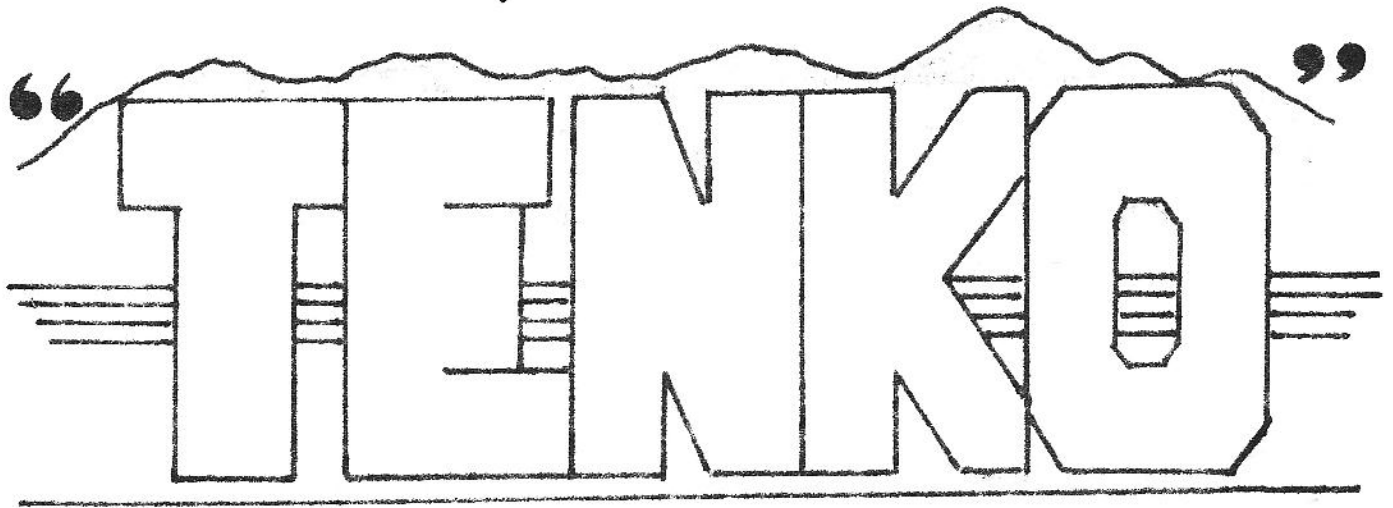


1981



VOLUME 1:1

FROM A HONGKONG VETERAN TO HIS FELLOW
HONGKONG VETERANS IN FRIENDSHIP.

an independent, unaffiliated and
non-profit magazine published
solely for the enjoyment of former
Hongkong POW's, wives and friends.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is with regret that finding the retention of my rights as the Editor of the Roll Call of greater importance than my membership, I have submitted my resignation to the British Columbia Branch of the Hongkong Veterans Association of Canada, and am no longer a member of same.

This, however, does not signify the demise of this magazine which now is independent, unaffiliated with any organisation and published by the undersigned with a permit to operate as a privately circulated and non-profit periodical.

This edition is published with the express purpose of advising its readers of the change of status. What is of greatest importance to me is to continue to provide all our readers with that enjoyment and service you have so consistently expressed your appreciation for.

Its survival, therefore, rests entirely upon whether you, all our readers, want the T E N K O to keep rolling or not.

To determine this, an advice slip indicating how you wish it to be, will be found on the last page of this issue. Please complete, cut out and mailsame to reach your Editor by 1 May 1981. Non-receipt of that slip will indicate your wish to be deleted from our mailing list.

THE T E N K O WILL ONLY BE MAILED TO THOSE SENDING IN THEIR SLIP!

SPECIAL NOTICE: All those who have so regularly and generously supported the Roll Call in the past, will automatically be included in our new mailing list. The mailing in of your slip is, nevertheless, required.

The only change that is important is that funding will now depend solely on voluntary donations and contributions. But this, we feel, if the generous support received in the past is maintained, should not pose a problem.

If, however, the response be such as to call for discontinuing publication of the T E N K O, all donations attached to slips recived by your Editor, will be refunded.

Finally, whatever results, I wish to express my deepest and warmest appreciation for the support and encouragement received and the friendships gained, since I first started this venture.

JOHN FONSECA
Publisher/Editor

THE T E N K O WILL BE MAILED FREE OF CHARGE TO ALL HONGKONG VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS INTRODUCED BY THEM, BUT ONLY ON APPLICATION.

The publisher reserves the right to reject and/or cancel any such application without explanation or notice.

THE WHY AND THE WHEREFORE

I feel it imperative to offer an explanation as to why I elected to resign from the Association thereby terminating a most pleasant and rewarding relationship.

It all arose from the incident in Las Vegas last July which prompted what I felt to be justifiable criticism of an act of official misconduct directed at an Executive and a number of members of the B.C. Branch, by an individual representing the Association at its highest level.

Instead of the apology to the B.C. Branch the act called for, an apology was extracted FROM the Branch against allegedly verbal threats to take the Association, the B.C. Branch and your Editor to court.

This was followed by an article in a Branch Newsletter which indulged in irresponsible personalities with your Editor as the target.

Following this came a directive to your Editor to cease any further comment on the subject, with my resignation laid on the line if I failed to heed same.

Finding this attempt to muzzle your Editor and, in doing so, protect rather than censure what can only be construed as deliberate and calculated misconduct, both unfair and unacceptable, I have taken the only course I consider to be the right one.

What is deplorable is that the magazine which has brought so many so far apart together so successfully, is now being sacrificed to mollify the lacerated ego of arrogance and self-adulation.

It will in no way, however, alter my desire or determination to continue to provide my readers with that which you have found pleasing and enjoyable. And so, picking up where the former magazine left off, the TENKO is born.

Whether it will continue to do so, unhindered, unhampered and free to call a spade a spade, now remains up to you.

Finally, no matter what happens, we sure had a good inning together, didn't we? And for that, thanks so much.

JOHN FONSECA
Editor

EDITORIAL

It has been your Editor's aim, from the very beginning, to produce a magazine through which all Hongkong Veterans across the nation and elsewhere, can read about, learn about, be able to communicate with and re-establish old ties with comrades forgotten with the passage of time. Thus was born the Roll Call, and what it has achieved attests to the success of that aim.

Part of this success was due to the extending of an invitation to all Branches of the Hongkong Veterans Association of Canada to submit their Newsletters thereby permitting our helping to disseminate news and information, local to the respective branches, by passing same on to comrades outside of those areas. The branches co-operation was and is deeply appreciated and the invitation still remains open.

We are, however, now confronted with a problem arising from the resignation of your Editor from both his editorship of the Roll Call and membership from the Association. His reasons are explained in the adjacent column.

The problem is, that much as we wish to continue to provide the service mentioned above; because both Editor and this magazine, the TENKO, is no longer affiliated to the Association, it would be improper for us to publish official newsletters without the knowledge and consent of the respective branches. Until we receive that approval, that section of this magazine, reserved for Branch Newsletters, is temporarily suspended.

Recognising that the exchange of newsletters between branches could provide the same service, we feel that in view of the range this magazine will, hopefully, enjoy, we would like to help. In any case, this very first edition of the TENKO is being mailed as an act of keeping faith with and in appreciation of the tremendous support given your Editor in the past, and which he hopes will be maintained.

"I'm worried about Adam." said Eve to the serpent: "He's absent without leave!" (Courtesy FEPOW FOCUS, Manchester, U.K.)

OUR PADRE'S DIARY

Rev. U. Laite (Kind permission of Mrs. Sally Laite)

Some of us had planned for a good sized piece of ham baked in casserole with tomatoes and scalloped potatoes! We get great fun out of planning a special meal once in a while, but we know that we must wait for freedom before we can get it. Rumours are rife in the camp daily. Some are a bit amusing but others speak of the turmoil in men's minds and the longing in their hearts for the day of liberty.

Today (Feb. 6) there is a rumour that a Russian ship has arrived to take us to Vladivostok and that within twentyfour hours the Navy will take over our kitchens. I shall record others from time to time.

The Japanese have given us a ration of cigarettes - nine per man - and our M.O. (Major Crawford) has asked me to take over his hospital quota and distribute these. Many of our men - about 30 in hospital now - suffer from dysentery and other kindred ailments. I make a visit nearly every day and if at all possible take chocolate or toffee or a cigarette to each. I fear that since my money is now spent the boys will have to go without the above as far as I am concerned.

Feb: 8th (Sunday). Celebrated communion in carpenter's shop at 7:45, about forty present. Led Parade service at 1100hrs on square. We are thinking of home a great deal. While at last night's concert a sergoant spoke to me of it. This morning one of the officers spoke to me of his thoughts. He has been at communion. Others have spoken of the same thing. The week-ends at home were all that we desired and now we realize their value. We did not appreciate their value at times, but while there are regrets, we have pleasant memories of homes and families.

Friday: Feb. 13th. The weather has been very cold during the past few days and we are uncomfortable as no one has ample or proper clothing for such weather. Our meals have not been the best either but we remember that we are prisoners of war and must not allow food or weather conditions to break our morale. Many of the men are ill but will, we hope, be better by the time the warmer weather comes. Two or three of our officers are keeping to their bunks today. These borths are not very comfortable. I have four rice sacks tacked between bed frames and use two blankets - light ones - as covers. For the past two nights I have slept with all my clothes on, including my trench coat. Most of us lost all of our best clothes. I have one suit of underwear - worn threadbare - two pairs of socks with holes, and no wool to darn, one khaki shirt and one worn white one - it was white originally - I have no cap but had a summer helmet given me since coming to camp. I have the cover for my dress service cap and wear it at night or in the hut. The rice contains 75% water and so we are all visitors to the latrine two or three times during the night. I visit the hospital and huts each day now and make contact with as many men as possible. They are always interested in any new rumours. The latest news is that Singapore has fallen, but the rumour is that we shall be moving to other parts soon.

My shoes' soles are very thin now. I hope to have patches of rubber put on them today. I am now wearing a borrowed pair of canvas shoes until my shoes are repaired. These shoes are very cold and uncomfortable and I long for my own again.

Feb. 18th: Ash Wednesday: News reached us two days ago that Singapore has surrendered. There are varied opinions in the camp as to the effect of such a surrender on our position here as well as on the general Eastern situation. Some think it will prolong, but others that it will shorten the war. However, we must be content. Our food has not been the best especially in this cold damp penetrating weather. Most of us sleep in all our clothes and on Monday, I sewed my two blankets together and made a sleeping bag of them. I had been so uncomfortable sleeping - or trying to sleep - in my clothes that I determined to take off all my clothes for one night, which I did.

(To be continued in the next issue)

HITHER AND YON WITH FONZ

At 9:30 a.m. Christmas Day, the phone rang and in reply to my morning-after and somewhat slurred: "'Lo?" came a cheery: "Merry Christmas, John!!". Warmed by the sincerity of the greeting and after an exchange of pleasantries, I asked: "Who dat?" and from where the caller was phoning from. The reply that it was Wally Normand, RCCS, over in Gainsville, Georgia, USA, just about floored me. Thanks a lot, Wally, it was as nice a Christmas present as anyone could wish for. Incidentally, although my geography is so-so, we do have a reader in them there parts of the good old U. S. of A. He is Don S. Aitken, WG, and you can contact him at Box 413, 600 Lakewood Road, Hendersonville, North Carolina (Zip 28739). It's about 120 miles, as the crow flies, from you. Perhaps we have here the beginnings of another HK Vet "colony" there, like the one over in Mesa, Arizona?

Reports from various sources indicate that the 1980 Pilgrimage to Hongkong was both a success and a disappointment. A success for those re-visiting Hongkong for the first time since 1945 and a disappointment for those who had attended earlier pilgrimages. But to all, the development and modernization of that city, since then, came as a startling surprise and to most of them wot went, it was sure worth it.

More on the "Pilgrimage". That impressive tribute in memory of our war dead at Sai Wan Cemetery was, we are informed, marred by the appearance of a clown who, in contrast to the formal attire - dark blazers and gray flannels - worn by all Canadian HK Veterans present, came improperly dressed and succeeded in being distressingly conspicuous - he stuck out like a sore thumb! Although, fortunately, he was not of the official pilgrimage party, it is felt that the solemnity of the occasion in honour of our comrades, deserved something much better than that.

(No, Scotty, this is not from you but from another source altogether. John)

Glenford and Kay Mann, from Cobourg, Ontario, with Kay's sister, Peggy and husband Herb, dropped in for a most welcome and pleasant cup 'o char in January. The Manns were visiting the Coast during the festive season and tells us that all is well in his bailiwick. They returned home early that month with, we hope, pleasant memories of B.C., even if it rained most of the time they were here. Sure was nice to meet you-all in person. "Will ye no come back again" sometime?

From our 'colonists' in Mesa, Arizona, comes news of the annual gathering there. Harry Creedon phoned in greetings from Helen and him to all Vets, and tells of the 'permanent' winterers being joined by visiting HK Vets in the persons of Don MacPhersons, Ray Sellars, Art Munns and others. Art and Doreen Lousior were expected later in the season. Don't know if the Richard Wilsons made the trip this year. Dick was having trouble with his legs the last we heard. Temp. 70 deg. Fahr and steady.

Also from that part of the world, the Tiny Martyn Clan, appears to have been pretty busy in 1980. Tiny and Helen proudly boast of three new grandchildren - making it seven in all - all arriving between June 7 and December 6, 1980. The last one, Andrew, turned out to be the tic-breaker. The Martyns now have four boys and three girls grandchildren. Congratulations are warmly offered. Whilst visiting son in Greenville, Mississippi, Tiny became Santa Claus, complete with whiskers, costume and all, to children all the way from Phoenix to Greenville. Got us a write-up, with photo of Tiny Claus, from one of the Mississippi papers. If you can do all that with your 'lectric feet bothering you now, it is little wonder that the natives frequenting the CROSSROADS in Jamaica gave you such a wide berth back in 1941.

As you will note, there's been a bit of a change in things. Hope it does not result in our losing touch. John

MORE HITHER AND YON WITH FONZ

To strike a more serious note, we extend our deepest and sincerest condolences to Amy Morrison and family over the loss of Doug, comrade and friend to all Hongkong Vets. It is felt that his plan to establish a permanent wintering home amongst the other Hongkong Vets in Mesa, created more than normal interest to us and his passing came as a distinct shock accompanied by deep distress.

Many of you may remember 'Doc' Albert Rodrigues (now Sir Albert) HKVDC of Shumshuipo, who was presented with Life Honorary Membership by the Manitoba Branch in Winnipeg some years back. Doc Albert was in hospital in San Francisco earlier this year, with serious heart problems - four blockages - which necessitated open heart surgery. We are happy to report that he came out with flying colours and, after a week R & R in Hawaii, is now back home in Hongkong. All the best for a speedy recovery and 'taksang yasume, Doc!

Another tale from the Pilgrimage. When Donny Coulson (son of the late Ernie Coulson) attempted to stop the waitress in a Chinese restaurant in Hongkong, from removing his plate on which there still remained a couple of delectable prawns, he drew from his store of Chinese phrases remembered from his childhood there (Donny was, we believe, born there) and stopped the girl cold with: "Sat ni ko tau!" which translated, means: "I'll chop your head off!". Janet tells me that what he really meant to say was: "Mo kum fai". which is "Not so quick!"

Another HK Vet visiting from south of the border over Christmas, was Gordie Hollingsworth. So sorry, visitors at our place prevented my dropping in to greet you over at the Laidlaws. But I hope to rectify that at some later date and time. In any event, although it'll have to do, I was sure glad to have talked to you. Keep well.

Deep concern is being felt with reports that a number of the boys have been stricken with serious illnesses. To them we offer our very best get-well soon wishes. Over on the Island we understand that Mrs Bill Sarginson and Ernie Hodgkinson have been ailing. From Manitoba, fellow readers, Bob Boyd, Bob Dukelow and Art Lousier, spent a few days at Deer Lodge. Art Baty is up and around following his operation. Tom Forsyth (forgive me, Tom) appears to have acquired some out-of-season strawberries, but is now feeling just great. Fred Adams sends greetings to all.

On a happier note, Mrs Edna Manchester, after a day in hospital early February, is back home and resting well. It wasn't a relapse of the very serious operation she'd undergone last year, but only fatigue from over working and lotsa rest is in the cards for her. To all, a happy and speedy recovery.

The Laidlaws spent a week resting at Palm Springs mid-February and returned to tell of a somewhat wet reunion with our old friends from south of the border, Hershel and Pat Boushey, from Washington. They met in the swimming pool!! Bill says that altho it was nice, warm and dry down there, there was nary a tree to see, only sand, and he was sure glad he'd left the pup at home up here! Anyway, he was sure glad to see the greenery of B.C. even if it was from behind a screen of drizzle.

We offer our deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of Capt. Don Philip who passed away last month, February 1981, in Victoria, B.C.

We are not certain as to whether it was Don or his brother, Bob, who was amongst the 30 Canadian wounded under the care of the late Padre Uriah Laite when they surrendered to the Japanese on December 22, 1941.

Final rites, by request of the family was reserved for family attendance only, and, we understand, there was no representation by the B.C. Branch.

WELL, SOMEBODY'S GOT TO SAY IT ...

Well, friends, somebody finally did! And although it was pretty cheap and shoddy, say it he did! -that is, he half did. Because for a possible lack of intestinal fortitude, the writer failed to provide his name.

This was what he wrote and was published in the Ontario Branch News of November 1980:

"THE ROLL CALL" sponsored by the British Columbia Branch of the Hongkong Veterans Association of Canada. It is regretted that the Editor, John Fonseca of what was once considered an excellent publication, has seen fit to again publish a slanderous and insulting article in the Autumn 1980 issue, page 11. This time, against our President, John Stroud. This editor, an immigrant from Hongkong, a none(whatever-inell that is?) Canadian Hongkong Veteran of "C" Force has in the past used this publication to insult several of our National Executive Officers. President Bob Manchester of the British Columbia Branch has made a personal apology to Mr Stroud, with an assurance that he will follow up with a written apology.

* This written apology has now been received. (so much for strictly confidential discussion by National Council) "How much further is this Associate Member, Fonseca, of the British Columbia Branch going to be permitted to continue writing these mud slinging and insulting articles?". It is not the Ontario Branch's Policy to dictate to another branch, but we feel that in this case, this man, Fonseca, should either retract the slanderous article or be suspended as Editor of the Roll Call."

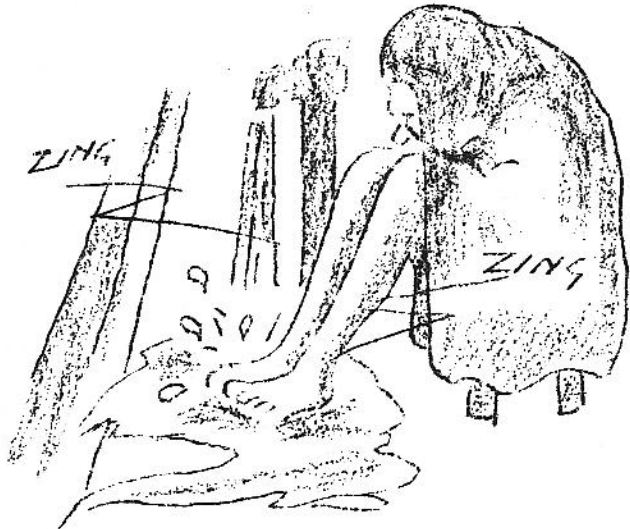
Not very pretty, what? What can one say other than, that what I had written was neither slanderous nor insulting, but the truth, and in this particular instance, the truth apparently hurts enough to reveal what lies under that thin veneer.

In any case, there was no retracting and no apologising and now there never will be!

THE FONZ

OUR OBSTINATE ARTIST WAS ASKED TO ILLUSTRATE :

" THE AGONY OF DEFEAT "



and he came up with this !!!

THE " T E N K O "

An independent, unaffiliated, and non-profit quarterly magazine which is privately circulated and funded by voluntary contributions from its readers.

Published for the entertainment and enjoyment of Hongkong Veterans, their families and friends. All editorial and production services donated.

Mailed free of charge but only against applications in writing.

All correspondence to be addressed directly to:

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796 Adiron Avenue,

Coquitlam, B.C.

V3J 4K2

(Publisher and Editor)

NOTE: The publisher reserves the right to reject and/or cancel applications without explanation or notice.

All material submitted subject to editing.

JOHN FONSECA
Publisher/Editor

"C" FORCE NOMINAL ROLL

We regret that we are unable to continue with publication of Camp 3-D list which has been returned to the B.C. Branch. We are pleased, however, to replace it with the official Nominal Roll of members of "C" Force who went to Hongkong - excluding reported dead up to 31 July 1945. We regret that we cannot pin-point last known camp, as these have been listed under districts such as: Hongkong, Tokyo, Osaka, Fukuoka and Niigata. It is listed in alphabetical order, commencing with officers, and is as follows:

Rank or Regt.No.	Name	Unit
Capt.	Atkinson, F. T.	R.R.C.
Major	Baillie, John A.	W.G.
Major	Baird, Kenneth G.	W.G.
Capt.	Banfield, Stanley M.	RCAMC
Capt.	Bardal, Njall O.	W.G.
H/Capt.	Barnett, James	C.C.S.
Capt.	Billings, George M.	RCCS
Major	Bishop, Wells A.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Black, Alexander S.	W.G.
Lieut.	Blackwood, Thomas A.	W.G.
Lieut.	Blaver, Collison A.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Bradley, William B.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Breakey, Ian	R.R.C.
Capt.	Bush, Howard S.A.	RCASC
Lieut.	Campbell, Railton	W.G.
Capt.	Clarke, William F.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Corrigan, Leonard	W.G.
Major	Crawford, John N.	RCAMC
Capt.	Cunningham, Winston	C.D.C.
Lieut.	Davignon, Joseph R.	R.R.C.
H/Capt.	Deloughery, Francis	RCCS
Lieut.	Denison, Elmer N.	R.R.C.
Capt.	Denison, Everette	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Dennis, Frederick V.	W.G.
Lieut.	Dunderdale, John E.	W.G.
Capt.	Gavey, Joe C.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Gilbert, James C.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Golden, David A.	W.G.
Capt.	Gray, Gordon C.	RCAMC
Major	Hodkinson, E.	W.G.
Lt. Col.	Home, William J.	R.R.C.
Capt.	Hurd, Edmund L.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Johnston, Charles D.	R.R.C.
H/Capt.	Laite, Uriah	RCCS
Lieut.	Landuedoc, Donald B.	R.R.C.
Capt.	Leboutillier, William	R.R.C.
Major	MacAulay, Malcolm	R.R.C.
Lieut.	MacDougall, Peter L.	R.R.C.

(continued next column)

Rank or Regt.No.	Name	Unit
Lieut.	MacKechnie, Hugh E.	W. G.
Lieut.	MacMillan, Angus A.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	McCarthy, James D.	W.G.
Lieut.	McGreevy, John H.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Maze, Richard	W.G.
Capt.	Norris, John A.	W.G.
Lieut.	Nugent, William F.	W.G.
Lieut.	Park, John E.	W.G.
Major	Parker, Maurice A.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Philip, Donald G.	W.G.
Capt.	Philip, Robert W.	W.G.
Lieut.	Power, Francis G.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Prendergast, A.W.	W.G.
Capt.	Price, Charles E.	R.R.C.
Major	Price, John H.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Queen-Hughes, R.W.	W.G.
Capt.	Reid, John A.G.	RCAMC
Lieut.	Ross, Francis D.	R.R.C.
Capt.	Royal, Frederick H.	R.R.C.
Capt.	Royal, Walter A.B.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Simons, Reginald E.	R.R.C.
Lieut.	Smith, John E.D.	R.R.C.
Capt.	Spence, James C.M.	C.D.C.
Lieut.	Strang, Kenneth R.	R.R.C.
Capt.	Thomson, Andrew C.	R.R.C.
Major	Trist, George	W.G.
Capt.	Walker, Edward B.	W.G.
Lieut.	White, Harry L.	W.G.
Major	Young, Charles A.	R.R.C.
Pte	Abrahams, Fred P.	W.G.
Pte	Achtymichuk, William	W.G.
L/Cpl.	Acton, Robert W.H.	RCCS
Rfn	Adams, Carl	R.R.C.
L/Cpl.	Adams, David M.	R.R.C.
C.S.M.	Adams, Fredrick G.	W.G.
Rfn.	Adams, Lawrence L.	R.R.C.
Pte.	Adams, Leslie G.	W.G.
Rfn.	Adams, Harry V.	R.R.C.
Rfn.	Adams, Raymond L.	R.R.C.
Cpl.	Adams, Robert D.	W.G.
Pte.	Adams, William R.	W.G.
Cpl.	Addie, Kenneth	R.R.C.
Cpl.	Agerbak, Borge	W.G.
Pte.	Agerbak, Knud	W.G.
Pte.	Aimoo, Angus F.	W.G.
Pte.	Airriess, Frank H.	W.G.
Cpl.	Aitken, Donald S.	W.G.
Pte.	Aitken, Leonard	W.G.
Rfn.	Aksenchuk, Jerry T.	R.R.C.
Pte.	Albert, Dieudonne	W.G.
Rfn	Alden, Arthur	R.R.C.

To be continued

It is felt that, for those who may be interested, keeping this list until completed would be worth a thought.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: Please find enclosed the enlargement and negative of the cemetery of Canadian War Dead in Hongkong. Cheque also enclosed. Please make sure my 1980 and 1981 dues are paid and the balance to be used for publication of the magazine.

So nice to hear your voice both on Webster and personal call to me. If you're in touch with any of B Company Grenadiers say "hello!" for me. Keep up the good work on the magazine as I keep track of old Comrades thru its pages.

I wonder if any of your readers would remember me and the boy from Nova Scotia swiping the Cigarettes from out of the Jap Officer's car, and we were sentenced to 14 days prison, and spent it locked in the incinerator at Bowen Road Hospital. As ever,

Coquitlam, B.C.

Cam Maddess

Cam: Your generosity sure appreciated and should help us keep going pretty dam good. Dues forwarded to Lionel, so you should have received your cards by now. Acknowledging that smokes were at a premium then, you, nevertheless, sure paid a high price for them. You are a "special" example of keeping one's chin up. God Bless.

Dear John: Hope all is well with you and yours.

We really look forward to and appreciate receiving "The Magazine" and realize the time and effort it takes to compile all the information that goes into each issue -so all concerned should take a bow.

Had a nice visit with Don and Pearl MacPherson and Ray and Marge Bronson, and had a real gab fest about old times and friends.

Best regards and hope the New Year is the best one yet.

Las Vegas, Nevada Roger & Mona Zane

Not only will I take a bow, but also add an "Ah So!" and a "So Sorry!" I didn't make it to your exciting city last year. Would have been nice to meet you two whom I know so well, like everyone else, but mostly only through your letters. Keep in touch. John

Dear John and rest of Comrades: Best of the Season to you all. Another year coming to a close, a few less of us left, our country in a hell of a mess. Let's hope not. Separatism getting a big play but it's nothing new to me, comrades. Take cheer.

In the dirty thirties, I left the stump ranch in Manitoba in '35. Wandered out West and wound up at another stump ranch (only bigger stumps) at Shawnigan Lake. Worked for a gent called Frank Elford. One winter night we went to a meeting at Cobble Hill. This was already 1936 I believe. Anyway, the Meeting was sponsored by an organization called: The Vancouver Island Provincial Association. For 50¢ (of \$1) I became an active(?) member. We were going to break away from B.C. Separate, that's what! Can anyone check into this or recall it? Well, that's the last I heard of it as I quit and joined the mainland. So much for separatism.

Too expensive for us to move south for the winter. Too dangerous as well. Earthquakes, fires, volcanoes and, tonight some crazy dame runs amok in a Lincoln Continental and mows down a bunch of pedestrians in Reno. We got problems? Well, enough of good cheer

Vernon, B.C. Bill and Angela
Achtymichuk

Yeah! I, too, had problems Christmas time. Thought I'd do something nice for Elsa and cook dinner Christmas Day. When she walked into kitchen and saw the pile of pots 'n pans I used, she not only made me clean 'em all, but wash the floor as well!

Dear John:

Please find enclosed \$ for your very interesting magazine. Keep up the good work.

Reston, Manitoba Tom Forsyth

Thanks, Tom, for your generous donation. Your constant and unswerving support is sure appreciated, and you can bet we'll keep trying to deserve all the encouragement that continues to come our way. John

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: I enclose an obituary found in a recent issue of the Evening Telegram, Dec 16, a St John's newspaper. He, Ed Hartery, was with the Canadians in Hongkong, taken POW and eventually ended in a camp in Japan. I do not know which island or camp he was in.

Although not a war veteran myself, my father died at Kawasaki, December 23, 1943. He was Merchant Navy and British.

I knew Ed Hartery personally. On several occasions I passed along some copies of your magazine and he was extremely pleased to receive it. That, I knew touched his heart, to be able to read about his comrades. Ever after I gave him the magazine he waved to me often on the street. It made him so happy to get the news. He said he would tell his story some day to me, but he died before he unfolded the saga.

St. John's, Nfld. Dave Owens

Sorry to hear about Ed. He was a Royal Rifles rifleman (E 30737) and was sent to Camp 3-D. As a matter of fact, he is listed with Group 6 in our last (Winter 1980) issue as one POW in that camp. Thanks for your help. John

Dear John: I trust that the enclosed will help in defraying the cost of mailing and handling the good old magazine.

I certainly appreciated your phone call and listening to your always-cheerful voice. Don't get around as much as I used to, the damn old legs just won't let me, consequently I don't have any news to impart.

I take this opportunity in wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas. May the New Year be good to you, by giving you good health and happiness and the ability to do the splendid job you are doing as Editor of the magazine. Your ever grateful comrade,

Vancouver, B.C. Alf. Shayler

Alfie, with that kind of support behind us, how can we ever go wrong? But you listen to me, take it good and easy, both you and Olga. Time for us to go sprinting around is long gone. I'll keep in touch for sure. John

Dear John: Enclosed please find a donation to the magazine which we appreciate very much. It is read by our kids, too, which gives them a little more insight into what went on in the Far East.

I had planned to go to the 'do' in Victoria, but have been feeling sort of under the weather. The feet are giving me hell and old 'Arthur' is getting into the bones.

We have had a lot of snow, no cold weather yet - and today is almost a "chinook"

I was in Kelowna a few days ago. Had a good chat with Tom Marsh. He didn't seem too strong after his heart attack.

Hope you and yours have a good Christmas, all the best in '81 and say "Hello!" to the gang when you see them.

Kimberley, B.C. Roland Dube

Rollie: Hope by now your 'under the weather' spell is over. Sorry about your legs. There are a lot of the boys with the same trouble at this day and age. But not to worry. So long we've got the old spirit, fine weather and the gang to keep in touch with the gang, we're A-OK. John

Dear John:

Jean and I have been residents of B.C. for 1½ years. We came here to be near Faith. We are also members of the B.C. Branch, Hongkong Veterans Association.

We heard about the magazine while visiting our good friend, Joyce Clarkson in Lodi, California and as soon as we returned home to North Vancouver, I got in touch with Lionel Speller. He was very helpful in giving me names of other RRC members now residing in B.C. I hope to contact some of them in the New Year. I have not forsaken my friends back east and will remain a member of the Q.M. Branch.

I think the magazine a splendid idea. Thanks to you, John, for doing a good job. Hope to have the occasion of meeting you in the near future.

North Vancouver, B.C. Walter S. Gray
Welcome aboard you both. I, too, am looking forward to our meeting. John

WITH THE 35th HONGKONG PILGRIMAGE - By Robert(Scotty) Adams

Nov:23: Left Winnipeg to Vancouver, B.C., changed planes and then on to Tokyo, Japan. Here we had to wait for a plane, then on to Hongkong, arriving late at night Nov. 24. Staying at the Hyatt Hotel.

Nov. 25: Just had an orientation briefing at 9 a.m. Free after that to look around. Hongkong sure has changed, what with all the high-rise buildings and so heavy traffic.

Nov;26: Today, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour tour of Island. City of Victoria to Wanchai section of Hongkong (made famous by Suzie Wong), to the Tiger Balm Gardens which is very beautiful. Through Aberdeen where all the junks and with all the people living on them.

Nov: 27: Toured the battle areas today, with Col Pepper of the Royal Hongkong Regiment (formerly HKVDC) in charge. Starting at Shunshuipo where there are not many huts left now. It is used as a refugee camp for the boat people from Vietnam. Conditions are pretty awful, but they seem happy. Then on to Shing-Mun Redoubt, the front lines of defence in New Territories and then by ferry to the Island, stopping at Lyemun Gap where the Japanese first landed. Next to Repulse Bay Hotel, where a retired officer of the HKVDC gave a very good description of the battle there, back to Wong Nei Chong, Wanchai Gap and then returning to the hotel. Later were at the Officers Mess, RHKR, for drinks and where a plaque was presented to the Regiment by Harry Atkinson.

Nov: 28: Trip to Portuguese Colony of Macau. Forty miles by jet hydrofoil. Took pictures of Red China across the river, with a gunboat in centre of river. Had lunch in a beautiful hotel where there is a large Casino. People coming and going all the time.

Nov: 29 Went on a tour of Sung Dynasty Village which takes you back hundreds of years with the carvings and olden costumes and customs, complete with a full Chinese wedding, which was something to see.

Nov: 30: Went to Aberdeen's Jumbo Floating Restaurant for Supper. Very colorful and very good food. Cruised through typhoon shelter and Aberdeen Harbour. Hongkong shoreline at night with its solid mass of lights is like a fairyland

Dec:1: Out to New Territories right up to the border of Red China, where we looked across the Shumchun River at it.

Dec: 6: Over to Sai Wan Bay Cemetery for rehearsal for tomorrow's service.

Dec: 7: Memorial Service at Sai Wan Cemetery. Firing party, sentries, wreath bearers, ushers and Flag Orderly provided by the Royal Hongkong Regiment, with Piper B. Maltman of the Grenadiers for the HK Veterans of Canada.

Wreaths were laid by: The Hon. Gilles LaMontagne, Act. Minister of Veterans Affairs; Don Nelson of Calgary for the Hongkong Veterans of Canada; Mr. Standish for the Royal Rifles; Mr. H. McKechnie for the Winnipeg Grenadiers and Mr. H. Bush for Brigade HQ "C" Force. There were others wreaths laid also. Luncheon at Repulse Bay Hotel and then to Stanley Cemetery for service there.

Dec:9: Visited CSM Osborne Barracks where plaques were exchanged between the Hongkong Veterans of Canada and the Royal Hongkong Regiment.

Dec.11: Departure for Japan: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours to Tokyo Airport and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours by bus from there to the 47 storied Keio Plaza Hotel. Dec 12: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour tour of Tokyo. Saw the Imperial Palace, Sports Stadium, Asakusa Temple. Dec.13: Memorial Service at Hodagaya Cemetery under rain. Luncheon hosted by Canada's Ambassador Rankin. Farewell 'sukiyaki' dinner at Matsuyaya Restaurant, where five geishas entertained, with Art Lousier and a number of the boys getting involved in the Coal Miners Dance with the girls.

Dec:14: Left Tokyo bound for home, three hours late due to engine trouble. Missed plane in Vancouver and waited five hours for next flight, arriving in Winnipeg 11 p.m. Sunday night. Real tired but sure glad I made the trip. It was sure worth it.

(Sorry, Scotty, had to shave some, but not much, due to its length. John)

SINCE YOU ASKED FOR IT

In response to enquiries as to what was in the paragraph which caught my eye and which appeared under the heading "President's Message" in the Summer 1980 edition of the Hongkong Veterans News, official publication of the Ontario Branch, it read:

"...We held an all "Canadian Night" at our suite with Canadian, New Zealand British and American EX-POW's attending. The party started at 8 pm and lasted until 3 am....."

The 'all', however, excluded members of the B.C. Branch, their wives and Secretary Lionel Speller, officially representing the B.C. Branch, in Las Vegas, who were neither informed of, nor invited to, the party which was hosted by the individual officially delegated to represent the Hongkong Veterans Association at that Convention.

And that, my friends, is the one and only issue. Everything else that has happened evolves from it.

In spite of this further confirmation that what I had commented on was both valid and justified, your Editor, in the interests of the Association, passed up the opportunity to press the point and, instead, kept it low-keyed.

Since then our attention has been drawn to the November 1980 issue of that Branch's Newsletter containing an item entitled: "The Roll Call" and which, since my name is specifically mentioned therein, calls for a reply. But one, however, will not be provided because it will entail lowering oneself down to the level of its author who chose to remain anonymous.

But I do, for that very reason, feel free to offer the following comments:

The initial amazement on reading it was followed by ever increasing satisfaction, contempt and amusement.

Satisfaction in that the truths I had endeavoured to convey, appears to have been read, marked, learned and inwardly digested with far greater impact than hoped for.

Contempt for the mentality which, unable to refute that which is irrefutable, resorts to personalities and then attempts to involve the good name and dignity of a Branch and its entire membership, by skulking in the anonymity provided by its newsletter.

I do not, for one moment, believe that the membership, whom I hold in high regard and respect, will accept or appreciate being summarily tarred with the same brush.

Amusement arises from the hilariously dumb use of the word "immigrant" directed at anyone, because it calls for the obvious and somewhat devastating retort: "SO'S YER OLD MAN!" (or whichever ancestor came first).

As for the remainder of the item, it is felt that its addition to the piles of garbage that's lying around because of the current strike, will not alter either composition or odor except, perhaps, to increase both.

Finally, I toy with the idea that publicising description of me as an Associate Member (emphasized!) in a Branch magazine, offers just cause to invoke Article III of the Constitution of the Hongkong Veterans Association of Canada - Ref. Article II-Membership, Item (a)-for the expulsion of its author. Or doesn't it?

JOHN FONSECA

KEEPING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

To correct any misconception regarding funding of the Roll Call whilst under my editorship, let it be known that, apart from costs of necessary repairs and reconditioning to the used Koneo machine, provided by the B.C. Branch to replace the Gestetner previously used to print the magazine, no-repeat NO - funds had been provided me to help in the publication of the Roll Call since the Fall 1979 issue.

All funding since that issue, up to and including the Winter 1980 edition, has been from donations received from its readers, sent directly to the Editor.

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: As I am not very good at writing up news, it took me a while to get started. I'll do my best to fill you in on the trip.

To start off I sure say that a lot of credit should go to Art Lousier and his good wife, Doreen, as they both must have put in a lot of time putting it all together, and was always available if anyone wanted to know anything at any time.

I am sure glad I went because after 35 years, things sure have changed over there. Shumshuipo not many huts left, but a few.

It was very nice to have news reporters and TV crews over there. The reporters from Ottawa and Winnipeg and the TV crew from Winnipeg. The head girl took Frank Harding, Art Lousier and myself to SSPo to film for TV and also, some others up in the hills of Hongkong, and some of wives shopping.

Was invited by Susan Mellicone, girl in charge, to watch CBC Winnipeg, make up the TV films taken in HK. It is to be shown on CBC's 24-Hour News end of January - no date available.

On a sad note. Francis (Red) Morgan passed away 8 January. Internment 13 January. Was asked to act as pall-bearer by Frank Harding. As ever,

Winnipeg, Manitoba Scotty Adams

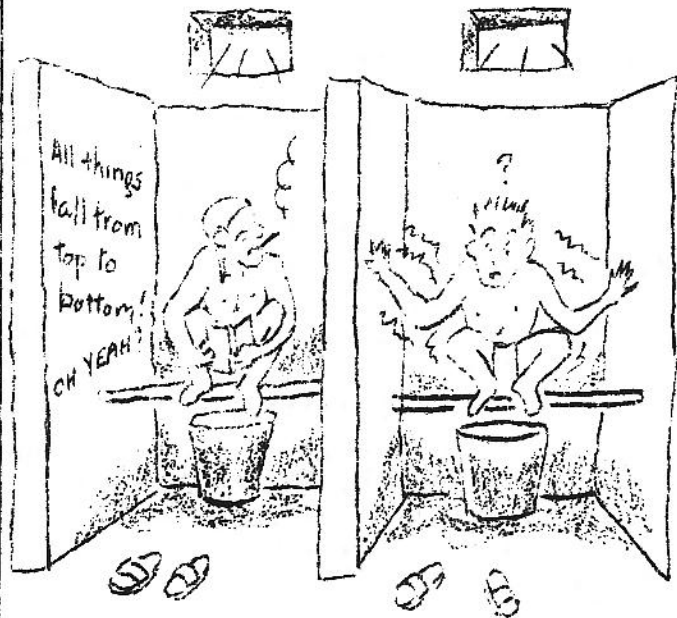
Just splendid, Scotty. Your report on Pilgrimage daily doings on Page 10 of this issue. Thanks very much. JOHN

Dear John: Hope you are feeling better I am slowly coming back to my old self the Doc says it'll take around a year before I am back to normal.

Nothing much new here. I believe I told you of Doug Morrison's death in Mesa, Arizona. He was a fellow-bandman with my brothers and I. Very few of us in B.C. Regards and all the best for the coming year. Keep the magazine coming. A small donation enclosed, I hope it will help.

White Rock, B.C. Gerry McKnight

Really pleased to hear you're on the mend. Keep it up. No such thing as large or small donations. What counts is the spirit which prompts giving. J.

THE PRO - AM!

It is really quite simple! Merely a question of balance and equilibrium and mind over matter!

Dear John: Here's a bit of dope to print in your next copy of the magazine, I think all our boys will be interested (kind of old for boys?).

I recently received a letter from Lt. Col. Oliver Lindsay (got the promotion) Grenadier Guards now, he had secured some information from my diary to help with his new book. It will be published in late February 1981, by Hamish Hamilton, London. Entitled: "At the going down of the sun, Hongkong and South East Asia, 1941-1945."

It will be distributed in Canada by: Nelson Canada Ltd., 81 Curlew Drive, Don Mills, Ont. M3A 2R1.

I will send in an order for a copy right away, maybe a couple more later. We trust you and your nice lady had a happy holiday and all the best for the new year.

Okanagan Falls, B.C. Harry White

Many will surely appreciate your letting them know about Lindsay's latest. Many out this way read his "The Lasting Honour". Our dear Padre Laite, left me his book before he passed away. Keep well and say "Lo" to Shelley for me. John

AND MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: A very Happy New Year to you and all the gang and nothing but the best to you-all.

Quite a few of the Grenadiers are now down in our lovely climate for the winter. Yesterday, Jan 31, was the first sign of winter in Phoenix, it dropped to 56 deg. Fahr!

Now back to the Grenadiers. Last evening Marie and Pete Corbeil threw a get-together and eight couples met - a few for the first time for me. The Grenadiers were :Ray Sellars, Art Munn, Don MacPherson, Ray Bronson, Johnnie St Onge, Harry Creedon, Tiny Martyn and of course, Pete Corbeil. All were accompanied by their wives, except Helen Creedon, who was ill. We all had a wonderful time and as you know, the men all went into the kitchen where the drinks and food was and by the tales the ladies could hear coming from that direction, we knew they were enjoying themselves.

We learnt last night that Marie and Pete do not get the magazine, so as a "thank you" from us, would you please start sending it to them. Tiny is feeling a bit better now that he is seeing some of the fellows, but I now have a wheel-chair to help him get around the shopping centres etc. Tiny's father, Denis E. Martyn, who was also a Grenadier in W.W. I and W.W.II-2nd Batt, was in Deer Lodge from before Christmas, but left today with his wife, to live in Carlton Place, Ont.

We sure enjoy the magazine. Keep up the good work. God Bless you.

Phoenix, Ariz. Tiny and Helen Martyn

Really great to see you-all rounded up 1980 in such a fine fashion, and that Tiny's so much better. His goings on during Christmas, covered in Hither 'n Yon. Will see that Pete gets our next issue of the TENKO. Bless you.

ALL ISLAND AND U.S. READERS

This issue of the TENKO is being mailed to addresses from an old 1977 list. An up to date address list is not available. Should you wish to receive this magazine, please contact The Editor, as soon as possible.

Dear John:

This donation to the magazine is long overdue sorry to admit. However, please accept same on Jack's behalf with sincere thanks.

As you have no doubt heard from Bill Laidlaw, of his illness. I am happy to say this has been a good week for him. He has to report for further check-ups tomorrow morning at Deer Lodge Hospital.

His spirit is terrific, which counts 100% as we're all aware, if health problems occur.

It was a "special" night for the Hodgkinson family at this past reunion (Winnipeg) having the Laidlaws and Manchesters with us. Wish you could have been along also, Johnny.

Sorry we had to miss a visit with you in August while in Vancouver to Jack's niece's wedding. Due to his condition we had to return early and begin his treatments. All being well, we'll see you next time.

Please give our regards to all who know us and PLEASE keep up your good work, Johnny. The magazine is enjoyed by every member of our family. We look forward to its arrival, what an exciting way of keeping track of each other (seem more than brothers really)

Until next time, have a good year. Good health, good luck. Sincerely,

Winnipeg, Man.

Jack and Deanie
Hodgkinson.

To the two of you: I would never have thought that those few hours, following our meeting for the first time ever (in Winnipeg 1979), could generate so deep a regard and affection for anyone in me. There will be a next time - there MUST be - for us to meet again. Until then, God Bless. JOHN

Watching the American hostages de-plane in Algeria, and being greeted by that welcoming committee, brings back memories of our de-training in Tokyo, to a similar welcome in 1945, and we can better than most, understand how they felt. But we had it much better! Remember those beautiful women, descending on us with candy 'n cigarettes 'n KISSES? Who gave a damn about that line of generals after that greeting?

THE SHUMSHUIPO STORY - THE BOMBING RAID

It was on October 25, 1942 that they came for the first time. It was Sunday and no parties were out and for a change POW's were taking things easy and enjoying the bright and clear weather when, suddenly around 3 p.m. the air raid alarms went on over at Stonecutters Island and others picked it up all over Kowloon and Hongkong.

Within seconds the Camp changed from a scene of peace, quiet and tranquility into a bedlam of noise and action, with the Japanese running about screaming orders which no one understood, and showing general panic. Eventually we caught on to the fact that they wanted us to stay in our huts and not to come outside under penalty of being shot. While they were trying to herd us into the huts, the deep hum of many planes were heard coming in from the west, from the direction of China proper.

Everybody stopped at what they were doing and scanned the skies and sure enough, there they were, beautiful and majestic, about 10,000 feet up, a formation of about a dozen Mitchell's with an occasional flash of silver much higher above, indicating the presence of a fighter cover.

The entire western sky over Kowloon peninsula blossomed with anti-aircraft shell bursts, but to our joy and elation, these were at least a couple of thousand feet below the flight path of the bombers and were ignored completely. Down on the ground, the Japanese forgot about guarding, we forgot about the possibility of being shot and instead, all watched the unhurried and majestic flight heading directly towards the centre of our Camp. Must admit that there was considerable apprehension mixed with our elation as the bombers, showing no signs of veering off, continued heading directly at us, and when suddenly, little shining slivers dropped from the bellies of the bombers, everyone hit the deck only to find the Japanese beating us to it.

This, however, was quite unnecessary because before we had time to get really dug in, the first stick of bombs landed square in the middle of the Standard Oil gasoline installation located across that strip of water, not half a mile away from Shumshuipo, at Laichikok. Immediately all hell broke loose, the detonations of the bombs, followed by that tremendous explosion as the first oil tank disintegrated and sent debris flying through the air, some in the form of steel sheeting the size of billiard tables, making like kites and landing on houses at the far side of the camp.

As one after another of the 30 odd storage tanks exploded and more debris landed inside the camp, panic amongst the Japanese became general. Guards were screaming and firing their rifles at the departing bombers, now miles away, with some lying prone on their behinds to do so. Over on the roof of Jubilee Building, a Jap officer was reported to have drawn his 'samurai' sword from its scabbard and waving it over his head with one hand, emptied his pistol in the general direction of the bombers. While in the midst of all the noise of explosions and gunfire, a steady roar of encouragement and applause rose from the throats of nearly five thousand men and rose to a crescendo when a Lockheed Lightning-P 38- dropped out of the blue from nowhere and with one burst, disposed of the first of two Zeros which had taken off to try intercept the bombers. The Zero, emitting a tall-tale plume of smoke, turned lazily on its belly and took its final dive into the channel separating Stonecutter's from the mainland, not half a mile away from our Camp.

By this time, the whole installation was a mass of burning and exploding flames with a black cloud of smoke (not unlike our recent Mt St Helen's fireworks) rising thousands of feet into the sky and visible, we were told, in Macao some forty miles west of Hongkong. That fire burned for five days.

In the meanwhile, the second Zero apparently decided that discretion was better than valour, and the last we saw of it was when it dropped down to almost harbour level and headed in the direction of Taiwan!

(To be continued - next " THE AFTERMATH ")

THE AGING VETERAN PROGRAM

A news release from the D.V.A. announces the initiation of a new program entitled "The Aging Veteran Program" which is scheduled to commence next month, April 1981.

Its intention is to provide veterans, who receive War Disability Pensions, with financial aid so that they can live independently and comfortably in their own homes.

When this is no longer possible, the D.V.A. may assist eligible veterans to meet cost of nursing home care within their communities.

DVA District Offices in your area will assist pensioners towards obtaining the various services available.

The aim of the Department is to ensure that disability pensioners have the means to meet the cost of services essential to their needs, when these are not yet universally available in their province. While provincial plans differ the Department's objective will be to ensure that no war veteran is out-of-pocket as a result of health care needs related to a pensioned disability.

IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Following my resignation as the Editor of the Roll Call, disposal of balance of funds donated to that magazine had to be effected. Donors whose donations had not been utilised, were advised and their instructions requested as to such disposal.

Deep and humble thanks are offered for the overwhelming response which enabled publication of this first edition of the "TENKO".
JOHN

"LEST WE FORGET"

It is with deepest and sincerest regrets that we report the passing of our comrades:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| CONRON, GORD | ONTARIO |
| HARTERY, ED | QUEBEC |
| MORGAN, FRANCIS (RED) | MANITOBA |
| MORRISON, DOUG | B.C. |
| MULROONEY, QUENTIN | QUEBEC |
| PHILIP, DON (Capt) | B.C. |

Our sympathies and condolences are extended to their respective families and friends.

" At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."

LATE, LATE NEWS

We are deeply distressed to learn of other comrades stricken with serious illness, include Jack Hodgkinson in Winnipeg and Guy Stewart (USA).

Jack, who I had the pleasure and privilege to meet and establish close friendship during the 1979 Convention in Winnipeg, had to interrupt a visit to B.C. last August and return to that city for treatment.

Speaking to Deanie (by phone recently) I was greatly relieved to hear that, following examination on 23 February, Jack is now back home, resting well and taking it like only a Hongkong Veteran can.

To both Jack and Guy (whose present whereabouts is unknown) and their families, our concern, good wishes and prayers are offered.

TO : John Fonseca
796 Adiron Avenue
Coquitlam, B.C.
V3J 4K2

FROM:
.....
.....
Postal

Please register my name in mailing list of the "TENKO" magazine and mail same to the above address.

.....