

THE BULLETIN

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VOLUME 2, NUMBER 1

WINTER 1995

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OMMC, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

CHANGES TO THE EXECUTIVE The Board of Directors wishes to announce the following changes in the Executive and staff. The resignation of LCdr Naismith as a member of the Executive Committee was accepted, effective 31 December 1994. LCdr Naismith was offered and has accepted the position of Course Co-ordinator. She will be responsible for planning and executing all the administrative and logistics support for the annual course. LCol (Retd) Bissonnette has been appointed Secretary/Treasurer and LCdr Naismith will fill the position of Assistant Secretary.

1995 ELECTIONS The Board has appointed a Nominating Committee to recommend a slate for the positions open for election in 1995. Members wishing to submit nominations for the 1995 election must provide the following information:

- a letter naming the individual being nominated and the position;
- agreement in writing of the nominee; and
- a brief biography and picture of the nominee.

This information is to be forwarded to the OMMC, Inc. office, **Attention: 1995 Nominating Committee.**

The deadline for nominations is 1 May 1995. A list of nominees, positions and biographies will be included in the Spring Issue of "The Bulletin".



**CANADA REMEMBERS
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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1995

The 1995 AGM will be held at 12 Wing (CFB Shearwater) on the afternoon of Monday 31 July 1995.

ADVERTISING POLICY The Board has recently approved an advertising policy for the OMMC, Inc. A copy of the policy and applicable rates may be obtained from the Executive Director. The Editor will accept public service announcements from members (ie items which are of general interest to members) on a space available basis. The Editor may also accept paid advertising for The Bulletin on a space available basis, in accordance with the established rates. Inserts will be accepted for inclusion with a mailing of The Bulletin, again based on established rates.

Members who do not wish to receive inserts with their copy of The Bulletin are requested to advise the Executive Director in writing.

Note that it is current OMMC, Inc policy that membership lists are not to be released to a non-member, nor are they to be used by an OMMC, Inc. member on behalf of another organization.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MEMBERSHIPS AND ANNUAL DUES I am very pleased to see the steady growth of the OMMC, Inc. from 125 paid members, both individual and organizational, in January 1993, to our present membership of 282. Our new members believe that

the OMMC has something to offer them. I trust that our present members still think the same and that they will continue their membership in 1995. The new members who have joined since the 1994 course are listed below. Note that we now have a membership renewal form, which is enclosed with this issue of "The Bulletin". If you've already sent in your 1995 dues, please take a moment to fill out the form, noting that your 1995 dues have been paid, and mail it to the OMMC office. If you have not yet paid your 1995 dues, we ask that you complete and submit the form along with the \$35 annual fee.

NEW MEMBERS The OMMC, Inc is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Institutional members:

Fort Wellington National Historic Site;
Niagara Parks Commission;
The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Regimental Museum; and
SPARTA 2002 Design and Promotions Inc.

Individual Members:

Ms. Joan Bolyos;
Mr. Rory Campbell;
Mr. Guy LaBroncle;
Mr. Bruno Pepin;
Ms. Katherine Spencer-Ross; and
Mr. G.J. Douglas Townend.

The 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War will be commemorated by many special celebrations, including a series of events in the Ottawa region from early May to late September which will be co-ordinated by the Canadian War Museum and Veterans Affairs Canada. Watch for notices of events in your area and take the opportunity to participate in the commemoration of this historic military event.

For those interested in exhibitions of militaria, there are a number of shows and exhibitions across the country each year. Space permitting, we will print notice of such shows in "The Bulletin". Further information for some upcoming shows, which are listed below, is available from the Executive Director:

**THE ORGANIZATION OF
MILITARY MUSEUMS OF
CANADA, INCORPORATED
(OMMC, INC.)**

mailing address:
P.O. Box 26106
72 Robertson Rd
Nepean, Ontario
K2H 9R6

phone/fax:
(613) 829-0280

Executive Committee

President
Prof John G. Pike

Vice-President
LCdr Frank J. Dunbar (Retd)

Secretary/Treasurer
LCol Gilles Bissonnette (Retd)

Directors

Mr. Paul Fortier

Ms. Marilyn Gurney

Ms. Brenda Brownlee

Maj Don T. Yaworsky (Retd)

Mr. Malcolm Wake

Executive Director
Maj R.K. (Dick) Malott (Retd)

Course Co-ordinator
LCdr S. Elspeth Naismith

1995 Course Host
12 Wing (CFB Shearwater)

- 9 April: Ottawa Militaria Show, CFRB Dow's Lake, Ottawa, Ont.
- 20-21 May: Military Heritage Exhibition & Militaria Show, Coliseum Bldg, Lansdowne Park, Ottawa, Ont.
- 2-4 June: Canadian Society of Military Medals & Insignia, 30th Anniversary Convention, International Plaza Hotel, 655 Dixon Rd, Toronto, Ont.
- 11-13 August: Military Collectors Club of Canada Annual Convention, Victoria Conference Centre, Victoria, BC.

1995 MUSEOLOGY COURSE

As announced in our last issue, the 1995 OMMC Course is being hosted by 12 Wing/CFB Shearwater, Nova Scotia and the Shearwater Aviation Museum. The course will run from Monday 31 July to Friday 4 August 1995. Registration forms are enclosed with this issue of "The Bulletin".

COURSE SCHEDULE The course schedule is shaping up well. The Course Planning Team has received excellent support from 12 Wing and also from local members and organizations such as Parks Canada and the Halifax Citadel Army Museum. Although the lecture program has yet to be finalized, a brief outline of the schedule and field trips is provided below.

MONDAY 31 JULY:

Official course opening, including laying of remembrance wreath (jacket & tie); lectures; 1995 OMMC, Inc. AGM; Meet & Greet Barbeque;

TUESDAY 1 AUGUST:

All day field trip to Maritime Command Museum, Museum of the Atlantic and the Halifax Citadel (at this time, it is anticipated that the Citadel tour will focus on guided tours of the 'backstage' and technical areas as well as exhibit development); DMTH reception in the evening, at 12 Wing;

WEDNESDAY 2 AUGUST:

Lectures in the morning; Halifax Police Museum tour, plus one of either George's Island site visit or participation in workshops at the Parks Canada Conservation Labs (see registration form for further details - members must select one of these two options on the registration form);

THURSDAY 3 AUGUST:

Lectures all day; annual course Dining-In- Night at the 12 Wing Officers' Mess (formal attire or business suit);

FRIDAY 4 AUGUST:

Lectures; opening ceremonies for the new Shearwater Aviation Museum building and tour of the museum.

Based on the in-put received from the membership following the 1994 course, the Course Planning Team has included more free time in the 1995 course.

The Course Registration Desk will be open starting Saturday 29 July, for those members who will be arriving a few days in advance of the course. Accommodations will be in Warrior Block at 12 Wing; at the time of writing, we have been advised that accommodations for couples will not be available this year. You will note, however, that the registration form asks you to indicate if you will be accompanied by your spouse. We will attempt to make arrangements for couples, but cannot make any guarantees. Meals will be served in the Mens' Mess, which is also located in Warrior Block. The lectures will be held in the Junior Ranks Club, which is across the street from Warrior Block, so we anticipate that wear and tear on both feet and shoes will be much lower than last year!

For members arriving early or departing late, the Course Planning Team is looking at arranging extra tours, however, no details are available at this time. Watch the Spring issue, for further information.

For members who intend to drive to Shearwater, further instructions for how to get to CFB Shearwater will be included in the Spring issue of "The Bulletin".

For members arriving in Halifax by commercial airline, we recommend that you take the Airport Shuttle to the Dartmouth Holiday Inn, then take a taxi from the hotel to CFB Shearwater. Shuttle fare is approx \$10 and taxi fare should be under \$10. For those members arriving via the DND charter flights, be advised that the schedule

has undergone major changes which will take effect on 1 April 1995. The aircraft no longer goes coast to coast on one day, stopping at each main city enroute. Therefore, we ask that when planning your trip, you allow for one to two extra travel days.

Due to the complexity of the DND Service Flight schedule, we have not included a copy of the schedule, as we have done in the past. Instead, we ask that you merely indicate your preferred date and day of travel, and we will book flights based on that information. We will do our utmost to ensure that you spend the least amount of time enroute. Members are asked to consider their travel plans carefully before submitting their registration forms, since major changes to flight bookings will be difficult to accomplish with the new flight schedules. **Note that flight changes will not be made after 14 July 1995.**

EDITOR'S END-NOTES

Once again, your trusty Editor takes pen in hand to remind members to send in news and notes, for publishing in "The Bulletin". Creative though I am, there is only so much that I can come up with on my own!

At the Executive Committee Meeting held at RMC, Kingston, on 22 February 1995, Mr. Bob Taylor of the "Canada Remembers" organization, joined the Executive for lunch. At that time, he presented our President, Professor J.G. Pike, with a certificate of appreciation for the work done by the OMMC, Inc. in support of the Canada Remembers celebrations during 1994. This certificate is one of only six presented and it is signed by the former Governor General of Canada, His Excellency The Right Honourable Ramon J. Hnatyshyn.

As most of our members know, LCol Gilles Bissonnette was ill during 1994 and as a result, missed the 1994 course in Quebec City. He sends the following message: "Thank you to all who sent me words of hope during my summer of 1994. I have resumed most of my activities, in "second gear"! I am anxious to see the old and new comrades in July 1995."

DMTH ANNUAL CF MUSEUMS MEETING

This year, DMTH will hold its annual meeting for CF Museums immediately following the termination of a course lecture day (ie. 1600 to 1700 hours), rather than during the evening. In order to adequately respond to questions or concerns, you are requested to submit agenda items to the Staff Officer Museums, DMTH 6, Mr. Dan Potvin, NO LATER THAN 1 JUNE 1995. The meeting will be limited to discussing tabled agenda items only.

BRITAIN'S TOY SOLDIERS

If you are interested in current series of Britain's remarkable toy soldiers at very reasonable prices, the 1995 price list of available Britain's items may be obtained from Malott's Aerophilatelic & Militaria Consultant Services, 16 Harwick Cres, Nepean, Ont, K2H 6R1, Canada (tel/FAX: (613)829-0280. The 1995 Britain's Catalogue is also available from Malott's Aerophilatelic Consultant Services for \$5.00 post-paid.

NEW BOOKS

Arthur Bishop, son of Billy Bishop, VC, and himself a Second World War fighter pilot, the author of four successful Canadian military books, is now working on "Our Bravest and Best (Canadian VCs)", in conjunction with Dick Malott, the CWM and McGraw Hill. Further plans are in hand for a three volume set entitled "Show of Arms: A Panoply of Canada at War" which will present an inside view of foremost Canadian military museums. A short history of the museum, its affiliation with military units, a description and photographs of the most prominent artefacts, paintings and dioramas and their relation to Canadian military history, will be presented. If you wish to have your museum considered for inclusion, forward a selection of colour slides of the museum and its artefacts, plus a brief history of the museum, to Mr. Arthur Bishop, 9 Bryce Avenue, Toronto, Ont, M4V 2B3. The target date for publication is 1998 or earlier.

Mr. Fred Gaffen, an historian at the Canadian War Museum, has recently completed a 50th anniversary book, "The Road to Victory: A History of Canada in the Second World War". The book is available from the CWM; see the enclosed insert for further information.