



RCAF IN TRAIN-BUSTING ORGY

CANADIAN UNITS HELP IN RECORD OPERATION

City of Oshawa Spits Shoot Up 13 Trains In Low-Level Offensive Sweeps North-West of Paris

NAZI TRANSPORT MACHINE BATTERED

Fighters and fighter-bombers of the TAF and ADGB joined forces Sunday to make the war's biggest attack of its kind on the Nazis' overloaded and battered war transport machine in Northern France, Belgium and Holland.

City of Oshawa Spitfires led the RCAF units into the day's big offensive, shooting up 13 trains in the area north-west of Paris. RCAF Spits damaged 18 trains during the operations conducted by hundreds of Allied aircraft which swept out across the Channel under a murky overcast to make their deadly low-level attacks.

Good Prang

Pilots described their target as a "blunder" on their return from blasting the rail, road and river communications with machine gun and cannon fire.

Final results were not announced but it was disclosed that a minimum of 35 military supply trains, 33 locomotives (five of which were seen to blow up), a large number of military lorries, staff cars, tugs, barges, flak towers and other military installations had been attacked with excellent results.

Pilots returned with unanimous reports of devastation. "We left the train, loaded with cars and tanks, on fire from end to end."

"We saw the engine blow up in a cloud of steam." "We strafed troop-carrying lorries and saw German soldiers running for their lives," were typical reports.

Share Six

S/L Freddy Green, DFC, Toronto, with F/L Don Hayworth, Regina, and F/O M. H. Sharun, shared six damaged trains, F/O A. R. McFadden, Springdale, Alta., and F/O G. A. Borland, Guelph, damaged three between them. F/O D. R. Cuthbertson, Bradford, Ont., and F/L R. D. Forbes-Roberts, Vancouver, and W/O Ron McRae, Spencerville, Ont., shared four other trains damaged. They are members of the City of Oshawa squadron.

S/L W. A. Conrad, DFC, Richmond, Ont., and his Red Indian squadron shot up four trains, F/O W. R. Cook, Clinton, Ont., and P/O Bill Wardfield, New York City, displayed team work and co-operation in attacking their train target. Wardfield chose a flak car in the centre and when another flak car at the rear of the string opened up he went around again to take care of this concentration of fire, leaving Cook free to damage the locomotive.

F/L Paul Johnson, San Diego,

FIVE MORE

The train-busting RCAF City of Oshawa squadron added five more locomotives to their score late Monday afternoon to make a total of nine for the day as well as four aircraft and a grand total of 24 trains shot up during the past two days.

It was the third such operation of the day. The last attack was led by S/L Freddie Green, DFC, Toronto, who with five of his pilots went into the Cherbourg peninsula. They shot up four goods trains and one oil train. Steam was seen pouring out of the engine and flames and smoke emerging from the two oil cars.

S/L Walter Conrad, DFC, and a section of his Red Indian squadron attacked two trains later in the evening, 20 miles west of Paris. One was a troop train, and as the Canadians swept in the Germans in the last four coaches began shooting. The pilots returned and directed cannon and machine gun fire in reply.

Cal., took on one train by himself and shared two more damaged with F/O Gordon Smith, Vancouver, and F/L Johnny Drope, Regina. Johnson was hit by flak in the radiator of his Spitfire but returned safely.

Work Done

By the time the RCAF Wolf squadron swept into the area, most of the trains had been taken care of. But F/O Harry Boyle, Saskatoon, and F/L M. J. Jordan, Edmonton, found one sitting outside a station and after they finished their attack

(Continued on page 6, col. 5.)

LEADER VISITS GROUP



During his recent visit to this country Canada's Premier, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King, spent some time looking over the RCAF Bomber Group. He is shown shaking hands with P/O Joe Nowazek, Vancouver. In the background is Nowazek's pilot, F/L Eddy Alberts, Melville, Sask.

(Official RCAF Photograph.)

Sub Attackers Head Long Award Roster

Pilot Earns DSO, Navigator DFC for Double U-Boat Battle

For successful attacks against two U-boats in March, carried out in spite of stiff resistance, F/L Harold F. Kerrigan, DFC, pilot, Goderich, Ont., is awarded an immediate DSO, and F/O Paul R. Rackham, Bahamas and Picton, NS, his navigator, receives an immediate DFC, topping a list of 55 awards to RCAF fliers announced in the "London Gazette."

Rackham was wounded in the head, body and leg, but although suffering acutely stayed at his post and assisted in directing the pilot back to base. The 53 other awards include 20 immediate DFCs; one immediate DFM; six non-immediate bars to DFCs; 25 non-immediate DFCs and one non-immediate DFM.

Wincoos Goned

Among those receiving immediate DFCs are three leaders in RCAF Bomber Group squadrons. They are W/C R. S. Turnbull, AFC, DFM; W/C D. T. French and W/C W. Pleasance.

Two RAF fliers, both Canadian born, F/L Oliver L. S. Philpot, DFC, and F/L Howard D. Wardle, have been awarded the Military Cross, an unusual award for Air Force personnel.

In its battle with the first submarine Kerrigan's aircraft encountered intense and accurate anti-aircraft fire. The plane was hit and one engine set on fire, the citation states. Kerrigan pressed home his attack and the explosions of his depth charges completely enveloped the submarine. "Almost immediately the second submarine was sighted," (Continued on page 6, col. 2)

Combined Denmark Sweep Includes Canuck, RAF Pilots

In the first combined operation of its type, two Mosquitoes of the RCAF City of Edmonton Squadron of ADGB led eight RAF Mustang fighters from a nearby airfield Monday afternoon in a sweep over Denmark as a joint force which accounted for two large German troop transports over Aalborg.

One of the twin-engine enemy aircraft fell to the guns of F/L J. B. "Butch" Kerr, Trenton, Ont., and his navigator, F/O P. Clark, Twickenham, Middlesex. They also seriously damaged the other troop transport, and it was finished off by the guns of the Mustang fighters to crash and explode on the ground.

"The fighters did a wonderful job and if they had not been on their toes I don't think we would have got back," F/L Kerr said. "One Me109 jumped up just as I was closing in to attack the Hun transport. One of the Mustangs went after it. We carried on. We blew the transport with a long burst and turned on the other. Two Mustangs followed us right in. I saw our strikes on the Naz, and broke off to turn. The fighters finished it and he was on fire as he went down and crashed. The Me disappeared during the action."

RCAF Bomber Forces Lash at French Coast

Two Separate Areas Pin-Pointed by Group In Saturday Morning Attacks

PILOTS DESCRIBE "BOMBING EXERCISE"

In the dark hours of Saturday morning fair-sized forces from RCAF Bomber Group dented French coastal defences in two places. Each force was all-Canadian apart from the Pathfinders, and all aircraft returned to Britain safely.

Easy Show

FOUR JERRIES AS SIDELINES

Oshawa Squadron Scores On Strafing Job Near Rouen

Six Spitfires of the City of Oshawa squadron destroyed four enemy planes and damaged another east of Rouen as they took part in the large-scale strafing operations on Monday. Three of the planes were FW190s and the fourth was a Me109. The damaged was a FW190.

F/O W. H. Palmer, Kamloops, BC, returned with a piece of enemy parapet as a souvenir. He closed in to 20 yards to finish off a FW, and as it exploded debris flew all over the Spit's cockpit. The parapet lodged in the rad.

F/L W. F. Mason, Smith Falls, Ont., destroyed the Me109 by worrying the pilot until he crashed. Mason had used up all his ammunition except for a few machine gun rounds, shooting up trains. F/L G. R. Patterson and F/L A. R. McFadden, Springlake, Alta., accounted for the other two machines destroyed.

"Just like a bombing exercise" was how F/S Steven Evancio, Warman, Sask., described his raid. "We ran in over the target indicators one after another, while hundreds of bomb bursts dotted the area. We should have wiped our objective off the map," Evancio is a Goose squadron bomber.

F/L J. R. Logan, Morinville, Alta., Thunderbird pilot, reported no opposition. "We evidently reached the target early," he added, "for we had to circle it twice before we saw the target indicators. When we did see them, we bombed right in their centre, and a large yellow explosion proved we had hit something vital."

"It was a lovely sight to see the bomb-bursts criss-crossing the target in quick succession," remarked F/O Jack McKinley, Whitewater, Alta., Goose bomb aimer.

Three squadron commanders led their units. They were W/C J. D. Pattison, DFC, Toronto, of the Bisons; W/C Joe Lecomte, Acton Vale, Que., of the Alouettes; and W/C D. S. Jacobs, DFC, Toronto, of the Goose squadron.

GUNNERY TEST HUGE SUCCESS

Non-Operational Fighter Puts R Depot on Scoreboard

They're making room on the squadron scoreboard this week for an RCAF Repair and Salvage Depot, credited with two FW190s destroyed. The responsible pilot is F/O H. W. "Bud" Bowker, Granby, Que., currently on an operational rest.

Monday morning Bowker took up a repaired Spitfire, ostensibly for an air-firing test over the Channel. He had just two cannon and four machine-guns to test. About 25 miles off St. Valery he spotted a pair of Focke Wulfs, flying a tight formation at wave-top level tore into them and shot one down. When the first Jerry blew up the second was damaged by debris. Bowker quickly finished off Jerry number two and came home. His report: "The air test was a complete success."

BASKING BOCHES STUNG AT LUNCH

With the RCAF in Italy—German officers, comfortably settled in a palatial waterside hotel in Yugoslavia, which they had seized as a headquarters, were given a rude shock by two surprise attacks of Spitfire bombers of the Coastal Air Force.

When they made their first attack, the Spitfire pilots saw the Germans rush out of the hotel and dive into slit trenches, but some of the bombs dropped among the trenches.

P/O William Ritchie, Montreal, revealed that the RAF were unable enough to choose the luncheon hour in which to bomb and strafe the Germans.

"The hotel was really a beautiful looking building. Those Jerries must have been enjoying all home comforts. But you ought to see it now. Our CO put one bomb right through the front door," said Ritchie.

Scherf Gets Five on Holiday Trip

Five enemy aircraft shot down in one flight from Britain to Germany was the mark hung up a week ago by S/L Charlie "Last Trip" Scherf, DFC and Bar, Glen Innis, NSW, Australia, who flew with the RCAF City of Edmonton squadron of ADGB. In addition to the five shot down, he damaged a He.111 on the ground and a Dornier 18 flying boat at its moorings. He has destroyed 143 aircraft in the air to date.



Scherf, who is now technically off operational flying, took another of his holiday trips with his old Canadian squadron between spells of ground duty. He went deep into the Baltic seaboard of Germany in the neighbourhood of Kubitzer Bay and Stettin to claim his victims.

All the havoc among the Luftwaffe was over in little more

than 15 minutes. Then, with his observer, F/L Colin Finlayson, DFC, Victoria, he flew his Mosquito back to England safely despite difficulties caused by flak damage and a collision with a flock of birds in the Heligoland Bight. At base, he celebrated with a game of billiards.

Telling his story, Scherf said: "We caught a He.111 in the air over the Baltic first of all and put him down. Then a quarter of an hour later we ran into a whole collection of German aircraft. It was quite incredible. A FW190 came up as if he was going to attack but we put him down too. He was the first of four Germans we destroyed in five minutes—if you don't count a Heinkel we damaged on the deck."

Payable Discharge Allowance Boosted

OTTAWA — (CP) — Allowances payable discharged members of the armed forces will be increased by between \$16,000 and \$18,000 monthly effective June 1, it has been announced by Pensions Minister MacKenzie.

The increase was authorised by an Order-in-Council tabled by the Minister with two other Orders dealing with increases of certain pensions payable dependents and pensions for widows of veterans of the First Great War.

Changes

Under the changes in the post-discharge re-establishment Order, allowances for discharged members of the forces continuing their education or taking vocational education will be \$60 for a single man and \$80 monthly for a man and wife. At present the allowance is \$44.20 monthly for a single man and \$62.40 for a married man.

For those awaiting returns from a private enterprise, like a small business or farm, for those fit and available for work but lacking suitable employment and for those temporarily incapacitated, the allowances

will be \$50 and \$70 monthly for a single and married man respectively.

Dependents Paid

In addition, in all cases allowances have been and will be paid for dependent children and certain other dependents on approximately the same basis as has been paid by the Dependents' Allowance Board during the period in service.

Under the second Order, the widow or wife of a pensioned First Great War veteran may receive a pension or allowance if married to said pensioned veteran before May 1, 1944. Allowances will be paid for children from such marriages born before the same date.

Before the passing of the present Order, veterans' widows could not receive pensions if they had been married after January 1, 1930, and the wife of a disability pensioner was not eligible for an allowance if the marriage occurred after May 1, 1933.

The third Order is effective immediately and increases the pension for a dependent parent from \$15 to \$30 monthly.

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EDITORIAL

[This is another in the series of editorials written for WINGS ABROAD by public relations officers in the field. This one is contributed by P/O J. M. Caldwell, attached to RCAF Bomber Group.]

UNSUNG

No one will deny that aircrew deserve all the credit they now receive. The daring and spectacular nature of their work appeals to the imagination of men and women everywhere. The value of their work is immeasurable. It is natural newspaper copy—and so their stories are spread across every front page.

But it is significant that every thoughtful member of aircrew will remind you, that if it were not for the swell job his ground maintenance crew was doing, none of his successes would have been made possible. Too few of us stop to consider that fact—and most certainly groundcrew do not get a break in the news anywhere in proportion to the extent to which their preparatory work ensures the success of a mission.

There are those who will argue that, after all, there is a big difference between raking your life in aircrew and just doing a routine job on the ground. Those of you who have been on operational stations know fully well how risky some of these ground tasks can be—loading and testing guns, tuning up motors, gassing up bombers—just to mention a few. Records bear silent but effective testimony to the ever present element of danger.

Have you ever considered what it means, in terms of mental strain, to realize that a minor slip in the fastening of a wire, or a bolt, may mean the lives of several men and the failure of an operation? Make no mistake about it, most groundcrew men are very conscientious about their work—they have to be or they will not last. When operations are under full pressure they have to work long hours quickly and accurately—sometimes having to carry on in the pouring rain, slogging through the mud of a dispersal area. It is a job demanding the very best in men—carelessness cannot be afforded.

Again, those of you who know, will testify to the almost "brotherly" bond which exists between groundcrew, the pilot, and the aircrew. Often, near the end of a tour, this bond becomes so strong that the groundcrew are on pins and needles until they see a safe return chalked up on the squadron crew board. They are the first to rejoice at success—the first to mourn in loss. There is a very great responsibility—and the wear and tear on their nerves cannot be measured.

The fact remains, however, that, try as we might, this drama behind the scenes—and it is drama—does not lend itself to front-page stories. Yet where would aircrew be without their careful and accurate preparations? Where would the whole campaign of Bomber and Fighter Commands be if we could not rely on the scores of faithful and conscientious groundcrews to do their job well? It is of course true that considerable captains give full credit where credit is due. When a crew finishes a tour it is the usual practice to invite them to a party to celebrate the occasion in the traditional Air Force manner.

Groundcrew everywhere should be made aware that, although their share of publicity may be less than that of aircrew, they are far from being forgotten. It is to be sincerely hoped that when this war is won, and the exploits of the Royal Canadian Air Force are recorded in history, full credit will be given, by name, to those faithful veterans behind the blueprint, the spanner and the desk.

Aircrew, above all, are anxious that this be so!

Rehabilitation

Do You Want to go on the Land?

This is the eighth of a series of official articles on the Canadian rehabilitation program for Service personnel. The ninth will appear next week.

Q. Has the Government any plan for settling ex-service personnel on the land after this war?

A. Yes. The Veterans Land Act provides for three types of establishments, namely:

- (1) Full-time farming for veterans who have practical farming experience.
- (2) Small holdings within reach of place of work, but outside high taxation areas, for veterans engaged in industrial or other employment.
- (3) Small holdings located near fishing areas for experienced commercial fishermen.

Q. Who are eligible for this assistance?

A. Generally those who were ordinarily resident in Canada at the time of enlistment and who have been on active service. If service has been in Canada only a minimum of twelve months' service is required. Anybody who has served overseas is eligible as well as any ex-service man in receipt of a disability pension who has been honourably discharged or permitted honourably to resign.

Q. What are two of the important principles of this Act?

A. That the veteran must be suited to the type of settlement undertaking he engages in and that he should not be burdened with an overwhelming debt. The State gives him a substantial grant or gift, conditional only on fulfillment of his contract for ten years after he takes over.

Q. What financial assistance is available for full-time farming?

A. The State will finance the purchase of full-time farming land and buildings up to \$4,800 and livestock and farm equipment up to \$1,200. The veteran is required to repay 10 per cent of the cost of the land and buildings in cash at the time of taking over, plus two-thirds of the cost of the land and buildings, with interest at 3 1/2 per cent per annum. In cases in which the maximum assistance of \$6,000 is given (\$4,800-\$1,200) the veteran is required to repay \$480 in cash and \$3,200 on a long-term basis in equal annual instalments including interest. His conditional grant by the State, therefore is \$2,320 (\$6,000 less \$3,680=\$2,320) which represents the full cost to the State of the livestock and equipment purchased for him, plus \$1,120 of the cost of the land and buildings.

Q. What if the land and buildings of the farm which I select cost more than \$4,800 and the cost of livestock and equipment is above the \$1,200 set out in the Act?

A. You must pay any excess above these two figures in cash along with the \$480 down payment at the time you make application for assistance.

Q. Is anybody eligible to go on a farm?

A. No. To engage in full-time farming a veteran must have had practical farming experience.

Q. What financial assistance is available for establishment on small holdings?

A. Exactly the same as for full-time farming, except that, in the case of small holdings for urban workers, it is estimated that the farming equipment required to operate the holdings

will be much less than for full-time farming and will not ordinarily exceed \$500 to \$600. In the case of commercial fishermen, commercial fishing equipment up to \$1,200 may be supplied in place of farm equipment and livestock.

Q. Can two commercial fishermen go together as partners and obtain up to \$1,200 for commercial fishing equipment?

A. Yes, provided both are ex-servicemen and qualify for commercial fishing.

Q. Must I take advantage of the Veterans Land Act within a specified period after discharge?

A. No. It is the intention to carry on establishment over a number of years so that those who wish to take advantage of the Act will have ample opportunity to do so.

Q. Should I try to save money in addition to that which is required to meet the down payment on land and buildings?

A. Yes, by all means, especially if you intend to engage in full-time farming. Funds will be required for seed and feed and other items that must be met, especially during the first year of establishment.

Q. Can I sell my farm or smallholding and benefit by the Government grant if I decide to change my plans?

A. No. The Act forbids the sale or other disposition of the property by the veteran until he has carried out the terms of his contract for ten years, or has paid off the full cost to the Government of the land, improvements and chattels purchased for him.

Q. If I should die, what happens to my interest in the property?

A. It passes to your heirs.

Q. If I already own a farm, can I obtain advances to pay off a mortgage, make improvements, or to purchase livestock and farm equipment?

A. Yes. Up to \$3,200 may be advanced for these purposes, provided the total does not exceed 60 per cent of the value of the land and buildings as established by the Director of the Veterans Land Act. Advances for the purchase of livestock and farm equipment on mortgage security may not exceed \$2,500 or 50 per cent of the value of the land and buildings.

Q. Where do I make application?

A. Regional offices have been set up in every province and applications should be made to your nearest Regional Office.

Q. Do I have to take land which the Government select for me?

A. No. You are at perfect liberty to select your own land. The only condition is that you must be able to satisfy the Director of the Veterans Land Act that it offers a reasonable opportunity for your successful establishment. Properties are now being purchased and held from which a selection may be made, if desired, when demobilization takes place, but no veteran will be limited to selection from farms already on hand.

Q. Can I make application while still serving?

A. No. You must be discharged from service before an application can be considered.

(The next instalment deals with treatment regulations.)

WEDDINGS

BRANDY-MITCHELL.—LAC Seaford Brandy, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Walter Brandy, Avella, Pa., photographer with the RCAF, and Miss Elisha Mary Mitchell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Mitchell, Balham, London, were married recently at the Church of the Ascension, Balham Hill, London. G/C Lightbourn conducted the marriage ceremony.

MCINTYRE — STEINHOFF.—F/L John Alexander McIntyre, Perth, Lanark, Ont., and N/S Beatrice Jean Steinhoff, St. Thomas, Ont., were married recently at an ancient church in northern England. Both are RCAF personnel with Canadian Bomber Group.

The bride was attended by S/O Olive Jackson Wilson, Saskatoon, and was given in marriage by her cousin, F/L D. A. McAlpine, Toronto. S/L M. W. Hicks, Picton, Ont., was best man. S/L C. Clarke, Calgary, chaplain, assisted in the marriage ceremony.

EX-MINER HELPS TO PUNCH BIBLE

Two hundred and ten pounds of hardrock miner, LAC Walter L. "Tiny" Reeve, Timmins, Ont., is known to members on a RCAF airfield in Britain as "assistant chaplain."

He is the personal MT driver to S/L Herbert Ashford, MBE, Calgary, airfield padre. When the occasion arises, he also happily acts as usher at the opera services and booms out a baritone when the hymn-singing sags. If his services are extended to include that of bodyguard, he would undoubtedly respond with alacrity. He spends his spare moments endlessly practising and cleaning his Sten gun.

"He's the best driver I ever had, but five or six services on a Sunday seem to get him down a little," remarked S/L Aahford. "He's a big help in the singing. In tune or out, you can hear him above everyone else."

"Tiny" used to operate a mucking machine in the Hollinger Mines before enlisting. He also wheeled a heavy truck at the Farnour Mines before becoming a mole at the Hollinger.

"There's one difference in my present driving. I don't give vent to my feelings when we get stuck in a mudhole," he grinned. "He is looking forward to driving the padre on the second front opens. "There's sure to be excitement where he goes. I used to get in quite a few scraps. I never lost any either," he said.

RE-UNION

F/Os Jack and Bill McKinley, brothers from Widewater, Alta., at long last have managed to get together on the same operational squadron. Jack is a bomb-aimer and Bill a pilot, and now they fly for the Goose squadron. They enlisted together in January, 1942.

KILLED ON ACTIVE SERVICE.
 J. B. Eaton, F/O, Ottawa, Ont.; J. M. Healey, W/O, Greenwich, Conn.; C. L. Munzell, F/O, Vancouver, B.C.; J. Sigurdson, F/O, Winnipeg, Man.; F. E. WIL, Sgt. Steam, Sask.; P. Zayets, Sgt., Winnipeg, Man.; E. T. Bell, W/O, Guelph, Ont.; J. G. Bradley, F/O, Winnipeg, Man.; J. M. Cooley, F/O, Toronto, Ont.; H. Eisey, S/L, Edmonton, Alta.; E. C. Finch, F/O, Winnipeg, Man.; J. K. Goodfellow, F/O, Toronto, Ont.; R. W. Taylor, W/O, St. Catharines, Ont.; Hamilton, F/O, Balcarres, Sask.; R. O. Herold, W/O, R. F. Hodges, Sgt., Kamuskokong, N.S.; D. Marking, F/O, Ottawa, Ont.; W. F. Penzance, F/O, London, Ont.; A. I. Sinclair, F/O, Goshen, Guyana, N.S.; J. C. Stewart, W/O, Winnipeg, Ont.; R. W. Taylor, W/O, St. Catharines, Ont.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING. NOW PRESUMED KILLED ON ACTIVE SERVICE.
 J. C. Eyrre, Sgt., Hendon, Sask. WOUNDED OR INJURED ON ACTIVE SERVICE.
 A. C. BOWEN, F/O, Ottawa, Ont.; P. J. Lalonde, F/O, Port Arthur, Ont. DIED OF WOUNDS OR INJURIES RECEIVED ON ACTIVE SERVICE.
 H. C. Campbell, F/O, Kamuskokong, Sask.; H. C. D. Ellis, Cpl., Mex., Gas.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING. NOW REPORTED PRISONER OF WAR.
 E. L. Cuertin, F/O, Penoka, Alta.; I. R. MacDonald, Sgt., Lourdes, N.S.; H. K. Scott, F/O, Edmonton, Alta. DIED OF WOUNDS OR INJURIES RECEIVED IN ACTION.
 T. L. Connolly, Sgt., Montreal, Que.

COMMISSIONED

- Pilots—J. M. Carswell, Westmount, Que.; C. Wilson, Knowlton, Que.; V. A. Rutherford, Vermilion Bay, Ont.; A. C. Emmet, Winnipeg, Que.; L. O. Van St. John, Windsor, Ont.; E. T. Woolsey, Dundas, Ont.; G. C. Boyd, Vaino, N.B.; J. G. Kelly, G. H. Egan, F/O, Montreal, Que.; W. G. Campbell, Pastor Rock, N.B.; E. J. Mann, Regina, D. E. Laufer, Colborne, Ont.; C. D. Brose, Mississauga, Ont.; M. Macdonald, Theford, Ont.; J. H. A. Lavalie, Montreal, W. B. Patrick, London, J. T. Hewitt, Orillia, Ont.; G. D. Black, Vancouver, B. C. Egan, Ottawa; H. B. Bnelgrove, Toronto; L. O. Simonson, Perintosh, Alta.; R. C. Duddy, Chipman, N.B.; J. J. Conner, Winnipeg, Ont.; A. J. James, James Island, B.C.; D. F. Robertson, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; W. J. Taylor, London, H. W. D. Price, Cambridge, Ont.; J. M. McConnell, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; B. G. Dowdell, Toronto; I. W. Gingrich, Kitchener, Ont.; A. B. Van St. John, Delta, Alta.; G. H. Herring, Weyburn, Sask.; D. W. McIvor, Rock Haven, Sask.; W. C. MacNeil, Vancouver; V. D. Poole, Wasagaming, Man.; N. J. Edmondson, Chicago, Ill.; D. D. McNeill, New Liskeard, Ont.; J. R. Bradley, Edmonton, W. Fernyough, Victoria, B. C. Mackintosh, Toronto, A. Short, Ottawa; D. B. Maddock, Shebrooke, Sask.; R. B. Hildley, Port Credit, Ont.; R. A. Rember, Cincinnati, Ohio; J. H. Thompson, Windsor, Ont.; C. B. Stewart, Carleton Place, Ont.; J. D. Windsor, La Riviere, Man.; F. A. W. Wilson, Fort York, Ont.; B. H. Scaman, Clarendon, Alta.; E. E. Phillips, Toronto; J. A. Yondette, Pembroke, Ont.; G. C. Adams, Craik, Sask.; J. H. O'Mara, Toronto; R. H. Wilson, Toronto; R. J. Evans, Chislehurst, Alta.; G. H. Thornburn, Little Gem, Alta.; F. P. Moore, Toronto; G. H. P. Ryan, Clements Point, Anna Co., N. S.; A. C. McRidge, Kingston, Ont.; O. E. Lanville, St. John, N.B.; D. O. Marshall, Calgary, B. C. H. Somers, England; W. Crews, Woodstock, Ont.; A. J. Headland, Ottawa; R. J. Cavanagh, Regina; B. R. Davis, Winnipeg; C. H. Bryce, Comiston, Ont.; J. H. Tetre, Selkirk, Man.; and Dumville, Ont.; W. A. Hurst, Lemberg, Sask.; M. H. Sims, Vancouver; W. W. Kasper, Leader, Sask.; R. O. Mansfield, Ottawa; A. L. Spruce, Flower Station, Ont.; R. Ender, Sask.; R. G. Macdonald, Calgary; J. D. Lanolis, Toronto; D. E. White, Inow, Sask.; J. H. Hawley, Regina; B. E. Smith, Humberston, Sask.; MacLeod, Regina; N. B. F. Johnson, Toronto; B. L. Peterson, Victoria; R. O. Beaune, Windsor; L. Papis, Toronto; T. T. Hudson, Toronto; D. O. Marshall, Calgary.

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Navigation Officers "B"—R. A. H. Allen, Vancouver, B.C.; T. C. Levine, Outremont, Que.

ALEXANDRIA FRIEND



Chatting with a Canuck airman is Albert Metzger, prosperous Alexandria hotelman. From his office in the downtown Cecil Hotel he keeps tab on Canadian activities and lends a helping hand whenever he can.

O. S. James, Kelvington, Sask.; G. M. Rice, Caldwell, Ont.; C. C. Weeks, Alberta, P.E.I.; J. L. A. Fote, Remouski, Quebec; R. H. MacLean, Toronto; J. Orlief, Emerson, Man.; B. Makenzie, Hamilton, Ont.; H. P. Hulce, Windsor, Ont.; W. G. Powell, Arran, Sask.; W. J. McKeague, Toronto; C. F. Forman, Geraldton, N.B.; R. Ender, Sask.; H. E. Holland, Scarborough Junction, Ont.; A. H. Kyle, Montreal; J. Spence, Verdun, Quebec; O. T. Greaves, Toronto; G. O. Philmer, Vancouver; E. J. Cunningham, Orillia, Ont.; M. J. Wright, Edmonton; D. C. McDonald, London, Ont.; O. Y. Lebl, Cacomna Riviere du Loup, Quebec; L. G. Collins, Springfield, Ont.; B. R. Bryan, Lockwood, Sask.; O. W. Taylor, Toronto; P. F. Smith, DFM, Chatham, Ont.; D. F. Pullman, Komoka, Ont.; F. R. Patterson, Verdun, Quebec; R. C. Roby, St. John, N.B.; P. W. Weaver, St. John, N.B.; O. Tinker, Victoria; F. C. Wood, Toronto; B. A. Robertson, Toronto; A. W. Dow, Canterbury, N.B.; M. H. Ball, Fort Frances, Ont.; and Winnipeg; D. K. McMillan, Kennedy, Sask.; J. P. De Lalla, Vancouver; L. V. Wilson, Guelph, Ont.; J. A. Lineham, Calgary; B. T. Brown, Vancouver; T. M. Leith, Edmonton; W. E. C. Murphy, Outremont, Quebec; B. E. Shaver, Westbona, Ont.; T. Clements, Vancouver.

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Non-flying List, Accountant Branch—W. W. Wilson, Winnipeg.
 Education (General) Branch—A. W. Lowe, Colburg, Ont.
 Engineer (Aircraft) Branch—R. L. Smith, Ottawa.
 Signals (Radar) Branch—B. B. Dines, Fleming, Sask.; B. W. Glendinning, Toronto; H. D. Griffiths, Wallaceburg, Ont.

CASUALTIES

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING. NOW PRESUMED KILLED IN ACTION.
 R. N. Cruik, F/S, Boundary Bay, B.C.; A. N. Lewis, F/S, Gladstone, Man.; G. A. Melnickoff, F/O, Knowlton, Que.; R. McNeil, F/S, New Aberdeen, N.S.; A. Nash, W/O, Barnia, Ont.; J. C. A. Patry, F/O, Montreal, Que.; H. G. Worthington, F/O, Winnipeg, Man.; R. C. Allan, F/O, Winnipeg, Man.; J. McK. Bradford, Sgt., Brasside, Ont.; W. H. Calder, W/O, Mayor's, Elm Creek, Man.; D. S. Milne, F/O, Montreal, Que.; E. R. Ferris, F/S, Hartell, Alta.; A. P. Hakala, P/O, Sioux Lookout, Ont.; T. P. Hall, F/O, Brantford, Ont.; J. Hooper, Sgt., Cayton, Sask.; L. M. Horahan, Sgt., Toronto, Ont.; J. C. A. Leherg, F/S, Dorval, Que.; J. P. Laurin, F/O, Shawinigan, Falls, Que.; S. W. Livingston, P/O, Winnipeg, Man.; H. G. MacNeil, Sgt., Matsui, B.C.; R. V. Millar, W/O, Elm Creek, Man.; D. S. Milne, F/O, Campbellford, Ont.; A. W. Nichols, BEM, P/O, Vancouver, B.C.; J. P. C. E. Victor, F/O, Montreal, Que.; D. S. Ritchie, Sgt., Carleton Place, N.B.

KILLED IN ACTION.
 C. A. Andrew, W/O, Toronto, Ont.; A. I. Greer, P/O, Toronto, Ont.; J. D. Morgan, F/S, Hamilton, Ont.; J. P. A. Rodrigue, W/O, Montreal, Que.; A. Stalker, W/O, Fort Francis, Ont.; G. E. Stringer, W/O, Toronto, Ont.

MISSING.
 A. Carlson, Sgt., Winnipeg, Man.; J. L. Donald, W/O, Grandview, Man.; J. M. W. Rowland, F/O, Lethbridge, Alta.; M. A. G. Fournier, F/S, Hull, Que.; F. Hartnett, F/O, Whitby, Ont.; W. Hawkins, W/O, Macam, Sask.; L. W. Hicks, F/S, Barington, Ill.; O. W. Hicks, Sgt., Kars, Ont.; H. N. Jackson, P/O, Millet, Alta.; P. Lahash, W/O, Jullien, Sask.; H. L. Lindo, DFC, Sgt., Kamuskokong, B.W.I.; J. Lindy, W/O, Kearney, N.J.; W. K. M. Love, W/O, Cox Co., Conn.; W. M. M. Manser, P/O, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; H. J. Miller, P/O, Marysville, N.B.; R. E. Pazel, F/O, Saskatchewan; J. A. Parker, P/O, Minnesota, Man.; B. W. Patten, W/O, Windsor, Ont.; H. H. Penzance, F/O, London, Ont.; L. T. Prosser, F/S, Penticton, B.C.; H. T. Raine, Sgt., Vancouver, B.C.; R. F. Sykes, W/O, Winnipeg, Man.; F. A. Taylor, F/O, Lambeth, Ont.; A. Wheeler, DFC, W/O, Walton-on-Thames, England; J. Achim, F/O, Rainy River, Ont.; F. A. Armstrong, F/O, Minned, Ont.; E. H. Barber, F/O, Calgary, Alta.; L. S. Beer, P/O, Pictou, N.S.; C. H. Bentinck, W/O, Galveston, Tex.; G. Mack, Besnetto, F/S, Langquell, Que.; L. P. Blakener, F/O, Ottawa, Ont.; A. W. Bockus, F/O, St. Remi, Que.; W. L. Brudenel, W/O, Port Arthur, Ont.; E. E. Burns, Sgt., Port Credit, Ont.; L. L. N. Decelles, Sgt., Montreal, Que.; C. O. Draper, P/O, Engin, Man.; J. W. Einarson, DFC, DFM, F/L, Shelbrook, Sask.; P. E. Fillion, F/S, Moose Jaw, Sask.; M. E. Hodgin, Sgt., Waubesa, Ont.; E. C. Howes, W/O, Sudbury, Ont.; H. L. Kemp, F/O, Toronto, Ont.; F. K. Kennedy, Sgt., Montreal, Que.; J. A. R. W. Lalonde, W/O, Bourget, Ont.; J. G. Lansford, P/O, Swanes, Ont.; J. Lomas, Sgt., Sask. P. C. McGuire, F/O, Edmonton, Alta.; J. Metks, F/O, Moose Jaw, Sask.; A. M. G. Munro, Sgt., Duchans, Nfld.; A. C. Neville,

CAT PILOTS SAVE GREEKS FROM SEA

It was all Greek to the people in the sea when F/O Elgin "Joe" Gork, Kenora, Ont., pilot with a RCAF Catalina squadron in Ceylon, dropped a message of encouragement and directions to survivors of a ship torpedoed in the Indian Ocean. They were Greek seamen unable to read English.

He brought his Cat down low over the lifeboats and dropped his message by flame float. The seamen waved thankfully, and later were picked up.

F/S Bill Moffatt, Hamilton, Ont., is the only other Canadian in Gork's crew. Gork combined with another Canadian pilot, F/O Stan Yoder, Edmonton, flying a Catalina for a RAF squadron, in the search for the Greek survivors. On the morning of the first day of the search, the Canadian skippers sighted the lifeboats and remained over them all day till dusk, taking pictures before they returned to base.

In a previous search Yoder and his flight engineer, F/S Barregar, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., found eight lifeboats and four rafts carrying 167 U.S. merchant seamen adrift in the Indian Ocean, victims of an enemy submarine. The Catalina arrived five hours after the torpedoing and dropped messages telling the lifeboats to keep together. Yoder then flashed the position to the navy, and rescue was carried out the next morning.

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POTINS et NOUVELLES

Un des mitrailleurs les plus loquaces—et à juste titre—à l'escadrille Alouette est maintenant le sergent Marcel Croteau, qui a abattu un Junkers 88 au cours d'un raid sur Karlsruhe. Au mess, il explique aux autres mitrailleurs qui n'ont pas eu la même bonne fortune de rencontrer un appareil ennemi (et de l'abattre) l'enthousiasme qu'il ressentit à voir le corsaire exploser au choc de ses balles traceuses.

Son co-mitrailleur de la tourelle centre, le sergent Henri St. Yves, se trouve dérouter du mode d'attaque des pilotes de nuit allemands. "S'il eût attaqué en verticale" explique-t-il "j'aurais pu lui tirer dessus moi aussi. Heureusement, tout de même, que son angle d'attaque en fit une proie pour notre franc-tireur de la tourelle-arrière."

L'escadrille canadienne-française était en liesse en fin de semaine: la nomination du Lucien Lecomte au grade de commandant d'escadre et chef de l'escadrille Alouette a coïncidé avec la visite à l'aérodrome du premier ministre canadien accompagné du maréchal de l'air L. S. Breadner. Un banquet fut organisé au mess des officiers pour marquer cette double occasion, et le Très Honorable Mackenzie-King tint à saluer publiquement, en la personne du commandant, les faits d'armes de cette escadrille d'avant-garde.

Une promotion-éclair vient d'être annoncée: celle du pilote Lionel Dupuis, d'Ottawa, qui passe du grade d'officier-pilote à celui de lieutenant de section sans passer par le grade intermédiaire de sous-lieutenant d'aviation. Le nouveau lieutenant de section vient d'être affecté à un cours de commandant junior, et deviendra à son retour adjoint d'un commandant de section à l'escadrille.

POTINS DIVERS: Une lectrice fidèle au Canada pour Wings Abroad, Mlle. Fernande Sabourin, de Hawkesbury, Ontario, à qui le caporal René Cuillerier envoie le journal hebdomadaire de l'aviation. L'aviateur-chef "Brisé" Brisebois cherche de grands mots dans le dictionnaire pour aller avec ses lunettes noires et sa fausse moustache... l'armurier Jean Perrault, habitué du "Fun Fair" à la cité gothique... le caporal Hector Blanchard de l'administration est rapatrié au Canada pour cause de santé... le sergent Lorenzo Lafliche, de Montréal, célèbre trois ans d'armement en Angleterre.

Le sous-lieutenant d'aviation Gustave Bédard, ancien commandant du bureau de recrutement à Québec, est arrivé en Angleterre avec son ami, le sous-lieutenant d'aviation Léo Archambault, de Montréal.

Le sergent de section Lucien Décarie, de Montréal, est mitrailleur dans une escadrille canadienne voisine de celle des Alouettes Forcé de rester à terre à cause d'une sinusite qui lui rendait le vol dangereux, il passe son temps à visiter le mess des sergents canadiens-français à qui il envoie de pourvoir survoler le territoire ennemi.

Le sergent de section Léo Gaudry, de Winnipeg, voit s'accroître avec confiance le nombre de ses sorties en territoire ennemi. Avec son navigateur, le sergent Gérard Goudrault, de Québec, il compte au-delà de six opérations; voici un regret unique de la part d'un pilote de bombardement, celui de n'avoir pas vu, au cours d'un raid sur la ville belge, la célèbre Université de Louvain.

ON TYPHOONS

F/O Jim Cowie, Windsor, Ont., and F/O Mort Sobel, Toronto, have been flying Tiffins with the RAF for some time now. They did their OTU on Hurricanes and joined the Typhoon outfit last September.

BANANA BELT



Banana belts are old stuff to Cpl. Alex Hunter. He hails from British Honduras, learned to bash radios for the RCAF and wound up working in the Azores, where he is seen dickering with a native fruit merchant.

(Official RCAF Photograph.)

BEAVER BASE

Home Boss Visits Base

Big event of the week was the visit to this base of the Prime Minister of Canada, The Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King. Mr. King, who was accompanied by Air Marshal L. S. Breadner, Air Vice-Marshal C. M. McEwen, and a number of other distinguished service and civilian guests, was the guest of the base commander, Air Commodore A. D. Ross, while here.

French Unit

He was the guest of G/C J. L. Hurley for dinner at the station from which the Alouette squadron operates and afterwards met many of the personnel there. Later in the evening he visited the base station and visited one of the hangars, accompanied by the station commander, G/C Clare Annis, stopping to shake hands and chat with a number of the personnel on duty. The Prime Minister expressed himself as very pleased with what he saw on his visit to the Gen base of the Group.

In the realm of society, the past week has been very busy indeed. Red letter event was the do held in the base station sergeants' mess. The Ante Room was tastefully decorated with cut flowers and lilac sprigs, due to the hard work of the WAAF and WD sergeants.

Feature of the event was a highly decorative and tasteful buffet, laid out in the mess dining hall under the careful supervision of F/S Ben Ball and Sgts. Magee and Wedge, to whom an orchid is awarded for a repast that was totally worthy of the subsequent indigestion.

Danced Late

Distinguished guests present included A/V/M C. M. McEwen, A/C F. G. Wait, A/C A. D. Ross and the station commander, G/C Clare Annis, who made himself the most popular person present by announcing that the dancing would be extended.

A gala floor show was completed by "Scotty", Robertson Bryans in her usual breezy style. Competing with the dancing girls was the stellar attraction were Sgts. Tommy Plunkett and Eric "Pranger" Worth, whose adagio dance was the cynosure of all eyes. They are a cinch for the Base Concert Party now.

Among the younger social set present were S/O Babs Rooke, seen shaking a mean hoof, Flt/O Betty Raymond, seen dancing with W/O S. Posner, Sgt. Jody Jackson, doing the Minnedosa Minuet; Sgt. Tody Tod and Dae Goodeve dancing with two visiting Canadian Army officers: W/O Harry "On the Wagon" Wilson, and F/S Elliott Branch, squiring the Peterborough Deb LAW Peggy Hamilton. The

music was provided by Cpl. Terry Nelthorpe and his Canadians, starring Sgt. Gerry Fahri and his hot trombone.

Party

Another social event of the week was the Base admin. staff party, held at a nearby pub. Lots of good food and lifting music created a very merry occasion. Jitterbug champs of the evening were Cpl. John Stokes and LAW Dannie Bushell, who literally scotched the floor. Other dancing devotees were Evelyn Halliday, Kay Dunn, Eleanor McSweeney, Marnie Bich, Doreen Swainston, Sally Duxbury, Walt Perchaluk (minus sideburns), Jim Symons, Rene "Wolf" Grenier, W/C A. C. Tufts and F/L Andy Simard. Patronizing the pin ball game, which happened to be very near the bar, were F/S Chuck Addison, LAC Joe Grenier and AW Eileen Simmons.

Also celebrating the promotion of W/C "Junior" Bootle were members of the Base accounts section, and from all accounts the new third ring was properly wetted. Social lion of the evening is reported to have been W/O Tubby Reid, who was at considerable pains to see that none of the female guests was neglected.

Among visiting firemen is S/L Bruce Keogh, former Ottawa social lion who has just grived overseas to help keep the administrative wheels running smoothly. Another recent arrival who will be staying in our midst for a while is F/L George Jacques, former African golf champ of Eastern Air Command and No. 3 Training Command Headquarters.

Farewell

It is with regret that we bid adieu this week to our popular adj., F/L Andy Simard. The female members of our staff were convulsed with tears when the fatal news was announced, while F/L Bert Bond is tearing what hair he has left out by handfuls, with dire visions of a good officers' softball team gone west. However, he is only going to a new base HQ in the group and we hope he will be back to see us very frequently.

At the same time we welcome his successor, F/L R. Orpen, former Montreal business man who has had quite a lengthy service in this country already. Just a tip, sir: Keep a firm hand on station adjs. (particularly at Base Station) and don't let F/L Bond flannel you by sending his comely assistant down whenever trouble is brewing.

EX-SAILOR

Veteran of four years' service with the United States Navy, R. H. "Bob" Bannhr is now a flying officer pilot with the Tiger squadron of RCAF Bomber Group. Although born in the U.S.A., his home has always been in Canada and after expiration of his four-year hitch in the American Navy, Bob joined the RCAF.

RED INDIANS BOMB CONVOY

Members of the Red Indian squadron of 2nd TAF attacked a German motorized convoy recently on the Paris-Rouen road. At least eight vehicles were hit and damaged by the Spitfires, and a number of Germans were killed.

The Canucks made two attacks and came in so low that F/L John McElrow, DFC, Kamloops, BC, scraped his gas tank on a half-track vehicle he had stopped with his guns.

"I attacked a staff car and saw a staff officer run out," said F/L Hank Zary, New York, "I let him have a burst and then he wasn't there any more."

Near Rouen flak was reported very heavy.

F/L John Drope, Regina, and F/O Jim Davidson, Waterloo, also flew on the straining sortie.

NO ROOM FOR BIG BOY IN SPITFIRE

Spitfire cockpits were not designed to accommodate six feet five inches of fighter pilot, W/O Jimmy "Bones" Bulman, Stanstead, Que., has learned.

He found long ago that once he gets into a Spit he can't wear his goggles on the top of his helmet and still close the coupe top. Another bit of gen that has come his way as a result of experience is that if he flies more than a few hours he has to be pried out of his seat. He would like the back-room boys to go to work on his case.

But his big moan is that he has not yet done operational flying, although he has travelled from England to Cairo, back to England and on to India. He had eight recurrences of malaria in India, and at the moment it looks as though he will not get on operations. But he has had fun trying.

In the Middle East he had the most important job of his career. He was appointed duty pilot for an Australian squadron. "I did everything," he recalls. "I was met man, intelligence officer, and Eytie prisoner escort: I censored letters and was general Joe around the squadron. I had the time of my life."

He flew a Spit to India, making the trip in three days. When he arrived there he found the squadron to which he was posted was full. That's how it goes. When he hits a squadron it's either on rest or full, and then there's his own personal problem how to get himself comfortable in one of those Spitfire cockpits.

CANUCKS, YANKS IN INTERNATIONAL LOOP

The International Softball League is humping right along, reports K of C Supervisor, Doug Graham, Ottawa. The league started Sunday May 7th and so far eight games have been played. The League features two tussles every Sunday at Hyde Park, starting at 2.30 p.m. Six teams make up the League, two RCAF, two American, two Canadian Army—all from London. The teams: American Solons and Padres, Canadian Army Records, and CMHQ, RCAF Accounts and RCAF HQ.

REGULAR COMFORTS TO BC PRISONERS OF WAR

Weekly Letter Packed With Home News Sent To Study-Conscious Stalag Men

Not all visitors to British Columbia House have noticed the Prisoners of War Department, where a staff works constantly to aid boys from that province in their fight against the boredom and monotony of the Stalag. Huge loose-leaf ledgers containing dossiers of the men who have been taken prisoner dominate this office. Here are listed their wants and wishes as they come in day by day in postcards and letters to the agent general.

Needs

Main requests are for books and smokes, for gramophone records and educational equipment. The books and smokes go out in regular shipments from BC House. Special items asked for are passed on to the Educational department of the Canadian Legion.

Everything is recorded, letters sent and received, titles of books sent out, numbers of cigarettes sent. It may sound official and businesslike, but behind it all is a human touch.

Twice a month, over the agent general's signature, there goes to every prisoner a breezy letter giving news of the province. Letters of acknowledgement are proof that this is appreciated.

S/L F. H. Boulton, Vancouver, wrote from Stalag Luft 3:—"Many thanks for your letters. They are invaluable as a source of homeland information."

MITCHELLS STRIKE DOUAI RAIL YARDS

Numerous RCAF airmen were in the crews of Mitchell medium bombers which struck at the Douai railway yards in Northern France recently.

"It was quite a good effort," said F/O Bert Stones, Ottawa pilot. "Despite some ground haze, we found the yards and bombed with some effect."

Others in the raid were F/O K. Walkerdine, Toronto; Sgt. W. Lobb, Norwood, Ont.; F/S S. Loutet, Vancouver; Sgt. J. Casey, Montreal; F/O I. Moreside, Strathburg, Sask.; W/O P. Stark, Sarnia; F/S S. Land, Carman, Man.; F/O H. Bliss, Calgary, and F/S W. I. Girvan, Collingwood, Ont.

Form Club

Another letter is from F/S R. S. Welters, Kelowna, at Stalag IVB:—"I received your letters, and it was with great pleasure that I read them. I think I have told you of our club for Canadians formed here. We have monthly general meetings, and weekly representative meetings. Your letters to me will be read at the next general meeting, and I know they will be well received. We have nearly 150 Canadians here, so it is a good club. We have formed a band, and are starting a dramatic club. I am to give a lecture on BC on evening. I know a bit of BC history, but wish I knew more. We have boys here from all over."

"More cigarettes arrived the other day and again many thanks," wrote F/L Ralph A. Henderson, Vancouver, from Stalag Luft 3, on February 29. "Your newsy letters are coming in regularly and are of much interest to all Canadians here. They are certainly appreciated, just the type of news we want. I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you personally before the end of the year. Seems to be a good chance that I will. No mail from home lately."

Sick News

Another to mention the monthly letters was F/O G. L. Cooper, Powell River, BC writing from Stalag Luft 111 on March 12. He said, "Received your January 1 news letter several days ago, and the lads here were very interested to hear of the rehabilitation schemes put forward by BC. I certainly would like to get my teeth into one of those 'Sizzly Grizzlies'. All are well here. Several English lads have written to you for panoramic folders of the province and I hope you'll be able to help them out of their difficulties. Best regards.

Telling of his work through the educational department, F/O

HONORED GUEST

Lady Moyra Ponsobny, daughter of the Earl and Countess Beasborough, former Governor General of Canada, took her place in the dinner queue at a RCAF airfield mess recently. She was the first feminine visitor to join the men in their mess tent.

Her visit preceded an evening at the mobile unit commanded by W/C F. W. Hillock, Toronto, at which ladies of the district who have extended hospitality to the Canadians were guests. She is a nurse at a hospital near the air station.

J. D. Penn McLeod, Vancouver, wrote from Stalag Luft 111, March 5:—"Thanks very much for your cheery letter and your kind offer. I have been studying for the Inter-B.Com. degree of London University and recently wrote Parts I and II of elements of economics. I expect to write the other subjects concerned in a few months. So at least all is not lost in being a 'Kriegle'. I would appreciate your sending me these books, 'Economics of Consumption', C. S. Wyand, 1937, Macmillan Co., 'Business Forecasting', J. H. Richardson, Pitman's."

Own Paper

Under date of February 1, W/O L. J. Lindsey, Prince Rupert, wrote from Stalag Luft 111, Lager "A": "Your letters are coming quite regularly. The news letters are appreciated by all the fellows. We have a sheet called 'Canada Calling' to which your letters prove a great help. Thanks a million for the promotion news. Some of the boys are at a loss regarding certain requirements for such promotions. I have a good pal here who would really appreciate up-to-date news of any promotion he has received: W. R. Parr, R-69571, POW No. 261."

DO YOU REMEMBER THE SIZE OF OUR BIG PAY PACKET?

New rates of pay for the Regular Force go into effect October 1st, 1946. All heavy civilian costs such as food, lodging, clothing and medical care are FREE. Then, too, there are extra benefits of recreational and spare time activities, so that an airman can theoretically bank every cent of his pay and still live well. The rates shown are basic minimums... there are regular pay increases up to \$28 monthly for proficiency... and raises up to \$10 monthly for length of service, regardless of promotion.

MONTHLY RATES OF PAY

	Basic Pay	Subsistence (in lieu of quarters)	Marriage Allowance
W.O. I	\$128	\$ 60	\$ 20
W.O. II	113	55	20
F/Sgt	98	55	20
Sgt	83	50	20
Cpl.	70	45	20
LAC	61	45	20
AC I	54	45	20
AC II	50	45	20

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F/O Cliff Thurston, Winnipeg, and F/O "Jock" Craig, Abbey and Avonlea, Sask., are two transport types who have lobbied a big chunk out of a tour of ops with RAF Transport Command. For both it's their second tour. They did their first with Bomber Command. Cliff did his bomber stretch on RAF Wimpis; Jock on RCAF Hampdens. Canucks in Cliff's crew are P/O Ray Dunbar, Comox, Alta., and F/O Doug Craig, McLeod, Alta. F/O Frank Sewell, Carmen, Man., flies with Jock. On one trip, in the Med, Cliff earned a dinghy badge. One engine on the Albatross went bloody and the kite headed for the water like a duck on a thirsty day. Cliff ditched the kite the hard way. He went sailing out the perspex window, escaping with a few scratches. They spent less than an hour in the rubber tub. Their SOB was heard, and a Spit came out, followed by an ASR launch.

W/O Doug Bishop, Toronto, is the mid-upper man in the only all-Canadian crew in their bomber group. "Well, almost all-Canadian," he says. "We couldn't get a Canuck flight engineer, so we took the next best thing—an Irishman. And we've already got him Canadianized." The rest of the crew are F/S Pilot A. F. Laidlaw, Winnipeg; F/S Bomb Almer Stanley Motruick, Winnipeg; F/S Navigator F. D. Hopkins, Winnipeg; Sgt. Rear Gunner Ken Noren, Rippling, Sask.; F/S WOP/AG Dave Austin, Winnipeg; and Sgt. "Paddy" Harper, Belfast, Ireland. The boys have logged eleven trips so far. On the first op, near Paris, Bishop got a few cracks at a Junkers 88. A fighter flare had revealed the enemy, and Bishop's 300 rounds in his direction made him leave in a hurry.

Once upon a time a great gob of Canucks descended on an RAF Mitchell squadron and took on ops. Now they're finished. Some of the boys who did it are W/O Johnny Hunt, Edmonton, gunner; F/O Ivan Moreside, Strabourg, Sask., pilot; W/O Keith Brown, Vancouver, gunner; F/O Chris Cooling, Craik, Sask., pilot; W/O Sid Land, Vancouver, gunner; W/O Gordie Miles, Regina, gunner. As far as W/O Navigator George Wilkinson, Moose Jaw, is concerned, the Mitchell is the "best there is." George had two moments in his tour, once when a Vercy light went on the rampage inside the kite and when their Mitchell's bottom had been thoroughly spanked by flak, picking up some 240 holes in the process. Almost finished his tours is S/L "Lucky" Cooper, from the States. Lucky is a flight commander in the outfit.

W/O WAG Devon Smith, Lansing, Ont., is back from India. Dev started out that way in a Beaufort in September '42. He stayed in the Middle East for a few months, then went to India, where he did a little anti-sub patrol on Beauforts. Then Dev was transferred to the Burma front. There, he operated army co-operationally, and for the most part strafed and bombed Jap troops in the Imphal area. In the same squadron were two other RCAF WAGs, W/O Roy Gleig, Chilliwack, BC, and W/O Ross Hunter, Toronto. W/O Navigator Jack Hurly, North Bay, Ont., was there too. On the boat back to England came W/O Pilot Tom Morrey, Vancouver; W/O Pilot Jack McManus, Toronto, and W/O WAG Del McInnes, Preeseville, Sask.

W/O WAG Jack Emery, Westville, NS, landed in England, covered up, OTC'd and was ready to go. At the Personnel Reception Centre he lost his pilot. He picked up an RAF lad and they went to Iceland. The rest of the crew were W/O WAG Murray Conrad, Halifax, and W/O Archie Kay, Biggar, Sask. They got to Iceland and did 90 hours looking for subs. Then they went to Transport Command in England. Jack did one trip for Transport Command and now he's on his way to OTC, preparatory to going to Bomber Command.

WING NEWS

Post Office Humming

Hello again. No, this isn't Jack Benny. This is the Cairo crew bringing a little more Kandid Korn from District HQ, Middle East. The newest addition to our happy family is the post office. Cpl. "Lindy" Lindquist and LAC Jack Morgan were the first of the postal section to arrive here and through their efforts at the beginning, they had things fairly well organized by the time F/O J. N. Hopper arrived.

Latest Batch
Since then, four others have arrived to help get things into really tip-top shape. The latter are Cpl. Don McDiarmid and LACs D. Davies, Ab Parrish and E. H. Hutchison.

Auxiliary services is now sporting a brand new corporal. Congrats to Mark LeBlanc. Being a one-man staff, we consider Mark a rather privileged character among all those Canadian cigarettes. With a closer look, we find him up to his ears in everything from shoe laces to old collar studs.

LACs Vic Garton, Freddy Joyce and Chuck Corrie are the fortunate few who have the privilege of working with the only female staff in the HQ.

Since the girls speak about three languages, French, Arabic and "English," the place has been nicknamed the section of "Chaos and Confusion" by those in other departments. Nevertheless they're doing a fine job and the feminine touch lends added atmosphere.

This week marks the departure of some of the old originals. We say goodbye to S/L "Doc" McCallum, Major Shillington, Sgt. Herb George and Pte. George Barton. Old haunts will see those faces once again. We also welcome S/L R. M. Colburn, recent arrival from the UK and our new boss-to-be.

—LAC Ken Ritchie and Cpl. Nick Perdue.



Daredevils, ready to risk any hazard, the airmen of Poland are the 'avenging angels' of 34,000,000 of their countrymen, who have been trampled under the Nazi jackboot. They lose

no chance of getting their teeth into the Hun. A dirty business, but naturally they take the first opportunity to clean their teeth afterwards—with KOLYNOS of course!

IMPORTANT—USED TUBES WANTED FOR MUNITIONS. RETURN TO CHEMIST

TOUGH GUY?



Look again. It's not Jimmy Cagney standing amid these Alouette squadron ground crew types. It's LAC Earl Jones, Deschenes, Que. The others, in the usual order, are: Cpl. Rene Guillerier, Hawkesbury, Ont.; Cpl. Edgar Lavole, Rochland, Ont.; Cagn. . . no, Jones; Cpl. Armand Savoie, Shippegan, N.B.; Sgt. Roger Cantin, Quebec City. Sgt. Cantin has been mentioned in dispatches for meritorious service and wears the oak leaf.

(Official RCAF Photograph.)

GOOSE SQUADRON

Joe, PM Discuss Plugs

"Shake the hand that shook the hand of Mackenzie King," said Sgt. Joe Sponarski as he pushed out his big mitt last Wednesday. We did and then got the gen about the surprise visit of the PM to No. 3 Hangar the previous evening. Accompanied by the AOC-in-C RCAF Overseas and other high-ranking officers, the PM was introduced to Joe who in turn introduced the boys working on the kite and answered inquiries about the work. They had a chat about spark plugs and faced a battery of photographers. (Rainy River paper please copy.)

Old-Timer Wed

Another Goose squadron old-timer, P/O Norman "Suds" Sutherland, Lafleche, Sask., maintained the squadron's marital rate. Veteran of more than 24 trips over enemy territory, he married Georgina MacDonald, Edinburgh, S/L Sanderson, station padre, tied the knot, P/O Clive Boulton, Russell, Man., was best man. P/O Al De Mille, Langrath, Man., gave the bride away and WD Terry Jones, Lethbridge, Alta., was bridesmaid.

Good news for S/L Bill Russell, Toronto, came last week when he was screened along with most of his crew. The other lads were F/O Jack Moore, F/O M. E. Howard, P/O W. L. Barrett and P/O B. M. Lennox. Congrats are in order for W/C Harold Miles, Toronto, "B" Flight commander, whose promotion came through shortly after he left the unit.

Should Know!

The new squadron adj. F/O O. V. N. Farrell, Winnipeg, served his time in the ranks as an armorer before being commissioned. A former barrister, he spent 17 months in the ranks. He also did a six-month stretch in the Aleutians.

Recent additions to the OR staff include LACs Charles Geddes, Pilot Mound, Sask., N. A. Yaito, Kerroport, Sask., and G. E. Mattika, Fort Francis, Ont.

Al Collard, St. Thomas, Ont., missed his second breakfast last week. "B" Flight's "Mungie" McDaniels, Regina, had his brother, Frank, from TAF up to visit him last week. "Kap" Kapusinski, Toronto, returned to the squadron recently as a fitter. He wants his nickname to stick officially. A suggestion about "Capstan" wouldn't do, he said, for "it would only invite my children to call me 'Smoky' and that would be bad."

Hirsute

Among the bald-headed gentry noted locally are Cpl. Bill Holden, Cpl. Don Tingle and Cpl. Pete Warren of the armory and Jim Sharkey. Quite the vogue, Sgt. Harry Russell, Windsor, NS, went blue in the face when he was captioned in an English magazine as hailing from Ontario.

Softball is booming with the Wid team attracting crowds of 500 per game, a close second to the men's team which won its third game in a row last Monday. The station lacrosse team took it on the chin, though.

"Ginga" with an acting-temporary rank in the scrambled egg category, had little difficulty controlling the crowd at the big WD game against Group, in which a red-headed catcher stole the show as she talked and played a good game.

Horseshoe pitching is the rage in the flights, and sports officer P/O "Porky" Dumart expects to have a league going soon.

P/O R. T. Lord, an air crew lad posted some time ago, has just been repatriated to Canada. Another Goose goon makes good!

The rank of "Mac" Stanley MacGregor, Alexandria, Ont. (near Ottawa), our squadron discip., is now that of sergeant.

—Max Seeley.

Mac's Originals

These days the life of the airfield seems to centre around Kelly's Canteen (the K. or C. canteen). Kelly and his canteen is the popular rendezvous for all. Kelly says it's going so well he can't keep enough stuff on hand.

The queue usually stretches far down into Sleepy Hollow. Most of the guys step up and demand hot dogs and hamburgers. Don't you know there's a war on, men? But Kelly has been able to produce some good sandwiches with the help of one, LAC Johnston. Seems he is really a fitter, but he's so good with his hands Kelly hired him for a week. The main headache is trying to sell bottleless cokes, but maybe K can manage it.

Handy Joe

Outstanding invention of the week is by one of our wireless men. Seems he has perfected the perfect wash board. What we want to know is whether he is just missing the practice he used to get at home on Mondays or whether he thinks it will be another selling point when the fateful day arrives. You can always start a laundry, anyway. Brodie.

Big event of the week happened in the CO's tent. Winco Mac came running out one morning shouting, "I've had a delivery in my tent." A field mouse had her family in the boss's tent without benefit of midwife. She soon scuttled, babes and all.

Hot Guy

F/S Robichaud is lonely up on the moors and wishes he was back with us. The girls at HO aren't very happy these days. We lost F/S Dore this week. There is an underground movement afoot. Now that the officers are learning to ride motor bikes, the airmen confine themselves to slit trenches during the daylight hours. When darkness falls and the drone of the bikes diminishes they come out warily. —Silch.

TARS HELP ERKS GET BIG KITES CRACKING

At a British Paratroop Base—Glider and paratroop operations at this station, where RCAF air crews form a considerable part of RAF squadrons, are the product of a new form of combined operations.

While the air force takes care of the flying end, Royal Navy tars team up with the air force ground crews in keeping the big aircraft serviceable.

A shortage of available erks at the time the units were formed made this unusual situation necessary, and the sailors have proved they can turn in as good a day's work on a flying station.

Among many air crews from the Prairies and BC are F/O B. J. Davidson, Assiniboia, Sask., pilot; F/O W. M. Shierer, pilot Ponoka, Alta.; F/S R. W. Elsdon, AG from Bonnington Falls, BC; W/O G. W. Kay, OP/AG, from Vancouver, and F/S L. E. Pocock, bomb-aimer, of St. Vital, Man.

Around Town

Headquarters pounded out a win over Accounts to the tune of 9 to 1. Orchids of the week go to Cpl. MacDonald, who hurled a stellar game, and to Sgt. Alexander and F/L McKibbin, who played heads-up ball for the entire game.

In the house league Personnel continue to be undefeated with three wins and no losses.

Last week saw S/L Bren Sears, one of the most popular officers of this Headquarters, leave for Canada. Also F/S Wally Turner bid us farewell.

The lovely lovelies have a new disciplinarian sergeant—Sgt. MacKenzie by name. Several of the wolves and airdales are trying to date her up. Sgt. Weitenjorf leaves the good old Discip. Section to take up a new post at Records. Lots of luck, Sgt.

Directorate of Accounts and Finance held their first dance to celebrate their first anniversary. It was held at Porchester Hall. W/O Max Webster and W/O Jimmy James and W/O Lansing were sporting their new crowns. They were also setting 'em up in great quantity.

—Hawkeye Harry.

INTRUDER ANTICS

Ex-Winco Attends Do

Most of the squadrons are just call signs and erks numbers, but this one is working together with such spirit that it has almost become a family. And the do that came off when we reached the century mark was something to behold—and did some of the guys hold it. Some of the boys who have been posted, trekked, trained and thumbed their way down. Air Marshal L. S. Breadner and G/C Paul Davoud, Kingston, were there.

Ex-Chief

Our former Winco (shadowed by LAC Vallee) said he was glad to be back and it was almost like being home. He made it seem real by leading the gang in "Alouette." LAC Hal Deline, Newcastle, Ont., showed the crowd some jiggerbugging with the aid of LACW Helen McCathy, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Everyone in the squad is sorry to see Lt. Luma leaving us. But it seems the American Air Force can't get along without a good man. On rest and moving in the direction of Canada are F/O "Lefty" Miller, Edmonton; Doug Miller, Vancouver; and S/L Lison, DFC, Edmonton. Others to leave shortly are F/O Johnny Cairne, DFC, F/O Bert Ford and F/O Herb Jones.

The baseball season has started off in full swing. To such a good swing that "Big Smitty" bust the bat on the deciding base knock to beat the Yanks 6-5. F/L Lee Evans, Winnipeg, is sporting a sheepish grin these days. Perhaps getting himself engaged has something to do with it.

Questions

What we want to know: Is it true Cpl. "Ribs" Johnston brings tea to his crew in the morning and if he does, who pays for it? How is "Curly" Gillies, Winnipeg, making out with his hair restorer? Guess he's still behind the eight-ball. "Ribs" wants to know who the tie eater is and can he be a new P/O? F/S Mattinson, our new discip., wants to know when the reporter is going to get a haircut. Maybe he'd better see LAC Wally Fields, the local barber.

Some on the squadron are gentlemen of leisure. Cpl. Jim Braby, Roy Clark and Bill Jackson on their day off attend the "Country Academy." They do a spot of cantering (horseback riding to you) through the countryside, you know.

—LAC Goldberg.

R & I Chatter

Our section has come through in great style in their last two softball fixtures, winning from the Tiger squadron 12-8 and from the Porcupine squadron 9-8. The Porkie tussle was really close with the score tied in the first half of the 7th. With the writer on third, LAC Mickey Coleman poked out a clean single to bring home the winning run with two out.

We are now sitting on top of the heap. Our regular writer, Sgt. Prudence, is resting in dock but should be out shortly to take over his column duties. Sgt. Mellis is also in dock, having his tonsils removed. "Tomb" Stone is now totting a crown on top of the three.

F/S "Muscles" Gadby is playing the part of "Little White Father" in the absence of F/L Green, who is away being genned up.

New arrivals to the hangar are LACs Bussey, Orr, Morrissey, all riggers. We have yet to be invited to partake in the hook-wetting ceremony of two new corporals, namely "Buck" Druar and Charlie Harrison.

Electrician LAC "Bathless" Sharpe, spark chaser de luxe, limps around camp as a result of an accident to his PT undercarriage which required three stitches. He explains: "Back home in Pine Falls, we don't have fences, just brush."

Here we include the line-ups of the softball games. Against the Tigers were Cpl. Cook, c; LAC Charco, p; Sgt. Deane, 1b; LAC Carr, 2b; LAC Nygaard, ss; Cpl. Crossley, 3b; LAC Sharpe, lf; LAC Wulfe, cf; LAC Tooth, rf. Against the Porcupine squadron the line-up included Ankroyd at third and Coleman in left field. The other positions were unchanged.

Sgt. B. Deane.

LEASIDE CELEBRATES YEAR OF OPERATIONS

Officers and ranks of the Leaside squadron of RCAF Bomber Group took advantage of a lull in operations recently to celebrate the completion of the unit's first year of operations. The actual date was April 29.

W/C W. A. "Mac" Mackay, Vancouver, CO, led the party celebrations in the officers' and sergeants' messes. F/L H. H. "Harry" Harris, Montreal, adjutant, helped with the honors. Toasts included one to the squadron, its leaders and famous personalities, and of course there was one to their mother of adoption, Leaside, Ont.

POLES, RCAF PILOTS SHARE BATTLE TIPS

A warship, like an aircraft, has its blind spots, P/O J. J. Fleming, Calgary, Alta., discovered after being shown around a Polish cruiser. Fleming is with an Australian Mosquito squadron based in Britain, and was one of the pilots who flew the ship's officers when they visited the squadron.

The Polish naval men had the pilots as guests aboard their ship in a return visit.

"We learned a lot in our visit to the ship," Fleming said. "They told what they believed is the best approach in attacking a cruiser or destroyer, and we had a good look at their anti-aircraft armament."

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PILOTS PRACTISE BOUNCING GAME

Keeping their hand in between sweeps over enemy-occupied territory, Canadian fighter pilots of the wing under G/C W. R. MacBrien, Ottawa, occasionally bounce American Mustangs and Lightnings and, of course, are sometimes bounced.

To be bounced on operations is a serious matter which can be a matter of life or death. In practice, it isn't as serious but involved a certain loss of prestige.

During a practice bounce the fighters begin a mad game of tail chase as each pilot tries to get into a position to dispatch his opponent with cannon and machine-gun fire as if they were playing for keeps. Steep turns, climbing, turns, rolls, vertical dives and all the bag of tricks known to the pilots are gone through until they tire of the game and relax into straight and level flight.

The Spit pilots stoutly adhere to the belief that their aircraft is the best fighter in the world, although, as F/O A. J. "Bud" Fraser, Assiniboia, Sask., City of Oshawa pilot, put it: "Other pilots kind of like their kites, too."

Con-Tact

This is a new article to most of WINGS ABROAD readers, and, we believe, the first that included a Con. Unit, yes, we may say a Con. Unit or the final training stages from which the squadrons receive the boys that are doing a brilliant job of work.

Wandering around we find Canadian screened airmen from all parts doing a good job of instructing.

A few of these well-known personalities include Ed O'Brien from Guelph, Ont., who has just returned from the Middle East and Italy, where he completed 88 successive operations—now an instructor under the new navigation leader, F/L A. C. Magnusson, Winnipeg, Man.

The posts of radio navigation officers are filled by two able and competent flight lieutenants, Jim Clark, of Montreal, and Hal Parker, of Winnipeg, Man.

F/O Al Larden, C.G.M., with which he was decorated in the Middle East for landing a Stirling with most of the crew out of action, is controlling the bomb plotting end of it at the unit. Hal hails from North Bay, Ont.

Baseball is booming again with a 10-team league, and also a station team. We took a closely fought match with a score ending in a 13 to 12 win recently.

F/L Morey Morrison.

FLYING MEN DISCUSS POST WAR PROBLEMS

A discussion club supervised by F/O J. M. Smith, London, Ont., educational officer on a RCAF Bomber Group station, is proving popular as an off-hour activity for ground personnel there.

A debate was held recently on the subject, "Should Canada remain with the British Empire after the war, go independent or join the USA?" Leader of the "government" for the debate was Cpl. R. J. LeSarge, Toronto, assisted by AC2 J. A. McKenzie, Vancouver; leader of the opposition was LAC R. F. O'Toole, Peterboro, Ont., assisted by Cpl. A. I. Holme, Westlock, Ont. LAC J. Young, Toronto, led the independents, supported by LAC E. J. Ray, Toronto.

Master-sergeant Day, New Jersey, USA, member of the USAAF, and LAC Frank Watkins, Yorkshire, RAF, also contributed to the discussions.

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TAXI



If cabs in India are as hard to get as in London F/O Bill Roy, Ottawa, and F/O Bill Dumsday, Montreal and Toronto, are lucky to get even an elephant.

(Official RCAF Photograph.)

TEN TALK

Tribe Loses Big Chief

The Iroquois tribe has lost its squadron commander, W/C W. F. Newson, Victoria, who has been posted to other duties in Canadian Bomber Group. His departure is a blow, for he has done so much towards creating the high standard for which the Iroquois men are renowned. S/L H. R. Dow, Toronto, has taken his place and has been promoted W/C. To date he has made 16 trips.

Back Again

After an exhausting PT course, W/O Bill Jessleman, Winnipeg, is being welcomed back to the fold. He refused to make any statement to the Press, but it is noted that he has resumed all his old activities and has become more "Spartan" like.

To those who may be wondering about it, this station has not become a POW camp. That was just F/O Ainslie in working dress, going sodding. We'd better explain that a call to arms was given and the whole station turned out to use picks, shovels, paint brushes and so forth in a general clean-up. The rains came and the work was postponed. It was too bad, for all were looking forward to turning over the sod.

First WD

A new and welcome addition to the intelligence staff is S/O Ruth McJannet, Toronto. She's our first WD in these parts. SHQ had another dance at the Spa, and it was as successful as usual and everybody had a bang-up time. The station band, under Brian Field, Toronto, was on the beam and LAC Aris, Vancouver, handled the MC duties.

Friday came and with it the "Baby Grand" dance in the station theatre. Ninety quid were needed to buy a baby grand and the dance was the method of getting them.

Thanks to Kirk Bell, YMCA wallah, the event went over big and was financially successful. P/O George Given, Toronto, sang "Sylvia," "Rose Marie" and "Danny Boy." P/O Johnnie Spence, Flower Station, Ont., who hails from the Bluenose harbor, played and sang his own composition, "Honey, Hair and Blue Eyes." Voice of LACW Connie Higgs was heard over the mike frequently and her rendition of the latest hits was well received.

Birthday

All wondered when they saw S/O Pryer and S/O McJannet out on the floor with Kirk Bell, obviously enjoying himself, and then we heard the song they sang, "Happy Birthday to You." Yes, it was Selkirk's birthday. He couldn't have had a better party. It was good to see S/O Chawner, former WAAF OC, at the dance.

S/L Pete Bull, Sudbury, is receiving congrats on his promotion to a flight commander. Welcome back to P/O Pollard, West Lock, Alta., after his long stay in sick bay.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

To-day, Empire Day, will be observed by Canadians in London as everywhere else. A flight of airmen, mostly members of the precision squadron, commanded by A/S/O Peggy Benjamin, from Truro, NS, together with a flight of airmen, will march to St. Paul's Cathedral to participate in the Empire Thanksgiving and Dedication Service. Later, at a special Empire Day concert in the Royal Albert Hall, the Women's Division of the RCAF will be represented by LAW Mary Gary, of Dayton, Ohio. At "The Empire Speaks" broadcast from one of the BBC studios, a number of RCAF personnel, including members of the WD, will be in attendance.

A contingent of airwomen who arrived in this country exactly a year ago to-day are celebrating to-night with a dinner at the Cumberland Hotel. And speaking of celebrations, the get-together last Saturday afternoon (not a first anniversary, as we reported last week) was a huge success, with great quantities of food left over, which the girls handed over to a service club.

This game of "mud-football" which has proven so popular with our Canadian Wids is contagious, and we can now report a request from one of the bases in Canadian Bomber Group asking for rules of the game and so on. We think they'll like it just as much as we do. To-morrow night our girls again go forth to battle with the Norwegian airwomen. The time is 18.30, the place Princess Gate, Hyde Park. See you there.

If you want to see a really lovely wedding, complete with two bridesmaids, go to St. Jude's Church in Kensington at three o'clock Saturday afternoon. LAW Irene Kenny, of Faust, Alta., is the bride. More details will be forthcoming.

CANADIAN DOCTOR HAS MRCP DEGREE

F/L Don Munroe, Regina and Vancouver, attended a convocation ceremony at the Royal College of Physicians in London recently to receive his degree of MRCP.

Attached to the RCAF Wolf squadron of the 2nd TAF, the medical officer spent almost five hours' study daily throughout the past winter in addition to his squadron duties and then wrote five sets of exams over a period of three weeks to win the degree in advanced internal medicine.

He is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan from which he received his BSc, and of the University of Manitoba where he obtained his MD. He practised medicine in Vancouver prior to the war.

NAVIGATOR REALIZES INTRUDER AMBITIONS

F/L Gordon Frederick, Lindsay, Ont., has just realized an ambition in joining the City of Edmonton intruder squadron as observer to the CO, W/C A. Barker.

Frederick first heard about the intruders while in hospital, where he was recovering from severe burns suffered when the Hampden in which he was flying cracked up on landing. There he met G/C Paul Davoud, DSO, DFC, Kingston, Ont., who at the time was just taking over the squadron.

After 4 1/2 months of brine baths that restored his burned hands to almost normal, Frederick worked in an aircraft factory for five months and then returned to Canada. When he got back to Britain, well rested, the Lindsay navigator was posted to the City of Edmonton outfit.

The newest addition to the crack intruders flew anti-shiping patrols for eight months. He was injured when the kite crash-landed in a fog after an operational trip over the Bay of Blacay. The aircraft went up in flames and Frederick's legs were trapped in the wreckage, but F/S George Coates, Woodbridge, Ont., pulled him free. For this action Coates received the George Medal.

FLYING TIGERS

Crewmates in a Halifax of the Tiger squadron of RCAF Bomber Group are F/O Al May, Winnipeg navigator, and F/O Jack Morrison, Halifax, N.S., bomb aimer.

The Agent General for BRITISH COLUMBIA

extends a hearty welcome to all Canadian Air Force personnel to the BRITISH COLUMBIA SERVICES CANTEN

Open daily 8-8.30. Sundays included. BRITISH COLUMBIA HOUSE, 1 & 3, REGENT ST., LONDON, S.W. 1

(Two minutes from Piccadilly Circus.)



VISITING FIREMEN

Cpl. Jack Alexander, Toronto, and LAC Hal Deline, Newcastle, Ont., were two radio joes in the boom town for a very brief stay. The boys bash radios with the City of Edmonton intruders.

Neither of the boys were in radio before the war. Jack hopes to go to University after the war and then go mining. Hal figures to make a pile in designing women's clothes.

Two characters at their station are LAC Wally Field, Toronto, and LAC Jimmy Fitzsimmons, Windsor, Ont. Wally's a boy with foresight. Ever since he cut his brother's hair long ago he has been interested in barbering. At Halifax he bought a few tools and has done all right since coming overseas. Even the adj. comes down for a haircut.

WILTSHIRE M.U.

By LAC Louis Ziff

Cpl. "Happy" Somers wrote his pal, Joe May, to say he isn't happy now. It seems he missed the Happy Gang of two site.

LAC Don Wilson has just built a railway station (a toy one) for a local prominent, in his spare time. He is also building three radio sets and a model airplane. Frank Ouellette disappears regularly once a week. We suspect London.

Jim Mulvihill has an amazing memory, but he slipped up when he forgot the list of Canadian parcels in his pocket. However, there's a first time for everyone. Al Pyatt and Joe May both visited Cheddar and its prehistoric caves recently.

NORTH ENGLAND

By George Maybec

Quoth "Hank" Tuero as he disconsolately ambled into the billet recently, "I will never understand women: They are as erratic as elevation squints." And that started a discussion on that oft-discussed topic.

"Mack" McKinnon declared that he just likes to spend his time quietly figuring them out but doesn't pretend to be any gen man on the subject. But Vic Swirzon, believe it or not, claims to know all about women and has offered to tell anyone anything they want to know about them. Quoth Geoff McDowell at this juncture, "I don't believe it."

Cpl. Gill Miller and LAC Ken Craig have been posted. Gill, one of the pioneers of this unit, will be missed in the workshops, as will Ken.

Our long-awaited special section dance was a pukkah do. Sgt. "Sandy" Sanderson as i/c decorations, did a wizard job of decorating the tea-room and the ballroom with the boys under his charge. The specialty of Geoff McDowell and Norm Walling was camouflaging the bar.

Sam Areenow and Johnny Walker rigged up an ingenious arrangement whereby a large cluster of balloons, indirectly lighted, revolved from the ceiling in the centre of the room. S/L Beal and F/O Bennett arranged colored floodlights that cast a warm glow over the room.

Sanderson, as MC, kept things going without a hitch. Spot dances, and a unique version of Musical Chairs added zip to a successful evening.

PAY TABLE CRUMBS

No Athlete's Food??

Sports fans are getting plenty of activity round Accounts with baseball, tennis, darts, shooting, golf and elbow bending these days. We should be seeing a few Charles Atlas physiques developing soon! Recently the "Pay Offs," our Wids, took the H.Q.'s team for a last minute beating with a score of 19-13. Davidson and Archibald from the restaurant really showed us how gais can play ball.

Another Win

The Officers' Section (those never-lose guys) brought the score in their favour to 16-11 against CCG. "Maestro" Hanson smacked the four-sacker of the evening. LAC McLeod did his usual good job of pitching.

What's that old saying about "spring and a young man's fancy," Bill Barnea? Or can you get out of the fog to inform us?

The Bell-McBride duo have added to their household with a two months old terrier "Blitz." "Mac" attacks it from the front with a cat o' nine tails, and "Skip" from the rear with a box of sand! How's he doing, kids?

After the Ball

Our first anniversary dance is all over now—but sure fun while it lasted. All the gang of May '43 were out in high spirits at the bar and on the floor. Highlight of the evening was the jitterbug contest won by LAW Mae McCormack and Cpl. Pete Krulkin. Good work, kids, and hope you enjoy the theatre tickets!

LAC Hunter and his gal were close runners-up, but missed the boat by a fraction. Judges of the event were W/C "Hep" Archibald, Sgt. Jerry Hanson and Cpl. Max Liebowitch, who managed to get into the struggle at intervals discussing decisions.

Seen around were F/O and Mrs. "Gee-Gee" Grant, Cpl. Jones, the dentist (say, he's human, after all), Sgt. and Mrs. Don Smith, W/O and Mrs. Jack Burrell, Cpl. Tim Doyle representing the "back-room" boys, Grace Johnson (back from the hospital), and last but not least, although a little small, Cyril Joplin in his uniform.

New Rings

Heartiest congrats to our new W/O1 Ray Lansing and W/O2s Allan, "Chuck" James, and Max Webster. Hope you boys have recovered from your celebrations and cegars by now!

Goodbye and good luck to our civilian pal from C. R., Allan Skipper, who has left for the Merchant Navy. Glad to see Sgt. Al Ling back in this country after service in Iceland. His first day back was enough to shake away the teletes!

Hope you'll be able to discard the cast soon, Geo. Nachshen, although it hasn't seemed to daunt your spirit any!

'PEG AIRMAN NAMED FLIGHT COMMANDER

One of three brothers wearing wings in RCAF, S/L W. B. "Brodie" Anderson, Winnipeg, has been appointed flight commander with the Bison Squadron of RCAF Bomber Group and promoted to his present rank from that of flight lieutenant.

He has 13 sorties, including three trips to Berlin, in his log.



For Extra Smartness the shoes of more & more officers are being polished with NUGGET DARK BROWN SHOE POLISH



ALSO IN BLACK SUPREME for QUALITY

—The Vec.

Which Blade would you like? Some day you will be asked this question once more. Until then you may have to search for KLEEN BLADES—but we do our best to spread supplies evenly.



RCAF MUDBALLERS SEEKING FIRST WIN

Ever since the Norwegians first introduced mudball to the women of the RCAF Overseas, the game has spread no end. Mudball, a cross between football, basketball and mass murder, is a Norwegian game, and so far the RCAF WD's have not been able to win a battle. A new team has sprung up at RCAF Overseas HQ, is practising every week, and hopes to gain the first victory for the Wids.

The team: Cpl. Marion Heron, Kitchener, Ont.; LAW Frankie Murrice, Chilliwack, B.C.; LAW Vol Pearce, Indiana, USA; LAW Phyllis Rogers, Edmonton; LAW June Nurse, Vancouver; Cpl. Shirley Stewart, Winnipeg; Cpl. Gerry Reid, Minnedosa, Man.; LAW Edna Harrison, Lloydminster, Sask.; LAW Alice Daigleish, Vancouver; Cpl. Eileen Moore, Saskatoon; LAW Betty McCabe, Dorchester, NB, and LAW Audrey Pitt, Harrow, Eng.

PRAIRIE JOES STAY TOGETHER OVERSEAS

F/L Lea Matthews, Winnipeg, and F/O Russell Patterson, Moresbank, Sask., have that feeling that they are being followed, by each other. They have been together ever since guard duty at Brandon Manning Pool in the fall of 1942.

Both went operational at about the same time and did a tour which took them Nazi ship-hunting in the Med and Aegean. They finished their tours about the same time with just about the same number of hours.

Once more they are together, on an operational training unit, helping pilots, many of whom are Canadians, to get acquainted with Wellingtons.

RCAF AWARDS

(Continued from page 1)

the citation continues. "Although the starboard engine was still burning Kerrigan prepared to attack and made his run in the face of withering fire. The aircraft was repeatedly hit and sustained extensive damage. Rackham was wounded in the head, body and leg, but bravely remained at his post to continue his navigational duties.

"Throughout the long flight home the aircraft was difficult to control, but Kerrigan flew it back safely. Rackham, although suffering acutely, did everything in his power to assist his pilot to reach home." the Gazette concludes.

Immediate Awards

Others receiving immediate DFCs are S/L John T. J. Davis, Montreal; F/L Donald A. MacFayden, Toronto; F/O Harry J. Thompson, Gilbert, Ont.; P/O Earl W. Boal, Weyburn, Sask.; P/O Douglas T. Cook, Kelowna, BC; P/O Robert H. Jarman, Edmonton; P/O George R. H. Peck, Westmount, Que.; and S/L H. R. F. Dyer, S/L W. A. Russell, S/L J. A. Westland, F/L J. Atkins, F/L G. W. Wolton, F/O A. J. P. Byford, F/O S. W. Dempsey, F/O F. F. Hamilton, DFM, P/O J. D. Harvey, P/O W. H. Phillips, and F/S A. B. Cable receives the immediate DFM.

Non-immediate bars to DFCs go to W/C John David Pattison, S/L Martin Sattler, S/L Harold Thomas Miles, S/L William Weiser, S/L Harry Gowan, F/L Walter Ramon Thompson.

Non-Immediate

The following have been awarded non-immediate DFCs: S/L Donald Charles Skene, S/L Wallace Angus G. McLeish, S/L Clarence W. Higgins, F/L William Jarvis Harris, F/L James Robert Marvin, F/L James Robert Hanson, F/L Leslie James Toms, F/L Francis Neville Murray, F/L Honley Neilson Scott, F/L John Alexander F. Simpson, F/L Charles R. Snell, F/O David Harrison Protheroe, F/O John Henry Pratt, F/O Andrew P. Smith, F/O James Lauren Gourlay, F/O George G. MacLeod, P/O George F. Clark, P/O John Edward Powers, P/O William R. S. Noyes, P/O Samuel Davidson, P/O Harold Naylor Jackson, P/O Ian G. McEwan, W/O Walter Fyfe Thorburn, W/O Harvey Roy Hurst, W/O Morley Albert Arnott.

F/S David Raymond Canter receives a non-immediate DFM.

BOMBER GROUP H.Q.

Bomber Gen for Chief

Major event of the week was the visit of the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, to our HQ and other stations in the group. Although his visit was short the Prime Minister seemed to be deeply impressed with all he saw. On visiting the group operations room Air Commodore C. R. Slemon gave Mr. Mackenzie King and his staff an account of the magnificent work being done by the bomber squadrons in the group.

Message

The Prime Minister's messages of appreciation on behalf of himself, the Government and peoples of Canada should spur us all on to even greater efforts.

The results of the last trade test have at last been published in FOR. Congratulations to all those new LAWs and LACs. Away on a course is Cpl. Jim Ferguson. We extend a warm welcome to WD Sgt. N. Dryden, who has only recently arrived over here. In place of W/C Miller, who has left us, is W/C M. M. Smith. S/L A. M. Ogilvie is attached here for navigational duties and away on temporary duties is S/O Mutch. The WD Precision Squad can be seen three mornings a week practising drill movements in the MT yard under the supervision of F/O Engleson and Sgt. Reneman-Ward.

Loop Slow

Weather has slowed down the activities of the softball league, but a few games have been played. The group team has again lost one and won one of the last two inter-station games. The signals team lost to the Beaver Base WD team. The Motor transport will be the next to try. At the end of the season it is hoped to make a station team from among the girls, and we really should show them how then.

The cycling club has been able to get in its weekly runs, and some of the personnel on this station know a lot more about the surrounding countryside than they used to do. We are still waiting to hear about the camera club going into action. How about it?

The WD sgts. have adopted "Penny," one of the picket hut kittens. It seems to be getting on quite well in its new home. A place is still to be found for one of the kittens. Any offers?

The inauguration of early morning P.T. classes has resulted in several stiff backs among the airmen and airwomen on the station. Not to be outdone, however, some of the signals girls are to be found doing skipping and other exercises before going on night duty.

Another new club has been formed here. All those interested in a camera club should contact

CEYLON CANUCKS LEARN TEA ARTS

The sight of a Canadian plucking tender tea leaves or tapping rubber trees is not an uncommon sight in Ceylon, but he doesn't count on either art for a livelihood.

It all started from a few of the boys accepting invitations to spend leave with the planters. Now a monthly excursion of about 25 airmen are weekend guests of the British planters.

They visit a country club sponsored by the hosts and the facilities of two tennis courts and a nine-hole golf course are at their disposal. In the evening there is the inevitable pick-up softball game and the planters and their wives, hep to the rules, cheer as lustily as any Brooklynite.

They watch native women pluck tea and find it's not so easy to select only the tender leaves they used to read about in the advertisements.

TOWS GLIDER

P/O J. G. "Eddie" Edwards, Cumberland, BC, WAG, recently commissioned in this country, is with an RAF squadron which specialises in paratroop carrying and glider towing. It's a new line for him, for his previous experience has been with Coastal Command back home and with a Ventura recce outfit on this side.

Mr. Chisholm, of the Y.M.C.A. The sergeants' mess now has two new members. Congratulations Sgt. Dawson and Gillis. Now wearing two hooks is Jean McGillivray.

The various garden patches on the station are coming along nicely, and the border in front of the hospital shows promise of being very pleasant in time to come.

Out of hospital are LAWs Wiseman and Leckie-Ewing and AW McLuckie is once more out and about.

Plans for the six group concert party are forging ahead, and various groups are to be found practising in the recreation hall and conference room most evenings in the week.

—LAW U. M. Lewis.

CANADIAN UNITS HELP

(Continued from page 1)

there were clouds of steam pouring from the locomotive.

Boyle and Gordon were joined by F/L C. G. Brown, Prescott, Ont., in an attack on two vanloads of soldiers. F/L Peter Logan, Montreal, made an attack on a staff car and when he opened up he saw an officer leap from the car and throw himself flat on the ground beside it. The car was left in flames by F/L Andy Mackenzie, DFC, Montreal, recently appointed a flight commander of the Wolf unit.

Four Canadian aircraft are missing.

FIGHTERS BLAST TWO NAZIS OVER FRANCE

Two FW190s were destroyed by RCAF Spitfire pilots during an offensive patrol over Occupied France on Friday.

The scoring pilots were F/L Douglas Lindsay, Arnprior, Ont., and F/L John Hodgson, Calgary, Alta. Lindsay reported his victim crashed into a field north of Auneuil, while Hodgson scored when the FW he attacked crash-landed and blew up near Beaumont-sur-Oise.

TORONTO NAVIGATOR SHAKES BENGAL HUT

F/O J. Irvine, 23, navigator, Toronto, was the surprise element in the life of a Bengal family recently when he parachuted from an RAF Wellington and landed on the roof of a busti hut.

Occupants of the hut were rudely awakened when Irvine crashed onto the roof and slid unharmed to the ground to join his companions who had dropped safely from the skies a few miles from a Bengal airfield.

One of the engines of the Wellington had almost conked out after a flight over Rangoon, but the English pilot brought his aircraft almost 300 miles before he commenced seriously to lose altitude.

The pilot stated that he was uncertain that a good landing could be made, so he ordered the crew to bale out. Irvine, two New Zealand and another English crew member dived out into the night. The RAF pilot stayed with his aircraft and brought it in safely.

WHERE'S ELMER?

Elmer's back in England. LAC Elmer Hall, Peterborough, Ont., got back a month ago after MT working with the City of Windsor Squadron, an RAF MU and the DHQ in Italy. He was out there for two years.

NEW Musical Magic!

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, who made the first musical 15 years ago—the original "Broadway Melody"—has made a NEW Broadway picture, packed with NEW tunes, by Gershwin and others, NEW ideas, NEW stars, like Ginny Simms (the latest American radio sensation), NEW Technicolor beauty, but all the OLD perfection of M.G.M. production and casting.

Starting FRIDAY Broadway Rhythm STARRING George MURPHY and Ginny SIMMS

ALSO "JUNGLE PATROL" A New Guinea story of 8 Australian fighters, photographed under fire (at the NEAREST POINT TO TOKYO so far gained), by the Commonwealth Film Unit. (U.) TOMMY DORSEY and his Orchestra with "ROCHESTER" Charles WINNINGER, Lena HORNE, Gloria DeHAVEN, Nancy WALKER, Hazel SCOTT

NOEL COWARD'S "THIS HAPPY BREED"

In Technicolor STARRING ROBERT NEWTON CELIA JOHNSON JOHN MILLS KAY WALSH Directed by DAVID LEAN

A Noel Coward—Cineguild Production for Two Cities Films Ltd.

CARTOON CORNER

JUST AN ERK!

GROUP CAPTAIN:

HAS THIS KITE BEEN RUN UP TODAY? DID YOU SWING THE COMPASS? ARE THE MAGS HOLDING STEADY?

AIR COMMODORE:

I CAN'T SEEM TO GET INTO THIS PARACHUTE, ARE YOU SURE IT WAS PACKED PROPERLY?

WING COMMANDER:

DOES THIS KITE STILL HAVE THE LEFT-WING-LOW PROBLEM THAT I POINTED OUT TO YOU LAST WEEK?

ERK: (THINKS)

HOW SHOULD I KNOW? I'M JUST AN ERK!

