

NOTE

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Directorate of History  
National Defence Headquarters  
Ottawa, Canada  
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DUPLICATE

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31 Oct 41

Presentation of Colours by Her Majesty  
the Queen to Saskatoon Light Infantry (M.G.),  
24 Oct 41.

Canadian Military Headquarters,  
2 Cockspur Street, S.W. 1,  
London, ENGLAND.

The Director,  
Historical Section,  
General Staff,  
National Defence Headquarters,  
Ottawa, CANADA.

1. A further report is presented. This deals very briefly with the presentation of colours by HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN to the 1st Battalion, THE SASKATOON LIGHT INFANTRY (M.G.), on 24 Oct 41. The writer was present on this occasion.
2. This ceremony took place on the parade-square of the Guards' Depot, CATHERHAM, Surrey, where on 1 Jul last the King presented colours to two other 1 Cdn Div units (CARLETON AND YORK REGT and EDMONTON REGT): see the writer's previous Report No. 37. The ceremonial was very similar to that on the earlier occasion. It is traced in detail in Appendices "A" and "B" (attached). Appendix "B" consists of material prepared for the press by the Public Relations Officer, Cdn Corps (Capt. G. PURCELL).
3. Among the guests were Colonel the Hon. J.L. RALSTON, C.M.G., D.S.O., Minister of National Defence, Canada, and Major-General H.D.G. CRERAR, D.S.O., Chief of the General Staff. With Generals McNAUGHTON and FRANKES, Colonel Ralston accompanied Her Majesty during her inspection of the unit.
4. Music was provided by the band of a Saskatchewan unit of 2 Cdn Div, the SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN REGT.
5. The weather, unfortunately, was not especially favourable. It was a cold morning, and rain threatened during the latter part



of the ceremony, though happily not much actually fell.

#### HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH

6. After presenting the colours, Her Majesty made a short speech to the regiment. I have obtained a copy of it through the Public Relations Officer, C.M.H.Q. It ran as follows :

I am very glad to have this opportunity of being with you once again. Your fine bearing on parade today shows that you have fully maintained the high standard of efficiency you displayed when I visited you 18 months ago.

I know that to many of you these months of waiting have seemed very long and that your thoughts must often have turned to your homes, and to your wives and families whom you have left in Canada.

I know, too, how much your dear ones must be praying for you, and how they are thinking with pride of the part that you have been called upon to play in guarding these shores. I know you will remember that the defence of this island is vital no less to those whom you love than to the cause for which you are fighting.

The colours which I now present to you bear on them the names of battles in which your regiment fought with honour a quarter of a century ago.

Colours are no longer carried in the field, but they still stand for ideals which have always been sacred to soldiers -- pride in their regiment, devotion to a just cause, and readiness to sacrifice self-interest to the service of others.

It is in the knowledge that these ideals are shared by you all that I place these symbols of your belief in your hands today.

I am confident that they are in safe keeping, and I pray that God may bless and protect you all.

7. The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. E.J. SCOTT DUDLEY, replied briefly. He recalled that the Saskatoon Light Infantry inherited the traditions of the 5th Battalion C.E.F., "the Fighting Fifth"; and he mentioned the regiment's pride in its association with the KING'S OWN YORKSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY, of which Her Majesty is Colonel-in-Chief.

8. The regiment, which landed in Britain with the First Canadian Contingent of this war in December, 1939, made a particularly



fine appearance on parade.

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: DHD 3-3  
by \_\_\_\_\_ for DHist NQHQ  
Date: 31 JUL 1986

#### APPRECIATION OF ROYAL VISITS

9. It may not be out of place here to remark that there is no doubt that visits by the Royal Family - and particularly by Her Majesty - are genuinely appreciated and enjoyed by all ranks of the Canadian forces, and that they play an important part in maintaining morale during these difficult days of waiting. The notes of the Field Censors (Home) on the letters written by Canadian soldiers frequently contain testimony to this effect. Those covering mail examined between 29 Sep and 12 Oct 41 remark "The Royal visits to the Canadians have aroused great enthusiasm", and a letter from 13 Forestry Coy., C.F.C., is quoted :

The King and Queen look the same as they do in their pictures but are much nicer... On the King's inspection I stood for three hours before he came but it was worth it in the long run. It was great to see them and to know that we soldiers have someone like them behind us.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS

10. A large number of photographs were taken during the ceremony of presentation of colours. Those taken by the official photographer are to be found in film series 474 and 475.

C.S.

(C.P. Stacey) Major,  
Historical Officer (S.D.2), C.M.H.C.



**Presentation**  
of  
**Colours**  
by  
**Her Majesty The Queen**  
to  
**1st Battalion**  
**Saskatoon Light Infantry (M.C.)**

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*The Consecration Service will be conducted by*  
THE REV. M. J. D. CARSON, B.A., H./Capt. and Chaplain,

*assisted by*  
THE REV. E. N. P. ORME, L.Th., H./Capt. and Chaplain.

24th October, 1941



## Order of Ceremony

1. The Regiment will be formed up in three sides of a square facing the Saluting Base.
2. As soon as Her Majesty The Queen arrives at the Saluting Base, the salute will be given.
3. Her Majesty will inspect the Regiment and then will return to the Saluting Base.
4. The Colours are brought from the rear to the centre of the Regiment. The Colours are uncased.
5. The Consecration will then take place.
6. Her Majesty will present the Colours and address the Regiment.
7. The Colours, turned towards the centre of the square, will be given a general salute.
8. Three cheers will then be given for Her Majesty The Queen.
9. The Regiment will march past in column of route and march off the parade ground.
10. Her Majesty will leave the parade.

## Form of Service for the Consecration of the Colours

*The Rev. M. J. D. Carson, B.A., will stand before the Colours and say :—*

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

In the name of our God we will set up our banners.

*Let us pray.*

O God, who art the God, even Thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth, we render unto Thee our humble and hearty thanks for the signal tokens of Thy favour which Thou hast bestowed upon our country in times past, and we beseech Thee still to continue to us Thy blessing, that we may be strong and great in the fear of Thee and in the love of righteousness. Be very gracious to Thy servant, our Sovereign, King George, that he may be guided and upheld by Thy Spirit, and that under his rule truth and justice, liberty and order, unity and concord may prevail in all parts of his dominions. Unto Thee, O Lord, be glory in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will towards men. *Amen.*

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation ; but deliver us from evil ; For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, For ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Chaplain lay his hands upon the Colours, and say :*

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do dedicate and set apart these Colours, that they may be a sign of our duty towards our King and Country in the sight of God. *Amen.*

*Prayer.*

O Lord, who rulest over all things, accept, we beseech Thee, our service this day. Bless what we have blessed in Thy Name. Let Thy gracious favour rest on those who shall follow the Colours now committed to their trust. Give them courage; and may their courage ever rest on their sure confidence in Thee. May they show self-control in the hour of success, patience in the time of adversity; and may their honour lie in seeking the honour and glory of Thy great Name. May they walk worthily of the vocation to which they are called, in dependence on Thy blessed will, and mindful that without Thee they can do nothing. Guide the counsels of those who shall lead them, and sustain them by help in the time of need. Grant that they may all so faithfully serve Thee in this life, that they fail not finally to obtain an entrance into Thy heavenly kingdom, through the merits of Thy Blessed Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

*Benediction.*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*



Presentation of Colours  
To Saskatoon Light Infantry  
24 Oct 41

(Note - Bracketed references are territorial affiliations permitted by censor. In this instance use of the name of the Saskatoon Light Infantry will be permitted.)

- 1115 - Wives of soldiers of Saskatoon Light Infantry arrive.
- 1130 - Guests arrive. They include Hon. Vincent Massey, Canadian High Commissioner, and Mrs. Massey; Hon. J.L. Ralston, Canadian Minister of National Defence; Sir Gerald Wollaston, Garter King of Arms; Brigadier A.E. Potts, former commanding officer of the Saskatoon Light Infantry, who commanded the Spitzbergen expedition; General Sir Charles P. Deedes, honorary Colonel-in-Chief of King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, the unit's allied regiment; Mrs. McNaughton and Mrs. Pearkes.
- 1145 - Commanders arrive. They are Lieut-Gen. A.G.L. McNaughton, Canadian Corps; Lieut-Gen. B.C.T. Paget, ~~Area~~ <sup>Command</sup>; Maj-Gen. G.R. Pearkes, V.C., 1st Canadian Division; Maj-Gen. The Hon. P.J. Montague, Senior Officer at Canadian Military Headquarters; Maj-Gen. H.D.G. Crerar, Chief of General Staff at Ottawa. <sup>CS.</sup>
- 1200 - Visitor arrives.
- 1203 - Visitor greeted by Generals McNaughton, Pearkes and Montague and proceeds to parade ground.
- 1205 - Visitor goes to saluting base and ceremony of presentation of colours begins.

Details of ceremony are appended. Names of individuals taking part follow.

Response to the address by the visitor is by Lieut-Col. E.J. Scott-Dudley of Saskatoon, officer commanding the unit. Second-in-command is Major P.C. Klaehn of Saskatoon.

Senior Major, in charge of the colour party, is Major R. Lancaster of Melfort, Sask. Also in the colour party is Major D.E. Walker of Saskatoon and the two ensigns, Lieuts. R.C. Macdonald and L.P.J. Marr, both of Saskatoon.



and Capt. G.F.P. Bradbrooke  
of Saskatoon

Besides Majors Lancaster and Walker, Company commanders are Majors P.J. Reynolds and T. de Faye of Saskatoon, who commanded the unit's detachment at Spitzbergen.

Chaplain is Hon. Capt. M.J.D. Carson of Saskatoon. Assistant Chaplain is Hon. Capt. E.P.N. Orme of Kindersley, Sask.

The band is supplied by the South Saskatchewan Regiment (Saskatchewan) of the 2nd Canadian Division. Bandmaster is Cpl. A.E. Mundy of Calgary.

Colours are gift of the city of Saskatoon.

1235 - Ceremony ends.

1243 - Visitor leaves for Divisional Headquarters.

1245 - Guests leave.

1305 - Visitor arrives Divisional Headquarters and inspects guard of honour provided by 48th Highlanders (Central Ontario) and Seaforths of Canada (British Columbia). Guard commanded by Major W.B. Creighton of Vancouver.

1330 - Luncheon at Divisional Headquarters.

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In the morning, Hon. J.L. Ralston, Canadian Minister of National Defence visited Divisional Headquarters to meet Brigadiers, Brigade Majors and Headquarters senior staff officers.  
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## SHORT HISTORY OF THE SASKATOON LIGHT INFANTRY (M.G.)

Prior to the last war, the regiment was known as the 105th Fusiliers Regiment with headquarters in Saskatoon, later becoming part of the 5th battalion, C.E.F. which proceeded to England with the 1st Canadian contingent in 1914.

Upon demobilization of the C.E.F. after The First Great War, the battalion was perpetuated by the 1st battalion North Saskatchewan Regiment under command of Lt.-Col. W.J. White, D.S.O., M.C.

In 1924 the name of the regiment was changed to the Saskatoon Light Infantry with Lt.-Col. W. McIntosh as commanding officer. From 1929 to 1935 the battalion was commanded by Lt.-Col. E.A. Chater, E.D.

On the re-organization of the Canadian Militia in 1936 the battalion became a machine gun unit under command of Lt.-Col. J.M. Cleland.

On Sept. 1, 1939 the battalion was mobilized as a unit of the C.A.S.F. and proceeded under Lt.-Col. A.E. Potts, E.D., to England and landed on Dec. 17, 1939.

The colours now presented are a gift of the citizens of Saskatoon.

Allied regiment - The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.

Great War battle honors - "Ypres 1915-17", "Gravenstafel", "St. Julien", "Festubert, 1915", "Mount Sorrel", "Somme 1916", "Thiepval", "Ancre Heights", "Arras, 1917, '18", "Vimy, 1917", "Arleux", "Hill 70", "Passchendaele", "Amiens", "Scarpe 1918", "Drocourt-Queant", "Hindenburg Line", "Canal du Nord", "Pursuit to Mons", "France and Flanders 1915-18".



PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO ONE GUN BN

1. Bn will be formed up on three sides of the square.
2. On approach of Personage Presenting Colours (P.P.C.) the O.C. will call the Bn to "Attention" and "Slope Arms."
3. When the P.P.C. arrives on the saluting base the O.C. will give "Present Arms" and a band play the appropriate salute. The O.C. will then give the Bn "Slope Arms" and "Order Arms." The O.C. will then advance towards the P.P.C. and salute.
4. P.P.C. inspects Bn. (Band plays selections). Drums are piled.
5. On completion of inspection P.P.C. will return to saluting base and the O.C. to his original position.
6. The O.C. will give the Bn "Stand at Ease, Colour Party to the Front." The Senior Major will give "Colour Party - Attention - Slope Arms - By the Centre - Quick - March." On reaching the pile of drums the Senior Major gives "Colour Party Halt - Uncase Colours." When Colours have been placed on the drums, the Senior Major will give "Colour Party will Retire - About Turn - Quick - March." On arriving in line with the Bn the Senior Major will give "Halt - About Turn - Order Arms - Stand at Ease - Stand Easy."
7. The Chaplain accompanied by his assistant will place themselves on the side opposite the drums facing P.P.C. The colours are consecrated and the Chaplains will return to their original position.
8. The O.C. will give the Bn "Attention - Slope Arms - Officers for the Colours Quick March."
9. The four officers will form line on the rear side of the P.P.C., Majors on the outside. Both Majors will take up colours, take a pace forward and turn inwards; at the same time the ensigns will bend on to right knee to receive colours. When the last colour has been handed over the Majors will turn outwards and take one pace to rear and the ensigns will do the same at the same time.
10. Address by P.P.C. O.C. answers.
11. The Senior Major will give "Officers for the Colours, Inwards Turn - Take Post - Quick March."
12. The O.C. gives "General Salute - Present Arms."
13. As Band commences, officers carrying colours will step off in slow time and take up their place in line; halt and turn about; Change Over.
14. When band ceases O.C. gives "Slope Arms - Order Arms - Remove Head-dress - Three Cheers - Replace Head-dress - Slope Arms - Close Order March."
15. O.C. will give "Bn will march past in column of route - Move to the right in column of route - Right turn." On the command, officers with the colours will take post in front of Bn. O.C. gives "By the Left - Quick March." Bn will wheel onto saluting line by the right and march off the parade ground.

E.A.C./wd  
1 CDR/6-6  
21 Oct 41