

Diefenbunker

Canada's Cold War Museum

Musée canadien de la Guerre froide

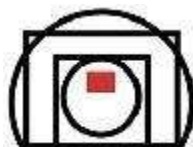
DIEFENBUNKER ALUMNI

SEPTEMBER 2018



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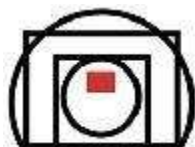


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Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to record the service and reminiscences of those who served in, or who were associated with the Diefenbunker, or one of the Regional Emergency Government Headquarters during their operational lives from 1961-1994.

It is hoped that it will serve as the basis for an ongoing sharing of memories and experiences and that it might prompt a desire to renew acquaintances.

Three types of membership are proposed for this Alumnus as follows:

Regular – those civilians or military personnel who served in the Diefenbunker (or any of the REGHQs) when they were operational or were actively involved of the construction of the CEGHQ;

Honourary – those individuals who were instrumental in keeping the bunker alive as a museum after its operational life ended; and,

Associate – those civilians or military personnel who did not serve in the CEGHQ when it was operational, but whose jobs caused them to be intimately involved in its operation; and, those current Diefenbunker volunteers who are dedicated to keeping its memory alive.

The serving Executive Director of the Diefenbunker Cold War Museum has been invited to be the Patron of this Alumnus.

The first part of this paper is divided into the three categories of membership and each is listed in alphabetic order. The final part of the paper records anecdotal memories from those who served in or were associated with the Diefenbunker in its operational days.

Patron

Christine McGuire

Christine McGuire has more than 13 years of experience in the museum and heritage sector here in Ottawa. Throughout her career, Christine has brought her creativity, drive, and passion to



redefining exhibitions and enhancing audience engagement. She is known for pushing the boundaries of experiential exhibitions rooted in innovation, public engagement, and social responsibility, and providing leadership to organizations through transformation and growth.

Before joining the Diefenbunker Museum as Executive Director, Christine was an Exhibition Planner with Aga Khan Foundation Canada, specializing in project management, exhibition development, and audience engagement. She was first involved with the Diefenbunker Museum in 2009 as the organization's Education and Volunteer Manager. Christine holds a Master's degree in Public History from Carleton University, specializing in public memory and immigration history.

Regular Members

Baker, Scott

I was born in Toronto Ontario in October 1964 and moved to Oshawa Ontario the following year. I attended public elementary & high school in Oshawa, graduating in 1983 with my General Education HS Diploma. During my high school years and the year following, I was employed in the food services industry (part & full time) where I was promoted to Restaurant Shift Manager. From 1978-1984 I was also a member of 151 Chadburn Air Cadet Squadron - one of the most prestigious and award winning Air Cadet Squadrons in Canada - where I achieved the rank of Sergeant. I enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces in October 1984 as a Steward under the Youth Training Employment Program (YTEP). Following graduation from basic training at Canadian Forces Recruit School in Cornwallis, NS in December 1984, I attended the Canadian Forces School of Administration and Logistics (CFSAL) receiving my Qualification Level 3 (Steward) in March 1985. In April 1985, I transferred to the Regular Force and during the following seventeen years as a Steward, I completed tours aboard HMCS Huron, HMCS Gatineau, at Canadian Forces Station Carp, Canadian Forces Bases Ottawa (Uplands), Montreal and Kingston, HMCS Preserver, 402 Squadron Winnipeg, and HMCS Iroquois. In 2002, I transferred to the Resource Management Support Clerk occupation through the AVOT program, and upon graduation from my QL3 Trg at CFSAL, I was posted to 15 Wing Moose Jaw as the 2 Canadian Forces Flying Training School OR Clerk. While at the school, I was responsible for the Leave Administration and Express Testing database for over 300 members.



In March 2005, I was appointed to the rank of Master Corporal and posted to 23 CF Health Service Centre Detachment Moose Jaw as the Chief Clerk. Within the scope of my duties, I supervised three civilian employees, and oversaw the day to day operation of the Medical Orderly room, Medical Records / Medical Boards section, and provided leadership guidance to the NCO i/c Treatment Room. In addition to my duties as Chief Clerk, I was also the Unit IT ISSO, Unit Security Officer, Canadian Forces Health Information System Local ISSO & Trainer, and one of the few Entrust/PKI Local Registration Authorities (LRA) at 15 Wing. In June 2008, I was promoted to the rank of Sgt and posted to 1 Canadian Air Division / Canadian NORAD Region HQ in Winnipeg. I was employed as the Force Employment Coordination Administration Manager, and was also the supervisor of the Canadian Aerospace Operations Centre Administration Cell. I was employed as the Chief Clerk of the Cadet Summer Training Centre at 4 Wing Cold Lake during the month of July 2009, and upon my return to the Division, was appointed as the Headquarters Orderly Room Supervisor. In August 2010, I was posted to 17 Wing and employed as the Financial Manager for the Wing TEME Sqn, where my duties included managing unit expenditures, SWE reporting, Financial reports, and providing assistance to the unit OR 2I/C in the

absence of the OR Supervisor. In November 2010, I was posted to the position of Chief Clerk at 17 (Wpg) Field Ambulance. Shortly after my arrival, I also assumed the additional responsibilities as the Acting Adjutant. My duties included (but were not limited to) the training & supervision of OR Staff - including multiple Reserve members; mentoring Junior Officer's; providing Administrative & Financial council to the CO and Key personnel within the unit; carrying out the functions of HR Mgr responsible for staffing of HR positions & Reserve Employment Opportunities. I was the Unit IT Rep/ISSO, Deputy Unit Security Supervisor, and the Entrust/PKI LRA for the Minto Garrison. In August 2012, I was posted to the position of Chief Clerk at 33 Canadian Forces Health Services Centre in Kingston. While at the medical clinic, my primary duties included the management of the Clinic OR, supervision and development of three RMS Clks (also including three Health Care Administration Officers on OJT), and managing the clinic's general facility maintenance work orders in conjunction with the Construction Engineering section. The highlight of my posting was being able to locate and coordinate the attendance of the great-great grandson and his family at the Clinic Dedication & Naming Ceremony in honour of his great-great grandfather LCol H. Duff – a distinguished & decorated WW1 Canadian Army Surgeon. In June 2013, I was promoted to my current rank and appointed Chief Clerk of the Royal Military College of Canada. At RMC, I lead a team of twenty highly dedicated military and civilian personnel, and am ultimately responsible for the day-to-day demanding College Orderly Room (COR) Operations with a client base of over 1500 personnel. I am also the HR coord for COR civilian employees, and for all MATA/PATA Class B Reserve backfills at the College. My secondary duties include being the Communications Officer of the NCM Mess, and the College Entrust/PKI LRA.

Awards and Decorations: I received a Flight Safety "Good Show" award in 1999, for my professionalism and quick actions during an in-flight passenger medical emergency. I received the South West Asia Service Medal with Bar for service during Operation Apollo in 2001, as well as the NATO Medal (Former Yugoslavia) for service in 1995. I have also received the Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal for overseas missions while on HMC Ships. In 2007, I received the first Clasp for my Canadian Forces Decoration. In July 2008, I was awarded a Wing Commanders Commendation in recognition for the outstanding service and support I provided to 23 CF H Svc C Det Moose Jaw & 15 Wing personnel. In February 2012, I was awarded the Sea Service Insignia for having accumulated over 630 Sea Days during my tours on HMCS Ships. In November 2012, I was presented with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for Outstanding service to the CAF and Canada. **Community Service:** I have served as a Regular Force staff member with over five Air Cadet Squadrons, and was the Administration Officer for 40 Snowbird RCAirC Sqn - an Officer position which I held from 2003 to 2008. **Honour Guard experience:** Participant in the Nova Scotia International Tattoo (1986) as a member of the Naval Gun Run Crew; Volunteered for Honour & Funeral Guards while at CFS Carp; Honour Guard for the Royal Visit of the late Princess Diana at CFB Kingston; Honour Guard for the Royal Visit of HRM Queen Elizabeth II, the Royal Visit of HRH Prince Andrew, Installation of the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, Opening of the Annual Provincial Legislature, and also the Sentry for the Battle of Britain parade in Regina all while serving at 15 Wing Moose Jaw. In 2007, I was selected to represent the Canadian Armed Forces as the National Air Force Sentry at the National Remembrance Day ceremony in Ottawa. I was selected once again as a member of

the Honour Guard for the Opening of the Annual Provincial Legislature in Regina in 2011, and in May 2012, was the Colour Guard Commander for the Order of St John's of Jerusalem Investiture Ceremony held at the Residence of the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba.

Family: I am married to wife Val, from Winnipeg Manitoba, a graduate of the Winnipeg Technical College with a certificate in Medical Administration. We do not have any children and currently reside in Kingston Ontario.

Barr, Art

Military Service: 1969 – 1983; Royal Canadian Engineers: 3 Field Engineer Regiment (Militia) 1969 – 1973; Canadian Armed Forces: Regular Army - 1973 – 1983

Art was posted to CFS Carp as a Terminal Equipment Technician (MOC 222) from 1974 – 1978.

This was followed by a posting to 4 CMBG HQ & Sigs – Lahr , West Germany 1978 – 1981. He then remustered to Teletype & Cypher Tech (MOC 223) and was posted back to CFS Carp in June 1981 until September 1983.

He was released from the Canadian Armed Forces September 1983



Following release he worked at the Communications Security Establishment in various capacities from Tech Controller to TEMPEST Engineering from September 1983 until he finally retired in May 2008 with a combined government service of 38 years. As a TEMPEST specialist with the CSE he was able to visit every bunker in Canada including the NORAD bunker at North Bay.

He is now fully retired and living in Kanata, Ontario with his wife Eileen of 39 years. Both of their children, Jennifer and David live in the area with their families.

Bernier, Michel



Posted to 743 Com Sqn Penhold Alberta in February 1975 and was employed in TE Shop as an apprentice technician for 2.5 years working on telephones, switchboards, VFCT and Gateway to name a few. Also when Samson came in worked Tech Control prior to my posting to Germany in June 1979.

As a MCpl I was posted to 706 Com Sqn Borden in August of 1991. And was 2 I/C of the On Line Crypto & Teletype

1977 Workshops. In 1992 was promoted to Sgt and become the Message Processor Maintainer (MPM) Supervisor until the node in Borden was decommissioned in 1995.



Today

Bottrill, Leith

On return from the Congo in late 1961, I was posted to the Richardson Transmitter Site. This site was just getting started and we were connecting everything together.

701 Comm Sqn Carp. The communications between Carp and Richardson were a land line with a Radio link as backup. The transmitters were a 30 Kw SSB HF Marconi HS 51 that had been moved from Orleans to Richardson. This was for communications with Boddington in the UK.

There were also 4x10 Kw TMC transmitters; 1x10 Kw LF; and, 4x3Kw LF Transmitters (STC). The LF transmitters were fed into 300 Ft top loaded Antennae, with a Gonio matching transformer.

The HF Antennae were Log periodic broadband 3-30 MZ. These were designed to operate into the Bridge Site across the country from Debert in the East to Penhold in the West. The antenna for Penhold was a Vertical Log for an extremely low angle of take off.



Today

There were also 10x500W transmitters. These were surplus HF AM transmitters that a chap by the name of Kahn figured he could adapt to SSB. These never really worked using the type of keying that was being used.

All of these transmitters used VFCT (Voice Freq. Carrier Telegraph) keying. The concept was good but the voice frequencies used caused too much variance in power. This was the time when SSB was just coming into service so it was a big learning curve for everyone.

In the spring of 1966 there were a number of us from Richardson and Carp that studied for the Foreman of Signals qualifying Exam. Most passed. This meant going on a year's course in Vimy Barracks, Kingston.



1970's
tious as well as the UK link.

On completion I was posted to Carp and was promoted to WO2 (MWO) at that time. I was there till 1973 when I was posted to Bermuda.

At Carp was the Federal Warning Centre; the Facility Control Centre; the Emergency Radio Room; Switch Board with Stroger Switcher; Toll Centre; Message Centre; Radio Work Shop, Teletype workshop; Crypto Workshop; Line Detachment; as well as STRAD. All Except the FWC were on the top (400) level.

The Emergency Radio Room personnel were also responsible for Radio communications between Carp and NDHQ, then located in the old temporary buildings in Ottawa, and a VHF link up the Ottawa Valley with repeaters in Arnprior, Renfrew, Foymount & Petawawa, plus a link to Richardson. There were also drops to the Central Relocation Units (CRUs) in Carleton Place Kemptville and Cornwall. At Carp itself, there was also a LF transmitter and a 300 Ft. Antenna. There were also the two Receiver sites at Dunrobin and Almonte. These were for the Bridge Site communica-

Brooks, Norman E.

Norman was born on 25 July 1936 in Toronto, Ontario. He attended Perth Avenue Public School from 1941 – 1946, Harding Avenue Public School from 1946 – 1949, and Weston Collegiate & Vocational School from 1949 – 1951.



He enlisted in the 2nd Signals Regiment, Toronto in 1952 and served until August 1953. He then re-enlisted at 13 Personnel Depot, Ottawa on September 2, 1953 and was sent to Vimy Barracks in Kingston for Basic & Trades Training.

Subsequent postings included, Western Command Signals Regiment 1954-1956; 1 Army Signals Squadron Ottawa 1956-1958; Ft Churchill Signals Squadron 1958-1959; MCCD Vietnam & Cambodia 1960 January to September; Camp Borden Signals Squadron 1960-1962; EASE Carp Ontario 1962 January – March; Alert Wireless Station March 1962 - August 1962; EASE Carp

August 1962 – 1967; UNFICYP 1967 April – September; EASE Carp September 1967 - June 1971; CFE Lahr, Germany 1971-1975; EASE Carp 1975-1978; UNEF II Egypt 1978-1979;

CFCCHQ 1979 – 1980 in the classified material directorate; Hamilton James Street Armouries 705(Hamilton) Communications Squadron as the Regular Force Training Advisor 1980-1984; CFCCHQ Reserve Training Desk writing training standards for the Reserves 1984-1986.

He was released from the Regular Force July 1986 in the morning & started his second career as a callout to the Regular Force in the afternoon, remaining at the same desk in CFCCHQ Reserve Training Division until 1991.

Norm became a Commissionaire in 1991 and terminated his employment with them in July 2006.

He has two sons, one of whom works for CSE in Ottawa and the other one for a large road vehicle recovery company. He has 5 grandchildren ranging in age from 9 to 19 years.

His wife of 51 years and 4 months, Evelyn Jean, passed away on February 12th, 2013.

Norm has been a Shriner Clown for 28 years entertaining children and the aged and is still at it. He is also secretary of Madawaska Masonic Lodge, Arnprior; the Valley Unit Tunis Shrine Clowns, Renfrew and the Madawaska Temple Association.

Bulach, Jeff

I was first exposed to the bunker when it was being built, starting in and around 1960 to 1966. I was a lineman and we ran all the communication cables throughout the valley.

From 1970 to 1976 I was permanently stationed at CFS Carp as a detachment member with the line crew.

Campbell, George

(Telop 212 – WO Ret'd 1966-1995)

Being an “army brat” and living on Army camps all of my existence, in the summer of 1965 my father had just gotten out of the Army after 32 years of service (Canadian Provost Corps / Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps) and my brother and I had joined the 1st Hussars Militia in London, Ont to earn a little spending cash.

Unfortunately my father passed away in April 1966 leaving 10 children for my mother to take care of in Arva, Ont. The Militia (weekend warrior) was not doing much for me and shortly after my father's death I decided it would be easier on the family with one less mouth to feed and in Aug 1966 I went to the recruit center in London, Ont, had my mother sign my enrolment papers, and on 3 Nov 1966, at the ripe old age of 17, I joined the Canadian Army.



I did my basic training with the Canadian Guards in Petawawa from Nov 1966 until Mar 1967 and then went to Borden, Ont to complete my Group 1 Provost Corp training. I was posted as a Military Policeman (MP) to Detachments in Borden, Kingston and Shilo before remustering to Telegraph Operator (TelOP) in 1971. In my new trade I was posted to Communications Detachment Toronto, National Defence Operations Centre/ Logcon / NDHQ Ottawa, Communications Squadron / 4 Service Battalion Signals Troop Lahr, Germany, CFS Carp, CFSD / NYGOC CommDet Toronto and finally CommSqn Borden where I took FRP and was released in 1995.

I completed 3 UN tours, UNEF II – UNDOF – UNFICYP and 5 years with NATO. After my release I was contacted by the Corp of Commissionaires and from 1995 until 2001 I worked at Meaford Range Control and then took a position with the Canadian Base Operators as their Help Desk Technician until I retired in March 2009. While in Carp (Jul 1987 – Jun 1992) I was the CommCen Supervisor, Jul 1987 – Jun 1988, Ottawa Semi-Automatic Exchange (OSAX) Node “D” Shift Supervisor Jun 1988 – Apr 1989 and finally the Assistant Station Warrant Officer, Apr 1989 – Jun 1992.

Capel, Peter

Peter joined the RCAF in Toronto, in September 1960. His first posting was to RCAF Stn St Jean, QC, 1960-61. He then went to RCAF Stn Clinton, ON, where he graduated as a Communications Technician Ground (1961-62). His next posting was RCAF Stn Cold Lake, AB (CEPE/AETE) from 1962-67.



He then had a posting with the army with 1 Canadian Signals Regiment (TACSATCOM) in Kingston, ON (1967-71). From there he moved back to the air force at CFB Trenton, ON (608 Communications Squadron) from 1971-75.

From 1975-1983 he was posted to CFS Carp, and the NICS site. CFS Debert, NS (NICS(CC)) was next from 1983-86. He then moved away from the Bunkers and was posted to the Land

Engineering Test Establishment (LETE), Orleans, ON from 1986-90.

Peter retired from the Regular Force in 1990 and joined the Reserve Force (763 Comm Regiment, Ottawa) where he remained until he retired in 1998.

From 1990-200 he was employed by Honeywell Ltd. in Ottawa. He was then employed by Appendix Publishing (Sonovision ITEP) from 2000 to 2008 when he retired from the work force.

Peter is currently enjoying curling, golf, travel and grandchildren.

Chaplin, David

I was ROTP (Civvy U at Carleton University) in the 1960s, graduating to Sigs officer with the 2nd Queens Own in Calgary just before they were reduced to nil strength in 1968. My next posting was as Technical Maintenance Officer at 740 Comm Squadron at the bunker in Nanaimo from 1968-1970.

In those days, ROTP graduates were required to serve 3 years as a regular officer. I did so and then went back to grad school.

Since then I have been an environmental control consultant and then a federal civil servant with the Canadian International Development Agency.

I am now retired after 37 years in total and living in Ottawa.

Clayton, Arthur (Art)

On 2 November 1961, I joined the Canadian Army Signal Corps and did my basic training with the Canadian Guards in CFB Petawawa. Then I went to Kingston, Ontario to complete my Group 1 Terminal Equipment Technician (TET) course, NL8, at Canadian School of Signals (RCS of S).

I was then posted to EASE (Experimental Army Signal Squadron), CFS Carp.

From January 1963 to July 1963, working shift work, I was On-Job-Training in Toll Test. I completed my TET Group 2 trades training from 28 June 63 to 10 July 63 and then I was transferred to NS/PEI Signals Squadron at the Citadel in Halifax for 3 months and then to open the Bunker at CFS Debert.



I returned to 701 Communications Squadron, CFS Carp in September 1964.

On April 66, I left Carp and went back to Kingston for my TET Group 3 course. After many postings, ending up in NDHQ, I retired in Ottawa on 30 July 1995. My final years I worked as a consultant for NDHQ (Army) until 30 July 2007.

Closs, Les

Chief Warrant Officer Les Closs was born in Perth Ontario. He graduated from Perth and District Collegiate Institute in 1972 and later the same year enrolled in the Canadian Forces where he attended the Canadian Forces Recruit School, Cornwallis, NS and Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electronics Engineering, Kingston Ontario. Following trades training, he was posted to CFS Carp as an operator on various communication systems. In 1976 he was posted to 733 Communication Squadron, Winnipeg, Manitoba, where he was employed in the Base and Air Command HQ Communication Centers, as well as acting in the capacity as Detachment Commander for the Sqn's two CRATTZ detachments. During the posting to Winnipeg he also supported 2 PPCLI during flood and fire fighting operations in northern Ontario and southern Manitoba.



In 1982 he was posted to 1st Canadian Signal Regiment Kingston and employed as a Detachment Commander in the Land Tactical Area Communication Squadron (3 Sqn), after receiving his promotion to Sergeant in 1983 he was employed as an Access Node Commander

within the same Sqn and unit. In 1985 his new posting was to 73 Communication Group HQ, Detachment Winnipeg where for the next three years he was employed as a Regular Force Training Advisor with 735 Communication Regiment, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Upon promotion to Warrant Officer in 1988 he was posted to 708 Communication Squadron Detachment CFB Kingston, Ontario in the capacity of Detachment Commander. After being selected for French Language training he attended the continuous French language training course at Canadian Forces Language School, Ottawa Ontario in 1991. Upon graduation from language training in 1992, he was posted to 1st Canadian Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment, Kingston Ontario as the Operations Warrant Officer 4 Sqn, Land Tactical Area Communication Sqn. He was promoted to Master Warrant Officer in October 1993 and remained with the Regiment until Sept 1994 when he was posted to 764 Communication Squadron as the Squadron Sergeant Major.

In 1996 he was promoted to his present rank and for the next year completed various staff jobs within 76 Communication Group including a member of the MOS Review team, until his appointment to the Group Chief Warrant Officer position in June of 1997. He was then posted to ADM HR (Mil) in July 2000 as a member of the DGCB, Universal Classification Standard staff. During this year he was nominated for the Order of Military Merit and was invested as a member of the Order of Military Merit in June 2001. Chief Warrant Officer Closs has served on three peace missions, United Nations Emergency Force II in Egypt employed as a Commcen/Radio Det Operator as well as performing Dispatch Rider Duties. United Nations Disengagement Observer Force Golan Heights as the Canadian Contingent Signals Sergeant Major, and with NATO in the Stabilization Force Headquarters Sarajevo Bosnia as the Multinational Signals Group Sergeant Major. On 21 January 2002, he was appointed to the Information Management Group as Group Chief Warrant Officer.

CWO Closs retired from the CF in Jan 2006, and resides in the Perth area with his wife Rose.

Cooke, Louise

I joined the military as a Radio Tech in 1981. I was posted to CFB Bagotville from 1982 to 1984, then to CFS Carp in April of 1984 to July of 1988.

Didn't know where Carp was when I arrived in Ottawa until they told me. I got to Carp and they said no, you are going to the transmitter site and off I went. Still a private at the time and only 19 yrs and the first woman and private to work at the transmitter site. Not easy especially at that time. The CWO gave up his bathroom and his private bedroom and was not too happy about it.

The two exercises a year were always on the coldest days of the year. We always had personnel from another base that would attack us during the exercise and we always caught them. It was quite the adventure for a 19 yr old.



I was on the base Golf Team and went to the Regionals for the 4 years I was posted there. The annual winter carnival at the main site in Carp was always a blast and I enjoyed that immensely.

The last 6 months of my posting I worked at the main site as I was pregnant and they thought it was more prudent to work there instead of the remoteness of the transmitter site. I worked with CWO Wiler and that was an experience in itself. Lots of memories for sure.

Posted to CFB Chatham from 1988-1994. Radio tech changed to LCIS. I was then posted to CFB St Hubert, St Jean and then Longue Pointe for the rest of my career. I retired from the military in 2003 but stayed on until 2005 as a civilian.

Cousins, Roger

I joined the CAF in May 1975, and after PL3 training as a TE Tech I was posted to CFS Carp Feb 1976. I lived in the hole for 18 months or so, along with about 40 other “living in members.” I worked in the Line Engineering Section until 1978, when after finishing my COMET course I was put in STRAD as a maintainer; the worst job I ever had. In July 1981 I was posted to 743 Comm Sqn and moved to Penhold to live in a smaller, but somehow more spacious, bunker, first as a Node Tech Controller, then as an MPM; the most fun job I ever had. After almost eleven years underground, the career manager thought I might like camping and posted me to SSF HQ & Sigs where I commanded the First line Tels MRT for three years; the scariest job I ever had, which included two RVs, two Ex Lightning Strikes, and a tour in Iraq with UNIIMOG. Surprisingly promoted to Sgt and posted to LETE in 1989, where I spent five years in the Systems Test & Evaluation Section, alternating between the most boring and most interesting job I ever had. Upon the closure of LETE in 1994, I was posted to 765 ISS Sqn as the Det Commander of the Pearkes Detachment; the best job I ever had. Promoted to WO in 1997, I was posted to ASU Chilliwack as the IT Services WO; the best posting I ever had. Promoted to MWO in 2001 and reluctantly posted to DIMTPS at Tunney’s Pasture as the A/LCMM for PBX and CSN Manager, the busiest job I ever had. Retired in 2005. Stayed in “the business” as a contractor and at TELUS, working on the GDNS contract. Now on a contract to SSC, still working at Tunney’s.

Currie, Terence (Terry)

I was raised in Fitzroy Township about ten miles from Carp. We had a traditional mixed farm and a very old-fashioned way of living. I went to SS#3 Fitzroy and then Arnprior District High School. I attended Saint Patrick's College in Ottawa for my degree in English and History.



In 1958 I worked on the Diefenbunker site, digging the hole with Foundation Construction.

After graduation, I became a high school teacher in Almonte, ON. I married Shirley Jones in 1965 and we honeymooned for a year teaching school at Horley County Secondary School in Surrey, UK. I attended the official closing of Biggin Hill and nearly got arrested for sitting in a Spitfire.

I had a long and happy career at Almonte, teaching and coaching the football team.

I became a guide in French and English at the Diefenbunker when it opened as a museum. The Director two years ago got me to do an oral history of my experience building the Bunker. In 2003 I returned to Ottawa University and got my M.A. in History. My thesis was *"The Ottawa Valley's Great Fire of 1870"*, which I published as a book and it is on sale at independent book stores all over the Valley.

I am currently lecturing in Ottawa Valley history at Almonte, under the auspices of Carleton University. I am also President of the Fitzroy Township Historical Society and the author of four history books and a television documentary.

Davison, Bruce

Joined the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals March 6 1958 in Winnipeg, signed up on a Friday and was in Vimy Monday afternoon. Graduated from basic training in May 59 and posted to 1 Army Signals Squadron Ottawa in the old wooden NDHQ Temporary Buildings.

Posted to Petawawa Signals Troop September 59. Our task while posted there was to build the new Petawawa Signals Squadron, - did everything, driver, worked with the line crews - we worked from dawn to dusk every day. Each Friday a Transport would arrive with Towers and all kinds of material which had to be unloaded before we could go out for the weekend.



1959 to 1961 we opened the Relay in Petawawa . While there I had my Junior NCO course with the Fort Garry Horse. On leave after the course, heading for Winnipeg on the train, met the Director of Signals, Colonel Clements and the Director of Engineers, Colonel Black, and we started talking about the Congo. I said to our Director “I realize I cannot ask you but if you want to ask me I will go” He took my particulars and I got off in Winnipeg and he and the other Colonel carried on to Edmonton. On my return I was called in by the CO and told that the Director had called from Edmonton and I was selected for the Congo, but first I had to go to Kingston for my Cryptology Course. March of 61 went to Kingston and when I arrived, I was told by Gus Hardy that I was going to the Congo whether or not I passed the course. I passed and in August 1961 I departed for the Congo. On arrival I stayed about two weeks in Leopoldville and was sent to Stanleyville, stayed there two months. It was a hardship post as the CO was arrested each time he visited, no one ever bothered the rest of the Detachment. Back to Leopoldville, then posted to Albertville to relieve Ralph Jewkes who was also from Petawawa.

Stayed about 2 months working for Jerry Bellefontaine then we got a message from HQ, stating that the Cryptographer in Kamina was really getting busy because the UN Airforce was moving on to the Airport. Off I went to Kamina.

Back to Leopoldville, I was supposed to be posted to Winnipeg in February, not likely, signed up for 3 months and Jerry asked me if I wanted to go to Elizabethville with him, he set it up so I could. I was in Elizabethville until May 1962.

Posted to Manitoba Signals Squadron, Winnipeg May 1962 reported for work in August 1962 with all my UN and Annual Leave. Posted to 1 Army Signals Squadron, Carp August 1963, following MWO Don Bissette running STRAD at the time, asked me who I pissed off. Worked in the Crypto Centre, top floor and lived on the bottom floor. My roommate was Cpl Joe Leblanc, who I had met before when he was with RCHA Sigs in Petawawa. Living beside us was Jim Netzel, a Tel Tech who retired as a Major. Across the hall was Eric Brown (External Affairs)

In December 1964, I was posted to the little bunker in Nanaimo until 1970, then to 733 Communications Squadron, Winnipeg until 1974. In 1974 I was posted to Communications Squadron Lahr, where I spent one year at the relay and then downtown to the Caserne where I ran the CFEHQ Communications Facility. In 1978 I was posted to CFS Baldy Hughes outside of Prince George, BC. In 1980 I went to 764 Commsqn Ottawa, NDHQ, Rockcliffe, and CFCCHQ Comfacs until 1982 when I was posted to National Rear Link, Cyprus.

In September 1982 I returned to 764 Commsqn Commfac CFCCHQ. I retired and transferred to External Affairs 1985, Posted to Canberra, Australia for 4 years, then to Moscow for three years, cross posted to Cairo for one year and then some Deputy Minister on the 31st March 1994 said cut, and all the Communicators came home, over two hundred of us, leaving the Embassies around the world without secure communications except for a secure fax.

Moved back to Nanaimo 1994, Commissionaire Nanaimo Airport 1994 to 2005, volunteer with the Nanaimo Emergency Program, Hired as the Disaster Assistance Emergency Social Services Director 2006, same job but a name change Community Assistance Director to date.

DeNoble, Liisa



I was the first Regular Force servicewoman to be posted to Carp. After marrying Mike DeNoble (already stationed at Carp) in June of 1971, the powers that be decided to see if posting females to Carp would work. As an administrative clerk, I was assigned to be the CO's secretary, there being no civilians at Carp at that time (except for the A.D. Ross maintenance personnel). MGen W.R. Oldford (then Major) was the CO and MWO Willy Kline was the SWO.

I spent two years in Carp, worked days while Mike was on shift. We would often say hello/good-bye as we passed in the tunnel. We had an apartment in Carp for the first year and then rented a house in Almonte for a year. During that year in Almonte, we often drove Lt. Beer and MWO Bottrill to work. We then moved to an apartment in Bayshore (it was new and nice then) and I was posted to NDHQ (then CFHQ). Mike stayed in Carp for a year or two and then we were both posted to Kingston.

Shortly after I left, more females were posted in--operators and technicians, especially. It would have been nice had that happened while I was at Carp. In any case, it was an experience.

DeNoble, Michael P.

Michael (Mike) DeNoble was born in Peterborough Ontario. He joined the Military in 1965 as a Rad Op and served in numerous field and static postings including two at 1 CSR Kingston and one at CFSCE. He had 4 postings in the Ottawa area, one at CFS Carp, one at CFCCHQ and two as a Career Manager at NDHQ. He served 2 UN tours, one with United Nations Emergency Force in Egypt 1976/77 and one with United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, in 1978.

In Jan 1991 he was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer. The same year he was commissioned from the ranks to Captain and after attending CELE training at CFSCE was posted to Communications Command Headquarters Ottawa.



Major DeNoble retired from the Regular Force in 1997 and accepted a position with Computer Sciences Corporation in Calgary, Alberta, working on the TCCCS project. He was later transferred to Kingston and commenced training development on the new Iris

equipment. That same year Major DeNoble transferred to the Communication Reserve and accepted the position of Deputy Commanding Officer, Reserve Electronic Warfare Squadron, Kingston. In January 2000 he transferred to CFSCE as the Senior Staff Officer Reserves and in May 2000 was appointed as Officer Commanding NCM Squadron. When CFSCE re-organized again on 24 July 2000, he became the Officer Commanding Bravo Squadron, composed of Signal Operator, Communications Research and Lineman training. He was the first Canadian in over 35 years to command this squadron. He left full time reserve employment in 2003 and commenced doing part time employment with both the Communications and Electronics Branch and Communication Reserve Headquarters. In 2006 he assumed his current position as Director of the Military Communications and Electronics Museum.

Major DeNoble retired from the Canadian Forces in 2008 after having completed more than 42 years of combined service, however, he remains as the Director of the museum. He resides in Kingston with his wife Liisa and has one son Bill, who also lives in Kingston.

Dowd, Garrett J. (Garry)

Military Service: 06 Sep 1961 - 15 Sep 1994

Carp Service: Jul 1963 - Jul 1986 (total of 15 years during this period in the Bunker and NICS)

Born In Ottawa and raised on a farm next to the Park and Ride in Kanata. On 15 Sep 1961 I enlisted in the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and went to Petawawa to do basic training with the Canadian Guards (six months). On completion, off to Vimy for two week indoctrination training. After the two weeks I was sent to 2 Sig Sqn (Petawawa) for General Duty which included Gagetown for the summer playing at war games. I was the postal clerk and the Sergeant Major's Batman (George McMillan).



Then off to Kingston in the Fall of 1962 for my Trades Training - Tel Op - and then back to 2 Signal Squadron for another summer in Gagetown but this time as a Senior Signaller with my own vehicle and trailer and subordinates.

Jul 1963 posted to EASE (support) at the bunker. In July 1970 I was posted to CFS Lowther - Pine Tree Line - and spent two uneventful years in the Communications Detachment.

In 1976 my family and I were posted to AFCENT, The Netherlands and enjoyed four glorious years. It came to an end when I was posted back to CFS Carp in Jul 1976 and spent three more years in the Bunker working Crypto, Message Centre and STRAD. In Sep of 1979 I went on the year-long French Course. It was very interesting but I did not attain a working knowledge.

In the summer of 1980 I was posted to 764 Comm Sqn Ottawa - at the time the busiest Comm Centre in the Military. I spent three years really learning my trade and attended the 6B Course and Senior Leaders Course - prerequisites for promotion to Warrant Officer. Off I went in July 1983 to the NATO site at Carp (NICS) and spend three years there before being posted back up the hill again to CFS Carp where I was employed in OSAX. After that I did a tour in UNDOF, Damascus, Syria. On my return I was promoted to MWO and took over the job as Operations Warrant Officer from Tom Madden.

In the summer of 1988 I received the posting I had been looking for a long time - SACLANT, Norfolk, VA. We spent four wonderful years there and got posted in summer of 1992 to CNDA Ottawa where after a year I was promoted to CWO and took over the job of DCOMSEC (Equipment) from Bud Kirkpatrick.

I retired in 15 Sep 1994. My wife and I now reside in Arnprior, ON.

Dukes, Patrick

Duration of service Oct 60 – Aug 89 (Carp: May 62 – Jul 67)

As a Tel Op I worked in all communications areas: relay, message centre, FWC (federal warning centre) and crypto.

I was posted to NICS Carp July 85 – Jul 88 where I was employed as the CNC (Chief Network Controller) in my last year at NICS.

In August 65 I married a Kinburn girl and moved into Ottawa near Churchill St and we took the army bus out to Carp.



Fortin, Marc

I joined the Canadian Armed Forces on September 11, 1981 as a Tel-Op 212. Completed basic training and was posted to Canadian Forces Base Kingston for my TQ3. Upon completion in the fall of 1982, I was transferred to 764 CommSqn Ottawa, at the COMFAC NDHQ. For the next 5 years I worked in the Comcen, the switchboard at NDOC, the back room at the COMFAC. A wonderful opportunity presented itself in the form of a posting to CFB Valcartier (QGET). From 1997 to 1991, I worked as a MCV operator, COMSEC Clerk at FMCD and back as a MCV operator with 5 Service Battalion. During those 4 wonderful years, I participated in many training exercises, but most of all was OP SALON (the Oka crisis).



Then came the summer of 1991, posted back to Ottawa or should I say the outskirts. CFS Carp was a brand new experience for me.

Working in a bunker, the dark cold winter days. I spent a few months working the Comcen, but

eventually was transferred to the OSAX. Learned what it was to work in a node. Some of my Tel-Op friends were also working in nodes (Borden and Aldergrove), probably doing the same stuff I was, but with a difference. The OSAX was its own backup site, so we (OSAX staff) were the best. We did not rely on anyone or other nodes as our backup in time of outages. We were it, we would bring the OSAX to operational status by ourselves.

Then in 1993 I was promoted to MCpl and could not stay at CFS Carp. So I accepted a transfer to HQ LandCen Heidelberg. Came back to Canada after only 22 months (Big CF Cuts). I was posted once again to 764 Comm Sqn. Then came the multitude of transfers, 764 ISD Sqn Node Tunney's as trg NCM, Node Pearkes as shift supv, Tunney's Node as DOS C shift, DOS CF NDHQ, Assistant node system manager, Controller at NSMC, QC and service release supv at CFNOC. I was then promoted to WO and posted to CFIOG as Staff Officer Information Protection where I spent the next 3 years. I was then transferred to 1 JSR Kingston where I spent the next 3+ months or until my retirement from the forces on Nov 14, 2006 after 25+ years in the forces. Since then I have been employed in the COMSEC environment as a public servant.

On February 21, 2012 the Governor General presented me (as part of a group of rescuers) with the Medal of Bravery. The official mention reads:

"On October 12, 2007, a minivan swerved off the road and plunged into the Rideau Canal, in Ottawa, Ontario. Witnesses to the accident, Lorraine and Tony Fequet jumped into the water to reach the driver, without any thought for their own safety. Through the partially opened window, Mrs. Fequet held the driver's head up out of the water just as Messrs. Akehurst, Fortin and Smid jumped in the canal to assist. While Messrs. Fortin and Smid tried repeatedly to break the

vehicle's window, Mr. Akehurst reached in and unbuckled the man's seat belt. Constables Desaulniers, Flanagan and Percival then arrived on the scene, grabbed the seat cushion from their cruiser, and swam out to the van. With help from other rescuers, they brought the driver to shore using the cruiser seat as a flotation device. Sadly, the driver did not survive."

Foss, Denis

I joined the RC Sigs right out of high school in September of 1960 and did my basic training with the PPCLI in Edmonton. In early 1961 I moved to Vimy Barracks in Kingston for initial Teletype Operator training. From there I was transferred to Vancouver at Jericho Beach and for the next year spent one month in Vancouver and one month in Nanaimo alternately.



In June of 1962 I was sent on a six month deployment with the UN Forces in the Congo. That deployment finished in late December 1962 and I was transferred to Carp in January 1963. Carp was my main base for the next two years. I went on several courses during that time - crypto courses in Kingston and the junior and senior NCO courses in London, ON.

In September 1965 I was transferred to Army HQ in downtown Ottawa. I can't remember which building it was, I only remember working in the basement all the time I was there, not much different than working in the Diefenbunker.

I think my most memorable moment working in Carp was during the assassination of President Kennedy. I was on duty in the message centre when the announcement came over the circuit.

I mustered out in June 1966, as I was told that with the integration of the forces my chances of getting my third stripe would be remote for the next five years

So I went back to Alberta and kicked around the oil field for a time. I was given a chance to move to Fort McMurray to be involved in a new venture as one of the first people to operate in the world's first oil mine. While in Fort McMurray I became involved in aviation, got my pilot license and then moved into airport operations and management.

After 10 years and lots of great friends, I was offered a job as the airport manager in High Level, which is 250 miles north and west of Fort McMurray and in 1976 we moved to High Level. This was another great adventure - lots of hard work and great hunting and fishing. A very enjoyable part of our lives.

In September 1981 I was offered another airport that had just been built in Lloydminster, Alberta. This is a border town one half on the Alberta side and the other half on the

Saskatchewan side. So here I am thirty years later, I have finally retired and we still live in Lloydminster.

I have been involved in a lot of volunteer work in our community. I volunteered in several national hockey tournaments and other sports events. I sit on the operations committee for our local theatre.

In the past I have been a nationally qualified boxing judge and referee but now just limit myself to local fight cards.

Fyfe, Murray

I had been with Manitoba Telephone Systems in the Staff Engineering and then Transmission Engineering departments, when I was hired by Army Signals/Sigs 5B to work on the Bridge/EASE project; on a 2 year contract, from June 1962 to June 1964. My work on Bridge/EASE was writing & administering telecommunications equipment contracts, plus design of & contracting for telecommunications interface facilities.



After the Bunker I left Ottawa & joined the Quebec North Shore & Labrador Railway in Sept-Iles. Then it was off to the University of Toronto for Business Administration, followed by a few years managing the engineering department at TRS Ltd. My wife & I felt that Ottawa would be better for raising a family so I joined the Dept. of Industry, Trade & Commerce in the Industrial Assistance Programs Branch. The next spot was with the experimental Educational Technology branch of the Dept. of Communications (DOC), followed by the International Telecommunications Branch of DOC. Finally I moved to the National Telecommunications Policy Branch of DOC, where I had the Northern desk. Because the north of Canada was where Telesat first provided commercial services (with government assistance), my position morphed into the responsibility for satellite network policy for Canada.

I escaped from all this by retiring, & then did some consulting for legal firms in Ottawa, until I realized it was cutting into my leisure time, so I dropped out of that. Eventually I found the best place to occupy some of my time; I returned to the Bunker as a volunteer. Being able to come back after all these years really brings back memories of a great time.

George, Robert (Bob)

Length of Service: Sept 1958 to Sept 1978

Sigs: 1958 to 1968. RCEME from 1968 to 1978

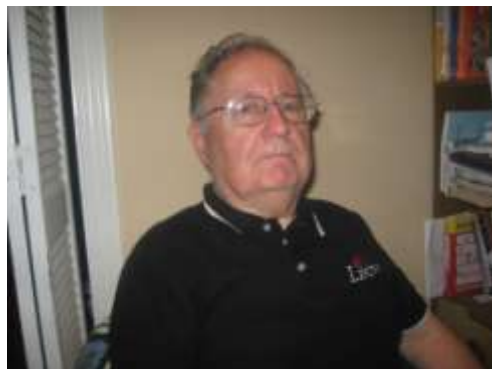
Two years with the Governor General's Foot Guards while attending high school in Ottawa gave me enough of a taste of the Military to enlist at the tender age of 17. Depot and basic at Vimy (K152) and then postings to 3 Sigs, Rafah, 2 Sigs, 2 SSM in Shilo, Congo, Carp, Rafah, 1 Sigs Unit and then remuster to RCEME. My Sigs Elect trade was discontinued. While I was stationed at 2 Sigs I was sent to Carp for the first 48 hr lockdown. That was interesting. I had no idea I would be posted there in 1963 as Transport NCO. I only had a handful of vehicles, including 1 Line Tp trucks that were hardly ever there. I enjoyed 6 years in Borden as a vehicle tech instructor and then my 20th year with 2 PPCLI in Winnipeg. I retired and spent 33 years in the Ambulance business. I am presently the newly elected Vice President of the Central Ontario Chapter (Barrie) of the Canadian Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping.



My wife and I visited the site just after it was decommissioned and I was really disappointed in the condition of the place. We visited again a couple of years later and were truly surprised at the effort that had taken place in restoring the site to its original condition. It wasn't the same but I was impressed with the progress. It was a great place to work. I wish I could remember names of people I served with.

James, Gordon (Jesse)

Gord was posted to Carp five times in his career. The first posting was from 1962 - 1965 Canadian Army Signal System (CASS) Carp. He returned to the same unit from 1971-1974. Two years later he was posted to CFS Carp where he remained until 1979.



He returned to Carp in 1987 for a posting to the NATO Satellite Ground Terminal ("Golfball"). He stayed there until 1988 when he moved up the hill to the Bunker where he worked in OSAX until 1989. During this last posting he took his release from the Canadian Forces and began work with the Department of External Affairs until his final retirement in 1994.

Gordon has been married to Cornelia since 1971. They have two children and currently live in Morrisburg.

Keith, Bill

Bill joined the Signal Corps on 16 August 1960 and took his basic training at Camp Petawawa . This was followed by Trades Training (TE Tech) at Kingston from 1961-62. He was then posted to Camp Petawawa Signals Troop in 1962. While there he was sent on Temporary Duty to CFS Carp for the STRAD installation.



In 1963 he was posted to Eastern Ont. HQ. Next was a posting to Gaza, Egypt in August 1964. When he returned from Egypt he was sent to Vimy Barracks for Group 3 Training in August 1965. After the course he stayed at Vimy on the training staff.

In 1968 he was posted to 1 Sigs unit in Kingston. While there, in the winter of 1969/70 he went on Temporary Duty with the US Army at the Fort Greely Arctic Test Center. He then to 1 Sigs until his enlistment term expired and he left the Canadian Forces in April 1971.

He then went to work for Bell Canada for 31 years until retirement in 2002.

LaHaise, Martin

I was posted to CFS Carp from 1981 to 1993. To spend 12 consecutive years there may be a record for military personnel.

I was a technician at T1 (T1 was the Transmitter Site #1 which was part of CFS Carp. Personnel there shared all the facilities provided by the parent site [administration, mess, medical etc]. It was located near Richardson, Ontario, not far from Perth. It was remotely located so that the signals from the high-power antennae would not interfere with the signals received at the receiving antenna site located at the burnt lands near Almonte, Ontario. T1 employed about 25 civilians and about a dozen military technicians who did shift work and manned the site 24 hours a day) from 1981 to 1985, then was employed as a Comm Tech attached to CE in Carp from 1985 to 1988, then back to T1 as the Assistant and then Acting Detachment Commander.



While working for CE, my responsibilities included maintenance and repair of the blast detection systems, radiation monitoring system and caesium 137 radioactive source, freon detectors, carbon dioxide detectors, fire alarm system, the wind anemometer and periscope in the commissionaire gate building. I also worked on equipment in OSAX, including the halon fire control system, the controls for the chillers, a moisture detector in the raised floor and replacement of the copper finger stock in the OSAX doors.

In addition, I maintained the synchronization equipment for the old diesel generators and I was present for the changeover of the UPS and generators in Carp and at T1. I accompanied the team that went to the Pillar factory in Germany for the acceptance tests of the replacement generators.

I can honestly say that my time spent at CFS Carp, especially the 3 years I spent with CE was the best time of my 31 year military career.

Langman, Brenda

Duration of Service: August 1983 – January 1999 (Carp: Jan '84 – Jul '89).

It was during my Tel Op TQ3 course that we submitted our three posting preferences. Most of the class chose bases close to home; I'd joined the military to see the world, so I wrote *anywhere, anywhere, anywhere*. Next thing I knew, I was being driven down the driveway to CFS Carp on a snowy January day in 1984.



It was a confusing moment when the van stopped at a little guard shack in the middle of nowhere. I assumed it was the gate to a huge piece of government land because I couldn't see the station anywhere - just some low buildings, tall wire fencing, and a big golf ball-looking structure in the distance (NICS). Was that the station? If not, how much further did we have to drive?

When they told me to get out, I looked again at the golf ball and dreaded the long walk with my baggage. I followed my sponsor and was shocked to see that we were walking toward a tunnel that led into the hillside just a few hundred yards away. The hill was snow-covered but upon closer inspection, I could see several tall antennas on top and tire tracks disappearing into the tunnel. I finally understood why the TQ3 instructor had smirked when he announced my posting. No one had thought to mention that CFS Carp was underground.

Inside the airlock, I was introduced to my new home. Yes, I had to live in the bunker until the coming posting season, due to room shortages in the Uplands barracks. I was given a room in the ladies quarters and introduced to my new supervisor and my first official job in the military – a decades-old cord and plug switchboard.

I quickly became a pro on the old switchboard and was ready for a more challenging job. I was transferred to FCC and stayed there almost two years. From there, I did a year in the Message Centre, then a year in OSAX. While in OSAX, I did a tour of Alert, which was easy for me because we had the same antiquated equipment in Carp. Even the total isolation of Alert was easier for me than some people. I credit my time living underground for that. Afterward, I returned to the bunker and finished off my posting as the STNCO, in the Training office.

After Carp, my very high security clearance and experience on older equipment got me a posting to CFS Bermuda for two years. As much as I liked Bermuda, incredibly, it didn't come close to the camaraderie that I felt in Carp. I was offered an extra year in Bermuda and turned it down in favour of a posting to Yellowknife. How's that for a climate change? I was in Yellowknife for three years, but again, while unique, somewhat isolated and interesting, it wasn't Carp.

My next posting was teaching at CFSCE Kingston, which I really loved. I discovered that my forte is teaching and every class left me feeling elated. The job was wonderful, but the morale and base still couldn't hold a candle to Carp.

My final posting was the Message Centre in Shilo, Manitoba. Incredibly, it was another bunker! The rest of the Comm Sqn had moved into an above-ground facility across the street but the Message Centre remained in the bunker. That bunker, being all but deserted, was nowhere near the calibre of Carp's, and yet it seemed a fitting place for me to retire. I worked as the Message Centre Supervisor for two years, then was given a medical retirement in 1999.

Maheux, Frank

Frank Maheux started his military career as a Tel Op 212 from 1960-1975. During that time he served in the Diefenbunker at Shilo (REGHQ Sig Tp) 1964-1968; Maastrich Cave, Holland, NORTHAG Sig Tp, 1968-1970 and, the Diefenbunker at Borden in 706 Comm Sqn. from 1972-1975

In 1975 he re-mustered to Tel Tech 223 and in that capacity served in SAGE North Bay, 707 Comm Sqn from 1982 -1989; SAGE North Bay, 22 Wing TIS from 1989 –1995; and, Base & SAGE North Bay, 22 Wing ARAF from 1995 -1998.



He is presently enjoying being retired in Windsor, Ontario

Mann, Keith

Duration of service Sept 1973 – Sept 2003. (Carp: Apr 1974 – July 1977)

I joined the Canadian Forces in September 1973. Shortly after, I went to the recruit school at Cornwallis, N.S., graduating in December 1973. I learned to drive military vehicles at CFB Borden in the fall of 1973 then had to wait until January 1974 for my Telop training Course 7402.

Following graduation I had a choice of three postings to go to. I chose Carp instead of going to either Rockcliffe or Valcartier as I thought Carp sounded kind of a neat place the way the

Kingston instructors described it. They didn't mention that it was underground surrounded by cow pastures and cornfields out in the middle of nowhere!

During my time there I worked in the relay (STRAD), the message centre, crypto and the switchboard. Some of my duties required that I send channel checks to the various provincial warning centres on a weekly basis, do voice testing with the Pentagon on the secure telephone and send tests on the teletype circuit with the White House in Washington, DC. Even though I was a no-hook private they even let me work the relay myself on midnights when the rest of the shift went to bed!

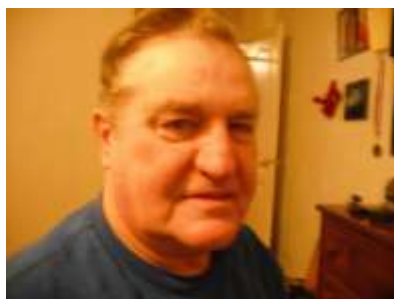


After Carp I was posted to various message centres such as Wainwright from 1977-1980, then to Trenton from 1980-1983, Comox from 1983-1987, Halifax from 1987-1989, Suffield from 1989-1993 then finally I got my final posting to Ottawa 1993-2003 where I worked in COMMFAC NDHQ, Node Tunneys, the CSP Commcen, 76 CommSqn training and finally to Telephone Services at 76 Communication Group where I took my retirement.

I joined the civil service in 2003 and now work as a Data Analyst with 76 Comm Gp at Tunney's Pasture. I live in Kanata with my wife Helen.

McBride, Dave

When I arrived at the bunker on 25 March 1963, CFS Carp, at that time, was divided into the comm. squadron and EASE (Experimental Army Signals Establishment) There was a two level bunker near Richardson, Ontario which was known as T1 (transmitter 1). Carp was known as R1 (receiver 1) and there were two antenna fields, R1 South near Almonte at what was and probably is still known as the Burnt Lands and R1 North near Dunrobin, Ontario near the Dunrobin Road.



I was tasked with preventive maintenance of the Model 15 teletype printers, Model 14 re-perforators and transmitter distributors, Model 19 teletype sets and the Creed line of communications equipment. My progression in the trade came to include the offline crypto (KL 7, ROCK X) and online crypto (CID 6/10). After 6 years of living in I moved out to Constance Bay in 1968 and drove to work until my transfer to Kingston for the pay level 3 course in October 1970.

My second stay at the hole from 14 August 1978 to 27 June 1983 was not near as exciting although I arrived there a Master Corporal and left as a Sergeant.

Mercer, Karl

I joined the RCAF in St. John's NFLD in Feb 1963. Completed training at CFB Borden in the fall of 1963 and was posted to 6 RD, Trenton until Feb of 1964 when I was posted to #4 Fighter Wing, Baden Germany. While in Germany I was a Dog handler and trained German Shepherds. My 3 years of dog handling were very different from conducting Police Work but it was very exciting at times. I was posted to CFS Val D'or, PQ in Feb 1967. From Val D'or I was posted to CFB North Bay then to Air Defence Command also in North Bay. ADC closed in 1975 and I was posted to CFB Winnipeg to Air Command. From Winnipeg I moved to CFS Gander and 3 years later was posted to CFS Carp as the NCO i/c Military Police. From Carp I was posted to the Special Investigate Unit Ottawa and while serving there I completed a tour of CFS Alert, Nov 1984 to Apr 1985. My final posting was to NDHQ working in the Access to Information division.



I retired from the Military in 1992 and worked at a curling shop for a year. I was working at the Corp of Commissionaires when I got a phone call from my ex boss at NDHQ and was offered a term contract for 3 months with Access to Information, which I accepted. Three months turned into a much longer period and I did over 3 years as class C. When the Class C term ended, I was employed by an agency as a consultant with ATIP for several years. I retired in 2011 and am enjoying life, travelling and cruising.

Murphy, Jim

I served in the Canadian Forces from 1967-1988. A lot of that time was spent under ground.

From 1968-71 I served in the bunker at CFS Debart as an operator in the Major Tape Relay & Communications Centre.

During the period from 1981-86 I was posted to the bunker at CFS Carp where I had the following duties:

- Node Shift Supervisor (81-85), actually had the honour of writing the first two volume SOPs for the yet to open OSAX (Ottawa Semi-Automatic Exchange)
- 1985 - OSAX Liaison Officer at CSE for period of six months (made what happened in 1988 a lot easier)
- 1986 - Communications Centre Supervisor



My next bunker posting was to CFB Borden from 1986-1988 where I was the Node Shift Supervisor & A/Node Superintendent.

From 1988-2011 I worked as a civilian at the Communications Security Establishment (CSE) ...almost like a bunker, no windows! During that time I performed the following duties:

- Started in the Communications Centre
- Two years in a very busy Technical Control office
- Served three or four years as the second and final CSE Liaison Officer at CFS Carp until the closure of station (my good friend Bill Vandenburg was the first CSE Liaison Officer in OSAX,,,with his help and another friend, Denny Ruddick (former Operations Officer at CFS Carp) I got a job at CSE.
- Finished my career at CSE in 2011 as the Operations Manager

I am presently semi-retired, but at the request of my previous employer, have returned to CSEC two days a week...project work, no staff, loving it.

Perry, Chris

I joined the Signal Corps in 1961 and became a “Rad Op” with the Signal Squadron in Kingston after my initial signals training at Vimy.



In 1963 I was posted to the “Diefenbunker”, CFS Carp. At last I was actually doing a job, not just training, cleaning latrines etc... Assigned to Rad Con (Radio Control) on the 4th Floor I worked the switchboard, patching phone calls to and from the facility. Like everything in the bunker, it ran 24/7.

Next door to the switchboard was Radio Control where we were tasked with establishing and maintaining radio communications with installations across Canada in places like Debert; Borden; North Bay; Shiloh, to name a few, as well as links in the U.S.A. to places like Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Fort Collins Colorado and as far away as Boddington, England.

These radio links were vital to the transmission and receiving of communications from numerous government agencies.

Each department worked together as a communications facility. The Message Centre, Crypto, Rad Con and the remote transmitter sites and receiving antennas all had integral jobs to do. It was challenging but enjoyable.

I now live in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

Pierce, Howard (Howie)

Before arriving at CFS Carp, a bit of personal history, and how I came to know those wearing the blue shoulder flashes “Signals”.

On the 2nd February 1954 – War in Korea had ended and with buddies from Arnprior ON., we decided it was our turn to defend the world; not only because the garbage cans had frozen over during that long hard winter of ‘54. We ventured to join the local reserves, the 59th LAA 178 Battery, Renfrew ON. - we were an adventuresome band of sod busters out to make our mark. Having being forewarned by older and wiser WW 2 veterans what lay ahead of us in the army on our first assignment, in particular at summer fun camp in Picton (Point Petrey) we’d learned of upcoming experiences, eg. housing in bell tents; feeding out of hay boxes; etc.,. That did it ... we were ready!



At the time the 19 wireless radio set was the instrument of communications ... a left over voice contraption, a signalling apparatus from WW 2. It was used to keep in contact with personnel on the ground, namely the safety officer, and the airborne C-119 aircraft pilot, out of Trenton with a drone in tow offering up a moving target for the ten or so 40mm “Bofors” lined up along the coast of Lake Ontario, awaiting the target to appear overhead. We “the gunners”, poorly trained for the most part, 16 years of age manning the guns sent up barrages of flak 120 rounds per min times ten guns ... quite a sight. I can still hear a frightened young man whom we were later informed to be the pilot ... as he passed out front of the flak screaming over the radio “aim at the F***** drone. From that day forward I had a new appreciation for signalmen, those personnel, who among others were employed at the bunker. Most were well trained military personnel assigned to the important role of command and control of the equipment including all the latest sophisticated tools of the trade located at the Diefenbunker.

Thus began my career spanning a few months short of forty years in Canada’s military, ending in the summer of 1994 employed as the Administrative Officer for the Directorate of Military History, NDHQ Ottawa, ON.

Along the way there were postings serving Queen and Country alongside good men and women of the signals persuasion from the three services one of whom was the late “Willie” O’Ree, well known for his light hearted banter on just about anything. Although, it may be truthfully said it was not always crystal clear what the mission was- but that is a story for another day!

I served with the Regiment of Canadian Guards for eleven years and at one point trained as an infantry signalman while serving at Fort York, Germany under Captains George Simpson and Peter Sutton, two excellent career Signal Officers on strength with the Guards.

After re-mustering to the RCASC as a combat clerk I was posted to Kingston, ON. on the staff of Colonel "Buster" Stethem, another signaller who at the time was Commander HQ Eastern Ontario, located next door to the Maximum Security Prison on King Street. This was followed by my third NATO tour during the Cold War, this one at Fort Henry, Germany with 4 CIBG, HQ and Signal Squadron. Years passed, then came a posting instruction to Canadian Force Station Carp. This place was not new to me as my father, among others from Arnprior, had a hand in the construction of this TOP SECRET facility that we learned was to withstand a nuclear strike. At the time I had my doubts, having trained in the Civil Defence College, Arnprior where we were made aware of the destructive forces unleashed at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. We believed the outcome from a nuclear war would leave the bunker in ruins or, as they say in the service "NS" - non serviceable. Another important consideration was for those who were left on the outside - would they be willing to obey the orders of those who hunkered down in a privileged semi-safe space after the bunker door was swung open ... only to witness the destructive forces of a nuclear strike (that is if anyone was left to command)? Having said that, I thought this was nothing more than hedging the truth as we all knew the terrible physical results of the Japanese experience.

The bunker had its day and there is many an untold story that could be told and should be told if only to keep the memory alive and well ... thank you for your indulgence ... it was my pleasure ... "Howie" Pierce, Chief Clerk and Hockey Coach, CFS Carp.

Pletsch, Murray

I joined the RCCS Apprentice training program and spent 1959 to 1961 in 5 Squadron at the RCS of Signals in Kingston, Ontario. On completion of the 2 year program I spent 8 more weeks at the School undergoing the Junior NCO Course in 1 Squadron.....and was then posted to 3 Signal Squadron at Camp Gagetown, New Brunswick.



From 1961 to 1965 I was a Radio Detachment Commander in 3 Sigs Sqn....and during that time the Sqn was deployed to Cyprus for 6 months (Nov 1964 to May 1965). Our new flag was introduced during this time and our summer bush dress was replaced with the Combat Clothes.

In 1965 I was posted to the RCS of S to 2 Sqn and worked with the late John McGillis in the Sqn Training Office. Capt Bill McInnis was the DCO at the time and the late John Selman was the SSM. In 1967 I was processed to head to UNEF Egypt and while I was on embarkation leave, they pulled the UN Troops out of Egypt. So, instead of returning to Kingston, I was posted to the Comm Det in North Bay and worked in the Alternate Federal Warning Center (AFWC) in the "Hole". The AFWC was commanded by a Black Watch LCol and was manned by 7 Army Captains, 7 Artillerymen and 7 RC Sigs operators. We were the 100% backup to the Federal Warning Center in Carp. The East, West and Central omnibus teletype circuits were all plugged into us so we mirrored the NSAWS comms setup in Carp. Russ

Feltmate, Ken Wood, Randy Rickwood and the late Norm Knox were some of the members of the det.

From 1970 to 1974 I was posted to 1 Sigs Sqn in Calgary as a Radio Troop Sgt and in 1974 was posted to 4 Sigs in Lahr as a Radio Troop WO. In 1975 in Germany I was appointed as the Chief Comm Op. Ted Davidson was the SOI NCO and needless to say we had a busy tour.

In 1978 I was posted to 72 Comm Gp in Halifax and was the Sr RFTA at 723 (Halifax) Comm Sqn. I was promoted to MWO in 1979 and was moved to HQ 72 Comm Group as the Reserve Training Coordinator.

In 1982 I was posted to CFCCHQ Ottawa as Res Trg 3-3. In 1984 I was promoted to CWO and was posted to 743 Comm Sqn, Penhold as the SWO. In 1987 I accepted and began training in the CFRP as a Capt. After 1 year of training I was posted to CFCCHQ as SO Res Trg 3.

In 1991 with 32 years service I retired and settled in Nanaimo, BC. I joined 748 (Nanaimo) Comm Troop and from 1993 to 1996 I served as the CO.

In 1997, my wife and I moved to North Bay, Ontario where we both have family.

In 1999 I bought a digital camera and started photographing gravestones in local cemeteries. I also self learned HTML and the use of FTP to transfer files to a distant server where my new Website was hosted. The photos I had taken were then placed online to help family researchers locate their ancestors buried in Canada.

The website is now a National entity with 700,000 photos on display from over 1,200 cemeteries across Canada. The Canadian Gravemarker Gallery is located at: <http://rootsweb.com/~cangmg>.

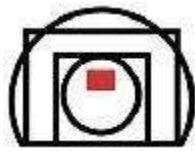
Power, Earl

I joined the RCN in 1963 and after basic training I was posted to HMCS *Gloucester* for a Radioman Special trade course, after which it was off to HMCS *Churchill* in the fall of 1964.

From there I served in CFS Alert (1964), Inuvik (Sep 1965), Alert(65), Gloucester (66) on Trade Group 2 course, Coverdale in Moncton N.B. (67-71) Alert (69), Bermuda (71-73) Alert (69) Inuvik (73-77) Alert (74 & 78) CFSCEE Kingston (77-80), Inuvik(80-83, Alert (83), CFS Carp 83-86), Alert (86), and finally Masset from Jul 86 to 1988.

While at Carp I was employed as a shift in OSAX.

After taking my release I worked for DND as a civilian in the Commcentre at CSE.



Puddicombe, Janet

When I walked into the recruit center, it was literally to get out of a rain storm. I should have removed the “gullible” sticker off my forehead before I went in there. Two weeks later I arrived at basic training, CFRS Cornwallis. I figured I would do the military thing until it wasn't fun anymore!

After 6 months of OJT in 764 CommSqn Ottawa, I went to Kingston for my TQ3. At the end of the course, we all had to submit 3 posting choices. None of mine were CFS Carp, but that is where I went. I was happy. New adventures coming up.



I lived in barracks in Ottawa during this posting. I made many, many friends, quite a few which I am still in touch with. During my time off, I earned my private pilot's license. I was a happy girl.

In January 1987 I was posted to CFB Suffield in a seconded position. I worked in the Canadian comcen, but was paid by the British Army. Roughly 90% of the base was British. Suffield had the largest training area in the northern hemisphere, which was very attractive to the British Army. They were able to live fire without being given arcs. They could basically fire anywhere they wanted to. The training area is 1010 sq mi.

It was here that I met my husband to be. He was a single father with two young children. The year after we married, we had a child together.

In 1992, we were posted to Ottawa. I went to 764 CommSqn, my husband to CFS Carp!! We spent two years in the Ottawa area. My husband was being posted because CFS Carp was closing. He was being posted to Halifax, I was not.

In March 1995 I took FRP so I could keep the family together. We had made a deal when we married, if ever we were looking at separate posting, the lower rank would get out. That would be me...

Renaud, William (Bill)

I was born and raised in the East end of Ottawa. My Father was a WWII veteran who served with the Algonquin Regiment, and my Mother was a Turnbull whose family originated from Scotland. Together they raised two boys and two girls; William being the eldest.

I joined the Army Reserves in 1956 (Governor General's Foot Guards), and the Regular Force in November 1959 (Royal Canadian Corps of Signals) as a Radio and Telegraph Operator. On completion of my basic and trades training in Kingston I was off to No. 1 Signals Squadron,



Calgary, Alberta. Not long after I met my wife Adeline and overnight my family started. Our daughter Kim was born in June 1963 and our son Cameron born in August 1964. Both brought into this world while Dad was away in Wainwright, Alberta for summer concentration camp.



Military life kept us west for a few more years. In 1966 I was posted to the Canadian Joint Air Training Center in Rivers, Manitoba, as an Instructor with the Canadian Airborne Parachuting School. In 1970 I was with the Canadian Airborne Regiment, Headquarters and Signals Squadron, and in February 1973 was posted to Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, as Detachment Commander. I was then off to Esquimalt B.C. to attend a Custodians Briefing. I had the family all motivated for this move north and BANG posting was cancelled and advised I was now going to CFB Ottawa; later to find out CFS Carp. I kept the family in the Ottawa area for the next 13 years, our choice for the kid's education. I then did 9 months in Montreal with the 1976 Olympics as the Telecommunication Manager of the Olympic Velodrome. Then some French Training for a year then off to Valcartier for a few years. In November 1978 I was off to the Middle East UNEF II for six months. In June 1979 to CFB Petawawa, 2 Service Battalion as a Signals Officer, and in March 1980 I returned to Carp; a couple of years as the SWO and a couple of years back in Operations (FCC). In 1984 I ended up sliding down the hill to the big white ball that we called the NATO Satellite Ground Terminal in one of the Comm. Op positions.

On April 7th, 1986, after 100,000 miles of travelling and 30 years of service (that equated to 1560 Friday Happy Hours) I took off the uniform and joined the civilian side of DND. The next 12 years I spent with Emergency Preparedness Canada (EPC) working with the Continuity of Government Program as the Emergency Government Facilities Technical Officer. Basically this boiled down to a lot of coordinating with DND and other federal departments to ensure these facilities (the CEGHQ (Carp), REGHQ's (Nanaimo, Penhold, Shilo, Borden, Valcartier and Debert), intermediate REHGQ's (Regina, Fredericton, Charlottetown and St John's), and their CRU's and Zones, were equipped, maintained, and kept up to date with the necessary tools, telecommunications equipment, rations and accommodations, to survive a 30 day lock up; and finally, to confirm the readiness of all the facilities by conducting little exercises.

In spring 1990 I was successful in a competition and ended up as the Manager of Telecommunication for EPC. Now working a little closer with CFCC, I found myself fine tuning MOU's with the Communication Groups and the Communication Squadron's resident in all the facilities, coordinating EPC's telecommunications, and assisting with Telecom instruction at the Canadian Emergency Preparedness College in Arnprior.

In March 30, 1998, I was seconded by the Loch March Golf Course as a Starter/Marshall and I never looked back other than some friendly annual gatherings of the old guard which I enjoy.

The Diefenbunker, over the twenty or so years that I witnessed, was always fortunate to have good personnel both in uniform and on the civilian side of the house. Station activities ranged from winter carnivals to adventure training, BDF training, sport activities, and local community fund raisers for the construction of the local curling and hockey arenas. The All Ranks Mess allowed 10% of its Membership to be members of the local community. Then the “Lortie” incident put us on the map.

All in all, for me there were some very good years. I met and still have some good friends from the hole. I was just advised any more information might have me up in front of the firing squad. So I rest my case.

Ricard, Clement (Clem)

I joined the Canadian Forces in Montreal on 06 September 1978, shortly after my basic training and Radio Tech course (221). I was posted to CFS Carp on 19 July 1979. I was a brand new TQ3



arriving that summer followed by 5 more brand new techs from Cornwallis for that year's rotation. We were all living in this bunker together for the next 6 months as required at that time by station policy. The weeks were long for me since I had to not only learn my new trade and area of responsibilities but also learn English. Thankfully, by hanging around with my fellow TQ3 techs, I was quite capable in communicating in both official languages after six months, which opened so many doors thereafter in my life.

I first started in the Electronic Workshop for a period of two years and then I was transferred to the Emergency Radio section for the remainder of my three years at the Diefenbunker. While in the Electronic Workshop, my responsibility was to maintain the FCC's telecommunications, thus providing a communication link with the rest of the Canadian military radio network across the country. In Emergency Radio, I was one of the techs that maintained the various Central Relocating Units (CRU) and the antenna RF sites such as the antenna farms of Almonte, Dunrobin, Kemptville, Smiths Falls, Carleton Place, Arnprior, and Richardson and many other locations. This was a good time for me because I was constantly on the road fixing equipment, looking for chip wagons, ice cream trucks, and many trips to the Hershey factory (Smiths Falls). Several “war stories” occurred during my time at Carp, including many parties at the All Ranks Mess, the Denis Lortie incident, the inadvertent opening of one of the emergency escape hatches, climbing the Carp communication towers, getting stuck and chasing cows with our shop vehicle at the antenna farms, repairing and upgrading the Fiber optic to Almonte, etc...

From there I was posted to Lahr, West Germany for 4 years (22 Infantry Regiment), then to North Bay (NORAD) for 4 years, then on to Kingston at the CFSCE School, including a transfer

at the Military Communication and Electronics Museum, then to 79 Comm Squadron where I was deployed on Peace Keeping missions in Haiti and Bosnia. I also did a PMO tasking for

Prime Minister Chrétien in Chile. Finally, having the chance to return to Europe, I was posted to SHAPE Belgium to complete my 27 ½ year career.

Presently, I'm working for Nav Canada in Cornwall as a Technology instructor. I am looking forward to exchange some of my war stories and meet with the Carp Diefenbunker friends and family.

Rosseau, Helen

I joined the Canadian Armed Forces in Windsor, Ontario and completed my Basic Training in Cornwallis, NS. I moved on to POET and TQ3 Rad Tech Course (221) in Kingston. After many adventures in Kingston being one of the first females in the trade, it was off to Greenwood, NS. Until I reported to work, the Sgt thought it was a male being posted in. My 490 had an error; it had my middle initial moved over into the sex column. I took my release to go back to University and rejoined later with my posting to CFS Carp. I was posted in Carp from 1979 until 1985 during which time I completed my first tour in CFS Alert.



In Carp I was employed in the Electronic Work Shop, Emergency Radio, the Tech Training Office and Tech Control. I also worked as a bartender at the ARM and the local Crazy Horse Bar to help pay for my apartment.

I was then posted to AMDU Trenton, Single Side Band Shop from June 1985 – June 1989. I had the opportunity to be on the MRT to Cypress and the Golan Heights while there and had my first opportunity to spend time in Germany. Our flight was cancelled on our return back to Canada and we had to wait a week on full TD for another flight.

When the opportunity arose for a posting to Germany I took it, 4 SVC BN Lahr. The field position wasn't what I was looking for but Weapons and Electronics (W&E) platoon from June 1989 until August 1993 was a good way to experience Europe. I also taught the Canada Safety Council Motorcycle Course while in Lahr.

Closing out the field communications in Lahr gave me my final posting August 1993 until June 1999 at CFS Leitrim. Another tour to CFS Alert and few visits to keep me occupied were also part of my last posting. The courses and training throughout my career also enabled me to carry on with similar jobs once I retired. I was employed first with Vistar Telecommunications and presently with LightSquared working in mobile satellite communications.

Sharpe, Michael

I enlisted in the RCAF in September 1964. After basic and trades training I became a Telegraph Technician in October 1965. The trade installed and serviced teletype and cryptographic equipment. In 1968 the trade became Teletype & Cipher Tech 223.



My postings after training included RCAF Stn Goose Bay, RCAF Station/CFB North Bay, CFE Baden Detachment, CFB Borden, RCMP, Public Safety Canada.

Presently Donna Mae & I live in the Perth area.

Skidd, Angela

In December of 1980 I was posted to CFS Carp. I left Carp and the Military in May of 1982.



Though my time in the bunker was relatively short it left a deep impression on my life. Everything about being in that setting with some of the nicest people I've ever worked with was exciting. The very structure and purpose of the Carp bunker were mysteriously intriguing.

The Tel Tech crew in our shop was a helpful lot and everyone was always willing to help by sharing their knowledge of the equipment we worked on and their humor.

Sergeant Jim DeGraw was always a patient and very supportive boss. He listened well and was very encouraging as he actively promoted my studies. Pam White and Irv Daigle were splendid technicians and friends, they were pretty good musicians also. Mike Brooker, Dave Hildebrand, Sue Huyghebaert and Clémence Catudal also played integral parts in our fine shop.

Dave McBride was Sergeant and he was my technical mentor. Dave taught me many of the intricacies involved in keeping models 15 and 28 teletype machines, crypto machines, as well as model 40 computers purring along. He was a very good teacher and friend who generously watched over my progress as a technician and in so doing, left me with many skills that I still use today.

When I left Carp in May of 1982 I completed my Bachelor of Arts degree from Laurentian University, my Baccalauréat en éducation at University of Ottawa and later my Masters in Educational Leadership at University of Oregon.

I have lived in the Yukon Territory for the past 32 years employed in various Education-focused positions. Some of these included being a primary and secondary school teacher and administrator. I served as the French Curriculum Consultant for the territorial ministry. I also was Coordinator and Manager of the territorial-wide “School Improvement Plan” (formerly the school accreditation program) and “Safe-Schools” initiatives.

Now retired, I enjoy travelling and experiencing the many activities this vast territory offers. I will always have very fond memories of both CFS Carp and the many fine members I had the opportunity to work with there.

Spencer, Rick

Background

Richard Simeon Spencer was born on the 20 January 1939, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Moved to Goodwood in 1945 then to Terence Bay in 1947. Joined the military, Royal Canadian Signals Apprentices, at 1 Personnel Depot, Halifax on 7 Sep. 1955.

Military Career

1953 – 1955 - RCE Cadet and Sapper in 40 Field Park Sqn., Halifax Militia.

1955 – 1957 - Soldier Apprentice at Royal Canadian School of Signals Kingston, Ontario. Graduated as a Radio Mechanic Group 1, MOC 221, 31 May – 22 Nov. 1957

1957 – 1958 - First Canadian Signals Regiment, Camp Borden

1958 – 1959 - First Battalion of the Black Watch, Camp Aldershot, Nova Scotia

Group 3 Radio Tech. Crse, Apr.- Nov. 1960, Kingston Ont

1960 – 1962 - 3 Signals Squadron, & RCDs Camp Gagetown, Jr NCO course 16 Jan – 24 Feb. 1961 and promoted to Cpl. 1 May 61.

1962 – 1964 - 1 Army Signals Sqn, Carp, Ont. Senior NCO Course Kingston, 10 Jan. 64 – 13 Mar. 64 - Promoted to Sgt. 1 Jul 1964

1964 – 1965 - 1 Royal Canadian Horse Artillery (RCHA) Camp Gagetown

1965 – 1966 - LDSH(RC) Calgary & Germany, Iserhlon.

1967 – 1968 - Forman of Signals course in UK (18 Months) – MOC 224

1968 – 1969 - Instructor 3 Sigs Sqn CFSCEE, Kingston

1969 -1970 - CAFTTT in Tanzania, East Africa

Promoted to WO April 1970

1970 -- 1973 - 708 Comm Sqn, Trenton

1973 – 1976 - AFCENT in Brunssum, Holland

Promoted to MWO April 1976



circa 1988

1976 – 1981 - Commissioned and posted to Kingston as TMO – MOC CELE
1981 – 1983 - CFB Trenton, Base Telecommunications
1983 – 1986 - CFB Halifax, B Tel O & Marcom HQ Bldg. Project.
Promoted to Major 1 July 1986 and posted to CNDA Ottawa
Released in May 1989 to work for Dept. Supply & Services in Hull. (13 Dec. 1989 actual release date from military)
Retired from PWGSC, GTIS in 1998.
Worked as a Consultant with VALCOM retired in 2000.

Education & Training

1953 - Grade IX Public School, Terence Bay
1953 – 1955 Halifax County Vocational High School, Bricklayer
1955 – 1957 - Soldier Apprentice Training at Kingston
31 May – 22 Nov. 1957 Radio Mechanic Group 1
April – Nov 1960 - Radio Equipment Technician Group 3
Jan. 1967 – July 1968 - Foreman of Signals course, in the UK
Jr. & Sn NCOs Courses, CELE Basic, CELE Airforce Course, & Staff School
Web Developers Course in 1998.
Completed various courses to upgrade general education to 2 years University towards a BSc Degree.



Today

Family

Wife Sarah, two daughters, Diane & Lydia
Sons, Richard & Mark.
Grandchildren: Amanda, James, Daniel, Martin, Sonya, Che, Madeline & Spencer

Hobbies & Sports

Sailing, Curling, Swimming, Camping, Gardening & Bowling. Love to go hunting.
Stamp collecting. Computer downloading music & Bible Study.
Presently I'm keep very busy babysitting 5 grandchildren.

Stever, Patrick

I was stationed at CFS Carp from 1969 to 1974. I was a Teletype & Cypher Technician (MOC 223).

Tipman, Mike

Joined RCAF in July 1965, course 6529 at St Jean. Trained as a Comm Tech Ground at Clinton. Posted to Bagotville upon graduation and it was there that I met my wife, Marie. Posted to



Moisie, PQ for one year and then to Carp (then known as 701 Comm Sqn) in 1969 until selected for UTPM in 1973. Was sent to RRMC and RMC graduating in 1977 with BEng degree and commissioned as Lt. Posted to 1 CSR as Asst Ajdt and then on to NDHQ in DCEM until 1980. Upon promotion to Capt was posted to 742 Comm Squadron, Edmonton as Ops O. In 1983 was selected for post grad studies and returned to RMC where I earned a MEng degree in Electrical Engineering. Upon graduation returned to Ottawa as a specialist in Frequency Spectrum Management at DFSM. Upon promotion to Maj I took over as Commanding Officer of 770 Comm Research Squadron at Gander, NF. in 1986. Following two years in command I was returned to DCEM Ottawa where I was involved in radio engineering. In 1989 I decided to take my release and won a competition as an Eng 3 in HF radio engineering. In 1991 I moved to DCOMSEC as a section head and in 1994 was installed as A/Dir of DITSEC. During that time I was the Canadian head of delegation to two NATO committees in security and also led a subject matter experts working group with the US, UK, Australia and New Zealand. In 1997 I moved to the private sector and spent the next several years as a consultant in radio engineering and project management. It was during this time that I was asked to return to uniform as the Deputy Project Manager for the Y2K project for DND at the LCol level. I have been married to Marie since 1968 and have three sons, Steve, Andrew and Kevin and three grandchildren, Joshua, Evan and Julianna.

Trottier, Robert

Duration of service in the Diefenbunker: From June 1961 to the end of May 1965.



I was a Senior NCO with the Royal Canadian Signals and was posted to the “bunker” as one of the communications specialists. My responsibilities included the installation of the Telegraphic systems called “VFCT”; also overseeing the installation of the N1 Carrier system supplied by Northern Telecom, including the installation of the control equipment associated with the Carrier system. Additionally, in these early installation days I was further tasked with overseeing the installation and commissioning of the Automatic Telephone system. While all this was going on we were also responsible for the installation and commissioning of the long distance

underground cable system to Arnprior and Carleton Place. All of this work was organized over 18 months. So it was a busy time:

After the Cuban missile crisis was resolved I was sent to England for 5 months for training on a new telegraphic communications and control system called "STRAD". Following the training period we came back and installed the system and operated it until I left the Signal Corps in May 1965.

I must say from a technical experience standpoint, it was a very enlightening experience for me. I hope we can get together in the near future and share some of the experiences.

Vaillancourt, Paul

In June 1958 I joined the Navy, but after basic training and two tours at sea in the frigate HMCS Lauzon and aircraft carrier HMCS Bonaventure I transferred to the Army in 1960.

Following basic training, I was posted to 1 Army Signals Squadron in Ottawa where I worked in the Telecommunications Technical shop stripping for the Carp tape relay and Communications Centre. Then I moved to Carp on installations.



The first section I worked in was the Tel tech Shop and Crypto Office across the hall. I worked for Sgt Don Dutton wiring up these rooms for communications. I was then assigned to connect up the PA systems speakers throughout the building, and wiring the equipment in the Emergency Radio Room, and the ICONORAMA in the Federal Warning Centre. In late winter of 1962 the first STRAD equipment started to arrive. Ernie Krepps and I were assigned to the installation team where we worked through to mid 1964 when it went operational. I completed my Junior NCO course at CFB Petawawa with the Guards in 1963 and my Group 3 Radio Tech in 1964.

In STRAD we worked on maintenance, faults and also operated as an FCC for all our line problems. It was several years before FCC took over this aspect of the job from us.

In 1967 I left for the Senior NCO course in Kingston and was promoted in May 1967. Then as a quick replacement I departed for CFS Alert. I missed all of EXPO 67.

On return I was posted to 706 Comm Sqn in CFB Borden. The first year I worked projects and thoroughly enjoyed it. Then out to the Edenvale Transmitter site for a few years.

In 1970 I was posted back to CFS Carp but 706 said they could not afford to let me go. My posting was delayed until 1971 when I returned as a WO. My new boss was MWO Don Dutton - how the world had changed.

In 1972 I was off to Kingston once again for my Group 4 or 6B Course as it was known at the time.

Working underground I was interested in involving myself with extra curricular activities. So I ended up on Range Staff, up to 5 weeks a year, Sports teams primarily on my own time. Base Defence duties as WO in charge of training for 5 years or so. I wrote a separate article on one incident on this duty. And the most fun of all was Winter Carnival Chairman and ex Officio for a good 5 years. I completed a session as Entertainment Chairman at Junior Ranks and the President of the Mess.

STRAD closure was coming. Our personnel were to be dispersed around the Sigs country. Our boss MWO Don Dutton retired at age limit in 1978 and our long standing boss CWO John Robertson retired. MWO Don Medcraft became boss and I had Don Dutton's job. All our personnel departed except for 2 of us who remained behind to carry out Comm Sec duties in the removal of the drums and tape facilities.

We had a closing ceremony, parade and fly past. Sgt's Bob Mcara and Jack Deveney representing Techs and Ops respectfully carried out the organization. An excellent job on a beautiful but very sad day for some of us.

Before closure our Postings and Careers rep, CWO Louis St Laurent, came to visit us. STRAD Tech personnel were red flagged for postings. We had to be out of STRAD for 5 years before we could be posted to many places outside the country. This was put into place because of the abilities of tech personnel in that we could enter into message traffic inside the system. Today it would be similar to a person sending an email to someone and us at the pass though point could read the email by the bit coding of each letter of the alphabet. Consequently, among all the maintainers there are very few UN medals. MWO Don Dutton and I as career soldiers stand out as two Sigs members without a UN medal, although Don had a pre-UN medal. CWO St. Laurent advised that 'they' have been waiting many years to get their hands on us.

There were about 8 postings available. I chose every possible posting available from St. John's to Winnipeg to Calgary to Kingston to Ottawa and all ended up covered by some excuse. 706 Comm Sqn was on the list but I chose not to select it as I had such a good time there on my previous tour I did not want to lower my good memories. In the end being last on the list it was the only one available to me. They chose to tell me my STRAD background would be good for a SAMSON site. Years later I was advised this was where they wanted me to go. Apparently it was considered a poor place to be posted.

Off I went and I had a super time. I met and married my wife. We had 2 fine children. My boss was CWO Stan King- a super guy. A position on Project Hurricane came up for 1982. An 8 week stint in CFS Alert was advertised. I volunteered. An MWO in CFB North Bay was selected. Next summer I was called and asked if I would still go as the other person could not. Again in a rush I departed for 8 weeks. It was an excellent duty where I even managed to meet some old STRAD personnel both Tech and Ops.

After a few years I replaced CWO Stan King and enjoyed a few more years before choosing to retire in 1987.

In 1988 I went to work for the Province of BC and became the Supervisor of the Provincial Emergency Program, Emergency Coordination Centre. After 9 years I again retired to a Hobby Farm in the Markdale, Durham area. When both our children were accepted at Western University we sold and moved to London. Back to work I joined the Commissionaires and for 4 years was the Sgt-at-Arms for the city of London

At age 69 years I decided to retire altogether and have been totally retired for 5 years

Verville, Michel (Senior)

Captain Michel Verville was born in Montreal, Quebec on 8 June 1950. After serving more than 2 years as a reservist with the Regiment les Fusiliers Mont-Royal, he enrolled in the Regular Force with the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals on 15 May 1969.

After completing the basic recruit training in St-Jean d'Iberville, Quebec and the basic teletype operator course in Kingston, Ontario, his first posting was with 711 Communication Squadron, Valcartier in May 1970. In August 1971, he was transferred to the Headquarter and Signals squadron of 5e Groupe-brigade mécanisé du Canada in Valcartier. During the summer 1975, he was posted to Lahr, Germany with the Communication Group. Promoted to Master-Corporal in July 1977, he continued to serve with the same unit until his return to Canada in July 1979. He was then posted to 763 Communication Squadron in Ottawa. In August 1981, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. In May 1982, he was transferred to Montreal with the communication Reserve at 712 Communication Squadron. During the summer 1985, he was posted to 715 Communication Squadron in St-Hubert, Quebec.



Summer 1987, he was posted to Carp, Ontario. He was promoted Warrant Officer in December 1987. In August 1990, he was promoted to Master Warrant Officer and posted to 764 Communication Squadron in Ottawa. During the summer 1994, he was attach-posted to Israel on a United Nations mission at Camp Ziouani as the communication troop Sergeant Major. Midway through his term, he was promoted to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer. Upon return to Canada in November 1994, he was posted to 711 Communication Squadron in Valcartier. In July 1997, he returned to Ottawa and was assigned as career manager for the 052 and 212 trades. On 5th July 1999, he was commissioned and promoted to the rank of Captain. He was then posted with the Assistant Deputy Minister (Information Management) Group in Ottawa. On 4th July 2000, he was posted with 713e Régiment des communications in Beauport, Quebec. In December of the



same year, he was appointed Commanding Officer of the Regiment. In June 2003, he was posted with NDHQ/DLCSPM in Valcartier as Detachment Commander of the Tactical Command, Control, and Communication system fielding for the project office. In September 2005, he retired from the Canadian Forces and was posted to the Supplementary Reserve.

Honourary Members

Beaton, Douglas (Doug)

Born in Winnipeg, Doug is the son of a career RCAF Chief Warrant Officer and had moved many times within Canada until his family settled in Ottawa (CFB Uplands) in 1960. After studying Mechanical Engineering at Carleton University from 1972 to 1975, he switched studies and received his diploma in Museum Studies from Algonquin College in 1978. Employed as an archaeological objects conservator by Parks Canada's Heritage Conservation Branch from 1977 to 2003, Doug was responsible for the conservation of historic artefacts gleaned from National Historic Sites and archaeological sites across Canada. Over the years he has provided many presentations on the conservation of artefacts and advice on various National Historic Sites aspects such as policy development

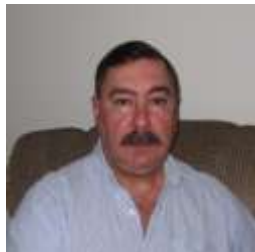


Doug maintains a keen interest in museums and was asked to volunteer at the Diefenbunker, Canada's Cold War Museum in March, 1998 as a cultural heritage advisor. Since that time he has continuously provided professional support for many aspects of the museum's operations such as artefact cataloguing and conservation, site interpretation, exhibit curation, media representation, period re-creations, and providing detailed tours of the facility. He has been on the Board of Directors for several years and was President from 2005 to 2012. He has been the museum's volunteer Collections Manager since 2000.

In 1998, he founded and has since managed the museum's on-site Cold War Research Library, now named in his honour. Unique in the museum field, the non-lending library is open to all volunteers and staff. Doug has donated all but 150 of the 4,700 books in the library and has donated several thousand Cold War related artefacts to the Museum archives. He was honoured for his work at the museum with a Certificate of Lifetime Achievement Award from the Ontario Heritage Trust in 2006 and in 2009 with a Volunteer of the Year Award from the Ottawa Museum Network.

Beaton, Lorne

Lorne worked as a Biochemical Technologist for 27 years with Agriculture Canada, then as a Biosafety Officer with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency for 5½ years. He retired in 2003 and does volunteer work at a nursing home and at the Diefenbunker in Carp. He started at the Bunker working on the home fallout shelter display. Then he moved on to documenting the video collection, slides, filmstrips, and overheads. After this, he was asked to give tours and has been giving tours for about seven years now.



Jeffrey, Brian

The Diefenbunker always fascinated me and I paid good money on several occasions to view empty rooms. On one of those visits someone recognized that I'd been there several times and suggested that I consider getting involved which I did, in spades. Not only did I become one of the early Guides at the Diefenbunker but I produced the first "Guide's Guide to the Diefenbunker" that was used as a guide/interpreter resource for several years. I was also asked to join the board of directors shortly before we were formally declared a museum. In 2010, I left the board to become the acting Executive Director of the Museum while we sought a permanent Executive Director.



In the early years, when not acting as a guide, I like many of the volunteers were involved in building exhibits. My particular interest was in setting up the communications exhibits and I spent a lot of time scrounging various pieces of electronics equipment, mostly HF receivers and transmitters. I was one of several amateur radio operators who set up and operated our station VE3CWM.

My quasi-military experience was limited to a three year stint in the Arctic on the Distant Early Warning Line (DEWLine) as a radar operator and electronics technician. I was manning the radar consoles during the Cuban Crisis when the Diefenbunker was in lock-down (1962). You can learn more about my "Adventures from the Coldest Part of the Cold War" at www.DEWLine.ca.

Peters, Dave

I was a member of the RCAF (Reserve) from 1957 (Airframe Tech, later Tech AE Officer Cadet) until 1961 and from 1962 (Regular Army in the Royal Canadian Engineers later the Canadian Military Engineers) to 1983. During my time in the Army I served in various field and staff positions including Canada and Europe including three years with NATO in Western Germany with the Canadian Mechanised Brigade Group as a combat engineer officer and a year in India/Pakistan with the United Nations. I was also fortunate to be selected to attend Technical Staff Collage in the United Kingdom and later Canadian Forces Staff Colleges in Kingston and Toronto. In the mid 70s I had my first 'Diefenbunker' connection when I was on staff with the Base Construction Engineering Office at CFB Uplands in Ottawa. I visited the bunker (when it was fully operational) a few times to deal with some facility-related issues.



After a stint with Operational Research in Ottawa, my last Army posting was as Director, Military Engineering Requirements. I retired from that position as a Lieutenant Colonel and immediately went to work as a civilian for Emergency Planning Canada (EPC).

My position in EPC (which shortly after became Emergency Preparedness Canada) was Director, Emergency Operations Coordination. Among my responsibilities in that job was the overall emergency readiness of the 50-plus Emergency Government Headquarters across the nation of which the Central Emergency Headquarters at CFS Carp (colloquially nicknamed 'the Diefenbunker') was the core/flagship Federal facility.

I retired from EPC in 1997 as Director General Operations and while doing some consulting work in various aspects of emergency preparedness during the subsequent decade, I became very involved in the creation of the fledgling Cold War museum including its management, building operations, exhibit design and construction, and furniture and equipment/artefacts acquisition. I currently serve on the Museum's Board of Directors and continue to be an enthusiastic 'bunker booster', while trying to preserve Canada's Cold War heritage (good, bad and indifferent as it was).

Associate Members

Aizenman, Allan

I have been associated with the bunker for maybe 10 or 11 years, mostly as a volunteer assisting in any way with construction of exhibits and the like. I have not been active for the past few years as I am unable to come out on the volunteer night (Tuesday evenings) due to other commitments.

Bisaillion, Chris

Chris is a retired RF Engineer. He proudly served in the Canadian Forces Primary Reserve, from April 1980 to October 1984, with 763 (Ottawa) Communication Regiment as a Radio/Teletype Operator 214 and worked at C.F.S. Carp 22-24 Jan 1982 as part of a CRU Exercise. His career included working for Canadian Marconi Company, Lockheed Martin Canada, SR Telecom, Stanley Healthcare Solutions (formerly Instantel Inc) and finally Dragonwave Inc. He has been an Amateur Radio Operator since 1975 and has continuously held the callsign VE3CBK. He is a member of the Volunteer Radio Group at the Diefenbunker, a local Scout Leader and volunteers for the Canadian Cancer Society. He is married to Deborah Bisaillion (nee Rennie), has two children Heather and Alex, and lives in the rural Kanata area.



Braham, Mike

Mike served in the Navy from 1960 to 1987. His early years were spent at sea in destroyers and submarines. He later re-mustered to Logistics and filled a number of staff positions including an exchange posting with the USN in California, and a tour at NATO Headquarters. His final posting was to NDHQ as Director, Logistics Operations with responsibility for the national support of all CF deployed operations. He retired as a Capt (N) in 1987.



He immediately took up a position as Civil Mobilization Coordinator with Emergency Preparedness Canada. At that time we were still trying to develop the very ambitious and unpopular (at least with the Provinces) National Emergency Agency concept. That changed in 1988 when the War Measures Act was replaced by the Emergencies Act. He was appointed Director for National Plans, Policies and Exercises and we shifted our focus from war planning to an all hazards approach. During this brief period (1987-1990) he expected that he would have been deployed to the bunker in an emergency, although he thinks that by then, formal designation had ceased to be practiced.

After EPC, he spent a final 10 years in DND as the Director General Safety and finally retired in 2008. Since then he has been a Volunteer Interpreter at the Bunker, vicariously living the life of those who served there, and trying to convey what it was like during the Cold War and specifically in the Bunker to our many visitors.

Brown, Linda

Linda worked as a federal public servant for 34 years from 1974 to 2008 in various departments. From 1978 to 1987 she worked in a number of areas in Emergency Preparedness Canada including Emergency Operations Coordination from 1983 to 1987. From 1983 to 1986 she assisted in the operation of the Operations and Coordination Centre where she was responsible for monitoring, analyzing and reporting on the impact of potential and actual emergency situations, and for participating in various exercises testing operating procedures at both the Government Emergency Operations Centre and at the Central Emergency Government Headquarters at Carp. She assisted in the development of appropriate plans and arrangements required to support the continuity of government and activation of the emergency government facilities. One of her early projects was to develop a Designated Officials Supplementary Information kit for those families that were left behind in the event that their spouses were sent to the Central Emergency Government Headquarters (the Diefenbunker). In 1986 she left the operations centre to administer three financial assistance programs in Emergency Operations Coordination.



Following her tenure with Emergency Preparedness Canada, she worked in the emergency planning offices of the departments of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Industry Canada and then moved out of the emergency planning field in 1998 following government-wide cuts in the emergency planning area. She switched into business planning and then strategic planning and policy before retiring in 2008.

Linda has a degree in Administration from the University of Ottawa.

Cameron, Ralph

I'm a Toronto native and did my early schooling in Leaside, North Bay and Arva, north of London, Ont. While attending Ryerson Institute of Technology (now Ryerson University) I spent summers as a Communication technician (learner) and working on survey crews, inspecting telegraph pole lines, (a highly skilled job, but it defrayed schooling costs).

After graduation as a Electronic Technologist (1955) I worked for 5 companies starting with CN Telecommunications on video cable and microwave site installations - of note, the Nfld Microwave system, and as Outside Plant coordinator for the Grande Prairie (AB)-Alaska Microwave system. The latter acted as backup for the Clear Alaska BMEWS system. I then switched to test and measurement equipment sales, covering early wireless paging, carrier equipment, Texas Instruments digital systems division, and finally 20 years as Government Accounts Mgr. For Tektronix Canada Ltd.



Daily work with Tek took me to most DND sites in this area and others and it was here that I made visits to the operational bunker in the early 80's after installation of the fiber optic cable that ran from Carp to Almonte. Since Tek made and supplied fiber optic TDRs for troubleshooting such cables, my calls were sometimes specific, sometimes instructional as site personnel had not been trained to operate the test equipment.

Some reliable sources of fiber installation history have just been uncovered and I hope to be able to provide some photos along with some personal observations from personnel who actually worked on the section from Carp to Almonte, along with some technical parameters. By coincidence a company called Foundation Instruments installed the cable which bore no relation to the bunker Foundation Co. of Canada.

My current interest is uncovering more about the use of the fiber in a communication role. I have also been a licensed radio amateur as VE3BBM, since 1947 and continue to operate Morse both from the amateur radio station at the bunker as VE3CWM (Cold War Museum) and my home station. I have experience in copying plain text and cipher groups, including Japanese and Russian; in the context of monitoring illegal commercial operations in amateur allocations and recently learned the railway telegraph code.

Currently, I introduce youngsters to the Morse code at their "Spy Camp" which is a very rewarding experience. The children are excited when I let them listen to a recording of the complete classic, "Moby Dick", on my iPod, all in varying speeds of Morse Code. There is a fair amount of camaraderie among the radio amateur group who seek to preserve its place in history.

Campbell, Don

Don began his public service career in 1979 as a summer student with Emergency Preparedness Canada (EPC) tasked to increase the operational readiness of central emergency government facilities located throughout the Ottawa Valley. Don remained with EPC, developing operational



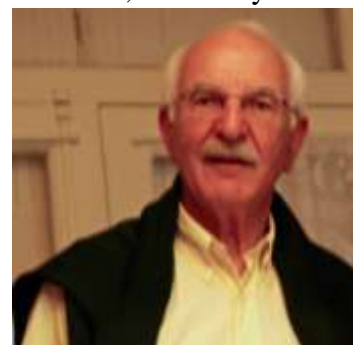
plans for the Continuity of Government Program and assisting with the (then Secret) Vital Points Program, Essential Records Program and Canadian Civil Emergency Planning for NATO. Don was appointed Operations Technical Officer during this period and supported the re-development of the Government Emergency Operations Centre and the modernization of the Central Emergency Government Headquarters (CEGF) and its own Situation Centre to mid-eighties data display capabilities for video display, recording and distribution.

Don found considerable opportunity to contribute to emergency management in Canada through appointments from 1992 to 2000 as Regional Director – Alberta/Northwest Territories, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia/Prince Edward Island. In Nova Scotia, Don led the development of the first-ever joint operations centre for local, provincial and federal governments that saw its

first service in the 9/11 attacks on the United States. In 2001, Don moved to Ottawa to assume development roles for a number of national and international Exercises, the early phases of mitigation policy, the Public Safety Urban Search and Rescue program, Health Emergency Response Teams for the Public Health Agency, finally retiring as the Acting Executive Director of the Canadian Emergency Management College in 2009.

Charrier, Mike

Mike is a native of Ottawa and his first taste of the military was as a teenager in a local militia. On joining the Regular Force, he became an 8th Hussar. In the early '60s he was a tank and a recce troop leader in Germany then served in various appointments across Canada. Following Staff College, he spent a year on an advanced armoured course in Fort Knox, Kentucky. Mike was appointed squadron commander in the new francophone armoured regiment whereupon they were deeply involved for several months in the October Crisis of 1970. He was then posted to the peace commission in Indo-China for over a year, joining in Saigon many of his fellow American students from Fort Knox.



Subsequent to a two year posting in NDHQ as desk officer for 'Aid of the Civil Power' then as liaison officer to the RCMP Counter Terrorist team, he joined EPC as the Regional Director NCR and Vital Points Coordinator. Part of the job was to be an auxiliary member of the stand-by emergency response team for the Diefenbunker, where a familiarization

exercise was held at least once per year. During the winter of 1985, he volunteered as the logistician for the Canadian Famine Relief Operation in Ethiopia.

After six pleasant years with EPC, Mike was promoted to Director of Counter Terrorist Exercises in the Department of the Solicitor General, the aim being, to attempt to have the local, provincial and RCM Police work together on armed response operations.

Following retirement Mike did some consulting work, writing and staging emergency response exercises for EPC and Transport Canada. In between he was the historian for several battle field tours in North West Europe, as well as the volunteer maintenance gopher at his church for over a decade.

Klotz, Brian

Brian spent 26 years as a senior program coordinator and policy analyst in Emergency Preparedness Canada (EPC), retiring in 2005, by which time the agency had been integrated into the large department of Public Safety Canada.



Over the years, his duties covered a wide range of emergency issues and arrangements. He researched and wrote annual reports on the state of federal emergency preparedness. He developed a Memorandum to Cabinet updating the Emergency Planning Order in 1981, and coordinated adjustments thereto till its replacement by the Emergency Planning Act. He maintained advisory liaison with emergency planners in assigned departments including Solicitor General, Justice, CMHC, Natural Resources, Communications (later Industry) and Agriculture and Food, and was secretary to interdepartmental coordinating committees chaired at the Executive Director or DCDS level. On occasion, he participated in exercises at the Diefenbunker to test and coordinate survival and mobilization response plans.

Brian attended the NATO Defence College in Rome prior to serving a three-year posting as Civil Emergency Planning Attaché at the Canadian Delegation to NATO in Brussels from 1987-90, just as the Cold War came to a close.

On return to Canada, he acted as Director of Emergency Arrangements for a year and a half, and worked closely with the EPC Director of Emergency Operations in reviewing and substantiating civil defence arrangements, which nonetheless were cut back severely, most notably with the closure and decommissioning of Emergency Government Facilities such as the Diefenbunker. He went on to contribute to the development of the National Earthquake Support Plan and its broader successor, the National Support Plan. He took a lead role in developing a Civil Counter-

Terrorism Plan to complement the Solicitor General's National Counter-Terrorism Plan, and was actively involved in related international C-T consultation and coordination mechanisms.

After 2000, Brian took the policy lead in reviewing and updating the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements (DFAA), in consultation with that program's HQ and Regional Directors, and with extensive input from the provinces. He also worked closely with Industry Canada to advance evolving arrangements and technologies to improve public alerting for all types of emergencies.

Prior to his career in emergency preparedness, Brian received a degree in Applied Science (Civil Engineering) from Queen's in 1968, and worked as an urban planner for the City of Hamilton and the short-lived Ministry of State for Urban Affairs.

Murray, Tom

I joined the RCAF as an Air Navigator in November 11, 1954. Following graduation I was posted to 419 All Weather Fighter Squadron (AWF) CFB North flying CF100s.

In 1958 I went to Tyndall Air Force Base for Air Weapons Controller training and then to RCAF Station Foymount. In 1960 I was posted to Duluth Air Defence Sector, Duluth, Minn., as an Air Weapons Director in the NORAD Semi -Automated Ground Environment (SAGE) Computerized Air Defence System. Our building was a 500 x 500 ft. square cement building, 4 stories high with no windows. The vacuum tube computer took up the whole 3 rd. floor and generated enough heat to heat the whole building. While there I experienced the Cuban Missile Crisis, President Kennedy's Assassination, and introduction of the first supersonic bomber, the B58 and the SR71, spy plane.



In 1964 I joined 425 AWF Squadron in CFB Bagotville, Quebec, flying the CF101, Voodoo interceptor. I spent the next 4 years pulling 5 minute Alert duties in Bagotville or Val D'Or and training to intercept and if need be to destroy enemy bombers.

1968 saw me posted to 226 AC&W Stn., Gander, Newfoundland as Operations Officer and Air Weapons Controller. As Gander was not part of the SAGE system at that time, Canadian or American interceptors had to be controlled manually to intercept, identify and escort any Russian Bear Bombers that entered Canadian Air Space on their way to Cuba.

In 1970 I was posted to 409 AWF Squadron, Comox once again flying the CF101, Voodoo. In 1974 I was posted to the Directorate of Nuclear Weapons at National Defence Headquarters. I retired from the Military in 1989 after serving in many NDHQ Organizations.

My whole military career spanned the Cold War period.

Shepherd, Nick

Nick Shepherd, also known as VE3OWV, has been helping the bunker maintain its radios and electronics for over ten years. The bunker's working Amateur Radio station, VE3CWM, was re-created by Nick and fellow volunteer Brian Jeffrey VE3UU and now closely resembles the original from the bunker's operational years. Nick, who enjoys "tinkering," says that he keeps coming back because he "rather likes the idea of maintaining the bunker's electronics heritage." Amateur radio station VE3CWM is the voice of the Diefenbunker on the airwaves, attracting worldwide interest in this unique blast from the past.



Bunker Memories

The following are some memories of the Bunker from those who served there.

Baker Scott

The following were received from Scott in response to a questionnaire from the Diefenbunker Museum about the CANEX.

...I was stationed at CFS Carp as the **CANEX Steward** from 15 May 1987 until 4 Jan 1989.

... I have a lot of information and stories I can share, but as a start, I will begin by answering the following questions:

- *Can you describe the layout of CANEX?*

In 1987, the CANEX was laid out with merchandise ranging from HABADS (Health & Beauty Aids) on the shelves located on the wall to the left side of the main counter area. We also had "crested" items such as spoons and other smaller items that had the Carp Crest on it. They would have been in the "middle" wall shelving area to the left of the main counter. On the floor, just inside the glass "patio" door on the left side, we used to put a table where we would display a TV, Stereo, or other small appliance for sale. In the beginning of my tour, we didn't carry much in the way of clothing, but after about a year, we brought in a lot of items such as sweat tops & pants, golf shirts, ball caps, jackets, etc. On the right side of the Canex was where much of the clothing items were displayed. In '87, the chocolate bars and gum was put on the main counter whenever there was room. We also sold newspapers (the main Ottawa paper, and the Ottawa Sun). In the rack behind the counter, we sold cigarettes (in full view at that time !). Later in 1988, we obtained a candy, gum, chocolate bar rack and that cleared the counter area.

- *Was there any advertising in the space, or other signage?*

Advertising was done by taping the latest flyers on the glass doors. We also put a flyer up in the Dining Hall area. From time to time, I would make a "public" announcement via the main PA system (note: where the Kit Shop is currently located just inside the Main Door, used to be a control panel area, where they had a PA system. That is where I would make the announcements from.). We also hung signage from the ceiling in the CANEX. I was very fortunate that Brenda Langman (my best friend) was stationed at Carp when I was there. She has beautiful handwriting and she did a lot of the handwritten signs that we displayed. She also volunteered to work the Canex whenever she could during her "breaks".

- *Did you shop there regularly or just occasionally?*

We had a lot of people who would shop on a regular basis, particularly those who did not live in Ottawa, but in the surrounding small villages and communities.

- *What would you purchase?*
- *What other items were for sale?*

Customers could purchase products ranging from HABADS, to Confectionary (gum, candy, chips, chocolate bars, etc), and even Special Order items such as: O'Sullivan furniture; Computers (yes - VERY early versions circa '88); Musical Instruments (I sold a Fender Electric Guitar to one of the clearners via special order from Steve's Music on Bank St in Ottawa); Septic Tanks (to a couple of people building houses in the area); and even a door for a Toyota Pick-up Truck (arranged from an Auto Dealer in Stittsville). At that time, Carp Canex was permitted to order items from suppliers based customer requests and needs, as long as the standard markup of 5% - 10% was applied to the Cost (not Retail) price. We also provided a Film Developing service (by a third provider); a Dry Cleaning service (Hillary's Dry Cleaning in Ottawa used to pick-up and drop off items), and of course we also sold Gas.

- *Was the stock geared predominantly towards the larger male population at CFS Carp?*

Given the demographics of the Station personnel in '87-'89, we catered to men and women alike. We sold everything from panty hose and personal feminine products for women, to razor blades and mens shaving accessories for men. We had shampoo, conditioner, combs, clothing, etc etc. Although for some reason at the time, it was mostly men who purchased Gas.

- *What were prices like?*

The CANEX prices were very comparable to the outside market area - if not actually less in most cases because we only had a 5% - 10% retail markup and didn't have to pay wages or utilities for the CANEX. Our Gas priced were always one full cent lower than any surrounding stations. Although we did have a pole sign were we placed our Gas (Shell advertising) posters, we did not display our gas price on the sign, so it was easier back then to be lower price by a 1 or 1.5 cents per litre.

- *Could purchases be made on account or were transactions cash only?*

Transactions could be any one of the following: VISA; Cash; Cheque, or on a CANEX Account / Payment Plan. For example, GAS purchases were billed to customers once per month based on what they "signed" for on the Clip Board located at the "Gas Bar" in the outer parking lot.)

- *What were the canteen hours?*

The CANEX was open at 0730-0800; 1000-1030; 1130-1300; 1400-1430 hrs - which co-incided with shift changes, coffee breaks, and lunch. When the CANEX was closed, personnel could simply call the office and either myself or the CANEX Mgr could "open" the CANEX back door for "urgent" purchases (usually somebody wanting to buy cigarettes).

- *Was there a peak time for business?*

Peak time was 0730-0800hrs and again at lunch.

- *Do you recall who worked there?*

Sgt David Gingras - Canex Mgr (Steward) '87

MCpl Tony Furlotte - Canex Mgr (Steward) '88

MCpl Dan Gardham - Canex Mgr (Steward) (when MCpl Furlotte was on sick leave recovering from heart surgery)

Pte Scott Baker - Canex Steward (May '87 - Jan '89) (Promoted to Cpl in Oct '88)

- *Did canteen attendants wear a particular uniform?*

In 1987, CANEX staff wore the "Dress of the Day" which consisted of the standard "Canadian Forces Work Dress" green pants, linden green shirt, and "bus drivers" work jacket. (The Logistics Branch Ascot was optional (worn around the neck). In approx '88, the "New" Distinctive Environmental Uniforms were issued to all CF Personnel - replacing the common "Green CF's". In my case, it was blue work pants and a short-sleeve light blue shirt (sweater optional). Note: During my time as the CANEX Steward, I also wore a green "Lab" coat on many occasions because of working in the back of the store moving merchandise, filling pop machines located throughout the station, and counting quarters from the three Pinball machines located in the Dining Area and Pool Table.

- *Was it always well stocked?*

We always tried to keep the CANEX well stocked. Our orders were done on a weekly basis, but if we needed an item from the Main CANEX at CFB Ottawa South (aka: CFB Uplands), I could just call and they would have it sent out on their truck, or the customer could pick it up at the Uplands Canex and we would get a Transfer Invoice.

- *Did what was stocked change much over the years, particularly from the Cold War period to 'peace time'?*

I can't speak of any of the years prior to my tenure at Carp ('87-'89) but I suspect that in the early years it would have been items such as soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, candy, gum, chips, etc.... I think we only started getting crested clothing items in the store during my time.

- *Although small in comparison to the greater purpose of the facility, what role do you think the canteen played at CFS Carp?*

I think that the CANEX played a huge role in the moral and welfare of the Station. The hallway in front of the CANEX leading to the main dining room area was a main thoroughfare for personnel coming from the upper levels (OSAX, FCC, and Comm Center), so a lot of people passed in front of CANEX. If ever we opened late... I sure heard about it

Cameron, Ralph

... My first visit to CFS Carp impressed me with the rather thick, vault like door that closed before the other similar door opened. I next recall seeing a number of obvious radio consoles illuminating a darkened room. Then the shock absorbers on the toilets caught my eye as being quite unique.

... Upon examining their Fiber optic TDR I discovered it had been sitting in a corner, unused, covers off and the main fiber input connector covered in dust. As anyone familiar with fiber knows, dust is the enemy and the instrument is rendered almost useless in such a state.

... In attempting to detect where there may be some fiber anomalies, it was discovered that when the fiber was laid, particularly in the one manhole where a repeater was located, half way between Almonte and Carp, several turns of extra fiber were wrapped around the perimeter of the cable vault, in case a splice was required. This length was never noted on line drawings so one never knew with any certainty where the actual fault lay, in spite of the distance from the vault to the bunker being accurate.

... The fiber, at what is known as Burnt Hills in the Almonte area, terminated in a silo in which was installed 4 programmable Harris receivers. My understanding was that these were used to receive Interpol transmissions via the rhombic antennas on site. They were probably used for DND comms as well.

Clayton, Art

... Most of this course was transferred to the bunker. Trevor Luten, Ken Carr, Dave Knapp, Doug Crookes, McClure, Vandresser. We lived in the Bunker and we had to walk upstairs to go to work. I worked for Capt Walt Dawson, MWO Clint Ashley, Sgt Bob Cambell, Cpls Edgar St Coeur, Pete Gallant, and Kevin Smyth.

... Upon arrival, I was sent to work in the basement of the Armouries in Renfrew, wiring the Remote Patching System (White Elephant). For one month, I lived out on the economy, boarding at a private home. When I came back to Carp, there were new TETs there; Don Roper, Dick Itterman, Dave Moore, Tex Croswell, Bob Neald, Brian Kelly. We worked for Sgt Denny Davidson on the N1 Carrier System, VFCT System, Key telephone systems, 701 Telephone exchange, Hub repeaters, Cable Pressure Alarm System, Cable Testing, etc.

Davison, Bruce

...When the bus arrived from Ottawa for shift change, the switchboard would say "*Now hear this! Now hear this! The bus is in from Ottawa*". Maj McDougall, Signals heard that and headed for the switchboard and changed it to "*Attention! Attention! The bus is in from Ottawa*". He told the operators this was not a ship. The Beatles were big then and we used to call the bunker the Yellow Submarine. We thought it was great, until the CO happened to be living in and that changed very quickly. A number of times coming in through the big blast doors, in between we had to click the intercom to the Military Police desk and say clear, most of the time it was "*Dive Dive Dive*" and we would get the number 1 finger.

Denoble, Liisa

... I remember we were given a free lunch because it was said that they needed to keep fresh rations 'in the hole' in case the 'balloon went up' and the government had to move in. No need to brown-bag it.

...I was the first Regular Force servicewoman to be posted to Carp. ... As an administrative clerk, I was assigned to be the CO's secretary ...

Dowd, Garry

... I was part of 1 ASS - Army Signal Squadron. Major "Jigs" McDougall was the CO and WO2 McMurty (QOR) was the Sergeant Major. During the next seven years I worked in the Message Centre, Federal Warning Centre and after I passed my Group 3 training, the Crypto Office. We all had to live in – my room was next to the power room (noisy) - for one year and then ask permission to live out - my parents lived close by in Nepean Twp and of course I was courting my future wife in the Stittsville area. Meals were great. The cook would phone the Message Centre, etc. at three in morning asking how you wanted your steak.

... Some of my Bunker and NICS Comrades over the years: John Dulude, Jesse James, Fred Allen, Clay Vaillancourt, Rick Guyea, Rick Stevens, Bob McIsaac, Bob Sheets, Willy Dunn, Larry Pare, Cliff Chase, Jimmy Sands, Paul Fedy, Pat Dukes, Tom Dwyer, Dick Savidant, Boyd Coffin, Skip Newman, Dave McBride, Don Roper, Norm Kelly, Jim Degraw, Bruce Davison, Ed Gauthier, Doug Allan, Ralph Fisher, Kathy Degraw, Kevin Houlihan, Chet Powers, Joe LeBlanc, Frank Scofield, Guy Cole, Ted Dorion, Len Grummet, Al Perfit, Dennis Seabrook, Brian Dooley, Paul Vaillancourt, Rob Bacon, Bob Harkness, Willy Kline, Barney Barnsdale, Bud Mitchell, Stan Wolfe, Gary Vanstone, Doug Chenier, Frank Wood.

...A few incidents and stories:

- in the sixties when Prime Minister Trudeau came in for a visit, the down draft of his helicopter blew the construction shacks into Lake Pauline.
- in the sixties a highlight was the visit of the-then Governor General of Canada - Roland Michener. A fine gentleman.
- Lake Pauline - the pond down behind the guard shack over the hill - was named after Major Pauline (Adjutant). Reason unknown.

- a certain Sgt after closing up the Mess and having a few himself while walking back to the bunker fell over the roof of the underground garage and broke his collar bone plus other bruises.
- a certain soldier (me) had his pants taken while he was having a kip during the night and then wasn't woken up so when the bus was coming with the day shift I got looking for my pants and there they were hanging from a light fixture in the main hallway. The CO of the time walking down the hallway was not impressed.
- a certain Sgt - when they had their own mess in the Bunker (2nd floor) and during off hours could not get a beer out of the machine would open up the bottle(s) and use a straw. It drove the bartender crazy.

Dukes, Pat

... One of the first impressions of living/working there was the fact our footwear had to be non-marking. Consequently we wore slippers, running shoes, etc. specifically on the evening and midnight shifts. This lasted until MWO McMurtry, (I think he was with the Guards) (disciplinarian) was posted in.

... I was working in the FWC during the October '62 Cuban Missile Crisis. That was certainly an exciting, although at times, scary period of time, working 8 hrs on, 8 off for a period of approximately 4 days. We had to send channel checks every 15 minutes to the PWC's (Provincial), and were also responsible for the MUFAX (weather machine). The plotters in the next room, (they were responsible for forecasting radiation fallout depending on which way the wind blew) were kept hopping. One of our Sergeants in the relay was Doug Chenier and in the message centre / STRAD area was Staff Sergeant Bob McIssac. In the early days it wasn't unusual to get off a midnight shift and either join in or observe a card game(s) that had been going on all night. Some time during my tour of duty there, towards the middle of it I think, we received permission from the powers that be to begin renovating the construction building into a Junior Ranks Mess, where it still stands and is being used by the Carp community.

Fyfe, Murray

... The bunker location on the edge of a hill with a view out over farmland and the Carp river may be picturesque, but in winter it seemed like one of the coldest places on earth. The wind came up over the edge of the hill and into the tunnel (in those early days there were no doors on the tunnel), making the long walk out the tunnel the longest fridge I have ever been in. Summer was much better with just the aroma from the cess pools blowing through the tunnel.

... A few months after I arrived there was a button-down test for 2 weeks. Operational staff shut the doors & lived in the conditions for which the bunker had been designed. It was deemed a success so the building was then accepted from the contractor as an operational site. Only a matter of weeks after the button-down test the Missile Crisis provided a real-live exercise. It was interesting watching the plots of air traffic over Cuba in the Federal Warning Centre. The missile crisis brought lots of visitors from parliament hill to see this display, but not the PM.



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... One day I arrived at the bunker at the end of lunch time & was met with the smell of smoke. When finally allowed in I went to the telephone systems room and found that the fire had been in that room. A unit in the N-carrier bay had caught on fire, due to an overheated resistor in a power supply. The available fire extinguisher had not been sufficient to put it out and a quick-thinking Sigs person had managed to smother it with his pants (or was it jacket) which he had just brought back from the cleaners!

George, Bob

... They bused us from Petawawa to Carp for the first 48 hr lockdown. One of the members in the large group was a very big Military Policeman. He looked like nothing could scare him. Well, as soon as the big door went 'Boom' he went a little bit strange and had to be let out. Claustrophobia can be a surprise, I suppose.

Kuffner, Gerry

I served in Carp twice, once in the early sixties and again in 1970. In those early days Carp was a different place I'm sure from what it was like at the end. To the best of my recollection there were no women serving there. The building's purpose was to be a safe place for the government to run affairs if there was a nuclear strike. I don't ever recall seeing any 'govt' folks there to visit or run an exercise though. Seems the place just morphed solely into a communications site.



I was young and impressionable then. I felt like I was part of something special. Normal grunts wouldn't get near the place. I remember the first time I went there I was probably wide eyed. They let me off at the front door which seemed to be on the edge of a small hill. It turned out to be the entrance to a long tunnel. I walked down that tunnel with very mixed feelings. At the bottom, giant blast doors opened silently and I entered a short foyer. The door closed behind me with a sound that felt permanent. There was a hissing sound then they opened the second blast doors and I was face to face with the provost guards. It seemed like it took forever to get my papers in order and clearance to enter but that moment finally came and someone arrived and escorted me to some superior's office (I don't remember who he was).

We had to wear colour-coded ID tags to show where in the building we were and were not allowed to go. I got a tour of the building from top to basement, including the outer grounds. I got my room down in the bottom somewhere. I remember there being many bunk beds in that room and the air hissed every time you opened and closed the door from the pressure equalization. We had every thing in the building we needed and there was no need to go out, but I remember they kept track of us and how long since we went out and they forced us to go topside every now and then if we had stayed too long in the hole.

We had our mess, lounge, canteen, etc and there wasn't any thing really interesting outside. Myself, I got a car and attended ladies in nearby towns at every opportunity. Fun times. I

remember one day they had 'downhomer day' in the mess hall. All the 'fixins' were what those Maritime boys would crave back home. Most of it did not appeal to me so I managed to scrounge up a hot dog or something. One of the things they had was lobster. All they could eat I guess. I almost chucked just watching them eat those insects of the sea. However, later on we were drinking quite a bit and when I drink I need to eat (to absorb the alcohol I tell others) but there was nothing available but left over lobster. Well, I had never eaten lobster before but I held my nose and did like I was shown and would you believe it I ended up liking them. I ate till I nearly burst that night.

Eventually I married and moved out. I lived in the east end of the city in an area called Eastview (later Vanier and later part of Ottawa). The military bus would leave the Bank Street garage and make its first stop at 13PD on the corner of Rideau and Charlotte. Every shift, I would meet with a crowd of others there and make the long trek out to Carp (and home again later) winding through the city, picking up others. It sure made for a long day. Sometimes we would drive out there though and I remember how devastatingly cold winter weather could be out there in the open at Carp. I can remember once there were icy patches on the highway and the wind blew me right off the road into the ditch tipping the car on its side in the process. I can remember a Christmas day morning coming out of the tunnel to horribly cold weather with a wind chill that felt like a hundred below. It was so cold the tires on the cars in the parking lot were flat and hard and nothing would start. Good thing I had no kids to go home to. We were late that day. I remember drag racing on the highway with another Carp worker at 5am on a Sunday morning.

Things were a little different on my second time there. More relaxed as I remember. There were military people from the other branches there now (still no ladies though). They had moved the mess to a building outside the hole.. maybe that was to get guys outside more. I remember being on a dart team and travelling to various places and military establishments to play other teams. I was good at it in those days and I made a few bucks.

My second time there was a shorter term as I was leaving the military for other things. The second time was not as 'fun' as the first as I remember. Maybe it was because I was younger the first time round. In later years I was surprised when they closed it. What a waste. I remember the horror when I heard that the biker gang (hells angels I think) wanted to buy it. (*Editor's note – I don't think it was Carp the Hell's Angels tried to acquire, I think it was the Penhold bunker.*) I'm glad to see it's a museum now. I wonder in what form they left it or how it's set up. I live on the west coast and I don't get back there too often. Perhaps if I ever do I will get a chance to visit.



LaHaise, Martin

... I was in Carp for the Gulf War (I was posted there as Foreman of Sigs but didn't go to the Gulf because of the short duration of the war), the Denis Lortie affair, the Chernobyl meltdown

(my eqpt detected the radiation) and the media fiasco where the CE Chief released information to the local newspaper about the effluent from the Diefenbunker going into the Carp River.

... When a new law was passed in 1985 stating that a person could be charged with 'Impaired Driving Causing Death', the very first person charged in Canada under the new law was a Master Corporal in CFS Carp who worked for me.

... I had a workshop on the 100 level with a metal lathe. I was able to become sufficiently adept enough with the lathe to make 2 small brass canons, one for the outgoing CO and one for the departing CE Chief (CWO).

Langman, Brenda

... That first week was confusing. The place was a maze of corridors that all looked the same. Clearing-in was very daunting for an 18-year-old who was away from home for the first time. Still, I fell in love with the place. A quick study of each level's floor plan alleviated the feeling that you were walking in circles but getting nowhere. In fact, the main hallways were laid out in a square. If you didn't find what you were looking for, you were probably on the wrong level!

...In no time, I knew the bunker well enough to be a tour guide each Canada Day when civilians were allowed in. The bunker was my home, my job, and my social life that first year. The bonus of this posting: everyone was nice, the food was ridiculously good, and the jobs were all unique and interesting. What a great place!

...Every year, we had a mandatory Base Defense Force exercise, where personnel were locked in for 3 full days. During those days, we operated as though the region was under attack and it was quite exhausting. During my final BDF, as a member of the Training section, it was my job to watch and rate the attack/defense scenarios. That meant going outside during the lock-down and being involved in the action. That was a very different experience after so many BDF's just locked underground. It was truly incredible the amount of time and effort that went into making the scenarios realistic. That same year, all the single personnel hitched a ride back to Uplands on a Chinook helicopter. I just can't imagine a more exciting way to end a 3-day exercise.

...CFS Carp threw wonderful parties at the All Ranks Mess. I had the pleasure of being the Entertainment Chairman for three of my five years, and had a lot to live up to. With help from the associate members, that little Mess had some parties to remember (or not remember...). Considering that the vast majority of us lived 45 minutes away, the turn-out for most events was really shocking by today's standards. The beauty, of course, was that if someone imbibed a little too much, there were 500 beds in the bunker on which to sleep it off – at no charge.

...CFS Carp was also known for their fantastic 3-day Winter Carnivals. Non-essential personnel participated in all three days' events, and the turn-out on the final night (a Saturday) was always incredible. The opening of one carnival included running a torch from Parliament Hill to the All Ranks Mess. Quite an endeavor and really set the tone for the rest of the event.

...Morale at the bunker was mostly very good, despite being below ground. While nowhere can ever be perfect, I never found another posting where morale was as consistently upbeat as Carp's. Many romances and marriages occurred, just in the five years of my own posting. Maybe it had something to do with being in such a remote area, doing Top Secret things that we couldn't discuss. People from the bunker understood and never asked the wrong questions.

...To anyone who asks about my years at CFS Carp, I have only good things to say. When I visited the bunker in August 2011 with my old co-worker (Janet Puddicombe) and my old boss (Joe Smith), I was so overwhelmed to be there that I cried in the parking lot. Despite several very interesting postings in my career, Carp will always be my first and favourite. I will never forget my years there and will visit the bunker museum as often as I can.

Mann, Keith

... I was posted there from April 1974 to July 1977. It was my first posting right from trade training at the school at Kingston. I didn't have a car then so I lived in the bunker for almost the entire time I was there. It was quite an experience living like a mole underground! I was fascinated by all the unusual things there like the morgue, the decontamination room, the war room (MIC), etc. I went to Egypt in 1976 for six months but came back to the bunker in January 1977 until that summer when I was posted out.

... The people working there were very friendly and helped me adjust to living away from home in Victoria BC. For example I met one of the civilian ladies who worked in the kitchen at the bunker. She took pity on us single soldiers living in the "hole" I guess and invited a few of us to her home occasionally to get out of there for a while. I got to meet a lot of her family and we'd discuss the latest gossip of the bunker with a cup of tea. I kept in touch with her for many years afterwards and eventually her niece and I bought a house together in Kanata.

... While I was there a young military police private was on shift at the outside guard post checking traffic. I guess one night he was fooling around with his pistol and it accidentally went off. I can't remember now if he hit anything but he was sure in a lot of trouble after that and he disappeared from Carp shortly after!

... Another time I was bartending at the All Ranks Mess and there were a few people there drinking after work. Later on in the evening a fight started between two of the guys and next thing I know there are tables knocked over, glasses broken and two guys wrestling on the ground. Apparently some of the other patrons wanted me to break it up I said "Are you kidding?". I didn't want to get beaten up so I called the military police who then proceeded to break it up. I remember one of the guys who had been fighting, his uniform shirt was all ripped to shreds. It wasn't funny at the time but I get a chuckle over that incident now.

... Streaking was big in those days. There was a meeting I think it was at the All Ranks mess. So a couple of the young guys had the bright idea to streak through this meeting with bags over their heads so they wouldn't be recognized! Unfortunately someone did recognize their "parts" and

they found out who the two geniuses were. Not sure what punishment they got but there weren't any more streaking incidents after that!

... We had all our meals in the bunker. One time we were supposed to have stuffed wieners as one of the choices so I took those. Unfortunately the cook on duty wasn't the best chef in the world. The wieners were severely overcooked and were like rocks! Needless to say I went back and got something else. The cook wasn't impressed that we complained about his food! I always wondered what happened to him after the military - hopefully he didn't cook anymore.

McBride, Dave

...I was assigned a bedroom (167B), the last bedroom on the bottom floor. There must have been about 100 other living in at the time and it was a busy place. I worked with Ron Tweedie, Ray Searles, Brian Portland, Jim Netzel, Jim Goodall among others and under Sgt. Stan Ferguson, S/Sgt Hank Kelly and MWO J. E. O'Callaghan. The Tech Officer was Captain Walt Dawson and the communications C.O. was Major (Jigs) McDougall.

...It was with the Creeds that I made my mark as no one wanted to work on them. I think it was because of them that I was awarded the Centennial Medal in 1967. I have a picture of my being presented with it in the Sergeants' Mess by the then C.O., Major Milne.

... I worked with Irv Daigle, Pam White, Angela Skidd, among others and under Sergeant Jim Degraw. One of the C.O.'s was Major Bob Armstrong, a town of Carp native.

... in 1967 a few of us were at the JRC having a beer or two and we had a pet cat there which kept the mice down. I decided maybe it was an idea to smuggle it into the hole and we successfully did. We were going to smuggle it back out the following evening but the person in the room where we were keeping it left his door ajar and the cat escaped. It seemed wherever the MP's looked for it, it had just left. It was finally captured and was released unharmed outside the tunnel. Although I was never named as the person who initiated this deed the MP who was on duty on the inside guardpost did get his revenge, which is a story for another day.

Murphy, Jim

...I served with many of the names mentioned, Brenda Langman, Bill Renaud, Janet Puddicombe & Joe Smith to name a few. We had some exceptional times at that station...Winter Carnival was a highlight.

... One of my funnier moments was as part of the unscheduled BDF (Base Defense Force) exercises that happened regularly during my time in uniform. In the early 80's, the CO talked to a few people from Leitrim into being infiltrators...they showed up at the gate dressed in uniform, believe one was a Brigadier. A tall lanky MP who was part of the exercise, his name escapes me now, figured it was a scam and strip searched the entire lot of them (all men)...the exercise was cancelled shortly thereafter.

... During these BDF exercises, staff often had to exit the bunker through an escape hatch to the roof as part of the exercise...I always seemed to avoid this dirty situation. After hanging up my uniform I regretted missing an opportunity to do this deed in any of the bunkers where I served...while I was the CSE LO an opportunity occurred where I got to go out through the tunnel to the roof, quite the experience and memorable.

Perry, Chris

... These were the early years in the life of Carp. There was still a lot of cutting-edge equipment to be developed and installed in the facility. Around 1965 a massive computer system with the acronym STRAD was installed. STRAD stood for Signal Transmission Reception and Distribution. From my non-techie perspective, this machine filled an entire room, required a significant amount of attention and when it crashed, as it did from time to time, the place went crazy. Like the computers of today, when it was down, nothing happened.

...Another technical marvel that made communications even more stable was the development and installation of EDC. That stood for Error Detection and Correction. It ensured that wireless communication was accurate with the receiving and transmitting stations in SYNC with each other ensuring communications flowed. When the signal path was interrupted, this magical device stopped the flow of information until the path was suitable to continue. For its day it was really neat stuff.

Peters, Dave

... As the facility and the Continuity of Government Program of which it was an integral component had been ignored for many years and as the Cold War was at one of its peak intensities at the time, my staff and I were charged with rejuvenating and modernising the Program and its associated facilities. Between 1983 and the end of the Cold War this was accomplished as best we could on a 'shoe-string' budget and resulted in significant physical and procedural changes that impacted the Program, its buildings and how they would have functioned during a nuclear attack on North America. Every December we ran two day exercises in the EmGovSitCen which involved upwards of 70 officials from about ten federal departments and agencies. We would operate in a 'lock down' mode during these exercises and practice operating during the first couple of days of a simulated nuclear attack.

Pierce, Howie

... Anyway, I was posted to Canadian Forces Station Carp located on the outskirts of a small farming community. I took a look at the outside of the underground shelter from on top after parking my car in the assigned slot out front of the guard house. At the time, an older gentlemen, a Corp of Commissionaire security guard, welcomed me on board, directing me to what looked like a large culvert, big enough to allow a truck through. Following my nose I was led into the side of a hill and once inside after walking along the tube, at the halfway point on the right was a large steel door with a button to push. After pushing a button on the wall the door swung open. Directly in front a few feet away equally as impressive another steel door, then without warning

the door in back of me closed: Trapped"! There I stood alone and trapped in an air lock, this went on for the four years ... the same routine all the time we were stationed at CFS Carp.

Later, I learned from a civilian employee, Mr "Ken" Armstrong, that this was how the facility controlled the air pressures in the bunker. Passing through the second steel door just inside the inner door we were challenged by a former Guardsman I recognized, now a military policeman, Cpl Michael, an old bud from our 1957 NATO days at Fort York Germany -what a small world!

... I was amazed at the size of the bunker with the many colours painted on the walls. This too I later learned had its purpose, something to do with claustrophobia and making the place more livable. After meeting with the Station Sergeant Major MWO Hildebrand and the Station Adm Officer, "my boss" Capt "Fran" Alexander, (later on in my tour she was replaced by Capt "Thilo" Kaufman) we all descended one floor to be introduced to the station CO, Major Erickson. Because, it was noon and time for lunch we descended another floor at which time it took my breathaway seeing how the mess hall had been developed into a stately dining hall ample for 100 or so... as good as ever I'd seen - brightly lit with shiny stainless steel appliances throughout. We lined up for a delicious meal professionally prepared and served by polite civilian staff and military culinary staff alike. This went on for the four years that I spent at the bunker.

... The weight gain became apparent and being a trained PERI I decided to start up a fitness program. Starting in the mess hall with warming up exercises then moving on to the weight room in front of the large vault where the gold was to be kept. Proceeding out of doors we would do the circuit around the golf ball for a mile or so from the bunker up passed the farms running through the village of Carp and back into the tunnel for a shower then on to work, all this before 8 am; or should I say 0800 hrs?

... Being a hockey nut and a Level 5 Canada Certified Hockey Coach, I was convinced to take the small base hockey team under my tutelage. With CFS Carp having only two wins the previous season this was to be one of my biggest challenges. In hindsight, this was one of my fondest memories in the bunker. Each and every one of the lads on the team came together pulling on the rope in the same direction ... it was evident they were champions by nature, but just needed a little nurturing and fine tuning ... after a bit of time had elapsed having won Ottawa three times and the regional/provincial/national championships twice we became a force to reckon with.

No doubt one of the highlights, thanks to 412 Sqn and our CO Major Erickson, we were flown in a C-130 to the regional championships in northern Quebec, it was then other teams took notice CFS Carp had arrived.

... Not all was without national attention with the "Lortie" incident, and the resulting national investigation or having a bank robber among us kept thing interesting not to mention the additional administrative work load. These sort of incidents are occasions we tend to keep under our hats as they are not pretty nor are we proud of having members of our unit involved!

... Of course we had the Bunker celebrations out of the all-ranks- mess with a week of festivities well covered in other submissions.

Pletsch, Murray

... I worked in the Alternate Federal Warning Center (AFWC) in the SAGE complex at North Bay from 1967 to 1970.

... we mirrored the 3 omnibus teletype landline circuits (NSAWS) and we were a 100% backup to the FWC in Carp.

... At the time, the AFWC was manned by 7 (Army) Operations Officers, 7 Artillerymen and 7 RC Sigs Operators. I was a Group 3, R & TG Operator and the other 6 were Teletype Operators. Starting in 1968, after CFCC was born, we also had RCAF radio and teletype operators working in our Facility. In 1970 we were a facility which belonged to the North Bay Comm Det.

... Our crew included Russ Feltmate , the late Norm Knox, Ken Wood and Randy Rickwood to name a few.

Puddicombe, Janet

... I arrived at my first posting, CFS Carp in March 1982. The day I arrived I was told I would working the switchboard until my security clearances were in. They arrived later the same day!!!

... So I started off my posting to Carp in OSAX. We were still in the testing stages at that point, going live later on in the year. I worked in OSAX for several years before doing a year in FCC. I never was really a permanent operator in the commcen, mostly just filling in here and there for people.

... Most people on arrival to the station were a little overwhelmed by the layout...or by what seemed the lack of layout. It didn't take too long to figure it out. Each floor was colour coded and was basically a big square. When the bunker opened up for tours for dependants and the towns folks of Carp, I was actually a tour guide. We expected about 50 people for the tours, we actually put through about 200. LOL people were very curious about this place.

... During my tour in Carp, I also went on exercise to Norway for several months. That was a great adventure for me. I really loved it. If I hadn't been posted to Carp, I probably would not have had that opportunity.

... Carp was my favorite posting. The morale was usually pretty good. If I remember correctly the only time the morale was not good, was during the time of the Denis Lortie incident, and the year following that.

... Being a small station, we were all a pretty tight knit community.

... It is the only time in my career I had to talk to the Pentagon and the White House!!!!!!

... I was a shift worker. We usually didn't have the opportunity to attend a lot of functions or wilderness training, etc. Our shift in OSAX was dubbed...The A Team! We all got along so well, we often would have house parties together, or go out to dinner. Many of us on The A Team are still in contact and see each other once in a while.

... I have been back to "the hole" several times. It is very strange. I swear there are ghosts in there now. I have a hard time going into OSAX through the emergency exit, which was always comsec sealed. It just feels WRONG!!! It also feels soooo wrong seeing everyone wander through OSAX. Whereas it was a very secure area in its heyday.

... I left CFS Carp in January 1987. I was very sad to leave, but was excited for new opportunities. I was not to return until around 2005 or so, with my daughter's high school history class!!!

Renaud, Bill

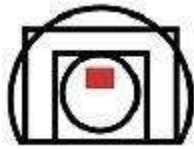
... The Diefenbunker, over the twenty or so years that I witnessed, was always fortunate to have good personnel both in uniform and on the civilian side of the house. Station activities from winter carnivals to adventure training, BDF training, sport activities, and local community fund raisers for the construction of the local curling and hockey arenas. The All Ranks Mess allowed 10% of its Membership to be members of the local community. Then the "Lortie" incident put us on the map.

Sharpe, Michael

In early 1968 while serving with No. 2 Field Maintenance Party at RCAF Station North Bay¹ I was assigned on temporary duty (TD) to No. 6 Repair Depot at RCAF Station Trenton with further assignment to an installation team working out of RCAF Station Rockcliffe. On arrival at Rockcliffe I was told we were working at an army site in Carp with the formal name of EASE (Experimental Army Signal Establishment).

The team I was part of was the "second shift" brought in to carry on with a massive project started 6 months before. The project office was located at RCAF Station Rockcliffe and we lived in barracks there. Each morning we would check with the project office for change orders, get briefed on changes and then go to Carp. This meant that most days we were unable to take the shuttle bus from Rockcliffe to Carp and rode with team members who had a car. We

¹ ¹While at RCAF Station North Bay I spent some time working in another cold war facility, the NORAD SAGE facility with portals to the North (on the station) and to the south overlooking Trout Lake, North tunnel was about 12 feet square and 6600 feet long. South tunnel was about 16 feet square and 3100 feet long. Both tunnels had a grade of 10%. But that is another story.



Diefenbunker

Canada's Cold War Museum

Musée canadien de la Guerre froide

were expected to work 8 hours once we got to Carp thus we would miss the return shuttle bus as well as missing serving hours in the Rockcliffe mess hall. For lunch we purchased a noon meal in the Carp mess hall. We had to buy the Carp meals because we were in barracks and on ration strength at Rockcliffe. The Carp lunch meals were well above the usual military fare. In theory we could have drawn a box lunch from the Rockcliffe mess hall to take with us but the Carp food was so good I never objected to paying for lunch.

[Digression; in those days the Queensway in Ottawa ended at St. Laurent Blvd in the east, and Carling Ave in the west. Trying to make the Rockcliffe - Carp trek in a timely fashion was a major challenge.]

The project was a massive installation of CID 610 equipment, more than 100 racks of equipment. The room designed for this function was not large enough and there were overflow rooms tucked away here and there.

In the Bigger Military World: It is also important to remember that this same February coincided with the announcement of the integration of the RCAF, Canadian Army, and Royal Canadian Navy. Carp was an all army facility, our installation team was RCAF. There were some cultural clashes to say the least. A small example - in the RCAF trades people routinely retired with the highest rank achieved being corporal, not so in the army. Army people on seeing a 20+ year RCAF corporal or a 20 year LAC [private] would often discretely ask “*what did he do to mess up so bad he is still a corporal?*”. Before enlisting in the RCAF I had been in a reserve army infantry unit for a year, so I had some insight into the army environment at Carp.

In the army view a private was someone with limited skill, and knowledge, needing copious amounts of supervision. In the RCAF view a 10 year service private (Leading Aircraftsman (LAC)) was a skilled tradesman who could work with very little supervision. At this time I was an LAC with less than 4 years service. RCAF Sgt. Johnny Johnson had assigned me (along with other things) responsibility for wiring (following the engineering drawings) something called The Signal Continuity Converter Selector Panel which I beavered away at. One day an army W.O. II came into the room and asked Sgt. Johnson a question about this selector panel. Sgt. Johnson looked around, pointed at me and said “ask Sharpe he is the one doing the work.” The W.O.II looked at me and said to Sgt. Johnson “*Sharpe is a Private, Privates don't know anything*”. A heated exchange started and I departed the room. I do know that more senior people became involved in “smoothing out” this situation. Our awkward working relationship with the army became more so for a time. Lots to learn on both sides. Neither system, RCAF or army was better, they were just different and there had been no training or indoctrination on those differences. A day or two later this same W.O.II found me and in a professional manner asked me for details of the work I was doing. I answered in the most professional and respectful manner that I could.

Telecommunications of the Day

A government needs information to function. Obviously the Diefenbunker(s) would need communications - the teletype was the big means of electronic information transfer in those days.

Typical information transfer was a rate of 60 words per minute with a word being defined

as 5 characters. Government teletype networks consisted of end points or tributaries and relay hubs which could be small or large. The teletype circuits were landline (usually leased) or radio.

Information could be narrative like a posting instruction, weather reports and forecasts, or data like a supply order list. For the purposes of this explanation the word message is used for all types of teletype information exchange. The originator of a message would usually prepare a typewritten form containing the message content, the recipient would get a page copy of the message. In between the originator and the recipient the message usually was in the form of perforated paper tape, in some cases the text was printed on the tape as well as having holes in the tape representing the characters.

One drawback to all of this was the lack of privacy. The information could be read by others equipped with radio receivers or having access to the physical circuits, ie the circuits could be “tapped” without too much trouble.

How to fix the lack of privacy? Encryption or encipherment was used, further divided into “off line crypto” or “on line crypto”. Off line crypto meant additional steps of having the message typed into a device which produced an encrypted version of the message arranged in groups of five letters. Thus “the quick brown” becomes “OMRBQ XOPAP WNWJJ”. This process was slow, cumbersome and could introduce errors into the message. KL-7 and Typex were examples of the hardware used for off line encryption.

A slightly better method was one time tapes such as Rockex. However, the best solution to privacy concerns was “on line” crypto or encryption. With on line crypto no extra steps were required. The teletype circuit was hard wired into an encryption device and all characters sent over the circuit were encrypted. At the receiving end the process was reversed providing a paper tape or page copy of the message. On line crypto hardware was rare and expensive, so very few teletype circuits were protected, examples were KW-26 and KW-7.

The project I was on at Carp provided on line encryption *en masse*, the default configuration for teletype circuits would in the future be encrypted not plain language. The encryption hardware used to accomplish this major policy change was the CID- 610.

The CID-610 was a Canadian redesign of a British crypto device BID-610. The CID-610 was manufactured by RCA Canada. The two items were crypto compatible - what was encrypted on one could be decrypted on the other **IF** you had compatible key settings. The CID-610 was designed for fixed installation, the BID-610 design was for installation in any circumstance, field, fixed, mobile, airborne. See photos at end of this article.

Our team worked on to the handover of the Carp project then returned to AMDU in Trenton. After some weeks in Trenton it was off to CFB Penhold and the RegHQ (mini diefenbunker) there. At Penhold we carried out the CID-610 installation. In August 1968 I was returned to my unit in North Bay.

Fast forward to 1974, I was posted to 706 Com Sqn in the Diefenbunker at CFB Borden until

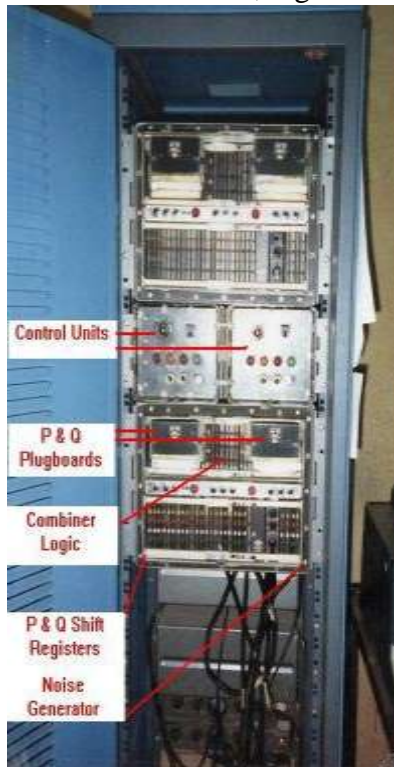
voluntary release in 1979 to enlist in the RCMP as a sworn civilian member.

Like Penhold, the Borden Diefenbunker was a two storey structure combining the communication facility, Provincial Warning Centre, and alternate government HQ for Ontario. However by 1974 the alternate government function seemed to be of lesser importance. The onset of the Samson project (Similar equipment to OSAX) brought the need for infrastructure upgrades. These infrastructure upgrades included but were not limited to; additional power, additional cooling, shielded computer room, fire suppression. Major construction projects all. Concurrently communications terminal equipment (teletype machines) made a multi generation technology jump from the Teletype Corporation models 14, 15, 19 to the model 40. The model 40 used a different electrical interface to communicate with other devices. This standard MIL-STD-188C required interface changes to all of the previously installed CID-610 equipment and the ancillary equipment used in those days. In addition to equipment in the Diefenbunker 706 Comm Sqn was responsible for implementing the new equipment in south western Ontario.

I left the Borden Diefenbunker in 1979 as a tel tech sergeant with nearly 15 years service to take new duties as a sworn civilian with the RCMP, regimental number and all.



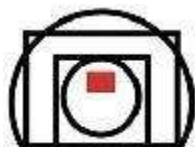
KL 7 Off-Line Crypto



BID-610 On-Line Crypto



CID-610 On-Line Crypto



KW-26 Array, 1 transmitter 1 receiver per rack.



Teletype Model 19



KW-7 On-Line Crypto



Model 40 Teletype Gear



Teletype Model 14 KSR

Stever, Patrick

... It was quite an operation in its heyday. I've been through the site several times with friends on tours and it is but a shell of what it once was. Too bad they stripped so much out of it which no doubt was sold off as scrap! On the occasions when I did tour the site, I ended up more or less giving the tour as the guides really did not know much about what actually went on or what was in certain areas or what they were used for...etc, however, that certainly was not their fault.

Tipman, Mike

... It was the middle of April, 1969 when I was called into the boss's office and told that my posting was in. I was going to 701 Communication Squadron, Carp. I had never heard of Carp, didn't have a clue where it was and what it was and never put it as a posting preference on my R211. So, what did I do? I found the number and called. Imagine my surprise when the phone was answered "Army Carp!" I joined to RCAF, I had spent my first three years at first Bagotville, a fighter base, and then at Moisie, a radar station at the end of the road, near Sept

Isles; both air force bases. What was an air force comm tech (ground), doing going to an army base?

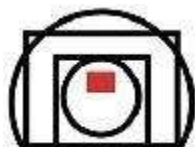
When I talked to whomever it was in the orderly room and found out where it was I thought “why not, it is near the city of Ottawa so how bad could that be, after all, I was a newlywed and perhaps a posting in the city would be a good thing.” So when the day drew near, we packed up our stuff (which wasn’t much) took our cat and started for Ottawa. We got here in the middle of August and it was hot and humid, nothing like Bagotville or Moisie.

Since we were going to Carp we drove through Ottawa and set out down highway 17 and turned off at the Old Carp Road, figuring that it would take us to Carp. We found the village of Carp but where was 701 Communication Squadron? We asked some passersby and were directed up a hill and told that it was on the left. I drove into the parking lot and all I saw was a small guard room, a fence and what looked like the end of an oversized culvert. I parked and went to the guard room to see if we were really at the right place, given that there was nothing to show that we were there. In hindsight I should have seen the antennas on the hill and known that I was at some sort of communication facility. The military policeman, army, told me that I was at the right place but that I needed to check in on Monday with my paperwork or I would not be allowed in.

Since my wife was with me we went in search of a place to stay while I got settled in my new job. We ended up at the Pond Motel at Carleton Place and bought a paper to look for apartments and whatnot in the area. On Monday I dressed smartly in my uniform, beige air force, and set out for Carp once again. I arrived at the same gate; a similar MP looked at my posting message, took some identification from me and told me to walk into the tunnel until I came to a big steel door on the right. When I got there I stood in front of it and it slowly opened. A voice told me to get inside. I stepped in and the door closed behind me. Then another door opened and I was standing in front of another MP desk. He took my pass and gave me another one and told me how to get to the orderly room. My gosh, what had I gotten into?

As I walked down the corridor I met many people, mostly soldiers, the odd sailor but no airmen. I got to the orderly room and the clerk that looked after me was air force. I asked him what it was like and he told me that he absolutely loved it. He lived in Ottawa and a bus picked him up every day and brought him out to Carp, then at the end of the day it took him back into the city again and it didn’t cost him a penny. He then asked me how much money I wanted to earn at my part time job. I just looked at him and he said that living in Ottawa was a lot more expensive than either Bagotville or Moisie and that I would no doubt need a part time job to make ends meet after all I was just a poorly paid LAC.

I was then taken to see the security officer, a long in the tooth army captain who had served in the Korean War and he knocked the cigarette ash from his sweater and told me to come in and sit down. He then proceeded to tell me this: “There are just two ways for someone to get into Carp. One is an act of parliament and the other, the easy way, is to get posted in like you just did. Now the first thing I am going to tell you is that whatever you see here or whatever you do here, no matter what it is, you cannot talk about it, it is all considered to be top secret.” and he emphasized, “Not even to your wife. Do you understand son?” When I told him I understood he made me sign the Official Secrets Act and impressed upon me that if I broke that act I would go to jail and stay there for a long, long time. That was my introduction to Carp.



We were able to find an apartment in lower-town Ottawa and I began to take advantage of the free bus to Carp. I had been told that the bus would pick me up at the armory at the corner of Chapel and Rideau streets since I lived near there. So, the first morning I took the bus I got to the armory in time and a bus pulled in. A few other people got on the bus and so I followed them. I got my seat and watched as we travelled through Ottawa picking up people here and there. I began to worry when most of the people getting on the bus were wearing naval uniforms. I began to realize that there was probably more than one bus going to more than one unit in the Ottawa area and sure enough the end of the line was at Naval Station Gloucester. We got there just in time for the flag raising. Oops, wrong bus. I was able to convince the driver that I needed to get back to Rideau and Dalhousie so that I could take my car out to Carp so he returned to Rockcliffe via Rideau Street. Of course, my wife compared me to a little boy on his first day of school taking the wrong bus. I got to work on time thanks to my wife's driving and I never took the wrong bus again.

Carp was a revelation. I was an air force comm tech with three years of experience and with a group three technical rating. In the air force we earned our trade groupings based on time in and an exam, whereas our army colleagues got theirs by taking a group three course that was extremely demanding. Since I was the third airman to be posted into Carp my bosses didn't quite know what to employ me on. It didn't take long until I fit in rather well in the central workshop. I too wondered about the quality of the army techs and found that they were excellent. I was soon assigned to a shift and began my only shift work in the forces. When we were on days we worked in the workshop and did whatever came along, repaired radios (which often meant changing vacuum tubes) did routine maintenance and whatever the boss said. When we worked evenings or midnights however, we only did first line maintenance and repair which consisted of checking the faulty radio and confirming it was actually faulty and then patching in the spare. We generally worked out of FCC and spent a lot of time with the rad ops and telops on the shift, often helping them to engineer the circuits during frequency changes. Because we were connected in a network with high frequency radios at certain times of the day the frequencies needed to be changed in order to be able to communicate, the nature of HF is that as the atmosphere changes it affects the radio signal. Engineering the circuits meant finding a useful frequency and changing to that frequency at the same time as the other end of the circuit changed theirs. I got pretty good at operating those old model 15 teletypes. There was a knack to typing on them. You had to pound the keys pretty hard in order for them to register.

One of my jobs was the maintenance of the CBC radio station. This was a fun but scary kind of job. Fun because there was a lot of equipment there for playing records and recording, all the maintenance for which I was responsible. The scary part was connecting to the national warning centre and sending the signal down the line to warn of an imminent nuclear attack. It was scary because I was always concerned that I had patched out (blocked) the actual circuit that would send the signal across Canada and ensure that I was only sending it to the centre in North Bay. I always thought of those days of radio station maintenance as fun days. I would be in the studio for a few hours and nobody else could get in there. I could pretend that I was on the air and make tapes of myself playing records, etc., and nobody would be any the wiser; great fun for a young technician.

I learned a great deal at Carp from the TOR 5 equipment to the TOR 7 (both leading edge error detecting and correcting equipment for HF radio). I was responsible for their maintenance along

with others in the tech shop. The British exchange chief technician taught a course on the TOR 7 (a solid state British equipment used with a circuit to the UK) that I found fascinating. Great equipment, capable of operating while carrying many burnt out components, like many types of military equipment from the UK, lots of redundancy built in.

I have discovered over the years that the best thing I learned at Carp was golf. One of the telops on my shift was a near scratch golfer. Since we were working shift it was easy to get out to golf on the days off during the week. On midnight shift when there was a slow period in FCC we would go down to the vault area in the basement and using the horsehair packing that came in the test equipment cases as our tee mat and the canvas tarps that hung down on rails as our target. I was shown how to drive the ball. This could be considered one of the first indoor driving ranges in the Ottawa area. It was perfect. There was lots of room to swing a driver and the horsehair mats and the canvas curtains were virtually indestructible. There was no danger of breaking anything in that area since it was all made blast resistant. The only thing that could get broken was a bone in your head when the ball missed the curtain and ricocheted around the cement walls.

Over the years I have come to realize how special Carp was. We were picked up by a bus to get us to work and to take us home again at no cost to us no matter what shift we worked. We were fed in the cafeteria for free since it was considered important for the cooks to be able to handle a large group. All three of the messes were open inside and there was a shop (precursor of the Canex) to purchase cigarettes and other sundry items. A single person could be posted to Carp, live in and live comfortably underground without ever seeing the light of day. This was not necessarily a good thing but when I arrived in Carp there were several people who lived inside and never went out for months.

Of course, as time went on it became apparent that this could not last. So, under the direction of Major Oldford (who later retired as a MGen) the messes were moved outside to the previous construction shack that was turned into an all ranks mess. I believe that this was the first all ranks mess in the forces and I know that Maj Oldford was really concerned that it could lead to the end of his career if something happened, such as a corporal getting into a fight with an officer or senior NCO. Of course that never happened to my knowledge. He also made the single people that lived inside go to the single quarters at Uplands determining that staying underground for months at a time was unhealthy.

I spent four years at Carp and watched it turn from an army unit to a tri-service unit, probably one of the first in the forces. When I got there it was a communication squadron in the Canadian Forces Communications System. I watched it become a station, CFS Carp, under the newly minted Canadian Forces Communications Command. Although I was a member of the comm section responsible for the maintenance of all of the radio equipment there was no doubt what Carp was about. You only had to be there when there was a STRAD failure to understand what Carp was all about. All able bodied people in the teletype and rad op world were called in to lend a hand. The message traffic had to get out and STRAD was what made it all go. If not for STRAD Carp would probably have been nothing but a minor torn tape relay.

It is hard to believe what with the internet and all today but STRAD was an essential service that really was a forerunner of modern communications. Since I didn't work in STRAD and was not allowed in, I don't know the statistics, but I do know that it handled all the message traffic that came in and out of NDHQ and we all know what bureaucracy is like, lots of messages.

Looking back it is easy to say that when the Diefenbaker government built underground sites across Canada and prepared to move the Bank of Canada and the government inside of Carp, they were being overly careful, but at the time the nuclear threat from the Soviet Union was very real. Although the government was never compelled to move underground and stay and work from there, that could have happened at any time. And, to ensure that all would go according to the plan, we worked to ensure that we would be ready. We kept the equipment working, we communicated with our allies around the world and from time to time we would be locked in on exercise to ensure that we would be able to operate as planned if the need arose.

When we did an exercise and were locked in for a few days I often thought that I was one of the lucky ones although there was always a nagging worry in the back of my mind as to what would happen to my wife and son should the bomb go off. The horns of a dilemma for sure, I would be safe, but would there be anything left to go back to once they opened the big steel door and let us back out into the outside world?

Thinking back, Carp was the defining posting in my career. It was from here that I was selected for University Training Plan (Men) (UTPM) and went off to Royal Roads and RMC. My last two weeks at Carp were as an Officer Cadet and started my journey into the Officer's world that I would inhabit for the next twenty odd years. It was my first experience working with members of the other branches of the Canadian Forces and opened my eyes to the great people that we had regardless of uniform. I served in many other units in Canada over my career from coast to coast but Carp will always hold a special place in my heart.

Trottier, Bob

... I first started at the "Bunker" as the fourth floor (top) was being finished and experienced the first 48 hour complete lockdown of the site.

...Then two events happened that had a great effect on our working conditions. The Berlin crisis developed between the Warsaw pact and NATO. This had the effect of having to elevate our readiness for conflict. You can imagine that we were not prepared for this crisis, but we did the best we could. Most of the comms gear was made ready, sort of, and we hoped for the best.

...Then the Cuban missile crisis came about in 1962. We rushed to bring systems online months ahead of schedule. However, it all worked out. The building was made ready for the government execs and support staff. We actually went into lock down for 48 hours during the crisis. This proved to be a very telling moment as to our readiness for working with North Bay and NORAD at Colorado Springs.

Vaillancourt, Paul

... We used to wear battle dress to work and change to work dress on arrival. We paper bagged lunch in those days. After lunch, sitting on the floor, I left to go wash up. On returning the door was locked and I had to ring and have my clothes passed out to me. Crypto had taken possession of their area.

... We were now operational and on shift work. Our long hours on installation were over. During the summer of 1963 we had one day off and later this changed to working double shift Monday, Wednesday and Friday. I requested on our behalf that we work 0800 to 2100 hours. This was accepted and we found it easier than the double shifts on alternate days.

... While living in the Village I joined the volunteer fire department. I requested coverage while working on this job from DND using the thought that I was gaining additional training which was useful in my duties in the bunker where I was on the fire response team. The coverage was granted.

... An awesome event was a day in 1963 when I was called by the Orderly room. They asked me if I knew a Clayton and a Brian Vaillancourt two TE Techs who were posted to Carp. I told them I never heard of them but would check. Turned out they were brothers and my first cousins. Their parents were my God Parents. I greeted them on their arrival. Later Clay (Clayton) gave classes to us techs preparing for the Group 3 Bar Exam. He used to be a grade 8 school teacher for a year before joining the service. He served many years at Carp. Brian finished his 3 years and moved back to Sudbury to work for Bell Tel.

... Being an underground worker for so many years I always looked at extra outside jobs as a bonus. This resulted in me being active on Range staff, BDF and Winter carnival and, of course, sports teams.

... I moved to the Village of Carp 1962 and lived in a house near the Kennedy funeral home. Living in the Village I played hockey for Carp in the Almonte area league. I played broomball for the Village as well. The Army put a team in the broomball league. I remember one game they were to play against us. They requested us to allow more of their personnel to play if they could change all their players at the half way point in the second period. We agreed. Carp leading 1 to 0. Then 20 fresh players against our 9 turned the tide. We finished, Army 7 Carp 1. I played as well on the Carp Fast Ball team. In addition Carp put in one team in the Ottawa area curling league. We lost one game that year. Our team consisted of 3 privates (Sigs) and myself, a L/Cpl. They asked us to break up and be part of other teams in the next year.

... After working familiarization shifts over the summer (covering holidays really) I was put on a one man Self Study Senior Maintainer Course in a room on the 3rd floor and given an exam every Friday. The hardest part was not falling asleep after lunch. My previous experience and studies helped me and with 8 months completed and only 2 stages of the 18 stages left they concluded they needed me upstairs in STRAD more than what the last two phases covering the tape system would achieve for me. So I never really finished the 1 year course.

... I was in charge of training the Base Defence Force (BDF) for approx 5 years in my last 5 years. On our last exercise in Jan/Feb of '81 (Friday am to Sunday were normal) we were to be relieved by (I believe) the Governor General Footguards. When relieved we were to attack them with the mission of putting our troops inside the compound and preferably into the tunnel. I

could draw up the plans but I could not participate in the actual attack. We selected our SWO Bill Renaud to be the attack commander. Plans drawn, mission carried out, fence breached, success achieved, troops in the tunnel.

...On BDF duties I would take regular tours around all the guard posts. I often would say something about smiling. This particular trip I came upon young Guy Souliere. I said, "If you can't smile go home." We kept talking and as I was about to move on Guy said, "I didn't smile Sir, can I go home?" I realised that I had asked for this and asked the guard shift leader to send a replacement out for Guy and for Guy to meet me at the MP shack in 30 minutes. We met and I cleared Guy to depart for home.

... Every February we had a 3 day winter carnival. The torch was run out, in relays, from Parliament Hill to Carp. Every year we had many snow and rink events. One year approx '78 or '79 we had a thaw. The ice melted, the snow disappeared, the carnival was scheduled. How we quickly built a new set of carnival games to replace all the snow and ice events. The dance and the queen selection successfully took place on Sunday evening. For reference on this I would consult with Brian Holden, Don Medcraft, and Bill Renaud to ensure accuracy.

... We had a Gestetner copy machine located near the office before entering the Message Centre and Tel Tech workshop area. It was used to run off Routine Orders. In early '62, after only weeks in service, it broke down and of course there were no maintenance procedures or call-in techs. The orderly room asked for help, Don Dutton and I responded. After a few false starts figuring it out, we got it up and running. We were deemed to be on standby for future breakdowns. The paper on this machine used to turn yellow after a short time period.

... In 1962 there was a procedure in place to get people to move to the Valley. This would reduce the loads for the bus and also disperse the troops for call-out purposes in time of emergency. I used this offer to move from Eastview (now Vanier) to Carp in Mar '62. We were paid a flat rate of \$110.00, just a little less than a recent move by a certain General moving in Ottawa.

... The Carp telephone number on the Ottawa exchange was an Eastview number, SHERwood 58000 745-8000. During the early '60's it was noted that calling into Carp on this number did not cause a bill to the calling party (example - your parents when you called back to Carp). This feature was discovered by some enterprising young Bell Tech in the later '60s when the Carp exchange in the building behind the bank in the village was being rewired and a ground wire was found to be missing.

... Carp's first All Ranks New Years' Party in 62/63 was held in the GEM store basement in Ottawa. (I believe this was on Baseline Rd)

... One day in the '70's I was coming in on evenings when a young lady in a very bubbly mood told me that the lady's now had a tub installed in their 3rd floor washroom. She took me down to show me where a DCL member had brought in a 4 leg type tub and inserted it into a shower stall.

It was shimmed up for balance and the drain was inside the stall with the end protruding out of the stall. The shower head was used to fill the tub.

... In 1961 - When I first started in Carp the stairwells were not finished being painted. One concrete wall looked very much like another. The colouring later sure helped.

... In early 1962 - Living out in Eastview (Vanier) I missed the bus. I was stuck as I had no idea of a telephone # for Carp.

... 1962 onward - It was planned that personnel would disperse throughout the Ottawa Valley area to more efficiently allow for call ups. There was no local housing so mileage claims were brought into effect. We used to get 3 cents a mile for use of PMV (your Personal Motor Vehicle). You could claim up to 20 miles x 2 per day for a max of \$1.20. This rate continued into the 1970's.

... Mid 1960's - All the telephones had to be rewired. The way they were wired allowed conversations to be picked up from the room even when the telephone was in the hung up state.

... Federal Warning Centre - Manning for the FWC was an Officer, an Artillery Sgt, and a Sigs Op. One particular Sgt used to smoke cigars. The Officer hated this practise and he waited for the day the Sgt would drop ashes on the floor. The Sgt straightened out a paper clip and inserted this into the cigar. The ash grew quite long but did not drop. At the last possible moment the Sgt would disappear to dispose of the cigar much to the disappointment of the Officer.

... In 1964 or '65 - I was scheduled for midnight shift on New Years. I came in on New Years Eve before 2130 to let the evening shift off early to enjoy the night. Doug Nightingale (rest his soul) was on duty. He had his feet on a 24 of beer and a bottle of rum on the desk. We talked well past 0300 before he left for his room down below.

... In 1971 - I returned to Carp and STRAD from almost 4 years at 706 Comm Sqn in Borden. I was on course for about 8 months but I came up to the STRAD Room a few times a day. We had a very limited supply of spare plug in units such as Power supplies, Triggers, Buffers etc. With several units down it was close to affecting equipment operations.

On noting this I asked if anyone had ever brought out the spares I had confiscated from the large supply bin that was being returned to England in 1966 or so. No one knew what I was talking about so I got a ladder and retrieved 3 full boxes of spare units of every kind from where I had stashed them at least 5 years before. We never had a spare parts problem again. I had stashed them at the time because we still had English Engineer(s) around.

... In 1977 to '79 time frame we had a sudden warm snap with heavy melting. It got cold again leading up to the final week before the Winter Carnival. Cpl Keith Cavanaugh (NICS) and I worked evenings and night (fortified with rum) flooding the rink and rebuilding a thick base. In the day time Sgt Bill Skakle (CE) arranged for the lines on the rink for broomball and circles for

curling. We were fortunate to get it all in. Not like a year or two later when all outdoor activities involving snow and ice had to be substituted.

... Late 1970's qualifying run - Cpl Shiela Edwards (maybe Sgt) used to run the Qualifying runs and time us. We used to run up the road past the ARM turnoff and back. If we didn't qualify during the week we had to do compulsory runs 3 times a week for 1 or 3 months (not exactly sure). I had heavy congestion and kept putting it off. Finally on Friday not wanting to chance the penalty I went out. I ran and stopped a few times and hacked and coughed a few times. I finished the run ok and after a hot shower I found I was totally cleared of the congestion. I used this method a few times in the future to clear my congestion. (I wish my legs allowed me to do it today – LOL)

Someone came out with the worst idea for everyone to qualify on the annual 1.5 mile run. A large triangle was set up on the helipad. We had to do 13 or 23 triangles to complete the run. This slowed you down and felt like the run lasted forever and consisted of just turns. The worst qualifying run I ever had to do.

... In 1978 or so an MP on a vehicle patrol of the perimeter noted a dark object on the back gate. On investigating he discovered a Sgt hanging upside down on the fence. What happened was after the nightly lockup of the gate he left the ARM. Not dressed for the colder night he decided to take a short cut over the gate vice walking around via the road. He caught his foot and fell. Unable to release his foot he was very fortunate the MP found him after only being there for one hour or so.

... In 1978 or '79. Two stories from the MP's - The Governor General's Foot Guards were relieving and taking over BDF duties. An MP noted the bus full of weapons and no guard in the vicinity. The MP jumped in, started the bus and drove away. After a bit of a fuss the bus and weapons were returned so the BDF Exercise could continue.

The same year CBC arrived at the site. They were filming the site and the BDF Exercise. An MP accosted them and said he had to confiscate their film. They said it had other material on it as well and it could not be taken from their camera. The MP said would confiscate the camera then. Again they objected as it had to remain connected to the vehicle. The MP said ok, out of the vehicle, and he confiscated the vehicle with the camera and the film. Later negotiations allowed the vehicle to be returned with provisions made on the use of the film and the shots covering the site.

... In 1978 or so certain living in persons had a picture of a window taped to the bedroom wall. The SWO apparently tore it down. This person then filled out a CE request for the installation of a window in his room. The request went though to the SWO. Without carefully reading the request it was signed and forwarded on. Some time later CE showed up on site with a window. Needless to say the window was not installed and the SWO was some Pi&^%\$\$ off. The guilty persons were rumoured to be Vince and Ron

... In 1979 time frame - On call for STRAD, living in Nepean, system down a big lightning, thunder and rain storm caused a power outage. Driving to Carp the car got swamped and stalled in high water near the Constance Bay turn off. I hitched a ride to Carp and jogged rest of way to the site. Soaking wet and freezing in STRAD I had to strip to my shorts and wear a smock while completing the restoration.

... BDF at NICS. Reserve personnel were acting as protesters blocking entry to and from the site. I took a group of BDF personnel and lined them up in echelon to clear the fence line and gate. Had a heavy football type built Rad Op (Doug Sellan I believe) as the point man. With shoulders overlapping the person in front we swept slowly along the fence. Some protesters were clinging to the chain link fencing. I reached over our point man and across this one female and grabbed her by her clothing (military issue battle dress shirt) and pulled on the clothes. The shirt ripped off her and she had no clothing underneath. She was furious and questions were asked about the how and why. Fence was cleared and subject was dropped.

... In 1981 - I was being posted, Carp to Borden, STRAD was closed. We had a party at the ARM. Sgt Bill Skakle CE Grounds told me *'Paul you bailed me out a few times so tonight I will not drink and I will see you get home safely.'* True to his word he took me home. A fine man he was. He took a release and went to work for UNB.

... MCpl (Bob) Ferrill, MP, took over as PMC of the ARM from me in 1980.

... Control Room operators were employees of Defense Construction Ltd (DCL). They may have changed brands later to AD Ross personnel.

Verville (Sr), Michel

...the picture of myself was taken during my last day of service in the CF. The story behind the fact that the rank is showing different on each arm is due to a good reason. My last commanding officer insisted on the fact that the picture represent my complete career in the CF. Photoshop does great work. Also, my employment during my tour in Carp was OSAX rep to CSE and Node supervisor as a Warrant officer. I'm also the person who was dressed as a Strumph during a winter carnival.

CFS Carp Base Defence Force by Paul Vaillancourt & Bill Renaud

This story relates to a BDF exercise held at CFS Carp approximately Feb 1981.

Normal scenario for the defence of CFS Carp and its outlying locations consisted of keeping a trained BDF roster of personnel. These personnel on call out, would report to BDF stores in the vault (Queen's Printers vault) on the first level. Here they were issued their weapons, clothing and equipment. They then mustered out to the underground garage where they operated from. They remained out of the bunker for the duration of the exercise except for hot meals. Our



mission was to provide site protection for up to 48 hours. By that time 2 Combat Group from CFB Petawawa was expected to be on site to relieve us. For exercise purposes this had occurred a few times during the 1960's and 1970's.

Leading up to the exercise in Feb '81 we had a pre-briefing a week or two before. The basic overview was that we would have a call out in the wee hours of Friday morning and sometime Saturday be relieved by the Governor General's Foot Guards. I (MWO Paul Vaillancourt) was the Warrant Officer in Charge of training and handling the supervisory duties of the BDF for roughly 5 years. For the purposes of the exercise after the BDF was relieved we were to conduct some attacks against defenders. I could not participate in the attacks but I could draw up plans of attack for someone else to lead. Our SWO, WO Bill Renaud, was selected to lead the attacks. Bill and I arranged to meet afterwards.

Our mission was to attack and get a team within the perimeter and then into the tunnel. I went above ground later and walked the perimeter of the high ground. An inkling of an idea came to me so I went down to the fence line and walked along the side I considered the best. This was the area between the Military Police guard post and site entrance way over to the further end of this line in back of the Lineman's building. This side ran parallel to the tunnel and to the Carp River. The Lineman building end was considered more difficult as it was fairly close to the fence and all open ground. It was also the end closest to the Underground Garage where the off-duty guards and Response Teams would be located. The area at the corner of the fence near the Military Police was considered the best. Inside the fence was a large above ground fuel tank. Outside the fence was the septic lagoon so the ground was uneven with a moderate rise toward the fence.

Getting through the fence was going to be a challenge. I went and studied the fence. It consisted of barbed wire strands 3 or 4 inches apart. I figured with dowels we could open this up so troops could crawl through. Now, if our attackers were camouflaged we were in.

Bill and I met and came up with a few attack scenarios. The attack through the fence was considered the ideal. All the others were diversionary tactics. We selected a team of 16-18 attackers (we considered slimmer people as a priority and gung ho types next). These consisted of a couple of SWAT teams to attack various places along the fence line at random times. The main team of about 10 under Bill would attack the fence line just below the Military Police. We figured the closeness to the post would work best as the site guards would be thinking so close to the Police was unlikely.

Our camouflage would consist of white sheets and pillow slips from bedding stores. The sheets would cover the head and body as the attackers crawled forward and the pillow cases would be over each limb. All held on with some string and white tape. I drew a dozen sheets and 48 pillow cases from stores. Bill went to the carpenters and arranged for wooden dowels in increments of 6", 9", 12" and 15". We obtained a small rubber mat as used in the tech shops at the work benches. This mat was to be placed over the lower strands of barbed wire. Headquarters for Bill and his attackers was the fire hall in The Village of Carp.

The Foot Guards relieved us and Bill and his attackers with a supply of coffee and lunches headed out with their vehicles. I visited the site and we had an overview briefing with the teams. None of the attackers had seen the plans or visited the attack location. The mood of the team was very high spirited.

The breaching of the fence was scheduled for 0300, Sunday morning. Now Bill takes over the story.

The two SWAT teams of 3 members each were dispatched to roam the perimeter and randomly feint attacks, shooting and making noise. Occasionally they tried sneaking forward, appearing to be making penetration attempts. They did a fine job and had the defenders responding to various areas over the course of the night.

We started ferrying our team up from the fire hall about 0100. The team was dropped off at the last driveway before the turn off into the Station. We all dressed in the sheets at this time. We then proceeded along the side of this property going towards the Carp River until we were in line with 'Pauline's' Pond and the diesel fuel storage tank. At this point we tied on our pillow slip leggings and arm covers. Our rifles and SMG's were slung barrel down over our shoulders inside the bed sheet capes.

We walked until we were fairly close to the banks of Pauline's Pond. After a short rest we proceeded on hands and knees around the far edge of the pond away from the military Police post. When we were in position with the fence straight ahead I had the team rest and crawled forward with two members. We used our dowels in the centre of a span and opened the fence perfectly. After placing the mat and sending the other two through the fence I waved the others to come forward.

One SWAT team went forward crawling under and around cars in the outer parking lot. They pulled a feint attack on the main gate almost simultaneous with our main team crawling through the fence.

When the team was all through the fence we removed our hand and legging covers and left the pillow slips, the dowels and the rubber mat behind the Fuel Tank. We formed up in two groups of 6 and 5 respectively. One group was dispatched parallel to the fence line heading toward the Lineman's Building. Once they reached the far end of the parking / helicopter pad they paused until my group started across the pad straight for the tunnel entrance.

We moved at a rather quick march and went straight into the tunnel with the first team following us by about 50 or 60 feet or so. We set up two fire teams covering each end of the tunnel. I then rang the intercom and advised them the tunnel was in our possession and no personnel could enter the tunnel. We were within minutes of our 0300 objective.

If one stops and looks at the current fence you will see an 8 foot chain link topped by barbed wire. Sometime in 1982/83 the fence was changed from stranded barbed wire to chain link. The question is - Was this due to our successful penetration of the old fence?

Experimental Army Signals Establishment (EASE) by Garry Dowd, CWO (Ret'd)

(In this article Carp will stand for all the various names used for CFS Carp).

The main authors of this article are CWOs (Ret'd) Len Grummett (Ops) and Paul Vaillancourt (Tech). I have just taken their notes and some information from an article written by BGen Martineau - *A History of Canadian Forces Communication System (CFCS) and Canadian Forces Communication Command (CFCC) 1965-1994* - and massaged them into a story of the most important milestone in the history of Canadian Military Communications.

The Story

In September 1959 under *Civil Defence Order 1959*, the Army was made responsible for providing warning to the Public of attack and the radio-active fallout resulting from nuclear explosions and for the operation of Emergency Communications for the Government. This resulted in the need for an additional 900 RC Sigs personnel.

On 31 May 1960, Prime Minister John Diefenbaker announced a plan to provide each Province with a centre from which a small core of Federal, Provincial officials supported and manned by Army personnel could direct emergency operations within the province, even in the presence of nuclear fall-out, the loss of communications and possibly the destruction of the federal capital and some provincial capitals. The army became responsible for emergency command, for attack warning, for the prediction of fall-out patterns and for a number of other important services.

Planning proceeded for a network of survivable, underground and hardened shelters for the continuity of operations of the federal government and the governments of each of the provinces. Planners ensured that adequate communications capabilities with enough redundant landline telephones, cryptography machines, teleprinters, transmitters, and receivers were incorporated into the plans. The finalized plans for these federal government shelters reflected compromise and consisted of one large underground building and two widely dispersed antennae farms, one of which contained an underground transmitter facility.

The Federal Emergency site chosen was at Carp, Ontario with Provincial sites at Borden, Shilo, Penhold, Nanaimo, Valcartier and Debart.

State-of-the-art teletype and other associated communications equipment were installed in the Provincial Sites. At the Federal Site at Carp, the first computer-operated message handling system called STRAD (Signal Transmit Receive And Distribution) system was installed to control the flow of traffic through the network. The system provided a much improved service to the network users until it was retired to make way for a more modern system.

The Experimental Army Signal Establishment or “EASE” became the cover name for this facility, perhaps because there was an experimental Signals facility located in nearby Shirley's Bay, just west of Ottawa. The name for the Carp facility - the National Emergency Headquarters - was later changed to the Central Emergency Government Headquarters or “CEGHQ”. The main operating centre at Carp was called the Federal Warning Centre (FWC). It was headed by a LCol, with five Majors on rotating shifts. There was an Artillery Segeant as Weather and Map Plotter and five rotating shifts (Communication Operators) in the operating centre with a Sergeant as the overall daytime Supervisor.

Message Switching Automation

In the late 1950s, the British military had developed an automated message switching capability called STRAD (Signal Transmit Receive And Distribution) system and TARE (Telegraph Automatic Relay Equipment) that was based on ACP 127 procedures and which, in essence automated the Tape Relay Centre (TRC) function. Messages were received on STRAD, routed by TARE and transmitted by STRAD. STRAD's core capability was a magnetic drum storage device that recorded and stored messages prior to their onward transmission.

STRAD – Inception

On 22 June 1964, the Canadian Army Signal System activated a STRAD/TARE system at EASE in Carp, Ontario. The footprint of the STRAD equipment occupied 204 square meters. Carp's STRAD was implemented to handle 69 teletype circuits and could be expanded to handle up to 90 circuits, operating at speeds of 60, 66 or 100 words per minute. The STRAD system easily processed 9,000 messages per day, well below its maximum capacity of up to 83,000 words per minute. STRAD/TARE also saved much of the manpower required to operate the Tape Relay Centre (TRC). This was the first automated message system in the Canadian Forces, where a two or three person shift could do the operating work previously done by an entire TRC shift of a Sergeant (shift supervisor) and about five TRC operators – a significant manpower savings. Based on the initial success, there were discussions on implementing this STRAD/TARE system at other TRCs.

STRAD - Operations

The Carp STRAD was a first generation computer designed for use with digital communications systems. STRAD at Carp was the first installation of two similar British systems. The British system was installed at Boddington, UK and a similar system was installed in Australia. In Carp, the STRAD System was used to terminate both HF and LF radio circuits and conventional land-line circuits to all the Provincial Warning and Reporting Sites across Canada.

The installation of the STRAD at Carp and the installation of more modern teletype equipment at the Nanaimo, Penhold, Shilo, Borden, Valcartier and Debert Provincial sites revolutionized the narrative message handling for the Army and other services across the nation. Concurrent with

these activities was the unification of the Forces with the subsequent changes to the communication system. In addition, STRAD was connected to a sister system in Boddington, UK which provided an important portal for communications to Canadian Units deployed to NATO Europe and other countries since the early 1950's.

STRAD was versatile in that it was always available to accept the input of messages and would then forward them immediately or, if the system became too congested, the STRAD controller could place incoming messages in overflow storage, then retrieve and forward them later. From 1964 until decommissioned in 1981, the STRAD system proved a highly reliable and secure message system.

Prior to STRAD, Canadian military communications consisted of Tape Relay Centres (TRC) and Message Centres (later known as Communication Centres). They were activated and operational throughout Canada and even with our Allies.

With the arrival of STRAD the whole concept of military communications changed. There were still Message Centres but the TRC was gone. No more "chad" tape to step on and tear. No more tape reels to store. The army now had to change the rank structure for STRAD. Shift leaders were no longer Sergeants and Corporals but WO1s.

I (Garry Dowd) personally remember working in the CommCen (as a Signaller) and seeing these Sam Brown Belted Soldiers reporting for their shift duty in STRAD. Among the first of these were: WO1 Bud Mitchell, George Daunais, Harry Weins, Jim Strain, and Gordon Sandall. The Ops WO1 at the time was WO1 Don Buchan. It was definitely overkill because as time went by a Sgt/Mcpl was the shift leader.

STRAD - Technical

In early 1962, 4 Sigs Techs were sent to Whitehall, North East England to Standard Telephone and Cables (STC). They were S/Sgt's John Robertson, Rad Tech, and George Dixon, TE Tech, Sgt's Donald Dutton, Tel Tech, and Robert Trottier, TE Tech. The STRAD/TARE (Signal Transmitting Receiving And Distribution)/(Telegraph Automatic Relay Equipment) system was a transistorised fixed-program automatic message handling system developed by STC in England. The common logic part of the system was fully duplicated and cross wired to its identical twin. The messages received were stored on a magnetic drum. Additional storage capacity was on an overflow, magnetic tape system.

At this time there were five STRAD projects under assembly worldwide. They were British Rail Crewe (A), Royal Navy Mauritius (B), Royal Australian Navy Canberra (C) and Melbourne (D), and the Canadian Army (E). Later there were more worldwide STRAD installations. The letter designation 'E' determined if a modification was applicable to our particular site.



In 1961 a team of Technicians (Tel Techs plus 1 Rad Tech) was assembled and hard at work in 1 Army Signal Squadron, in an old wartime “B” building in downtown Ottawa. Teletype Equipment was being stripped down and overhauled by the technicians for shipment to Carp.

Signalman Paul Vaillancourt, the Rad Tech, worked for Sgt Don Dutton. They were two future STRAD Maintainers. They made several trips out to Carp hauling equipment and installing the equipment, wiring in the Tel Tech Workshop, Message Centre, Crypto Centre and the interim Tape Relay Centre on the 3rd floor.

On 4 January 1962, Carp went operational. All the teletype equipment was in place and the Primary TRC on the 3rd floor and the Message Centre on the 4th floor were fully operational.

In the spring, STRAD equipment started to arrive from England along with STC personnel. Donald Davies, Project Leader and his staff of Roy Gillette, Chief Engineer, Colin Buckton, Nigel Brook and Alan Brown came on site. Vic Paquette was a Canadian Installer from Montreal. SSgt John Robertson was an inspector for STC and checked all modifications we carried out. Sgt Don Dutton was responsible for the military installation and modification team. This team consisted of Signalmen Paul Vaillancourt, Ernie Krepps and Doug Hawley. Note, at this time Doug Hawley was a Tel Op. Much later after STRAD went operational in 1964 he re-mustered to TE Tech. He worked for the Canadian installer. Vaillancourt and Krepps were the modifiers. Later Signalmen Bernie Goulet and Doug Nightingale joined the installation group. Sgt Trottier joined us occasionally until STRAD went operational in 1964 as the demands in Toll Test were great, resulting in SSgt Dixon never working in STRAD. All the other aforementioned personnel later became STRAD Maintainers.

In October 1962 Carp had its first lockdown. The Cuban Missile Crisis had the USA and its allies very concerned. It made little difference to STRAD personnel except for not going home at night.

The cabinets carrying the ‘books’ of electronic equipment were approx 3.5 feet square by 7.5 feet or so tall and weighed 1,000 to 1,500 lbs each. This equipment was unpacked in the tunnel and man-handled onto a dolly and carefully taken into the site for installation. This was a very difficult and physical job. In total approximately 80 cabinets were installed. One shipment arrived in 1963 and all the equipment had been damaged during shipment and a new order had to be made and delivered. This resulted in close to 6 months delay in the project.

Modifications to get the system working were coming in fast and furious. In 1963 Ernie, Paul and Bernie were put on double shifts on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Later, at our request, we changed to work until 2100 every weekday. Then during the summer we also worked most weekends. Some new personnel were brought in. After training they were given modifications to be carried out on all the incoming and outgoing line books. They pinched so many wires they were both relieved of the job and we had many hours of extra work to correct the problems caused.

President Kennedy's assassination in the fall of 1963 was about the only thing to slow our modification work as we huddled around the radio in the main lounge.

As said above, on the 22 June 1964, STRAD / TARE system went active. Sgt Ross Creed sent the opening message proclaiming a new milestone in the history of the Canadian Army Signal System. This activation was a full year ahead of any of the other systems being installed

After the installation and acceptance was completed Nigel Brook stayed on for a few years on contract. This was most beneficial as Nigel was the prime fixer and fault finder on the STC team. He wrote 18 training test papers which maintainers used to learn the system.

In 1964 on start up of STRAD the maintenance staff was made up of:

Contractor - Nigel Brook

Senior Maintainers - SSgt John Robertson, and Sgt's Don Dutton and Robert Trottier.

Junior Maintainers – Cpl's Bernie Goulet, Ernie Krepps, Don Medcraft, Doug Nightingale and Paul Vaillancourt, and Sgm Doug Hawley

Senior Maintainers trained in the '60's were WO2 Mike O'Brien, SSgt Ron Burnley and Sgts Jim Lane, Gerry Cheverie and Jim Letourneau.

In 1970 CWO John Robertson, having returned to STRAD and now the boss, ran a Senior Maintainers course with MWO Don Dutton. WO Don Medcraft returned to STRAD and along with WO Gord Leroux and Sgt Garry Vanstone attended the course. They completed training as Senior Maintainers and then commenced weekday shifts. When the Senior Maintainer covered a week of on-call they also did the evening shift. WO Paul Vaillancourt returned to STRAD in July 1971 and went on a self study Senior Maintainer course.

The last training for Senior Maintainers was undertaken in 1978. MWO's Dutton, Medcraft and Vaillancourt rotated as instructors for Sgt McAra, MCpl's Brian Holden and Dave Chaplin.

MWO Don Dutton retired in 1979 after 18 years of continuous and dedicated service working with STRAD. CWO John Robertson followed, retiring in 1980.

In the final 5 years of operation STRAD had a maximum of 15 hours of downtime.

STRAD personnel on closure of the system were:

Senior Maintainers – MWO's Don Medcraft and Paul Vaillancourt, Sgt Bob McAra and MCpl Brian Holden; and,

Junior Maintainers – Cpl's Roger Cousins, Arnie Schmidt, Joe Smith, Jim Stevens, Pte Ralph and Clement Ricard.

Attending the parade were several former CO's - LCol's McNinch and Ellis, and Maj's Green, Nottingham, Milne and Nightingale. Maj Green was the first CO and had been at Carp when the first STRAD shipment was received. WO Ross Creed who had sent the first message officially opening STRAD was also in attendance.

Sgt Bob McAra of STRAD Maintenance and Sgt Jack Devenney of STRAD Operations were given the task of coordinating the STRAD closure ceremonies. These were held on 2 July 1981 with a parade and a fly past by Capt L. Koski of 414 Sqn in a T33 Shooting Star. MGen PJ Mitchell (CLDO) was the inspecting officer and Major Armstrong, CO of CFS Carp was the Parade Commander. WO Pat Murphy sent the final message. After the parade, the STRAD equipment shut-down was carried out by MWO's Mediacraft and Vaillancourt with a number of High-Ranking Comm Officers and STRAD Maintainers in attendance.

STRAD Personnel Ops and Techs were posted all across the country. There was a two week delay for MWO Vaillancourt and Ptes Ralph and Ricard. They stayed on to dismantle the drums and tape decks to turn them in for destruction.

STRAD / TARE closed 17 years and 61 million messages later, when the Strategic Automated Message Switching Operational Network or SAMSON – a computerized network using modern computers – went active.