



National  
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# Thunderbird



Canada

Number 1, 1996



# The Thunderbird



Number 1, 1996

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Force (ASF)

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The **Thunderbird Journal**, the official journal of the Security Branch, is published quarterly and is an authorized DND periodical in accordance with CFAO 57-14.

The aim of the **Thunderbird Journal** is to provide a focal point for Branch activities, to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, and to foster professionalism and esprit de corps.

Items suitable for publication in the **Thunderbird Journal** will vary in terms of topics and format but can include both items of Branch wide interest as well as more informal reports of local events. Articles may be submitted direct or through the normal chain of command subject to the approval of appropriate commanders as applicable.

Letters to the Editor, questions or editorial comment will be welcome, however, the Editorial Board reserves the right to reject articles considered unsuitable for publication.

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# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

BY LCOL D.V. McELREA

This is my first letter as Editor-in-chief of the Thunderbird Journal. I feel it is an honour to be selected for this position and, for me, a distinct pleasure to serve the Security Branch in this fashion. This publication takes on added importance when one realizes it is a key platform for dissemination of information affecting the Branch. I don't need to tell you we are in a period of change. My intent is to ensure that you are kept well informed on the direction these changes take us in the future.



This is perhaps the single most important event in the life of the Security Branch since its creation in 1966. The outcome will be with us for years to come.

This issue has articles about Military Police operations in Rwanda and Haiti, the Interrogation process by MWO Murray-Ford, the C Pro C, presentation of the Meritorious Service Medal to Maj J.G. Plante, and the MP hockey tournament.

You are reminded that you may be published by writing on any topic having relevance to the Military Police. In fact you can receive

payment for it as well. All you have to do is send your article to the following address and ask that it be entered in the Thunderbird Journal Article Contest: Secretary, Canadian Military Police Association, c/o Director General Security and Military Police, National Defence Headquarters, MGen George R. Pearkes Building, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0K2.

On looking back through previous editions of the Thunderbird Journal I attempted to categorize the type of articles that have been published since its appearance in the 1980s. By no means exhaustive, they included items on Military Police Operations, feature articles on Military Police functions such as investigative techniques, retrospectives (historical events), the MP Fund for Blind Children, competitions, off-duty activities and In Memoriam(s). I found this to be a good mixture of information and would like to continue to provide articles in similar fashion in the future. As always, your comments are solicited on ways we can improve this publication. It is intended to serve your needs!

The Branch Advisor, Colonel P.C. Maclaren, has provided an update on the progress of the Security Services Action Team (Operation Thunderbird) study.

## Editor's Note

*In reference to the article "The George Wilkinson Room - The Thunderbird Club" in Number 1, 1995, it should be noted that MCpl W.C. Palamar was the person responsible for the original research on the George Wilkinson Room.*





# NOTES FROM THE BRANCH ADVISOR

## COL P.C. MACLAREN

Operation Thunderbird, the re-engineering of the Security and Military Police functions within the Department of National Defence, is proceeding ahead at a rapid pace. So rapid that I will not attempt to capture its status as I now write, knowing too well that it will have changed radically within one or two weeks and that this issue cannot be published in any comparable time span. One of the obligations held by the Op Thunderbird team members, an obligation which they take very seriously, is that of pushing out information as it becomes available. Watch for their communiqués.

In this maze of change, three factors remain constant as the Op Thunderbird proposals are being perfected; when the dust settles, there will be fewer of us; the key to eliminating redundancies, assuring appropriate investigative and law enforcement independence and yet serving commanders lies in determining the right command-and-control formula; and our functions ultimately exist only to enable the Canadian Forces to conduct operations. It will not have escaped you that the collation of these principles reveals some imposing conflicts. How do you remain demonstrably free of the "undue influence" of commanders while existing only to do their bidding? If investigative prowess and effective law enforcement depend more upon experience than upon formal training (and they do), how do we deploy effective military policemen and women to operational theatres without having them carry out these functions at home? If the military policeman is gainfully



employed sharpening his skills while serving his "at home" tours between unaccompanied deployments, what job does he do that leaves him trained, practised and yet available for instant tasking?

In the process of the Study we have confirmed some long-held suspicions and acknowledged some rather ripe faults. The team has studied the concept of demanding more civilian police assistance for Married Quarters areas on the basis of "Grants in Lieu of Taxes" payments and discovered that any services beyond those already received from the civilian market will only be delivered if the payments are increased accordingly (and "accordingly" refers to the civilian cost of doing business, not the military bill). We have agreed that we handle one of our prime products, information, abysmally. Our reports are too detailed in the wrong areas, are verified too stringently too frequently, and fail to make appropriate use of modern information technology to make them rapidly and widely available to other military

policemen as individual reports or as contributions to data banks. Our married quarters enjoy a level of policing which is far greater than that enjoyed by comparable civilian communities (and many residents will be quick to agree that it is possible to have too much of a good thing).

One of the re-engineering options being prepared for consideration by the Op Thunderbird team is titled "status quo" but I needn't warn you that it is the profile voted least likely to succeed. Indeed, neither I nor the team members support it. It may be too early to predict the direction of any change but you can bank on the fact that change we will.

So all roads lead back to that perpetual ogre, change. Any change selected for implementation has to mean a move away from systems and procedures that we have all invested heavily in, whether in learning them, perfecting them or, indeed, originating them. This does not mean that change will not be for the better. I am absolutely convinced that, overall, we will see significant improvements both in the services which we deliver and the satisfaction which we derive from doing so. I must, of course, concede that it is inevitable that in some areas (if only we could foresee which ones!) we will get it wrong or overshoot the mark. The success of the changes, and our existence within the Canadian Forces, will depend upon our ability to greet the coming innovations positively, to strive to make them work and to develop those that do not. View change not as a criticism of our past but rather as the challenge for our future.





# Canadian Military Police in Rwanda

By Marc Picard

Eight Military Policemen from across Canada served as Canadian Forces Peacekeepers with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda. They were an integral part of the United Nations Military Police Company in Kigali, Rwanda for almost one year, starting in November 1994. At time of writing there was about 120 Canadians serving in Rwanda, including the Force Commander, MGen G.C. Tousignant.

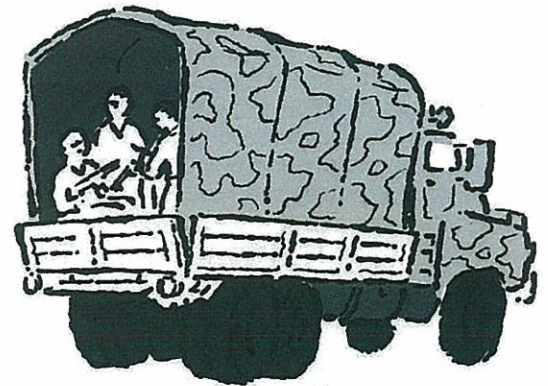
The United Nations Military Police Company, a 70 person multi-national police force, included Military Police from Tunisia, Ghana, Nigeria, India, Zambia, Malawi as well as Canada and was responsible for policing over 6000 UN troops and civilians that form the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda. They faced an interesting challenge of policing UN personnel in a country where the civilian population is relatively not policed and the traffic laws, although strictly enforced by Military Police towards UN personnel, were not enforced by the local police and the speed of the local vehicles often exceeds 120 km/h in rural areas where the speed limit is posted at 40 km/h.

On their arrival in Kigali in November 1994, the first Commanding Officer, Canadian Major Jean-Guy Plante of Montreal was pleased and relieved to see the eight Canadians that would form the backbone of the Military Police Company. With very little equipment and a great deal of Canadian ingenuity, the United Nations Military Police Company was born. It was a challenge to bring together police from so many different countries and such varied cultures and try to get

them working as a unit. Under Maj Plante the Canadians established a month long training period in an attempt to bring the African Nation's Military Police to an acceptable standard of investigating traffic accidents and responding to complaints. "In Canada we are the first to complain about the training that is available. Our work here has certainly shown us to appreciate what we have in Canada" stated Sgt Claude Vezina from Ottawa. He was responsible for most of the instruction during the training period. He added "I couldn't conceive teaching someone to compile a proper police investigation report when they had trouble reading and writing." The first few months were very frustrating working with virtually untrained personnel, very limited, and in some cases no, equipment. All of the Canadian Military Police in Rwanda were bilingual, a necessity as all but one of the Tunisians spoke only Arabic and French, and those from the African Nations spoke English and in some cases their English was limited.

The Canadians were spread throughout the unit in an effort to provide as much expertise in as many areas as possible. Sgt Vezina, Cpl Mike Collet, from Esquimalt B.C., and Cpl Gilbert Poirier, from Valcartier Quebec, were assigned to the patrol section and were each on 1 of the 3 shifts (working 12 hours on a 2 days, 2 nights and 2 off rotation). The patrol section often responded to serious traffic accidents and armed robberies daily. "It's certainly different than home, it's not often you respond to an armed robbery

in progress and it's 6 guys with AK47's robbing a house," stated Sgt Vezina. He added: "You need a great deal of common sense to deal with most of the occurrences here." "You're out on patrol and you see a vehicle that is obviously stolen from the UN," states Cpl Collet. He continued "it has identification marks and the white paint is starting to show under the haphazard camouflage paint job. Then you think, there are 8 guys in this truck, the oldest is probably 15 and they all have loaded AK47 assault rifles. It's



only a truck. You make note of it for a quick report and continue on patrol." WO Yves Bessette of Montreal was the overall shift supervisor and second in command to the detachment commander in Kigali. He faced the interesting challenge of providing adequately trained personnel to police the country 24 hours a day, seven days a week with a language barrier between the shift commanders, who do not speak English and most of the patrolman who do not speak French. There was an interpreter on each shift that spoke English, French and the local Kinyarwanda as well as one Canadian per shift that was bilingual. Cpl Mario Paradis from





Halifax provided his expertise in the Criminal Investigations Cell which investigated among other things, murders, highjacked vehicles and armed robberies throughout the country. "It is a challenging concept to investigate a murder without any forensic assistance and with very limited tools" he stated, adding "we do more reporting than investigating, but the UN seems content with that." Cpl Parent also from Montreal, Quebec ran the logistics for the unit and provided food, water, supplies, vehicles and lodging to the 70 people in the unit. He dealt daily with the frustrations of the United Nations bureaucracy in his attempts to make the tour as smooth as possible for unit personnel. "When you come into a country and police the UN people that have been free for months, you are certain to be last on the list to get anything" he stated. "It's a constant battle to get anything we need from them," he added. MCpl Norm Chouinard of Kingston, Ontario worked in the Company Operations Cell and was responsible for reviewing and often rewriting all Police reports that were submitted by the unit and forwarded to the United Nations Board of Inquiry, which determined whether the UN was at fault and to what degree, if any, compensation was to be paid to the victim(s).

"I am convinced that after his work here is finished Norm (MCpl Chouinard) will open his own psychic line. In the beginning there was very little information contained in the reports that were submitted to him and he somehow managed to make sense of them and submit a clear and concise final product," stated Cpl Mike Collet about the dedication that MCpl Chouinard displayed towards his work. He added: "Norm (MCpl Chouinard) is always working by 6 am and often continues well past 7 pm to ensure timely submission of reports to the United Nations." Cpl Marc Picard from CFB Borden, Ontario was

the Detachment administrator and responsible for controlling and tracking all police reports as well as the administration for the unit and all Canadian administration. "His introduction of a computerized system to track the status of reports saved many hours of searching through the IS-III reports register. The United Nations Claim Department was calling daily as they had people in their office submitting claims that

*"When you come into a country and police the UN people that have been free for months, you are certain to be last on the list to get anything" he stated. "It's a constant battle to get anything we need from them."*

could not be processed without the police reports," stated MCpl Chouinard. With this system, the UNAMIR licence number, or any other relevant information could be entered and the file number known within seconds. He added: "His (Cpl Picard's) knowledge of computers has certainly been challenged in trying to maintain operational systems with very limited hardware, software and an abundance of computer viruses." "There's a point where you just get tired of telling people no, it takes longer than 5 minutes for me to teach you how to use the computer" stated Cpl Picard. He added "I could have been a full time computer instructor and still not have had enough time to teach everyone that wanted to learn."

The first traffic enforcement was conducted with a Muni Quip T-3 stationary radar gun that was

"acquired" for a short period in December from Canadian MPs with 1 Canadian Division Headquarters and Signals Regiment (1 CDHSR) which were in the country at the time. "The amazement of some of the people who were detected at over 100 km/h in a 40km/h zone was a story in itself," stated Cpl Picard referring to his first day of enforcement with the radar. WO Bessette added: "We now control speed with the use of a stop watch where vehicles are timed over a specific distance and their speed measured by a pre determined formula. Although it is not the technology that we have available in Canada, it works as a preventive measure and deters speeders." In Jun 1995, a speed trap was set up for three consecutive days in which a total of 106 traffic violations were issued. The highest speed registered was 110km/h in a 40km/h zone. The first Impaired Driving Check that was done on a Friday night was another culture shock to the UNAMIR personnel who had been living and working in a virtually non policed area for a long period of time. Although not popular, the Military Police were responsible for the sudden use of designated drivers and drastic reduction in the speed at which UN vehicles travelled. MGen Guy Tousignant stated: "I am very pleased by the Canadian influence on the Military Police Coy and it is evident in the law enforcement and preventive policing that is being done here in Rwanda. The Military Police Company as a whole was a necessary addition to UNAMIR."

Since its inception in November 1994, the MP company has logged approximately 600 reports, over 270 of which are traffic accidents. There has been 55 UNAMIR vehicles stolen, most at gunpoint by local Rwanda Patriotic Army (RPA) troops and there has been over 35 armed robberies of UNAMIR houses, also by persons believed to be RPA troops. For a period of





time in January, there was a response required for an average of three accidents per day, a challenge to a shift of 10 persons, of which most are not qualified or capable of investigating without detailed supervision. During a visit to the Military Police Company in Kigali on May 26, 1995, MGen Tousignant stated, "if not for the presence of the Military Police in the mission area, the traffic accident figure would be much higher by now." He added "I am very pleased with the way the Military Police Company conduct their daily operations. They work hard each and every day." Reporting traffic accidents was further hampered by the fact that the company did not even have a tape measure and had to borrow one from the local police to complete a sketch at the scene. The Rwanda traffic police on the other hand did not have vehicles or communications. When responding to an accident which involved the UN and a local vehicle, one MP was left at the scene and the other went and picked up the traffic police at their office. In some cases, the traffic police would stop someone on the road to summon a ride back to their office. The MP Company was later provided with a tape measure which was sent from Canada by fellow MPs. Where a minor traffic accident in Canada could take as little as one hour, in Rwanda, a patrolman could be at an accident for an average of four hours. The local policy at accidents was the seizure of both vehicles until fault was determined and restitution paid. Although under the Status of Missions agreement between the UN and the local government it was not permitted to seize a UN vehicle, it often took the patrolman hours to negotiate, in vain, for the release of UNAMIR vehicles. Prior to the arrival of the MPs, there was a simple rule followed at traffic accidents – if it was white and said UN on it, it was at fault. The

relationship between the local and Military Police assisted in assuring a fair investigation of accidents.

In December 1994, the Company was deployed to the Kibeho refugee camp while UNAMIR conducted a cordon and search operation. It was believed that the camp was being used as a safe haven for war criminals. Once again the Canadian ingenuity was challenged when, on arrival at the point where prisoners were to be detained, it was discovered that nothing had been set up to harbour the prisoners as previously arranged. The local market, with its 4 foot high burlap fences, was transformed into a prisoner processing and detention centre. "Looking back on the operation, it was amazing that a group of people could come together in such an adverse situation and make it work," stated WO Bessette who was in charge of the prisoner detention facility. "The logistics problems were endless. Every time we solved a problem, two more materialized." He added, "On the first night in the camp the 45 prisoners could not be left outside because of the limited security. They were transferred into the local church where they could easily be guarded by 4 or 5 men."



"It was so ironic to me. This is a church where massacres took place during the war, and some of these prisoners were accused of taking part in the massacres. I couldn't help but think that they believed we were going to kill them in the church," stated Cpl Picard. He added "There was a guy in there with no shirt on. The temperature was comfortable for us but he looked cold. I took off my t-shirt and placed it over him. He looked very happy and I hope that he was convinced that he would not be killed by us." On the first night, a young girl was released from custody. She had been arrested for "association" and only spoke

swahili. When she was told to leave she refused, obviously in the belief that she would be shot in the back and accused of escaping. After a long period of time, she was finally convinced that she was indeed free. The operation continued for three days as there was no local prosecutor in the area to take custody of the prisoners. On the second day of the operation, in the town of Butare a group of kids were gathered around the trucks begging for food. "They certainly didn't look starving, so I told them to go away," stated Cpl Mario Paradis. The only one left was a young looking mother with a baby in her arms. He added, "I only had one ration left and it was to be my lunch for the day. I felt compelled to give it to her, knowing she would benefit from it much more than I would. You try to treat people in the most humane way possible in such an inhumane environment". The prisoners were eventually turned over to the prosecutor in Gikongoro on the afternoon of the third day. "You just can't understand the state of the legal system here. Of the 45 prisoners turned over in December 1994, four were released in April 1995 for lack of evidence and the remainder are still imprisoned awaiting trial" stated WO Bessette. He added: "It is probably tough for someone in Canada to imagine the prison system in Rwanda. There are people dying everyday from disease and suffocation because of over crowding." "The Kibeho Camp was a place that I will never forget. I sent my wife a video tape of where we were and she turned it off after 10 minutes," stated Cpl Parent. "She doesn't understand how we can deal with this misery."

On April 11 1995, shortly after the first anniversary of the Rwanda civil war, Cpl Mike Collet was flown by helicopter to Gisenyi in Northern Rwanda to investigate a fatal traffic accident between a UNAMIR vehicle and a young local girl. On route from the scene of the accident to the heliport, for a





return flight to Kigali, he encountered a crowd of 300 to 400 anti UNAMIR protesters. Fortunately he was not seriously injured, however the vehicle in which he was travelling was severely damaged. He stated: "It is very frustrating to be in a country to help people when they turn on you in this manner. It was one of those days that if I would have been offered a chance to return to Canada, I certainly would have taken it. I was never so glad to see the guys from the Canadian Helicopter Company when they came and picked me up that day." He recalls speaking to the pilot on the headset and when asked how he was he simply responded "Just get me out of here."

Cpl Picard recalls helping a local boy that would hang around outside their office daily. "His name is Guidon, he is about 10 years old and only speaks Kinyarwanda," he stated. "A group of kids would play soccer on the road with an old beat up volleyball and there was a volleyball and a soccer ball at the office that no one used. I came to him with both

the soccer ball and volleyball and gave him his choice. His eyes were as wide as I've ever seen

and he stared in a daze at the soccer ball. I motioned for him to take the soccer ball but he just stood there in amazement not wanting to believe the moment. He eventually took the ball and thanked me 10 times or so. They played daily on the dirt road beside our office and every time I saw them I felt a little sense of accomplishment. It was almost as if they were transformed out of their war torn country and into another world while they played soccer."

On May 21st 1995, Maj Samuel DARE from Nigeria assumed command of the MP Company. He stated: "From the briefing I received on assuming command and from my personal experience in the office to date, I have found the Canadian MP personnel to be a group of very hardworking, dedicated and conscientious soldiers." He added: "They have performed well, leaving behind impressive landmarks. They are worthy ambassadors to their country and I enjoy working with them. I salute the sense of duty of the Canadian Military Police."

Canada Day was celebrated at the Canadian Camp of 95 Force Logistics and Support Group in Kigali. The Canadian Military Observers, Military Police and Canadian civilians from UNAMIR all attended. The troops from 95 FLSG were presented with their UN medals and a Canada Day celebration followed. The Force Commander, MGen Tousignant summed up the feelings of all in his address to the troops when he said that it is ironic that you must leave your country for a while to renew your patriotism to Canada. All that attended agreed that this was one of the best Canada Day celebrations ever and certainly the best ever celebrated in Africa. For about 100 Canadian troops it marked the beginning of the countdown for their departure on 26 July 95. Ms Tara

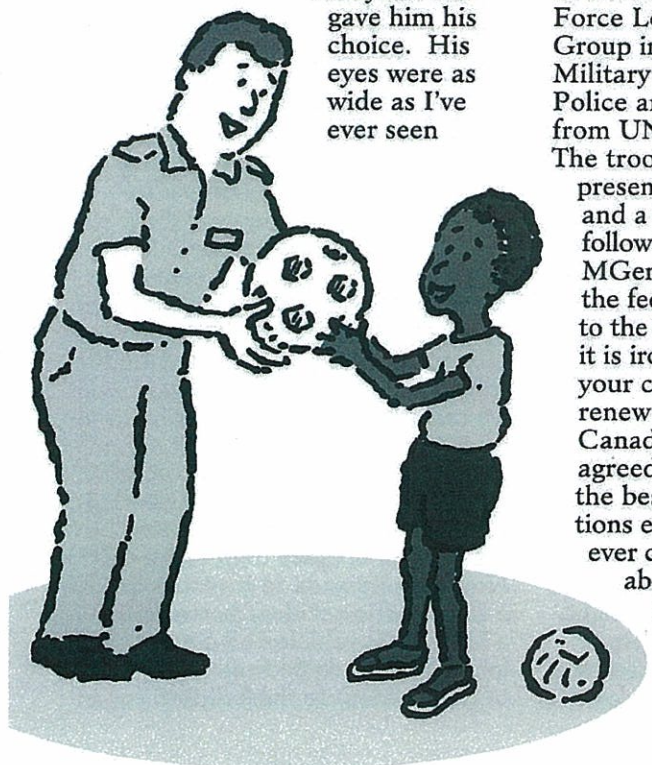
Rice, a Canadian working for Human Rights Field Office in Kigali stated: "This is a very special Canada Day for me, I will be seeing off several great friends at the end of July and this special get together has given me a chance not only to celebrate Canada Day among Canadians but also to thank all the Canadian soldiers and Military Police for their help and support."

On 21 July 95, a medals parade was held at the UNAMIR MP Coy for the Zambian and Nigerian MPs. During the parade, the Force Commander promoted Cpls Collet, Parent, Poirier and Picard to MCpl and MCpl Chouinard to Sgt.

The Military Police for this deployment were taken from all over Canada. Only two had ever worked together before arriving in Ottawa for a three day briefing prior to their departure in November 1994. They were fortunate to get a really good group of men for this assignment. Living and working so closely together for such an extended period of time and under such stressful conditions is very demanding. Six of the eight MPs are married and they all admitted that the toughest part was being away from their wives and children for so long. Cpl Parent summed it up best. "On my return to Canada, I will look at the medal on my uniform and I will feel proud of all of us. We did the best we could in an adverse situation and maintained the pride in Canadian Peacekeepers."

With the UNAMIR mandate reduced from around 5000 troops to 1800 troops in Oct 95, the eight Canadian MPs were part of the 100 person redeployment in July. Their Canada Day celebration included posting messages back to Canada. Although earlier than their anticipated return to Canada in November 95, it was a relief to know they were returning home to family and friends.

SECURITAS





# CANADIAN CONTINGENT UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN HAITI (CCUNMIH)

## FIRST AIRFIELD SECURITY FORCE (ASF)

by Capt D Lachaine

As you may recall from the last edition the 1st Airfield Security Force (known as Yosemite Sam Warriors) was settin to depart for the far off lands of Haiti to assist the United Nations in their mission to bring Democracy to the peoples.

This is part two (2) of the continuing saga. At 1800 hrs, 31 Mar 95, the Possee's actively took over the duties for the securement of the town named CANARGUS. They were then given the chore of makin this here place a little more Canadian. They worked long and hard and finally a place they could proudly call home, grew up from the sun drenched Prairie.

Their next tasking was a little more their likin and beffiten these Hombres/hombretts. They were a given the tasking of ridin shotgun with the Stage Coach for the local payroll. Not a gold nugget was lost while the Possee was on the job. Ultimately their biggest challenge to date was about to arrive. On the 2nd of April 1900 and 95 a day that'll go down in the history books as the Battle of CANARGUSville arrived. This is the day the Tarantula Gang came a mossein to town. On that day the 1st Airfield Security Force earned

their reputation as not being any Mamby Pamby's and being the toughest Hombre/Hombretts south of Port Au Prince. At this point reader you may want to stop, because what's to follow is not pretty, even in print, and makes my skin crawl just a thinkin about it. For you partners that have dared to carry on, the story for the Battle of CANARGUSville. As I said the Tarantula Gang came a strutten their stuff into town. They are big and they are hairy but mostly they are just ugly. These critters

immediately started settin up homes (they live in holes in the ground) and started to raisen families. Did I say they live in holes in the ground, heck no, these are full blown cities! Well, one day they decided they they was gonna do some rustlin and took one of the Horses named MLVW, complete with rider. The ASF (Arachnid Squishing Force) was called in to the retrieve this horse and rider. Our best tracker, Deputy Dog (have stick will travel) DRENNEN was called in. The tunnels were breached and

the imprints of eight legs were followed. With lethal purpose Deputy DRENNEN followed the tracks until he found the carcass of the horse and the UN Ten Gallon hat of the rider. His intention was to find the lowly varmint that had done this nasty deed. Going without food or water for minutes at a time he undauntedly continued his search until... He came face to face with Black Frank the leader of the Tarantula gang. Black Frank was fast but deputy DRENNEN was faster with his trusty shootin iron called Raid. Black Frank lay foiled at his feet. His gang fearin for their lives scattered like the low-down critters they are but vowed to return and quietly inflict injuries on the innocent townsfolk of the CANARGUSville. Meanwhile back at the Ranch Black Widow Mary the wife of Black Frank...



1st ASF in Haiti





# INTERROGATION

by MWO Murray Ford

**INTRODUCTION:** The mere mention of the word interrogation conjures up images of bright lights and exhaustive questioning in the minds of some. This is unfortunate, since these are outdated and inaccurate methods, largely based on a lack of knowledge about the subject. The successful interrogation is one that achieves the desired ends, while respecting the legal rights of the subject. Heavy-handed approaches, duress or coercive methods have no place in the interrogation of suspects. Such means of questioning are not only improper, but also bring the investigator into disrepute, possibly resulting in legal action. Studies have shown that humane and understanding approaches are vastly superior in interrogations than the crude methods of the past. In "The Police Manual of Arrest, Seizure and Interrogation," Judge Roger Salhani comments:

"The police officer proceeding to interrogate a suspect is always conscious that he must maintain a delicate balance between two competing interests. On the one hand, he is anxious to solve the crime which he is investigating and a confession obtained from the accused will surely go a long way towards accomplishing that objective. On the other hand, the method used by him to obtain that statement will be the subject of judicial scrutiny and possibly judicial condemnation if he strays too far. In a sense, then, he must know the rules and be prepared to work within them."

This gives a broad overview of the legal problems encountered in interrogations, however it would be helpful to more fully understand what an interrogation is before delving into the subject in detail. The Oxford concise

dictionary defines the verb "interrogate" as follows:

"ask questions of a person etc. esp. closely or formally"

We can expand on this term for our purposes to say that an interrogation:

"involves the questioning of a subject whose involvement in the crime is reasonably certain, but who is not (initially) prepared to be completely honest regarding the subject matter."

*Heavy-handed approaches, duress or coercive methods have no place in the interrogation of suspects... humane and understanding approaches are vastly superior in interrogations.*

Interrogation is an art that can be learned by anyone willing to invest the time and patience. Unfortunately, there is not an abundance of material available to study and learn the proper methods of interrogation.

In this paper I intend to examine and explore the interrogation process, and suggest ways to conduct a successful interrogation.

**DISCUSSION:** Probably the most important part of any interrogation is the preparation. A well thought out and prepared interrogation will have a greater probability of success than an unplanned one. There are various factors to be examined related to preparation, and these will be detailed below.

The interrogator will prepare himself and have, among other attributes, a basic knowledge of psychology, an in-depth understanding of criminal law and human behaviour. Each individual has his own unique motivations to confess. For instance, one may be receptive to logic, while another may be responsive to an emotional appeal. Knowing the right approach can make the difference in obtaining a confession. Complete preparation therefore requires the interrogator know everything he can about the subject, including details of his personality, career, family, criminal record, financial status, and any other pertinent details. Any previous interview(s) with the subject should be reviewed, and it is helpful to meet with other investigators who have dealt with the subject previously. It is important for the interrogator to recognize at this stage, that the information he has regarding the subject is valuable for a second reason: the interrogator knows more about the subject than the subject knows about the interrogator. This puts the interrogator in a superior position psychologically, and all efforts to achieve and maintain this disparity (within legal bounds) should be made.

All interrogations involve a battle of wills, and the successful interrogator will take steps to ensure that he has the upper hand. The investigator should prepare himself, both physically and mentally prior to the commencement of the interrogation. The interrogator should enter the process feeling alert, refreshed and physically rested. Various scenarios could be considered regarding the interrogation, and alternate plans of questioning reviewed. A successful interrogator will think about the approaches he can take with the subject to obtain the confession,





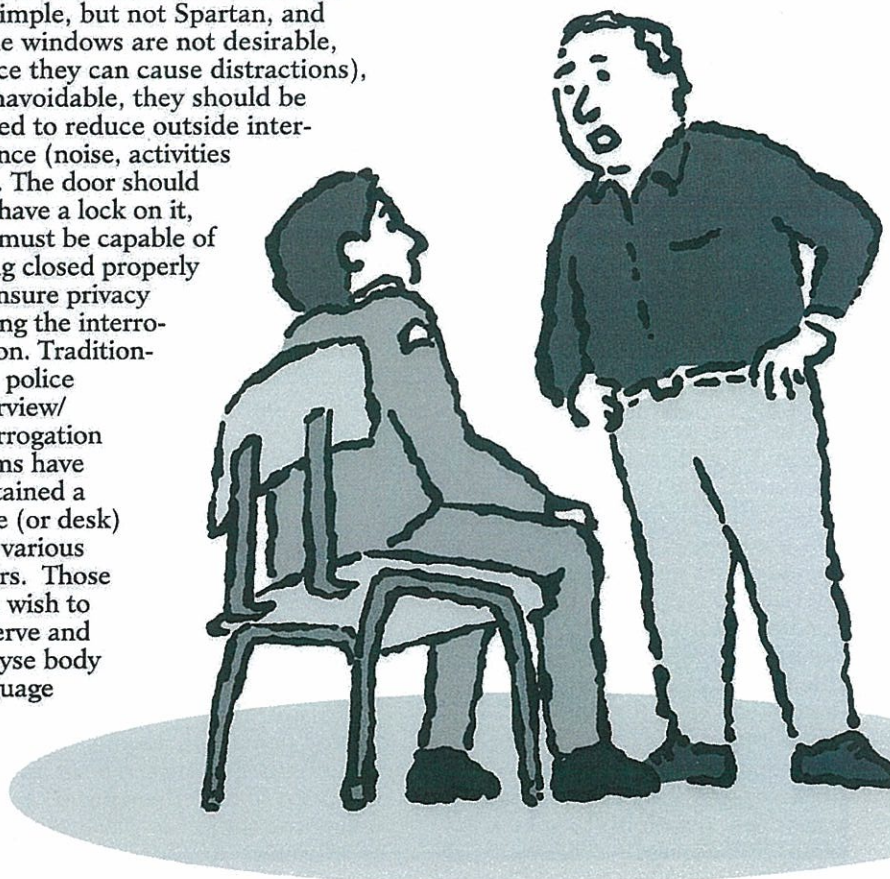
based on his knowledge of the subject and the case facts. The interrogation itself can be rehearsed, either with a partner or mentally, to explore interrogational themes. The interrogator will consider all possible avenues the interrogation may take, being prepared to adapt and change as circumstances dictate. He should be well groomed and project an air of professionalism, reinforcing his psychological superiority in the mind of the subject. Reviewing previous interrogations may prove beneficial, and provide strategies that can be employed again. Of course a thorough review of the case, statements, and other interviews is mandatory to do a proper job. Those trained or adept at body language, kinesics, statement analysis etc. should be prepared to "turn on" those skills at the commencement of the interrogation, using these investigative tools to advantage, not only in what they see and hear from the subject, but also regarding what they say and project to the subject. Those not possessing these capabilities will learn and practice them to improve their professional abilities.

Behavioral observation questions (BOQs) are used extensively in polygraph and interviews. They are a form of statement analysis designed to elicit responses, not to gather information. The theory is that truthful persons will give certain responses, while the untruthful will answer in a different fashion. As an example, the question "what should happen to the person responsible for (the crime)" would likely elicit a strong response (jail/punishment etc.) from the truthful, while the person responsible might reply that treatment or restitution is suitable. It is extremely important for interrogators to know how and when to use these questions, but most critical is the ability to correctly analyse the answers. Determinations of responsibility cannot under any circumstances be made based on one or two isolated responses to BOQs. There must be a distinct pattern toward deception, and this must be supported by other means (evidence, polygraph etc). BOQs

properly phrased, delivered and interpreted can provide the trained interrogator with invaluable material for the interrogation phase. It is not uncommon for the deceptive individual to provide the interrogator with information about how and why he committed the crime as well as the appropriate method to interrogate him.

Preparation for an interrogation also involves the location to be used. People feel more relaxed (and consequently more secure) in a familiar environment, so the choice of the location has an important impact on the outcome. To enhance the psychological impact, as a rule, the interrogation should always be conducted on premises selected and controlled by the interrogator. I cannot think of any circumstances where an interrogation would be conducted on the subjects "home turf". The location should be adequately prepared for audio and video recording capabilities. Of course, the room selected should be simple, but not Spartan, and while windows are not desirable, (since they can cause distractions), if unavoidable, they should be closed to reduce outside interference (noise, activities etc). The door should not have a lock on it, but must be capable of being closed properly to ensure privacy during the interrogation. Traditionally, police interview/interrogation rooms have contained a table (or desk) and various chairs. Those who wish to observe and analyse body language

will probably do away with tables and desks, since these serve to not only block the view of the body, but also provide a physical and psychological barrier for the subject. Although chairs should be comfortable and functional in design, they need not be identical. The ideal situation is for the interrogator's chair to be a wheeled chair, while the subject is seated in a straight legged chair. This allows the interrogator mobility, and with it, the ability to increase or decrease the space between himself and the subject. Decreasing the distance between two people can cause stress, while increasing the distance can reduce stress. Being aware of this knowledge, and appropriately applying it can pay dividends for the interrogator. In the past, interviews and interrogations have been carried out with two investigators present in the room, one taking the role of "note taker". Psychologically, it is easier to confess to one person than two or more. This, combined with





the widespread availability of video capabilities suggests utilising one interrogator while the other video-monitors in another room may be more conducive to successful interrogation.

Upon meeting the subject, the interrogator should present his identification and credentials for inspection, and introduce himself. The subject should be likewise identified, and it is suggested that forms of address acceptable to both (first names etc) be decided at the outset. The subject's rights (and caution(s)) should be explained early in the process, and it is suggested that the interrogator have the subject (on tape) relate in his own words his understanding of the rights and caution(s). Any misunderstandings should be clarified immediately. The procedures for washroom use, coffee, cigarettes etc. should be dealt with thoroughly by the interrogator. Once the preliminaries have been completed, the interrogation can begin.

There are a number of interrogation systems that are presently taught, the most comprehensive and widely used being "Reid's Nine Steps". This method is used extensively throughout Canada and the United States, and will be described in detail below. It provides a generic framework for the interrogator to use to structure his interrogation. Application will vary according to the case, the subject, and the interrogator.

The first step in the interrogation is the direct positive confrontation. The interrogator will state with certainty and conviction that the subject is responsible for the act being investigated. When referring to the crime in this stage, it is helpful to use "soft" terms to describe the deed. It is more palatable to confess to "taking" money than "stealing" it for instance. At this point, it is crucial that the interrogator look and listen very closely to the subject's verbal and non-verbal reaction(s) (or lack of same) and correctly evaluate them.

If in fact a mistake has been made, and we have accused an innocent person, then we can expect them to display genuine emotion, denying any involvement in the crime whatsoever. If on the other hand, the subject accepts the interrogator's assertion of involvement in the crime, or provides indicators of deceptive behaviour, it is probable that the subject really is responsible. The direct positive confrontation also establishes to the subject that the interrogator is firm, certain and confident of his assertion.

Everyone needs excuses for their misdeeds, and the experienced interrogator will give the subject psychological (not legal reasons) to confess. In this second step (theme development), the objective of the interrogator is to provide the subject with excuses as to why he committed the crime. As mentioned earlier, these are not legal reasons, but are opportunities for the subject to blame his actions on someone (or something) else. The object at this point is to obtain an admission of complicity in the crime, therefore lax internal security (in a theft case), or provocation in an assault could be excuses offered to the subject. Financial stresses, misunderstood behaviour, alcohol-induced mistakes are just a few examples of the themes that an interrogator could use in different situations. Theme use is limited only by one's imagination. Generally speaking, themes for emotional offenders will revolve around their feelings (sympathy, compassion, remorse etc), while more fact driven individuals should be presented with logical reasons.

Everyone will deny involvement if given the chance. If the subject is allowed to deny involvement, it follows that he will not confess, therefore it is imperative that the interrogator stop denials as soon as possible. There are several ways to stop denials, including (but not limited to) shaking the head, raising the palm to face the subject, and telling the subject to pay attention and listen to you. Interrogators will

recognize that with every denial, the subject becomes psychologically stronger, and they must therefore know how to effectively handle denials. Additionally, the experienced interrogator realises that this is where many interrogations fall apart, since the subject wins the "battle of wills" by way of repetition of his denial(s). Denials signify to the interrogator that the interrogation is progressing as expected, and the successful interrogator will know that persistence pays off.

Once the denials have been overcome, the interrogator will probably face objections from the subject. These objections take the form of reasons why he couldn't have committed the crime. An objection differs from a denial, in that a denial is an outright statement of non-involvement, while an objection is merely an excuse. The interrogator will draw out the objection and then have the subject elaborate. As an example, the subject may tell us "I wouldn't do something like that". In this situation, the interrogator should get the subject to provide reason(s) to back up his claim by asking "Why not Bob?". It is critical that the interrogator listen to the excuse, accept it, then act upon it. By way of example, the subject might tell us that he doesn't need money, therefore he wouldn't steal. In this case the interrogator could respond by saying "I'm sure you do have money, Bob. No-one ever has enough though..." and continue by using suggestions or themes suitable to the subject (logical/emotional/factual etc). Temptation, lax security, economic needs, and pressures are just several examples that could be employed.

When the subject realises that his denials and excuses will not deter the interrogator, it is likely that signs of physical surrender will be evident. The subject is likely weighing the pros and cons of confessing, therefore this is a critical point in the interrogation. Body language indicators include a slumping of the body, the subject





appears to be thinking deeply, and may begin crying. It is normal for the subject to become quiet and listen intently to the interrogator at this point, therefore, the interrogator should project sincerity and concern, showing he cares about the subject. The subject is on the verge of confessing, and the interrogator should retain the subjects attention, using his name, and maintaining eye contact.

By now, the subject is prepared for the introduction of the alternative or "double edged" question. This question is one that has two possible answers, however both of them are incriminating. A properly phrased alternative question will present the subject with the choice between an acceptable reason for the crime and an unacceptable one. It is important to ease the subject into the question, and the alternatives should be clear to the subject, such as: "Tell me Bill, was this the first time this happened, or have you done it before? It was just this one time wasn't it?" or; "Was it an accident, or did you plan it? You didn't plan this did you?".

Alternatives are only limited by the interrogator's imagination, and it should be kept in mind that the guilty subject is looking for some way to rationalize his misdeed(s).

When the subject has accepted the alternative offered to him, the interrogator has obtained an admission. An admission is any statement by the subject that provides partial acknowledgement of wrongdoing on his part. The next step is to obtain a confession. A confession can be defined as a statement by the subject in which he acknowledges his guilt for the crime, and provides the interrogator with details of the offence(s). The transition can be assisted by the interrogator, using encouragement, and open questions. The investigator should support the subjects admission and generate further conversation, as example "I'm glad you told me that John, tell me, what happened then?". The questions should

be brief, non-threatening, and legal or descriptive terms should be avoided to encourage the subject to provide further details.

The final step in the interrogation process is the formal statement. Of course, the interrogator must follow appropriate guidelines, policies and procedures for the statement taking.

Many interrogators will review their interrogations with the subject in an attempt to determine what the deciding factor(s) were in the subject confessing. This can be valuable in learning which approaches work, and applying this knowledge to future interrogations.

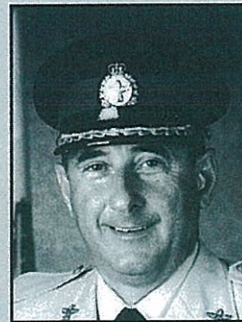
**CONCLUSION:** The interrogation system explained above has proven effective in the past. This is

not to suggest that it will work in every instance with every subject, however it is much better than having no system at all. Each interrogation will be different, and no plan can work in all cases. The interrogator may find that he has to go back in the interrogation to earlier steps, if he encounters resistance in the later stages. Flexibility, knowledge, and most of all persistence will succeed. Whenever the interrogator feels he has had enough, and wants to quit, he should tell himself to "give it five more minutes". That may make all the difference.

Interrogators should build on this basic outline, discovering and developing techniques of their own. A properly conducted interrogation can be performed if the interrogator sets his mind to it.

## Medal Presentation Major Plante

On the 15 Sept 95, his Excellency The Governor General Roméo LeBlanc awarded the Meritorious Service Medal with citation to Maj Jean-Guy Plante, MMM, CD (retired) during an official ceremony in La Citadelle, Quebec.



Major Plante was the military spokesman for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda during the civil war in 1994. As the massacres rapidly caught the attention of the international media, he escorted media representatives across fighting lines on a daily basis. Danger was commonplace. On April 20, 1994, he led a team that rescued a number of Canadian citizens from roaming bands of militiamen. During his assignment, he was an effective spokesperson for the United Nations and a visible symbol of the military professionalism of Canadians.

Major Plante left the CF this past summer under the FRP after serving over 34 years in the Canadian Provost Corps and Security Branch. We offer formal congratulations to Major Plante for the richly deserved award and the best of luck in his new endeavours.

SECURITAS





# 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MP HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

By Sgt D Naud

Ah yes, the 12th annual MP hockey tournament is a thing of the past.

This year, unlike previous years, the tournament was held outside of Ottawa – at CMR St Jean from 24 March to 26 March. Teams from Montreal, Valcartier, Ottawa (two teams), Kingston, Halifax and Petawawa participated. Players from the MSGU Washington also took part in the event.

The opening ceremonies were officiated by the Branch Colonel Commandant, BGen Yuill, accompanied by DG SAMP,



Col Maclaren, and the CFB Montreal B Secur O, Maj Savard.

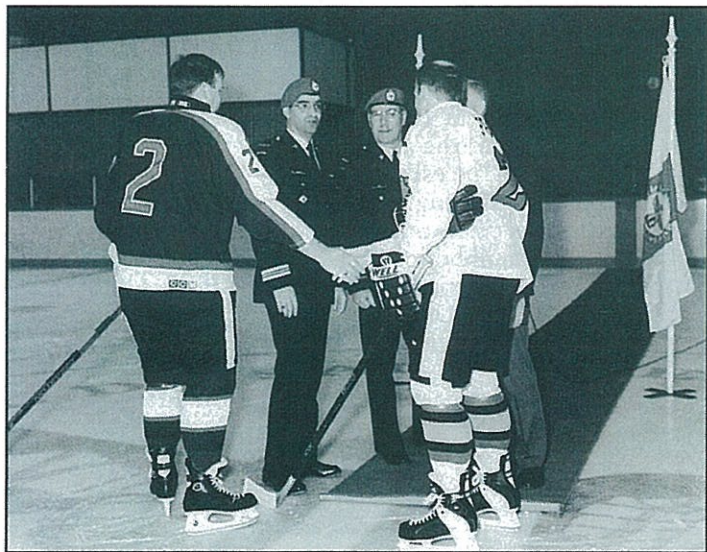
Overall, the tournament was excellent – due to some very good hockey.

Although the Halifax team only had eight players, they surprised everyone making it to the semi-finals against the powerhouse from Valcartier. The other semi-finals match saw the host team from Montreal against the SIU Ottawa team. Montreal only survived one period against SIU Ottawa, who demonstrated early in the tournament that they were worthy for the finals.

For the finals, it seemed quite fair that it was between SIU Ottawa and Valcartier. And, after a gruelling match, SIU Ottawa took the victory in overtime. However, it should be mentioned that SIU Ottawa had tied the score late in the game after Valcartier found themselves shorthanded due to a dubious call from our striped friends.

Individually, Valcartier Team Captain, LS Dumais was selected as MVP. For those who know "Big Due" understand that he would have exchanged his plaque for the winning trophy. Best scorer went to Cpl Brad MacConnel from Halifax and the best goaltender was Capt Luc Cyr from SIU Ottawa.

On behalf of all the organisers thanks for your participation. For those of you who haven't gone FRP, see you next year.



Official opening of the 12th annual MP hockey tournament.





# CLOSURE OF PACIFIC DETACHMENT

On the 17th of May 1995 Pacific Detachment of the Special Investigation Unit, headquartered at CFB Esquimalt, ceased to exist. A ceremony was held at HMCS Malahat, Victoria, to mark the occasion, the Commanding Officer, Cdr P.H. Jenkins, presiding. During the course of the event the Detachment Commander, Major D.V. McElrea, signed over responsibility for SIU Sections Vancouver and Victoria to the Detachment Commander of Prairie Detachment (renamed Western), Major J. Francis.

According to best information available the Detachment had

been established almost exactly 25 years ago, in July 1970. It was originally quartered in HMCS Dockyard but found itself located for many years in between the two base chapels at HMCS Naden. It was suggested that it was convenient for referrals after an SIU interview. The Detachment was responsible for the area of British Columbia west of a line through Trail, including the Queen Charlotte Islands.

Becoming a member of this Detachment was considered a plum job because of the location, scenery and weather. Majors, in particular, used to vie for

the opportunity to be posted to the Detachment Commander's position. Quite a number retired there. In fact only two have settled East of the Rockies!

The festivities were attended by as many of the retired Detachment Commanders and Detachment CWOs as could be coaxed off the golf course. The function was held in conjunction with the Commanding Officer's "O" Group and the SIU Change of Command Ceremony which facilitated the attendance of the Branch Colonel Commandant, BGen (Retired) D. Yuill, and the other Detachment Commanders.



## PACIFIC DETACHMENT SIU CLOSURE

*Front Row (Left to Right):* LCdr (Ret) A. Rowley (Det Comd 74-75), LCol (Ret) R. Gladstone (Det Comd 76-78), Maj (Ret) J.A. MacKenzie (Det Comd 82-87), Maj (RET) A. Holman (Det Comd 87-92), LCol D.V. McElrea (Det Comd 92- closing), CWO (Ret) Stoney Holm and CWO (Ret) C. Lee (DCWO 93- closing).  
*Second Row (Left to Right):* Cpl A. Ethier, WO C. Murphy, WO M. Snowden, Capt G. Losier, WO P. MacInnis, Lt(N) C. Cuthbert, Sgt C. Byce, Sgt D. Newman, PO2 H. Fleury and Sgt L. Leclair.  
*Back Row (Left to Right):* Sgt J. Johnson, Mcpl A. Lupert and Mr. T. Smith.  
 (Absent when taken: Sgt G. Greentree, Sgt J. Quible, Sgt T. Bayes, LS L. Ohlman and Mrs A. Harris)







## Publication of the Corps History

After much frustrating delay this history will now be published.

**WATCHDOG, A History of the Canadian Provost Corps**, will be a standard 6" x 9" hard cover with the Corps badge imprinted on the front cover in gold on dark blue. The 354 pages include 20 chapters, several charts, 20 photographs/illustrations, four appendices and a Reference and Notes Section. Brigadier General W. J. Dabros has kindly contributed a comprehensive Foreword. **WATCHDOG** covers the period 1914 to 1968 and traces the development of Military Police/Provost in the Canadian Army.

The author, Colonel A. R. Ritchie, will own the copyrights since he personally funded the considerable cost of researching, writing and publication. The Association Executive will assist in the marketing, where possible. To this end, and in order to assist Andy in meeting the final payment to the publisher, it has been decided to solicit advance sales.

The Secretary, Canadian  
Provost Corps Association  
P.O. Box 62007  
Burlington ON L7R 4K2

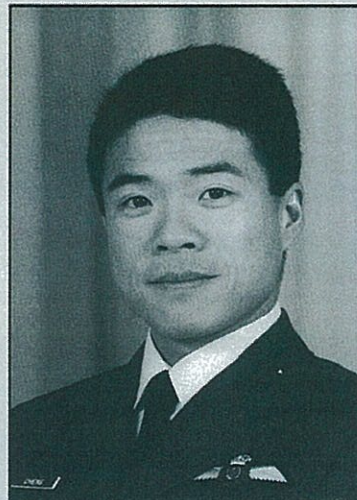
(make the cheque payable to A.R. Ritchie  
[\$35 per copy])

## IN MEMORIAM Captain Cletus Cheng



4 December 1963 – 18 September 1995

Cletus was born in Hong Kong, and arrived in Canada on 19 July 1976. Upon completion of high school he obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from the University of Windsor.



In October of 1981 he enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces Reserves as private infantryman in the Essex and Kent Scottish in Windsor. He was promoted to corporal on 20 October 1982. He transferred to the regular forces in June of 1983 under the ROTP ANAV. After completing his training, Cletus was posted to 415 Sqn in Greenwood. In August of 1988 he transferred to the Security Branch and after completing the Security Officers' Course he was posted to Air Command Winnipeg. He was promoted to captain in January 1991. He was then posted to SIU Section in Winnipeg as the Section Commander in July 1991, and was posted to 4 Wing Cold Lake in May 1993.

Cletus excelled in all that he did, as was evident by his many accomplishments. He was presented a team medal in 1990 as the Security Branch Skill-at-Arms competition winner. He qualified as a Basic Parachutist in February 1991. He was awarded the United Nations medal for service with UN for his work in Croatia from November 1994 to May 1995.

He was respected by all he worked with. Cletus led by example and hard work. He will be missed by all whose lives he touched.

Cletus is survived by his father Clement, mother Nancy, brother Cyril, sister Claire of Windsor, Ontario and by his close friend Captain Virginia Shea.

*Rest in Peace*

