorrow for a member in need ..."
- "We have a diminishing membership ..."
- "The items in this display case are not being cared for ..."
- "We used to have great socials ... they were the best!"



These and other comments have floated around the Regimental Family for quite a time. In 2019 in preparation for the Juno 75th anniversary D-Day celebration we were asked, "How many World War Two veterans do you have, how many can travel to Juno?" Jack Lee knew one or two; no one knew definitively, it was a sign that we had to refocus; we had to do better for our family. We were not alone, other Regiments and Commands were also changing into listening organisations, creating family councils or societies; the Governor General's Horse Guards' with their "Society" and the Communication and Electronics Branch with the 'Family Senate'.

What is the Family Council? The Family Council comprises of the Council members representing the organisations in the signals family and a Coordinating Committee. The Regiment, the Advisory Council and the Charity remain separate. The Family Council with a prominent welfare and support focus will amalgamate with Jimmy & Associates and build on their legacy of support and welfare.

The Family Council includes representatives from the three regimental messes; a representative from the cadet units; the Band; the VST and affiliated associations who cooperate and collaborate together for the needs of all our family. Bringing the organizations together will improve responsiveness to the serving members, provide broader opportunities for involvement of our affiliates and result in a new relevance for our regiment, our family and our community.

How is the work done? The Family Council members identify the work to be done for the signals family. The Coordinating Committee creates a short term project or a longer term committee for the work. The Coordinating Committee identifies resources, funding and time lines that are agreed by the Family Council. The Coordinating Committee helps and guides the projects to completion or termination using the resources of the whole signals family.

The proposal for the Family Council was made in May 2019. The CO of the Regiment, the Honorary Colonel and the Advisory Council directed that a draft Charter be prepared for the Advisory Council by September 2020. The draft Charter has been circulated to the representatives of the organisations in our signals family, who have reviewed the much edited drafts. If you have any questions, or wish to serve on the Council or on a project team or a committee please contact me at kenlloyd.mediator@gmail.com.

Ken Lloyd
August 2020



DONATION FORM
THE REGIMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
32 SIGNAL REGIMENT
Charity Registration # 119113686RR0001

WO Renny MacKinnon (Ret'd)
7509 Cavan Rd
Bewdley, ON
K0L 1E0

Dear Renny:

I would like my donation directed to:

- The Regimental Advisory Council - 32 Signal Regiment: \$ _____
(for Regimental activities including 32 Signal Regiment & their Cadets)
- The SHE Fund: (i.e. Bursaries for our Soldiers) \$ _____
- The Toronto Signals Band: \$ _____

My total gift equals: \$ _____
my gift

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES payable to: The Regimental Advisory Council – 32 Signal Regiment
and mail to our Treasurer, WO Renny MacKinnon (Ret'd), 7509 Cavan Rd, Bewdley ON, K0L 1E0

Please send my receipt for income tax purposes to:

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

email: _____

Associations

Jimmy and Associates

The purpose behind the creation of the association was to provide a process and a structure that would allow members of the Regiment to gather socially outside of military duty. We established close bonds while on duty, and then they carry on over time after our many years in service. We used to have a few regular annual functions that allowed us the opportunity to renew that rapport.

Then along came 2020, the year of the Covid pandemic. (weird, Covid is not included in this version of Microsoft Word spell check library). We have missed our spring AGM, usually held with a wine and cheese offering. We have missed our annual BBQ reunion/picnic. We have had no parades or ceremonies to draw us together. I have no material to draw upon to generate an insightful quarterly report.

However, I have had some interesting and unique experiences occur that I would have otherwise never foreseen. I spent ten years out west with 39 CBG in Vancouver. I commanded 744 Comm Regt, and I spent some time as the G6 in Bq HQ. So, as you can imagine, I have some strong ties out there as well. This summer I attended a 39 CBG Change of Command ceremony, held in their new HQ building in Vancouver. Later that day I went out and mowed my lawn (here in Oakville). Yes, like many other ceremonies conducted this year throughout the CAF, it was live streamed on Facebook. Never before in my long years of service have I attended a parade, and then had time to go outside and do yard work.

The annual Warrior's Day Parade, held in August to open the CNE, has been an important item on my calendar for many years. The communication support for this event used to be a 32 Sig Regt unit responsibility. It dropped off of the unit training calendar a long time ago, but that responsibility still lies with me as a unit representative. That too disappeared off of my activity list this year.

We have a unit change of command coming up this year. Will I have a chance to renew acquaintances at a military gathering on a parade square, or will I attend online between chores at home?

Remembrance Day has been a mainstay in my adult life. Lately (last several years) I have paraded three times during Remembrance Week. Once with my local Legion in either downtown Oakville or Bronte Village, again on Remembrance Day as the RSM of the Commissionaires Ceremonial Unit, and one more time as a member of Jimmy & Associates flag party. I wonder what will happen this year.

As the RSM of the Commissionaires Ceremonial Unit, I have always had several other key events on my annual calendar to do list. They included a parade on Canada Day, the parade to honour fallen police officers in Ontario, a parade at the Peacekeeping Memorial outside of CFB Borden and a parade at the National Police Memorial in Ottawa. None of those parades happened this year.

I miss re-establishing rapport with my fellow unit members.

Hal Buller
Major (Retired)

Retirements

We do have one member who must be recognized as he reaches mandatory retirement after 48 years of service to the Canadian Armed Forces and Canada – Chief Warrant Officer Dave Lowry, CD. We all know CWO Lowry as our Supply Officer and Range Officer for the last number of years, roles that he has performed with dedication and passion. CWO Lowry joined us from a long career with the Royal Regiment of Canada. While CWO Lowry must now 'hang up his uniform', he has chosen to remain with 709 Toronto Signals as a Civilian Instructor. Congratulations CWO Lowry on your outstanding record of service, and we are grateful that you are remaining with the 709 family!



Associations

Vintage Signals Team

Mobile Pigeon Coop Display



The Signals will be part of a "drive-in" museum exhibit in the Lyndsey Ex from Friday through into September.

The Vintage Signals Team WW1 Mobile Pigeon Coop will be on display. The CNE may not happen but our pigeons fly anywhere.

Many thanks to Carl Ragala and Roger Caron for making this happen.

I'll bring ...

Ken



Associations

Vintage Signals Team

Profile Vintage Signals Team Member: Kirk Campbell

While the Vintage Signals Team actively share the story of military communications with people interested around the world, the VST members also have other volunteer opportunities. Sometimes they overlap with the Signals world.

The VST actively support our Cadets – 709 Cadets, 2250 Cadets and the 126 Determination Squadron, with presentations and opportunities to help out at events in the community.

Kirk Campbell is a former RCMP Officer and Morse Code expert. It was this expertise that allowed Kirk the opportunity to work in the deep dark North as an intercept operator during the Cold War.

Kirk has been able in his role as a former Cadet CO of the Argyll and Sutherland Cadets in Hamilton to have had the good fortune to be invited twice by the Canadian Rangers to act as a mentor at summer camps they operate and supervise at the Cadet Regional Training Center (CRTC) Whitehorse YT for the Junior Canadian Rangers (JCR).

Like cadets, JCR's 12 to 19 years of age, male and female are eligible to join. The JCR's are a mix of primarily indigenous youth as well as non-indigenous youth. In a lot of ways the JCR program is similar to that of Army Cadets but has its own uniqueness that reflects the traditional way of life of the Northern Canadian people.

There are similarities with the cadet camps involving such activities as archery, canoeing, hiking etc. But here Kirk was also able to be involved in trips to interpretive centers where faithful reproductions of lodgings were built reflecting how and in what the First Peoples lived.

They listened to stories of times gone by, the legends and the lives of the people who had occupied northern Canada. They were also treated to freshly made bannock along with jam. A culinary delight - Kirk says.

Part of the activities included elements of the collecting of furs and how they were prepared. It was during this time that while Kirk and the JCR were in close proximity at another outdoor presentation, a bear came along and snatched a freshly prepared fur. A Canadian Ranger chased the bear off - a reminder of how they were in the animal's home. There is a wide variety of wildlife in the area.

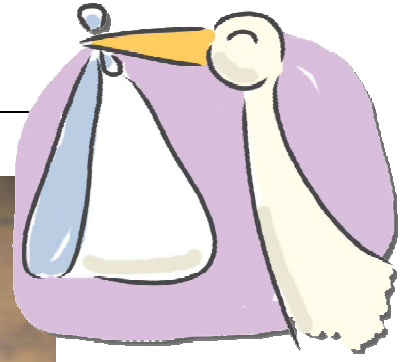
Kirk also participated in a canoe trip on the Yukon River. He says that they also attended a festival in Whitehorse highlighting the various First Nations People who call the North home as well as several other activities. These activities included hollowed out log canoe building, the smoking of salmon, demonstrations and explanation of smudge ceremonies.

He said that JCR's are given the opportunity to learn about and to be immersed in their culture and heritage. If he could go back to participate, Kirk said he definitely would. It was a twice in a lifetime experience.

Events and Notices

Birth Announcements

The Gorman Family.



The Briggs Family.



Last Post—In Memoriam

Captain Alec Shipman, CD (Ret'd)



SHIPMAN, CAPTAIN ALEC VICTOR Alec passed away on Friday, February 7, 2020, at the Sunnybrook Veterans Centre, age 81. He left behind Bonnie, his wife of 51 years, beloved daughter Jennifer Demuth (Colin) and two amazing grandsons, Mason (8)

and Ryder (6). A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, February 22, 2020, at 1:30 p.m., in the Sunnybrook Hospital Chapel H Wing. A proud Canadian, he served as an officer in the 48th Highlanders of Canada and also served as the Commanding Officer for the 2605 RC Army Cadets, where he was awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration Medal and the Canada 125 Medal.

Gary Cottenden



Gary Cottenden passed away peacefully on Saturday April 18, 2020. Gary was a retired employee of The Workers Compensation Board, a Mason and a Shriner. Gary was also a Toronto Signals Band member for 40 years.

Loving husband to Lynda. Cherished Father to Nancy and proud Grampa to Katelyn.

Over the span of many years, he was involved with numerous minor league and competitive hockey teams. He spent some of his retirement years working as a Hall Monitor at Malvern Collegiate Institute and Birchmount Park Collegiate Institute and nicknamed "Sparky". Gary's passion was hockey. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Maj-Gen Russell Senior, CMM, CD (Ret'd)



Russell Norman Senior, 89, of Ottawa, Ontario died peacefully surrounded by his family on February 19, 2020, at Eastholme Home for the Aged in Powassan near North Bay, Ontario. Russ was born November 25, 1930, in Verdun, PQ, to Harry and Gwyneth Senior. He graduated from McGill

University with a Bachelor of Science in 1951. He almost immediately joined the Royal Canadian Air Force as a Flying Officer at the newly opened CFS Foymount radar station where he met the most important person in his life, a military nurse, Dorothy Harnett. Russ was invested as a Commander of the Order of Military Merit in June 1982 for his exceptional military service.

Russ is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Susan of North Bay; daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Ian of North Bay; and daughter and son-in-law, Jenny and Russ of Barrie. He was proud grandfather to Christopher, Mac, Ben, Samantha, Danielle, Cassie, Lexie, Nick, Maia, and Tessa.

Major George Kinloch, CD (Ret'd)



George Alexander Kinloch died peacefully at home in Ottawa on May 17, 2020.

A man of many accomplishments, George was a scholar of physical chemistry and the history of science, a chemical engineer, an officer in the regular force and the Canadian reserves, a fine violinist, and a committed and effective teacher.

He was the beloved husband of Frances Abele-Kinloch. He leaves his children Katherine Wight (Dan) and David, his grandchildren Carolyn and Ian Wight and Nicole Kinloch, his brother Albert Kinloch (Betty), nieces Heather Lafreniere (Michel) and Natasha Kinloch and in-laws Dorothy and George Bulka. George Kinloch loved learning, discussion, mountaineering, hiking and all things in the natural world, especially celebrating the springtime arrival of birds and the first shoots of garden flowers. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Last Post—In Memoriam

CWO Donna Smit, CD



Royal Canadian Air Force, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals

September 20, 1966 - June 27, 2020

Donna passed away peacefully surrounded by her family who were comforting her, holding her hands, and playing her favourite country

music. Donna was wrapped in her beloved "O's" blanket and had the symbol she adorned pinned to her chest; the Poppy. Donna was such an effective communicator and was never alone or in silence as she drew her last breath here on earth. Her Son Kyle comforted her even in death. Donna was born in Gander Newfoundland and Labrador and was proud of her Native Newfoundlander culture and family. Donna is and will always be mourned by her husband, Capt Greg Smit of Ottawa; her Sons Kyle, Sgt Joseph Smit, and MCpl Curtis Smit; her parents "Bud" and Louise Hiscock; her brothers Wayne and Shawn Hiscock. Equally as important to Donna is her Canadian Armed Forces family past and present who are too numerous to name. Donna was also a grandmother and a very proud Nanny to Braydon; she has 5 nieces and nephews, Dylan, Devan, Jaden, Isabelle, and John. On her father's side; Uncles Dick (Heather) Hiscock, Don (Theresa) Hiscock, Tom (Eileen) Hiscock, Gordon (Valerie) Hiscock, Scott (Doreen) Hiscock, Aunts Eileen (Ray) Wells and Valerie (Bonner) Pinsent. On her Mother's side, Aunts Amy Smith, Irene (Barry) Young. Predeceased by; Aunt Edna and Grandparents Amelia and Edward Gardner and Annie and Gordon Hiscock. Donna was a mentor to so very many lady motorcycle riders and leaves behind dozens of dear friends with the Litas of Ottawa. She was so immensely proud to be among you all out on the road. Donna was known for attracting orphans



from within the military, those whom leadership and institution had forgotten, or were taking their time to do something or who needed help. She knew she could not always solve their issue or give them what they wanted or needed, but in most cases, something could be done and she was the one to finally do something. It was not just at work, this is who she is, someone who wants to help in whatever way she could. She made a difference to a great many people. CWO Donna Smit emulated what our CAF culture should strive to be. Canadians who have sons and daughters in the military would have wanted Donna advocating for their child.



LCol Gary Knopf, CD (Ret'd)



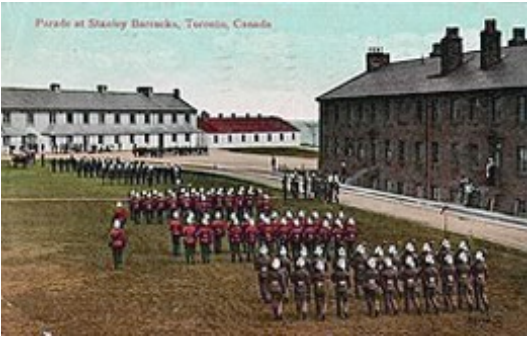
IBASc, PEng, LCol (Ret'd), HCol Gerhard (Gary) Alfred Willi In Loving Memory
February 19, 1928 – September 7, 2020 Passed away peacefully after a lengthy illness surrounded by his family and loved ones at Toronto Western Hospital on Monday, September 7, 2020 at the age of 92.

LCol Knopf was the Commanding Officer of 709 (Toronto) Communication Regiment (1982-1985) and the Honourary Lieutenant-Colonel of 700 (Borden) Communication Squadron in 1985 for 20 years.

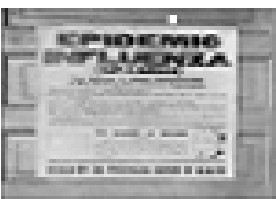
Gerhard, beloved husband of Mary. He will be missed by his children, Ann and David. He will be remembered by his extended family and friends.

Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) ... Past ... Present ... Future?

On May 12, 2020, the CNE announced cancellation of the annual late summer fair due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. A responsible and understandable action. A significant cancellation for those from the Toronto area. The CNE was an 'end of summer fun ritual' before the grind of return to school, return to work, shorter days and longer cooler, colder nights that follow Labour Day. It will be missed by many.



The Military has played an important role in the fair. First, the grounds are located near Fort York, and were part of a War of 1812 battle with the Americans in 1813. During World War One the CNE grounds were turned into a vast military training and housing centre known as Exhibition Camp. During the War, the fair continued. Troops would educate visitors through demonstrations, trench warfare, drills and manoeuvres.



The Spanish Flu pandemic which hit Canada hard in 1918-19, costing about 55,000 lives, did not shut down the CNE. The timing was such that the virulent Second Wave had passed.



In World War Two the CNE served as a Recruitment Centre and Military Camp. As such the fair was closed, reopening in 1947.

The Warriors Day Parade was established in 1921. It is the largest running annual parade of its type. Although "Stood Down" in 2020 due to COVID 19, the Warriors Day spirit was shown in a ten vehicle march past for 99-year-old veteran, Ed Stafford, at his home in Etobicoke. It was staged by the Ontario Military Vehicle Association (OMVA), and a CBC video report is linked in to view.

<https://twitter.com/TalRicci/Status/1297262374651662336>

The CNE created a virtual Warrior's Day Parade. The link is attached for your viewing.
<https://theex.com/main/entertainment/cne-at-home/special-events/warriors-day-parade>

The CNE has been an important event for the Military as it allows CAF members to educate, demonstrate and interact with a large audience (1.7 million visitors in 2016), enabling the CAF to maximize its reach to Canada's largest city.



The Vintage Signals Team has been highly active in bringing the Military Signals story to CNE patrons working in conjunction with the CAF display, Veteran Affairs and others. In 2014, to celebrate the 100th Anniversary



of WW1, the VST set up a display by a WW1 Trench and era equipment display. The VST sent a Morse Code message from the CNE grounds by use of era Visual Signalling Equipment (Heliographs, Flags, Lamps) across the Lake, aided by Coast Guard Boats to HMCS HAIDA at Hamilton harbour. HMCS HAIDA received and acknowledged this message: 'August 1914 ONE HUNDRED YEARS WE REMEMBER THEM'. The VST continued to be active at CNE Displays with a WW1 focus until 2018. It has marched in the Warriors Day Parade in the Military Themed Living History/Re-enactor Contingent category. VST received an Award presented to HCol Ken Lloyd by retired CDS Lt Gen Walter Natynczk in 2018. VST's primary focus changed to WW2 in 2019 to acknowledge 75th Anniversary of D Day and a WREN contingent was added.

The CNE has been shut down in the past and has been able to reinvent and regroup to the better. We look forward to being part of that.