



FIDELITER

A unit newsletter of the Princess Louise Fusiliers

January, 2002

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Commanding Officer's Forward

I would like to welcome you to the pages of Fideliter! Hopefully, this newsletter will serve as another means of keeping you informed with regard to your Regiment, its history, traditions and activities. I would ask you to join with your fellow Fusiliers to ensure distribution to all friends of the unit and their families. I also encourage you to contribute to the future issues of this newsletter.

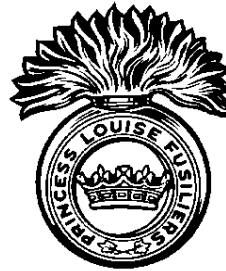
LCol. TG Weatherbee

Employment – Summer 2002

The Army's planning for courses and employment opportunities during the summer of 2002 has already begun. The unit has already begun to receive offers of employment for 2002. Unit members wishing employment this summer must fill out the form **IDENTIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT DESIRED** to declare their dates of availability and the nature and locations of desired employment. These forms are available through your company clerk, they must be forwarded through the chain of command for the Training Office.

?? *If the exercise is subsequently talked about in the officers' mess, it is probably worthwhile; if there is argument over it in the sergeants' mess, it is a good exercise; while if it should be mentioned in the corporals' room, it is an undoubted success. - Sir AP Wavell, in the Journal of the Royal United Services Institution, May 1933*

?? *Most soldiers seem to have a sense of humour. They often need it. - Major-General F.M. Richardson, Fighting Spirit; A Study of Psychological Factors in War*



Armorial description of Cap Badge: "A grenade with nineteen-pointed flame; on the ball of the grenade an annulus inscribed "Princess Louise Fusiliers"; on the lower curve, two maple leaves with stems crossed; within annulus the coronet of a princess."

Regimental History

THE PRINCESS LOUISE FUSILIERS

Battle Honours (capitalization indicates authorized for emblazonment on the Regimental Colour):

NORTH WEST CANADA, 1885
SOUTH AFRICA, 1899-1900

First World War:

SOMME, 1916
ARRAS, 1917
Hill 70
Ypres, 1917
AMIENS

Second World War:

LIRI VALLEY
MELFA CROSSING
GOTHIC LINE
CORIANO
LAMONE CROSSING
MISANO RIDGE
ITALY, 1944-1945
Arnhem, 1945
DELFIJIL POCKET
NORTH WEST EUROPE, 1945

Note: The Battle Honour Arnhem 1945 was awarded to the Regiment in 1999.

Perpetuation of CEF Units: The Princess Louise Fusiliers perpetuates the 64th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, 1914-1919, and the 6th Machine Gun Battalion, Canadian Machine Gun Corps, 1919-1936.

Organization: The Princess Louise Fusiliers originated on 18 June 1869, when "The Halifax Volunteer Battalion of Infantry" was authorized. It was redesignated "66th The Halifax Volunteer Battalion of Infantry", 5 Nov 1869; "66th Battalion, 'Princess Louise Fusiliers'", 14 Nov 1879; "66th Regiment 'Princess Louise Fusiliers'", 8 May 1900; "The Princess Louise Fusiliers", 15 May 1920. On 1 Dec 1936 Headquarters and "A" Company, 6th Machine Gun Battalion, CMGC (authorized 1 Jun 1919) was amalgamated with the Regiment to form "The Princess Louise Fusiliers (M.G.)". It was redesignated "The Princess Louise Fusiliers", 11 Apr 1958.

Early History. The Regiment provided three companies for the Halifax Provisional Battalion for service in North-West Canada, 1885. It also provided volunteers for the Canadian Contingents during the South African War, 1899-1902.

First World War, 1914-1919. The Regiment was placed on active service on 6 Aug 1914 for local protection duty. It contributed to the 14th Battalion, CEF, on its formation in September 1914 and later recruited for the 64th Battalion, CEF. The 64th Battalion provided reinforcements for the Canadian Corps in the field.

Second World War, 1939-1945. Details of the Regiment were placed on active service 1 Sep 1939 for local protection duty. The Regiment mobilized "The Princess Louise Fusiliers (M.G.)" on 1 Jan 1941. This unit was converted and redesignated "The Princess Louise Fusiliers (Motor)", 26 Jan 1942. It embarked for the United Kingdom on 26 Oct 1942. It was reorganized as a rifle battalion and redesignated "The Princess Louise Fusiliers", 31 Jan 1943; converted and redesignated "11th Infantry Brigade Support Group (The Princess Louise Fusiliers)", 12 Aug 1943. It landed in Sicily on 10 Nov 1943, as part of the 11th Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Armoured Division. On 1 Jul 1944 it was redesignated "11th Independent Machine Gun Company (The Princess Louise Fusiliers)". On 13 Jul 1944 the "12th Independent Machine Gun Company (The Princess Louise Fusiliers)" was organized, in Italy, to serve with the newly formed 12th Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Armoured Division. Both companies moved to North-West Europe in February 1945. The 12th Independent Machine Gun Company (The Princess Louise Fusiliers) was disbanded 15 March 1945. The 11th Independent Machine Gun

Company (The Princess Louise Fusiliers) was disbanded 15 Feb 1946. A 2nd Battalion served in the Reserve Army.

Following the Second World War, the Regiment returned to a single Battalion in the Reserve Force. Volunteers from the Princess Louise Fusiliers served in Korea during the period 1950-1953. At the height of the Cold War, the Regiment was tasked, as part of the Canadian Militia, with "National Survival", emergency response to a nuclear attack on Canada. Throughout the 1970s members of the Princess Louise Fusiliers were active in support of Regular Army exercises and operations.

In the 1980s the Princess Louise Fusiliers became the first Reserve unit to receive an overseas operational tasking, providing the Defence and Security Platoon for the Headquarters of the 4th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, stationed in Germany. In 1981, the unit's Mortar Platoon provided a Mortar Group to live fire with the Royal Irish Rangers on exercise at CFB Suffield, Alberta. During that decade, a platoon was also deployed to Labrador as part of an airfield security task at Goose Bay. Individual volunteers from the Regiment also contributed to the forces deployed during the Oka Crisis and Akwesasne in 1990. Members of the unit have participated in support to flood relief in Manitoba as well as the recovery operation for the crash of Swiss Air flight 111.

Since 1991, the Princess Louise Fusiliers has contributed many soldiers to Canadian peacekeeping duties. In 1991-1992, eighteen Fusiliers served with 2RCR in Cyprus. Members of the Regiment's Mortar Platoon have served with the 2RCR Mortar platoon in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Fusiliers have served in Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Rwanda, Haiti, the Golan Heights and Sierra Leone.

Sources: The Regiments and Corps of the Canadian Army, prepared by the Army Historical Section, 1964.



?? "...a nation not worth defending is a nation not worth preserving." - *Highlights of the 1994 Defence White Paper*

?? *There are few national activities of our country in which Canadians ought to take greater satisfaction than in the record and achievements of the Canadian Army.* - Lt.-Gen. G.G. Simonds

Up Coming Events

Exercise SOUTHBOUND TROOPER II

This exercise will be taking place in Fort Picket, Virginia, USA. Based on "A" Company, the main body will be travelling to Fort Picket on Saturday 16 February with a return flight on Sunday 24 February.

Emergency contact numbers to reach deployed personnel during the exercise will be the Battalion Orderly Room (BOR) 427-0550, ext 6120 during normal work hours and the 36 Canadian Brigade Group Duty Officer (36 CBG DO) 483-9861 after hours.

Regimental Ball

The Freedom of the City Parade and Regimental Ball is planned for Saturday, 15 June 2002. Advance ticket sales for the Regimental Ball will be available soon.

Qualification Level 4 (QL4) Mortar Course

Approval has been received for the Princess Louise Fusiliers to conduct a Basic Mortar Course for unit soldiers. This course carries on a tradition of Mortars within the Regiment that now extends over 25 years, the longest continuous period that any Reserve Infantry unit has maintained a support weapons task. This task also carries on the unit's employment from the Second World War when the Princess Louise Fusiliers formed Independent Machine Gun Companies equipped with heavy machine guns and mortars. Sixteen soldiers of the Regiment will attend this challenging course, which will culminate in a live fire range practice at CFB Gagetown in April.

Personal Photos

If you have any interesting or exciting photos showing PLF soldiers in action in the field, the Recruiting Office would like you to bring them in to Sgt Saunders to be copied. These photos may appear in future recruiting publications or in this newsletter.

?? *Remember tradition does not mean that you never do anything new, but that you will never fall below the standard of courage and conduct handed down to you. Then tradition, far from being handcuffs to cramp your action, will be a handrail to guide and steady you in rough places. - Field Marshal Sir William Slim.*

?? *The ultimate weapon which wins the war is a bayonet on a rifle carried by an infantryman through the mud ... - Brig E.J. Schmidlin, Globe & Mail, 23 Nov 1939*

Recruiting Office

Mentorship Program

In order to assist new soldiers in getting oriented and to welcome them to the Regiment, we have implemented the "**Mentorship Program**". On the day that a new soldier draws kit the member who sponsored them (brought them to the recruiting office) will come in help them during the kit issue to ensure that the new recruit receives (and signs for) all the correct kit. After the kit issue the member will help the new recruit assemble their kit and give them an orientation to the unit lines. This assistance will be a paid administrative day for the Sponsor.

This is an important program, as it will help the new soldier in being able to start work as soon as possible with minimal kit deficiencies. This will also aid the BMQ staff by ensuring that recruits arrive fully kited or at least with a list of there deficiencies.

In addition a Grohman Survival knife will be given to the soldier who Sponsors the most new members that complete BMQ/SQ/MOC.

Education Opportunities

Education Reimbursement

As a Reserve member who has served over one year you are entitled to an education reimbursement. This program pays 50% (up to \$2000 per year) for tuition for a member's first undergraduate degree. This is reimbursed at the end of each successful year (Good Academic standing and present for all required training). This program is open to all ranks. See your Section Commander or Company Clerk for details.

The Halifax Rifles Memorial Scholarship

This is another program that is available to members of the Regiment. In order to be eligible you must be one of the following:

- ?? A current or former serving member or a 1st or 2nd generation descendant of The Halifax Rifles or The Princess Louise Fusiliers.
- ?? A serving member of the militia in good standing.
- ?? Serving member of the Halifax Rifle Cadet Corp in good standing and having served not less than two full years.

Applications must be in writing, either by letter or on the form provided. To be considered applications must be received by the committee during the month of May, for the academic year starting in September. See your Company Clerk or the BOR for details.

Recruiting for the Army Reserves

The Army Reserves is an excellent employment opportunity for Canadians. Both part-time and full-time (summers and limited other timeframes) employment is available. With experience, Reserve soldiers can serve in full-time positions in their home garrisons, elsewhere in Canada or even abroad on United Nations peacekeeping missions.

Reserve soldiers receive training and work experience throughout their careers. This training will begin with basic soldiering skills but will, with time served and experience, extend to include leadership and instructional training that will be valuable in the soldier's chosen civilian career as well.

Minimum Requirement for Application: All applicants must meet the following requirements at the time of application:

- ?? Be at least 16 years old (with parental consent).
- ?? Be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant.
- ?? Have a minimum of five grade 10 credits.
- ?? Be free from legal obligation (not on probation, parole or have any pending court dates).

Terms of Service: Unlike the Regular Force, the Reserve Force has no minimum engagement and there is no contractual obligation. At any time, if a Reservist no longer wants to serve they may resign.

Pay and Benefits: The starting rate of pay for a Private (Recruit) is \$66.98 for a full day (6 hours or more) and for an Officer Cadet is \$79.04. Within two years of service, earnings may be: for a Corporal (basic rate of pay): \$97.72, and for \$103.78 a Lieutenant.

Other Allowances:

- ?? Temporary Duty (to cover incidentals while operating away from home): \$11.50 per day.
- ?? Field Operations Allowance: \$15.37 per day.
- ?? Dental Coverage – 90 % coverage after one year of service.

Education Reimbursement: This program has been covered in this issue.

Royal Military College Correspondence Programs: Visit RMC on the internet, or see your company clerk.

The PLF Kit Shop

The Kit Shop is open Thursday evening 0930-1015 or by appointment with 2Lt Peddle, 427-0550, ext 0530.

Accessories for CF Uniform/Mess Kit	
Buttons - Anodized	\$ 0.60
Cap Badge - Anodized	\$ 5.00
Cap Badge - Embroidered Cloth (Officer)	\$ 23.00
Collar Dogs - (Sold in Pair)	\$ 15.00
Crowns - Cloth for Mess Kit (Sold in Pair)	\$ 15.00
Pips - Cloth for Mess Kit (Sold in Pair)	\$ 15.00
Shoulder Titles (PLF) - Anodized	\$ 7.00
Shoulder Titles (PLF) - Cloth (For CF Epaulette)	\$ 0.60
Canadian PeaceKeeper	
Belt Combat (#1001)	\$ 12.59
Blousers Combat (#1014)	\$ 4.03
Boot Bands (#1013)	\$ 2.29
Field Msg Pad Cover Combat (#2002)	\$ 25.24
Pacing Beads (#1020)	\$ 6.84
Shave Kit Hang Up (#2003)	\$ 26.39
Miscellaneous Items	
Knife - Grohmann with PLF Etching	\$ 80.50
Lapel Pin - Metal	\$ 5.00
Mug - Glass (Single)	\$ 3.50
Regimental Colours (Miniature)	\$ 149.99
Regimental Clothing	
Ball Cap with PLF Insignia (Black)	\$ 17.00
Jogging Pants with PLF insignia (Maroon)	\$ 32.00
Shorts with PLF insignia (Maroon)	\$ 21.00
Sweat Shirt with PLF insignia (Maroon)	\$ 32.00
Tie - Regimental	\$ 21.00
Toque with PLF insignia (Black)	\$ 15.00
T-shirt with PLF Crest (Olive Drab)	\$ 9.99
T-shirt with PLF insignia (Green)	\$ 14.00
T-shirt with PLF insignia (Grey)	\$ 15.00
Windbreaker with PLF insignia	\$ 40.00

Now Available: – Zippo Lighters (PLF Crested)

Coming Soon:

Regimental Rings (silver); Cuff links & button studs (silver); Lapel pins (silver); Flasks (stainless steel and pewter); Fleece jackets (with PLF crest); Travel mugs (with PLF crest)

The Princess Louise Fusiliers is classified as an English Language Unit under the Official Languages Act. The contents of this newsletter are, therefore, published only in English.

“FIDELITER” is published under the authority of the Commanding Officer of the Princess Louise Fusiliers. “FIDELITER” will be published three times annually, with issues in Jan/Feb, Apr/May and Sep/Oct.

Comments, suggestions, and submissions for publication may be forwarded to the Adjutant, Capt O’Leary, or the Recruiting NCO, Sgt Saunders. The editorial board and the Commanding Officer have the right to edit or refuse any submission.