

1979

Vol.: 3:1

THE

ROLL CALL

HONGKONG VETERANS ASSOC^N OF CANADA.



*BRITISH COLUMBIA BRANCH
MAGAZINE*

Happy Easter

TO ALL HONGKONG VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND
OUR FRIENDS, SUPPORTERS AND READERS

E A S T E R G R E E T I N G S

MAY THE JOYS AND WELL-WISHING OF YULE-TIDE CONTINUE
AS OFFERINGS THIS EASTER SEASON.

"NOTHING IS EVER LOST BY COURTESY. IT IS THE
CHEAPEST OF THE PLEASURES; COSTS NOTHING AND
CONVEYS MUCH. IT PLEASES HIM WHO GIVES AND HIM WHO
RECEIVES, AND THUS, LIKE MERCY, IS TWICE BLESSED."

BOB MANCHESTER
President, B.C. Branch



THE

ROLL CALL

HONGKONG VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA - BRITISH COLUMBIA BRANCH

VOL: 3: 1

SPRING 1979

PAGE 1

LOOKING AHEAD WITH HOPE ...

Although there may be reason for misgivings and anxiety as to what is in store for us in this year of our Lord 1979, we here in B.C., have grounds to look ahead with hope and expectations of improvement of our lot.

For one thing, Winter is on its way out, with a minimum of inconvenience caused by snow and suchlike experienced. In fact, this last winter should be there in the record books as one of the mildest and driest in decades.

Secondly, for those who had been struggling against the high cost of living, some relief - although not nearly enough - in the way of pension and/or GIS increases, has helped.

Excitement of one kind or another is also promised. We have a national election due this summer, a provincial one mooted and our own National Convention in Winnipeg to look forward to.

On the debit side, we have the dreadful possibility of wholesale labour-management confrontation, a worsening of an already disastrous inflationary spiral and the constant realisation that we are not growing older, even if better, only, but fewer in number.

On the credit side, many more of us are now enjoying the fruits of retirement; many can look back with a grand feeling of having accomplished something whilst doing so, in spite of the bleak picture faced back in 1945, and, more important still, the bonds of friendship and comradeship amongst Hongkong Veterans is growing stronger with each passing day.

So, with this thought in mind, to all Hongkong Veterans and their families, to all our friends and readers, we offer you this: "Be of Good Cheer and here is our hand!"

A very Happy, Peaceful and Joyous Eastertide to you and yours.

THE ROLL CALL

B.C. BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING & REUNION

The B.C. Branch will be holding its Spring session of the Bi-Annual Meeting and Reunion at the Astor Motor Hotel, 4561 Kingsway, Burnaby, B.C. (Tel: 433-0551) on Saturday, 28 April 1979.

The meeting will feature the election of officers which is due this year and all members are urged to do all they can to attend and exercise their right to vote.

The Annual Meeting will commence at 2:30 p.m. and should end shortly before 5:00 p.m. Following a short recess, there will be a pre-dinner cocktail break starting at 6:30 p.m. and then the Baron 'o Beef dinner complete with trimmings, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

We are informed that entertainment of a novel nature will be provided and therefore, will be looking for surprises.

Out of town members and friends who intend to be present, are advised that a limited number of rooms are being reserved for the Branch and early reservations, sent to Lionel Speller, 3628 Saanich Rd, Victoria, B.C. V8X 1X3; Aubrey Flegg, 9311, Saunders Ave, Richmond, B.C. V7A 2B2 or directly to the Astor Motor Hotel is recommended. If reservations are sent to the Astor, be sure that mention is made that it is for attendance of the HK Veterans Reunion, in order to enjoy the special discount offered.

RATES:

Rooms: Double occupancy \$21.74

Single occupancy 17.48

includes tax.

Dinner: \$10.00 per head

Bar facilities during dinner and the festivities that follow are available.

LET'S ALL MAKE IT A BIG ONE !!

EDITORIAL

We note with concern and deep anxiety that a number of our members appear to have dropped out of sight recently and no word as to their well-being or whereabouts have been received or made available.

Recalling the passing of Jack Lee (Tandy) whose death was only discovered by accident when your Editor and Aubrey Flegg were up north on a hunting trip up at Houston, B.C. last October and sought to visit him only to be told that he had died a month or so earlier, came as a distinct shock as he apparently was all alone when he died and it was the Houston Legion which made all necessary arrangements for his interment.

Our concern is not only confined to our comrades but also to their wives or widows who, less fortunate than others of us, may be left alone and, God forbid, might require help and understanding of one kind or another.

It is suggested - and this applies to all Branches - that some form of a communication clearing house be established in out of way areas, whereby we can keep in touch with one another. A kind of a local club with one resident member responsible for keeping tabs on neighborhood members and informing his Branch Secretary in event of sickness, death, accidents or need.

The success gained here in B.C. by the recent establishment of Aubrey Flegg as Mainland Public Relations man who has and is doing such a tremendous job, supports the suggestion.

In British Columbia, we know of a number of such locations where single members reside. There is Reg Leach up at Burns Lake; Reggie Kerr (Naramata); F. Petch (Blue River); Chuck Bradbury (Trail); Rollie Dube (Marysville); J. Routledge (Salmon Arm) and Doug Rankine (Kamloops) amongst others. Pockets of Hongkong Veterans also are found in the Okanagan Valley, Fraser Valley and northern Vancouver Island. It is much easier to keep in touch in denser populated areas like Vancouver (Greater) or Victoria, where a phone call to either Lionel Speller or Aubrey is all that's required. In less accessible areas it is not that simple. We hope some kind of a link-up can, with help of our readers, be established.

A SOGGY NIGHT AT SHUMSHUIPO!!

"WOTINEL'S THIS FOR? AND AT 3.00 A.M.!!"
"I DUNNO! PROBABLY SOMEONE TOLD BOON
HE WAS GOING TO LOSE HIS MIDDLESEX!!"

A WORD FROM YOUR EDITOR

1979 is the year of the Hongkong Veterans Biennial National Convention and fittingly this year, it is to be held at the home base of the Winnipeg Grenadiers, Winnipeg, Manitoba, where one half of the Canadian contingent which so courageously fought, died or survived to return home to Canada, originated.

What President Bert Delbridge and his Sec/Treas. Sid Vale, together with other representatives of the Manitoba Branch have in store for delegates from other provincial branches who plan to attend, is not yet known to us but you can be sure that it will not only ensure an enjoyable and lively convention, but also a successful and rewarding one.

We feel privileged to add our best wishes to those of others, that it will be just that.

JOHN FONSECA
Editor.

A R E M I N D E R

To those who have overlooked doing so, but wish to continue receiving the ROLL CALL, subscriptions (\$3.00) for 1979, may now be mailed to this Editor. The above does not apply to members of the British Columbia Branch.

"AS COMES THE VOICE OF SPRING"

So wrote a former college professor and friend of mine who felt that as Spring came with new gifts, so does God come to us to bring days fresh and strong; comes like dawning day to chase all gloom away; He comes like songs at morn to fill the heart with joy and to impart life with an ampler air, bring health, wealth, happiness and Victory.

And so, with the coming of Spring our hearts seem happier and we think of nature being renewed as God's new gifts of power, wonder and memories.

Look about you these days. The hills and valleys suggest the STAGE. The varying conditions of the atmosphere, the clouds and coloured skies and the stars above: the light effect. The fields provide the change of scenery and the birds, returning from the south, are the choristers and we are invited to see and appreciate the scene. See what is happening.

During the bleak days of winter, we could hear only the Bass Voice of rivers as they strove to find ways to the seas but found progress slow. Now we know that while they rush smoothly or turbulently through our great land, our chief delight is in the murmuring and gurgling brook and the quiet nooks of still waters when and where we hear voices of the past speaking to our hearts at this glorious springtime. All nature draws near in the wonder of the silent stars at night, in a handful of sand or common fresh soil from which will come, with the touch of Spring, foods to help feed our world and from which we shall also find new delights in flower, shrub and tree to beautify our world and again to make our hearts to ring with carols gay.

From Power and Wonder we should turn to the Happy period of Spring because Easter brings its own Special Message to us. For those of us who know from personal experience the meaning of the sufferings in life and shared in the Fellowship of the Cross for so very long, Easter to us means TRULY - A NEW DAWN - for it comes with NEW strength, healing and comfort and a newer life where wars, hates, concentration camps, separation and death are forgotten.

At Springtime - as at Easter - we desire to tune into the past and open our

(continued top next column)

spiritual ears to their voices and catch their message to us who cannot forget but who desire to carry on in their places and for their sakes. From our honoured dead this message is loud and clear and simple and certain

"Join Hands! Join Hands! Ye nations of their stock, and make henceforth a mighty thrust for Peace. A great enduring Peace that shall withstand the shocks of Time and Circumstance; and every land shall rise and bless you - and shall never cease to bless you - for that glorious gift of PEACE" Again we pause and say:

"For those who died in the Far East or at home - Our Comrades Always - No more shall care disturb, the strife is stilled, and when the larger good has been fulfilled in coming years.. We shall remember them."

Rev. U. Laite, M.C., D.D.

"IN MEMORIAM"

It is with much sorrow and regret we report the passing of three good comrades from the B.C. Branch since the beginning of this year.

Earl (Mousie) Mawson, 82, and a veteran of two World Wars (1914-18 and 1939-45) passed away in Victoria on 11 January 1979.

Nick Berzenski, following a lengthy illness, died in Nanaimo, Vancouver Island, on 18 February 1979.

George (Scotty) Temple, also ill for some time, at the Shaughnessey Hospital, Vancouver, on 19 February 1979.

Our sincerest condolences are offered to widows, members of their families and friends.

"LEST WE FORGET"

BERZENSKI, NICK	Nanaimo, B.C.
DWYER, TERENCE	Trenton, Ont.
MAWSON, EARL (Mousie)	Victoria, B.C.
TEMPLE, GEORGE (Scotty)	Vancouver, B.C.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: Have just received Roll Call Vol:2:4 which turned out to be more than interesting.

"An Awesome Prophecy" seemed to be aimed at me. The year 1981 is the year of my planned retirement. Just do not want my plan to go right this way. Must console myself with the fact that prophecies go wrong in the end.

Audrey Brady's "Living with an ExPOW" touched me. She must be a great person. You sure know some great people.

When reading "Prisoner in a Cage" I felt so humble. Will power is a most important factor to survival but never figured it could be that strong.

It would be an understatement on my part to say the Roll Call is enjoyable to read. It is a great journal and if my Beryl should not make sure every copy is forwarded to me, she will be DISOWNED in true British fashion. There is not one word that I find uninteresting.

When a few Canadians came in the last camp I was in, Shumitagawa, Tokyo (an offshoot of Omori Camp) it was like fresh air coming through the door. Among them was one I was more than acquainted with. He was a bit of a rebel and I joined him in one of his rebellious activities. His name was William Allister of Montreal.

Having a lot of Canadian style weather here. 29 deg. of frost one night and the whole of the U.K. covered in snow.

Felt so sad to hear of the loss of RUFUS. More so seeing as it was my good fortune to meet him and having read how he came to be with you.

All the very best to you, and your wife daughter and son. A BIG HELLO to Hong-Kong Veterans.

Darley Abbey, Fred Boughey
Derby, England.

Fred: The above sure hit a warm spot. William Allister has just moved here to B.C. and I am sure will try to get in touch. Jack Rose says: "Hi!" and will be in touch through Beryl. Keep well and rotsa-ruck! John

THE ROLL CALL: A magazine sponsored by the B.C. Branch of the Hongkong Veterans Association of Canada.

Editor: John Fonseca, 796 Adiron Avenue, Coquitlam, B.C. V3J 4K2 and in Vancouver Island: c/o L. Speller, 3628 Saanich Road, Victoria, B.C. V8X 1X3.

Dear Editor: Please accept the enclosed cheque for my year's subscription of your very interesting "Roll Call". It sure brings back memories of both types.

The excess can go into the pot. I am sure it will be spent wisely.

Gordon W. Wheatcroft
Lac du Bonnet, Man.

Really very generous of you, Gordon, both materially and encouraging support. Hope to meet you in Winnipeg come September. John.

Hello John: Received the Roll Call and really enjoyed it. I have been trying to recall more names of the 500 Canadians which include, and I might be wrong, other POWs of the British or the HKVDC.

I can add a few more names to the list that John Matheson had sent in. We were both in the Winnipeg Grenadiers Band. These are more that were in Camp 3-D, Yokohama, Japan. (Please turn to 'Bango at 3-D' on Page 7).

I realize that it is not much of a list but maybe I can think of some more later and will jot them down. I guess the memory is not very good now.

I am enclosing a little to help you on the good job you are doing on the Roll Call, All the best to you and yours in the coming year.

Surrey, B.C. Gerry McKnight

Thank you for your fine effort. You are doing just great. Have added names you submitted to others received from other readers. Please keep in touch.

Dear John: I think you are doing a great job in publishing The Roll Call. It must be quite difficult to organize edit and publish it and still handle the business end.

Enclosed is a small donation to help keep the wheels turning, or I guess I should say, the ink flowing.
Good Luck,

Vancouver, B.C. (Dr) Ken Cambon

Ken: So glad you enjoy it. Your kind thoughtfulness and understanding is deeply appreciated. John

More Letters .. on Page 5 & 11

MORE LETTERS ...

OUR C.O. AT SENDAI 2 WRITES:

Dear John: As you can plainly see, I haven't improved any with age, as far as writing is concerned.

I am sure there could have been only one Si Sarata (Cy Sirette was reported killed in last issue's Sendai story). I remember he could do drawings and was in the signal corps during the war.

While we were waiting to get out, he was able to make some sort of a signalling device and talked me into letting him on the roof during the supply drop made by the B29s that day. I also gave Gosano permission to be with him.

I was on the platform the Japanese used to watch for planes and saw this big wooden rack tear loose from its parachute and as it looked like it was going to land close to where the two of them were, I yelled at them to start running. Gosano heard me and did get out of the way, but Si was so darned intent on talking to someone on the plane that he apparently didn't hear me and was killed instantly. Jose Gosano got a compound fracture dislocation of one of his ankles.

About the middle of July last, I had a mild stroke and partially lost strength in my left arm and leg. Being left handed, it was a little awkward. I am happy to report that I am almost 100% normal and back to work full time. They had me on the shelf for a while. Neither my partner nor I do surgery anymore and we both quit delivering babies which makes an awful lot of difference. Neither of us are contemplating retirement in the near future.

This should get you up to date and I promise I'll do better in future. With best regards,

Sioux City, Iowa (Dr) Pat M. Cmeyla

Doc: Sure appreciate your writing in. Jose Gosano is now the Rev. J. Gosano and has his own church and parish in Queenstown, S.I., New Zealand, P.O. Box 8. He'd sure like a line from you and other ex-Sendaians. In the meanwhile, take it easy and keep well. John

NOTE: Remember young Bobby Barnes, the Doc's aide at Sendai? He is now reported to be a heart specialist at some hospital in Hongkong.

Dear John: Enclosed find cheque for renewal to The Roll Call for 1979.

Your paper is read by us with very great interest - so much news and reports of what went on 1941-45 especially. Keep up the good work!

Reston, Man.

Thomas S. Forsyth

Tom: So happy you like it. Interesting info due to readers providing same. How about helping us out in that area? John

Dear Sir: Please find enclosed a cheque for my 1979 subscription with a little extra. Both my wife and I enjoy it very much.

Is it possible to acquire a nominal role and addresses of all Hongkong Veterans? There are many old friends I would like to contact but I've lost touch with them. Any help would be appreciated. Carry on the good work.

Thunder Bay, Ont.

Alex Prairie

Alex: Thank you very much. Re: nominal role. I'll be happy to get you a list of members in B.C. For other areas in Canada, suggest you contact the respective Branch Secretaries. Sid Vale will be able to help you here and I am sure he'll be happy to. As a good alternative, keep using this column to get in touch. Hey gang! Alex's at 626 Strand Ave, Thunder Bay, Ont. P7B 5B3

Dear John: Am enclosing a money order, trusting that it will help defray expenses in putting together the good old Roll Call. I am certain that it must cost you plenty with the cost of living what it is today.

The Roll Call has brought me much enjoyment and comfort, as well as making me feel closer to my comrades than I ever have since we were liberated.

God Bless you, comrade, for a job well done! Please keep up the good work.

Vancouver, B.C.

Alf Shayler

Alf: Thank you for your good wishes and card. Sure is an honour and a privilege to call you, Olga and all you other lovely readers of the Roll Call: "Friend!" John

Dear John: Please find enclosed subscription for Roll Call 1979.

Sorry to hear about dear Rufus, we understand your loss. Believe there is a "Doggy Heaven". Sincerely
Vancouver, B.C. Beryl & Roland D'Aoust

WELL, SOMEBODY'S GOT TO SAY IT

Further to the DVA News Release in our last issue (Winter 1978) in regard to two new nursing home type care facilities being constructed in New Brunswick for veterans, to be ready for use in April this year, or before, and now the information that Mr. Dennis Timbrell, Ontario Health Minister, is negotiating with the DVA to transfer responsibility for operating the Rideau Veterans Home in Ottawa, to that province, with a new veterans centre, to be paid for by DVA, thrown in for good measure (Source: DVA News Release of 6 February 1979), this started a train of thought which led to a comparison of the good fortune of that area with that of ours here in B.C.

On Page 2518 of Hansard covering the Question Period in Commons on 24 January 1979, we offer extracts of answers to questions put to the Minister of Veterans Affairs, Mr. Daniel MacDonald, by Mr. Mackenzie, as follows:

1. The only hospital offering priority to veterans in B. C. is Shaughnessey, in Vancouver where 870 beds are guaranteed for veterans' use under the Federal-Provincial agreement covering transfer of DVA hospitals.
2. On 1 October 1978, only 579 of the guaranteed beds were occupied by veterans. An average of only 575 beds were being used at any one time by veterans during period 1 January 1977 thru 1 October 1978.
3. No beds, in spite of being 'guaranteed' are, however, held "in reserve" for unexpected needs of veterans requiring acute care. BUT, "a veteran requiring treatment for his pensionable condition, SHALL BE ADMITTED," This, however, appears to be nullified further down in the same paragraph by: "However, if all the priority beds are occupied and no appropriate bed is available for a veteran seeking treatment for his pensionable condition, then the first appropriate bed that becomes available shall become allocated for use by that veteran." To this is added a further obstacle by: "Actual admission to acute care beds is at the discretion of the hospital medical staff, however, the hospital MAY NOT REFUSE ADMISSION without first referring the case to a designated official of the Department."

and finally:

4. On 1 December 1978, there were 13 veterans awaiting admission for extended care at Shaughnessey Hospital.

I must be getting addle-brained by the ravages of time and I don't know what to think. But I wouldn't be at all surprised if, to any one of the 13 veterans awaiting admission, any one of who could have died whilst waiting, the word "Guaranteed" does not mean a thing or, just another form of "the run around"

THE FONZ

MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN

In the light of the above and the fact that Nick Berzenski was a veteran, a good friend and a comrade, this has got to be said.

Receipt of a personal plea from his wife, Lori, saw me visiting Nick at the Nanaimo Hospital early last November where, gravely (and terminally) ill, Nick was desperately concerned by advice that he was to be discharged and sent home to their farm outside of Lantzville, in the care of Lori who, having shortly before suffered a stroke herself, was scarcely able to care for herself let alone a dying husband. The reasons given (according to Nick) was that there wasn't anything more they could do and that his bed (worth \$125 a day) was needed.

Nick was discharged on 25 November only to be re-admitted to hospital on 20 January 1979 - a scant 8 weeks later - to die there on 18 February.

Advice of his death from Lori brought deep regret and anger. The anger stems from the callous and inhumane disregard for a fellow veteran and a human being by shuffling him around like a bag of laundry because, apparently, for the almighty dollar.

I bet if one probes further, one will find a classic example of buck-passing from hospital through all levels ending with the Arab oil producers! The only one not yet invoked apparently is GOD.

I hope the officials who saw fit to exercise that "discretion of the hospital medical staff .." are now completely satisfied and can live with it.

JOHN FONSECA

NAMES FROM CAMP 3-D

Thanks to submissions from Lionel Spell-er, Gerry McKnight, Bill Laidlaw and Harry Creedon, we have the following to add to the list of POWs at Camp 3-D already published. In view of the fact that there was an estimated 500 or more men at the Camp, we would appreciate as many names of comrades who were there as possible:

Allister, Bill	Laidlaw, Bill
Beard, ...	Lamouroux, George
Berzenski, Nick	Lapointe, Maurice
Breakwell, Frank +	MacDonald, "Big Mac"
Brock, ...	Macdonnel, George
Cole, ...	McGavin, Ross +
Doull, Lloyd	McKee, Charlie
Ferrigan, Jack	Nairn, Andy
Fines, Cece	Nixon, Bob
Fisher, Charlie	Olsen, Stan
Geddes, Keith	Palmer, Mike (US)
Gooch, ...	Pollock, ...
Grant, George	Rafferty, Joe
Grant, Red	Rose, Jack
Green, Wally	Schultz, Ted
Hall, Bill	Sinclair, Tom
Henderson, John	Veal, Sonny
Hodgkinson, John	West, Sgt (Dental)
Ingram, Buddy	Whitfield, E.
Kelly, Freddie	Wright, Fred

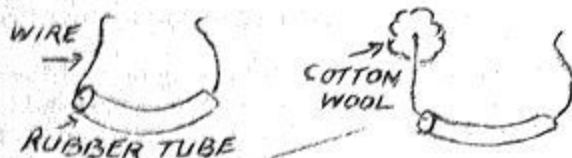
The above, together with the 20 names previously published, makes 60. There should be 440 more to come. HELP!

After this page had been completed, except for this space, a belated receipt, through Lionel, of the following fine effort from Bill Overton, adds the following names to the Camp 3-D list above

Alden, Arthur	Clayton, Flash
Belcourt, George	Conway, Gordie
Berry, Harvey	Curtis, Ed (BR)
Bitzer, Gus	Cyr, Leo
Black, Mike	Darrow, Speed
Bojette, Ernest	Delbridge, Bert
Boudreau, Bob	DeVilliers, Art
Boyd, Bob	Douglas, John (BR)
Brown, Frank	Dwyer, Terry + (BR)
Brunet, Lou (BR)	Ellis (BR)
Campbell, Jack	Emo, Jim (BR)
Carter, Vic	Farace, Paul
Caruso, Dom	Gard, Fred
Clark, Charlie (BR)	Gerrard, Jerry (BR)
Clark, Toots	Giddewich, Fred
Charron, Rene (BR)	Hachey, Gerry

(continued on Page 14)

THE ORIGINAL ELECTRIC CIGARETTE LIGHTER - JUNE 1942 A.D.



~~REMOVE~~
 FIND AN OPEN CONNECTION IN POWER LINE.
 APPLY BOTH ENDS OF WIRE TOGETHER TO OPEN CONNECTION AND WHEN THE RESULTANT "SHORT" IGNITES THE COTTON WOOL, YOU HAVE YOUR LIGHT!!

Patented: Sendai 2 -Made in Japan

"BANGO" AT NIIGATA - CAMP 5B

Bob Manchester sends in this list of men at the above camp which, for a start, is a substantial one and greatly appreciated. How about chipping in with more, you men whose names are on this list?

Atkinson, Harold	McCarron, Joseph
Babcock, Floyd	McCarthy, George
Babin, A.J.	McLellan, Gordon
Barlow, E (Red)	Maltman, William
Baty, Art	Manchester, Bob
Bedard, Rene	Mulvaney, Len
Bernier, Donat	Naylor, Howard
Bourbonniere, A.	Neal, Ernie (Ichi)
Cambon, Ken (Dr.)	Nobiss, George
Diehl, Arthur	Reisdorf, Peter
Drover, Fred	Sauson, Ray
Dunlop, R.H.	Sellars, John
Forsyth, Tom	Shane, Samuel
Foster, Kenny	Sissons, Arthur
Gaudin, Ken	Skwark, Leonard
Gillis, Malcolm	Slovinsky, Walter
Hawes, Malcolm	Sommerville, Stan
Humicky, John	Spier, Arthur
Jenkins, Walter	Steele, Randolph
Jonsson, Carl	Street, Sydney
Kirk, Roy	Stroud, John
LeBlanc, George	Sword, Dave
Mabley, Gerry	Tainsh, William
MacLean, Ralph	Wilson, Tommy
McBride, Tom	Wolczuk, Joseph
Burden, Sammy	

THE SENDAI 2 STORY * PART 4

Following the air drop by the B29s on September 2, 1945, camp inmates found themselves with two complete sets of new U.S. Army uniforms, from forage caps to boots and underwear, each.

Aside from these, there was an unbelievably large quantity of foodstuff which permitted everyone to make gluttons of themselves. These provisions included 5 gallon-cans of multivitamin tablets which were laid out one can per table of ten men in the barrack-rooms and which were consumed like peanuts, the men grabbing handfuls as we passed and eating them as we moved along. Meals were taken whenever we became hungry and generally, consisted of a carton of "K" ration topped off with a No.2¹/₂ size can of Yellow Cling Peaches, Hershey Bars and tea or coffee, depending on preference.

The result was that most of us waxed fat in a hurry. Lack of exercise whilst we awaited transportation out of Sendai 2 and Japan, added to our ability to put on weight without any effort. Your author who, on August 15, 1945, weighed a mere 122 lbs reached 152 lbs when officially weighed at Yokohama on September 8, 1945 - gaining thirty pounds in 25 days!!

Our impatient waiting finally came to an end on September 8 when we were told to pack whatever personal belongings we had and be prepared to move out the next morning. My lot comprised a duffle bag containing the extra set of uniform, two parachutes and a Navy duffle coat; the old guitar and an army tea-carrier which held personal odds and ends and 32 cartons of Camel cigarettes!

Early next morning word came that the train which was to take us away from this place we called 'home' for the last 16 months, was to arrive at the spur down in the village, a place none of us had been to before, at 9:00 a.m. A hurried check on possible things left behind was made and following a phone call to our sister camp, Sendai I, where some 700 Indonesian POWs and a few Canadians were, advising them that there were about 370 unopened cartons of food and equipment at Sendai 2 and to come on up and fetch same, we marched out of the Yoshima Coal mine for good.

The mood in general was a happy one and while waiting for the train, a few of the more energetic had to be restrained from getting down onto the track and starting a friendly competition with the Japanese women who were loading empty coal cars by shovelling coal from piles and heaving them up, over and into the open cars. As this entailed hurling shovelfuls of coal from ground level to a height of over ten feet, it spoke much for the high spirits of the men.

After what seemed to be an interminable wait, the far off whistle of an approaching train was heard lifting up flagging excitement and before we had realised it, the train was in, everyone climbed on board and we were off with a rousing cheer, headed for home!

Memory does not clearly recall what exactly was the feeling on board that train other than the excitement bordered on delirium, gladness, sadness and shining hope. There was much back-slapping, speculation as to what was to come next and what we'd do once back home. The old guitar was brought out and the ensuing sing-song took up much of the time of the journey. Word was passed down that we were not the only liberated POWs on the train and that it contained a few thousands from other camps in northern Honshu. This info is being inserted here to bring on a realisation of the effort the Americans put into 'Operation Liberation'.

A ripple of excitement suddenly rolled through our car as someone cried out that Tokyo was just around the corner and everyone crowded to the windows for a look at the city which was reported to have ten million inhabitants, and all of a sudden, there it was! And what a shocking and awesome sight it was that greeted us?

Coming in from the north, Tokyo was a scene of devastation and destruction beyond imagination. With the possible exception of a few concrete buildings, the capital city of Japan was a gigantic mass of torn, twisted and burnt out rubble.

(continued on Page 14)

HITHER AND YON WITH FONZ

Happy to report that 'Oor Bob Manchester, B.C. Branch President, has packed it up and is now a member of the society of gentlemen of leisure (since 23 December 1978. It's off with office apparel and on with gardening slacks and grubby fingers. Happy retirement days to both you and Edna..

 Conducting the Service of Remembrance during the 26th Annual Reunion of the Far East POW Club(1941-45) at the Royal Festival Hall in London on October 7, 1978, was The Rt. Rev. Richard Darby, Lord Bishop of Sherwood and formerly, a member of the Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps. It is a far cry from the hills of Hongkong to a Bishopic in England, but seeing as how he was a fellow Hongkong Volunteer, I am pleased to insert this.

 Also from the U.K., received a lovely FEPOW calendar for 1979, of vinyl in royal blue and silver, from Fred Boughey, R.E. ex-Shumshuipo, Shumitagawa(Omori) and now Darley Abbey, Derby, England. It hangs here in front of me as I write this a reminder of our FEPOW comrades throughout the year.

 We look forward to the possibility of welcoming Mrs. Kathleen Porteous, wife of the late Lt-Gov. George Porteous of Saskatchewan this summer. Mrs. Porteous will be visiting England and Ireland and be present when Hugh Porteous, son of our former comrade, George, returns to Oxford to accept his Doctorate of Philosophy degree from that seat of learning, and return with him for a short visit to the West Coast.

 A great big warm "Thank You" to all those kind friends who sent greeting cards or wrote in from B.C. Mainland, the Island, Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan and from south of the border. It was such a nice thought and so very nice to receive. And to those who showed so much understanding during our hours of despair following the loss of "RUFUS", a deeply grateful acknowledgment.

John and Elsa

Some may call it a coincidence, but we would rather believe that there is a mysterious power smiling down on us and helps in enabling us to reply almost immediately to queries from our readers. No sooner had we received an enquiry on William Allister(Montreal) from an overseas subscriber, than we get a phone call from Gordie Sissons advising that the same Bill Allister has just come out to settle in B.C. Someone up there sure likes us!

 Regret to report that our good friend Alfie Shayler, was mugged and severely beaten by thugs in Vancouver late in January. He suffered fractures to his jaw and his nose was broken in two places, aside from other injuries, necessitating hospitalization at VGH for some time. Discharged January 28 and is back home and as cheerful as ever. If it is any consolation, after surgery to his nose and the wiring of his jaw, Ollie thinks Alfie looks better'n Rock Hudson!

COMINGS AND GOINGS

 Gerry and Lil Mabley spent the better part of January in Hawaii and report that, in spite of the rain which at one stage lasted for days, they had a great time with friends from the Islands.

Visiting Dad Aubrey, was Chris Flegg here for a refresher course. Chris hails from Houston in the Fraser Lake area, and returned home with wife, Karen who drove all the way down to fetch him back, end of January.

Got a phone call from Art Ferrall who left for Hongkong 9 February on a solo trip which is scheduled to last until 25 February. I'm afraid he'll find a 22-floor apartment building sitting on top of that pill box at Mount Cameron where he'd hidden that quart of 'sake' back in 1941. Good hunting, Art!

Glad to report two of our missing comrades have been located. Both are in Arizona. Harry Creedon at Mesa and Chick Querry in Phoenix. Harry heatedly denies that he chose to go there because of its name. A MESSA-RICE-ONA sesame seed bun ? Good grief!!

SWELLED HEAD!! WOT ME ??

An ardent supporter of the Roll Call observed after reading the many congratulatory Letters to the Editor, that my good wife, Elsa, would have her work cut out replacing popped buttons from an over-expanded chest or, with wifely patience, administering to the needs of a swelled head. NOT SO !

In all truth, after undertaking the task of producing the Roll Call, I felt that I'd taken a bite somewhat bigger than I could chew. My friends, however, with suspected malice aforethought, pampered my ego with expressions of enthusiasm and encouragement to such good effect that I began to delude myself into thinking that I was the CAT'S MIAOW!

As issue after issue was greeted with renewed and, surprisingly, increased appreciation from you lovely people, it started to go to my head with the result that a slight swelling soon became evident. My wife, who was the first to notice it, immediately took it upon herself to remedy the situation. She, it should be stated here, is very particular about my retaining my good looks!

Her prescription - she calls it "preventive therapy" - is to sit on my head for a period of not less than two hours on every second Thursday after supper. This apart from the physical discomfort, is a most degrading and undignified, yet enlightening type of curative for anyone to be on the receiving end of. In addition, the process becomes truly enervating after one's had chili-con-carne for supper.

The total effect, devastating both morally and physically during the period of treatment as it is, is, however, nothing compared to the mental torment experienced while waiting for the next second Thursday to come around.

So, my friends, it is quite impossible for me to get swelled headed over the success enjoyed by the Roll Call or even to entertain the thought. The price is too high to pay!

And should you not believe me, get your good wife or lady friend to try it sometime. I guarantee you won't like it!

JOHN



" AND NOW, DO YOU, BEING A GOOD CITIZEN, UNDERSTAND WHY THE NEED FOR RESTRAINT ? "

"BACK OVER THERE "

by J. L. MACLAREN

It is hard to believe
That you're going to leave
Me again with my sorrow and fear.
When you left me before
To go off to the war
You were going to be back in a year.
Not till four years had passed
Did you come home at last,
With democracy safe evermore.
Now they're asking again
For the best of our men
To destroy the same demon once more.

We've a nice little home
That is now all our own,
And it needs your attention and care.
Since they need you again
With the rest of our men,
You will have to go back over there.
I will miss you and weep
Every night e'er I sleep.
I'll be lonely and sad a long while.
Though a tear dims my eye
As I bid you good-bye
I will send you away with a smile.

The above came from a little booklet of poems by the author, found in the attic of a friend who passed it to Gordie Williamson who, in turn, passed it on to the Roll Call. We feel that it will touch a warm yet vibrant chord.

AND YET MORE LETTERS ...

Dear John: Thank you for your kind letter. I apologize for being so late in answering. I and my family enjoyed our weekend in Victoria very much and we certainly plan to attend your reunion and convention in Vancouver next March. Let us know the details: when, where, etc..?

Our annual state convention is again scheduled at the Tyee Inn, Olympia, Wash. next May 25-27. The motel is reserving a block of 50 rooms for us. All our wonderful friends in Canada are again invited to come down and join us.

We had a great parade in Auburn last November 11, Veterans Day, 26 Ex-POWs participated including our National Commander Joe Upton, who was Parade Marshal. This year we had a float depicting a prison camp, complete with a guard tower, and it was a big hit with the crowds of spectators. But the biggest hit of all were our two comrades of the Hongkong Veterans Association, Aubrey Flegg and Larry Milord, who came down and marched with us. We were very proud to have the Canadian colors alongside ours. We hope we can do this again.

George L. Fernandes
Bellevue, Wash. Commander, Dept of Wash.
American Ex-POW

Thanks, George, for your nice thoughts and kind words. Looking forward to seeing you again here and plan to be in Tacoma in May. Regards to all. John

Dear John: Happy New Year to you and yours. I am enclosing a small cheque for incidentals and included, is a payment for a subscription to the Roll Call for Ed Bergen, Box 279, Vilna, Alta I am sending him my last copy. He was here to see his Mother and sisters for Christmas.

I really enjoy the Roll Call and keep up the good work, John. I know I am very late in writing to you but better late than never. I think that you were with me at Sendai working in the coal mine. Along with us were Jack Davies, Sailor Morgan, Ed Shayler etc. Well, John, I hope you have a healthy and prosperous New Year.

North Vancouver, B.C. Derek E. Rix, CM

Good to hear from you, Derek and many thanks. Jack's over on the Island and Ed's living in Calgary while Sailor's gone from us for quite some time. John

Dear John: Please find enclosed a small donation to subscription of the Roll Call. We certainly appreciate it coming into our home.

My new address is now Redditt, Ontario. I have now joined the ranks of the leisured. All the best in 1979 to the Roll Call.

Redditt, Ont. Albert Rheault

Sure hope you enjoy your retirement and many thanks for everything. John.

Dear Fonzie: Just a line to let you know that I received the Roll Call and enjoy it very much. I am enclosing a book of poems that I had given to me around Christmas time. A friend of mine found it in his attic. There are a couple of poems about Hongkong written in 1942 which I thought you may be able to use at some time. I will see what else I have which may be of interest to your readers.

Arnes, Manitoba Gordie Williamson

Many thanks for your support. Will try squeeze in a poem this issue, but, if not, will use them later. John.

Dear John: Thanks to our good neighbour in White Rock who is looking after our place, I received my last issue of the Roll Call as he forwards mail to me.

According to your "Lost Column" I have dropped out of sight. I am not lost at all! It is just that your glasses are clouded over, and you can't see as far south as Arizona!! Helen and I have been here since last October.

Now I have one for you for the "Believe it or Not" column. Yesterday we went on a short trip to Arizona City for what they had planned as "CANADA DAY". Was very good, with Canadians from all over. Now for the clincher - who in the devil did I run into at the gathering. You'll never guess - 'Chick Query'. What a reunion we had! Neither of us could believe our eyes at first. My wife, Helen, could hardly get over it - Chick and I meeting after being together in 3-D over 33 years ago! We are planning to meet again shortly so I could pass on my copy of the Roll Call to him. Enclosed is a small leaf of Happy Lettuce to further the cause. Best personal regards always.

Mesa, Arizona Harry Creedon
Praise the Lord. Thee who wast lost is found again! It goes too for Chick! John

THE NIIGATA - CAMP 5B - STORY - Fourth Episode. by BOB MANCHESTER

We had arrived indeed! We did not realize what was ahead in this strange land of which we knew so little. Our group was in reasonably good spirits as we climbed aboard the waiting trucks. There was even an air of excitement about this new adventure: certainly in the minds of many there was the thought that maybe things were going to improve, we would be much better off here. Moving through the outskirts of the City we found the air clean and crisp. In the gathering dusk, we were able to see some of the surrounding country which appeared much more favorable than Hongkong.

In what appeared to be a very short time, our transportation carried us through the gates of a high walled compound. There was a large outer space and in the centre was a new double-storied building. Before we could make any assessment of the situation, our guards began shouting, pushing and slapping people about. We were gathered in the main compound with all our worldly possessions. The guards, trying to make an impression on their Superiors and the native populace, inflicted as much abuse as was possible on us poor beggars who did not have a clue as to what they wanted of us. When finally order overcame chaos, we were divided into groups and assigned to spaces throughout the building.

The Camp had just recently been completed, everything in the living quarters was clean and new so much so that many of us felt the sting of a guard's wrath because we had not observed some of their rules of cleanliness. How did a dumb prisoner know that he was expected to take off his footwear before entering a Japanese building? Great confusion - everyone bunching up trying to ensure that if they took their boots off, they would be available to them when they came back - trusting souls! Another breach of etiquette which we had failed to learn was, a person does not partake of his meal in Japan until he has washed hands, face and body. Now this little situation caused such a mishmash, had it not been so tragic, it would have been the funniest situation comedy anyone could imagine! Picture a group of grown men milling about, taking off boots and clothes, guards shouting and pushing, trying to explain in the only language they knew, that we must wash! The area of operation consisted of a small room on the main floor of our new quarters, concrete floor, in the middle was a cold water hand pump and a number of cardboard basins. The drill was to pump water into your basin, wash yourself down - cold water, no soap, and keep out of the way of all the other persons who were trying to do the same. Real happy daze.

Some of the men had found their way into the building, they were being hurriedly rounded up and brought back to the scene of confusion. Finally all was at peace again - soon to be shattered by the job of distributing food to a group of tired, hungry and somewhat illtempered men. The food which had been prepared was something we had never seen before - great buckets of cooked grain, the texture was across between barley and rice, fairly large red kernels described by many as millet but better known as Red Rice. Along with this hot mess was served a type of green vegetable with a pickle thrown in for good measure. Because we were so hungry, nobody stopped to question the results of eating such a concoction, we stuffed ourselves to bursting. It all went down like a real feast. Those who had cigarettes shared them around, it would have been perfect if drinks could have been served - the extent of drink amounted to boiled barley tea unfortunately.

Having washed, eaten, had a smoke, we were all ready for a good night's sleep. The building as mentioned was brand new, the floors of the sleeping quarters were covered with fresh clean tami mats. We were herded into our sleeping areas, issued a cotton blanket and prepared to settle down for the night. It was quite an improvement over the quarters held in Hongkong and on our dream ship. I do believe most thought things were going to make a turn for the better. How easy it is to fall into a state of utter delusion!!

(To be continued)

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF VETERANS ASSOCIATION IN CANADA

Minutes of Meeting of 14 December 1978

The following, due to space limitations, are condensed from the Minutes of the above Meeting. Apologies are offered for any errors, omissions or misinterpretations is so doing. ED

Items for Discussions:

Transfer of DVA Hospitals
Move of DVA to PEI
War Disability Pension Rates
Treatment of Pensionable Conditions
War Veterans Allowance
Election of Officers

1. Because of evidence of many complaints regarding chronic and domiciliary care, a Motion to request the Minister of Veterans Affairs to commission a Management Group Task Force to look into chronic and domiciliary care conditions, under auspices of the Department with particular reference to determine if:
 - a. Facilities were sufficient to meet requirements.
 - b. Standard of care were satisfactory and that this was to be dealt with as an emergency situation, was moved and carried.
2. Although there was a consensus that the move was not practical and taking into account statement by the Minister to the effect that if it could be shown that the move would result in deterioration of service to veterans, he would immediately recommend cancellation of all or part of the move, the Meeting agreed not to take further action, but keep the matter under close observation.
3. It was suggested that no request be made for the annual escalation of War Disability Pension Rates based on wages of a composite group of civil servants - even though it was \$213.00 per year less as on 1 January 1979 - but to stay with the existing one based on the Consumer Price Index, as this provided annual indexing and was guaranteed by Legislation. Also, that it included provision that pensions would not decrease should there be a drop in Consumer Price Index.

(continued in next column)

OUR ASININE ARTIST ASKED TO ILLUSTRATE: "RIGHT TO WORK"



came up with this!

4. Veterans were to be encouraged to use the Doctor Choice Plan and select their own Family Doctor and to request him to apply to the District DVA office for the veteran-patient's treatment records.
5. Noting that the Departmental Study report was not yet completed, the Meeting, nevertheless, recorded the fact that many of the Association representatives expressed views that administrative changes were required.
6. All incumbent officers were re-nominated and re-elected by acclamation. They are:

Andrew C. Clarke	Chairman
E.V. Heesaker	Vice Chairman
John Stroud	Vice Chairman
W.M. Mayne	Immediate Past Pres
F.J.L. Woodcock	Hon. Chairman
K.C. Langford	Hon. V/Chmn
J.C. Lundberg	Hon. V/Chmn
H.C. Chadderton	Sec/Treasurer

THE MAGNIFICENT AND SUSTAINED SUPPORT OFFERED BY OUR READERS IS DEEPLY APPRECIATED AND GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH.

THE ROLL CALL

B. C. BRANCH NEWS

Welcome to the B.C. Branch is extended to new members: Peter LeGouarger(W.G.) Tom Kelway(imp); H.Williamson(RN, HK) and Lt. B.C.Fields(HKVDC).

Chick Query, Harry Creedon, Murray Brown and Art Lousier enjoying better health in Arizona. That sunny weather is good for bad nerves or curves!

Next Meeting and Dinner at the Astor Hotel, Kingsway, Burnaby, B.C. on April 28, 1979 at 2:30 p.m. (Everyone is WELCOME)

Washington State American EX*POW's Convention is scheduled for May 25/26 1979 at the Tye Inn, Olympia, Washington. All H.K. Veterans are welcome.

Subscriptions and donations from all across Canada and the U.S.A. continue to support the Roll Call. We sincerely appreciate your letters and support. Our B.C. Branch Magazine is mailed to every province in Canada, to the U.K., to Florida, Georgia, Arizona, California, Michigan, Oregon, Washington and Hawaii, and to Australia, New Zealand and Hongkong. Donations received since December has will cover cost of the last two and this issue. We are very thankful for this excellent support.

Reg Leach, Burns Lake, B.C. and Jack Stephens, Kenniwick, Wash. U.S.A., our two RICE COOKS in North Point and 3-D, have both sent in large donations and wish to be remembered to all you HK Vets. Many thanks, Comrades!

OBIT: We regret to report the passing of three B.C. members recently. Earl (Mousie) Mawson, veteran of two World Wars, January 11, 1979; Nick Berzenski on 18 February and George (Scotty) Temple, 20 February. Deepest regrets and condolences are offered their families. May they rest in Peace.

Nat'l Convention and Reunion at North Star Hotel, Winnipeg, Man. Sept:12 -16. Complete details will follow soon.

DUES ARE DUE FOR 1979. \$10.00 per year per member. You must be a paid up member in good standing to vote at the National Convention at Winnipeg in September. Mail your Dues to: Lionel C. Speller, 3628 Saanich Road, Victoria, B.C. V8X 1X3

MORE NAMES FROM 3-D(Cont. from page 7

Haley, Barney	Roberts, Art
Hartery, Newfie	Rose, Jack (BR)
Hauser, Ted(BR)	Rowan, Alf
Irvine, Jim	Simpson, Percy
Kudlovich, Mike	Sirocco, Mike
Labelle, John	Sissons, Eric
Lockhart, Lockie	Soper, George
Martin, Al (BR)	Stager, Bob (BR)
Mason, Red(Oshawa)	Stebbe, Larry
McDavid, Mickey	Thomas, Ernie
Metallic, Pat	Waggoner, Al
Murray, Matt	Warren, Bob (BR)
Nolan, Stormy	Windsor, Red
O'Brien, Jerry(BR)	Wurm, Gilbert
Overton, Bill(BR)	Wright, Fred
Panco, Mike	Zacharko, Sharkey
Penny, Don (BR)	Zataruk, Mike.

(BR) denotes member of Imperial Force

The Sendai 2 Story-Part 4(continued)

The devastating fire bombing had flattened the entire city to the extent that we could see clear across it to Tokyo Bay itself, with only one or two buildings, over one floor in height, obstructing our view and enabling us to trace out the network of roads(cleared of rubble by some miracle) as far as our eyes could see.

Skirting Tokyo we soon hit the shore of Tokyo Bay and again were provided with visual proof of the industrial might of the Allies. If the Pacific Theatre of World War II did not have anything else to remember, it had for the record, the largest and finest concentration of naval might ever gathered together in the history of wars. If there was one, there were over 400 warships anchored in that bay.

I stopped counting after reaching seventeen flat-tops headed by the Big E - "Enterprise". The mighty USS Missouri led a fleet of battleships, including the HMS King George V and American battle-wagons and these trailed above hundreds of lesser craft like skyscrapers over a large city.

At night, when all the ships turned on their lights, it appeared as if the Bay was the city and the city the bay! You had to be there to believe it! (TO BE CONCLUDED)

NEWS FROM OTHER BRANCHES

MANITOBA BRANCH

Biennial Convention of the Hongkong
Veterans Association of Canada
Host - Manitoba Branch
at the

North Star Inn -Portage Avenue and
Smith Street, Winnipeg

September 12 thru 16, 1979

Room Rates: \$36.00 Single
\$44.00 Double

The Manitoba Branch is indeed proud to be hosting this particular convention, as September 1979 marks the 40th Anniversary of the outbreak of World War II.

It is hoped that all Hongkong Veterans, and their wives, will take advantage of this opportunity to get together with old friends, and help make this, "The 1979 Anniversary Convention" one of the best ever. We would also like to extend an especially warm welcome to all the Widows of Hongkong Veterans.

Registration cards will be in the mail shortly. You are urged to fill them out and return them, as soon as possible. Also, if you are aware of anyone who is not on our mailing list due to a change of address, or for any other reason, let us know. Our aim is to reach every Hongkong Veteran no matter where he may be. Any further enquiries may be forwarded to Box 381, Winnipeg, Man. R3C 2H6 or by phoning Sid Vale at 204-774-7332.

**HONGKONG VETERANS ANNIVERSARY (35TH)
PILGRIMAGE TO HONGKONG AND JAPAN**

The proposed itinerary: Leave Canada November 23 and return December 14, 1980.

Approx: stay in Hongkong 17 days, in Tokyo, Japan, 4 days.

This will be a complete package deal, which will include: Round trip fare, deluxe hotel throughout, full breakfast and dinner daily, sightseeing tours (planned to permit free time), transfers from airport to hotel and return, tips at airport and hotel, English speaking guides at each destination. There will be memorial services at Sai-Wan and Stanley Cemeteries and at Hodagoya Cemetery in Japan.

As soon as cost estimates are available we will be mailing every Hongkong Veteran a complete brochure with all details. Further information as received, will be passed on to all branches for distribution to their members.

Art Lousier

ONTARIO BRANCHRe: 1981 National Convention

Ontario Branch President, John Stroud, has sent a letter to all Branch Presidents and the National President in which he stated with regret, that the offer to host the 1981 National Convention in Toronto, had been withdrawn, the reason being, outside of Quebec & Maritime Branch and the Manitoba Branch, no answer to his letter of September 15, 1978, asking permission, was received.

All American Ex-Servicemen who fought in China between 1941-1945, will receive a medal from the Republic of China. John Stroud wrote the Ambassador to inquire if Canadian Ex-Servicemen in China during the same period, were eligible to receive the Medal also. As yet, no reply.

Sorry to announce the death of Terence Dwyer, of Trenton, Ont, Ontario on December 24, 1978.

The next issue of the Canadian Veterans News Magazine will be published in March.

Walter Grey,
Sect-Treasurer

A PARODY sung to the tune of "DAISY8
by S/Sgt Harry McNaughton

Beefsteak, beefsteak
Do me one nice and rare
I'm half starving
From living over there.
You can fry me some chip potatoes
And bring me some bread and jam,
I've had nothing to eat, don't spare
the meat
Make it a tenderloin if you can.

Branch Membership Dues for 1979 are now payable. If you haven't sent yours in yet, please do so to Lionel Speller

IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The following, overdue for some time, was held back because of requests for anonymity from some of our donors. Another reason was that publication of such a list might cause some to think that it is required of them. THIS IS NOT SO! Donations, deeply appreciated in the spirit they are offered are, however, purely and entirely voluntary. This, therefore, is merely a belated "Thank You" to all who have so generously wished to show their appreciation of this magazine. We only hope we can keep providing them and all our readers the pleasure they have found in the reading of the Roll Call.

The following is a list of donations mailed directly to-and received by-the Editor from September 1977 thru 10 February 1979, and does not include subscriptions, or donations sent to Secretary, Lionel Speller.

Gord Sissons	John Matheson
W.Achtymichuk(1)	Mrs.K.Porteous
Gerry McKnight(1)	Robert Maze
Harry White	Richard Wilson
Larry Milord	Joe Randle
R. Gurr	Ernie Coulson
Murray Brown	Sid Vale (2)
Art Ferrall	J. Ev Lawrence
Cliff Matthews	Rollie Dube
Sid Vale (1)	Guy Stewart (US)
Chuck Bradbury	Mrs. Fred Adams
Padre U.Laite(1)	Mrs. Lorna Fox
Maurice LaPointe	Tom Mulvaney
Alf Shayler	T.R. Ingram
Reg Kerr	J.D.Remedios (US)
John Leeson	Frank Conkey (US)
Gerry Gunson	Mrs.Amy Trist (UK)
Len March	Padre Laite (2)
Doug Morrison	Mrs.Annie Oomen
George Price	Mrs.Eva Bailie
Ed Toews	Alf Shayler (2)
Jan Solecki	Mrs.Beryl Daoust
Jack Brady (US)	Bill Achtymichuk(2)
Fred Drover	Don MacPherson (2)
C.Roza-Pereira	Alan Whitman
Don MacPherson(1)	Gerry McKnight(2)
Ed Shayler	Derek Rix
Joe Walton	George W.Taylor
Scotty Adams	Gordie Wheatcroft
John Shayler	Alex Prairie
Dr.John Crawford	Dr.Ken Cambon
Fred Boughey(UK)	Albert Rheault
Ken Porter	Harry Creedon

Figures in () show multiple donations

OUR ASININE ARTIST was asked to illustrate: "GIT OFF YOUR ASS!!!"



and he came up with this!

SENDAI 2 STORY TO END

The Sendai 2 story is not complete, but unless someone from either the Grenadiers or Royal Rifles who were there, sends in his version of the events following the exodus from the coal mine, it will be concluded in our next issue - Summer 1979.

Canadians from Sendai 2 became separated from the HKVDC and Imperials at Yokohama. Some may have been sent on board the hospital ships moored in Tokyo Bay - "Marigold", "Good Hope", "Tjitjalenka" or "Morning Glory", while others were repatriated to Canada by other means. We invite you to write in and tell what happened after getting off the train at Yokohama.

If you liked what you have read in previous episodes, please write in so we can put it all together and keep it going. Perhaps later, we could go into the full story of Sendai 2 from the very beginning.

We'd started at the end of our stay there instead of the beginning, because in keeping with our policy to keep it happy instead of sad, those final days were the only ones worthy of publication. We hope you enjoyed it.

VETERANS AFFAIRS * NEWS RELEASES

Excerpts from the above as announced by the Minister of Veterans Affairs, Daniel J. MacDonald are as follows:

28 Nov. 1978: Relocation sequence for the move of DVA HQ from Ottawa to Charlottetown, PEI will take place over a 3-year period commencing summer 1979 with 40 positions increasing to over 400 by late 1980. Other units, including the Canadian Pension Commission, are scheduled to move by fall of 1981.

12 Dec. 1978: Site of the new DVA HQ in Charlottetown, PEI, will be immediately opposite Province House in the downtown area.

Site acquisition and building design work will begin immediately.

15 Dec. 1978: Donald E. Keen of Saskatoon, Sask. prairie regional director of VLA since December 1976, has been appointed Director General of VLA as of 28 December 1978. He replaces Arthur MacCracken, Cornwall, Ont. who has retired after 32 years with the DVA.

22 Dec. 1978: Amendments to the War Veterans Allowance regulations ensuring recipients full benefit of the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) increase, compensation for any reduction of Family Allowance and full benefit of any Refundable Tax Credit, was announced today as well as an increase in the maximum allowable monthly income level.

The recently announced GIS increase of \$20 per month per family will not be assessed as additional income for WVA and CVA recipients or OAP veterans. Neither will the refundable \$200 tax credit for orphans and children eligible for Family Allowance.

Maximum allowable monthly income level for WVA-CVA recipients will be increased in first quarter 1979 to compensate for increased HCL based on consumer price index. Sample new levels are: Widow/widower to \$319.62 from \$314.90 Husband/wife to 547.17 from 539.08 plus an additional 71.47 from 70.41 per month for each dependent child less the amount of family allowance paid for that dependent. The above figures are all for maximum allowable monthly incomes.

THE CAPTIVES HYMN

by Margaret Dryburgh, B.A.

Father in captivity
We would lift our prayers to Thee;
Keep us ever in Thy love,
Grant that daily we may prove
Those who place their trust in Thee
More than conquerors may be.

Give us patience to endure,
Keep our hearts serene and pure,
Grant us courage, charity,
Greater faith, humility,
Readiness to own Thy will,
Be we free or captive still.

For our country we would pray;
In this hour, be Thou her stay,
Pride and selfishness forgive,
Teach her by Thy laws to live.
By Thy grace may all men see
That true greatness comes from Thee.

For our loved ones we would pray;
Be their guardian night and day,
From all dangers keep them free,
Banish all anxiety.
May they trust us to Thy care;
Know that Thou our pains dost share.

May the day of freedom dawn,
Peace and Justice be re-born.
Grant that nations loving Thee
O'er the world may brothers be;
Cleansed by suffering, know rebirth,
See Thy kingdom come on earth.

The author wrote this in 1942 whilst a prisoner in the Japanese Internment Camp at Loebok Linggau, Sumatra. She died in that camp on 23 April 1945.

(Courtesy FEPOW Club, London, England per Comrade Bill Laidlaw)

WHAT, WHEN AND WHERE

B.C. Branch Annual Meeting, 28 April 1978. See Page 1 for all details

Washington State AMEX-POW Convention, May 25-26, 1979, Tyee Inn, Olympia, Wash. Reservations: Tyee Motor Inn, 500 Tyee Drive, Olympia, Wash. 98502 or Don Morgan, 7314 West 45th St. Tacoma, Washington, 98466.

HKVAC National Biennial Convention Sept. 12-16, 1979; North Star Inn, Winnipeg, Manitoba. For details see page 15-Manitoba Branch News.