

Merry Christmas

Santa Claus is coming to town

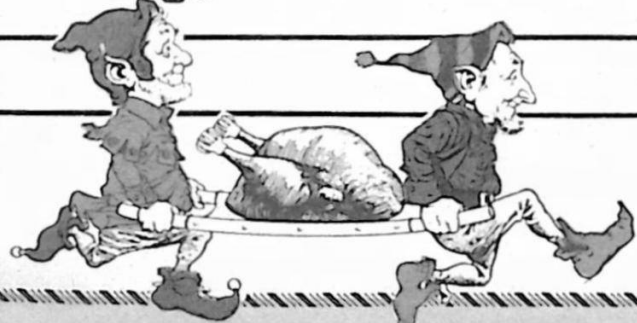
Once again, Christmas is almost here and the PMQ Association Council has just received a priority message from Santa. He will visit the PMQs from 1700 to 1900 hrs on 23 December and will be handing out candy canes to every good boy and girl. P.S. He loves having his photo taken, so be ready!



TOTEM TIMES



Canadian Forces Comox B.C.



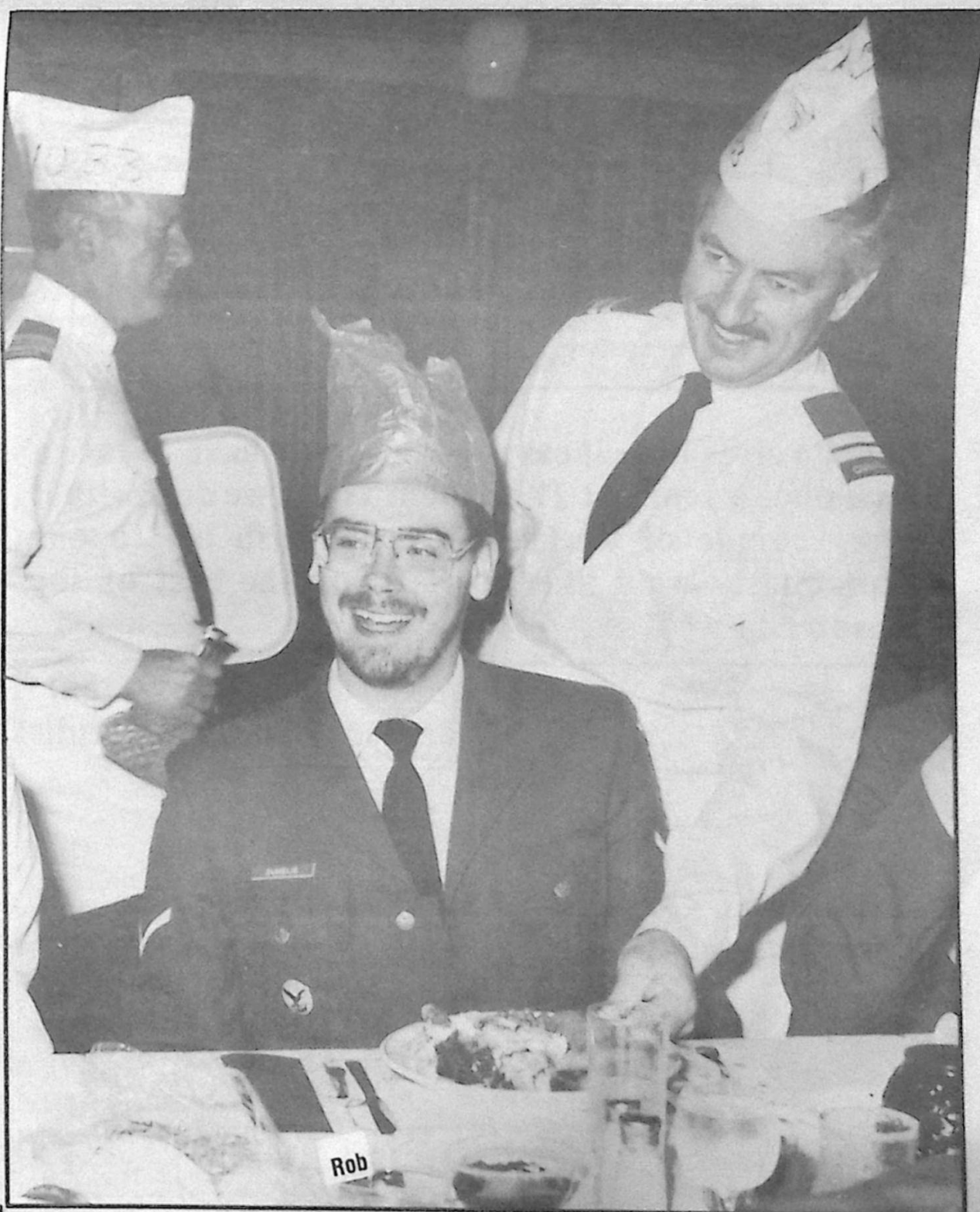
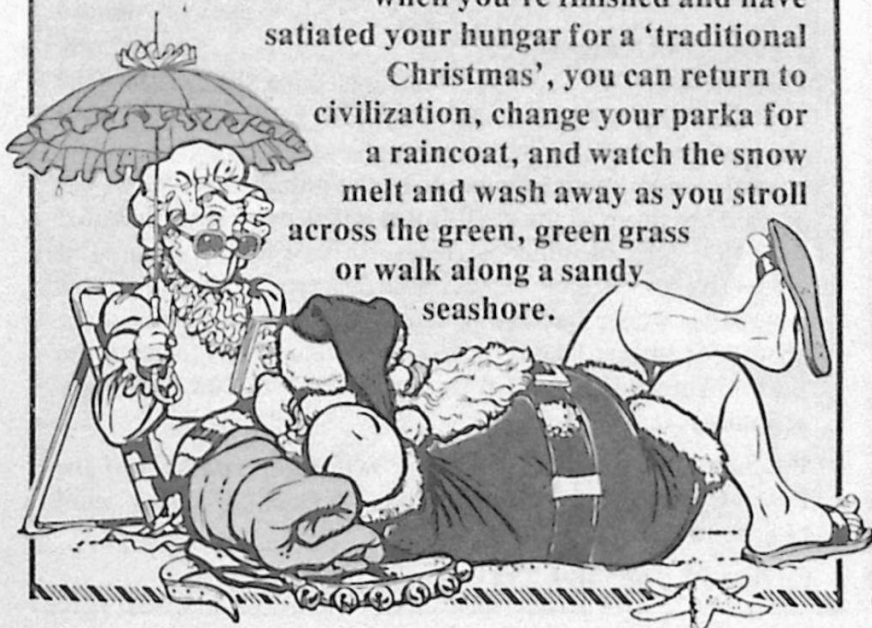
Service with a smile

Christmas at CFB Comox: usually a little different from Christmas at most other Canadian Forces bases. Where snow is likely to be falling and lying in drifts against houses and hangars east of the Rocky Mountains, we'll probably wake up to a steady rain leaking from an overcast sky. Rivulets of water will be running down the windows and dripping off roofs with a soothing symphony of soft sound — soothing, that is, from inside a cozy house, snuggled in bed, and waiting impatiently for the day's activities to begin.

Most of us, it is true, would prefer snow. We grew up listening to songs with words like "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas" and "When the snow lay roundabout, deep and crisp and even." We grew up in places where the absence of snow was not a problem: Heart's Delight, Newfoundland, Oromocto, New Brunswick; Shawinigan, Quebec; Penetanguishene, Ontario; Swift Current, Saskatchewan; and Sunnyslope, Alberta. We are not natives of the Comox Valley, though for many of us our hearts now reside here.

But one of the joys of the 'Banana Belt' is that snow lies in almost endless quantities only a short distance away. Climb a thousand feet, or maybe only a hundred, and it smothers the ground and sheathes the trees. Roll around in it, make snowballs and snowmen, dig tunnels and build forts. And

when you're finished and have satiated your hunger for a 'traditional Christmas', you can return to civilization, change your parka for a raincoat, and watch the snow melt and wash away as you stroll across the green, green grass or walk along a sandy seashore.



Capt Bill Snow (right) serves Pte Bob Dumelie a tasty meal at the Junior Rank's Christmas Dinner. (photo by Brenda Trombley)

Editorial

Thanks, Norm!

Norm Blondell has been working at the Totem Times far longer than I have — and with far less reward — so I feel somewhat unqualified to write a testimonial to him. I can speak of only the past year when for much longer he has toiled, with a succession of editors, over the editing, layout, and photography of a newspaper that often appears ready to crumble into oblivion, or at least become inconsequential, due to a lack of voluntary participation from base personnel. Perhaps it is only a sign of the times. Volunteers, those willing to give freely of their time and effort to help others, are becoming a scarce commodity. Many people seem only prepared to help themselves. But Norm is of the old school; he hates to be idle and he likes to lend a hand where he can.

He radiates energy, as those who have worked with him can attest to. He is always in motion. At the paper, that meant quickly scrawling editorials on scraps of paper or slapping down typeset articles and pictures on the layout pages at a pace that left the rest of us feeling like tortoises. Personally, I envied Norm his speed, especially when it came to writing. Where I would labour hours over a story, he was able to do one in minutes — and yet give the impression of having carefully weighed each word (damn him!). His articles were witty, succinct, and poignant.

Now Norm tells me that a demanding work schedule has forced him to cease his lengthy association with the Totem Times. I thought Christmas was supposed to be a time of good tidings. Oh, I know we'll muddle along without him. But my spirits will sink just a little lower when I open the door to the office on Monday morning and confront the pile of papers demanding my attention. Without a cheerful 'Good morning' from Norm as he bustles through the door, grabs his coffee, and enthusiastically tackles more than his fair share of the work, it won't be the same.

Thanks, Norm... and Merry Christmas. You deserve it.



It's been a busy year!

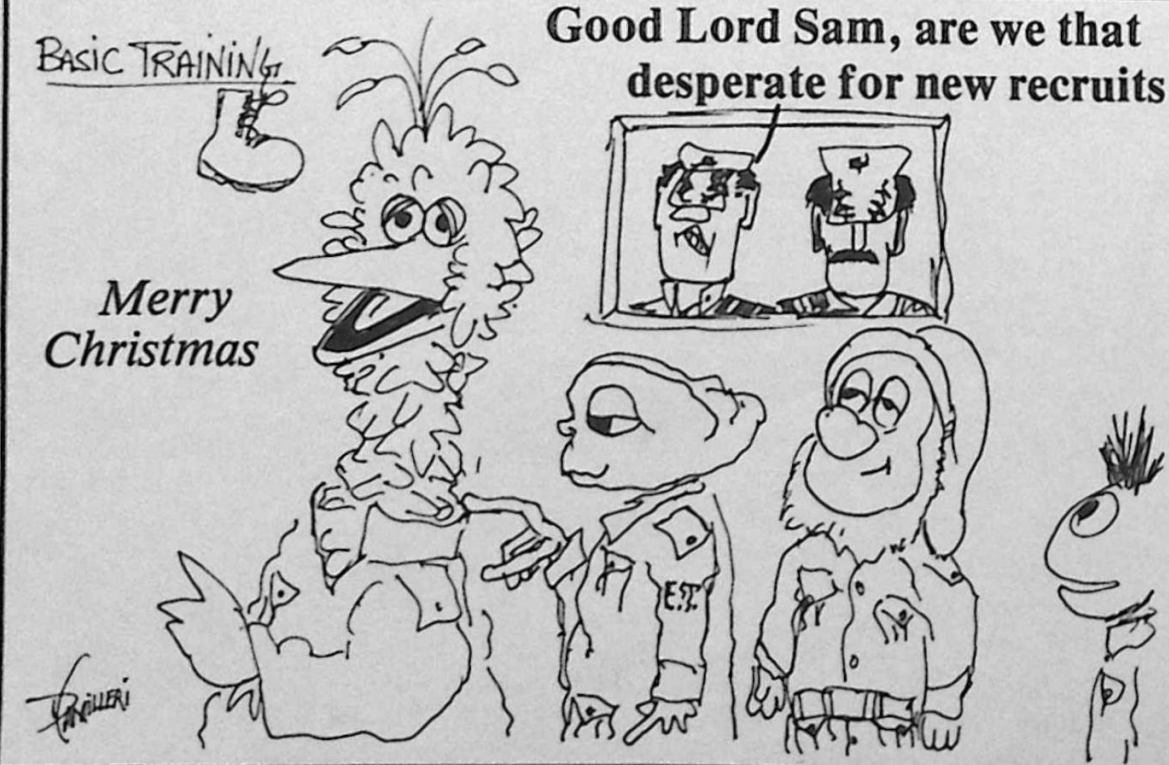


Santa's elves have it easy, — they only have to face a rush once a year. At The Totem Times we deal with it every couple of weeks. So as we rush off to our Christmases we'd like to wish you the best of the season and we'll see you next year.

BASIC TRAINING

Good Lord Sam, are we that desperate for new recruits

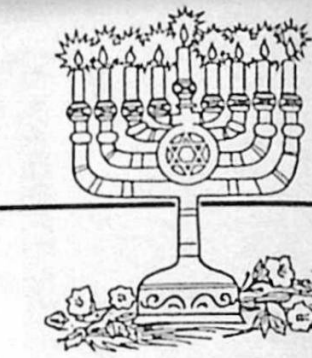
Merry Christmas



Happy Chanukah

While Christmas is a celebration of Christianity, this holiday season is also a time of celebration for the Jewish faith. The Chanukah Festival, marked by bright lights, happy faces, and joyous festivities, begins this year with the lighting of the first candle of the traditional Menorah on Friday, 22 December, and continues for eight days, culminating with the lighting of all eight candles.

The festival of Chanukah commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over the more powerful armies of the Greeks 2000 years ago. Having vanquished their oppressors, they were able to rededicate the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, and rekindle the Candelabrum as



part of the daily Temple service.

"The Chanukah lights symbolize a universal message of freedom of the human spirit, freedom from tyranny and oppression, and the ultimate victory of good over evil. The Chanukah candles remind people to rededicate their lives to goodness and spirituality, and urge all citizens of the world to reflect on the miracles of creation and life," says Lubavitch. The Central Organization for Jewish Education in British Columbia. They urge the Jewish community of the Comox Valley to light their own candles on Chanukah — to be seen by their families and neighbours.

TOTEM TIMES 1990 PRINTING SCHEDULE VOLUME 32

NUMBER	DEADLINE (1200 HRS)	PUBLICATION DATE
1	JANUARY 8	JANUARY 11
2	JANUARY 22	JANUARY 25
3	FEBRUARY 5	FEBRUARY 08
4	FEBRUARY 19	FEBRUARY 22
5	MARCH 5	MARCH 08
6	MARCH 19	MARCH 22
7	APRIL 2	APRIL 05
8	APRIL 16	APRIL 19
9	APRIL 30	MAY 03
10	MAY 14	MAY 17
11	JUNE 4	JUNE 07
12	JUNE 25	JUNE 28
13	JULY 16	JULY 19
14	AUGUST 6	AUGUST 09
15	AUGUST 27	AUGUST 30
16	SEPTEMBER 10	SEPTEMBER 13
17	SEPTEMBER 24	SEPTEMBER 27
18	OCTOBER 15	OCTOBER 18
19	NOVEMBER 5	NOVEMBER 08
20	NOVEMBER 19	NOVEMBER 22
21	DECEMBER 3	DECEMBER 06
22	DECEMBER 17	DECEMBER 20

TOTEM TIMES

CFB COMOX, LAZO, B.C. V0R 2K0

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First Aurora passes 10,000 hours

The Canadian Forces CP140 Aurora Fleet met another milestone on Friday, 3 November, when the first of the eighteen Maritime Patrol Aircraft passed the 10,000 hour mark. Soon after landing, the aircraft, flown by a crew from 404 Maritime Patrol and Training Squadron, was given a routine servicing check by maintenance crews and readied for the beginning of its next 10,000 hours. Other members of the Aurora Fleet will soon reach this service landmark but, as for number 108, it will be business as usual.

The Aurora, brought into service at Comox, and Greenwood, Nova Scotia, in 1980, has proven itself to be a capable long range Maritime Patrol aircraft.

In addition to fulfilling its

military role in Anti-submarine Warfare, the Aurora has served as a platform to promote Canadian sovereignty in the North, to patrol Canada's ocean borders against military, economic, and environmental threats, and as a team member in Search and Rescue operations.

Specific capabilities in Arctic and Maritime Surveillance will be enhanced in the near future, when three Arcturion aircraft, sister ships to the Aurora, are introduced into service.

Aurora aircraft are flown by crews from 407 Maritime Patrol Squadron in Comox, and by 404 Maritime Patrol and Training Squadron, 405 and 415 Maritime Patrol Squadrons in Greenwood, Nova Scotia.

courtesy of The Trident

Crossword

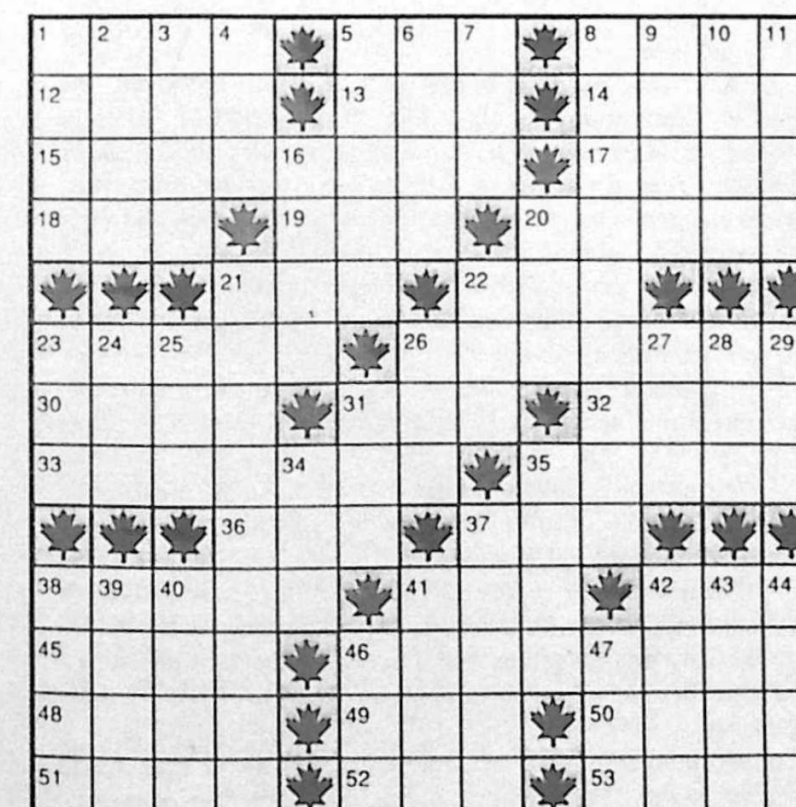
By Rick McConnell

ACROSS

- 1 Chicken partner
- 5 Accountant's letters
- 8 Cheese
- 12 Zone
- 13 Record
- 14 Margarine
- 15 Black Valley, Alta.
- 17 Prolific Writer?
- 18 Finish
- 19 Free
- 20 Explosion
- 21 Lobe
- 22 Relaxing sound
- 23 Bow's partner
- 26 Slanted
- 30 Moony name
- 31 Gallery stuff
- 32 Costa
- 33 Mollusc
- 35 Tree type
- 36 Weep
- 37 Table scrap
- 38 Stash
- 41 Three prefix
- 42 Compass pt.

DOWN

- 45 Wash
- 46 Black Nudge, Alta.
- 48 Winged
- 49 Lean-to
- 50 "Yours, Mine and ..."
- 51 Jaw
- 52 Gorged
- 53 Dagger
- 21 Picnic pest
- 23 mode
- 24 Massage
- 25 Genetic stuff
- 26 "Tears not enough"
- 27 Talk back
- 28 King-topper
- 29 Tried for office
- 31 Some
- 34 Raw metal
- 35 Seed coat
- 37 See 51 across
- 38 Strip
- 39 Geological basin
- 40 Track-shaped
- 41 Support
- 42 Turned
- 43 Certain
- 44 Gaelic
- 46 Tea
- 47 Distress signal



1989 THE KNOW WHOLE BARD FEATURES SYNDICATE GEO 023

solution on page 19

CF news

Canada agrees to peace — keeping in Central America

OTTAWA — The Minister of National defence, the Honourable Bill McKnight, and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced recently that Canada has agreed to participate in the Central America United Nations Observer Group.

The Canadian contingent will be under the command of BrigGen Ian Douglas who heads a nine-member advance party that deployed to ONUCA headquarters in Tegucigalpa, Honduras on 3 December. Canada will provide ONUCA with approximately 40 military

observers and eight light observation helicopters with crews and maintenance support.

The UN observer group, known by its Spanish acronym of ONUCA (Grupo de Observadores de los Naciones Unidas en Centroamerica), is the military/civilian operation created by the UN Security Council on 7 November 1989, to facilitate a peaceful end to internal and transborder armed struggles occurring in Central America.

It is anticipated that UN presence in the area will help to stabilize the situation. Timing

of the arrival of the main UN international contingents will be determined through an assessment of the local situation by the peacekeeping headquarters in Honduras.

Canada's contribution to ONUCA is consistent with our longstanding commitment to the Central American peace process and to UN peacekeeping. "This request for our involvement reflects the high regard in which Canadian Forces peacekeeping personnel are held by the international community," said Mr. McKnight.

About Trivia

Trivia Editor:

The aircraft is a Fairchild F/C2 built by the Fairchild Aircraft Co., of Farmingdale N.Y. and powered by a Wright Whirlwind 220 H.P. engine in 1927. This and all subsequent models had an ingenious method of folding the wings too detailed to describe here.

The 1927 version had a rectangular fuselage extending the length of the cabin at which point it was reduced to a triangular shape. All later models had the conventional fuselage configuration and in Canada were manufactured by Fairchild at a plant located at Longuil, Que. The basic model was improved and enlarged into what became known as the 51 powered by a Pratt & Whit-

ney Wasp junior engine and the 71 powered by a 400 H.P. P & W.

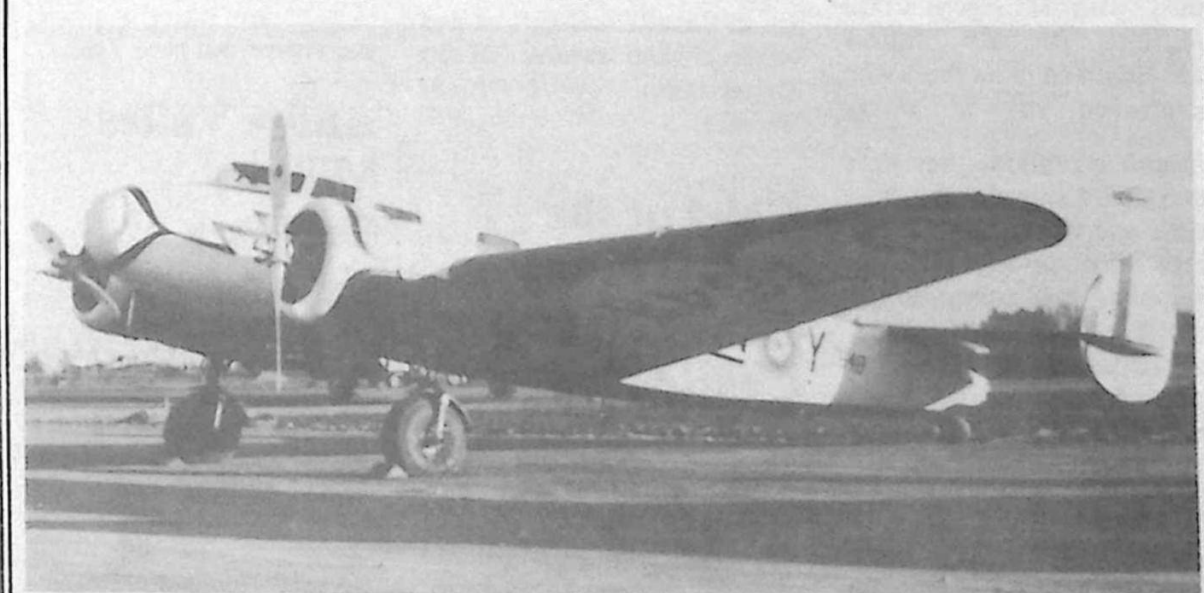
These aircraft were used extensively by the RCAF on northern photo operations and by many Bush operators coming next in popularity to the Fokker Universal. The first two F/C2s to go into operational service in the RCAF were 'XL' and 'XM'. They were shipped in automobile railroad box cars from Farmingdale to mile 42 on the Hudson Bay Railway. Here we unloaded them with considerable difficulty as there were absolutely no conveniences or lifting equipment available and assembled them on the foreshore of Cormorant Lake.

This was in the very early

spring of 1928 and we then flew them on behalf of the Department of Railways and Canals during the construction of the Hudson Bay Railroad into Fort Churchill from forward camps located at Deer Lake and also Jackfish Island located at the head of navigation on the Nelson River. We were designated as the Fort Churchill Flight and started the operations first on skis and later on floats when the ice went out. How do I know? Well I took part in the whole operation from beginning to end as a crew man.

As a foot note, the Fairchild was the first cabin aircraft in the RCAF where the pilot et al sat indoors and out of the fresh air. H.B.

Air Force Trivia



What, where, when, why? Has Santa given up his sled, perhaps, for something a little slower and noisier?

Trivia Answer

A Fairchild 71 of 8 Sqn, RCAF, at Rockcliffe, Ontario, in 1938. See letter above.
(From the H.W. Holmes Collection)



Comment

Christmas Messages

The Governor General of Canada, the Hon. Jeanne Sauvé



The new year coincides with the end of my mandate as Governor General. I would like at this time to extend my warmest wishes to you and express my thanks. My duties as Commander-in-Chief have given me firsthand experience of the dedication and loyalty of the Canadian Armed Forces and an understanding of the important role they play in protecting the security and peace of our country.

My duties have also given me the opportunity to appreciate the competence with which members of the Armed Forces of every rank fulfil their responsibilities, demonstrating the quality of the training they undergo in order to serve their country. I would like to emphasize the consideration that has been shown me and the confidence that has been placed in me. I have seen our forces in Canada and abroad and have heard with satisfaction the opinions of my fellow Canadians and of all those who have seen you at work.

Without exception, they have never failed to point out your merits and to recall the heroic acts that have built the reputation and enhanced the prestige of the Canadian Armed Forces. For me, this is a reason for pride and I am pleased to testify to it.

Together, we are entering the last decade of the century. In spite of the problems that often darken the horizon, I am confident that, with the enthusiasm of Canadians, our country will hold true to its course by emphasizing the principles that guide our common action, particularly, the respect for fundamental rights and human dignity. You are part of the group of people of good will working to create favourable conditions for the development of our nation and the preservation of its unity. I wish you and your families a

happy new year and assure you of my gratitude and my warmest thoughts.

Minister of National Defence, the Hon. Bill McKnight



The advent of this Christmas season brings with it a new-found sense that the world is poised to enter into an unprecedented era of peace and co-operation among nations. Canadian Forces' personnel can reflect on the past year's achievements with pride in their contributions toward fostering global peace and security.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere appreciation to all members of the Canadian Forces and our civilian workforce for the achievements of this year. I have complete confidence that the high standards we have set for ourselves will be continued through the new year.

Season's greetings to all members of the Canadian Forces in Canada and abroad and to the civilian members of the Department of National Defence.

Chief of the Defence Staff, Gen John de Chastelaine



The Christmas season is a time for remembering family, friends, and the special people in our lives. It is also a time of

reflection about the past and about what the future may bring. To many it is a time to renew hope for a more peaceful world.

This past year has been an exciting but challenging year for the Canadian Forces. The serving men and women of the Regular and Reserve forces have demonstrated their loyalty and dedication to hard work in the varied national and allied activities that have been conducted throughout the year. In addition, our humanitarian assistance and continued peacekeeping operations have brought hope for a better life to many corners of the world. Each one of you can be justifiably proud of your accomplishments.

The era of optimism created by the significant events occurring in Eastern Europe, coupled with our own need to confront the complexities of tailoring commitments to resources, will provide us with considerable challenges in the future. I am confident that we will meet these challenges in the same professional manner that we have in the past.

We are well aware of the personal sacrifices that military service demands. For this reason, I wish to take this opportunity to thank all Canadian Forces' members and their families, particularly those separated from family due to peacekeeping operations, service at isolated units, or due to other service requirements, for your continued support and dedication.

I extend to all of you my warm wishes for a safe and happy Christmas season. May each of you enjoy a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Andre Vallee Military Ordinary of Canada



The latest events on the international scene indicate in a very dramatic way that the world is thirsting for freedom and yearning for a lasting peace. In China, as well as in Germany, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and even in the

The Prime Minister of Canada



On behalf of Mila and our children, I am pleased to extend our best wishes during this festive holiday season.

This time of year is marked by a spirit of generosity and love. As families and friends join to celebrate the Yuletide, we are reminded of the

blessings of peace and abundance that characterize our homes and communities throughout Canada.

As we usher in a new year and a new decade, may your homes be filled with health, happiness and hope.

Soviet Union, the people are demonstrating their urgent desire for liberty and justice. The glimmering hopes of peace are also appearing in Namibia, Cambodia and in Central America. Moreover, it would seem that the powerful nations of the world are beginning to realize that armed confrontation leads us nowhere, and the voice of public opinion is becoming stronger in their opposition of war and armed conflict.

It is reassuring to know that many countries after bitter struggles turn to the Canadian Forces to help them keep the peace when they are seeking solutions through compromise. It is in this capacity, as a peacekeeper, that the Canadian Forces were called to serve in Iran, Namibia and for an ex-

tensive period in Cyprus and the Golan Heights. Similar taskings are envisioned in the near future in Central America and in Cambodia.

Are not these profound desires for peace concrete manifestations that a mentality imbued with the Gospel message is trying to influence our society? In fact, Jesus Himself is a message of peace, freedom and justice.

Christmas will soon be upon us. It is a traditional time to promote goodwill and peace. This year let us earnestly support these virtues in our own milieu, in our families, and in our places of work. In this way we will be the bearers of the good news of Jesus Christ. Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people of goodwill. Merry Christmas!

Drinking drivers beware!

Did you know...

□ A 17-year old who drives when he has a blood alcohol level of 80 milligrams per 100 millilitres of blood (.08 %) has a 40 times greater risk of having a fatal accident than a sober teenager. Teen drivers have a higher accident rate even when alcohol is not involved because of their inexperience and taste for speed.

□ An adult driver with a blood level of .08 who shows no outward evidence of drunkenness has a 10 times greater risk of an accident than a non-drinking driver.

□ If drunk driving could be eliminated, half of the emergency centres that specialize in treating accident victims could be closed.

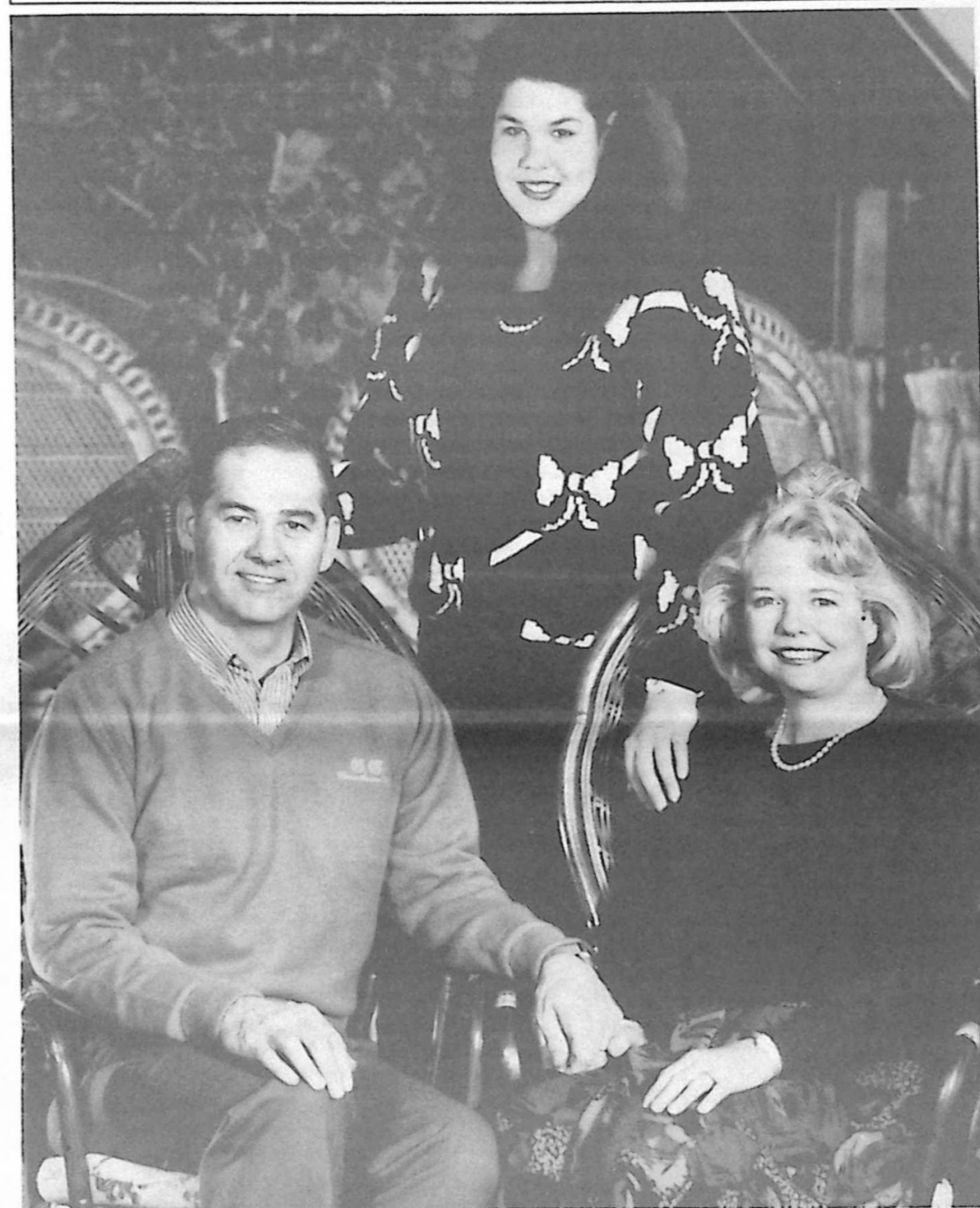
□ Trauma is a major cause of death of alcohol abusers; twice as many die of injuries as die of diseases, such as cirrhosis of the liver caused by drinking.

□ Drinking black coffee to counteract alcohol is a myth. A few cups may give you the feeling that your head has cleared after drinking or a hangover, but it is simply the stimulation of a caffeine fix. The effects of the alcohol on your driving remain the same.

□ Nothing eliminates alcohol from the blood stream except time. If you must drink, allow at least eight hours — or enough for a good night's sleep — before you go back on duty.

From the Base Commander

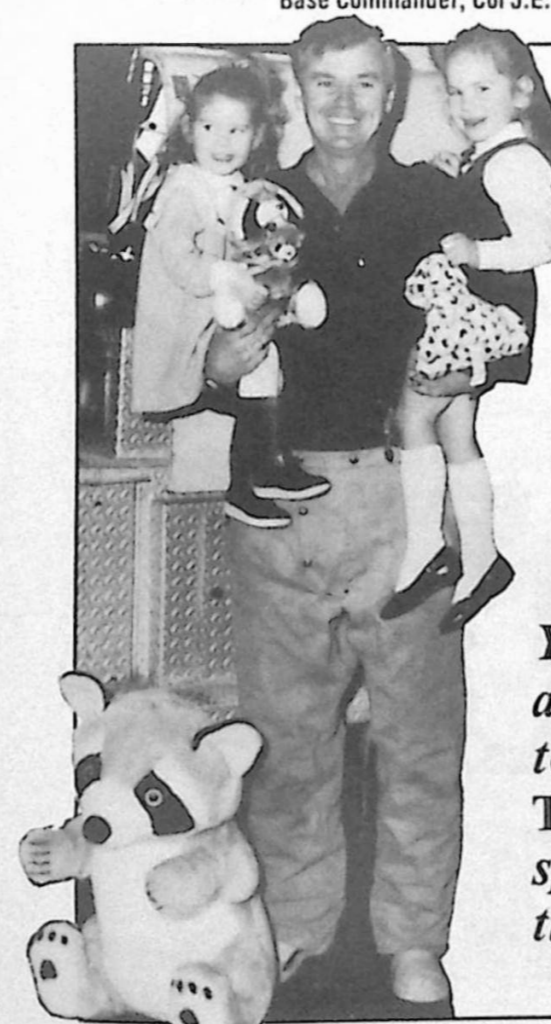
"Christmas 1989 will be long remembered as an historic Christmas: a time when the world witnessed a revolution towards democracy of unprecedented proportions."



Base Commander, Col J.E. McGee, his wife, Donna, and their daughter, Nicole.

CFB Comox Fire Department needs your support in The Fireman's Toy Drive

You can drop off your new toy at the Base Fire Hall from 9 am to 5 pm Monday to Sunday. TOGETHER we can make it a special Christmas for less fortunate children.



In this special Christmas edition of the Totem Times, we customarily reflect upon the good fortune of the past year while divining the challenges ahead. Peace on Earth and Goodwill to Mankind are uppermost in our minds, for Christmas is a time for those of the Christian religions to refresh their spirit and seek a period of tranquility amongst the turmoil and strife of daily life. Gift giving has become symbolic of the remembrance of others which occurs at Christmas time. It is a time of sharing, of giving of one's self. True, there is a commercial side to the giving of gifts, but it is not as crass as some would have us believe and commerce is after all fundamental to our ability to fund the programmes which benefit all of us in the long run.

Christmas 1989 will long be remembered as an historic Christmas: a time when the world witnessed a revolution towards democracy of unprecedented proportions. This Christmas, followers of the Christian and other religions as well as non-believers all have much to rejoice about — the potential for the world to solve its major risk of annihilation from superpower confrontation with nuclear weapons. Amen!

Let us rejoice, indeed, and share in savouring the taste of freedoms being discovered in the Soviet bloc. Let us pause at this Christmas time and thank our God for this renewed opportunity we have to get the work right. But let us not be so overwhelmed by the superb spectacle unfolding before us that we forget the threat which still exists from those lesser nations striving for a nuclear weapon capability. A threat which is much less predictable and, thus, has greater potential to be used for blackmail.

Conventional wars still cause untold misery around the world — a misery which will not dissipate just because the two strongest military nations reduce the size of their nuclear and conventional arsenals. Sadly, the fighting between nations has continued in any number of regions of the world even while the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries have enjoyed a record four decades of peace in Europe. The Canadians contribution to NATO has been every bit as much of a peacekeeping operation as have the contributions to other parts of the world. With the changes sweeping Europe, NATO may now be seen as not only a force for peacekeeping but for peacemaking. That is a contribution which everyone in and supporting the Canadian

Forces should be very proud of.

As members of the Canadian Forces, you have much to be proud of. Your pledge of unlimited liability in defence of the democratic ideals, the Canadian nation and way of life is unequalled. The fundamental skills and disciplines inherent in your training have prepared you for a variety of vital roles as responsible citizens who share the social burdens of our country. Your response to local, national, and international emergencies has been significant and the potential is even greater. Your participation in youth activities and your generosity to needy causes show how much you care about today's generations and their future. Few outside of the Canadian Forces understand the extraordinary effort you put in on their behalf, or the conditions you work under.

As the budget debates continue, the fact that Canada's defence expenditure as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product has been approximately one half of that of our NATO partners over the past three decades seems lost. Also seemingly lost in the debate are the identification of programmes which have benefitted from the fifty percent not spent on defence and the meaning of such continuous defence underfunding to you and to our national security. As a nation we have been blessed to have been partners in two key alliances: NATO and NORAD.

During Christmas 1989, savour the idea of the superpowers and their allies having avoided war amongst themselves and take solace in the importance of your contribution to it. Be thankful that your role has brought the peace we all seek closer, and pray that the trend will continue. Pray that the animosities which spark international, national, and domestic conflict everywhere will be resolved. Pray, too, that we will have the national will to remain vigilant and the strength to ensure that the freedoms we have come to relish will be preserved within our own great nation, and extended to those who have yet to shake the cloak of oppression throughout the world. You can give no finer gift to your family and friends than the answer to those prayers.

On a personal note, I pray you will enjoy the comfort and fellowship of family and friends during this Holiday season. On behalf of my wife, Donna, and our daughter, Nicole, and two sons, Michael and Patrick, I wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous, healthy, and peaceful New Year.

Section News



Christmas with Padre Bob

We are living in exciting times! During Advent and especially at Christmas we pray for 'Peace on Earth' and 'Goodwill to Mankind'. During this Advent we have witnessed some miraculous advances in Europe as the old order of Communism seems to be moving aside for more democratic forms of government. Most dramatically shown on our TVs was the reunions of families formerly separated by the Berlin Wall. It will be most interesting to watch over the coming months how the Communist countries move away from near dictatorship toward whatever form of participatory democracy they choose. Who says prayers are unanswered? Think of all the prayers for peace and access to families that have come from both sides of the Berlin Wall. We should still pray for a peaceful transition for these countries and their peoples.

This is the season to think of peace on earth and families. If you are travelling home to be

with your family we wish you safe journeys and Happy Holidays. If you are staying around we invite you to join the Chapel Family as we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace. The times for our Christmas Eve Services are listed at the end of the article. If you are travelling or staying let us all remember Padre Greg Milne as he serves the cause of peace in the Middle East, and all serving members in UN peacekeeping roles throughout the world.

Over the past five months I have enjoyed meeting a lot of you during section visits and relaxing with you at the various Christmas parties. Chris, Adam, Beth, and I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year as we continue to work together in our community. 24 Dec

24 Dec:

1100 hrs. Regular service of Worship.

1930 hrs. Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Service. Come out and join in our family celebration.

2330 hrs. Christmas Eve Communion Service.

31 Dec:

1100 hrs. Regular service of Worship.



As the beacon turns

Dear Santa:

I know that you've been keeping an eye on me this last year; several times I've walked past the IFRCC to the Tower without my hat on and I swear I could feel your benevolent stare on the back of my carefully styled hair. It sure is reassuring to know that since you've been watching me, you won't believe a thing of what the guys wrote to you about me. I mean, really! They are the ones who probably weren't very good girls and boys themselves. Since it is unlikely that you receive the Totem Times way up there at the North Pole, you may not have read 'As the beacon turns' and you can't know about the silly things they've been doing all year long. Let me give you a few pointers.

All those people who went to the Vancouver ATC/Aircrew (cockpit & cabin) Xmas party shouldn't get any Christmas presents from you. That's for sure! All those who've spent anytime at all in Cornwall this year don't deserve nothin' and all the drunk girls who got in Pat's Love Boat last week don't either. Well, that clears up the back of your flying sleigh, doesn't it? A few people didn't do any

of the above mentioned wrong doings but let's not forget the unmentionable behaviors of the rest of the gang. That leaves me, and the very nice people who also happen to write my PER this year, with clear consciences. We don't ask for much, you know: cars, boats, trips to tropical islands with a dozen dear friends — the usual stuff. While we're giving away presents, why don't you pick out a few fur coats for yourself and your girlfriends. Nobody is ever gonna read those account books anyway and who's going to complain. Rudolph? Ho! Ho! Ho!

I tell you, Santa ol' buddy, some people will be glad when this holiday season's partying is over. Murray and Bernie have been at it for a month already and they can't see the end of it yet! Sean Sweet doesn't have the Grand Masters experience of the other two so he might not make it. Capts Carre and Gagnon, are already celebrating their promotions and Tom Miles owes us beer from his check-out formalities as Terminal Controller. Next

thing you know, Gilles and Annie will have qualified as Tower Assistants and Andre will be telling us how to do our jobs in Radar. Believe it or not, Andre is the first person ever to learn how to work the DATA position from a correspondence course. Watch it kids! If Andre did it, expect to be doing it yourself very soon!

Dave Blamire is holding his famous annual 'Christmas Tree Cutting Work Party' this Friday. By the time you receive this letter, I probably will still feel the effects of all the hard work. Sore elbow, I figure.

Well, Santa, that's my report on the doings at ATC Comox. Please remember that I've been good and they, in general, haven't. So try to distribute the presents accordingly this time.

Sincerely,
your humble slave, Alien
P.S. In an effort to redeem themselves, my colleagues have decided to send flowers to Zsa Zsa Gabor; a fine lady who has been through a lot of unaccountable suffering this last year. Maybe they aren't such a bad lot after all...



Capt P. Anderson (left), ATC, receives his CD from LCol Bishop, BOPSO.

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes to All

480-C 6th Street Courtenay
Lemon Tree GALLERY 338-7855

Section News

Safety Systems

When Christmas approaches, it's time to think of more than turkey and presents.



Season's Greetings! Yes, it's that time of year again. For those of you who fly, along with thoughts of turkey and gifts you might want to consider another aspect of the season — exposure. Balmy Comox winters are fine when you can listen to the effects of a South-Easter from the comfort of your living room. However, should you have to ditch or punch out, you'll have a little more to worry about than wondering if you should go for that second piece of plum pudding. Being the highly trained individuals that you are, 99.9% of you should be able to deal with any critical situation which may arise on short notice (do they come any other way?). Makes you wonder why Flight Safety keeps coming up with all those ugly past statistics. Without referring to numbers, what the stats basically say is that if you can make it through the first hour, you'll probably go the distance. The key to this, of course, is to know what you're going to do beforehand. Preparation, reflex action and improvisation are the keys.

Safety systems spends a lot of time ensuring your ALSE will work as advertised. Too often, fatalities occur after a successful egress. Know your equipment and how to get the most out of it. The following should provide you with some healthy food for thought:

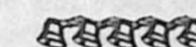
Multi-place crews — think you can don a harness and parachute in an unstable platform... in the dark? And when the lights go out, can you find your gear and a way out? An impact deceleration of 20g's might cause one to become somewhat disoriented.

Personal equipment — should you lose your survival kits, are you satisfied that what you carry on your person will get you through the first 24 hrs? That nutty bar in your box lunch won't do much good when it's inaccessible and you've got to get out in a hurry.

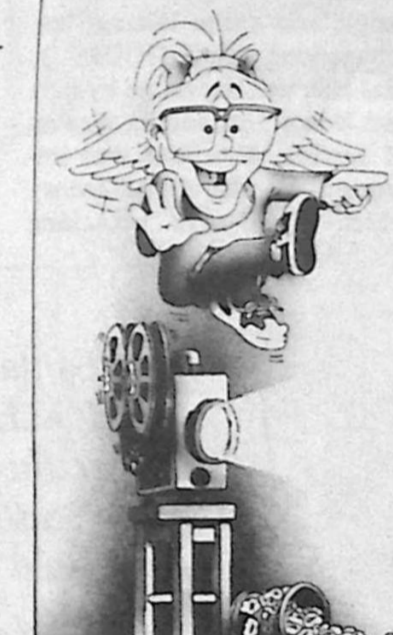
Quick-don immersion suits — provide waterproofing only. The degree of insulation depends on what the user is wearing under the suit.

Ejection seat flyers — now that you're wearing bulkier winter flying clothing, have you considered having your parachute refitted? The opening shock of an escape type parachute can do a considerable amount of harm if improperly fitted. For men, if you don't already have children to tell about how you successfully ejected, well...

Hope we haven't ruined your holiday spirit. However, the above are just a few items to give extra consideration at this time of year. It's up to the individual in the end. Your efforts and preparation can result in successful recovery or you can become your own worst enemy. If you have any questions, come on up and talk to us. Cheers!



Remember that dream you had last night?



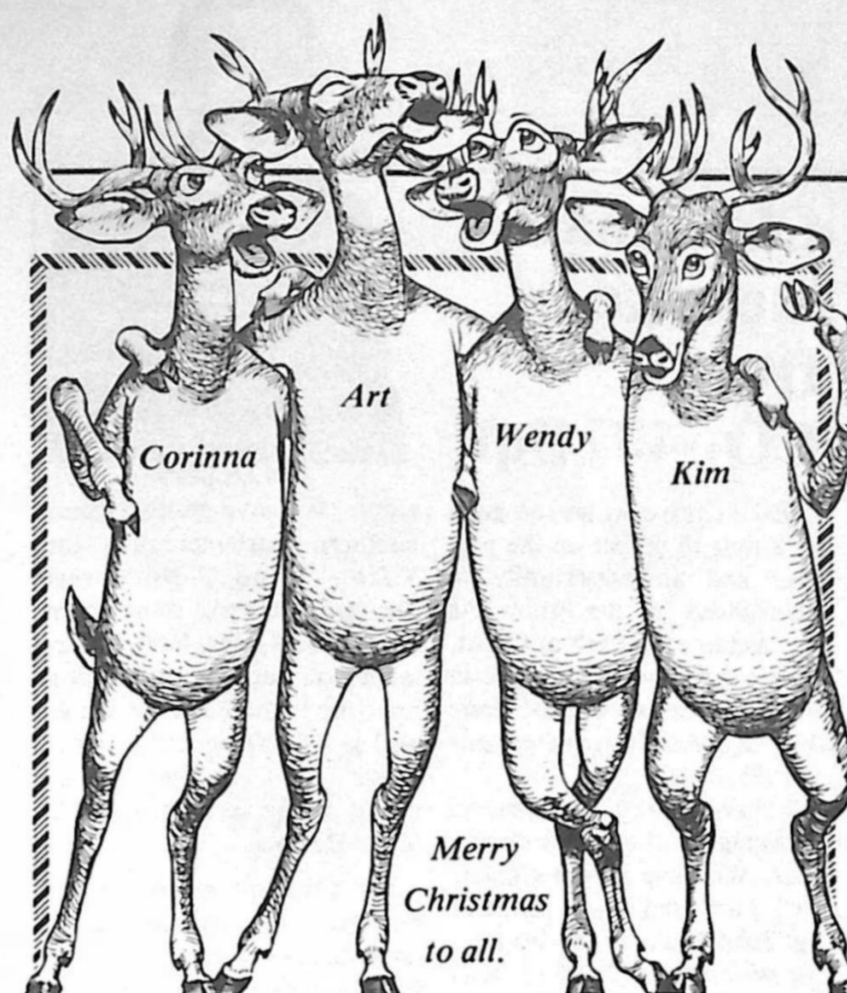
It's me, your conscience. My favourite theatre is the one in our mind. And when you dream of daring adventures and romantic interludes, you'll always find me in a front row seat.

But you often show another kind of movie — one where you reach deep within us and change the world. And like all great stars, you make helping people and causes you care about look easy.

Could we watch that one tonight?



Imagine is a national program to encourage giving and volunteering.



Supply Christmas Song

Read (or sing) to the tune of Jingle Bells

LPO, CSO helpful everyday
if you have a problem
you can ask for Ray (or Ray) — Hey!

DSTs, DSTs answer right away
Oh what fun it is to call
at least 10 times a day — Hey!

Dashing through the aisles
counting all the way
hoping that just once
the paperwork's okay.

2AA is sharp, changing everyday
with Art and Elves and everyone
putting things away — Hey!

Bells on telephones ring
much to our delight
there has been a party planned
at the Rod and Gun tonight — Hey!

IORs, hasteners, they can wait awhile
we have gone for Christmas
sooo — just let them pile!

2AH, 2AL, 2AC and D,
2AG, 2 AF, and also 2AE
all these groups, rations too
have done hard work all year
now its time to end this poem
we wish you all good cheer.

From the Management and Staff of
Comox Moving & Storage
To All Personnel of Canadian Forces
Base Comox
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
& A HAPPY NEW YEAR

northAmerican
VAN LINES

De la Direction et du personnel de Comox
Moving & Storage
A tous les membres des Forces Canadienne
de la Base de Comox

NOUS SOUHAITONS UN TRES
JOYEUX NOËL ET UNE HEUREUSE
ANNEE

Season's Greetings.
Wishing you
all, a very
pleasant and
safe holiday season.

BC hydro

proud of our Service

Our offices will be closed
Monday, December 25
Tuesday, December 26
and Monday, January 1
Emergency and maintenance crews will be available
throughout the holiday period.

Eeeek!! There's a fire outside my window!

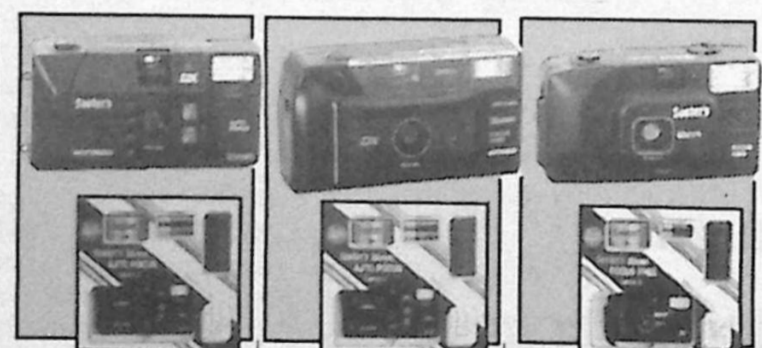
It's a frightening view, but you'll see things clearly if you follow the Old Lady's advice. You should plan two ways of escaping from every room in your house. And every member of the family should know the plan. Have a meeting to discuss it. But don't stop there — practise escaping according to the plan!

The Old Lady and your Fire Department have lots of other hints on how to prevent fires, how to make your home fire-safe and how to deal with arson, burns and getting out of a fire safely. For these hints, simply contact your fire department.



© Fireman Fire Prevention Canada and your Fire Department.

Express Your Love...
with a Camera from Sooter's!



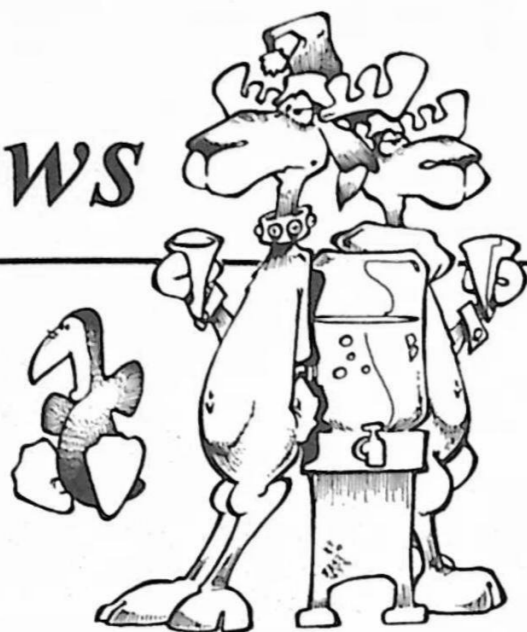
Sooter's 35 M.M. Fully Automatic Goldline Camera. \$149⁹⁸
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Section News

Demon
doin's

Flt Eng

Aircrew

Lately we have been busier than a one-armed paper hanger. The end of the quarter and the end of the year are fast approaching! Everyone is madly trying to get their requirements and exams out of the way before the new decade. This, of course, explains why Nav Standards has vanished to Hawaii for a week. Speaking of vanishing, 2 Crew has managed a Christmas shopping spree down south (although it did take them a few tries to get there). Sadly however, no other away trips are on the board (Q: What is the favourite wine of Aircrew? A: I wanna go to Hawaii!!!).

With the annual crew checks just around the corner there is a new tension in the air. MPCCs and Tacs are busy getting their crews into shape (the beatings will continue until morale improves!). Fortunately, the Sqn Christmas Party arrived just in time to relax everyone. The food, the companionship, and the conversation (thanks for the driver, 442 Sqn) were all excellent. Christmas parties are the perfect time to meet new people and make lasting first impressions (right HOOP!!!). Maj Nak was impressed by Bert and Bob's outstanding display of surfing. Everyone was impressed by the GNU theory which Josko was preaching

(dare not explain here for fear of my life!). See Joe for details.

Le Chien Depute has finally settled into his newly decorated office. It's just scrumptious!! Al was heard to tell the painter: "It just doesn't do anything for me Bruce, I want you to make it sing!". Which reminds me that the Naves will be getting the old song and dance routine on Monday. (read: Nav Get Well Program) Rumour has it that this involves letting some of them reclass and endure the Pilot Get Well Program.

Monday was another in the 'Clash of the Titans' series. The Devils snuck by the Demons with a 2-1 victory. Bert the Eagle has been unbearable with his constant retelling of the 'Game winning goal story'. Runner-up in the 407 Sqn Lepper Contest is Paul Ormsby (Paul still wakes up at night screaming "Under the 1...27 and we have a Bingo!!!").

Three final comments: Firstly, Franz was a major factor in the Marine-but-kicking incident. Secondlywelcome Fozzie! Lastly, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from 407 Sqn Aircrew.

Dear Santa,
HO...HO...OH!
During this Traditional festive season, thought you should be aware that the **Heritage** restaurant is featuring take out

TOURTIERE \$14.95
(meat pie a la Quebecoise)

like Mom used to make, baked in our own kitchens! (please allow 3 days for preparation)

Traditionally yours,

The Heritage Restaurant

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OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE COLLINGWOOD INN

338-9880 for reservations

Christmas
message
from
CO--407 Sqn

Lt Col J.F. Bennet

Each Christmas season gives us a time to reflect on the past year and an opportunity to plan ahead for the future. As we celebrate the birth of Christ, God's most bounteous gift to mankind, we can also celebrate 407 Squadron's achievements in 1989.

I take great pleasure in speaking for the squadron this year. We have served Canada well. I am particularly proud of Sgt John Brauner and his crew for winning the Chief of Staff Trophy at the O'Brien competition. He and his merry band of young men and women worked hard to prepare and conduct the best maintenance of all the squadrons. The Crew Five Vikings worked equally hard with our armourers to repeat our clean sweep of 1988, but it was not to be. The competition was fierce and exciting. We can be proud of all their efforts.

On the operational side, 407 can look with pride on the three lives saved by Capt Szegeidewicz and Crew Seven off the California coast. There are three American families who hold Canadians in a special place in their hearts this Christmas. We have also served British Columbians well this last year. We flew several representatives of the media on one of our missions monitoring the passage of the Exxon Valdez down our coast. We also assisted with surveillance of the oil spill which came aground on our West Coast, as well as monitoring the oil barge which broke tow. On several occasions, we have assisted the Rescue Coordination Centre with ELT searches, as well as providing assistance to other civil authorities on numerous

events. We have photographed northern settlements in the Yukon and Northwest Territories to assist in northern development. We have reported an oil and gas exploration activities in the Beaufort Sea as well as wildlife activities in the North. All Canadians can be proud of the accomplishments of the Demons.

We have not neglected our primary role of defending Canada and our allies. Without going into details, the men and women of 407 Sqn have carried out intense and demanding training and operational missions from our home base at Comox as well as from such places as Iceland, Greenland, Nova Scotia, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, Alaska, and California. In all cases our friends and allies have been impressed with our performance, spirit, and determination. Speaking for the Demons, I would like to extend to the Base staff and fellow squadrons, who support us so well, our heartfelt thanks and season's greetings. To our Comox Valley neighbours, we have enjoyed serving you, and we wish you all a most merry Christmas and joyous New Year.

As Commanding Officer I want to thank all my fellow Demons for their loyalty and support over the past year. Your achievements are many, in spite of fewer resources and people. Betty and I wish you all a very merry Christmas with your families. We both look forward to serving with you in 1990. May this first year of a new decade bring happiness and prosperity to all of you. Finally, please have a safe holiday season.

Maida's Boutique
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Lingerie and Maternity Wear

GENTLEMEN:

Tomorrow is the day (22 Dec) to purchase your special lady's Christmas gift. Our staff will assist in your selection, then carefully wrap your gift. If you are unable to make it we will be open Saturday until 5:30 and on Sunday from 10 to 4.

Season's Greetings

Plus casual to dressy maternity clothes

IMAGINE'S New Year's Resolution 123

This year, I'm going to learn to communicate with beings from outer space - so I can find out where all the odd socks go... and then I'm going to sign up to help a local charity back here on earth.

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

COLUMBO'S STEAK HOUSE
PIZZA N PASTA

338-1

Anker



Techside

Since our last article, the squadron has participated in a base exercise which lasted approximately 48 hrs. The establishment of 24 hours coverage caught some personnel at an inopportune time (shift changes) and they had to work long hours with little relief. Half of our T-Birds were discovered broken just prior to the exercise commencement which compounded the work load. Again the technicians rose to the challenge, completing all tasks, whether part of the exercise or not, in a highly professional manner. Well done everyone.

Civilians were released from duties as part of the exercise and rumor has it that Mr. Caslake is advocating more practice. As a bonus to the exercise during the quiet hours, Sgt Williams and Capt Snow gave some very painful eucure lessons to MWO Cameron and Sgt Grubwieser. Welcome back to Dan Finnegan who was away on a course in the winter wonderland of CFB Borden. Glen missed you Dan!! Cpl Miriam Renaud is doing her part to promote the Xmas spirit in the maintenance area. She used her initiative to acquire decorations and has the offices and canteen looking very festive. Thanks, Miriam.

The Squadron Xmas party

was well attended by VU-33 members and guests. Everyone appeared to be in the spirit and a good time was had by all. Special thanks to Sgt Ted Town and his helpers for their part in making it a great evening.

1 Crew

Cpl Glenn Arsenaault is off to the east coast on his T-Bird engine course, and Dave Brown is back from his annual deer hunting trek to the same part of the country. Seems his fish finder is not working properly yet because he came back without a deer.

The mighty 33rd curling contingent has had less than perfect results lately, losing in their latest endeavour to the armament team. According to Weiner Lavigne, the opposition weighted their rocks with plastic to mess up their take-out weight. As far as hockey goes, I have learned that our boys got smoked on their last outing as well, although nobody would tell me the score or who we lost to. Jamie Bull figures he has the answer to our hockey woes. Rumour has it that he has started a hockey school to teach all of the finer points of the game. Although our teams do not always come up with great results, you must admit our excuses are right up there with the best of them. Merry Xmas everyone.

Klankin'



2 Crew

The Sqn Xmas party was a great success and MCpl Keller entertained us with an aerobatic display. The rest of the night was filled with merriment and dancing to the excellent music of Bill's DJ, thanks to Dave Sabourin.

Cpl Paul says he really enjoyed the base exercise and Cpl Larose is still asking, "What exercise." Sgt Grubwieser is back from Shearwater after attending a gruelling 10 day T-33 Maintenance Manager Course. He now knows all there is to know about T-Birds. Gene Meyer and Chris Shelley may be doing a bit of fishing in the near future but on the EAST coast. Good lucks boys.

Finally from 2 crew, a wish for Merry Xmas and a productive and Happy New Year.

ARO

Cpl Marty Lavigne has taken leave (not of his senses); his wife is due any day now. Good luck to both of you.

At our annual ARO supper at Gullivers our resident Liliputian, Boyd 'Magic hands' Russell, was head over heels with glee. Good to see you back on your feet, Boyd. Wayne

Hartin was trying to add a little colour to his life while Wayne Veitch and Mark Pigeau were filled with the spirit of competition. Darren Herle wasn't up to his usual form: not the normal 'I'm the boss, take charge, kind of guy'. I guess there's only one pair of pants in his family and it wasn't his turn to wear them. Ernie MacAlpines speech was the highlight of the evening: a definite crowd pleaser.

The Sqn Xmas party was excellent and Luc Lauzon got a heck of a buzz on from the red punch (non-alcoholic) which goes to show it's a case of mind over matter; he was out of his head but it didn't matter! Gene Meyer was table hopping with a twist (from underneath).

At both the section party and the Xmas party it was a pleasure to see all the ladies out having a good time. We should do it more often. I'm sure there will be some news to report after the Arsenaault's open house. Merry Xmas everybody and have a super New Year.

IMAGINE'S New Year's Resolution 727
This year, I'll try and do something about my temper - and I'll try and share the extra smiles with good causes in my community

Next deadline - 8 Jan 1990

Greetings from
tom procter
Ocean Pacific Realty
An Independent Member Broker

May the happiness of Christmas Day
It's comfort and it's cheer
Remain a pleasant memory
Through the Coming Year

282 Anderson Road, Comox, B.C. V9N 7A1
Office 339-2021 Fax 339-1529

VU 33
SAMEO
Christmas
message

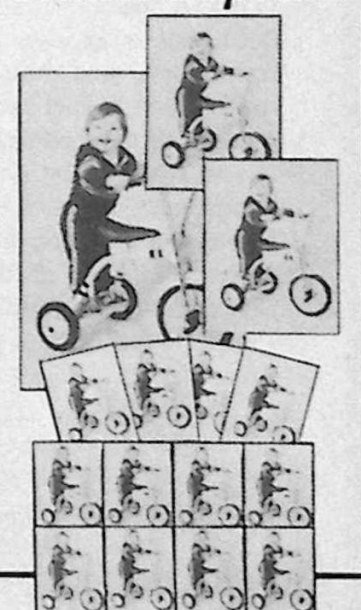
Xmas is a special time of year, a time when our thoughts are predominantly about family and friends. It's a time of good feelings when the festive spirit is running high. It's also a time when we should consider those less fortunate than ourselves and do what we can to ensure that Xmas is special for them all as well. A small gift is all that is required to make Xmas a happy time for a child who might otherwise have nothing.

Many of you will be travelling during the Xmas period and at the same time will be celebrating. Celebrating usually involves the consumption of alcohol; travelling and alcohol don't mix. If you're travelling by some means which requires your whole attention, don't drink. At the same time be alert for those who do. Don't let your holiday end with death or injury to yourself or another person.

To you and your families, a very Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year. I'll be looking forward to seeing you all back safely in 1990.

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Joel pressed his nose flat against the cold window and peered out into the night. It was Christmas Eve. As usual he was alone with his mother in their small, country home. The house cast a circle of light into the darkness. The wind was blowing hard and had chased the quickly falling snow into lines of drifts, like waves on the sea. At the edge of the light the trees of the thick forest surrounding them formed a fortress wall. He had always been spellbound, and sometimes frightened by the forest's mystery and life. He was still just exploring it's beginnings - and only during the day. But now he looked upon the forest's darkness with dread; yet he could not draw his eyes away until his nose began to complain. Then, just as he began to pull back his head, a movement in the trees caught his attention and he gazed intently towards it. From out of the gloom, the shape of a stooped man emerged who, Joel realized with a start, was looking directly at him from very bright eyes.

He jerked his head away from the window, his heart racing, and stumbled backwards. He yelled, "Mom!" at the top of his lungs, his fear making it shrill. His mother appeared quickly around the corner and he grabbed her and pulled her to the window, words overflowing from his lips.

"There's a man in the woods and he was looking at me and his eyes are just like a cat's and what's he doing and ..." until he ran out of breath.

His mother looked through the window in the direction he pointed, then brought his head closer to her own and said, "It was only a tree, Joel. See the way that one over there is short and bent over. It looks just like someone standing there."

Joel stared at it and realized she was right. The man was gone and a strange tree stood in his place. He felt foolish and his face reddened.

His mother hugged him and said, "Don't feel bad, Joel. Anyone could have made that mistake. It gave me a fright too, at first. Now when I leave tonight don't look outside and you won't scare yourself, okay?"

Joel nodded, still feeling foolish, and returned to watching television. It wasn't easy being twelve. In their often lonely isolation his imagination was his best friend and frequently got the upper hand.

His thoughts drifted inevitably to his father whom he only dimly recalled. Memories of strong arms, a grizzled face, and pipe smoke; he was never sure they were real. One awful day, long ago, Joel's mother had told him his father had passed away. He had never grasped the meaning of this and missed him with a desperate intensity he kept close to his heart. One day his dad would return he felt sure. It was his Christmas dream. Before further disturbing memories emerged his mother was back in the room and obviously ready to go out. She was going to a Christmas party. She looked at him with concern and said, "You really don't mind if I go, do you? I won't be long. Are you sure you'll be alright?"

Joel regarded her with a look of utter exasperation and replied, "Mom I'm almost thirteen. I know how to take care of myself."

"I know you can Joel, that's what scares me sometimes." She paused, watching him, then continued, "The Trimble's number is by the phone, so call me if you need me, okay? I'll be back real soon."

She threw on her coat, hugged him quickly, and left, shutting the door firmly behind her against the swirling snow.

The sudden emptiness of the house unnerved Joel as the sound of the car faded and the wind moaned through the eaves. He picked up his cat, Digger, who lay prostrate before him, and its contented purring stilled his anxiety. He turned up the T.V. and settled back.

A sudden knocking startled him.

Realizing his mother must have returned for something, he ran to the door to open it. A blast of snow and an empty doorway greeted him. Joel stepped outside, confused and frightened. Still seeing nothing he was about to dart inside and lock the door behind him when a gust of wind rattled one of the storm windows, making a sound like someone knocking.

Relief flooded through Joel's body.

He released a breath he'd been holding and turned back towards the door, only to see his cat's furry form dart between his legs and disappear into the night. He wanted to go back inside but he was afraid of Digger in the freezing cold so he snatched his coat, shut the door, and quickly followed the pawprints. They led directly into the forest.

The light from the house faded quickly but the tracks were easy to see against the white of snow - a line of small, dark circles where his paws had gone and a shallow furrow in the middle that his stomach had plowed. The wind and snow pushed against Joel making walking hard work. But he continued, knowing the cat could only be a short distance ahead. After a few more minutes, Joel's anger and fear mounted as there was still no sign of the cat. His fear of the darkness about him, though, soon overcame his anger at Digger and he gave up his search and turned to retrace his footprints back home. That was when a loud laugh, full of mirth, echoed through the woods and died as quickly as it began.

Joel began to run.

Goose bumps and chills began to run too - all over his body.

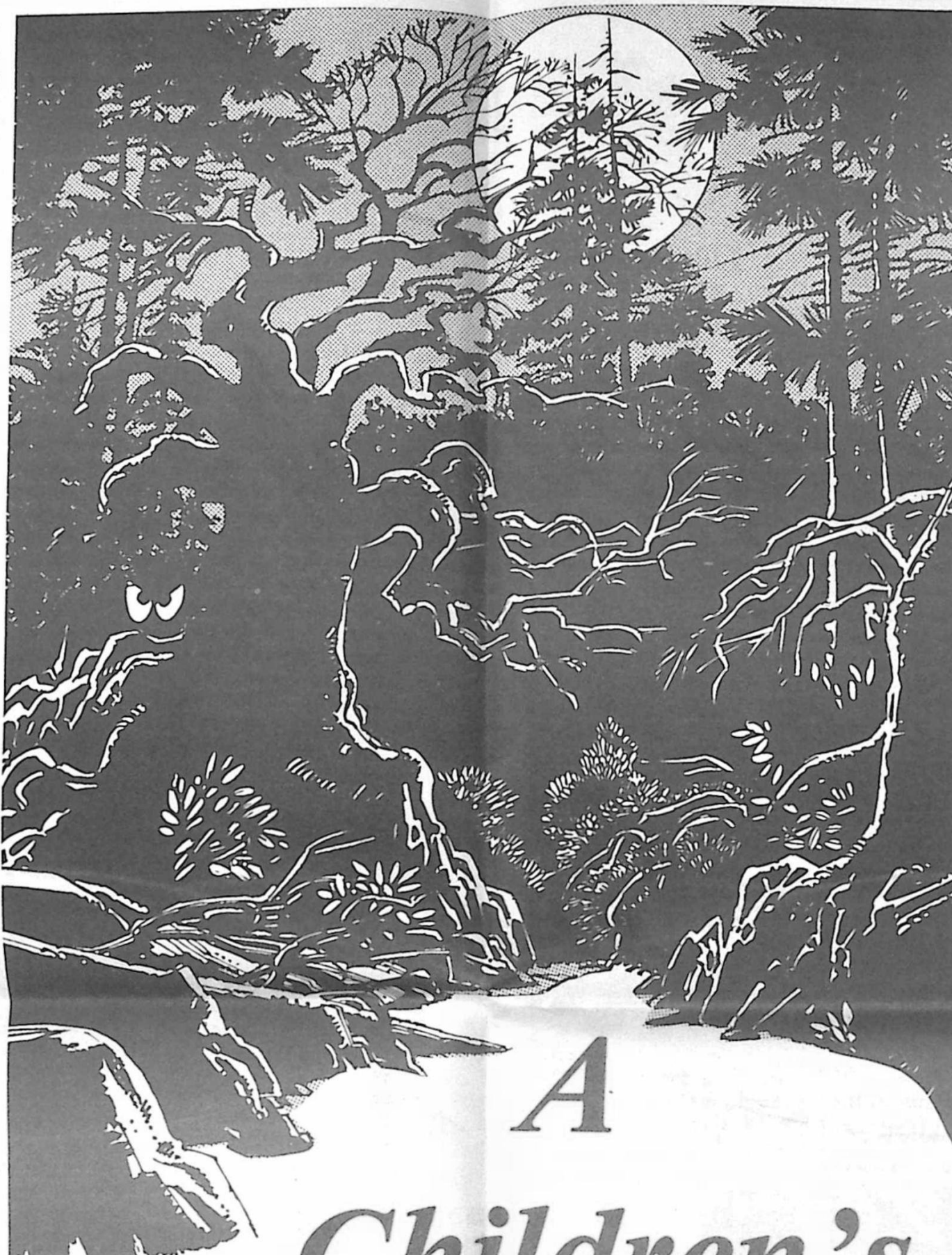
But the further Joel ran the more his own tracks faded as they were erased by the wind and falling snow. When they vanished completely, Joel kept running, dodging the trees. Desperately, he looked for the lights of the house. Only coal-black forest above the pale surface of snow greeted him. Finally he could run no more and exhausted, collapsed under a tree.

His breath wheezing in and out of his mouth and his sobs were the only sounds now as a great fear enveloped him in icy shrouds. His eyes darted into the forest around him, half expecting a horrible monster to emerge. He thought of his warm, safe, cozy bed. He curled himself into a ball with his face in his coat. He began to feel a numbness creeping into his legs and feet. The snow continued to fall, covering him in a thick blanket. Then, amazingly, he fell asleep.

He was awoken by the pressure of a hand on his shoulder. Joel dragged himself out of a deep sleep, confused, and opened his eyes. The night air was still and moonlight penetrated to the forest floor. Close to him and peering down stood a strange old man. His back was bent as though by years of heavy toil and his body was thin. His hands were gnarled and brown. His face was creased in a thousand places and partly obscured by a mop of white hair.

Joel's memory of recent events returned and he was very frightened. Then he looked into the old man's eyes - remarkable eyes. Their light, changing from bright to dim and back again, seemed to come from a distance; it was like looking down a deep well at the sunlight glinting off the water far below. As for their colour, it was impossible to determine. But there was no mistaking their warmth and humour.

Joel's fear swiftly subsided. The old man let loose an infectious laugh. Joel realized immediately it was the laugh he had heard earlier and that this was the man he had seen momentarily in the woods near his house. He could not help laughing too and a delicious heat spread through his cold body.



A Children's Christmas Story

The old man stopped laughing as suddenly as he had begun and then, with a persuasive toss of his head, indicated Joel was to follow him. He seemed to have an unerring sense of direction for he did not hesitate, though Joel could see no difference in the trees or ground around them, and strode purposefully off. Joel scrambled to his feet shaking the snow off in a moon-sparkling shower and followed, never thinking to question their destination.

Where before plowing through the heavy snow had been hard work, now he found he could walk with ease. The old man walked with a light, springy step which belied his years. He cast frequent glances around him but did not pause and never looked back at Joel. He stopped just once and so abruptly that Joel walked right into his back and only the man's strong hand on his shoulder prevented him from falling. He gestured to his right. Joel, following his pointed finger, saw a deer, antlers rising majestically above its head, spitting distance away and gazing calmly at them. It showed no fear and only returned their stare. The old man looked at Joel and smiled, his eyes alight, and Joel smiled back. They continued on their way.

A little further on it occurred to Joel the old man was not leaving any tracks. Somehow it came as no surprise to him. He watched his funny shoes come down firmly on the snow but they never sank in. He looked down at his own feet and saw his runners were also not sinking in. A glance over his shoulder revealed an unmarked expanse of snow behind him, shimmering in the moonlight. To Joel it all seemed completely normal. They were deep in the magical heart of the secret forest where, surely, anything was possible.

Presently, looking over the old man's shoulder, Joel noticed the woods ahead began to lighten so that even the heights of the trees around him began to emerge from the night's gloom. A short distance later its source became apparent as a peculiar building materialized out of the forest.

It was like no other Joel had seen. The walls and roof were made of winter-bare, woven branches and from the multitude of cracks between them came the soft, green light that brightened their surroundings. The branches merged into narrow, vertical trunks which disappeared into the snow. It was as though the forest had grown a house.

The old man stepped to the side of this strange dwelling, where no door or window existed, and placing his hands gently upon the branches, tugged at them until an opening formed. Bending forward he stepped in and Joel followed. A little later when Joel looked for the opening, he could not find it. This seemed to greatly amuse the old man.

Inside, against one wall, stood an earthen fireplace whose brightly burning fire was the source of light. To Joel's delight, a solid mass of green leaves sprouted from the branches in the walls and ceiling. The only furniture was a table, chair, and small bed which, like the house, were woven of living plants - small bushes this time, covered with tiny purple leaves. In addition to the furniture there were several wooden boxes arranged along the walls. From one of these the old man removed a container and, indicating to Joel that he was to sit, hung it over the fire where it was soon bubbling merrily.

Joel carefully seated himself in the chair, afraid to harm the delicate looking branches, but found that what had appeared most uncomfortable was wondrously snug and restful, adjusting itself to the contours of his body. The old man poured some of the hot liquid into a mug and handed it to him. Joel took a deep sniff but could smell nothing, so taking heart he sipped it. It tasted of a sunny forest glade on a summer afternoon; at least that's what it reminded him of. It was impossible to describe any other way. A pleasant, heated, tingling sensation spread from Joel's toes to his head.

The old man went to another box and drew forth a most singular object. At its centre was a small, translucent enclosure, round and yet square at the same time, from which radiated a number of unusual projections. Some were tubular with small holes along the sides and others were solid and pointed with a great many strings running between them. He smiled at Joel and then his fingers moved rapidly over the object and a marvelous symphony of beautiful sounds filled the hut; they caressed Joel, touching hidden thoughts and bringing forth emotions he never knew were there. He laughed and cried, sometimes at the same time. He had absolutely no control over it. The music - if that is what it was - penetrated to the most inner recesses of his mind. When it finally stopped Joel had no idea how long it had lasted. A weariness descended on his body, his head fell forward onto his chest, and he slept.

When he woke the old man was kneeling by the fire. He turned towards Joel with his penetrating eyes and Joel knew, without a word being passed, it was time to leave. Sadness filled him. The old man withdrew a blanket made of coarse material from one of the boxes and wrapped it about Joel's shoulders. Then he went to one of the walls and, as before, made an opening. Once they were outside he indicated Joel was to lead. Joel stepped forward and with a new found assurance led the way towards his home. He felt the old man treading close behind.

When Joel at last emerged from the edge of the woods by his house the moon's brilliant circle was high above his head and a million glittering stars lay etched across the night sky. Not a whisper of wind disturbed the newly fallen snow. He turned back to bid farewell to the old man and discovered he was no longer there. The forest had reclaimed him and was still. Then a meow broke the silence and a familiar creature rubbed against his leg. Joel shouted happily and picking up his cat walked quickly to the house.

Much to his surprise when he stepped inside, there was no sign of his mother. His shouts echoed from room to room unanswered. The he checked the clock hanging on the kitchen wall and was astonished to see only an hour had passed since his departure. To Joel it seemed that ages and ages had passed and he was no longer the same person who had chased his cat into the woods. The world had taken on a new magic to him and was forever changed.

He lay down on the couch in the living room, a million thoughts crowding his head, and sleep quickly overtook him again, as it is prone to do in very young men who have had adventures. A light kiss on Joel's forehead awoke him and he opened his eyes to find his mother leaning over and looking at him earnestly. His hair was in chaos and his clothes rumpled.

"How ya doin'?" she asked.

Groggy, he replied, "I'm tired."

"Where did you get this blanket, Joel? I haven't seen it before."

The night's events rushed through Joel's mind and he almost blurted them out, when an unusual feeling he could not understand stole over him.

"I found it in the garage," he said.

He could see from his mother's eyes she did not believe him but she only replied, "Time for bed. I know you want to get up early to open your Christmas presents. I'll be up shortly."

He was snug beneath the covers when his mother came into the room. She sat on the edge of his bed and kissed him again.

"Anything you want to tell me, Joel?"

He kept quiet with some effort then answered, "Maybe some day, Mom."

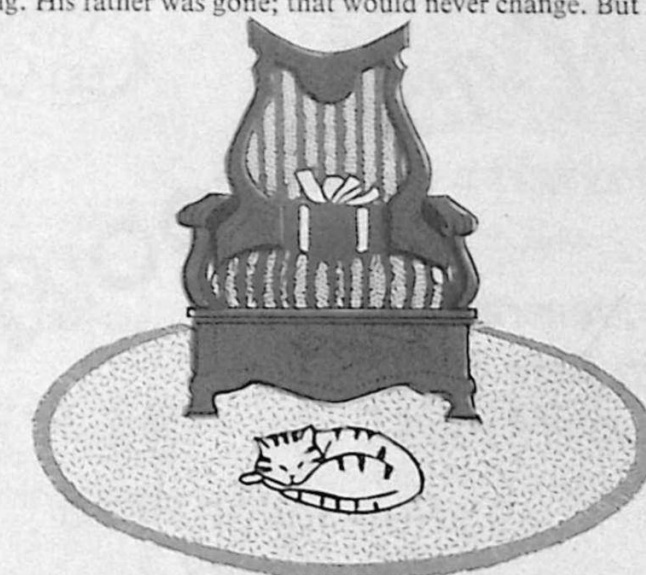
She seemed to be satisfied with this and got up and went to the door. She turned off the light and just before she closed the door said softly, "You know I love you, Joel, don't you?"

"Yes, Mom." He hesitated. "I love you too."

Alone in the darkness Joel thought about his mother and what had happened to him that night. Then he thought of his father and discovered it brought him no pain or longing. His father was gone; that would never change. But he was older now and maybe a little wiser. He could accept it.

Tomorrow was Christmas day and he knew that, as always, there would be a present sitting on the old chair in the living room waiting for his eager hands. And though his father would not be there to help him open it, that was okay; his mother would be and maybe, deep in the forest, a magical old man would be thinking of him.

The End



Section News

442 Squadron

Snakecharmers

The Squadron's Snakecharmers have been making tracks lately with a variety of MRPs, courses, and late postings.

Derrick Ross, Steve Hamilton, and Al Stephens enjoyed a cold stay in Bagotville last month for their CH113 Maintenance Managers Course, as did Adam Langlais, who was on TD for his 1st and 2nd Line Maintenance Course. Al Stephens now says he's a 'Wire Puller' with some 'Greasy Paw' knowledge. What can be scarier than that?

Yvon Levesque recently completed his JLC course and, after what seemed like a eternity of leave, is back at the grind again.

Louise Meta and Ray Charlebois managed an MRP to Calgary last weekend to rescue a sick Buffalo and its crew.

Earlier this month, Karen Allen and Robyn May spent a relaxing weekend in the sun and fun of Los Angeles. Relaxing that is, until Joe Casey and Kevin Morawski's chopper when U/S. Dennis Rouleau and Jerry Lauzon were forcibly persuaded to go south to assist.

Tim Maher and Mario Lessard, formerly of Maintenance, are now gracing 1 Crew, while Ryan Harding and Maurice Leger's presence can now be felt in the Air Frame Shop. Alex Martell finally made it to the hunting shift and he is now a member of 2 Crew.

Paul Blouin, formerly of 2 Crew, will be on his way to Trenton after receiving a late posting message. It could be worse, though. He could be posted to a base that's cold and snowy for six months, and hot and humid for the other six months... Oh... he is going to that base.

And finally, congratulations to Mike Miller on his promotion to MCpl. Well Done!

Presentations by Commander ATG



On 21 Nov, BGen Diamond, the new Commander of ATG, visited 442 Sqn, touring the hangar and treating squadron personnel to a highly informative talk. The General, a previous Commanding Officer of 442 Sqn, along with LCol Cloutier, the current CO, presented squadron members with various medals and awards. From left to right: LCol Cloutier, WO Boyd (Clasp to CD), Cpl McClelland (CD), Cpl Kowatch (CD), Cpl Martell (CD), MCpl Reeves (2 Rescue Citations), BGen Diamond, MCpl Webster (CD), Sgt Bisskey (CD), Capt Barnby (CD), Sgt Limoges (CD), and Capt Edwards (CD).

Sar Tech

We have had a fairly busy fall this year with several aircraft searches, a variety of marine serches, and many recovery missions both at sea and on land. Thankfully none of the searches were extended and all were successfully concluded.

This section has welcomed three new members this fall. Cpl Al Banky, Cpl Gavin Lee and his wife, and Cpl Steve Andrews and his wife. All are settling in well and are chomping at the bit to become involved in any and all SAR activities. MCpl Craig Seager has left the land of fun and sun to take up residence in Goose Bay, Labrador. Even though it was a short notice posting he did have time to buy Molly a new sweater and a toque.

Well, from all of us to all of you, have a Happy Holiday season. Make sure you keep the Christmas Spirit alive, share with the less fortunate, and have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Lab Flight

The approach of the holiday season has brought a busy schedule to Lab Flight. A

number of crews have been away lately on excursions around B.C.

Following a recent search in Kelowna, Maj Mackay and crew enjoyed an unexpected vacation when the trusty Lab became unserviceable, stranding them in Kelowna for five days. Maj Mackay, in particular, must have enjoyed the trip, because he returned the following week with another crew and was this time weathered in for three days.

Lorne Reid and Grant Mills have migrated south for three days to 'liaise' with SAR units in the Seattle area.

A new face can be seen these days in the squadron. It belongs to Capt George

Dowler, who is joining us directly from the rotary-wing conversion course in Portage La Prairie and is awaiting the Lab OTU before joining Lab flight. Welcome George.

continued on page 13

Open house — 22 Dec

442 Squadron will be participating in the open house on Friday, 22 Dec. Base personnel are welcome to share the spirit of the season in the squadron canteen #1 Hangar.



Mike Miller, recently promoted to MCpl, works on the cockpit of a Labrador helicopter.

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Lab Flight Official Wish List

As the festive season approaches, Lab Flight is pleased to announce its official Christmas Wish List. The following is a list of gifts, goodies, and secret wishes suitable for any Lab pilot on your shopping list:

1. Selcal. If this is unavailable, then customized hearing aids might suffice.
2. Five autopilots, complete with assembly instructions.
3. An extremely dangerous mission, sufficient for both CBC coverage and a medal of bravery. If not available, then how about...
4. A moderately dangerous mission, sufficient for a Boeing Rescue Award and several stories at the bar. If still no dice, then he'd settle for...
5. A simple mission. For example, rescuing the Swedish female gymnastic team from a cruise ship and then being weathered in at Port Hardy for a week.
6. A 'Get Out Of Ops Free Card' useful for avoiding duty in Squadron Ops.
7. A single-engine hover ceiling.



Sgt Howard, a Flight Engineer at 442 Sqn and recently promoted, carries out a preflight check on a Buffalo.

ST. PETER'S Anglican/Episcopal Church

218 CHURCH ST., COMOX

HOLY EUCHARIST

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Fr. John Paetkau - 339-2925

JESUS IS LORD

BAMSO

It has been so long since I wrote an article for the Totem Times, I had almost forgotten what it was like to have literary license and to write in straight forward terms rather than the military method of putting everything either backwards or in a language so confusing that no one understands it. The summer zoomed by with little time to even see it go. Vacations were spent, people were posted in and out, air shows were run, and courses attended. I'm not really sure which of those apply to me but I do know that I attended an air show and I'm pretty sure I went on leave (at least my charge cards tell me that I did and with their totals, I must have had a very, very good time!!).

The Abbotsford International Air Show was a complete success from the Ground support detachments point of view. I would like to publicly thank all the crew members who made the detachment such a success and so much fun. From working with the Soviets, to performing all of those close quarter tow jobs, everything was done without fuss or incident. It was a demonstration of good will, technical competence, and cooperation at its finest.

The autumn has seen the welcoming of all of the new people into the sections and the learning of new jobs. Sometimes things take a little longer as we break in new people or have to become familiar with new systems or ways of doing things, so bear with the delays. They are not intentional and hollering only makes things worse.

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BSUPD staff were on hand to congratulate Norm Haines on his promotion to Cpl.



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Section News

Big stripes for a big man!



Maj Kightley (left), BAMSO, was on hand to present the largest stripes in NATO (or the world, it is safe to assume) to newly promoted Capt Lin d'Entremont.

Roddy being gone so often he has to be retrained every time he comes back.

Alisa is settled into the 'back to work routine' after having Caitlin in August. When asked if she's happy to be back — she

just smiles... George is trying to get to Greenwood to finish off her HAI qualifications. Right on, George. Any old excuse, huh?

Welcome to Brenda Tromblay, a retired photo tech who

is working here as a civie. Ask Gerry how he likes all these women working for him?

Well, that's about it for any mentionable news. Everyone have a good Christmas and all the best for 1990. Cheers!

442 Sqn

continued from page 12

Navigators

The Navs are busy settling into the new office recently provided for them by the latest Squadron version of 'Perestroika'. The changes are not yet complete but we should be living in luxury by spring. Capt 'Red Pen' Fletcher, it appears, is off to Edmonton to harass Herc pilots and Harold Mulder has emerged as the likely victor of the competition to fill his DSOPSO job. Lt Mike Loader is back in Comox trying to finish off the OTU and word has it that he is enjoying his ground tour. With the imminent departure of Fletch, Lt Neal Matthews has

come out of hiding and is anticipating an upgrade in the near future.

Buff Flight

Two new faces have recently appeared at Buff Flight. Lt Paul Blouin is presently on the OTU Course while Lt Graham Patrick is patiently waiting for the next one. Would you believe impatiently waiting? Two stalwarts have graciously conceded to move onward and upwards (well, sideways anyway) to make room for the new guys. Marco Plasse finally received his long sought after posting to Moose Jaw where he will be flying future fledglings. Dave Muldoon is off to 412 Sqn, Ottawa and the Challenger where he will rub elbows with the brass and the

brash. 442 Sqn is hosting the 426 Bull OTU Course. This was precipitated by the Buffalo incident at Trenton in early Nov and subsequent shortage in aircraft at that location! It seems the species never has adapted well in the east.

Merry Christmas and a Happy Whole New Decade from Buff Flight.

Metropolitan Financial Advisors Limited



John Hackett,

C.D., B.Sc.

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Halibut Steak	Veal Cordon Bleu
Curried Boneless Chicken	Roast Pork
Beef Liver and Onions	B.B.Q. Back Ribs
	Cabbage Rolls

All dinners include Caesar Salad or Cream of Broccoli Soup and the house dessert. Served with vegetables and your choice of potatoes, rice pilaf or pasta.

\$7.45 - \$8.95

Mon. & Tues.: Chicken Pot Pie
Sun.: Prime Rib with Yorkshire Pudding

Closed Dec. 25 & 26

1747 Comox Ave., Comox
334-3911 7 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Daily

Section news

— Base Transport promotions —



Sgt Menard (left) accepts congratulations from Maj Fisher, BTNO, on his recent promotion.



Cpl O'Brien (centre) managed to keep a straight face after receiving his Cpl's hooks from Capt Hamilton (right), acting BTNO, and Lt Jacklin, MSEO.



MCpl Alexander (left) is all smiles on receiving his promotion.



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Truckin' Tales

The BTNO and his organization would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We would like to remind everyone that this is the season to be jolly and with the section parties, house parties, and various other seasonal activities going on, to drive carefully and do not drink and drive.

Well it's time to bring you up to date on what has been happening in our world. We had a few recent promotions: Gilles Menard to Sgt, John Alexander to MCpl, and Gary O'Brien to Cpl. Our congratulations to these deserving members.

MSE Safety ran a Dependents Defensive Driving Course in conjunction with safe driving week which was thoroughly enjoyed by all the participants. Our thanks to the instructors who gave freely of their spare time to teach this worthwhile course. To ensure drivers were able to keep their windshields clear, MCpl Casey (Safety Sup) handed out scrapers and also gave out numerous safe driving dollars to deserving people while on Safety Patrol during safe driving week.

Our section party was a great success. Everyone who attended enjoyed

themselves. The food, band, and spirits were appreciated by all. Mike Gallichan and Gary O'Brien ensured everything went smoothly and that there were enough prizes for all the spot dances. Maj Fisher, Capt Hamilton, and MWO Foreman, who were picked as judges for a twisting contest, were not sure if it was because of experience or fear of what could happen if they were contestants. The committee did a great job organizing, planning and setting it all up.

1990 Autoplan Changes

PREMIUMS

Auto insurance premiums for 1990 have been increased by no more than six per cent for two-thirds of B.C.'s claim-free motorists as a result of changes to Autoplan for 1990. In dollar terms, this means variations ranging from premium decreases of about \$15 to increases of about \$60 for these motorists.

Changes include major adjustments to rating territories, increased "No-Fault" Accident Benefits and the annual "aging" of some vehicles. The impact of 1990 claims cost increases is also a factor.

These changes and increased claims costs mean that ICBC will need an estimated 4.8 per cent more money in 1990 than in 1989. Other claim-free motorists, such as those who have their vehicles rated for pleasure use only or who live in some of the newly defined rating territories, will see their premiums rise seven to thirteen per cent.

Premiums for Compulsory and Extended Third Party Legal Liability coverages combined have been increased by six per cent for new and renewal policies as of January 1, 1990. Underinsured Motorist Protection and Comprehensive coverage also rise by six per cent. Premiums for Collision and Specified Perils coverages remain unchanged.

ICBC

WHAT'S NEW?

Territorial changes mean increases over and above the general increase in some communities and contribute to either decreases in premiums or less of an increase in other areas.

"No-Fault" Accident Benefits have been increased for auto-related claims, occurring on or after January 1, 1990, resulting in injury or death.

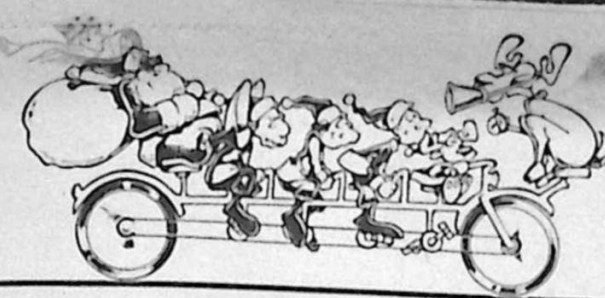
For those who qualify, disability benefits for an employed person have been increased to \$200 per week from \$145.

The limit of liability for medical and rehabilitation benefits has been increased by 50 per cent to a maximum of \$150,000. The maximum amount for funeral expenses has been doubled from \$1000 to \$2000.

To reduce fraud, proof of identity is now required for most Autoplan transactions.

FINES & DRIVER POINTS

Motorists caught violating traffic rules are now required to pay fines in addition to being assigned penalty points and charged Driver Point Premiums. Drivers with five points or more are billed for points recorded in a twelve month review period. Up to December 31, 1989, the twelve month review period starts fourteen months prior to the driver's birthday (coming forward twelve months) but as of January 1, 1990, the review period will start 17 months prior to the driver's birthday to allow for recording and processing time.



— Aerobic Award of Excellence —



MCpl Fred Denninger



WO Ralph Murphy

After months of blood, sweat, and tears, WO Ralph Murphy and MCpl Fred Denninger have something to smile about. Both received the Aerobic Award of Excellence from the BPERO, SLT Bradley. Congratulations, and keep pounding the cement gentlemen.

— Fit for Life Awards —



Cpl Hatfield



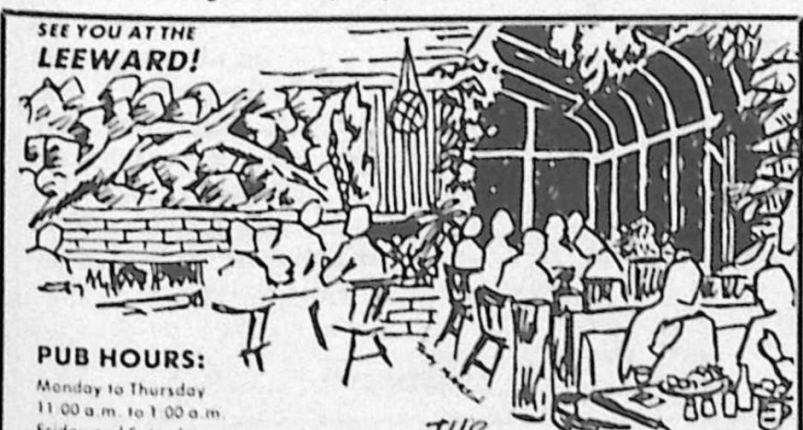
Cpl Laprade

Congratulations to Cpl Hatfield and Cpl Laprade, on achieving their Fit for Life program goals. Cpl Hatfield achieved 500 points and received a scroll while Cpl Laprade received a medal for accumulating 2000 points. Anyone wanting to join or in need of information on this or other fitness programs, please contact MCpl Rothermund at the Base Gym, Local 8315.

— ARAF Promotions —



MCpl Bea Miller, Chief Clerk, is presented with Sgt's hooks by Maj Moran (left) and MWO Reid. Congratulations, Bea, from all ARAF members.



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Recreation

~~~~~ Xmas Recreation Schedule ~~~~~

DATES	CASUAL SKATE	REC CENTRE
Fri 22 Dec	NONE	1300 — 2100 hrs.
Sat 23 Dec	1000 — 1200 hrs.	1300 — 1600 hrs./1800 — 2100 hrs.
Sun 24 Dec	0930 — 1130 hrs.	CLOSED*
Mon 25 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED*
Tues 26 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED*
Wed 27 Dec	1000 — 1200 hrs.	1000 — 1300 hrs./1800 — 2100 hrs.
Thur 28 Dec	NONE	1000 — 1300 hrs./1800 — 2100 hrs.
Fri 29 Dec	NONE	1000 — 1300 hrs./1800 — 2100 hrs.
Sat 30 Dec	NONE	1300 — 1600 hrs./1800 — 2100 hrs.
Sun 31 Dec	0930 — 1130 hrs.	CLOSED*
Mon 1 Jan	CLOSED	CLOSED*
Tues 2 Jan	NONE	1000 — 1300 hrs/1800 — 2100 hrs.
Wed 3 Jan	NONE	1000 — 1300 hrs/1800 — 2100 hrs.
Thur 4 Jan	1230 — 1430 hrs.	REGULAR HOURS
Fri 5 Jan	1000 — 1200 hrs.	REGULAR HOURS
Sat 6 Jan	1000 — 1200 hrs.	REGULAR HOURS
Sun 7 Jan	NONE	REGULAR HOURS

*Contact Sgt Beatty at 339-7526



Meyers sinks Powell River, gets Totems on winning track.

Led by Joe Meyers' natural hat trick, the Comox Silver Totems snapped a three game winless streak as they downed Powell River 6-3 at Glacier Gardens. Patty Armstrong, with a strong game on defence, opened the scoring when he rifled in a pass from Meyers early in the opening period. Bill 'Top Gun' Todd made it 2-0 when he finally lofted the puck behind a beleaguered Powell River goaltender on his fourth consecutive shot within a few seconds. Wayne Hay and Ed Cumby assisted on the prolonged play. Todd then banged another rebound, from Hay and Cumby, to put Comox ahead 3-0 at the end of the first period. Joe Meyers, with an outstanding game, made it 4-0 off the face-off with Comox enjoying a man advantage, Hay and Russell assisting. Meyers gave Comox a 5 goal lead when he snapped in a pass from Russell and Norrie.

Powell River finally found a way past Totems' netminder, Bill Fisher, as they tallied twice before the second frame ended. Meyers salted the game away when he notched a third goal early in the third period with 'Magic Man' Russell assisting. Powell River scored once more but were unable to overcome a fired up Comox squad. Both goaltenders played outstanding

nets and were instrumental in keeping the score down to 6-3.

In their three previous contests the Silver Totems lost 5-1 to Parksville, tied Courtenay 9-9, then lost a rough affair to the Washington Inn, 5-3. Bill Todd scored the lone goal against Parksville as Comox was unable to contain the hard-skating visitors.

In the shoot-out at the Comox Valley Sports Centre against Courtenay, the Silver Totems were led by Joe Meyers hat trick. Ed Cumby, Danny Hand, and 'Magic Man' Russell each tallied twice in the 'you score -- we score' contest.

Nineteen penalties marred an excellent hockey game against the Washington Inn. Rough play, attempted intimidation, and cheap shots seem to be the norm with several members of the Washington Inn squad. It is unfortunate that some people have yet to learn that Old Timers hockey is built on good sportsmanship, something I am sure these individuals have never known.

Ted Norrie gave Comox an early 1-0 lead on a pass from Russell. The Inn evened the count at 1-1 late in the period. Barry Howell boomed in a shot from the point to put Comox back out front 2-1, Mike Garipey assisting. The visitors pulled even at 2-2 with only 11 seconds left in the middle

frame. A super individual effort by Ted Norrie, with Comox shorthanded, gave the silver Totems an early 3-2 lead in the third. The Washington Inn evened the score at 3-3 midway in the final frame, then exploded for two goals within 50 seconds with 5 minutes to go as they went on to a 5-3 victory.

Parting shot

A hearty Silver Totems congratulations to Wayne Hay on his promotion to Warrant Officer and to former Old Totems netminder Dale 'Soupy' Campbell on his promotion to chief Warrant Officer. It is rumoured that a member of the coaching staff is attempting to move the Berlin Wall onto the ice surface as protection against a certain free 'wheeling' player. Stan Lawless is miffed that the tooth fairy has failed to look under his pillow lately. Patty Armstrong wins the NICE GUY award for letting Lawless knock him down during practise. Wayne Hay is curious as to why 'Magic Man' Boyd Russell took 200 copies of a recent issue of the Totem Times home. Seems Boyd has developed a strong fan club. Ross Dowse was noted to be taking low level flying lessons in a recent game.

On behalf of the Silver Totems a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Year.

by Jerry 'Bones' Fairbrother

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Public announcements

Let's Go Walking

On 1 January, 1990 the Comox Glacier Wanderers 10 km New Year Volkswalk begins at Port Augusta at anytime between 10 am and 1 pm. For more information call 339-3982.

Bottle Drive

1st Lazo Beavers and Cubs are planning a Bottle Drive in the PMQ area on Saturday 6 January. This will be the perfect opportunity to dispose of those bottles and cans which always seem to accumulate over the holiday season. It would be helpful to the boys if you could place your empties in a carton or bag to be ready when the boys come to your door. As always, your cooperation is appreciated.

Jr Ranks Ladies Club

The Junior Ranks' Ladies Club will be holding their Christmas Party — a fondue night — on Thursday 21 December at 7:30 (Totem Lounge). All members and anyone interested in joining the club are welcome. Feel free to bring a friend or neighbour. Admission is a plate of something (such as veggies, fruit, cut up meat) suitable for fondue. In lieu of a gift exchange this year, donations to the food bank will be accepted. So take an evening off from Christmas preparations and join us. For more information or if you can bring a fondue pot, contact Michelle Bennett at 339-4203 or Gloria Ross at 339-0592. Happy Holidays to all.

Pension Problems?

The Federal Superannuates is for you... if you:
Receive a pension from the federal government for service in:
•The Canadian Armed Forces
•The Royal Canadian Mounted Police
•The Federal Public Service

and you wish to stay informed about your pension rights, then you should join a 'pro-active' non-profit organization that is Canada wide and whose sole objective is the improvement and protection of YOUR indexed pensions and benefits. If you want to join up with 60,000 other Canadians in 68 branches across the country, write: FSNA, P.O. Box 3617, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 6Z8 or call 335-0691 or 339-2406.

Officer's Mess Ladies Club

The OMLC would like to thank all of those who participated in making the December Mess Decorating Party such a success. It was a super evening with everyone busy wrapping gifts, and putting up decorations.

Once again we have to thank Barb Vermette for her time and her creative input. This year Barb made two beautiful quilts, for either side of the fireplace. But it's up to you to add the final touch. Each patch of the quilt is designed to be filled in with your season greeting. If you attend a fun-

ction at the mess during the Christmas season please sign your name and you will be remembered for years to come. Each square cost \$1 to help cover the costs of the fabric.

For dinner we were treated to chili, chowder, and Caesar salad. Then we danced the rest of the evening away to Bill's DJ. Congratulations to the winners of the many door prizes. And many thanks for all the donations for the food bank, it was much needed and appreciated. Hope you have a

Merry Christmas!

WO & Sgt's Wives Club

'Twas two weeks before Christmas
When all thru the Mess
Wives' Club members were stirring
In appropriate dress
The gifts were all placed under the tree with care
In hopes that Santa would soon be there...

Yes, Santa did come to our annual Christmas party on 11 Dec and a jolly fellow he was, too! Thanks Santa for being such a good sport!

The Mess looked wonderful, the tables were beautiful, the food was delicious, and everything went smoothly. That means some people worked very hard to make everything turn out so well. A very big THANK YOU goes out to all those people — you really did a superb job and it showed! Our lucky winners of the evening were Diane Plamondon who won the door

prize and Heather Smith who won the 50-50 draw.

The Children's Christmas Party on Sunday 17 Dec also turned out very well. Thanks must go out to the ladies who bought and wrapped gifts and bagged candy and once again to Santa. Just one more thank you to everyone who so generously donated to the Food Bank. It's very much appreciated.

Our first meeting of the new year will be on 8 Jan at 8 pm. We will be having a very informative and educational evening with Harvey Sweitzman from the MP Section speaking about Drug Abuse. He will also be showing us a short film. Please plan to attend — all of us should acquire some knowledge about this very serious subject.

On behalf of the Wives' Club Executive, I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



LEGION LOG

BRANCH 17 COURTENAY

ENTERTAINMENT

Fri & Sat 22 & 23 Dec. Music by COUNTRYMEN
Fri 29 Dec. Music by WESTWIND
Sat 30 Dec. NO DANCE

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

BINGOS—Thu, Fri, Sun at 7:00 PM

MONDAY.....FUN EUCHE
TUESDAY.....PUB DARTS
WEDNESDAY.....LEAGUE CRIB
THURSDAY.....FUN DARTS
FRIDAY.....TGIF & MONEY DRAW AT 6:30PM
SATURDAY.....FUN BRIDGE AT 12:30

SPORTS

SUNDAY 17 DEC FUN CRIB TOURNAMENT, turkeys and hams, registration 12-1pm

EVENTS

SUNDAY 31 DEC NEW YEAR'S DANCE, music by WESTWIND, reservations only.
MONDAY 1 JAN NEW YEAR'S DAY MOOSEMILK 1100 until ?

"MORE PLAYERS WELCOME"

Phone 334-4322 (days) for more information

NOW OPEN SUNDAYS.....12-7 PM

BRANCH 160 COMOX

ENTERTAINMENT

Fri 22 Dec. Music by VALLEYBOYS
Fri 29 Dec. Music by COUNTRYMEN

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

SUNDAYS.....Lounge 11 am to 6 pm
MONDAYS.....Men's Dart League, Navy Room, 7:30 pm
TUESDAYS.....Ladies Crib League, Lounge 7 pm
Mixed Dart League, Upper Hall, 7:30 pm
WEDNESDAYS.....Navy League Drop-In Bingo
Upper Hall, 7 pm
THURSDAYS.....*1st Br. Exec. Mtg. 8 pm
L. A. Exec. Mtg. (as req.)
*2nd L.A. Gen. Mtg., Upper Hall, 8 pm
*3rd Br. Gen. Mtg., Upper Hall, 8 pm
FRIDAYS.....Meat Draws, 2-6 pm
Dance, Lounge, unless advised
SATURDAYS.....Meat Draws, Lounge 2-6 pm

EVENTS

SUNDAY 31 DEC -- GALA NEW YEARS' EVE BALL, 9 pm - 3 am. Music by the COUNTRYMEN, tickets \$35.00 per couple on sale at Office. Members only until 18 Dec, guest tickets (if available) for sale on that date. 'Come out and bring in the New Year with your friends'.

MONDAY 1 JAN -- NEW YEAR'S DAY LEEVE, 2 - 6 pm, music by COUNTRYMEN.



The latest graduates of the Dependents' Defensive Driving Course gather for a quick photograph.

Safety

Safe Driving Awards



MCpl Shelly



Mr. G. Stuart



Mrs. M. Staples



Mr. L. Ziegler



Mrs. J. Woodrow



M/S C. McKay

From the Fire Chief's Office Some Christmas precautions

The cheerful lights of Christmas bring a special warmth to the holiday season. But lights, light strings, Christmas trees, and electrical gifts pose a fire risk if not handled with care. Avert Christmas tragedy before it strikes. The use of worn and defective electrical equipment or simple carelessness cause many needless fires.

The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) conducts thorough tests on most electrical devices. If you see their certification mark, you know it is safe if used properly.

Put fire safety at the top of your Christmas list this year by adhering to the following precautions and have a safe and happy Christmas — from all the members of the CFB Comox Fire Department!



Never leave children unattended

Christmas is a special time for children. Make sure your children's Christmas is not spoiled by an accident that could have been prevented. Never leave small children alone with a Christmas tree.



Check the water level every day and add more as required.

Make sure extension cord is right size

Look for the CSA certification mark and read all operating instructions carefully before using any electrically-operated item.

Make sure the house is adequately wired to accept the item without the use of a lot of extension cords and 'octopus' outlets.

If you need to use an extension cord, make sure it is the proper size.

To determine the correct size, check the nameplate of the electrical product for the ampere rating. Make sure the rating on the product is not higher than the extension cord rating, which is given on a small label wrapped around the cord. If the product ampere rating is too high, the cord will be overloaded.

Inspect wiring carefully before use

Before using any Christmas tree lights or electric decorations, check all wiring, sockets and plugs for fraying, cracks or loose connections.

If in doubt, replace the old sets.

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On the base



Christmas greetings
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Local 1007

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Stewards

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Fred Kenedy
Mary MacAvany
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Kieth MacKenzie

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BASE CHAPLAIN (RC) — Maj J.G.A. Veilleux
CHAPEL — Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (on Base)
OFFICE — Headquarters, Bldg 45, Rm 48, Telephone 8274
MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday..... 1900 hrs
Sunday..... 1000 hrs
Daily Masses..... As announced in the Bulletin,
usually at 0900 hrs, except during
Lent & Advent at 1900 hrs.

RECONCILIATION — Confessions will be heard before each Mass or upon request. Penitential Celebrations are held during the Advent and Lenten Seasons.

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES — By appointment - notice well in advance please.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE — Second Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall, preceded by Mass in the Chapel at 7:00 pm. President: Mrs. Mary Kerr, Phone 339-2552.

CATECHISM CLASSES — September - May in the PMO School at 1830 hrs, every Wednesday. Co-ordinators: Bonnie Gillis, 339-3496, and John LeRoss, 339-4388.

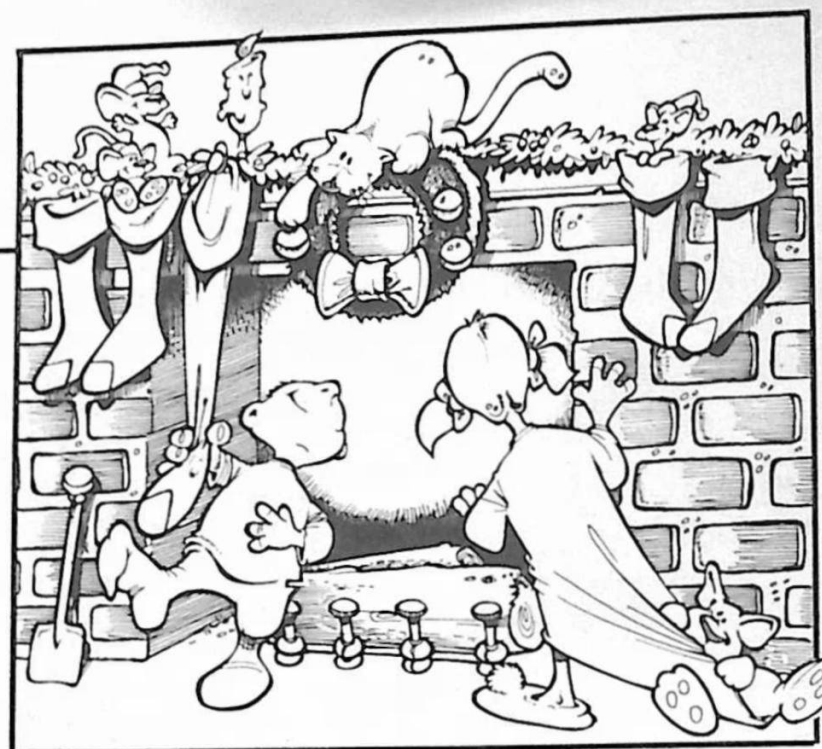
ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS PROTESTANT CHAPEL

BASE CHAPLAIN (P) — Maj R.E. Baker
CHAPEL — St. Michael & All Angels, Wallace Gardens, Bldg 88
OFFICE — Headquarters, Bldg 45, Room 48, Telephone 8273
SUNDAY WORSHIP — Each Sunday at 1100 hrs.
HOLY COMMUNION — First Sunday of the month.
SUNDAY SCHOOL — each Sunday at 1100 hrs.

NURSERY SERVICES — Provided during Divine Worship for children up to three years of age.

CHOIR — Practices 1830 hrs, Tuesdays at the Chapel.

CHAPEL GUILD — Meets once a month, usually the first Monday.
President: Elizabeth Basham, phone 339-4314.



OFFICERS MESS

DEC 89 — JAN 90 CALENDAR

FRIDAYS 22 DEC & 5, 12, 19, 26 JAN

REGULAR TGIF: Food as indicated 1700-1800 hrs. Free taxi.
Ask at Bar.

WEDNESDAYS 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 JANUARY

OFFICERS COFFEE HOUR: Coffee will be served in the Lounge at 1000 hours. All officers are invited to attend. Dress will be dress of the day.

WEDNESDAYS 10 & 24 JANUARY

LADIES CLUB BRIDGE 7:30 in the Lounge

WEDNESDAY 17 JANUARY

OMLC FITNESS DEMO, provided by Body Firm

MONDAY 1 JANUARY — NEW YEARS LEVEE, 1100 to 1300 hrs. Dress DEU 3.

SATURDAY 27 JANUARY — OLD UNIFORM NIGHT will feature comedy cabaret, 'Alouf & Trett', food will be roast beef, time 1830 for 1900 hrs. Cost per PERSON — members \$10, limited Associates & guests \$12. RSVP 24 January.

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RATES

ALL insertions will be \$3.50 per column inch.

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The individual we seek is probably doing well at present job, yet somewhat impatient with progress. The applicant need not have financial planning experience; ambition, determination & desire to serve others as well as self are required. This person is probably a local resident for a number of years and between 25 & 50. To this person we offer a permanent position, unlimited earning potential, full pension, & preferred company mortgage. We supply full training & provide proven methods to become successful in this community. For interview send a resume to Daryl Clegg at Prudential Assurance, suite 330, 1555 McKenzie Avenue, Victoria, B.C. V8N 1A4, or call collect 477-7711 8:30 to 4:30.

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Please support the War Amps this Christmas

The holiday season is almost upon us. For many Canadians the season represents a special time to reflect upon the year past: the joys and sorrows, the triumphs and tribulations. It is traditional to think of others at this time and what we can do to make them more comfortable.

For The War Amputations of Canada, this tradition is carried on all year long. The Association was built upon the philosophy of 'amputees helping amputees'.

Amputee ex-servicemen returning from the First World War envisioned a fraternal society that would be able to provide direction for their members while also seeing to

their needs. Counselling, self-help and practical assistance — along with an appreciation of the history of this country — are common threads that have been retained more than 70 years later in their modern day organization that grew out of their efforts.

The experience and expertise war amps gained in helping each other cope with the realities of living life as amputees were eventually extended to other amputees, particularly children. In 1975, the Association founded the Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program to provide financial assistance and counselling to young amputees and their families across

Canada. Soon after CHAMP set up programs to deal with many other special needs: it now offers regular regional seminars; introduces families in need of support through *Matching Mothers*; develops and pays for recreational limbs not provided by provincial health plans; and through films, books, and personal example, encourages 'Champs' to live active and full lives.

What has enabled The War Amps to carry on with its beliefs and to grow into the organization it envisioned so many years ago, is the support and encouragement from fellow Canadians.

At this time each year, the

Association sends out its convenient return address labels. Canadians have come to appreciate this service for the same reasons as the popular lost key return service.

With the address labels this fall, Canadians will be receiving a pamphlet called "Who are We?". The pamphlet spells out clearly how support of these services benefits amputees from all parts of the country will benefit.

The War Amps hopes that, at this special time of year, Canadians will think of its organization and the many people who have come to rely upon its assistance possible only through your support.

I'm doing some housecleaning in the back of your mind...



If it's me, your conscience. Between old phone numbers, song lyrics, and lame excuses, there's a lot of clean up to do!

But there are also great things back here. Look! A desire to help out a friend, a wish to give time to a worthy cause, the intention to help your neighbours — and more!

Let's move this stuff up to the front of your mind and use it to change the world. Helping causes we care about will be a breeze without all the clutter, so let's get to it!

Oh, and by the way, that little widget you can't find in the back of your top dresser drawer...



Imagine is a national program to encourage giving and volunteering.

Christmas Seal
are a hug
on every card

ICBC INJURY CLAIMS? Call Dale Carr-Harris - 20 years a trial lawyer with five years medical school before law. 0-669-4922 (Vancouver). Experienced in head injury and other major claims. Percentage fees available.

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Air brakes course \$60. Truck, bus, van training. Full course or hourly rates. Enquire about our new certification program. Burnaby, B.C. 291-2255, Surrey, B.C. 581-7594.

TRAVEL

SKI VACATION. Stay on the mountain at Sunshine Village, Banff. Accommodation, lift tickets, ski lessons, entertainment, daycare. Six nights from \$333 pp. quad. Call 1-800-661-1363.

WANTED

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Are you a photographer? Editor? Senior or Junior Reporter? Are you currently seeking employment? We keep resumes on file for our 97 member newspapers! Send your resume to: C. Thompson, Membership Services, BCYCNA, #114, 1033 Davie St., Vancouver, B.C. V6E 1M7.

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AUCTIONS

Livestock handling and tending equipment auction Monday, December 11, 1989. Rimby Alberta selling: 2000 steel corn panels and gates, cattle squeezers, bale feeders, mix mills, silage wagons. Allen B. Olson Auction Service (403)843-2747.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

START YOUR OWN IMPORT/EXPORT business, even spare time. No money or experience. Since 1946. Free brochure: Wade World Trade, c/o Cdn. Small Business Inst. Dept W1, 1140 Bellamy Rd. N. #1, Scarborough, Ontario M1H 1H4.

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SEVEN NEW TONING TABLES. \$22,000 includes freight and training. 5-yr. guarantee. Futrex 5000 fitness computer \$1,500. Complete body wrap kit \$1,250. Tone-O-Matic Canada Ltd. 1-800-667-5825.

Saltwater island business for sale. Restaurant licensed for 101. Pizza delivery and 8-room hotel. The best location on the island! 5-year lease. Phone: (604) 537-9782 after 6:00 p.m. Box 962, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0.

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SHEEPSKIN GIFTS. Finest quality slippers \$49, gloves \$49, mitts \$39, rugs \$89, baby lamb-skins \$69, booties \$19, carseat covered from \$69. Trade inquiries also invited. Southern Cross Sheepskins, Vancouver, Phone: (604)874-6648.

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Boundary Community News has an opening for an experienced advertising sales manager. The successful candidate will be highly motivated with strong organizational skills and the ability to work in a highly competitive market. Previous newspaper sales experience desired but not essential. Salary plus commission ranged between \$35,000 - \$45,000/annually. Applicants should respond immediately by sending resume to: The News, Box 2647, Grand Forks, B.C. V0H 1H0. (NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE).

HELP WANTED

Body shop manager required immediately for growing G.M. Dealer. Working manager. Contact: Ernie or Mark, (604)949-7442 or send resume to: Box 1569, Port Hardy, B.C. V0N 2P0.

WANTED LICENSED MECHANIC, preferably Toyota experience. Apply in person or resume to: Valley Toyota, 45950 Airport Road, Chilliwack, B.C. V2P 1A2.

AROUND THE WORLD: Experience the WORLD with I.A.E.A. Farm in either Europe and Australia or United Kingdom, New Zealand and Calgary. Relaxing stopovers in Hawaii and Singapore. If you are between 19 - 28 and have farming experience contact: I.A.E.A., 206, 1501 - 17th Ave. S.W., Alberta. T2T 0E2.

HEATING MECHANIC ... A vacancy exists for a qualified journeyman tradesman in the Maintenance Department of the Courtenay School District. Ideally, the successful applicant will possess: A BCTC or interprovincial trade certificate; Experience in commercial oil fired boilers and furnaces; A thorough knowledge of H.V.A.C. systems, oil furnaces, gas fired heaters, boilers and heat pumps; A strong background in electrical control circuitry relating to heating and ventilating systems; Five years experience at the journeyman level; A willingness to upgrade by taking related courses; Experience or training in air conditioning is desirable. The Courtenay School District (Courtenay Valley) is the ideal four-season recreation area on Vancouver Island, with excellent sports and arts facilities. Applications, clearly marked APPLICATION - HEATING MECHANIC, should be submitted to: Wm. A. Burns, Secretary-Treasurer, School District No. 71 (Courtenay), 607 Cumberland Road, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 7G5. Not later than 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 20, 1989. For further information, contact Bernie Mackey at (604)338-5383.

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On and off base

Season's Greetings from The Salvation Army

We are living in a world today that seems to have put Christ out of Christmas. Instead, we see that the world of commerce is taking the place of the real Spirit of Christmas.

It seems that almost everyone at Christmas time has gone overboard in preparing for the event. People make an extra effort to redecorate their homes, plan and prepare for parties, and at great expense, exchange gifts.

In all of this, we seem to have forgotten what the real meaning of Christmas is all about. It is a time where we reflect on the fact that the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. (John 1:14)

Christmas is a time when we give thanks to God for giving us His only Son, Jesus, that we may have, not only Eternal Life, but a purpose in living right now.

This Christmas, do not only give a gift of love, but a gift with some spiritual value. It could be a visit to someone who is very lonely, a warm handshake, a letter, or a helping hand to someone who needs help in sending out some Christmas cards.

As we approach this Christmas season, let us remember that the Word (Jesus) still lives with us. Let us remember that God's Son, Jesus, is still available to comfort, cheer, give encouragement, and heal those who are in need.

We wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Also, on behalf of the Salvation Army Red Shield Centre, CFB Comox, B.C., we wish you God's richest blessings.



Yours in His service,
Winston & Cora Dodge

Next deadline Monday 8 January 1990

Don't let this happen to you!



There was a three percent increase in the number of alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents in B.C. last year. These caused the death of 197 people and injuries to 5,821 others. Don't be one of them. Please, for everyone's sake, don't drink and drive this Christmas season — and always!



New Year's Eve

Baron of Beef Dinner
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