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REPORT NO. 78

HISTORICAL OFFICER

CANADIAN MILITARY HEADQUARTERS

31 Jul 42

Situation of the Canadian Military Forces
in the United Kingdom, Summer, 1942 : I.

Recent Changes in Commands and Staffs.

1. A further Report, initiating a new series of periodical surveys, is presented. This is a continuation of No. 65, dated 31 Mar 42, and deals with changes in senior Commands and Staff appointments since that date.
2. A considerable number of important changes have taken place during the period dealt with. Headquarters, First Canadian Army, has been organized (see Report No. 69) and this in itself has caused numerous personnel changes.
3. The scope and form of this Report are similar to those of No. 36, in which this subject was first systematically treated. References in parentheses are to Supplements to Canadian Army Overseas Routine Orders; dates, unless otherwise specified, are those on which the changes mentioned became effective.

HIGHER COMMANDS

4. As noted in Report No. 69, Lt.-Gen. McNAUGHTON, who had only lately returned from a visit to Canada, assumed command of First Canadian Army as of 6 Apr 42 (1828). As of the same date Major-General (acting Lt.-Gen.) H.D.G. CRERAR, who had continued to exercise temporary command of 1 Cdn Corps up to that date, was confirmed in the command of the Corps and in the rank of Lt.-Gen. (1828, 6 Apr 42). The only change in a Canadian Divisional Command has consisted in the fact that Brigadier J.H. ROBERTS, who had been commanding 2 Cdn Div in an acting capacity, was confirmed in the command and promoted Major-General as of 6 Apr 42 (1828).
5. 1 Cdn Corps, still in Sussex, remains under the operational command of Lt.-Gen. MONTGOMERY, C.O.C.-in-C, South-Eastern Command (see Report No. 65, para. 4).

HEADQUARTERS, FIRST CANADIAN ARMY

6. The organization of Headquarters, First Canadian Army, has proceeded on the lines noted in Report No. 69, and is now approaching completion. Appointments made have been as follows: Brigadier G.R. TURNER, formerly D.A. & Q.M.G., 1 Cdn Corps, was appointed D.A. & Q.M.G., First Canadian Army, effective 6 Apr 42, with the rank of Major-General (1828). Col. J.E.

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GENET, who had been Chief Signal Officer, 1 Cdn Corps, became Chief Signal Officer, First Canadian Army, with the rank of Brigadier (1828, 6 Apr 42).

7. When the organization of Army Headquarters was somewhat advanced, Brigadier H.O.N. BROWNFIELD, who as of 6 Apr 42 had been confirmed in the appointment of C.C.R.C.A. which he had held in an acting capacity in the absence of Brigadier Roberts, was appointed Brigadier R.C.A., First Canadian Army effective 24 Jun 42 (1828, 2208). Simultaneously, Brigadier M.H.S. PENHALE, vacating the appointment of Brigadier, General Staff at C.M.H.Q., assumed the same appointment at Headquarters, First Canadian Army (2208, 24 Jun 42).

8. When Headquarters, First Canadian Army was originally organized, one first-grade appointment to the General Staff Branch was made, Major G.P. HENDERSON (R.H.C.) being appointed G.S.O.I (Ops.) and promoted Acting Lt.-Col. whilst so employed (1862, 11 Apr 42). Another first-grade appointment was actually made, that of Major B.H. DARWIN, R.C.E., to be G.S.O.I (S.D. & T.) with the acting rank of Lt.-Col. (1862, 11 Apr 42) but for some time this Officer worked at C.M.H.Q., as noted in Report No. 69. He has now removed to Headquarters, First Canadian Army.

9. At a subsequent stage of development Lt.-Col. Henderson relinquished the appointment of G.S.O.I (Ops.) for that of G.S.O.I (Int.), and was replaced in the former by Lt.-Col. T.G. GIBSON, R. Wpg. Rif. (2193, 13 Jun 42). At the same time Major W.R. SAWYER, R.C.E., who had lately arrived from Canada and was employed as G.S.O.II (C.W.) at C.M.H.Q., was appointed G.S.O.I (C.W.) at Headquarters, First Canadian Army with the acting rank of Lt.-Col. (2193, 15 Jun 42). Lt.-Col. Sawyer, however, has continued to work at C.M.H.Q.

10. Other appointments which should be noted at Headquarters, First Canadian Army, are as follows: Lt.-Col. W. McNEILL (formerly A.M.S. at H.Q. 1 Cdn Corps) to be A.M.S. (since altered to A.A.G. (M.S.)) at Headquarters, First Canadian Army (1862, 6 Apr 42); Major B.W.G. GROVER, R.C. Sigs. to be G.S.O.I (Sigs) and acting Lt.-Col. (1881, 18 Apr 42); Lt.-Col. (acting Col.) A.T. MacLEAN, M.C.V.D., to be Col. and C.R.C.E., First Canadian Army Troops R.C.E. (1905, 25 Apr 42); Lt.-Col. J.A.W. BENNETT to be D.D.O.S. with the rank of Col. (2105, 1 Jun 42); Col. H.G. THOMPSON, D.F.C., E.D. to be D.D.O.S. (E) (2193, 22 Jun 42); Major W.S. ZIEGLER, R.C.A., to be G.S.O.I (R.C.A.) with the rank of Lt.-Col. (2208, 3 Jul 42).

11. It is worth mentioning that as of 6 Apr 42 Lt. (acting Capt.) C.S. WALLACE, Tor. Scot. R. (M.G.), was appointed to be Public Relations Officer at Headquarters, First Canadian Army, with the acting rank of Major whilst so employed (1828).

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST CANADIAN CORPS

12. The formation of Headquarters, First Canadian Army, inevitably led to important changes at Headquarters, 1 Cdn Corps. Brigadier G.G. SIMONDS, however, remained as Brigadier, General Staff, until 12 Jul 42, when he vacated this employment to undertake special duty (2257). (This duty is understood to consist of directing a Canadian Liaison Office which has been set up at Expeditionary Force Headquarters in LONDON.) As of 13 Jul 42 Lt.-Col. C.C. MANN, C.A.C. (formerly G.S.O.I, 2 Cdn Div) became Brigadier and B.G.S. General Turner (para. 6, above) was

succeeded as D.A. & Q.M.G., 1 Cdn Corps by Lt.-Col. A.E. WALFORD, M.M., E.D. (appointment and promotion to Brigadier, 1828, 6 Apr 42). Col. J.L. MELVILLE, M.C., E.D., became Chief Engineer, 1 Cdn Corps, with the rank of Brigadier (1828, 6 Apr 42); and Lt.-Col. W.L. LAURIE, R.C. Sigs, became Chief Signal Officer with the rank of Col. (1828, 6 Apr 42).

13. On Brigadier Brownfield's departure for Army Headquarters (para. 7, above) he was succeeded as C.C.R.C.A., 1 Cdn Corps by Brigadier G.A. McCARTER, formerly commanding 1 Cdn A.A. Bde (2208, 24 Jun 42).

FIRST CANADIAN DIVISION

14. There have been various changes in commands and staff appointments in 1 Cdn Div. Brigadier A.E. POTTS relinquished the command of 2 Cdn Inf Bde, on appointment to command 6 Cdn Div with the rank of Major-General (2156, 19 May 42). He was succeeded in the command by Lt.-Col. C. VOKES, R.C.E., formerly G.S.O.I., 1 Cdn Div (appointment and promotion to Brigadier, 2208, 24 Jun 42). Brigadier H.N. GANONG has similarly relinquished command of 3 Cdn Inf Bde on appointment to command 8 Cdn Div, but the change in command, and his successor's name, have not yet been published in Orders.

15. Brigadier Vokes was succeeded as G.S.O.I. by Lt.-Col. W.N. BOSTOCK, R.C.E., formerly A.A. & Q.M.G. of the Division; and Lt.-Col. E.B. WILSON, formerly commanding the EDMONTON REGIMENT, became A.A. & Q.M.G. (2208, 29 Jun 42).

SECOND CANADIAN DIVISION

16. There have been no changes in Brigade Commands in 2 Cdn Div, and a successor to Brigadier MANN as G.S.O.I. (para. 12 above) has not yet been gazetted.

THIRD CANADIAN DIVISION

17. There have been no changes in Brigade Commands in 3 Cdn Div. Lt.-Col. E.C. PLOW has been appointed C.R.C.A. for the Division in succession to Brigadier Brownfield (above, para. 7, and see Report No. 65, para. 21) (appointment, and promotion to Brigadier, 1828, 6 Apr 42).

FIFTH CANADIAN (ARMoured) DIVISION

18. There have been no changes in Brigade or equivalent commands in 5 Cdn (Armd) Div since Report No. 65 was written. Lt.-Col. H.A. YOUNG, R.C. Sigs, has however relinquished the appointment of G.S.O.I. on becoming Brigadier, General Staff at C.M.H.Q. (2208, 24 Jun 42). He was succeeded as G.S.O.I. by Lt.-Col. J.D.B. SMITH, formerly commanding 1 Armd C.R. (R.C.D.) (2208, 29 Jun 42). The Division is now under command of H.Q., First Canadian Army.

FIRST CANADIAN ARMY TANK BRIGADE

19. Brigadier WYMAN remains in command of 1 Cdn Army Tk Bde.

FIRST CANADIAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT BRIGADE

20. Brigadier McCARTER (above, para. 13) has been succeeded as Commander of 1 Cdn A.A. Bde by Lt.-Col. (acting Col.) D.R. AGNEW, formerly commanding No. 1 Canadian Artillery Reinforcement Unit (appointment, and promotion to Brigadier, 2257, 13 Jul 42). The Brigade is still under command of C.M.H.Q.

CANADIAN MILITARY HEADQUARTERS

21. As noted above (paras. 7 and 18), Brigadier Penhale has been succeeded as B.G.S., C.M.H.Q., by Brigadier H.A. Young. Brigadier Young had served at C.M.H.Q. as G.S.O.I. (S.D.) previous to assuming his appointment at H.Q. 5 Cdn (Armd) Div.

22. Other appointments in the General Staff Branch have been as follows: Lt.-Col. F.F. FULTON, R.C. Sigs., has been functioning as S.D. (Tech.) in charge of the Technical Liaison Sub-sections of the Staff Duties Section, pending approval by N.D.H.Q. of a first-grade appointment for this function. Major (acting Lt.-Col.) R.M. CROWE, R.C.R., formerly G.S.O.I. at H.Q., Canadian Reinforcement Units, has been appointed G.S.O.I. (M.T.) (2244, 7 Jul 42).

23. In "A" Branch, the appointment of Assistant Deputy Adjutant General has been created, and Lt.-Col. C.S. BOOTH, E.D., (W.L.I. (M.G.)) has been appointed to it with the rank of Colonel (1802, 3 Feb 42). Col. Booth formerly held the appointment of A.A.G. (Pers.), in which he was succeeded by Capt. (acting Major) F.B. MATTHEWS (appointment, and promotion to acting rank of Lt.-Col., 1802, 1 Mar 42). Col. Booth represents the constituency of WINNIPEG NORTH in the Dominion House of Commons.

24. The appointment of Lt.-Col. R.T.E. HICKS-LYNE as O. 1/c Records has been confirmed (1881, 10 Jan 42).

25. It is worthy of notice that Major J.M. HUMPHREY, M.C., V.D., has vacated the appointment of Assistant Director of Auxiliary Services, C.M.H.Q., and has been succeeded by Capt. (acting Major) P.J. PHILPOTT, M.C., D.C.M., Sask. L.I. (M.G.), temporarily detailed for this appointment (2135, 8 Jun 42).

26. In "Q" Branch, Col. N.B. MacDONALD has relinquished the provisional appointment of Director of Q.M.G. Services on returning to Canada for duty at N.D.H.Q. (2244, 30 Jun 42); and has been succeeded by Lt.-Col. (acting Col.) G.E.R. Smith, formerly commanding 1 Canadian A.S.C. Reinforcement Unit (2244, 1 Jul 42). The appointment of Col. H.B. KEENLEYSIDE as Director of Ordnance Services was gazetted effective 25 Feb 42 (1993).

CANADIAN REINFORCEMENT UNITS

27. At Headquarters, Canadian Reinforcement Units, Major I.L. IBBOTSON, E.D., R.H.C., has become temporary G.S.O.I., replacing Lt.-Col. Crowe (appointment and promotion to acting rank of Lt.-Col., 2244, 7 Jul 42).

28. There have been no further changes in Group Commands, but H.Q. "E" Group has been organized and this Group is commanded by Col. S.A. LEE, M.C. (1802, 31 Mar 42).

29. Lt.-Col. C.W. DEVEY, Ld.S.H.(R.C.), O.C. Overseas Canadian Training School, has been promoted Colonel (2156, 1 Jan 42).

CANADIAN FORESTRY CORPS

30. A number of staff changes have taken place in the Canadian Forestry Corps. Col. G.M. STRONG, D.S.O., has vacated the appointment of second in command and Director of Timber Operations on returning to Canada (2244, 1 Jun 42) and has been succeeded by Lt.-Col. C.E.F. JONES, formerly Assistant Director of Timber Operations (appointment, and promotion to Col., 2156, 23 May 42). Col. Jones has been succeeded as Assistant Director of Timber Operations by Lt.-Col. E.P. BURCHETT, formerly commanding No. 5 Forestry District (2156, 23 May 42). No. 5 Forestry District is now commanded by Lt.-Col. N.C. FERGUSON (2156, 23 May 42).

EMPLOYMENT OF PERMANENT FORCE OFFICERS

31. Attention has been called in previous Reports (see, e.g., No. 36, para. 9) to the manner in which Permanent Force officers are being employed in the present war. It has been pointed out that they are performing the function of supplying personnel for higher staff appointments which was performed, in general, for the Canadian Forces in the last war by the British Regular Army. In addition, of course, Permanent Force officers are found in a large proportion of the most important commands. It was noted in Report No. 55 (para. 24) that Canadian officers not of the Permanent Force were beginning to appear in first-grade appointments. This continues to be true, an example being the case of Lt.-Col. G.P. HENDERSON (paras. 8 and 9, above). In general, however, higher staff appointments are still usually held by Permanent Force officers.

32. In a number of cases Permanent Force officers have been employed in command of units not themselves part of the peacetime Permanent Force. An early example of this was the appointment of Major (now Brigadier) H.L.N. SALMON, M.C., R.C.R., to command the HASTINGS & PRINCE EDWARD REGIMENT (18, 5 Feb 40). A more recent example is the case of the ROYAL WINNIPEG RIFLES. Major T.G. GIBSON, R.C.R., was appointed to command this unit (1615, 18 Jan 42), and on his removal to H.Q., First Canadian Army (above, para. 9) was replaced by another officer of his own old regiment, Major W.J. MOOGK, formerly Brigade Major, 7 Cdn Inf Bde (2244, 10 Jun 42).

33. Needless to say, officers not of the Permanent Force have also been similarly appointed to command units with which they were not previously connected. An example is the appointment of Major G.S.N. GOSTLING of the ROYAL REGIMENT OF CANADA to command the TORONTO SCOTTISH REGIMENT (M.G.) (1905, 19 Apr 42). In this case an officer of one TORONTO unit was appointed to command another. Lt.-Col. Gostling was one of the officers who took the first Canadian Junior War Staff Course in this country (716). Lt.-Col. Henderson (above, para. 31) also took this course (716).

STAFF TRAINING

34. The latest policy with reference to staff training in the Canadian Army Overseas is summarized in Overseas Routine Order 2106, 4 Jun 42 (superseding Overseas R.O. 1325, referred to in Report No. 55, para. 39).

AGE LIMITS FOR COMMAND

35. The further development of the question of age limits and suitability for field command (Report No. 65, paras. 35-40) is reserved for treatment at a later time.

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