

NOTE

This is a preliminary narrative and should not be regarded as authoritative. It has not been checked for accuracy in all aspects, and its interpretations are not necessarily those of the Historical Section as a whole.

Ce texte est préliminaire et n'a aucun caractère officiel. On n'a pas vérifié son exactitude et les interprétations qu'il contient ne sont pas nécessairement celles du Service historique.

Directorate of History
National Defence Headquarters
Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0K2

July 1986

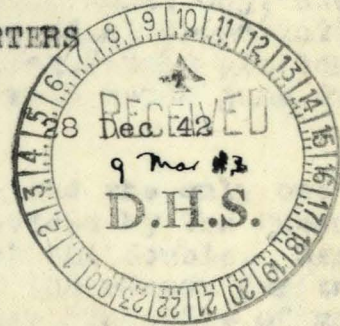
SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: DHD 3-3
by Dec for DHist NDHQ
Date: 2 AUG 1986

REPORT NO. 88

HISTORICAL OFFICER

CANADIAN MILITARY HEADQUARTERS



Third Anniversary of Landing of First Flight
of 1st Canadian Division.

1. This Report deals with the observance of the third anniversary of the arrival in the United Kingdom, on 17 Dec 39, of the first flight of 1 Cdn Div. This observance took the form of a parade on 17 Dec 42 of representative sub-units of the Canadian Army Overseas. This was followed by a press conference at which General McNaughton received representatives of Canadian, British and American newspapers and broadcasting systems. The writer was present at both the parade and the conference.
2. These matters appear to be worthy of record, as affording some convenient index of the progress made by the Canadian Army Overseas during three years which, while they have seen no contact with the enemy (with the notable exception of the DIEPPE operation of 19 Aug 42), have nevertheless been years of great activity and rather remarkable expansion. The units and equipment seen on parade on this occasion, and the brief review of three years' progress given afterwards by the G.O.C.-in-C. First Cdn Army, are likely to be matters of some interest to the Official Historian.

PARADE OF CANADIAN SUB-UNITS

3. Headquarters, First Canadian Army, had organized for this occasion a display in the shape of a march-past of sub-units representing virtually every arm and service in the Canadian Army, from the Armoured Corps to the Postal Corps. This took place on a road immediately west of the village of CRAWLEY, SUSSEX, not far from Headquarters, 1 Cdn Corps. The parade was witnessed by a group of distinguished guests which, in addition to the Secretary of State for War (Sir James Grigg), included Mr. Maisky (the Soviet Ambassador), Major-General Hartle (commanding U.S. troops in the United Kingdom), Mr. Massey (Canadian High Commissioner), H.H. The Maharajah Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, and a large number of British, American and Canadian senior officers.
4. The parade comprised thirty units and sub-units with their mechanical equipment. The object was to demonstrate, not merely the remarkable progress in the matter of equipment made by the Canadian Army Overseas during recent months, but also the growing contribution to victory being made by Canadian industry in the production of such equipment. The greater part of the weapons, vehicles and other equipment shown were products of Canadian factories.
5. A copy of the programme for the occasion, including the commentary spoken over a public-address system for the benefit of the spectators, is attached as Appendix "A". This should be consulted for details, which accordingly will not be repeated here. Particularly impressive, however, were the march-past of a squadron of RAM II cruiser tanks of 2 Cdn Armd Regt (Lord Strathcona's Horse), armed with 6-pounder guns; a

troop of 1 Cdn Med Regt, equipped with 5.5-inch gun-howitzers drawn by Diesel tractors; a troop of 2 Cdn Hy A.A. Regt with 3.7-inch anti-aircraft guns; and vehicles of No. 1 Tank Transporter Coy, R.C.A.S.C., carrying Ram tanks. Heavy equipment of 1 Cdn Spec Tunnelling Coy and 1 Cdn Rd Const Coy, R.C.E., was also seen. A new development in tactical organization which was demonstrated was an infantry anti-tank platoon (provided by Camerons of C.) equipped with 2-pdr guns drawn by 5-cwt "Jeep" cars.

6. The last unit in the parade, and the only one on foot, was a company of marching infantry provided by the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, which marched past at the double. General McNaughton subsequently explained that the reason for this was the desire to remind the spectators that, in spite of modern mechanization, the ability of the infantry to march rapidly for long periods and be in condition to fight afterwards is actually more important to-day than at any previous time.

7. Two pieces of new experimental equipment were included in the parade. These were the Canadian self-propelled 3.7-inch anti-aircraft gun and 25-pounder, each mounted on the Ram tank chassis. It was explained by General McNaughton that it is proposed to use the S.P. 25-pounder to arm one of the two field regiments to be included in Canadian armoured divisions under the new organization now being adopted. He remarked that this equipment had performed very well on trials. The S.P. 3.7-inch gun, he said, is intended not so much for use in an anti-aircraft role as for employment against enemy tanks possessing armour up to 120 mm. in thickness, should the Germans produce such equipment.

8. The parade lasted more than two hours. The display was punctuated at intervals by bursts of anti-aircraft fire directed at low-flying British aircraft by the anti-aircraft units deployed to protect the spectators and the parade. Orders had been issued that, in view of the cloudiness of the weather, fighter cover would not be provided, and A.A. guns would fire upon all aircraft approaching the area at a height of less than 1,000 feet. This had been notified to the R.A.F., but apparently without effect. It is understood that one plane was so damaged by fire as to necessitate a forced landing, but the pilot fortunately was not injured. The special anti-aircraft precautions taken on this occasion were in part the result of a raid by enemy planes on the HORSHAM area the previous day.

9. The variety of equipment shown, fuller details of which may be found in Appendix "A", was remarkable when one remembers the extreme difficulty of meeting the equipment needs of the Canadian Army Overseas at an earlier time. In this connection, attention is directed to Report No. 46, in which the equipment situation during 1940-41 was briefly reviewed.

PRESS CONFERENCE

10. Speaking afterwards to the representatives of the press, General McNaughton said that they could doubtless imagine how thrilling such a display as this had been for those who had been concerned "in building the show up" from a very small beginning. He also pointed out that, whereas in 1939 Canada had "almost no war industry", now "nearly all" the vehicles and equipment demonstrated in this parade were of Canadian manufacture, and some were Canadian in design. This, he thought, constituted a remarkable tribute to the workshops and industry of Canada.

11. General McNaughton recalled the early days of the Canadian Army Overseas and mentioned the plans originally made for 1 Cdn Div to join the B.E.F. in FRANCE during 1940. He spoke of the considerable number of disappointments suffered by the Canadian troops then and since that time - occasions, some of which have never been referred to in public, when Canadian troops were offered the possibility of action against the enemy and subsequently denied such action at the last moment.

12. In this connection, General McNaughton dealt at some length with the matter of the morale of the Canadian Army Overseas. Such disappointments as these, he said, were very trying experiences, especially for young soldiers who had never seen action. It was, he thought, a great tribute to the men of the Army that in spite of so many frustrations morale had remained on the highest level. He attributed this happy result to the fact that "our men have good common sense"; they are a very intelligent body of men, not an army of adventurers, but men who have come to Britain to serve a cause.

13. The General said that he felt that morale owed much also to the rapid expansion which had taken place. The development had been "cutwards" from the units and formations which had first arrived, and there had been plenty of promotion. Promising men had been "shoved ahead" and given every opportunity. Most of the older men who came into the Army in the beginning had now passed out of the active units. There was "youth in the ranks and youth in command", and this he considered a very healthy thing. In spite of mechanization, physical fitness was more important to-day than ever.

14. Asked if he would care to say something as to why the Canadian Army had not been in action, General McNaughton replied, with special reference to the campaign now proceeding in NORTH AFRICA, that in the course of this war many plans had been prepared, and "the ones we were studying didn't happen to be NORTH AFRICA". That the Canadians have been denied action so far had been due simply "to the chance circumstances of war as they have developed". He recalled the statements made by Canadian Ministers concerning the employment of the Canadian Army, to the effect that there were "no strings" on it: it would be used wherever it could be used to best advantage in the common cause. One newspaperman asked General McNaughton whether any invitation had been received for Canadian troops to participate in the NORTH AFRICAN enterprise. The General replied that this was a question he could not venture to answer.

15. Another correspondent asked whether General McNaughton considered that his Army could be best employed "as a self-contained unit". The General replied that from many points of view there were definite military advantages in keeping an army such as the Canadian Army together. It had, for instance, the effect of simplifying administration. Moreover, throughout the Canadian Army, as a result of the manner in which it had developed from a comparatively small nucleus, there existed a host of personal friendships and relationships which were a great source of strength and which were special to that Army. Nevertheless, General McNaughton emphasized that this did not exclude the possibility of Canadians serving as part of a mixed force when needed. The element of flexibility was important, and Canadians were sufficiently broad-minded to realize that their Army was here for a purpose bigger than itself. There was "nothing dogmatic or egocentric" about the Canadian attitude.

16. Asked about the situation concerning reinforcements from Canada, General McNaughton said he could not afford to be drawn into the discussion of questions with political implications. In practice, the only important limitation upon the supply of men from Canada had been lack of shipping.

17. One correspondent inquired whether any statement could be made concerning the formation of the 2nd Canadian Corps, which had been forecast as likely in the near future at the time of the formation of H.Q. First Cdn Army in April last. (See Report No. 69.) General McNaughton replied that it would be premature to make an announcement at this moment. The formation of the 2nd Corps had been authorized, and it now lay with him to decide when it was desirable to proceed with it. One factor which had made such action undesirable down to the present time was the heavy demands recently made upon our limited supply of trained staff officers.

18. Asked about the situation with respect to air support for the Canadian Army Overseas, General McNaughton replied that the officer commanding the Canadian Army Co-operation Wing had just been promoted from Wing Commander to Group Captain, and as Group Captains were not made for fun "you can draw your own conclusions".

(C.P. Stacey)

(C.P. Stacey) Major,
Historical Officer,
Canadian Military Headquarters.

APPENDIX "A"

COPY

67-3-0/SD

HQ First Cdn Army

16 Dec 42

COMMENTARY - ANNIVERSARY PARADE

17 Dec 42

Serial 3

PREAMBLE

Here comes a part of the big punch held by an arm and div. In this afternoon's parade (are) representative sub-units of all arms and services of the Cdn Army Overseas. During the past three years there has been a steady flow of personnel, formations, units and equipment to this country. The tps which are on parade today are equipped, in the main, with Cdn vehs, weapons and equipment. It will be evident that the development of the Cdn Army has been governed to a great degree by the growth of Canada's War Industries. While war will always remain a personal matter and while the personal qualities of the individual soldiers remain an essential in war, modern armies as we know, depend upon the industrial effort for their mobility, fire-power and maintenance. While it is obviously impossible to demonstrate every item of our equipment today, the sub-units in the parade have been chosen with the object of showing as many samples as possible. You will see by the variety of veh signs that they are drawn from the various formations of First Cdn Army.

Serial 1

Serial 4

A sqn of the 3th Cdn Recce Regt formerly the 14th Hussars of Western Sask. Although now mounted in armd vehs the regiment performs exactly the same duties of recce and protection that a divisional cavalry regiment did in the day of the horses. Composed of scout tps and assault tps it can sweep the country with a screen of inquisitive armd cars backed up by carriers full of highly trained speedy skirmishers. The carrier personnel are ready at a moment's notice to vault from their carriers and rush into action and winkle out enemy holding up the armd cars from cover that is proof against the weapons of the armour. This unit is a maid of all work and can not only recce and clear away light opposition in an advance but can produce considerable fire-power when disposed on the ground and can impose delay and harass superior forces who must deploy vastly greater numbers to attack it - then only to find that its mobile enemy has inflicted many casualties and much delay, and slipped off to the next position, ready to perform again. Mounted in vehs produced in Canada (except for just one of the 52) the sqn you see in front of you is as hard hitting, as mobile and as infinitely versatile an example of modern warfare as may be seen.

Serial 2

Serial 5

A sqn of RCD, the senior Cdn Cavalry Regiment, with peace-time HQ in Toronto, Ont. This type of unit possesses the greatest road mobility and furthest reaching radius of action of any in the Cdn Army. A unit formed distance recce out into the blue, finding a distant enemy, clinging on to him and constantly reporting back to Corps or Army HQ, every movement of that enemy. An armd car regt is the farthest flung hand of a very long arm, only exceeded in range by the aeroplane. If you prefer it call the armd car patrols, the ground eyes of the Comd, as opposed to the air eyes carried in the RCAF. There is another characteristic

Serial 7

"A" Tp, 1 Hy AA Bty, 2 Hy AA Regt, RCA, from Montreal, PQ. This is the 3.7 Hy AA gun which is used to take on enemy planes out

which must also be noticed for it is shown in the variety of armament and types of veh in front of you. No rapid movement can elude it nor can the tale bearing voices of its wireless equipped personnel be stilled. A variety of equipment is necessary for this type of unit to fulfil its role. In 1940 such a unit as this probed its way far into BELGIUM in advance of the BEF, and having made touch with the enemy cols, fought continuously for days, never once losing touch, withdrawing steadily but only in its own time and keeping up a cheerful running commentary of accurate information of incalculable value to the C in C at GHQ.

Serial 3

Here comes a part of the big punch held by an arm'd div, a sqn of 2 Arm'd Regt (LdSH), originally a regt of horse, from Western Canada. Descendants of the old heavy shock troops you see now one third of the hitting power of that most powerful unit - an arm'd regt. In arm'd fighting, the excellence of weapons and machinery count on land as much as it does in the air or on the sea. No bravery and skill can adequately compensate for inferiority of armour and mechanical efficiency. Equally important is that complicated weapons require the highest degree of skill in operation. Here you see Cdn built and Cdn designed Ram tanks equal to any tank of its weight when it comes to the crash of the tank battle. These Rams are crewed by men who have to complete intense and long training both individually in their job of driver, gunner, operator and Tk Comd and collectively as crews before becoming part of the combat team which is the troop, before that smallest tactical sub-unit can go into battle. The training is progressive from joining in Canada to the eventual battlefield.

Serial 4

"C" Tp, 16 Fd Bty, 12 Fd Regt, RCA from Guelph and Brampton, Western Ontario. These are 25 pr guns, the standard field piece in use by all British Empire forces. As the name implies this gun fires a 25 pound projectile for many miles with great accuracy. Good reports have been received from all theatres of war on the performance of this equipment. Not only in its primary role as a field gun, but also as a tank destroyer at close quarters. Well known to everyone is the splendid part played by field regts equipped with 25 prs during the recent successful campaign in North Africa. This type of weapon is now being manufactured complete in Canadian workshops.

Serial 5

"H" Tp, 104 A Tk Bty, 7 A Tk Regt, RCA from Fredericton, NB. Here are four 6 pr A Tk Guns. These are quick moving, easily concealed, hard hitting tank destroyers, capable of knocking out the toughest enemy armour. Their rate of fire is high, and they too have proved their worth in North Africa. These guns are also made in Canada.

Serial 6

"J" Tp, 109 Lt AA Bty, 1 Lt AA Regt, RCA, from Trail, BC and Alberta. This troop uses the 40 mm Bofors AA gun. This gun has a very high rate of fire and a sighting system enables it to carry out its work of protection against low level attacks by the swiftest of enemy aircraft. It is used both to protect a column on the move and to take care of vital installations, bridges, etc. On many occasions it has been used with outstanding success against tanks of all natures. This is another piece of artillery which is now being manufactured in Canada.

Serial 7

"A" Tp, 1 Hy AA Bty, 2 Hy AA Regt, RCA, from Montreal, PQ. This is the 3.7 Hy AA gun which is used to take on enemy planes out

of range of the Bofors which have just passed. Its sighting apparatus is an intricate bit of mechanism calling for an unusually high standard of training and drill on the part of the gun detachment. Equally accurate by day and night it is the main stay of ground defence against the blitz, being extremely effective in breaking up high level bombing attacks.

Serial 8 "A" Tp, 18 Med Bty, 2 Med Regt, RCA from Western Ontario. Here are four of the new 5.5 guns, standard Medium equipment in the Cdn Army. In spite of its weight it is extremely mobile, and is capable of doing immense damage far behind the enemy's lines. The specially designed tractors which tow the gun enable Medium Regiments to keep pace with the swift moves of present day warfare. The tractors have a Cdn body and American motors.

Serial 9 1 Cdn Air Support Control is made up of especially equipped vehs manned by selected personnel whose function is to make possible the close co-operation which exists between Army and Air Force in the engagement of targets of all natures. It works very closely with the Medium Artillery which you have just seen. This control thrusts its "tentacles" as the mobile wireless dets are called well into the forward battle area and relays requests without delay to the bombers and fighters and to the Royal Canadian Arty. The flight of an aircraft which is now overhead was called from one of the Army co-operation Sqns of 39 Wing RCAF, which is attached to First Cdn Army for army co-operation purposes.

Serial 10 The next few detachments are from the Corps of Royal Canadian Engineers. Canada's growth and development have necessitated a high degree of engineering skill in all fields and Canada's Military Engineers have a background of extensive practical experience. The leading detachments consist of two troops from the field sqns of an arm'd division. The leading troop from the 8th Field Sqn, is from Toronto, Ont, followed by a troop from the 9th Field Sqn from Regina Saskatchewan. Apart from the normal routine engineering work, the sprs from the arm'd div are essential to its mobility. Whether it be roads, bridges, the destruction of A Tk obstacles, or the clearing of enemy minefields, the engineers will always be in the thick of the arm'd battle. Their vehs, tools and equipment are all Cdn manufactured. As an example of the use of mechanical aids it is of interest that each troop is equipped with an air compressor which drives a variety of power tools.

Serial 11 The next detachment is from 1 Cdn Petroleum Warfare Experimental Unit. These six vehs are Cdn Universal Carriers and are specially fitted with Ronson Flame Throwing Equipment. Petroleum Warfare Experimental Unit has been formed from the Royal Canadian Engineers and is carrying out extensive experimental work with most satisfactory results.

Serial 12 Another detachment of the Corps of Royal Canadian Engineers which is of vital importance in modern warfare, is the Road Construction Coy. This section is from North Bay, Ontario, and these men have learned their business in the difficult, rock and heavily wooded northern country. The bulk of their equipment is Cdn made and belongs to No 1 Cdn Mechanical Equipment Coy. The Road Construction Coy will be called upon to carry out rapid

aerodrome construction, repairs of captured aerodromes in enemy occupied countries and to building the roads for an invading Allied Army.

Serial 13

No 1 sec of the Cdn Special Tunnelling Coy contains personnel from all parts of Canada. It is equipped for pipe pushing and drilling. Special vehs serve as mobile platforms for drilling equipment and as power pipe pushers. It has its own machinery lorry which enables it to do its own repair and maintenance work in the fd. Cdn Tunnelling Coys have been employed on the magnificent defences of Gibraltar.

Serial 14

The next detachment is No 1 Cdn Chem Warfare Lab. This is a small detachment but one which is of vital importance. I am unable to give you the details of the equipment of the two mobile lab lorries. The leading veh is the mobile chem lab whose function is the detection and identification of chem warfare substances and for the technical examination of captured enemy chem warfare equipment. The 2nd lorry is a pathological lab which contains the apparatus which enables the RCAMC to diagnose unusual gas casualties. With this detachment it is possible to have highly skilled technical experts provide the General Staff promptly with necessary information in the field.

Serial 15

A complex modern army with its mobility and tremendous radius of action can only be controlled through the medium of an efficient Corps of Signals. The next detachment is a composite one from the First Cdn Corps Signals; it constitutes but a portion of a signals unit. We have first of all a line sec whose task it is to lay the cable for line communications; you will notice the cable-laying veh which can throw off cable mechanically as the veh moves. The next is a medium wireless section which is composed of five wireless detachments each equipped with a Cdn made No 9 set carried in Cdn 15-cwt wireless vehs. The Cdn No 9 set is of the very latest design. Another typical section is a heavy wireless section composed of five detachments equipped with a Cdn No 33 set. The power unit is carried in the trailer utilizing standard 15-cwt trailer chassis. The set can work on the move and when stationary. The trailer can be moved away to eliminate engine noises. This set has a very great power and range.

Serial 16

The next detachment is an inf rifle coy from the Royal 22nd Regt carried in tp carrying vehs of the 1 Cdn Div RCASC. The R 22nd R is a French-Canadian and perpetuates the famous 22nd bn of the Cdn Expeditionary Force of the last war. Its peace-time Regimental HQ is in Quebec City, Canada's Historic French-Canadian citadel. A full coy consisting of Coy HQ and three pls is carried in six 3-ton lorries and the coy tpt containing its fighting stores and amm, consist of five vehs. The vehs are Cdn made as are the bulk of the inf pl weapons which include Cdn Bren Lt Machine guns, Cdn made Sub machine guns, and Cdn rifles. Our present inf rifle coy with its variety of weapons and its thorough assault trg is a flexible organization which is capable of fighting on all types of ground by day or by night. The rifle coy maintains touch with its Bn HQ by portable wireless set and within the coy, smaller sets are also available for communication between pls and with coy HQ. These sets are Cdn made.

Serial 17

Serial 22

A pl of "A" Coy, Lake Superior Regiment (M) is now approaching. This bn is from Northern and North Western Ontario. Motorized inf are an essential to the armd battle as we well know and this pl is a scout pl transported in carriers which gives it the necessary mobility across country and protection from small arms fire, to enable it cooperate with the armd regts. Motorized inf, despite their ability to cover the miles in own tpt are prepared to fight skillfully on foot and carry out forced marches in the wake of the tank or to gain information. The job of the motor bns is to keep the armour moving, by seizing and cleaning up centres of resistance or obstacles such as river crossings. It must also be prepared to consolidate and hold features which the armour has seized.

Serial 18

Serial 23

The next serial is an inf A Tk pl of the Queens Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada. The Queens Own Cameron Highlanders are from Winnipeg, Manitoba, and are one of the Cdn bns which distinguished itself at Dieppe. The 2 pr A Tk gun with the 5-cwt as its boon companion, is an efficient tk destroyer in the hands of well trained inf. The inf A Tk gunner prides himself on his ability to make the best use of ground and cover; concealment and deception are his specialties and he tucks the gun and equipment away with speed so that the enemy tanks may be engaged with the utmost surprise at the shortest ranges. The 2 pr is another made in Canada weapon.

Serial 19

Serial 24

This sub-unit is "B" coy of the Royal Montreal Regiment (MG) of Montreal, Que. It is completely mobile, all personnel being carried in unit vehs and is equipped with the Vickers Med Machine Gun. A machine gun bn constitutes a powerful reserve of automatic fire-power in the hands of the Comd and whilst somewhat heavier equipment than the light machine gun, it can be brought into action quickly and the machine gunners are trained, when necessary, to manhandle it across country. You will note the guns mounted on the pedestal mounting in the vehs. This practice was initiated by the 1st Cdn Div on its arrival in this country and Cdn machine gunners have already a goodly score of German aircraft to their credit.

Serial 20

Serial 25

We now have six vehs from No. 1 Tk Tptr Coy, ECASC. This unit serves the same purpose for the tanks as the other tp carrying vehs do for the inf. They are capable of moving armd fighting vehs with a saving of track mileage and petrol so that the tanks can be committed to battle fully fueled and in first class mechanical condition. The tk tptr coys are also available for the evacuation of tk casualties from the battle field. There is a process of cooperation between the Armd Corps and the Army Service Corps, and skilfull training and team work enable them to load and unload transporters speedily without confusion.

Serial 21

The 2nd Cdn Mobile Laundry, RCOC, serves the dual purpose of washing underclothes, towels and socks of the tps and decontaminating clothing and equipment which may be affected by blister gas. Its capacity is such that it can deal with the clothing of several thousand tps per day, and these laundries are allotted one to each division and a certain number for Corps tps. It operates as a unit and has three general labour sections attached. All its vehs are Cdn made.

Serial 22

The next unit is No 1 Cdn Tk Bde Ord Coy, RCOC. These coys are allotted on the basis of one for each Cdn Army Tk Bde. Personnel from this coy are from Montreal, Que, and over two-thirds are skilled tradesmen. The coy undertakes 2nd line repairs to armament, wheeled vehs and armd fighting vehs. It also has a fd park sec which provides replacements of veh and weapon parts. Included in the coy is a recovery section for the unditching and recovery of breakdowns. It has a variety of equipment as you will see including a lorry which is equipped with a lathe, battery charger and drill press. It also has acetylene and arc welding equipment and all the necessary tools, which, in the hands of its skilled mechanics and fitters, keep the tanks in first-class mechanical condition.

Serial 23

The following vehs form "A" coy of the 8th Cdn Field Ambulance, RCAMC. The personnel of this unit come mainly from Calgary, Alberta. A Field Ambulance is capable of setting up one main dressing station and two advanced dressing stations, which are capable of handling 150 patients, although many more can be handled in an emergency. The vehs as you see them are all Cdn made including the Motor Ambulance Cars. These ambulances are fully equipped for first aid treatment, but more extensive treatment is usually taken before the patient commences his journey or after he has completed it.

Serial 24

The mobility of modern forces has increased the difficulty of caring for casualties with the necessary speed which is often a deciding factor in the saving of lives. No 1 Cdn Mobile (Surgical Unit, which follows, is a sample of the units provisionally organized for carrying out operations in the field and includes special operational theatre equipment lorry designed by the Royal Cdn Army Medical Corps - British made body on a Cdn chassis. Most of the special equipment was designed by personnel of this unit including operating tables, which are electrically heated, and fracture table. Personnel of unit includes two commissioned Cdn Nursing Sisters.

Serial 25

This detachment represents Cdn Dental Corps and has been drawn from 4 Cdn Dental Coy. Personnel of the Dental Corps are drawn from all parts of Canada. Five large vehs on parade are mobile lorries, one of these is completely equipped for dental service, another has the necessary equipment for X-Ray work and the third has complete laboratory equipment and the clinics are fitted with electric generators, fans, heaters and water tanks as well as the latest modern machinery for dental surgery.

Serial 26

The 25 pr gun on self propelled mounting is now in production in Canada. This mounting will enable the 25 pr to keep up with armd formations in any kind of country. The 3.7 Hy AA gun on self propelled mounting is experimental equipment, the object being to provide a heavy mobile AA and A Tk weapon.

Serial 27

The following group represent the Cdn Provost Corps. The personnel for this parade have been drawn from No 1 coy and were all originally Royal Canadian Mounted Police who volunteered for overseas service at the beginning of the war. Although in the

army, these men are carried on the strength of the RCMP in Canada and will return to their normal duties after the war. This coy landed with the First Cdn Division on the 17 December 1939 and have remained with them ever since. The Cdn Provost Corps is responsible for the maintenance of discipline, conduct special investigations, provision of guards for HQ buildings and are responsible for Divisional Traffic Control.

Serial 28

The next detachment is a composite unit of the Cdn Postal Corps. The handling of mail from Canada is a task which is naturally of great importance in the maintenance of morale. The bulk of the personnel of Cdn Postal Corps have had peace-time experience at their work and the promptness with which they handle the large postal traffic, both to and from Canada, is proof of their efficiency. The Postal Corps is distributed throughout various formations and is equipped with sufficient vehs for the delivery of His Majesty's mail. They are also responsible for the establishment of field post offices.

Serial 29

Is a light aid detachment, RCOC. All personnel are not only skilled technicians and mechanics but are also fully trained soldiers capable of defending themselves in the field. The light aid detachment represents the most forward ech of repairs and its duties are to assist unit personnel in maintenance of equipment, to inspect and advise on maintenance, supervise all repairs and give advice on technical matters. All vehs carry spare parts. You will note the recovery veh whose task of which is the clearance of casualties which may impede the advance of the units to which it is attached.

Serial 30

During the past hour and more we have been concerning ourselves with the equipment necessary in the modern army. It is good equipment, efficient and well-made, capable of standing the hard usage of the battle field. We must remember, however, that no matter how efficient or how good the tools may be, it takes a capable and skilled workman to finish the job. It is well, therefore, to finish a parade of this nature with a representative sub-unit of the marching inf whose success in battle depends upon the human qualities of endurance and spirit. Cdn inf bns have recently been organized into an inf Corps. Regimental traditions have, however, been retained and the various bns are justly proud of these traditions and guard jealously the rights and privileges which have been handed on from the past. The Queens Own Rifles of Canada, from Toronto, is one of Canada's oldest inf units. You will see the coy double by in the traditional manner of rifle regiments, and this tradition has today become an essential of inf trg. Cdn inf bns are trained to march at the rate of 10 miles in two hours carrying their weapons and amn, and at the end of their march they must be, and are, fit to fight.