

1982

“TENKO”

Volume 2-2

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.

"SOMETHING TO SHOOT FOR?"

If I can bring a smile
To tear-filled eyes of hurt,
Or lend my arm
To fellow man and guide
Him down a rocky road.
If I can bring comfort
To sadness and or pain,
Or sit and quietly listen
To a sadly troubled soul;
And yet not fear to speak
The TRUTH should e'er
The need arise.
If I can do all this,
Without a thought of gain,
But only for the glow
That comes from what I do.
Then will I be content in
Knowing in my heart, that
My debt for the gift of Life
Is being paid in part;
And, what is more, that
Rather than God-fearing,
Will I a God-beloved
And Blessed person, be.

TENKO

Publisher: JOHN FONSECA
796 Adiron Avenue
Coquitlam, B.C.
V3J 4K2

VOL: 2: 2

Page 1

THE GOOD, THE NOT SO GOOD, THE AWFUL!!

Well, here we are in mid-1982 already with a list of events which come under the headings of: the good, the not so good and the awful!

Starting with THE GOOD: HK Veterans received that long-awaited for 12.2% increase. The Canadian Constitution finally came home to where it belongs. On 22 May, Elsa, I and the young 'uns completed 25 happy and rewarding years in Canada and, because of TENKO, many HK Vets were able to contact, and even meet with, buddies they'd not seen since the late 40's.

THE NOT SO GOOD: Is the loss of a number of our comrades, in particular, our own TENKO readers, Ed Toews and Fred Adams. The worsening condition of the economy which appears to leave only the government with money to throw around, and our need for more letters from you-all for our next edition.

THE AWFUL (truth!): Due to the ravages of time and approaching senility, I'm not only getting to be cynical but forgetful as well. Placed a pot of chicken for stewing for Elsa and I and then, promptly went off grocery shopping without turning off the element, and at time of writing, those April showers look as if they'll come in May. The delays in postal deliveries become increasingly incredible. It took a month to deliver the last issue of TENKO (mailed 15 February) to the Okanagan! To quote one radio commentator: The 30¢ stamp means: 5¢ for sorting and delivering and 25¢ for storage!!

However, by and large, all goes well. We're in good health, the TENKO continues to flourish and "summer is a-cummin in!". So, to all our readers and their families: Good cheer, keep well and have a nice and comfortable summer.

JOHN

P.S. Reminding you that TENKO needs your letters and input. That's what this magazine's all about. So please write in now.

A NATIONAL MEMORIAL FOR ALL

On May 29 proximo, His Excellency, Governor General Edward Schreyer, during a special unveiling ceremony in Ottawa, will rededicate our National War Memorial officially recognizing that the Memorial represents Canadians who served in both World Wars and the Korean Conflict.

The War Memorial was originally unveiled by King George VI, just over 43 years ago, May 21 1939, in honour of the 620,000 Canadians who served overseas in 1914-1918. Since then, the Memorial in Ottawa's Confederation Square, has been the site of Canada's Remembrance Day ceremonies and other commemorative events.

The rededication is being carried out in response to the wishes of many veterans and their dependents to honour Canadians who served in all wars.

Over one million Canadian men and women served in World War II and 26,000 volunteered for the United Nations Peace Keeping Force in Korea. Loss of lives in those two conflicts numbered 44,000 and 516 respectively.

The National War Memorial, at the present time, bears the inscription "1914-1918" on the north and south sides of the granite base only. When Governor General Schreyer unveils it during the dedication, it will also bear the inscriptions "1939-1945" and "1950-1953" on the east and west sides of the granite base.

Invited to attend will be Canada's six living Victoria Cross holders of World War II, military, diplomatic and parliamentary representatives, a Silver Cross Mother, representing parents who lost sons or daughters in the service of Canada and a group of students representing the youth of Canada.

(Courtesy Veterans Affairs, Canada,
May 10, 1982)

EDITORIAL

Received a number of application slips cut out from the Spring 1981 edition of the TENKO (Vol: 1:1) recently from readers who had somehow overlooked our request to send it in in order to be included in our mailing list, due possibly to oversight, non-delivery because of the postal strike or changes of address.

The first two editions of TENKO (Vol: 1:1 and 1:2 1981) were mailed to ALL former readers and supporters of the Roll Call to permit them to continue to enjoy the service provided, and now carried on by TENKO, without interruption. After these, TENKO was mailed only to those who had sent in the slips as requested.

From the immediate response received it appears that most of you received those first two editions, with the exception of HK Veterans residing on Vancouver Island and the United States mailing of which was being effected by Victoria. Because an up-to-date address list was not available, we tried to send it, utilising an old address list prepared before 1977.

By doing this, it served to prevent incurring unnecessary costs through elimination of wastage of time and energy and supplies by sending TENKO to veterans who were not interested and thus avoiding the possibility of having it returned.

This policy remains in effect. However, in view of the fact that TENKO has apparently succeeded in filling a need, whereby, Hongkong Veterans, their families and friends, can keep in touch with each other, it is our sincere hope that those who have not yet registered, will not hesitate to do so without delay. It is not too late and, for many of us, time keeps marching on.

From another angle, there is a sizeable number of HK Veterans who are not, nor have been, aware of the existence of either the Roll Call or TENKO and who, if they did, would like to be receiving it. To get to them, we must depend on the co-operation and goodwill of our established readers. So how's about, gang? Anything you can do is greatly appreciated.

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Delays in the delivery of TENKO to our readers have been not only distressing but frustrating as well. Many who have written in, appear to have received the Spring 1982 copies of TENKO nearly a month or more after it was mailed here.

Our last issue was dropped -bound, tagged and sorted by areas within B.C. and by provinces outside - at the local P.O. February 15, 1982. We have, unless our readers write in to advise, no way of knowing whether or not the magazine has reached you at all.

One possible explanation, applicable to the last issue, was that the words "3rd Class" were omitted from the cover above the addresses. These were omitted because the local P.O. told us that it was unnecessary and that they would be sorted and treated as 3rd Class mail because of the postage carried.

If this is so, we would appreciate readers informing us of non-delivery or possible "postage due" charges being levied at their end.

It took some copies a month or more to reach Ontario, Manitoba and elsewhere outside of B.C. But what took the cake was the copy delivered a reader in the Okanagan Valley of B.C. all of a month and a day after it was mailed.

And, whilst we're at it, it will be appreciated if readers please advise changes of addresses as soon as they become effective. In so doing, it will prevent delays, re-directions or even possible non-delivery of your TENKO.

Finally, as we have little access to official information, we depend on our readers for advice of passing of our comrades, or their hospitalization which are items of interest to our readers. Should you hear of such, this magazine would appreciate receipt of any information together with any details available, for passing on to possible friends and buddies.

Well, here in B.C., we've had a mild winter, a lovely spring and a promise of an equally lovely summer. To all our readers we wish the same. All I now have to do is 'get that inflation down by buying a sweat-suit, a pair of joggers and start running the fat off! Have fun, keep healthy and God Bless!

OUR PADRE'S DIARY - by Rev. U. Laite (Kind permission of Mrs. S. Laite)

Better conditions and food have also been promised so we should be in fair health during our internment. I weighed yesterday and find that I have lost 25 lbs since capture. I did lose some during my twentynine days in hospital but more since coming to the camp.

On St. Patrick's night we had a sing-song in our hut and last night the naval chaps had one in their quarters. A piano was brought in to our camp by our officers a few days ago and we are fortunate in having men who can manipulate the keys in a very commendable manner. One man, Mr. Longyear, has been organist of Union Church Hongkong for more than twenty years and shares our evening service with us. We had rice, sweetened, for breakfast, and for lunch a bit of fish loaf (a morsel) and one piece of bread and tea.

Mar. 22, Sunday. Life goes on as usual in our camp. During the past week the Protestant padres have been making a hymn book. We are writing our hymns in as we use them with additions and hope before late Easter to have at least twentyfive hymns. We are now writing in our Passion, and Easter hymns. Our evening services are continuing and attendance is being sustained. We have now decided to have voluntary services each Sunday morning instead of the regular parade service. We had our first service this morning and were pleased with the response. We have begun regular evening services which will be, I feel sure, a success. This morning the service was in charge of Rev. Strong(R.N.) with Barnett as preacher and I read the lesson. At the close of this morning's service I went to the naval hut (next door) and enjoyed piano music by Mr. Longyear and solos by a naval baritone.

Rations during the week have been a bit better for which I am thankful. I shall do my best to have some of my lost twentyfive pounds restored. Today's meals however have been very light. I do hope that Mom and the children had roast beef and Yorkshire pudding etc. This would be a good place for Sadie if she is still anxious to reduce. It can be done with little difficulty here

It has now been definitely stated that we will be paid by the Japanese. This means that we will have available a bit of cash for clothing and extra eats. I had a dress cap given me a few days ago for which I am grateful as I just had a summer helmet and my steel helmet; both unsuitable now. The weather has been fair during the past week with the odd hot day. The nights are cool and we get ample rest and sleep. At our communion service this morning we had nearly one hundred present. This is a record but expect that on Easter Day we shall have many others.

Six men - officers - are at another table opposite me - outside the hut - discussing the possibility of our being in Australia before we get back to Canada, with the idea of course that we shall again fight. All these of course in conjecture, but before we take an active part in any campaign we shall need months of recuperation and training, after this detention. Our service at 7 pm was well attended after which Capt Barnett and I visited the hospital and had a brief service. Later we went for a ten minute walk around the square. We noticed that all street cars are being stopped opposite our camp and passengers are being questioned or searched by members of our guard. I suppose this is some new rule being enforced by the Japanese Authorities. Barnett and I were talking of home as we sauntered along the square and plan to be home for Christmas of this year.

March 25th, Wednesday: We begin the fourth month as prisoners today. The weather is still fine, our appetites are keen and meals are as usual. This morning the padres meet for a conference to answer questionnaire sent in yesterday by Japanese officials. One of our requests will be that we be allowed to visit our patients at hospital as well as procuring hymn books, bibles etc., for us. I shall write my complete list later. Lt. Harper is sitting at my table sewing buttons on his shirt while Maj. Crawford, our M.O. looks on.

(to be continued)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: Keep up the good work. We enjoy getting the TENKO and hope you are able to keep on sending it.

Sometime ago in the Roll Call, you mentioned that someone had sent you a picture of the ship "OZARK". I travelled part of the way from Tokyo Bay on this boat. If possible, I'd like you to send me a copy of that photo to put in my scrap book. If you are able to do this, let me know the cost.

Transcona, Man. Oswald H. Collett

Dear Oswald: Pleased that you enjoy our efforts. The photo I received was cut out of an old Popular Mechanics (or Science?) and was found difficult to reprint. We did try however, and if you have your old copies of Roll Call Vols: 4:1 (Page 9) and Vol: 4:2 (Page 17), you'll find prints of the old ship as she was and as she is now. Last we heard, she was being used as a bombing target by the U.S. Navy Air Arm. Have a good summer. John

Dear Mr. Fonseca: I just returned from abroad and on my arrival I found your bulletin No. 1:2 with your answer to my letter informing you of my great loss. Thank you for your kind words and the bulletins. Carlos didn't tell me how he saved your life.* He was very humble. I have only known of his achievements through his friends.

Many people asked him to write about Sendai, but he always refused. One day he was explaining to me how he escaped from the Shumshuipo Camp then returning to it to endure all the punishments. He realised that a successful escape would only cause more sufferings to his family. I begged him to write his memories of Shumshuipo and Sendai. He closed his eyes, thought very deeply and then became very pale and with profound emotion, told me: "Please don't make me live again all those miseries!". That was the last time I asked him.

I think that writing about Sendai would be interesting and informative. I know people in France who would like to print the story as part of history. Just before he passed away, Carlos was compiling documents and
(continued next column)

pictures to send to you. I will forward them as soon as my furnitures are unpacked.

Herewith a small contribution, with best wishes.

Mrs. Y. Arnulphy
San Francisco, Cal.

Yvette dear: Thank you for your letter and the very generous 'small contribution'. For your information, I had intended to write a story on Sendai: from the day I left (together with Carlos and the April 1944 draft) Shumshuipo for Sendai. It will be in a same light vein as the current Shumshuipo Story, omitting all painful and desperate details of what we went through. To bring back memories of those will only cause suffering. God Bless.

Dear John: Enclosed a cheque which is hoped, will help you with the TENKO. My wife, Janet, and I enjoy reading it very much and always look forward to the next issue.

I guess you could call me a "2nd Class Citizen" too, I have been in Canada since 1948, December. I served with the "Royal Scots" from 31st Mar. 1926 until 5th Aug. 1948, then immigrated to Canada, and on 12th June 1953, I joined the Canadian Army - The Black Watch of Canada - and served in Korea for 14 months. I completed ten years service with the Canadian Forces and was discharged to pension on 12th September 1963. Campaign service: 191937-38 Palestine; 1939-45 Wprld War II (Hongkong POW); 1953-54 Korea.

Kamloops, B.C. Duncan Rankine

Dunc: You, my friend, sure been around the wars and survived for which our congratulations. Would be of great interest to know if you were also on the "Lisbon Maru" disaster. If so, how about letting us have a first-hand report on what happened?, With regard to 'Canadian but Veteran 2nd Cl.' nobody asked for anything. We merely mentioned it as a matter of principle. And weren't those guys in Belize real fortunate, getting a 39 million hand-out from Canada!!

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: We had the whole family together and the "joint was jumping!" - two of our three children live here but the eldest, Jerry, is a Capt. in the U.S.A.F. in Law Enforcement and Criminology and has moved about quite a bit. He and his family spent his leave with us on the way to his new assignment in Arkansas.

Shortly after your call, Gerry Mabley called from here in Las Vegas - Roger hadn't talked to him since 1945! One would mention a name and the other would come up with another one and it was as if time stood still! I am from Winnipeg, John - "born and bred" St James and know many of the Grenadiers before there ever was a war. Bill Laidlaw was a member of my brother's gang as was Ross McGavin and Gordie Hollingsworth.

As soon as your TENKO arrives, Roger sits down and I read all the news from start to finish - his eyes are not that good anymore, so I am his secretary - he won't let me resign! We are really happy to have someone like you, John, with the dedication to keep all the Grenadiers in touch with one another - you are quite a man in our estimation and we mean this sincerely.

In parting we would like to say "hello" to our very good friends, Don and Pearl MacPherson, Andy Harvie and Glen and Chris Chipping. Tell any Grenadiers coming our way, they are more than welcome. As Edgar Guest said "Let me live in a house by the side of the road and be a friend to Man".

Enclosed is a small donation to keep the TENKO rolling. Best regards to all.

Las Vegas, Nevada Roger & Mona Zane

You lovely people, the above letter is one that had to be held over because of lack of space the last issue. We publish this and the one recently received (elsewhere in this issue) because both carry warm messages of interest to all our readers. Spoke to Pearl re your intended visit to God's Country this summer and have our fingers crossed that nothing will prevent our meeting when you do come. In the meantime keep happy, keep well and God Bless.

Dear John: Will have to apologize for not dropping a line to you earlier. As I grow older, I find myself getting into the habit of putting off things that need doing now. I think there is a name for it - procrastinating - that's a hell of a long word but anyway that's what I have been doing since I have been permanently retired, due to my illness (coronary trouble). The pump is O.K. just the pipes are a little rusty.

Just received the TENKO in the mail today, it is nice to sit down and read of those chaps who are still with us and to remember those who have passed on, names that one can't recall to memory right off hand, but as soon as you see them in print, the old memories come flooding back.

Keep up the good work, John, for those who are shut in and for those who live out here in the boodocks. Inclosed you will find a little something to help "TENKO" along, in these days of inflated money and prices, one needs all one can get.

I haven't been out too much these past few months, have been sticking near home. I have a small hobby (photography) and a dark room that keeps me occupied; also as of these last few months I have been busy writing up my memoirs for the family archives. I find this a rewarding and trying experience, digging up sixty years of past history, however, I shall keep plugging away at it.

I hope to be travelling out your way sometime in the future when the weather clears up a bit. We have a daughter who lives in Port Coquitlam so when I am out there, I shall give you a dingle, so SAYONARA for now.

Duncan, B.C. H.T. (Rocky) Davis

Rocky: Looking forward to getting a call from you when you're out this-away - my number 936-1046 (not long distance). That word processor you are using appears to be quite a machine and the best of luck in completion of your memoirs. Your 'hobby' is also interesting. Hope you'll let us have a coupla pix when ready, for our photo page, and thanks for the nice donation. Keep in touch. John

WELL, SOMEBODY'S GOT TO SAY IT

As a proud Canadian and a Hongkong Veteran, I felt it my duty to switch on the TV and participate -albeit from a considerable distance away- in welcoming the repatriation of our Constitution ceremony in Ottawa.

To me, at least, it should have been a most solemn and proud event with all of Canada joining in a united expression of joyful celebration. But somehow it didn't appear so. Something was missing. It is possible that my eyesight is going, but I couldn't see a single provincial premier, representing all of the peoples of Canada, and without whom the repatriation would not have been possible, there on the dais to welcome home the Constitution and to honour Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth of England and the United Kingdom and her consort, HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Not one.

To this was added the distressing thought that, whereas I was provided with an interpreter (even though somewhat of a stumble-bummer!) to translate what the P.M. was saying, during the early part of the preamble, none were provided Her Majesty or Prince Philip, and I worried as to whether they understood a word of what was said in, to them at least, a foreign language.

The fact that the Royal Couple were here as honoured guests of Canada and had given of their time, in spite of the grave situation over the Falklands, to bring home the Constitution in person, instead of delegating that duty to some minor official, marks it as a shameful and embarrassing display of bad manners all Canadians, of all cultural backgrounds, must deplore and reject.

The Royal Couple earned my deepest respect for their fortitude, tolerance and, most of all, for their composure throughout the ordeal, especially during the singing of our national anthem in two languages at the same time. That they did not give way to hysterical laughter, was truly commendable.

If it wasn't for their presence and the dignity it lent to the occasion, we Canadians, would have spent a couple or three millions, to witness a poorly stage managed ego-trip-turned-farce.

(continued top next column)

Contrary to the belief that one should shun getting "Dear John" letters, I not only welcome them but look forward to getting as many as I can get! For the past few years they've been terrific!

On the other hand, the actions of some of my namesakes, which threaten the well-being of my fellow Hongkong Veterans - even though I am not personally affected - provides cause for not only anxiety and dismay, but also a desire to put a stop to same by calling it as it is. I owe my fellow veterans and readers that much.

I have been constantly receiving reports of one such clod who, in spite of being repeatedly refused the support he seeks from all whom he approached, apparently still persists in trying, on his own, to mess around with the POW Compensation Award as it applies to the Disability Pension.

The solution is simple: Order him to cease and desist, permanently and immediately, or face expulsion! But for Pete's sake, do it now not later! John.

THE "TENKO"

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

Published for the entertainment and enjoyment of Hongkong Veterans, their families and friends.

All editorial and production services are donated. Mailed free of charge but only against application in writing.

All correspondence to be addressed to:

JOHN FONSECA
796 Adiron Avenue
Coquitlam, B.C.
Canada V3J 4K2

Tel: 936 1046

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

HITHER 'N YON WITH FONZ

Good news in the shape of advice from Trail, B.C. that Chuck Bradbury is so well and enjoying his retirement so very much, that a "Gone Fishin'" sign is up outside his door twice each week. June tells us that the 1st time it was up was on April 4. We can picture our friend, who at Sendai wielded a mean "scopu", lying on the bank of some peaceful stream, gnawing on a drumstick and with an occasional sip of joy juice completely in tune with nature and dammit, wish we were there too! Poor June, not only did she have to work on that particular Sunday, but she faced the prospect of cleaning and cooking up that mess of trout or whatever Chuck brought home! All the best, folks!

Seems like any attempt to ignore the existence of Blue River, B.C. the bailiwick of Frank Petch, is being forcibly dismissed by that brave little town itself. In an earlier edition we mentioned the abandonment of that little community by the powers that be in suspending VIA rail services. We now hear of the train derailment in that vicinity which because of the dangerous cargo carried, endangered and polluted the Thompson River to the extent that drinking water supply to other communities downstream had to be cut off in March. This was followed by the disastrous explosion and fire which destroyed the hotel a few days later, and presumably a popular 'watering hole'. But, not to worry, gang. So long as there's a Hongkong Veteran there, in the person of our friend, Frank Petch, Blue River's future is in good hands.

Post-card from Gordie Wheatcroft in Phoenix, Ariz: "Hello John: What a lovely winter! 79° (Fahr) and sunny. All O.K. Hope to drop in on you next fall on return trip. I SHALL RETURN!" Card delivered while there was sixteen centimetres (six inches ICL) of snow out on the yard! The card shows part of the terrain in which the Wheatcrofts have been frolicking around in shorts and bikinis. Now that's what I calls being callous!

The Creedon, Harry 'n Helen, returned home from Mesa, also in Arizona, earlier than planned, because the rains in the early part of the year in B.C. threatened to flood out their basement here in White Rock. Although the fine weather during April has helped, we regret to advise that Helen is still under the weather and undergoing treatment for her ailments. Welcome back and hope all goes well from now on. Good news is that the Creedons are expecting the arrival of a second grandchild - to keep Mike company - shortly. Congrats, folks.

Alex and Mary Prairie returned home to Thunder Bay 6 May after spending a month with daughter, Shirley and her family in Mission, B.C. During their stay, we at the White House(?) had the pleasure of their company - joined by Tom Mulvaney later - in a get-together which lasted late into the evening. Can't let this pass without expressing Elsa's and my appreciation for making it possible by their reserving a room at a local hotel for one night so that we could meet. Alex prior to emplaning, tells me he's returning home with a tan and a couple of extra inches around the waist gained from the good life in beautiful B.C. Mary goes back with a recipe which will make fresh asparagus truly delectable. They'll be back come this winter. Happy landings, friends!

March 31st saw the welcomed return of Grand Old Man (73) The Hon. Stanley H. Knowles, to the House of Commons after a remarkable recovery from a severe stroke suffered in November 1981. It triggered a standing and prolonged ovation from all Members in the House. We have no hesitation in venturing to say that all Hongkong Veterans, whose well-being was, and is, one of the chief concerns of Mr. Knowles, will join in congratulations and pleasure in the thought that 'Our Stan' will be back in his seat in the House shortly. To him, we say: Welcome back, good luck and God Bless!

A LOSS TO ALL SENDAI 2 POWS

It is with deepest and sincerest regrets that we advise the passing of Capt. Pat (DOC) Cmeyla, 73, at his home in Sioux City, Iowa, last December.

"Doc", though not a Hongkong Veteran, was O.C. Sendai 2, joining the 237 HK vets there, when he arrived with 15 American POWs from the Philippines, and spent the final 16 months of W.W.II as forced labourers at the coalmine.

To all who came under his ministrations, the Doc was not only their Commanding Officer but also a personal friend and comrade and, after his return to the U.S.A. kept in touch with his former charges, even to welcome and entertaining those who visited whilst passing through Sioux City.

"Doc" visited Hongkong a few years ago and was royally feted by his former Sendai friends, the Portuguese boys.

All of us from that camp have memories of this quiet but firm and gentle man, who, in spite of remonstrances from the Japanese Camp Commandant, forced the surrender of that camp, Sendai 2, and the evacuation of all Japanese guards and personnel the same day Japan surrendered - 15 August 1945.

To me, not only have I nostalgic memories, but tangible reminders of "Doc" in the form of a personal message written in my old autograph album and copy of the original Sendai 2 roster, which he sent me a few years ago.

More so, has Tom Mulvaney who forcibly commandeered the "samurai" sword of the Camp Commandant and later presented it to Doc Cmeyla. It is still in the possession of Phyllis, his widow.

For the information of all our readers who were at Sendai 2, with a request to pass same on to those who are not, she, Phyllis, will remain in residence at their home in Sioux City and the address is:

Mrs Phyllis Cmeyla,
3625 Court Street,
Sioux City, Iowa,
U.S.A. 51104

We are certain that any messages from Doc's former prison camp mates will be deeply appreciated. Doc has kept her fully informed of what went on during those hectic months at Sendai 2.

THE OKANAGAN GET TOGETHER

Received a request from the boys in the Okanagan to publicize a planned get-together for Hongkong Vets, wives and friends, scheduled for Sept. 17 - 19 1982, at the St. Andrews on the Lake Lodge, near Penticton, B.C., and which promises to be a most enjoyable and relaxing affair, held in a secluded private estate complete with its own lake, golf course, tennis courts and a swimming pool and ornate interior surroundings, reserved solely for use by those attending. The main events will be the dinners and socials on each of the three nights.

We have been assured that there will be no official Branch or Association meetings but strictly R & R. Visitors may golf, tennis, swim, fish - a couple of 4 lbs have been caught recently - or just relax and have fun with fellow veterans and friends.

Because it is unofficial, the organisers are required to provide deposits for use of the Lodge and accommodations and so, find it necessary to receive same in advance from those planning to attend. This takes the form of a \$50.00 deposit per unit (doubles) to be sent to: Maurice La-Pointe, 155-321 Yorkton Ave., Penticton B.C. V2A 3V6 (Tel: 493 2821) not later than 15 August 1982.

Because there are only 15 units (all doubles) at the Lodge and available on a first come basis, it is recommended that you send your deposits ASAP. Once these 15 are reserved, the overflow will be registered at motels in the vicinity. Transportation from the motels to the Lodge are being planned.

Cost per unit (all doubles) at Lodge or motels is \$40.00 per day. Meals are not included, but breakfast and lunch will be available at the Lodge. Dinners: Friday - \$10.00; Saturday - \$12.00 and Sunday - \$10.00 (all per head). Payment upon registration. No trailer hook-ups, but parking for self contained motor homes will be available on the grounds at the Lodge.

Any further information required can be had by contacting Maurice, whose phone number and address are given above.

SCREECH SENT SCHARNHORST SCUTTling !

I want to relate a small incident that occurred while we were on guard duty in Newfoundland, to indicate the intensity and high level of training we (the R.R.C) underwent while serving with His Majesty's Canadian Foot Forces during the early stages of the Second Great World conflict.

We were stationed at the time (Jan-Feb 1941) in Bottwood, Nfld and a section of No: 9 Platoon, A Company of the R.R.C. were positioned on top of a high, windy rocky point, in a smallish cold shack, with a look-out tower, where we kept two men posted at all times. We spent four hours on duty and four hours off, alternately.

During our time off, we slept, sang, ate hardtack with strawberry jam or honey (I recall we scooped the frozen honey and strawberry jam from 2 lb tns) (guess in them thar days you hadn't a clue as to what a milligramme was, or cared. ED). We also drank tea, Nfld rum and "Screech" - not necessarily in the given order. Sometimes when we returned to duty, our wits were not as sharp as they might have been, if only for the reason of drinking all that strong tea and eating overly much of hardtack, jam and honey.

It was on one of those occasions when I was back on duty in the look-out tower studying a book before me showing the blackened silhouettes of German pocket battleships, and peering out of binoculars in a blinding snowstorm over Bottwood Bay, ..I spotted the German pocket battleship: Scharnhorst. No doubt about it , there she was .. out of reach of our bren guns. I called to Mickey Sommerville, Cpl. in charge, refreshing himself on Nfld tea. "I've spotted the Scharnhorst out there in the bay!" Mickey (killed on Mt. Parker in Hongkong) came running up the ladder to the look-out tower. I handed him the binoculars which he pointed out to sea, held in unsteady hands: "I think you're right, Lawrence. We must report this incident to Battalion HQ immediately!" About nine other ranks on duty at the time, climbed up in the look-out tower and confirmed that the object out in the bay certainly looked like the Scharnhorst.

The following are some parts and bits of the telephone conversation that ensued between Battalion HQ and the Look-out Post:

" What the hell you mean, you've spotted the Scharnhorst? Its a blinding snow storm, you can't see ***** out there! "

" It is the Scharnhorst!!!"

" 'C' Company is going to be awful mad. They're on duty at the harbour, and they will have to send out a dory with a bren gun mounted on the bow to investigate this Scharnhorst sighting!"

" That's their problem. We're on look out duty!". Unkind and unprintable language followed from Battalion HQs Orderly Room, before they hung up.

Elements of "C" Company dutifully mounted a bren gun on the bow of a Nfld dory and rowed out a few yards from the dock in the blinding snow storm, only to report to Battalion HQ that they couldn't locate the Scharnhorst.

We kept out of "C" Company's way, but sometimes they would spot us and call out: Hey! Have you spotted any German Pocket Battleships lately?"

Everest Lawrence

Exactly the kind of article TENKO is on the look-out for. Can't truly express our appreciation to you. John

COMING EVENTS

Nat'l Convention AMEXPOW, Inc. July, 11 thru 15, 1982 at Four Seasons Motel, Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA. For more info contact: State Cmdr. A. P. Galloway, 11718 Corliss Avenue N., Seattle, Wash., U.S.A. 98133.

Hongkong Veterans Get-Together at St. Andrews on the Lake, Okanagan (near Penticton B.C.) Sept. 17-19, 1982. Reservations by 15 August 1982 For more details please turn to Page 8 of this issue. Contact Maurice Lapointe, 155-321 Yorkton Avenue, Penticton, B.C. V2A 3V6; Tel: 493 2821 for more information.

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: Received the TENKO last week and it's always good to hear about our friends to the north. Hope this finds you and Elsa well and ready for spring and summer. Do hope we will see both of you at our State Convention or even National. If you should publish another TENKO before May, would appreciate it if you could mention the dates and places of our conventions.

The National Convention of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc., will be held at the Four Seasons Motel, Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S.A. on July 11-15

Keep up the good work with the TENKO. Charlotte and I will head for the Midwest after we leave Colorado Springs, and pick up our two grandchildren. We will have them with us for a month. Hope to be back home the first week in August.

Seattle, Wash. A.P. (Joe) Galloway
Cmdr. AMEXPOW
Dept. of Washington

Joe: Thank you very much for your letter, the invite and the information on your conventions contained therein. I regret the omission of the State Convention notice as this issue will not be mailed until after it had taken place (about 25 May). We both wish you and the boys a very successful and rewarding convention both at Spokane and again in Colorado Springs. Sorry I will not be able to attend the first as you can see I'll be in the thick of getting this issue out. Bestest. John

Dear John: Received TENKO today (March 12). Always enjoy reading it. Thank you. I am enclosing donation to help in the good work.

Cobourg, Ont. Glen & Kay Mann

Dear Friends, thanks for your continued support and for the cuttings enclosed. I am taking the liberty of using part of same as well as one pix which will help towards reviving the photopage in this issue. Your views expressed in the cutting in regard to that idiotic article, is being echoed by so many of our Hongkong Veteran readers. Your donation sure is appreciated. John

Dear John: Greetings from the Great White North-Western Ontario. It's been a long cold winter and we still have Great Big Piles of Snow. However, the sun is shining brightly and the Ice-Breaker is opening up the harbour for navigation - sure signs of Spring.

We are always looking forward to receiving the TENKO. It came yesterday (March 11) and we really enjoyed reading it as usual.

Mary and I are planning on visiting our daughter and her family in Mission B.C., in April. We're ordering sunshine and flowers for the whole month. Enclosed is a donation for the TENKO. Keep up the good work.

Thunder Bay, Ont. Alex Prairie

Well, you came, you saw and you conquered - at least you won our pleasure and enjoyment in meeting for the second time. Must hire you as our B.C. official weather 'guru'. Except for a couple of days, the whole month of April was sunny and shining with the flowers of spring tra-la!! Please find more on your visit in Hither 'n Yon. Hope your trip home posed no problems and that you both are well settled by the time this issue gets to you.

Dear John: I don't know who sent you the clipping from one of our papers here. It is odd how one gets a nickname. After arriving home from the Far East, I ended up in the Royal Canadian Air Force Band. It was after I received the B.E.M. in Winnipeg in 1947, that the members of the Air Force Band started calling me "DOC".

When I retired from the Air Force, I became an Industrial First Aid Attendant and again I was tagged "DOC". Anyway, please accept a donation for our TENKO.

Naramata, B.C. Reg "Doc" Kerr

Doc: Taking refuge in our new Charter of Rights, I am not going to divulge the name of your friend who sent me the clipping. But he is your friend. Anyway, we must get together, you'n your trombone and me wid de guitar and though it doesn't sound possible, we should be able to make loud if not beautiful music together.

AND MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear John: Thank you for sending TENKO Vol:2:1 which I have just received and read. There are several items to which I would like to draw your attention.

1. Page 15, col.1, para 2. Prior to publishing this material I wonder if you had discussed the individuals' details with DVA authorities since there is more to being eligible for such benefits than having been a P.O.W. in Hongkong while serving with Allied Forces and then, after the war, coming to Canada to take up residence and citizenship.

2. Page 12, col.2 re Cam Maddess. If he is the same patient I recall at Bowen Road Hospital, his surgery was performed by Major James W. Anderson -- at that time he was the only Anderson on the medical staff. Incidentally, that same Dr. James W. Anderson has been a resident of Victoria, B.C. for many years and is a member of the B.C. Branch of the Hongkong Veterans Association.

3. Page 6, col.1, para. 3, there is a real no-no. Please do not refer to me as a chairperson. That and "Ms" are two of my pet peeves.

Thus endeth the lesson for today. I trust you will accept the foregoing in the spirit in which it is offered.

Toronto, Ont.

Kay Christie

Kay dear, from you, I'll accept and welcome anything you may offer and am pleased to reply to the above three, with thanks added, as follows:

1. No, I didn't. None of those mentioned asked, or even considered asking, for the POW Compensation. The article was written, in view of the large sums given to peoples outside of Canada - you can add the recent hand-out to Belize to that - as a matter of interest and published because a principle appears to be involved. I venture to think that we, immigrant HK Veterans are a "proud bunch".

2. No, I didn't know it was that Dr. Anderson. Don't know where I got that "Bruce" from and so, for misplacing credit from where it is due, our humble apologies are offered to Dr. James W. Anderson of Victoria, B.C. Thanks, Kay dear, for making this possible.

(continued top next column)

3. Your being way over there in Ontario and me here in B.C., prevented my knowing of your pet peeves. A "SO SORRY" for any inconvenience and/or irritation it may have caused you. From henceforth, we will, with your kind permission, address you, as you have indicated above, as Kay Christie officially, or Kay, dear, preferably.

Dear John & Elsa : Really enjoyed talking to you - it was a most welcome surprise and so very thoughtful. We were very sorry to hear of Ed Toews passing - he was a good friend. Roger recalls when he and Stan Olson opened their Food Bar at the Amputations Club corner of Langside and Portage in Winnipeg (above the Liquor Commission !! Ha! Ha!) in 1946 - said it was a good place to stop in - have a bowl of Ed's hot soup or stew and chat with the boys and/or place a bet with the bookie on the premises.

As Roger told you we visited with Nick and Frances Zytaruk and Joan Watson when they were here a couple of weeks ago - had a real gab fest and tore up the town. They mentioned Johnny Britton had passed away too - another good friend and then this past week a note from Milly Britton to that effect. Both families have our deepest sympathies of course.

Roger said to remind you to tell Cam Maddess the last time he heard about Jimmy Young, he was in Kenora, Ontario with the Telephone Company.

If all goes well, we hope to visit "north of the border" early this summer. Take care, God Bless and Lotsaluv P.S. Roger sends along an old Gaelic Warning Toast: "May the Devil tread on the toes of your foes- so that ye may know them by their limp!"

Las Vegas

Roger & Mona Zane

Now you've started something! You've got me taking surreptitious glances at strangers with friendly approaches and watching if they limp instead of listening to what they say. The last one with a limp was an itinerant soul-saver who wanted to give me a book which would ensure me of a contented life in the hereafter. SHEESH!

AND HE DIDN'T LIKE IT TOO!

In support of our comments on Page 6 of the last issue, on the TODAY magazine of January 23, in regard to the opening of the Hongkong Exhibit at the Canadian War Museum, and its unwarranted and totally inaccurate account of what really occurred, the following are excerpts from the Cobourg Daily Star of Cobourg, Ontario, on 8 February.

"Hongkong veteran Glen Mann says a national magazine article criticizing Governor-General Ed Schreyer is completely off-base. Mann and his wife, Kay were there and talked with Schreyer. The article in TODAY claimed that Schreyer had almost ignored the veterans as he entered the museum, and 'in no way made himself or his office part of the occasion."

Not true, says Mann, who says he is quite angry at the unfair article. He said Schreyer was completely approachable at the event and was very popular.

"I was part of the honor guard when Mr Schreyer entered the room and he spoke to many of the men standing in the line. After he opened the exhibit, he mingled with all of us and looked at the items. Many of us and our wives talked with him and took snaps and he spoke with everyone who spoke with him. He was not aloof. In no way was he snobbish. Despite all the demands on his time, he stayed with us. He is a fine representative of the Queen. We were very proud to have him there.

The TODAY article sounds like 'sour grapes' to me and I don't know where the author was to make those comments. It is unfair to the Governor General. Besides, I don't think my colleagues and I appreciate being called 'frail old men' and we don't shuffle when we walk, like the article said.

(Cutting courtesy of Glenford Mann)

CHOKER!

"I shall expect my wife to be the same in twenty years time as she is now".

"That's unreasonable".

"Yes, that's what she is now!".

"C" FORCE NOMINAL ROLL (continued)

Durdle, Robert	Rfn	RRC
Durrant, Gordon C.	Pte	W.G.
Durrant, Maurice F.	Pte	W.G.
Durrant, Philip L.	Pte	W.G.
Dyck, Daniel	Pte	W.G.
Dwyer, Terence W.	Pte	CDC
Ebdon, Frank W.	Sgt	RRC
Ebert, George H.	Pte	W.G.
Edgar, Stanley E.	Pte	W.G.
Edgecombe, George E.	Rfn	RRC
Eggie, Edwin D.	Pte	W.G.
Eliuk, John	Pte	W.G.
Elliott, Albert	Pte	W.G.
Elliott, Raymond	Rfn	RRC
Elsiger, Alfred W.	Rfn	RRC
Englehart, Harold W.	Rfn	RRC
English, Frederick	Pte	W.G.
Enright, Arley	L/Cpl	RRC
Evanow, Peter	Pte	W.G.
Evans, David L.	Pte	W.G.
Evans, Frank	Rfn	RRC
Everett, George	Rfn	RRC
Ewing, Kenneth A.	Rfn	RRC
Fagg, Frederick	Pte	W.G.
Fair, Gray	L/Cpl	RRC
Falcon, Joseph M.	Pte	W.G.
Falkner, Richard	Cpl	W.G.
Farace, Paul	L/Cpl	RRC
Faulconer, George M.	Sgt	W.G.
Favel, Alexander	Pte	W.G.
Fawcett, Wilbert R.	Pte	W.G.
Fay, William H.	Pte	W.G.
Fehr, Victor O.	Rfn	RRC
Ferguson, George A.	Rfn	RRC
Ferrall, Arthur W.	Pte	W.G.
Ferrigan, John T.	Rfn	RRC
Fertal, John	Pte	W.G.
Fidler, James A.B.	Pte	W.G.
Fidler, Raymond	Pte	W.G.
Findlay, George K.	L/Cpl	RRC
Findlay, Lorne C.R.	Rfn	RRC
Findley, Joseph	Rfn	RRC
Fines, Cecil C.	Pte	W.G.
Finn, Eli	Rfn	RRC
Firlotte, Lawrence J	Rfn	RRC
Firlotte, Leslie	Rfn	RRC
Firth, Denzil J.G.	Rfn	RRC
Fisher, Charles E.	Pte	W.G.
Fisher, Delmer L.	Cpl	W.G.
Fitzpatrick, Charles J.	Rfn	RRC
Flanagan, Clifford A.	Rfn	RRC
Flanagan, James A	Rfn	RRC
Flegg, Aubrey P.	Pte	W.G.
Fleming, Albert G.	Pte	W.G.

(to be continued in next issue)

STILL MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Johnny: We, at last, have finalized this get-together in Penticton. I'm sending you the details; hope it explains everything. If not, let me know.

I wish you will make it very plain about the August 15, 1982 deadline. We are sorry, but that is the only way we can work it; anyone after that will be on their own. Lots of luck and hope to see you.

Penticton, B.C. Maurice LaPointe

Sure glad to be of some help in publishing your 'gala event'. It promises to be lotsa fuh 'n frolic. You'll find full details printed elsewhere in this issue. Many thanks for the invite but regret I'll have to take a rain check, reason being that I'll be in the middle of producing the Fall 1982 issue of TENKO. Best of luck and success.

Dear John: Thought I would write you a few lines to say how much the last TENKO was enjoyed. I want to write a "thank you" to Mrs Toews for sending that article especially for Nick. Only wish he would read it all through for himself and know how many of his "buddies" would enjoy seeing him for himself no matter that he needs his wheelchair for comfort. We did have calls from friends about it. It was so thoughtful of her at that time to see that you got that for print. If it was not for that reminder in the TENKO, we would not have phoned Mona and Roger (Zane) and a more lovely couple one can ever hope to meet. Between our foster son and the Zanes, our welcome to Vegas was A-1. We had a lovely meeting and visit with the Zanes, who are a most delightful couple. I am sending you a book which we all autographed especially for you. As always

Winnipeg, Man. Frances Zytaruk

Fran dear: Got da book, got da message and gotta say thank you for your thoughtfulness. Sure glad you met the Zanes; am looking forward to do so myself sometime this summer. Who is Joan Watson? She sound snice. Bestest to both of you and God Bless, John

Dear John: I do want to thank you for not giving up on us completely and for keeping us on your mailing list. As always, we both enjoy your efforts to the full. I'll enclose a little something to helpkeep you in business, with the price of postage today, and paper, I am sure you can use it.

I was more than pleased to see the reprint of Sid Varcoe's "Nuttin' But Mutton" in your latest issue. Sid and I were very close friends during the war years and for many years after we came home. I have always regretted that circumstances didn't allow us to keep as close a contact as I would have liked, the last few years he was alive.

Many people are not aware that the material for Sid's "Oriental Odyssey" - the original that is - was confiscated by the Japanese and he re-wrote it all from memory after he came home. It was always my opinion that Sid Varcoe possessed one of the most brilliant minds of anyone in the regiment. He never received the recognition he deserved for his talents, mainly because he didn't seek recognition.

John, I do sincerely wish you continued success with the TENKO, the tone of the letters to the Editor indicate its popularity and wide readership. Kindest regards to you, Elsa and your family.

A.N.Other

The above from a reader wishing to remain anonymous. But before anyone jumps to conclusions, the above excerpts have been reprinted with his knowledge and consent. Editor.

Dear John: Just a note to let you know that all is fine here and hope that everything is the same with you. I'm sending you a little donation to help you with the expenses and I hope it will help. Keep up the good work and say "Hi" to all Hongkong Vets for me and my wife Marion.

Kelowna, B.C. Lou Specht

Your other letter with second donation for your daughter is held up for lack of space. So happy that she likes it too! Thanks and best regards. John

MORE HITHER AND YON AND LATE NEWS

We, here in B.C., who have been looking forward to a reunion with Roger and Mona Zane, of Las Vegas, this summer, will be disappointed (but happily so only temporarily) to learn that Mona is being hospitalized sometime this week - possibly by end of May - and so, will not be able to come up this way as planned, next month. The nature of her ailment is not known, excepting that it is not serious enough - for which we give thanks - to shelve their intention to come to Canada, but only postpone it until sometime in the fall. Mona dear, here's wishing you a speedy and complete recovery.

Harry White, Okanagan Falls, spent a couple of days here in Vancouver middle of May. Seems like he felt he was due for a check-up or sumpin'. Hope all is O.K.

Don and Pearl MacPherson will be leaving for Winnipeg sometime during the coming long week-end - May 22-24 - for a visit. Don with his brother there and Pearl to attend a nursing class convention. They'll be returning home via Nelson, where Don'll be participating in a seniors curling bonspiel, around about 2 July. Hopefully, with the trophy. Have a good trip, have fun but watch out fer skeeters!

With Spring stirring up the sap within, veterans are spending long hours out in the garden on sunny days. Alfie Matthews, Winnipeg, has not only a garden, but a greenhouse too, and may be found pottering about any time of day. He doesn't tell us what he's growing but I bet a dropping dollar to a bowl of boiled rice that it'll be something exotic - like kohlrabi, rutabaga, okra or even Canadian "ong-choy". If it is the last-named, I have connections in Japan to whom we can ship large quantities and so, give them a taste of their own medicine!

"An indolent vicar called Ray,
Let his lovely red roses decay.
His wife, more alert,
Bought a powerful squirt,
And said to her spouse "Let us spray"

An interesting book, lent by a fellow vet, has come to hand. It is interesting because it is the first one I've read written by someone who was there and not, like the Carews, Lindsays and Ted Fergusons, gathered second hand.

The book, printed and published in Japan, was written by Lewis Bush, HKRN VR, POW at Shumshuipo and Argyle Street, who was on the draft, which carried 420 Canadians to Osaka and then on to Niigata, which sailed from Hongkong on 25 August 1943. Lewis Bush was one of the two interpreters on that draft and ended up at Omori Camp whilst Arthur Rance, HKVDC, the other interpreter, went to Niigata with the Canadians. Extracts of the book will be published in later issues of TENKO

LEST WE FORGET

ADAMS, Frederick W.	C.S.M.	W.G.
BRITTON, John	Cpl	W.G.
MELKOWSKI, Mike	Pte	W.G.

Sincerest condolences to their families and friends .

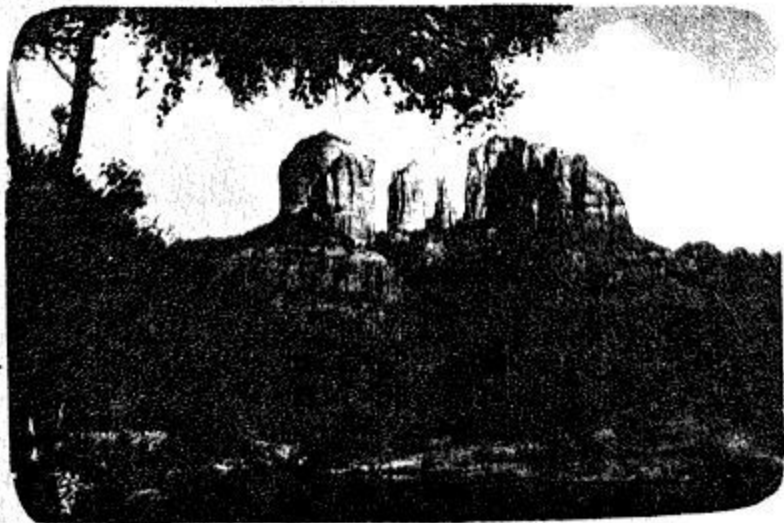
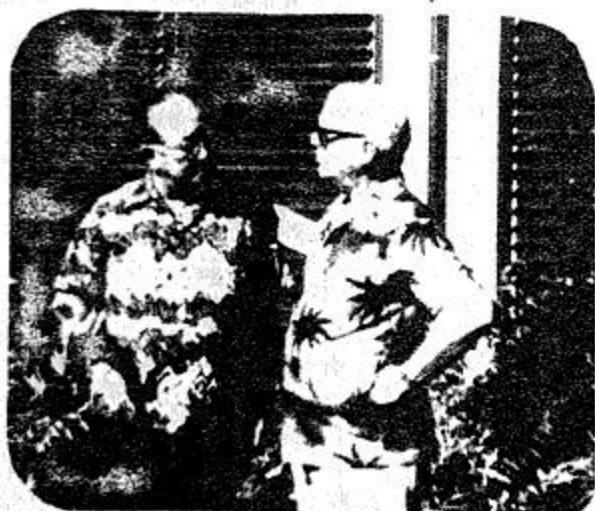
" WE WILL REMEMBER THEM ..."

PHOTO PAGE STORY

- Governor-General Ed Schreyer and HK Vet Glenford Mann chatting at the HK Exhibit, Canadian War Museum, Ottawa, last November.
- Hmm! Not bad! Not bad at all!! But cool it, chaps! She's a HE! None other than our Sonya Caranda (Sonny Castro) of Shumshuipo.
- Bill Laidlaw, holidaying in Hawaii visiting with Jimmy Remedios, HK-VDC, formerly cook in SS Po and later at Sendai 2, Japan. Bill is saying: "To heck widda "Ong-choy" recipe!" or is he?
- Al Rheault, as he looks today. And speaking of gardens, Al has a smallish spread back of t'house a mere 160 acres in all!
- The kind of country the Gordie Wheatcrofts have been frolicking around in this past winter and with temperatures around 79 fahr. yet! Locale: Red Rock Crossing in the Oak Creek Canyon area, near Phoenix, Arizona.

TENKO'S PHOTO PAGE

PAGE 15



SEE
FACING
PAGE 14
FOR
STORY.