THE TRUMPETER

Sept. 30, 1979

This copy of the Trumpeter is most difficult to write - primarily because of the distractions that the author is faced with when he tries to write while sitting on the sun baked beach of Florida watching the scantily clad beauties parading by in front of him as he sits trying to concentrate on the matter of our association 1500 miles away. I suppose sucking on the umpteenth cold beer doesn't help much either.

At the recent executive meeting it was disclosed that some members of our association objected to the raffle of bottles at the reunion, under a misapprehension that our association being sufficiently wealthy, should not have to resort to this kind of so-called fund raising. To put this unfortunate rumor to rest once and for all we would point out your association has not raised its dues in many years and still maintains the benefits we have always had - free annual meeting - buffet etc. - minimum cost reunion prices - plus the continuous publication of the Trumpeter, costs of which has increased substantially over the years, as have annual meetings and reunion costs. Therefore monies which we had are slowly dwindling. Despite this, the raffle of bottles at our events is not a permanent or a planned thing. The incident under discussion was a spontaneous gesture on the part of one of our members which the executive was reluctant to refuse permission to and appreciated the thought.

"GEE, YOU SHOULD SEE THE BLONDE IN THE PINK (I THINK ITS A BATHING SUIT) THAT JUST WENT BY — TIME FOR ANOTHER BEER".

Your executive has been asked by many of our members to hold an evening sometime in the fall. The reason for this being there is no association activity between June and February ("BOY, TWO BEAUTS JUST WENT BY") - where was I? Oh yes, so this year we are going to try and fulfill this request. Obviously the response and support we receive will determine whether this is to become an annual event. It was decided to hold a social evening in the Officers' Mess on November 10th, with an entry charge of $5.00 per couple and you can purchase your own drinks at the bar.

We would ask all of you who are interested in this evening to contact Ed Wellington at 334-4366 prior to October 31st. Since you asked for this - make sure you support it - call now!

It has always been the policy of the association in the past to duly record the passing of our members - for each to mourn in his own way, the loss of an Hussar. Your executive, after much debate has authorized the publication of this eulogy received from J. McArthur on the passing of R.S.M. Bert Scott - a man who touched the lives of us all in one way or another:

> "R.S.M. Bert Scott is dead. He died 20 August 1979. Those of us who served with Bert will mourn his passing, not only for what he was but for what he represented, "THE 17TH HUSSARS".
>
> He was an extremely proud man. His lifelong pride in the Regiment bore this out. Bert was one of a kind and his style was a reminiscent of the old P.F. Regimental Sgt. Major.

We are inclined to shy away from value judgments when speaking of comrades in the Regiment, but the passing of our old R.S.M. should have special mention. He was a remarkable soldier as we knew him, from Cote Des Neiges, to Debert, to England, to France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and back to Cote Des Neiges, can attest.

He leaves all of us feeling the better for knowing him.

We shall miss him''.

Contributions in R.S.M. Scott's name may be made to the Cancer fund.

We received a most welcome and interesting letter in the mail from Gordon Donnelly of Toronto, concerning a 35th year Anniversary Reunion of V.E. Day, to be celebrated in Holland next May by "The Queen's Own Rifles" - at a cost of $530.00 per person, with the Dutch picking up the rest of the tab.

We know this brings up a carload of questions. Anyone seriously interested should contact Dunc Munro at 932-8276 or 2155 St. Mark St., Apt. 15, Montreal, Que. H3H 2G8.

Would not a Hussar contingent at the ceremonies be most appropriate?

Sick Parade:

F Brown - at home
E. Wheeler - at home
L. Slabodian - at St. Anne's
R. Hoag - at St. Anne's

It is with regret that we report the passing of the following members of our association. To their Family and Friends, our deepest sympathy.

T. Hunsinger J. Mulderrig James Delaney Alfred J. Lepiez B. Hitchinson

MEMBERSHIPS

Our Membership Chairman, Alex Jamieson has forwarded a letter to all members who for some reason or another were not on our nominal rolls, also those whom we have not heard from for some time requesting them to reply to his letter for future mailings of this publication and continued membership in our association. Please respond to this letter. It is most vital to all of us.

"O.K. GUYS, HERE IS YOUR TRUMPETER FOR THIS TIME. ME, I'M GOING IN FOR A SWIM. THERE'S A NICE BRUNETTE OUT THERE THAT I THINK NEEDS SAVING. LET YOU KNOW HOW I MADE OUT WHEN I GET BACK!

Oops, sorry I forgot a couple of things.

The Cavalry Ball, scheduled for November, will not, for numerous reasons, be held during that month. Information regarding change of date and place will be forthcoming.

Secondly, the following list of members who attended our annual stag this year. To them our thanks, to you who did not attend look at the list and see all of the guys who would like to see you there.

Friday Night STAG - 1 June '79

E. White, Al. Canavan, Alec Jamieson, D. Bardell, Bill Bowen, A. Burt, L. L'Allemand, H. Croucher, A. Knights, F. Sponagle, Tony Lambert, J. Hunting, W. Pollitt, Ed. Ellis, Al. McPherson, E. Moore, J. Corker, A Feltus, J. Barrett, L. Lewis, E. Doak, E. Wellington, H. Orr, C. Hamilton, G. Topp, L. Crabtree, B. Gall, M.G. Christie, G. Voss, Charles DeVolpi, Jim. Domville, H. McCrea, J. Wood, S. Highway, Jack Sabin, O. McKenna, Colin Marton, Dunc Munro, M. Lecker, W. Ricketts, G. Routley, H. Palmer, D. Jamieson, H. Borshy, A. McGowan, A. Workman, H. Amsden, T. Montgomery, Stan Roddin, B. Benitez, J.P. Lefebvre, L. Christie, G. Mills, A. Nicholas, J. Dionne, Jack Raich, W. Gills, W. Lothian, E. Wheeler, E. Watters, R. James, F. Brown, L. Coté, D. McLeod, G. Kalmanowitch, C. Woodburn, H. Hamilton, F. Lawlor, G. Newsam, A. Giles, and J. Gregory.

"NOW WHAT WAS I DOING? AH YES, NOW DEAR THIS IS HOW YOU DO THE BREAST STROKE"

Your Editor.

THE TRUMPETER

OFFICIAL ORGAN

The Royal Canadian Hussars Assocn.

MAY 1979

ANNUAL MEETING 1979

The Annual Meeting was held in the Officers mess on February 16, 1979 as we had advised the membership it would be in the Trumpeter in January and although the Turnout for the meeting was substantial and the Buffet and the Music were excellent plus the Hussars congeniality that makes any such gathering a success, it is to the executive and the writer somewhat of a disappointment that of our registered 210 members we can only expect between 30 to 40 of them to show up for these Annual Meetings despite our best efforts to convince the membership that their interest and support are necessary to make this association viable.

Perhaps our approach is wrong? Maybe the date the Meeting is held is not convenient? Whatever the reason we would appreciate hearing from the members any suggestions that may improve this situation.

For those that did attend the executive extend their thanks.

The membership approved the slate of officers as presented for 1979 and to these gentlemen our congratulations.

Unfortunately due to other duties Lt Col. R.W. Turnell was unable to address the association re the Regimental Slaters. However the new regimented DCO Major Roman Jarymowycz very ably performed this duty in the Colonels absence and his description of the recent exercise in cooperation with the 177th Vermont National Guard could not help but make any Hussar proud of the present Regiments capability and esprit de Corps.

Our overseas Chairman Pete Whiteside was in attendance and very proudly presented his son to the membership. We also received a wire from Bob Sherman who was in Arizona at the time. Much appreciated Bob.

As we mentioned previously the Buffet was again excellent and Julius had us dancing until dawn with his non stop musical renditions. In all a very fine evening.

We were also advised that there are again plans being made for a Cavalry Ball this year and that it is hoped that it can be held in the Armory tentative date is set for November 17.

At the Annual Mess dinner Lt Col. Turnell announced that there is to be a District Parade to be held at the Longue Pointe Ordinance Depot on Sunday afternoon June 3, 1979 and he has asked that members of our Association attend this event. We would suggest those of you who will attend please contact Al Canavan at 486-7187 for final details re time, dress etc. that we do not have at present time.

REUNION 1979

To all of us the mention of the year 1939 confuses up many memories but do you realize how the events of Sept. 11 1939 have affected our lives for that was the event that ultimately brought together a mately group of men from all persuasions and walks of life into the army under the banner of a regiment known as the 17th Duke of Yorks Royal Canadian Hussars.

It is to us a remarkable thing that here we are 40 years later albiet under a different name and slightly more mature, that those of us who remain of those gallant crew are still together and active.

This fact alone we believe is cause enough to celebrate this years Reunion. Which will be held at the Armory on June 1st and 2nd.

Friday Stag Sergeants Mess at 1930 hrs.
Saturday Dance Officers Mess at 2000 hrs.

The Saturday Dance will be unfortunately limited to 110 persons and there will be no ticket sales at the door. Therefore all members are asked to remit their cheques and request for tickets to E.J. Wellington, 11941 O'Brien Blvd., Montreal H4J 1Z1. Phone 334-4366.

Price per person is $7.50
Price per couple is $15.00

It is imperative that cheques for tickets reach D. Wellington prior to May 26 so necessary arrangements for food etc. can be made.

So don't delay do it now.

MEMBERSHIP

We assume all of you have forwarded this years membership to the treasurer, having expressed this pipe dream. Let us now present you with some facts of life if you will. As you all know costs for everything are going up and our Association is no different.

We have for years carried members on our mailing list and have not had any dues from them. In the past these delinquent few we could carry. Now however the cost of this Trumpeter makes this very difficult so much so that your executive will have to consider striking off unpaid members from our list an action they are reluctant to do. This you can prevent by forwarding your dues to: A.J. Jamieson, 4210 Wilson Ave., Montreal, Que. H4A 2T9

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Some months ago our president approached Jack Raich and asked him if he would give us some of his impressions when he was operating with the Contact Detachments attached to various Brigades on "D" Day, 6 June 1944.

Jack has very kindly produced the following information and has left out a great deal of the bloodshed and gory details which, naturally, must have been well in evidence. We are indebted to Jack Raich and thank him for this interesting bit of Regimental history.

CONTACT DETACHMENT NEWS
"D" Day and D plus one

On "D" Day, my assignment was 7th Brigade headquarters. Trooper F. Gordon and myself were bringing our jeep and "baby carriage" with a large number 68R wireless set, batteries, chore-horse plus all our personal equipment and the rest of the equipment for our 7th Brigade detachment. Our detachment was divided into three sections and included six men. One section was stationed on the Brigade ship. Another section which was made up of Lt. Borlase in charge and Trooper Poole was aboard a separate landing craft. The third section in our landing craft was primarily made up of self-propelled artillery guns with a few extra personnel including ourselves. Our job aboard the landing craft consisted of throwing the empty shell cases overboard, as the guns were being fired. The landing craft were stretched over several miles at hundred yard intervals and all guns were firing approximately four shells per minute, as we slowly approached the French coast off Normandy.

At this particular stage, we were a little dismayed. The fire in our direction was heavy and as we were approaching, it was more obvious that the shells were hitting the water with greater intensity. This was not in the script. It was supposed to be an easy landing. One of our supporting craft was firing batteries of rockets into the shore. A fighter plane flying back got into the range of the rockets and was hit. We could see the aircraft going down quite lazily and it shook us up because this was the first visual tragedy of the many more we would see on this particular day.

About this time, the first wireless message came back from the beach stating that the Regina Rifles had captured 50 prisoners. This was very heartening news. Both the Regina Rifles and the Winnipeg Rifles had hit exceptionally heavy troops at our landing area which was the beach at Courcelles-sur-mer. The whole time-table was running well behind schedule and it was H plus 90 before we were heading for the shore. The beach was in a shambles. There was great confusion as in

all such situations. Bulldozers and flail-tanks were all over the beach and many prisoners were waiting to be transported back by the return landing craft. All types of landing craft were blown up by the underwater obstacles which had mines attached to them. Up against the retaining wall our wounded as well, waiting to board, for the return to England.

We landed in about three feet of water and apart from shells that were falling on the beach quite regularly, there was little to report about the advance. The infantry had by this time taken Courcelles proper and were advancing to the edge of the town which was farmland. Our self propelled guns were engaging enemy artillery and there was also a continuous mopping up exercise by the infantry. The anxious questions asked by the French were, if we were there to stay or was this just another raid? (Dieppe). While we were in Courcelles, there was a great commotion. We were being sniped at from the church steeple. We could not figure out how the Germans had penetrated, but when the snipers were flushed out, they were found to be Frenchwomen who were girlfriends of the German army "brass". This was our first lesson of what we had to expect from the French themselves. Although it was a rare case, it really made us think.

After these events, when we were at the edge of the town, the most humorous incident of the day took place. As you know, most haystacks are in the open fields. Our infantry were firing inland and the Germans were firing back in our direction. While this engagement was going on, one of our soldiers, whose name we could not find out, was doing what he was most interested in, i.e. seducing a young French girl at the base of the haystack. Safe and free from both lines of fire. This lull in the activity was what we needed to relax our tensions and the rest of the day we made good progress, so did the soldier. Nothing like two smiling people enjoying what they liked best.

We had joined up with Lt. Borlase and Trooper Ted Poole and by 1300 hours started to move inland. By 1800 hours, we had moved by roundabout ways to the edge of Carpiquet Airport but we did not stay here for very long as the rest of the infantry were pinned down, especially the 8th and 9th Brigades at "Hell's Corners". We had to move back to form a straight line of defence and did not reach Carpiquet Airport again for another five weeks. At about 1900 hours on "D" Day our last planes were flying back to England and we suddenly realized that from here on in we would be there by ourselves until the following morning. Not a very comfortable feeling especially as all night we could hear the 88mm Tiger tanks crunching in the background and all around us. This was the first of many days with the darkness belonging to the Jerries, with their heavy tanks they tried to penetrate the infantry lines. Some minor gains but no major breakthrough.

Although we were at 7th Brigade Headquarters, the distance was less than a mile from the front and everyone was stand-to throughout the night. The following day being bright and cheerful as only a spring day could be in France, we decided to do what we knew best; we washed, shaved and polished our boots and did all the useless things that soldiers do when they are standing-to. This alone was a terrific booster and throughout the campaign you could not say enough about it. It was during this day that the North Nova Scotia Headquarters at "Hell's Corners" were being heavily shelled by the Germans and a strange message came over the contact wireless that a baby girl was born at the North Nova's Headquarters. This is the only birth that was recorded over our wireless networks. (In our return visit to Normandy in 1974, while visiting the same farmhouse with the North Nova Scotia Highlanders, including the doctor who was there when the baby was born, we were fortunate in meeting the baby, now a young lady who was married and has two children. Needless to say, there was a great celebration about this, both from her family and her friends, as well as the four men from the North Nova's).

It became increasingly apparent that the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division had trained very well, could hold the Germans, as well as compare with the best that the USA and British forces provided for the "D" Day landings. Although the Canadians had 25,000 troops in a very small area, morale was excellent and there was little sign of panic or confusion. We suddenly realized that we were part of a very formidable Canadian organization.

Our thanks to Jack Raich for this contribution to the Trumpeter. We look forward to receiving other contributions from our members.

Dennis L. Bardell

THE TRUMPETER

OFFICIAL ORGAN

The Royal Canadian Hussars Assocn.

JANUARY 1979

As we begin this year of 1979 your Executive wishes you all a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year. They thank you all for the support that you gave them that made 1978 such a successful year. With a continuation of this support 1979 cannot help but be a better year for our Association.

We cannot think of a better time for you to express this support than at the Annual Meeting which this year is to be held in the Officers Mess at the Armory on February 16 starting at 2000 hours. For it is at this meeting that you and I have our opportunity to express to the members of the Executive how we feel about their performance whether it be good or bad. As you all know any organization is only as strong as the participation of the individual. And that means you.

As is the custom the Annual Meeting this year will be for the members and their wives or girlfriends, as the case may be. Now we are aware that the buffet dance held after the meeting has become quite popular and we have been approached to allow members to bring their relatives or friends to the meetings so that they may attend the buffet afterwards. Unfortunately under our association's by-laws the Annual Meeting is a business meeting and not a social event as such. Therefore your executive must maintain the members only status.

ANNUAL MEETING

Will be held in the Officers Mess - Cote Des Neiges Armory, February 16, 1979 starting at 20:00 hrs.

Members and their wives only are invited. A free buffet will be served, members will attend the meeting while the ladies will be entertained in the lounge. Music will be provided.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Honorary President	Lt. Col. Roger Turnell
President	A. Canavan
1st Vice President	D. Wellington
2nd Vice President	D.C. Munro
Secretary	R. Ryan
Treasurer	J. Hunting
Past President	R. Canavan
Overseas Chairman	P. Whiteside
N.Y. Chapter Chairman	E. Moore

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

H. Amsden
W. Bowen
D.L. Bardell
J. Duncan
A. Jamieson
J. McArthur
R. Scott
R. Warren

The persons listed above have been duly contacted and have agreed to act if so elected.

The following By-law of the Association is brought to your attention.

ARTICLE IX SEC. 3

Any six members in good standing may nominate any member who signified his agreement for any office by filing said nomination with the Secretary at least two weeks before the declared date of the Annual Meeting.

CAVALRY BALL

There are times when the writer wonders if the primary requirement to being a Hussar is not so much the ability to perform capably military or socially. From the support and attendance that the social occasions receive it would seem that the latter is the deciding factor.

Again this year at the Cavalry Ball held in the Windsor Hotel on Saturday, November 17 found our membership out in full force. So much so that during the course of the evening Ralph Ryan sagely observed as he sipped on his umpteenth scotch and soda "That this is just like a mini reunion". The other members in the area cast rather bleary blood shot glances around the room and concurred with our poet philosophers assessment of the situation and promptly headed back to the bar. Further comment it was felt was unnecessary.

A reception line greeted all the guests. This included our Honorary Colonel and Mrs. Charles DeVolpi, our Honorary Lt. Col. and Mrs. James Domville and the Commanding Officer of The Royal Canadian Hussars Ltd. Col. and Mrs. Roger Turnell.

To this observers eyes the gentlemen in the reception line were very well turned out and their ladies were dressed beautifully. If an attempt was made to describe what the ladies wore I'm afraid they would be very upset. They, of course, looked tremendous.

The food was quite palatable. Only one complaint was heard and this was a case where the beef was somewhat rare. Reference has been made to beef and this is not to be mistaken for "Beef - Bully - for the use of".

The orchestra for the evening of dancing happened to be the Canadian Forces Vimy Band from the Kingston area. They played well if not loudly and unfortunately there was no volume control to tune them into a softer, more receptive, mood. We will, in future, have to do something about this problem.

The Cavalry Ball Committee had their work cut out for them what with a mail strike plus the somewhat lackadaisical way in which people really didn't bother too much in getting their replies back. This makes it more than difficult for a committee to know what they can expect, besides trouble.

Speeches were at a minimum and all toasts were brief and to the point. By the way, the Calvados still tastes like "Fire-water".

One of the sights to be seen at an affair like this are familiar faces that have not been in view for sometime. People from our Association like Merv Christie of Kanata, Ontario. (Hope he got over that cold all right?), Syd Patterson in from Brockville. Must be one of the first times he's upped the "Old Anchor"? Lloyd Lewis down from Ottawa. What a pleasant sight to see him. It's not often we see a "C" Squadron man.....John Thom came in from the Bruce Peninsula and he looks as handsome as ever. What about our former Chief L.O. Jerry Casault? He hasn't been around for awhile. He looks great too....That attractive "dish" with Jean Paul Lefebvre was none other than one of his daughters. Now we know wherein the beauty lies....Bert Scott growled out a command from somewhere and his

voice was just like old times. We hope that he keeps on improving and puts on a few more pounds....Jack Anderson flew up from Florida and he looks very well also. He could lend Bert Scott a couple of those extra pounds if he feels inclined....Wilf Ricketts was in good form, it is a pity that he is so shy and quiet? ....Ralph Warren looking very dapper was seen enjoying the festivities....Henry Amsden - he's the artist who put together the plates for the front of our cars - Quebec Province only, so far.....Eddie Ellis made it for this one. It was great to see him....Clint Bussey rubbing shoulders with Les Christie and Ralph Ryan along with that other "short" chap George Routley. George of course is one of the stalwarts of the Royal Canadian Hussars Institute....Julian Benbow - now when you mention to him to be brief - he knows what the meaning really is. He lives in the Knowlton area and it is always good to see him.....What about backbones? This brings to mind Duncan Munro. This fellow should really receive a standing ovation for all that he has done for our Association. He's still at it too and we are very much blessed in having him. I've blessed him a number of times. A true pillar of strength, however, I've found it much simpler just to lean on him, its quite relaxing....Another member with a lot of interest is Jack Hunting. The Association is very interested in him. I suppose that if you are a bank manager one would expect a lot of interest? Common sense, without a doubt..... Luc Rene de Cotret, now that's a mouthful. He was a member of our unit after the war; was he smoking again? Ask him how he got that Three Rivers Tank badge on his beret?.....Edwin Wellington - "Duke" - a true cavalryman. His daughter recently bought a horse. With the price of gasoline I can't blame her. Someone told me - I think it was Syd Patterson - that Ed Wellington still looks as young as ever. I had to agree with Syd - or he wouldn't have given me my supper, that indeed, Ed is a picture of youth eternal....That takes care of some of the boys and I was so busy watching them that I hardly got to know their wives. Such is the way things go.....I would be remiss if I didn't mention some other capable Association members such as Captain Gordon McWhaw and Captain Steve Linton along with the RSM Bernie Ciarroni, these fellows behaved themselves very well?....

In every respect it is fairly safe to say that a good time was had by all participants at the Cavalry Ball.

In any endeavour there is some event or effort that makes it memorable. On this night it was the Hospitality Suite which Merv and Lorna Christie sponsored for all the members of the Association. The bar was open from 5 p.m. and closed at 7:20 by Bert Scott at Merv's request as only Bert can close a bar. It was reopened at 10:30 p.m. until the wee hours of the morning. That gentlemen was a party that will long be remembered.

To Lorna and Merv Christie on behalf of all the members present, may we thank you both for your kindness and generosity it was most appreciated.

It was during the course of this Hospitality Suite that the following event took place as described by D. Munro being an ex "B" Squadron type myself, makes it difficult not to add a comment. I will restrain this natural reaction and present an unedited Duncans report on this incident.

Did "A" "C" and "H.Q." Squadrons know that as far as Syd Patterson is concerned, if it wasn't for "B" Squadron, we would have lost the war - He had all his "B" Squadron boys all around him and was telling all and sundry how great they were, until at last, being an "H.Q." man myself, I told him in no uncertain terms that he was full of "Prunes" and you know what Prunes do to you if you eat enough of them. He and his "Gang" then tried to run me out of the room and if it hadn't been for Merv Christie, I would have landed on my "Derriere" out in the corridor. Then he had the nerve to invite me to visit him in Brockville at his "Old Anchorage" the next time I pass through. Do you think he might be out to get me for the "kind" remarks? I wonder!

LOST SHEEP

We have received the following mail returned. Anyone knowing the where abouts of these members please contact Alex Jamieson.

E. Newman was at 4825 Cote St. Catherine Rd.
Ian G. Walton was at 2150 De Maisonneuve.
John J. Bousquet was at 2385 Oxford, Apt. 17.
W.J. Dadson was at 2155 Prudhomme.
H.R. Bradley was at 647 Gardenville, Longueuil.
W.R. Worthington was at 3445 Patricia Ave.
J.S. Chamberlain was at 3760 Benny Ave.
G. Ducksworth was at 930 Suns Place, Dorval.

LAST POST

E.S. O'toole
G. Meyer

We regret to report the passing of the following members and to their families and friends extend our deepest sympathy.

SICK PARADE

A. Coul
J. Muldery
M. MacKennan

To the members who contributed to this Trumpeter we extend our appreciation and look forward to further contributions.

Dennis L. Bardell

ROYAL CANADIAN HUSSARS ASSOCIATION
4185 COTE DES NEIGES RD.
MONTREAL, P.Q. H3H 1X2

To bill you for your Annual Dues for 1979 — $3.00.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Postal Code _____

Please make cheque / money order payable to
the Association and mail remittance to:

A.J. Jamieson
4210 Wilson Ave.
Montreal, Que.
H4A 2T9