

RCAF Station Comox

TOTEM TIMES

VOL. 5

RCAF Station Comox, Thursday, July 9, 1964

No. 13

ALBATROSS' ARRIVE SOON

Search And Rescue Digs In

Padre Parkhouse Says Goodbye

Joins Father Thomas at 1 Wing

Squadron Leader Stanley Parkhouse who has been the Protestant chaplain here since 1957, has departed for Marville, France.

The pipe-smoking padre explained that he has enjoyed this posting more than any other he has had. But he and his wife, Jean, are looking forward to their posting to No. 1 Wing.

This will be the padre's second overseas posting.

Joining the RCAF in February 1942, S/L Parkhouse, who is 46, was trained as a navigator and served on Wellington bombers with 42 Squadron in Europe during the Second World War. After his release from the RCAF at war's end, S/L Parkhouse attended the University of Toronto and was graduated with Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Divinity degrees in 1951. He re-enlisted in the RCAF (Chaplain Branch) in 1953 at Sudbury, Ont., and served as chaplain at Station Winnipeg; No. 3 Wing at Zweibrücken, Germany; and at Station North Bay, Ont., before coming to Comox.

Stan and Jean Parkhouse are an extremely active couple. Jean was a letter hockey player at the University of Toronto. Both Parkhouses are active bowlers. The padre took great pleasure in driving his old Volkswagen over some of the seldom used backwoods trails and roads in the district in search of wild life. Upon tracking down a deer or bear, the padre would proceed to shoot it — not with a gun, but a camera. The Parkhouses are avid bridge players, and it was in fact over the bridge table that the padre first met his wife. Enroute to Europe they will be playing bridge with WO1 Ostrander and his wife.

A tea was sponsored by the ladies guild in honor of S/L Parkhouse on Sunday, following his last service at Station Comox. On Sunday evening a dinner was held for him at the Waikiki Restaurant in Comox. In the course of this the padre was presented with a number of gifts.

When he arrives at 1 Wing, the padre will rejoin his good



A Letter to Padre Parkhouse

On the occasion of his transfer overseas

DEAR PADRE P:

On behalf of the congregation we would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to you for your service and devotion to the people of RCAF Stn. Comox. Your faithful ministry has been a source of strength and blessing to all who came into contact with you. Your concern for the extension of the Kingdom of God in this place has often gone beyond the call of duty. We pay tribute to a faithful minister of the gospel and a dedicated Padre.

On behalf of the congregation we would like to extend our best wishes to you and your family as you prepare to take up a new appointment overseas.

We wish you God's speed and a sincere thankyou for a job well done.

Sincerely yours,
The Chapel Committee
RCAF Stn. Comox

friend Father Thomas who left Comox for Marville a month ago.

But words are insufficient to describe what S/L Parkhouse meant to the personnel and dependants of Station Comox. He was a man of exceptional honesty and sincerity. He cared for people. He will be missed...

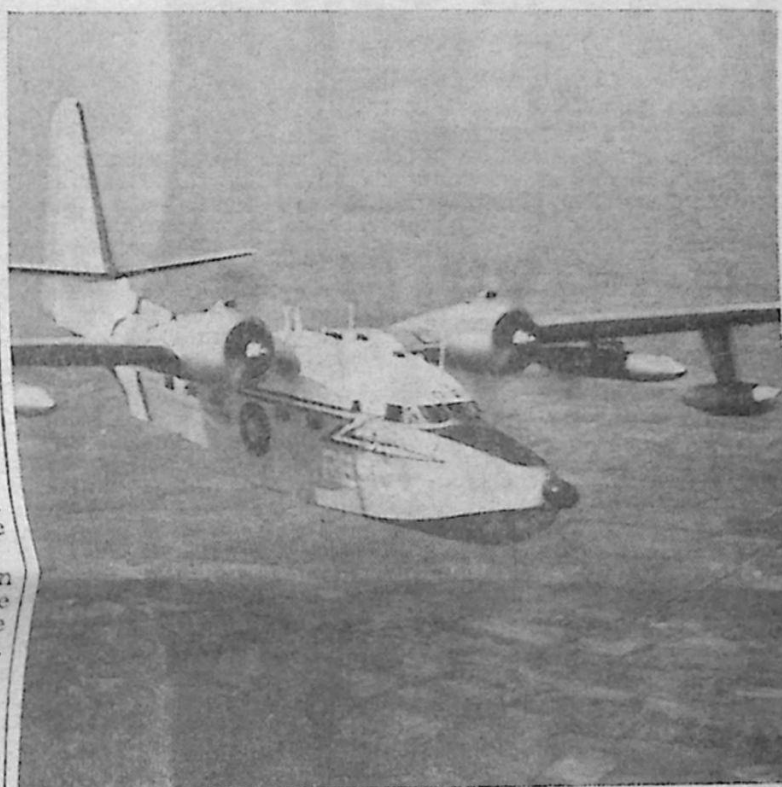
COURTESY OF FO KIRKLAND

Led by Squadron Leader Ken Brown the first part of 121 KU arrived here on Monday. The arrival was heralded with a display of formation flying by three of the 121 Dakota aircraft.

The three "Daks" and an H-21 helicopter are the lead element in the move of the RCAF Search and Rescue Unit which will be completely re-located here during July. By the seventeenth of July there will be two hundred and sixty-three men, three Dakotas, two helicopters and four Albatross' situated here. More than fifty officers and men have arrived thus far.

Aside from its well known role as a search and rescue unit, 121 also provides service flights connecting Port Hardy, Victoria, Paine and Vancouver.

The CO of the unit, S/L Brown, arrived with the unit's first aircraft. He will commute between Comox and Vancouver during the next few weeks to supervise and monitor the re-location.



One of the four 121 KU Albatross Search and Rescue Aircraft. A new silhouette for Station Comox.



Judy Follows Dad's Example

SWO Ostrander to Depart Soon

Hallmark of excellence in the Girl Guide movement, the Gold Cord, was awarded to Judy Ostrander here last week.

Judy's grandmother, Mrs. May Black and her parents, Warrent Officer and Mrs. Ostrander, admire the award which was presented by District Commissioner, Mrs. Baird.

Judy is fifteen and has earned twenty-seven other badges in her seven years service with the movement. She received the Gold Cord partly

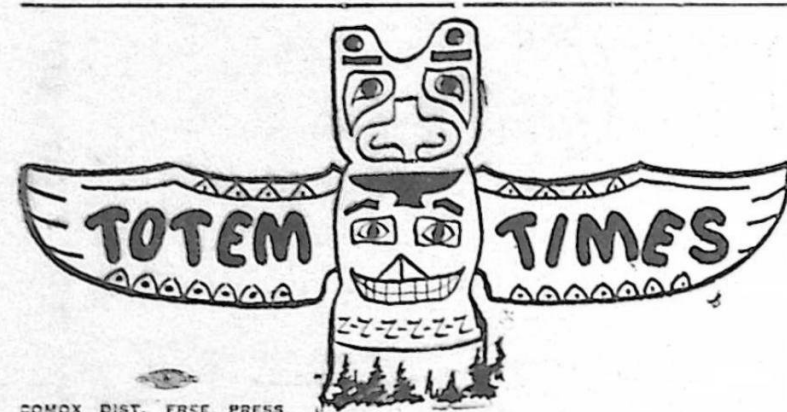
because of her work with a Vancouver Guide Group.

WO 1 Ostrander who hails from Deseronto Ontario, has served continuously in the RCAF since August 1936. Since coming to Comox he has served the duties of Station Warrent Officer. During his service with the RCAF he has worked in the Aircraft Maintenance trade on both the East and West coasts and across Canada. During the Second World War, WO Ostrander saw duty in England with

the RCAF's No. 6 Bomber Group.

The family will be leaving Comox soon for Marville, France, where WO Ostrander takes up his new duties with No. 1 Fighter Wing in August.

In recent months S/L Thomas, S/L Parkhouse and WO 1 Ostrander have all received postings to 1 Wing. This of course has perpetrated the latest Headquarters joke - it takes a SWO to look after two Padres. Or was it two padres to look after one SWO?



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EDITORIAL

ARE YOU A CONVERT? (TO B.C.)

By F/L H. G. MEINERT

The Concise Oxford Dictionary defines "convert" as a person who has been caused to change his life or opinion. At first glance nothing seems more far fetched in this Dominion than the possibility of converting an individual from being the avid supporter of his home province or home town customs to an equally keen supporter of another area. The possibility is even more remote if he or she is a Newfoundlander, a Cape Bretoner, or a wheat farmer from Pumphandle, Sask. Yet, since my arrival on the West Coast a mere six months ago, it seems as if the whole country wants to go Oriental Canadian (you know, so far west that it is East).

What are the reasons for such mass mania, such rash and immediate giving of the soul to a new but junior province? Surely the decision to abandon one's homeland, friends, relatives, and memories of youth is not a small one. Was it the mountains, the people, the money, the climate, or a combination of all things?

If we take a look at the things that make an area inhabitable, the most dominating factor proves to be the weather. This should draw a few dirty looks as the point is mentioned at an inopportune time. However, the absence of extreme temperatures of 40 below and 95 above does much to make a person contented. Mind you, a few people miss the cold and the hot sticky days in Winnipeg, Toronto, or Montreal. Most of us however prefer to avoid the possibility of freezing to death and instead learn to swim well, carry rain coats and umbrellas, and appear British in more ways than one.

What about the mountains? Well, generalities are easy to make and hard to prove, but I'm sure everyone is awestruck by their first view of the Rockies. All the pictures available can never equal the first personal glimpse of hundreds of snow-capped majestic mountain peaks. After closer examination and familiarity, the painfully slow process of nature, of the age of our world, and the tremendous forces and pressures involved, becomes apparent. Most of all though, man is made aware of his own relative insignificance, as far as time and size is concerned. I'm convinced these mountains are not drawing cards on account of their scenic splendour but rather for what they represent. It's almost impossible to consider oneself high and mighty with twenty billion tons of granite towering above. So with that argument it might be safe to assume that mountains assist in making people happy by keeping things in their right perspective. That leaves the people and the money to discuss.

As both represent huge totes, it is best to sum them up in a few words. B.C. has a Social Credit government, the cost of living is high, the wages are high. There are numerous races, nationalities, groups, clubs, tribes and clans. B.C. has a city or two with the same cross section as many other cities of the world. They have murders, mothers, misfits, monks and millionaires. Also sin, sex, sissies, solicitors, and sea food. The people are rightly biased and bold in the selling of their province to strangers, yet at the same time, have the fresh eager look of a people that know they have a future.

Maybe you have noticed it also: people either return to the land of their ancestors or else they come to B.C. The combination of climate, mountains and people to me is unbeatable. I'm a convert.

New car sales in Canada in 1963 totalled 560,000, and in the year 283,000 old cars went to the wreckers and the scrap metal yards.

The Next Two Weeks In History

27 July — To study ice conditions and navigation problems along the "grain route" through Hudson Strait to Churchill, a government expedition established three bases at Port Burwell, Wakeham Bay and Nottingham Island. The RCAF provided a detachment of 6 officers and twelve air-planes which carried out regular patrols through the autumn, winter, spring and summer.

18 July '60—RCAF support of the United Nations operations in the Congo got underway when 24,000 pounds of meat and 20,000 pounds of powdered milk were flown from Trenton Ont. to Leopoldville via Air Transport Command North Star aircraft.

19 July '58—Ceremonies at Station Winnipeg marked the termination of the NATO Aircrew Training Plan under which over 5000 pilots and observers have been trained by the RCAF for the Air Forces of

Brian Nichols — and Hoppy

The following "poem" was written to be read at last Saturday's UALL dance prior to a gift presentation to W.O. (retired) Hopkins and LAC B. Nichols.

Brian Nichols and Hoppy — in appreciation
Last Tuesday's games night was fast drawing near.
The Executive Committee was in grave despair.
The problem that faced them, The thing that they feared
Was the monstrous question, "Can our shuffle boards be repaired?"

And then to their rescue, From out of the blue,
Came two gallant craftsmen Both well known to you.
The grade of their work Can ne'er be surpassed,
And now all we hear is "The damn boards are too fast!!!"

This service they gave us Can't be paid with a "fifth,"
And so we've decided To give them this gift.
These gents we have with us, From Station Work Shoppe,
I give you dear friends, Brian Nichols and Hoppy.
H. PYE.

Chapel Chimes

PROTESTANT CHAPEL
Acting Chaplain —
O/C W. B. CONNOR

DIVINE WORSHIP—1000 hrs Sunday.

Nursery—1000 hrs Sunday in the Chapel Annex.

Holy Communion — 1100 hrs the SECOND Sunday of the month.

Holy Baptism — Sundays by appointment.

The above times will operate from 28 June to 6 September.

NOTE: All other church activities will recommence in the Fall.

Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

R.C. CHAPEL
Chaplain—S/L T. J. PARADIS
MASSSES in the Station Chapel - Summer schedule commencing 28 June, 1964.
Sunday—8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Saturday—9 a.m.
Baptisms by appointment at 1:15 p.m., Sundays, in the Station Chapel.

NOTE: No weekday Masses during the week of the 15 June, 22 June, 29 June except on Friday of these weeks; that is, the 18 June, 25 June and 2 July. No 5 p.m. Sunday Mass on the 28 June only.

NOTE: All other church activities will recommence in the Fall.

22 July '57—The "Iroquois" jet engine was officially unveiled by Defence Minister G.R. Pearkes VC.

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Wallace Gardens Recreation Notes

There's a lot of action taking place in Wallace Gardens youth recreation these days with seven junior athletes being chosen to compete in the Provincial Track Trials. The top photo shows Kathy Johnston breaking out to an early lead and one which she is hoping to duplicate in the Provincial meet. Second photo down displays Phyllis Leuzler giving a mighty heave in a shot put event. Phyllis will be participating in the bantam girls relay at the provincial, however, Phyllis' sister Sharon (who in the bottom picture appears to be all up in the air about something) will be competing in the eighty metre hurdles. Tom Lester is the tall lad with the strong arm and he was a winner in the recent JOTP shot put event.

Not shown are the Pee Wees, who will not compete in the Provincial championships. L. Fulton (midget boys relay), M. Wetmore (discus), Jim Craig (440 yds.) and Jack Willander (120 yd. hurdles) will compete in the event but are not shown.

The championships will take place in Richmond on Aug. 7 and all expenses will be paid by JOTP.

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This service is sponsored by the Comox Valley Council of Women, and is designed to provide suitable help in the home when the mother or person usually responsible, is absent owing to illness or emergency.

It is financed as a member of the Upper Island United Good Neighbour Fund, together with payment from the families using the service according to their means. The homemakers are paid directly by the service.

Help is required for part-days, full days, or 24 hours in some cases, for temporary periods of up to three weeks.

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For Now We See Through a Glass Darkly

By VETBAF

A man is a thing with a mind, and a very powerful mind at that. Because of this a common belief or ideal comes up at once. If you don't think exactly like the other fellow, and you surely can't in every

way, then you are an individual. Well, so you are an individual; so what?

So what nothing; now you have a responsibility: better brace those sagging arches and face it. You are created with a unique mind and you must have faith in both yourself and your way of thinking. Your responsibility is then to carry yourself as an individual amongst all the other ones. It is no earthly use leaning on them, for you will merely topple like a ninepin if they move aside. They want to see you dependant and reliant upon yourself to accomplish things, and not tied to their apron strings. Just name us the boss who doesn't want each and every one of his employees to be self-reliant and sure of his individual role and

we'll show you a crackpot of the first order.

With trust in himself that he can accomplish and succeed, a man can go to the full limit of his ability. So you need examples? Look at your ignition key — do you remember Henry Ford? How about Albert Schweitzer then? Or perhaps Albert Einstein. The things you can accomplish may only be the successful stringing of a dozen paper clips, but didn't you feel 100% better inside if you started stringing those clips with the inner conviction that it would result as a perfect job? Think how nerve wracking it would have been to propose to your wife if you had no confidence in your own oozy-loverboy talents? In fact after the first time you probably had gained enough

confidence to propose to a score of other prospective maidens.

Right now, some time later, your family is looking to you to be a self-confident person and not a wall propper-upper. They know very well you can accomplish what will seem like miracles because you are an individual and are proud of your own abilities. Finally, if you can trust yourself it is surely going to place you in a better position to trust others. Well, you might summarize this ideal by saying: "Have faith in yourself as an individual." At any rate try it. Lots of people have and, as the cigarettes ads all claim, it filtered out the best.

Salute to a Station Scouter

By SAHI

Introducing to our readers, this month's Scout personality, Lac Jerry Dupuis, Clerk-Admin 407 Sqdn, native of Magog, Quebec. At present residing in Comox with his wife, the former Miss Jeanette Simoncau, Rock Island, Quebec. The Dupuis have three children, Brigitte, Richard and Suzanne.

Scouter Jerry is a former member of the Ste. Marguerite-Marie Troop of Magog. Skip Dupuis as an SM is relatively new to Scouting. Starting with 2nd Comox in 1964. SM Dupuis has 17 boys at present in the troop and is assisted by F.L. Pierre Bastien.

Scouter Dupuis has attended Basic "B" course at Camp Colwell, Nanaimo. His hobby is photography and his favorite indoor sport is bowling and outdoor sport is skiing.



Assistant Scoutmaster Promoted

Promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant, effective 1 July, Pierre Bastien, supply, formerly of Quebec City. Congratulations Scouter Bastien.



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By DIPSWITCH

INTAKE

Welcome back to Comox, FS Tom Manning, MSE Supt., native of Provost, Alt., who has just completed a tour as MSEO at Mont Apica, Quebec. Tom has taken over as Whip in Maintenance.

SECTION STAG

A quiet gathering of the

clan was held in the Cpl's club to say "Au revoir" to FS Don Henderson, MSE Supt., who is transferred to "Goose" and FS Wilf Hetman, MSE Supt., (M) who is leaving the service shortly. F/L Eric Cook MSEO, gave the boys the traditional send-off. Special thanks to Cpl. Dekuysscher and Cpl. Gardner who organized the evening.

TRAFFIC TIP (VACATION)

An accident can quickly toss your whole vacation for a loss.

Second Comox Cub Camp

By SAHI

Forty-four healthy, boisterous cubs from Blue, Grey and Red Packs played, swam, sang and passed tests through 3 happy days at Comox Valley Cub Camp under the guidance of Camp Akela, Gilwellian Ken Wright, who was ably assisted by Scouters Larry Wile, Ross Orr, Don Taylor, Roy Bannister, Stu Johnson and Bryan Bunting. The highlights of the camp were 13 cubs passing their Athletes Badge, plus fun in the water during the heat wave.

Special thanks to Mrs. Margaret Wright, who worked for days prior to camp planning menus and food supplies and even cooking some of the food at home, also to mother helpers Betty Wright, Edna Smith, Carol Bell and Dorothy Scott who took an active part in the planning and preparing, and Mary Dunbar, Edna Gallant, Elsie Townley, Lil Grandage and Pat Bonnet who braved the various elements and personally attended to the catering needs of the boys at camp on Saturday and Sunday.

The weather was almost perfect. The only rain was Sat. night and that was only enough to lay the dust.

The boys arrived home at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday very tired but satisfied that they had had a happy camp. Well done! And many thanks to all concerned.

Au Revoir "Les Brute"

The smiling face and bright personality of Bill Dugay will be greatly missed in and around the station. Bill, who leaves for Marville, France, is perhaps more popularly known as "The Brute", but is in fact a most inoffensive and pleasant young man who leaves

multi friends behind. Our loss is Marville's gain. Bon Voyage and good health Bill Dugay.

HAPPY HAZE

Overheard during the latter part of last Saturday's dance. Don't have another drink hon, your face is blurred already!

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Speaking Out

With HOPE

Dorothy, Carol, Betty and Edna got 'round a table one day and made up a load of food for the road, for a camp that was near far away.

They worked and slaved and taste-tested each drop until they were satisfied, that the food they could see would guarantee to keep fifty young cub-scouts alive.

Then Mary, Edna, Lil, Pat and Elsie took on the gargantuan task and travelled away to the camp for days not in the sun to bask!

They served and served 'till plates were full and wondered at appetites that devoured every morsel and asked for more, "by Gar!! but you're hungry types!"

But then it was over and campfires were out, and Sunday they all came back from those wonderful days from the camp far away, 'not a left-over packed in the sack!

But the work was rewarding, if you like the smile

from a boy that's had a good time, for he needn't say more, the smile's a roar that your efforts were worthy and fine.

There are poets and then there are

However, many many thanks go out from the very numerous cub parents to these unselfish and dedicated cub parents. And a special thanks to Mrs. Marg. Wright for her efforts and a thoughtful suggestion.

Thankyou Mrs. Dorothy Scott, Betty Wright, Mary Dunbar, Lillian Grandage, Elsie Townley, Carol Bell, Edna Smith, Edna Gallant, Pat Bonnett.

SPEAK EASY

BY TOTE 'EM IN

The presence of W. O. and Mrs. Hopkins, who graciously accepted the Totem Inn invitation to be chief guests, added to the gay atmosphere and dignity of the 4th of July "U-All Dance".

"Hoppy" as he is popularly known has a close association with the "Inn". Prior to his retirement from the service in April, Hoppy was i/c Station Workshops but it was as a civilian that he came to the rescue of the club executives, along with LAC Brian Nichols.

Together they refaced the two shuffleboards in time for the recent games night, which is no mean task at a moments notice. Hon. PMC W.O. Yeomans expressed the respect and high esteem in which Hoppy is held by everyone in the Comox Valley and read a delightful poem dedicated to the "rescuers", which was written by Harry Pye, the club secretary. The poem, very appropriate and amusing was well received. Acting PMC John Hope presented W. O. Hopkins with a gift in token of the deep appreciation of the members and executive of the Totem Inn and concluded with a brief but elegant speech.

The dance was excellent, thanks to the large attendance of Corporals and wives, who enjoyed the pleasant surroundings and warm welcome accorded them. It was good to see so many "old" faces who had managed home for the week-end from distant, Paine and Cold Lake.

Welcome Sea Islanders Dance August the first is the date set for the next dance. This will be the occasion to welcome our fortunate comrades who are abandoning the mainland for "Shangri-la"? Doug Baird and his Grasshoppers provide the musical tempo. I hear they have lots of insects appeal too!!! Dancing begins at 9 until 1 and the cats for the evening will be announced at a later date. Price of admission is only 50 cents per person.

Acknowledgements and Adieus

The foundation of success is a continuous concentration of coaching and training by competent instructors. The Totem Inn is proud and fortunate indeed to have in its midst three excellent tutors who are passing their experience and knowledge of baseball and sportsmanship to willing pupils. LAC's "Coco" Letour, Brian Goss and David Coyne deserve special mention for guiding Comox Tridents, in their first year, to the Upper Island Juvenile "B" Baseball championship. Well Done lads!

There is no dearth of talent in the Airman's club. Neil Funk excels as a commercial artist whose skills in the art have been decorating the hallways of RCAF Stn. Comox for many months. Neil's colorful works, in the form of posters, advertising our dances and social events are admired by one and all but only the members of the Totem Inn are fortunate enough to appreciate his artistry which is evident in the loungebar. Neil is a family man with an attractive wife and two small children, and though praise seldom reaches his ears, we are truly appreciative.



The versatility of the 121 helicopter is illustrated as it comes in for a landing on a small lake.

The Ways of 121

ORDER TO "GET LOST" STARTS AIR FORCE SEARCH EXERCISE

When Sgt. Al Savage of the RCAF's Search and Rescue School in Vancouver was told by his boss to "get lost", he did just that. He made his way

into the rugged landscape east of Lac la Hache in British Columbia's Caribou country.

It was all part of "Exercise Bailout" conducted to test the men, equipment and facilities of various RCAF formations assigned search and rescue roles in the province.

Sgt. Savage played the part of a jet pilot who, supposedly, had been forced to bail out of

his disabled plane. Also planned in the bush was a life-sized dummy, representing a passenger in Sgt. Savage's fictional jet. The dummy was presumed to be injured.

To add more realism to the exercise, "wreckage" was also deposited in the bush. In the photo above, the 121 KU helicopter lifts the "patient" to safety.

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