

1980

VOL.: 4:4

THE

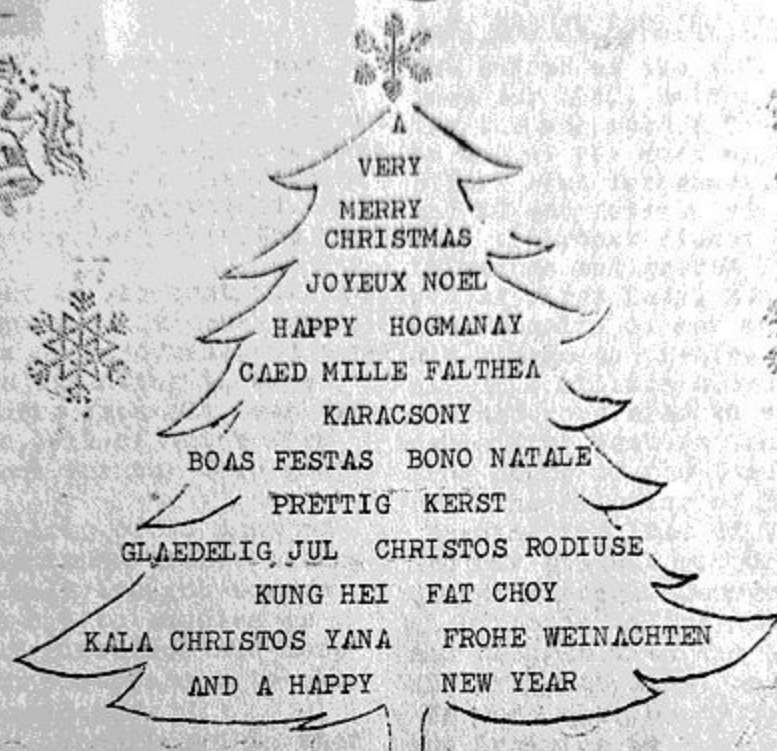
ROLL CALL

HONGKONG VETERANS' ASSOC^N OF CANADA.



*BRITISH COLUMBIA BRANCH
MAGAZINE*

Season's Greetings



A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, BOB MANCHESTER

TO OUR HONGKONG FAMILY AND FRIENDS, TO THEIR WIVES AND FAMILIES,
TO OUR FRIENDS AND COMPANIONS FROM SOUTH OF THE BORDER, MAY YOU
ENJOY A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HEALTHY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

The hills of Hongkong, dark and grey
Hide the tears of yesterday
We who live should not forget
the comrades who have paid our debt
Be thankful then that you were spared
Remembering those with whom we shared - our dreams
Let no ambitious pride erode
the bonds of unity which were forged -
among those hills

Best regards

B O B



THE

ROLL CALL

VOL: 4: 4

SEASON'S GREETINGS

PAGE 1

1980 IN RETROSPECT

This being the season for peace and goodwill, finds us looking back over 1980 and think of the good, the bad and the ugly we had come our way, to rejoice in our successes, regret our shortcomings and to resolve to improve on the former and avoid the latter in the year that lies ahead.

The Good is seen in the continued and increasing support from our readers, in their expressions of enjoyment and appreciation and the expanding interest bringing new readers from all over Canada and elsewhere, all of which form the main ingredient for our deep gratification.

The Bad was the loss of so many of our friends and comrades whose passing during 1980, not only brought sorrow to their families but to buddies as well. We offer our sincerest and deepest sympathies and condolences to all who have been so saddened.

The Ugly was our embroilment in what appeared to be a series of misunderstandings, misconceptions and omissions which combined to create a 'brouhaha' causing hurt on all sides.

Your Editor, altho a mere 5'5", feels ten feet tall for his part in helping develop the 'Good'! By the same token, he feels tall enough, to express regret for his participation in the 'Ugly'.

With all this said, we now reverently place the Roll Call of 1980 in its rightful place on the shelf where, hopefully, it will enjoy its retirement with dignity.

To all our readers, contributors and their families, to all Hongkong Veterans and their families - whether they are Roll Callers or not - we extend our best wishes for good luck, good health, a very Merry Christmas and Peace throughout each and every day of Year 1981.



B.C. BRANCH REUNION DINNER

The second of the B.C. Branch's Reunions for 1980, held in Victoria during the week-end 1 November, proved to be one of the most enjoyable get-togethers seen for some time. Between 70 and 80 sat down to an excellent standing rib roast dinner complete with trimmings and graced by the presence of our First Lady, Edna Manchester, who in spite of her convalescence, did manage to preside and looked like all of a million bucks.

It was good also to welcome our comrades from Western Canada Branches, from south of the border and those from the interior of B.C.

Heading the list of VIPs locally, we had our staunch supporters, Joan and George Murtagh. George is the National Director of the War Amps of Canada and brought with him Lorne (President Victoria War Amps) and Kay Heath.

We were also happy to greet and see the Prairies well represented with: Manitoba's Bert and Joey Delbridge, Alf and Elsie Matthews and Ken and Issa McCulley; N. Alta-Saskatchewan's George Price (Coronach) and Jim and Martha Murray (Saskatoon). The Murrays are settling down in B.C.

From Washington State and always good to look at were our American Friends, Washington State Vice-Commander Joe and Charlotte Galloway, State Treasurer Don and Billy-Joe Morgan, Hershel and Pat Boushey, Bob and Vera Tant, Ernie 'n Helen Streeter, George and Florence Smathers and Paul 'n Margaret Dickenson, from various American EXPOW Chapters in Washington.

The excellent entertainment following the dinner, was provided by Walt Rothe (piano) and Bill Saull (singing saw), with all kinds of help from the floor. Our American warbler, Billy-Joe Morgan teamed up with Helen Streeter and gave forth with songs and

(continued on Page 16)

EDITORIAL

To the many who have been writing to your Editor and whose letters are so appreciated by our readers, we offer our thanks, our hopes that you will continue to do so and our apologies for not replying personally and directly to each individual letter.

However much we may wish to do this, we regret that such a task would add considerably to the work required to produce the Roll Call. We trust, therefore, that our footnote replies to all letters published - and we have published all those received (with the possible exception of those only advising changes of address) - will be acceptable as acknowledgment and reply.

We believe that your interest in the Roll Call is due a great deal to these very same Letters to the Editor and, if you enjoy them as much as we think you do, we ask that you also contribute to that enjoyment by writing in and help trigger happy recollections for other readers. But please! Spare the "doom and gloom" if possible.

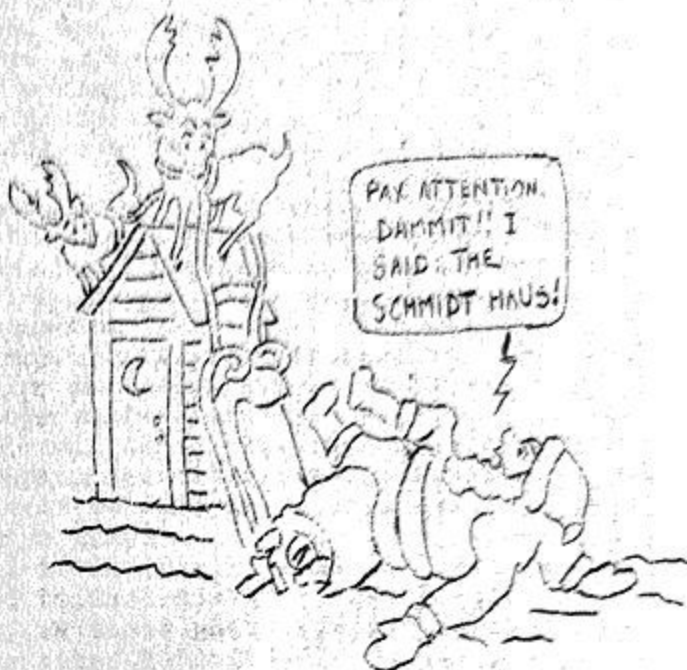
In this connection, we request your assistance in providing information which will enable us expand on the "Shumshuipo Story" or use elsewhere in the magazine.

Of events leading to the departure of the first Canadian contingent from Shumshuipo for Japan in January 1943; of subsequent drafts later the same year and in 1944; of what happened to those who stayed behind for the duration; names, dates, incidents affecting individuals either prior to leaving the camp for Japan or during their remainder of their stay until the Surrender.

Somewhere there will be a Hongkong Veteran who will enjoy it and remember and in the remembering, justify everything the Roll Call stands for and what it is trying to accomplish.

We have come a long way together and if the welcoming of a number of new readers into our ranks recently is any indication, we'll be going a long way further together in the months to come.

To all of you, your families and your friends, our very best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a year that is marked with contentment, happiness and good health. God Bless.

THE SPIRIT OF THE TIMESTHE HON. DANIEL J. MACDONALD

The passing of the Hon. Daniel MacDonald, Minister of Veterans Affairs, will be received with deep regret and a sense of loss by all Hongkong Veterans, for a fellow veteran of World War II, whose service to his charges during his terms of office, will go as unparalleled in the annals of history.

Although we have not agreed with some of his policies - and have said so - we have always admired him for his dedication, courage and fortitude - and this we have also said.

He deserves a eulogy that will last for as long as there remains a Hongkong Veteran alive, and because we're inadequate to provide one which will do full justice to the stature of the man himself, we take the liberty of publishing excerpts from the text of the one the Prime Minister of Canada, the Hon. Pierre Trudeau, delivered at Mr. MacDonald's state funeral in Charlottetown on 4 October 1980.

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember him"
(Please turn to Page 17 for eulogy)

OUR PADRE'S DIARY Rev. U. Laite

Lt. Phillip, who was wounded at Wong Nei Chong, for whom we had grave fears, came to camp from Argyle Camp, and reports most of our wounded there. Lt. Blackwood getting better, and due next week. One of our boys - Gunn - died and is buried there. He told me that the boys in the shelter were kept from becoming panicky by my coolness and cheery words, as well as by the splendid spirit of Pte Williamson. For this I am grateful and pray that I may be a worthy padre. He also spoke of praying for the first time. Others have spoken to me too in the same manner.

There are about 2,300 men in this camp, which was originally built by a religious organization in Hongkong for the use of Chinese refugees, and was meant to accommodate about 1,600 persons. With our large number, quarters for all are cramped. We are sleeping about 164 men in a hut which should have no more than 100 or 120, but the men are adapting themselves to their new quarters with commendable spirit. The officers quarters are small and not very comfortable. We have tiered bunks (one over the other), but some are being cut off so that we can be nearer the floor where there is less draught. Each morning at 0800 or 0815 hrs we have roll call on the square, and at 1000 hrs our men take a certain amount of P.T. During the day those who desire take classes in languages, and other courses of education. Meals in our camp are certainly not European. We have rice three times a day, and as long as we get a portion of milk or sugar, or both, it is fairly palatable, but we are never satisfied as we are not accustomed to such diet. We have been able to get a bit of meat, and a few vegetables, at times which, when mixed with the rice makes a much better meal. There are times however when we really wondered what we were eating, and on Feb: 3rd we had whale meat for dinner with rice. If we had allowed our thoughts to centre on "Whale", I don't think that many of us would have finished our meal, but we were hungry and so forgot the big fish in our eagerness to satisfy our hunger.

On Sundays we have joint Protestant services in camp. A communion service is held each Sunday morning at 0745 or 0800 hrs as long as the wine lasts. In the fight and surrender of forces, I lost my communion service as did Capt Barnett, but the naval chaplain saved some of his.

I try and visit the huts of our Winnipeg Grenadiers three nights a week and chat with the boys and a visit to the hospital is made as often as possible - about once in two nights. There are about thirty men there and so far, I have been able to have a piece of toffee, a chocolate, or a cigarette for each man, but my money is now spent and therefore, I will not have anything to take to these sufferers of Dysentery, Diarrhoea or Piles etc.

The men are keeping in fairly good spirits but long for the day of our release. Of course there are fantastic rumours amongst the men every day about possible chances for our early release, but some of us are inclined to think that rumours will not become fact for a long time. We are anxious about home and families and pray that loved ones are bearing the strain of suspense and anxiety with God-given grace.

Since Jan. 30 we have been having a choir practice each Friday night at 6:30. We now - Feb 7 - have about twenty five members as well as our Grenadier Band. This will make for better services on Sunday mornings. We have amongst our naval officers and men some splendid singers and last night (Feb 6.) I spent an hour sitting around a camp fire with them singing old and new songs. It is surprising - and yet not surprising because of our circumstances - how many ask for old spirituals and such like.

I left the campfire thinking of the best things which money cannot buy and now realise the true meaning of such a word as "Freedom".

Our meals are the same - rice three times a day with very little change. We did have a bit of bully beef and a few beans with our evening meal, which made quite a change.

(To be continued in the next issue)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: Tiny and I sure enjoy reading the Roll Call and look forward to it - matter of fact who gets it first is the toss-up.

Tiny has been going to write and send in his dues but has been under the weather for a long time, so decided it was my turn to write - after all if I can put my keys in someone's pocket, guess I can send them a check! (See interesting explanation to this in Now It Can Be Told this issue.ED). Hope this will cover for 1980 and 1981, if not, let us know.

Tiny's legs have been giving him a lot of trouble and its getting harder for him to walk as they swell up so - the doctor says its poor circulation caused from the beri-beri, anyway I am now getting "Handicap" plates for my car.

It was good to see some of the B.C. Branch down here this past winter enjoying our floods and sunshine - we have no more floods now, but nice warm days. It has hit 115 degrees(Fahr) and till September it will remain over the 100 deg. mark - good for what ails you, just bakes it out.

We are sorry we won't make the Hong-Kong trip but healthwise Tiny can't take it, but we sure are looking forward to the Quebec Convention - am excited about it as I have never been to that part of Canada.

Keep the Roll Call rolling and God Bless you all.

Phoenix, Arizona Helen Martyn
(for Tiny)

Helen dear, Sure good to hear from you in spite of deepest concern about Tiny and his legs. Hope it'll pass with the advent of cooler weather. By now you will have learned that the 1981 Convention will be held in Calgary -not as originally planned, in Quebec.-sometime in September 1981. Looking forward to picking up where we left off at Winnipeg in 1979. JOHN.

Knock!Knock! "Who dere?" Ayatollah Khomeini. "Ayatollah who?". Ayatollah Khomeini times not to touch my desk and to leave it alone!!
Lorluvaduck!

Dear John: Enclosed please find cheque for Roll Call

I saw Flash Clayton at the Quebec-Maritime Branch Reunion at New Richmond and he gave me information as to how to receive it.

Hope this finds you in good health. Please excuse my handwriting. I don't write too well anytime and my wife is rushing me! Thank you.

Campbellton, N.B. Charles Chesser

Welcome to the gang, Charlie, and thank you very much. Not to worry about your writing, you should see mine! I wrote(in English) to a Chinese friend enquiring about his health. He replied by sending me one barbecued duck, two bowls of won-ton and his third wife! John.

Dear John: (Now you know, Dunc.)

My wife and I wish to say how much we enjoy the Roll Call.

It really brings back a lot of memories as we were stationed there with the British Garrison. My wife, and many others, were evacuated to Australia in 1940 before the hostilities broke out.

I hope to see you on the Pilgrimage in November. Wishing you and the Roll Call every success.

Kamlops, B.C. Duncan Rankine
(ex Royal Scots)

Scots wha hae! Couldn't place you as you're not listed with either the Grenadiers or Rifles. Now I know. Won't be going to Hongkong for a number of reasons, one being I like to remember it as it was in mid-fifties. Hope you had a good time. John.

Dear John: Please find enclosed \$s for the Roll Call. I think I am a bit late, but better late than never. Hope all is well with you.

Winnipeg, Manitoba Lorna Fox

Lorna Dear: You'll never be late and God and the Post Office willing, you will never miss an issue, and here's my hand on it. Thank you and stay cool. John.

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Friend:

Just a line wishing you all the best. We are still alive and kicking, hope to get through the winter O.K. The weather has been awful this year. I think this has been the worst summer and fall we've had since we've been in Calgary.

The first winter we were here it sure wasn't bad at all and if I mind it right, we did not get very many cold spells and we got a lot of them warm winds. I have seen water running down the streets in January! But last winter we had a lot of cold weather. Sure don't know how the weather will be this winter. We also had a lot of rain this fall and as I am writing this, we have snow in the foothills.

Well, it will be nice to see you the next time (Nat'l Convention 1981).

We are looking for the Roll Call. We read every word in it. It is nice to get all the news out your way. When you see any of our friends, say Hello to them for us, we wish them all the best.

Well, I can't think of much more to say, so I am wishing you and yours all the best and good luck to you both. So, bye for now.

Calgary, Alta Old friend Joe
(Walton)

Joe: You're doing fine. Keep slogging away, take care of Ivy and, if I make it, will sure see you next September.

Dear John: I am becoming a 'Roll Call' fan, reading it all as soon as it arrives. Keep up the good work. I am interested in Rev. Laite's diary, as my Ken was at Shumshuipo, as well as 3-D Kawasaki, and Sendai. Ken passed away in 1976 with leukemia. I have been to 3 reunions (one with Ken in 1973) and I have met such great people, many of whom helped me so much in 1976.

I would like to get in touch with Jessie and Bob Clayton again - I see they are in Brechin, Ontario.

Lodi, Calif. Joyce Clarkson.
Joyce dear: So very glad you wrote. So sorry about Ken and regret I never met him. Wasn't around at that time. Write Jessie, Box 47, Brechin, Ont. LOK 1B0.

Dear John:

Enjoy the Roll Call very much - am enclosing a cheque for the Roll Call.

By the way, my name is Basil Kohut (not Kohoot) or Kotoot!

I met Major Gresham and staff at the Crossroads and according to orders took them to their positions. Then I brought Rev. U. Laite to "D" Co and the Brigade was situated opposite. Next morning I received orders to take another Company into position at dawn. I was wounded at dawn. "Long Tom" pulled me in from the gunfire. An Imperial Col. (I believe it was Dec. 22nd) ordered us to pack-it-up. The wounded were left behind. The able were to meet up with other Canadians.

The wounded were tied together and forced to walk to Argyle Camp in Kowloon - it was a tough walk. From there, four of us went to St Theresa Hospital.

I believe I was the last Canadian to reach North Point Camp on July 1, '42. I could tell you more stories, John, but this is long enough. Keep up the good work.

Winnipeg, Man. Basil Kohut.

Bas: 'Kutot' was what the Padre had written. I put the correction in brackets. As for 'Kahoot!' that I believe was how the British nurses pronounced it according to Kay Christie. I'll hold you to more stories. Shoot them in whenever you can and keep up the good work for now. John.

Dear John: Enclosed please find cheque which I am sure is overdue on the Roll Call.

Inez and I have moved to a better location and we are contented. We are now playing golf as our recreation and exercise, and we are feeling that age is creeping up on us as the keenness for the game is wearing off. But we still walk in golf. Hope you are all well.

Honolulu, Hawaii Jaime R

Jim: Love to Inez, many thanks and one of these days you may have to prepare the luau, pick a bevy of lovely wahines, order a beautiful sunset and I'll teach you - all the huki-lau!

WELL, SOMEBODY'S GOT TO SAY IT ...

This being the season for goodwill and good fellowship, there isn't much we wish to say other than to draw your attention to the words of wisdom from our President on the inside front cover of this issue.

It does, however, afford us with the opportunity to say to all of you our friends and readers, that maintaining the Spirit of the Hongkong Family, especially at this late stage, is so important that it completely transcends self-interests. And so it should.

THE FONZ

B.C. BRANCH BUSINESS MEETING

Three important outcomes at the Business Meeting of the B.C. Branch in Victoria on 1 November 1980, were:

1. The reiteration of B.C.'s refusal to endorse or support the attempt to ask the Canadian Pensions Commission to treat Veterans Disability Pensions and the recently legislated "Prisoners of War Compensation" awards as two entirely separate entities.

Back in 1979 at the National Convention in Winnipeg, the Hongkong Veterans Association had, rightly and correctly, refused to endorse the proposal, but had tabled it for the time being.

Their decision was given strong support by none other than Mr. Harold Solomon, of the CPC, in his speech at breakfast the following morning, during which he, very tactfully and diplomatically, and in so many words, warned the Association to desist. In doing so, he, nevertheless, injected what can be considered a clear rebuke to those who were trying for the endorsement.

The need for this reiteration by the B.C. Branch, passed on 1 November 1980 in Victoria, arose from the information that a second attempt to obtain the Association's endorsement had been made during the National Council's Executive Meeting in Winnipeg on 9-11 September 1980, and that once again the Council had said: "NO!"

Should it be necessary, it was decided that the B.C. delegate will carry the Branch's refusal to endorse, to the National Convention in Calgary in 1981.

(continued in the next column)

2. The election of Bill Laidlaw to the B.C. Branch vice-presidency, replacing Gerry Gerard who stepped down because of pressure of work. This will provide mainland membership with easier access to the Branch Executive, as Bill is a resident here, without having to resort to long distance toll calls and delays caused by mail deliveries we are currently undergoing.

3. A motion for a vote of confidence in John Fonseca and his performance as the Editor of the Roll Call, was moved by Art Ferrall, seconded and carried, without dissent.

Other business concluded were: the acceptance of our Treasurer's, Jack Davies, report which revealed Branch finances in a healthy state, tabling of a motion to permit full membership to widows and wives of HK Veterans, the welcoming of new members in the persons of Jim Murray (Saskatchewan) and Bill Clarke (ex R.Navy, Singapore), a warm welcome to visiting out-of-province HK Vets as well as our friends from south of the border.

Thirty-two were in attendance at the meeting which preceded a get-together in the Hospitality Room, the cocktail hour and the banquet itself.

A "2-IT"? WHASSAT?

Inimitable Walter Jenkins came up as usual with souvenirs for those attending the Reunion Dinner in Victoria.

The object was termed a "2-IT" and officially designed to be a reminder (like tying a knot on a finger) to 'do it' whatever that is required.

We now have in our possession a fine collection of 'Jenkins' souvenirs which are prized treasures. They consist of: a pair of 'gaetas' too small to fit; one 'fundushi' whose unfinished edges chafe; one over-sized peasant-type headgear made of cardboard and now, the "2-it".

Made of brass and heavy, it resembles a plug or stopper. But stops right there! It's too large for an ear plug and too small for the sink. Walter remains silent, but the gleam in his eye indicates only one other possibility. Shame on you, Walter!!!

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR NATIONAL PRESIDENT

As I write these few words, it is recalled that most Hongkong Veterans returned to Canada thirty-five years ago this month.

Repeating the words of our late Minister, Dan MacDonald, we belong to a "SELECT GROUP OF CANADIANS, AND CANADA WILL NEVER FORGET YOU."

We have survived as a group, in one form or another, the many challenges brought on by time, though TIME has taken an unjust toll.

Christmas will always be a Day of Remembrance to us; this thought however, does not overshadow the blessings of a festive period surrounded by family and friends - many of us have much to be thankful for!

Thus, projecting our thoughts forward, never backward, Peggy and I wish you and yours the "Merriest of Christmases" - the New Year is approached with optimism, though dark clouds threaten.

Let us not forget our shut-ins and their families, those less fortunate than we.

To one and all, A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, with thanks for the opportunity to reach you.

Lloyd Doull

"WE HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN"

Fear ye not who lie asleep
In Flanders poppyed fields,
Your sons and comrades too, of old
To foe shall never yield.

The torch you gave to bear on high
Is truly burning bright,
As again the sons of Canada
Fight for truth and right.

'Tis but token of fulfillment
Of a pledge made years ago,
To carry on for Empire
And crush the ruthless foe.

The battle's long and fearsome
But we'll never slacken pace,
Till we rid the world of tyrants
And make earth God's dwelling place

So let there be no doubting
As we face the last long lap
And prove that "co-prosperity"
Hasn't changed the blinkin' map.

Then sleep ye well in Flanders fields
We'll never let you down
As long indeed as poppies grow
We'll guard your Victor's crown.

S/Sgt Harry MacNaughton

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

It is with deep appreciation that we acknowledge receipt of the following donations, sent directly to the Editor during period 9 August thru 5 November 1980 and the support indicated thereby. We also welcome new readers, Charles Chesser and Fred Chapman to the Roll Call's mailing list.

Jack Rose
Guy Stewart (USA)
Dave Owens
Richard M. Hall
Mrs. Lorna Fox
Charles Chesser
Hugh McKechnie
Mrs. Janet Coulson
Harry Creedon
Reg Riddoch
Jaime Remedios (Hawaii, USA)
Ted Dunderdale
Gordie Wheatcroft
Fred Chapman

The above do not include donations sent to B.C. Branch Secretary, Lionel Speller in Victoria, B.C.

THE SHUMSHUIPO STORY (Part 5)

It was shortly after our move from Jubilee Buildings to the huts that the twin epidemics - dysentery and diphtheria - hit the camp and provided some of the darkest days shumshuipo ever experienced.

The total absence of medication to combat either of the two pestilences, saw the medical staff completely helpless and, in the case of dysentery, resorting to experiments with our diet - which in itself provided comic relief of a sort - by switching from soggy rice to burnt rice, to ordinary and back to burnt and even to a suspension, for 24 hours, of the only foodstuff available - RICE!

During this period which saw deaths recorded at five or six a day, those who were immune to both sicknesses, continued with the task of keeping the camp going, attending work parties to Kai Tak and elsewhere, doing the camp chores and even engaging in morale building ventures in their spare time.

The Portuguese boys of Nos. 5 and 6 Coys HKVDC, started on the construction of a church, and within a month saw the completion of the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel and its inauguration by Jesuit Father Green. The presence of the chapel served its purpose well, and it wasn't long before we saw it being occupied at all hours of the day and night by POWs of all faiths for meditation, soul-searching and strength.

By this time, the Japanese, apparently recognising the value of maintaining morale, permitted entry of musical instruments into camp and from this, the Banda Portuguesa, a twelve-piece stringed orchestra was born. It was but a short step from jam sessions to concerts and thence to an attempt to produce a stage show. This was "Hawaii Calls" a tropical extravaganza produced, directed and with a cast composed entirely of Nos 5 and 6 HKVDC personnel.

CASTING for actors and actresses resulted in the discovery of superstar "Sonia Caranda" (a take-off of Carmen Miranda of Down Argentine Way fame) in the person of Sonny Castro, who was joined by the other "girls": Eddie and Gus Noronha, Tony Alves and young Joanilho - our Pynesian hip-heaver!

Held within the confines of our hut, "Hawaii Calls" played to a packed house for three successive nights, with a command performance by the Japanese who'd somehow got wind of such goings-ons. The command performance gave the stamp of approval and assured the future of stage shows in Shumshuipo. Sonia and the girls were so good, the Japanese had suspicions that our actresses were for real and had been somehow smuggled into camp. They demanded a physical inspection and were only satisfied, although somewhat sheepishly so, after "Sonia" removed the two tennis balls from within his bra and bounced them on the stage floor!

It was about then that rumours of moves within the camp began to fly and within a few weeks, these were proven to be true. On 29 September 1942, the two British Regiments, Royal Scots and Middlesex (or those considered fit) were assembled and marched on to the ill-fated "Lisbon Maru" and sailed for Japan. A few days later, news reached camp that it had been torpedoed off the coast of China and sunk with a dreadful loss of life. But that's another story.

Three days before the British left, the Canadians arrived from North Point Camp on the Island. Their arrival signalled the development of an amazing "instant rapport" between two 'volunteer' groups, Canadians and Portuguese, whose backgrounds and cultures were as far apart as the 10,000 miles which had divided them before. This 'instant comradeship' saw the establishment of friendships which have lasted to this day and an example of the mutual respect each group had for the other, is best described by S/Sgt Harry MacNaughton whose "A Canadian Tribute" we are privileged to publish elsewhere in this issue.

(To be continued in our next issue with " The Bombing Raid")

HITHER AND YON WITH FONZ

We are informed that the Official Hongkong Veterans Association of Canada's "1980 Pilgrimage to Hongkong", which leaves here on 23 November 1980 and returns 14 December, will, for all official ceremonies, be headed by Pres. Don Nelson, Alberta-Saskatchewan (Southern) Branch. Don has been delegated by our National Council to represent our Association, in place of President Lloyd Doull, who will not be able to make the pilgrimage due to the fact that he is recuperating from his recent illness.

Got a long distance call from Cobourg, Ontario, from Glenford Mann who phoned to say 'Hello!' and to advise that he had finally received his Autumn 1980 edition of the Roll Call - two months after it was mailed here! - and to advise that he's planning to spend this Christmas in B.C. arriving sometime around 20 December. We're looking forward to seeing ya, Glenford and thanks for calling. Wotinel's happening to our mail service?

Before heading south for the winter, Harry Creedon phoned asking me to meet him and a most enjoyable get-together with Harry, Helen and their daughter and grand-son, Mike, at Hudson Bay's Coffee House in the Loughheed Mall. In order to permit the ladies to indulge in some shopping, I baby-sat Mike and, believe it or not, had him fast asleep and draped over my shoulder for nearly all of an hour. Receiving offers of employment from a number of other customers, with tiny tots in tow, right there and then, I wonder if I am in the right line of work?

A new member to the HK Vet colony in Arizona this winter, is Doug Morrison. Heard tell he's bought himself a "pad" close to where the Creedon's are. The "Colony" there now includes, the Creedons, Dick Wilsons, Tiny Martyns, Art Lousiers (who'll get there after the HK Pilgrimage returns) and Doug Morrison. To all you migrators, our best wishes for a good winter, especially in view of the way our poor Canadian dollar is performing right now!

Whilst on the ferry to Victoria to attend our reunion, Bill 'N' Bev Laidlaw and yours truly, were joined by Alf and Elsie Matthews, out of Winnipeg, Manitoba, who are spending a few weeks on the Coast, and Tony Neault, with Pete Legouarger in tow, all heading for the same place. It was nice meeting them again and there was so much to gab about the trip seemed to have been shortened by half.

And speaking of out-of-province visitors to the reunion, it was good to see George Price, all the way from Coronach, Sask. again. The last time George was here was a couple of years back. He's looking good and as sleek and well as ever he did.

At our meeting, met, for the first time, Bob Warren, who is settling, or has already settled, on the Island. Could be that the old saying: "Extremes attract". What with a couple of feet difference in height between us, it was definitely a matter of "the long and the short of it" hitting it off immediately. Bob, remember your promise to submit something for all of us to enjoy. Nice knowing you!

Welcome to another HK Vet to settle here in God's Country is Robert S. (Bob) Block who, until he arrived in the Okanagan recently, to retire in Penticton, was a resident of the town of Valparaiso (No! Bub! Not the one in Chile, South America), Indiana, USA. What with the growing number of HK Vets in that part of B.C. perhaps the suggestion made at the meeting, that we hold a get-together, a sort of a 'potlach' complete with barbecued pig, over there in the fall, when the fruit is ripe for the picking, should receive some consideration.

Can't permit the opportunity to say: "Thank you very much, Gang!", for the support and understanding extended to me, go by. It was what I had hoped for, but the response in its totality was as unexpected as it was beautiful and heart-warming. What more can I say?

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John:

I enjoyed meeting you at breakfast in the Northstar Inn on our 1979 Reunion in Winnipeg.

Am enclosing herewith my donation towards the Roll Call.

I note in the last Roll Call issue that I was in danger of being evacuated because of Forest Fires. I would just like to let my buddies know that the town of Gimli was roughly 60 to 100 miles from the various forest fires. Actually our town hosted approx. 200 evacuee's from Red Lake and Bombertown in N.W. Ontario for approx. 3 weeks.

There are a few HKers in this Interlake Area, namely: Geo. Montroy at Riverton, Gordie Williamson in Arnes; Mel McKnight at Winnipeg Beach and Van Balen and I in Gimli.

I have not seen Mel for some months now, I understand he has been rather ill.

I would be interested in knowing the whereabouts of my good friend, Harry White, any information would be appreciated. All the best to you and yours

Gimli, Manitoba J.E.(Ted)Dunderdale
Sure nice to hear from you, Ted. Local TV news indicated possible evacuation at Gimli, hence our concern. The only other HK Vet we have on our mailing list, aside from you, is Gordie Williamson in Arnes. How's about getting the others you named interested? You will find Harry at Box 161, Okanagan Falls, B.C. VOH 1R0. Many thanks, John.

Dear John: Enclosed please find my donation towards the continuance of the Roll Call.

My wife and I enjoy it very much. Keep up the good work. Best of luck from

Thunder Bay, Ont. Reg Riddoch
P.S. Sorry for being so late with donation.

Many many thanks and it is never late. The encouragement from both of you sure makes us feel real good. Please say hello to the boys in your area.

Dear John: I have just received my copy of Roll Call and am sorry to learn that you have been in hospital for surgery. I do hope that the operation was successful and that you will shortly be restored to your normal cheerful self.

Would you please pass on to Bob Manchester my best wishes for the complete recovery to health of Edna, whom I had the pleasure of meeting last year at our Annual Reunion and Service of Remembrance at the Royal Festival Hall, London. I am sorry I cannot do it myself as I do not know his address.

I also note in the Roll Call the Report of your Hospital Visitor. Do you think it possible that at some time he could call in to see one of our English FEPOWs, Joe Dix, who is now in the George Derby Hospital in New Westminster. I know he would be grateful for a visit and so would we if you could do something about it.

I hope it will not be too long before Marjorie and I came to Canada again. We so much enjoyed our last trip that we want to do it all over again.

With best wishes to you and your wife and regards to all Canadian FEPOWs from us in London.

Ted
London, England. (E.J. Coffey, M.B.E.)
FEPOW Club, London

Ted: Truly happy to hear from you after all this time. Trust this issue will find both you and Marj in the 'pink' and that you'll be able to get back thisaway soon. Re: Joe, I'll get to see him one of these days and report back to you. He gets the Roll Call and will probably read this too. John

Dear John: Glen Mann, a fellow Hongkong Vet, has told me of and let me read a copy of your HK Vets magazine.

I'd like to be a subscriber and have enclosed a cheque to be on your mailing list. If it exceeds annual subs use balance as a donation. Is it possible to get a copy of the October 80 issue?

Cobourg, Ontario. Fred Chapman
Fred: One copy in the mail, welcome to the gang and many thanks for both your interest and donation. John.

AND YET MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: Please find enclosed my cheque to keep the Roll Call rolling this way. The wife and I certainly appreciate reading what's going on out your way.

By the way, John, I was wondering if you can assist me in regards to a name, which appeared in the Roll Call. Questions: Re. W.A. Rodgers.

- Did he ever live in North Kildonan?
- Did he attend Lord Kitchener School?
- Did he have a brother and sister?

If this is the tall skinny bean-pole from Kildonan and my motorcycle buddy, I certainly would appreciate his address. Thanks John.

Winnipeg, Man. James T.F. Murray.

Jim: Sure appreciate your support and thanks. Answer to your questions are: One big 'yeah'! Bill asked for your address, which I was glad to provide. You'll find him at 3982 West 20th Ave. Vancouver, B.C. V6S 1G4. Glad to be of help and when you guys get together, down one for me! John

Dear John:

We have finally finished the book, which is named "The Royal Rifles in Hong Kong".

We expect to start delivery of the books around 15 November. There will only be 1,000 books printed. About 475 pages, 45 pictures, 12 maps, frontispiece etc., all done in a rifle green cover.

Also, as soon as the books are off the press, I will be sending you one of our first copies to be used by your Association. You may use the material in the book for your bulletins, however, we do not guarantee in any way that everything is correct as we have just taken the story as given to us by ex-POW's.

Bury, Quebec Colin Standish
Chairman, Book Committee
Quebec Branch

Colin: Many thanks for your letter and I look forward to its receipt. Readers interested please contact Colin at P.O. Box 66, Bury, Quebec, JOB 1J0. Regret delay in mail delivery prevented insertion of this in our last issue. John

Dear John: Re: "Desperate Siege"

Ted Ferguson

In both on Open Line TV and Radio show to promote the sale of his Book, Ted Ferguson was congratulated and taken to task for inaccuracies.

It was pointed out to him that we do not consider ourselves (at this date) to be either Winnipeg Grenadiers or Royal Rifles, but Hongkong Veterans and, as such, we were disappointed that little was mentioned of our Eastern Comrades.

He regretted this but said, as he was living in the West, most of his interviewing was done there.

Vancouver, B.C.

Bill Laidlaw

Bill: Can't agree more with you. As for the inaccuracies, I know! I know! He even went so far as to present my wife, Elsa, and my maternal parent with an ancestry they knew nothing about! All in all, it was better than usual. What displeased me was the harping on the fact that "C" Force was ill-trained and ill-equipped. To my mind, in spite of these shortcomings, they gave a damnsight better account than the Regulars! John.

Dear Editor:

Please send me price etc., of the magazine and information about the Hongkong Veterans Association of Canada. Interested in inviting them to our meetings in Bellingham, Wash.

Our Fourth Corner Chapter of Ex-Prisoners of War, meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the G.P. Building at Chestnut and Central Avenue (old part of Bellingham).

Would really like to get acquainted with you people.

Bellingham, Wash. Cdr. Howard W. Pope
U.S.A. 4th Corner Chaptr.

Howard: Have advised our Secretary on your request. Thank you for your interest. We were there at your Inauguration in May 1980, in the persons of Mr and Mrs. W. Laidlaw. Trust you have established contact with the B.C. Branch of the Association, and hope to see you. John

MORE HITHER AND YON WITH FONZ

Received the Summer 1980 edition of Ontario Branch's Hongkong Veterans News, and a paragraph on Page 3 caught the eye.

Although, in all modesty, I know that I am rarely wrong, it now appears that in that particular instance, I was, and am, unquestionably and definitely NOT wrong, and that the Vote of Confidence extended so whole-heartedly to me recently, was totally justified. Thanks a lot, gang! It makes one feel proud yet humble.

It is our practice to acknowledge all "Letters to the Editor" by publishing them in the Roll Call. We have received one, however, which we feel, in the interests of all concerned, we should withhold publication for the first ever time. Instead, we acknowledge as follows

Dear Sir:

We thank you for your letter of 22 October 1980 which, in the light of the revelations offered in the preceding article (above), we feel now becomes embarrassingly ridiculous and therefore, its publication not desirable by you.

If our replying is being sought, we refer you to those famous 'last words' from Rhett Butler of "Gone with the Wind" fame.

Sincerely
JOHN (The Fonz)

Received two phone calls (local) within minutes of each other. The first from Art Bennett (S. Alta-Sask) seeking whereabouts of Paddy Dalzell (Winnipeg), and the second from Dunc Rankine (Kamloops) down here for hospitalization.

Both Art and Paddy were here awaiting to take-off on the Hongkong Pilgrimage.

Can't find your name on our mailing list, Art! Wassamarrer?

THE ROLL CALL: Sponsored by B.C. Branch, HK Veterans Assoc. of Canada.
Editor: John Fonseca
796 Adiron Ave. Coquitlam, B.C. V3J 4K2
In Vancouver Island, contact Secretary Lionel Speller, 3628 Saanich Road, Victoria, B.C. V8X 1X3

"LEST WE FORGET"

It is with deepest and profoundest regrets that we report the passing of the following friends and comrades since our last issue. We offer our sincerest condolences to their families and friends.

BERASKEWICH, Alex	Manitoba
BROADFOOT, Bert	B. C.
CAMERON, Harry	Manitoba
LABILLOIS, Edgar	Quebec
McIVER, Don	Quebec
PAPPAS, W.	U.S.A.
WALL, Fred	Quebec

"At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them."

CAMP 3-D ROSTER - GROUP 6

The following, from both Grenadiers and Rifles are names listed under Group 6 at Camp 3-D, by the Japanese:

Marshall, R.T.	McWhirter, H.
Murchie, R.	McMillan, J.
Cote, E.R.	Vincent, C.
Hartery, E.	Dempsey, D.
Boudreau, J.G.	Smith, R.A.
Stepanchuk, N.	MacDonell, G.S.R.
Irvine, J.B.	Laing, J.J.
Holdstock, H.	Batlay, A.
McCorkell, H.G.	Alden, A.
Millar, J.H.	Flowers, A.
Ferrigan, J.T.	Dobb, W.
Inche, K.B.	**Munn, A.H.
Lester, W.B.	Jackson, J.
Daigle, E.J.	Birss, S.
Henderson, W.C.	Dame, F.
Trahan, A.	Hendry, D.
Henderson, C.	Jessie, B.
Poirier, P.J.	MacIntyre, A.
Smith, R.A.	Rollick, P.
Gerrard, A.	Halbert, J.
Bevan, C.F.	Maruschuk, J.
Ross, D.	Query, F.
Boudreau, A.	Downey, J.
Landry, J.	Matheson, J.C.
Ross, L.	Toews, E.

Nicholson, W.C.

** Not sure about Munn, A.H. Could be he was in Group 9. Anyway, he appears to be the extra man over the 50 mark which was normal complement.

NOW IT CAN BE TOLD

Met Jim (YAHOO) Murray at our Meeting and over lunch he tells this story.

Whilst on guard duty over Nazi POWs in Kingston, Jamaica, Jim was being increasingly irritated by one Nazi POW who, after affixing a swastika flag on to a fence post, was wont to march up to it every which morning and give it the 'Heil Hitler' salute complete with clicking heels.

On this particular morning, with Jim feeling out of sorts, the usual ritual was performed, but with more than usual gusto. And this proved to be the last dam straw!

Jim cocked his rifle and let fly at close quarters, blowing the offending swastika as well as the fence post to hellangone and causing the Nazi to seek shelter in the smokehouse with undignified and incredible speed.

Hauled before his C.O. for unlawful use and destruction of government property, Jim spent the following 28 days on K.P. duty and, in addition, was billed for cost of one round, .303 rifle ammunition.

Jim was however, consoled by the fact that neither flag nor that POW ever appeared in that section of the compound again.

Jim concluded with, given the same circumstances, he'd do it all over again. Only this time, he'd add a hole to that portion of the offender's anatomy where only one existed before! He still remembers the 182,427 spuds he'd peeled during those 28 days KP.

Re the insert in Letter to the Editor from Mrs Helen Martyn (Page 4). It happened in Winnipeg at the North Star back in 1979. There was a happy group, indulging in an enjoyable gab-fest, which included Helen and Tiny, Ernie Hodgkinson, Bill and Bev Laidlaw, the late Ernie and Janet Coulson, Jack Hodgkinson and yours truly, during which a number of the most popular of bottles were rendered defunct.

Tiny rose to go to his room to obtain replenishment from his secret stock, and wandered out and down the corridor. He was back almost immediately to ask Helen for the room key. Helen, without

breaking stride in her flow of conversation, said: Look in your blazer pocket."

Tiny looked, but, no room key!! A frantic search ensued, of the contents of Helen's purse, a repeat going through all of Tiny's pockets and still no key.

Finally, we decided to look through the pockets of the pile of look-alike blazers, complete with HK badges and lapel buttons, lying on my bed and, of course, the key had to be discovered in MY pocket!

Helen, to this day I don't know whether I feel guilty, embarrassed, the victim of circumstances or something!

A CANADIAN TRIBUTE

We shall remember the friendship that was ours with all the Portuguese boys, members of the Hongkong Defence Corps. They had much in common with us, on the playing fields as well as in the entertainment line. They worked with us in a spirit that was admired as well as appreciated.

* * * * *

It is really a pleasure
To sit here at my ease
And pen a little picture
Of the friendly Portuguese.

It really should be easy
They don't know how to hate
Their ways are very friendly
They have such kindly traits.

They fought upon the hilltops
Some died, but not in vain
For here their kindred brethren
Keep immortal their good name.

They're an asset to the island
And command all due respect
For in every public project
You'll find them there on deck.

And here behind the wires
You'll know them by their smile
From them one gets a lesson
How to face the weary mile.

And so it is a pleasure
While I sit here at my ease
To say we'll all remember
The friendly Portuguese.

S/Sgt Harry MacNaughton
Issa two-way street, Friend, at's why
I bring my family here in '57. JOHN

B.C. BRANCH NEWS LETTER

Bill Laidlaw is back in our Executive, taking over from retiring Gerry Gerard, as Vice-President. Congratulations and welcome back, Bill!

Lovely letters received from Amy Trist (U.K.), Martha Adams and Maude Keenan (both from Winnipeg). Martha advises Fred is holding his own at Deer Lodge. Maude underwent a 5th operation on her hip and is temporarily confined to a wheel-chair. She hopes to be back on her feet soon. Also a call from Reggie Leach (Burns Lake) reporting loss of his mother (92) early October. Our sincere condolences to you, Reg. All send their greetings and best wishes to the boys.

New members being welcomed to our B.C. Branch are: Jim Murray (Saskatoon) and Bill Clarke (ex-Royal Navy, Malaya). Glad to have you aboard, fellers.

NOTE: The Annual Hongkong Veterans' Memorial Service will again be held on Christmas Day, 25 December, at the Cenotaph, Victoria, commencing 2:30 p.m. Please try your best to attend.

S.I.Q. It is with deep regret that we advise a number of our members are reported ailing - from minor, serious or critical illnesses. They include: Gord Sissons, Alfie Shayler, Ed Toews, Bill House, Tommy Marsh, Guy Stewart, Tiny Martyn, Dunc Rankine, Mrs Ross McGavin and Tom Mulvaney. We, not wishing to dwell on some deeply serious situations do, however, extend to all our deepest concern and best wishes for full recovery and strength to see it through, come what may.

OBIT: We regret to advise that Bert Broadfoot, reported seriously ill, died Saturday, 15 November at Campbell River. A party from Victoria will be journeying up for the interment. Our very deepest sympathies and condolences are offered to his family and friends.

Our next Reunion will be held in Vancouver sometime in April 1981. More and full details will be provided later, either by direct notices or, if time permits, in the Spring 1981 edition of the Roll Call.

Info: supplied by: Lionel Speller
Secretary.

N. ALBERTA-SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH

Annual Branch Christmas Party will be held in the Vimy Room, Montgomery Legion, December 20, at 7:30 p.m.

President's Meeting - which was held in Winnipeg Oct. 9-11, 1980, was a huge success, with all six branches represented and, of course, your National Council. While in Winnipeg your delegates attended the Annual Manitoba Branch Reunion. Our congratulations to that Branch on the success of that reunion and our sincere thanks for the kind hospitality shown us.

Scholarship Grants are again available, under same regulations. They are also applicable to students who are attending NAIT or SAIT in Edmonton and Calgary respectively. Applications to be sent to the Secretary not later than 15 December 1980.

Donations from the Branch include: \$100.00 each to Terry Fox Marathon of Hope and Edmonton Poppy Fund. With others forthcoming to our usual Funds. A donation of \$250.00 will be made to the Veterans' Home to purchase an exercise bicycle and help towards a film projector.

OBIT: All Veterans recognize the great friend and comrade we had in the late Dan MacDonald, as Minister of Veterans Affairs. A sympathy card from your Branch to Mrs MacDonald, at the time of his passing, was answered by a very nice Thank You card.

1981 National Convention - Calgary - September 9-12, 1981. Gus Bitzer, Convention Chairman, advises the Paliser Hotel has been booked for all functions relating to the convention. Room rates will be \$48.00 single and \$54.00 Double. Registration fees \$25.00 per person. Further information will be passed on as we receive it.

As this is the last news letter for 1980, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members and associates, for their co-operation during the past year, to those who submitted their dues, and last but by no means least, to those who made donations to the Branch.

A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous 1981.

NEWSLETTERS FROM BRANCHESONTARIO BRANCH - SEPTEMBER 1980

1980 Corn Roast was held at the Barlow Ranch, Gilford, Ont. with approx. 50 HK Veterans, wives, children and friends attending. The weather, sunny and hot, was just perfect. Thanks to Ted and Odi for the superb preparations of this great feast and for the use of their home. Also, thanks to Buck Walker for supplying the soft drinks.

Toronto Visitors: Bob Boudreau and his daughter arrived for a short visit from Glen Evans, N.B. Art Munn and his wife, Donna, arrived in Toronto for a holiday, from St. James, Man. Art was so impressed with our Branch that he immediately became a member. Both Art and Bert Delbridge are members of the Ontario Branch.

Publication: The next issue of our Publication will be out to our members by the end of this month, September '80.

Q-M Branch Reunion: George Soper, V/P, his wife and 20 other Ontario Branch members and their wives attended. Over 100 HK Vets paraded. Brig-Gen. Jack Price led the parade and placed a wreath at the Cenotaph. Also, George Soper, our V/Pres., layed a wreath on behalf of the Ontario Branch. Congratulations to the newly elected Executive of the Q-M Branch: President-Lawrence Rattie; V/President- Bob Boudreau.

MANITOBA BRANCH - Rec'd 25 Sept. 1980

President's Corner : Now that the summer is near its end and our Fall Meetings are to start we welcome you all to turn out; our last meeting had a total of 22 in attendance and our September 2nd meeting should have more than that with holidays finished and everyone looking forward to the Reunion in October.

We now have 129 paid up members and would like to see more of you take an interest in the Branch. I extend a personal invitation to all out of town Hongkongers. Come on out and meet them and renew acquaintances.

OBITS: C.L. Johnson and Harry Cameron both of Winnipeg and Alex Beraskewich of Thunder Bay.

Harry Atkinson, Sec/Treas

QUEBEC-MARITIMES BRANCH - October '80

President's Message: My sincere thanks to the Branch Membership for the motion of confidence- rest assured I will continue to work, as I have for many years, in the best interest of our Members. I know we can count very heavily upon our elected and appointed officers to guide and support our common objectives.

1980-33rd Annual Q-M Branch Reunion: New Richmond, Que. A most successful event - attendance excellent - thanks to supporters from distant regions of Ontario and Manitoba. Our regional organisers merit very special recognition - arigato, Arnold Ross and your efficient committee.

Officers Elected and/or Appointed:

Hon. Pres: Brig. W.J. Home; Hon. V/Pres: Brig. J. Price, N/S: Kay Christie; Pres: L. Rattie, V/Pres: R. Boudreau and W. Henderson; Treasurer: Q. Mulrooney; Secretary: Danzil Firth. Committees: Membership: J.E.D. Smith; Bursaries: E. Denison; Immed. Past Pres: R. Cyr. OBITS: W. Pappas, Don McIver, Fred Wall, Edgar Labilloyis.

Membership Dues: Kindly forward dues to J.E.D. Smith, Box 107, Richmond, Que. JOB 2HO.

Communications: There have been too many "Lost Trails". Please forward change of address to Pres: L. Rattie, 508 Thorncrest Ave., Dorval, Que. H9P 2M6.

Bursaries: Four bursaries were awarded to H.K. Vets dependents in 1980. Congratulations to the following: Sheryl Irving (Matpédia, Que); Sharon McLaughlin (Campbellton, N.B.); Denise Petrie (Arvida, Que) and Claire Hachay (Sept Isles, Que.)

D. Firth, Secretary

TO ALL BRANCH SECRETARIES

One of our objectives is to include current and topical news from all Branches, in each edition of the Roll Call.

You are invited to submit such items, to reach our hands before the tenth day of the second month of each quarter, at the latest, to permit publication. Thank you. The Editor.

REUNIONS AND GET-TOGETHERSB.C. BRANCH (cont. from Page 1)

and duets. Not to be outdone, Walter Jenkins, Bob Warren and Jack Willis did likewise and then, George Murtaugh jumped into the fray with popular Irish songs, delivered with much ardor and gusto.

Last but not least, it was sure good to greet the gang from the Okanagan comprising Harry White, Maurice Lapointe, Gordie Clark and Ernie Buck, good old 'Mayor' Paul Luchka from Hope, and Joe Randle, down from Lanceville, VI, not to mention all those from the Mainland. It was, as usual, as good a show as anyone could ask for.

MANITOBA BRANCH ANNUAL REUNION

Two couples (as far as we can ascertain) from B.C. attended the Manitoba Branch Reunion in Winnipeg, Sept 11. They were the Bob Manchesters and Bill Laidlaw, and from reports received, it was 'one terrific gala' with hundreds sitting down to dinner.

VIPs from all branches were there and a feature of the celebrations was the display of a magnificent quilted bedspread, the work of the Ladies from the Auxiliary in 1942, with the Regimental "Flaming Grenade" emblem of the Winnipeg Grenadiers, together with the names of every member of the regiment who went to Hongkong in 1941, all hand embroidered, by the wives and mothers of those who able to participate.

This beautiful piece, under glass and on casters, had been borrowed for the occasion, and was received with great interest and deep appreciation. We have since been informed that the embroidered work of art has been installed at the Legion Hall, Pilot and Main, Winnipeg, permanently.

Also, that some of the ladies who'd worked on it, included: Edna Manchester, Amy Trist, Maude Keenan, Elsie Matthews, Ethel Breakwell, Marian Varcoe, Mrs. Hiscox and mothers of Grenadiers: Mrs. Kelso, Mrs. Philip (Bob and Don's), Mrs. Robinson (Roy's) and Mrs. Laidlaw (Bill's). One can only say that it was a 'labour of love, pride and prayer, with much tears thrown in.

Manitoba Branch (continued)

Amongst those present was the entire National Executive, headed by Nat'l President Lloyd Doull. The Council had held a Meeting prior to the Reunion, Sep 9-11, so it fitted perfect!

Another most enjoyable event was the Chinese Dinner (luncheon?) given in honour of out of province visitors, by the Manitoba Branch. We are told that the din created by rattling chopsticks was heard as far away as the windiest corner in the world - Portage and Main and the cold snap help immeasurably the appetites of all those present!

Our congratulations go to the Manitoba Branch Executive and membership for a Reunion which will long be remembered.

On a personal note: Your Editor is deeply grateful for the many greetings and good wishes, relayed through the good offices of Bill Laidlaw, from all the friends and comrades, and in reply, keep well, healthy and God Bless you and yours.

AMERICAN EXPOW IN AUBURN

The following from Lionel Speller:

* Aubrey Flegg and I went to Auburn on Fri. nite for the big parade on Sat. morning, Nov. 8th. We had a delicious steak dinner at Harold and Virginia Pages' on Fri. nite. Saturday morning, the American Legion at Auburn put on a scrambled egg and hot-cakes breakfast for the Veterans at 7 - 9 a.m.

We marched with the American EXPOWs in the parade. Flegg carried the Maple Leaf and I carried the HK flag.

After the parade we went to the Elks Hall for lunch and speeches. It was a full house. The Parade Marshal and guest speaker, Capt. Donald K. Ross, Medal of Honour, and I, both received standing ovations. There were 14 speeches altogether. I sat next to Mayor Kersey at the head table, as Bob's representative.

It had rained all Fri. and Saturday. But thanks to prayers, it stopped for the hour and half for the parade and started again 5 mins after it was over. Lucky!"

Excerpts from text of Eulogy to the late Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald by The Prime Minister of Canada, The Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau, at the internment.

"It is not without a lingering sense of shock that I rise today to speak of my friend and colleague, the Honourable Daniel Joseph MacDonald. I knew he had been ill. I knew his illness was serious. But I firmly believed that his body would submit once again to the great strength of his spirit, as it had so often in the past.

Our sense of loss reflects our admiration, respect and affection for him, and reflects as well our strong awareness that he had so much potential for the further service of his fellow man.

In the official documents of his province and his country, Dan is identified as a former member of the Legislature of Prince Edward Island, a former Minister of Agriculture and Forestry in the government of this province, a Member of Parliament, a member of the Privy Council, the Minister of Veterans Affairs in the Government of Canada.

That list of titles speaks of a life of remarkable accomplishment. But I always sensed that he himself felt happier when he was described in ways which to him were more important: a devoted husband, father and grandfather, a good soldier, a good farmer, a good man, a public servant, a true and loyal friend.

He was all of those things; and for that reason I have come today not so much to mourn his death as to celebrate his life.

There is much that could be said in praise of his life. There is the example he gave to all Canadians of courage in the face of adversity, an example of successful determination to overcome physical limitations.

Dan scaled many heights in a lifetime of hard work and achievement, and it was always with a view to fixing something, whether it was improving the quality of education in Bothwell, or improving the farmer's life in P.E.I., or contributing to the better health and security of veterans and their families throughout Canada.

A few months ago, in his last parliamentary achievement, he saw through to completion a bill which provides improved pensions and allowances for veterans and their families. That bill meant a great deal to Dan. Serving Canada's veterans was not just a job to him, not just an official responsibility. It was a passionate commitment, in which he became totally and sometimes emotionally involved.

He was, in my judgment and that of many others, the best minister of veterans affairs Canada ever had.

For that reason he was widely respected not only by members of the Royal Canadian Legion and other veterans' organizations, but by his colleagues of all political parties in the House of Commons, and by the public at large. He was known as a man who was true to himself, true to his friends and to those he served, true as well to the highest ideals of public service.

For all that, he was a man without pretense, never seeking to appear to be anything but what he was - a man who was proud of his farm, proud of his family, proud of his island and his country.

Today we are gathered as a community of believers, praying with unassailable confidence that God will welcome Dan to his eternal home, after a life well spent in serving others with generosity and constancy.

May God welcome the soul of this warrior; and, when He weighs Dan's life in the balance, may He add to Dan's side of the scale a little bit of the land he loved so much."