

CANADIAN
MILITARY MEDALS
&
INSIGNIA JOURNAL



EDITOR:-
ROSS W. IRWIN,

IN THIS ISSUE

SEPTEMBER 1972
Vol. 8, No. 3



- p. 401 - History of the Kangaroos
- p. 404 - Canadian Militia Cavalry Badges (17-25)
- p. 413 - Another Look at Custer's Last Stand
- p. 414 - Camp Borden Orders, 1915 - Rank Badges
- p. 415 - Governor General's Medals, 1873-1877

THE HISTORY OF THE KANGAROOS

This booklet presents a brief outline of the Kangaroo Regiment. The story put forth here is but a small part of the whole. Space, time and difficulty in obtaining materials have been the limiting factors. The writers have tried to give an accurate account of the accomplishments of the Kangaroos. Apologies are offered for any mistakes detected. Members of the Regiment on reading the story may, if they see fit enlarge on any instances set down or fill in any omissions.

After several weeks of bitter fighting following the landings on D Day the decision was reached by the High Command that an Armoured Fighting Vehicle, preferably tracked, should be employed for carrying Infantry into battle. The Tanks, spearhead of the attack, were unable to destroy all the machine-gun and other small-arms posts, nor could they neutralize all the mortars or guns whose crippling and death-dealing shrapnel and blast created such heavy casualties among the Infantry who were often thus prevented from coming forward onto their objectives. This left the tanks unsupported, or with meagre support on the ground, and counter-attacks from the enemy often resulted in the loss of hard-won objectives. The need for protection of the Infantry from the start line to the enemy's position was great. The operations were being slowed down because of this lack. The answer to the problem was to be found in the Kangaroo, a vehicle capable of going wherever the Tanks could go and of giving adequate protection to the Infantry right up to the objective.

A number of M7's or 'Priests' (American 105mm SP guns) were acquired, the guns removed and additional armour welded into place. This major job, estimated to take several weeks, was completed in as many days by an all-out effort on the part of various Workshops. Drivers for the converted Priests were gathered up from Artillery units and Reinforcement groups, rushed to their vehicles and despatched into action with no time for organizing or training. These vehicles were used in the vicinity of Rouvre on the road to Falaise. The experiment proved a great success and some of the credit for the smashing the Germans took in the historic "Falaise Gap" is due to these vehicles and their crews. They had the armour, the mobility and the carrying capacity.

On August 28, 44, a Squadron of carriers was organized, with four troops of 25 carriers each, 100 drivers, 4 troop officers and an O.C. Squadron. The actual number of vehicles available was about 55 which were left from the Falaise Gap action. These were armed with .5 Browning machine-guns and about 60 percent were equipped with wireless. There was no co-driver to operate the set or fire the gun. The crew consisted of a driver, with in some cases as an added member, an officer or N.C.O. This came to be known as the Kangaroo Squadron, the name being suggested no doubt by the protection of the carried, or "empouched" Infantry, as a kangaroo protects its young and also because of the fact that considerable moving or 'jumping' around was done. The Squadron was attached to the 25 Cdn. Arm. Regt. for administrative purposes only; for operations it came under command of various Infantry Brigades in turn.

Submitted and typed by
D.W. Falconer, Victoria, B.C.

The Squadron with their M7's or 'Kangaroos' was employed immediately. The first organized action was performed against Le Havre, working with the famous 51st Highland Division, then part of the First Canadian Army. This action proved highly successful, the Infantry suffered but a single casualty, and gained all their objectives, coming on them "fighting-fresh". This action was followed quickly by the assaults on Boulogne and Calais. During the Boulogne action the Kangaroos came under considerable small-arms fire and heavy shelling. The casualties suffered whilst the Infantry were in the Kangaroos was nil. This proved beyond a doubt the worth of the Kangaroo. The combined results of these first three actions made the name Kangaroo a by-word among the Infantry who had worked with them. Great success had resulted in the dual purpose of gaining objectives and saving lives of Infantrymen.

The M7's were returned to Ordnance. A new vehicle, the Canadian Ram Tank with the turret removed and the hull cleaned out, was drawn at Pierreval near Rouen, France. These Rams had been driven all the way from the Normandy beaches. This is the Kangaroo that most Infantrymen came to know, with its two .30 Brownings augmenting their own fire power. The strength of the Squadron was now increased to approximately 16 Kangaroos to each of its 4 troops. The Squadron newly equipped and refitted continued on the long journey from Pierreval to Amiens, Hesdin, St. Omer, Cassel, Ypres, Menin, Courtrai, Oudenarde and Alost and thence by transporter to Mill in Holland. Here the Squadron came under command Second British Army which was then engaged in clearing the enemy from the Territory west of Venlo and Roermond. Rehearsals were carried out with various units and many lessons were learned in the cooperation of all arms. However the plan was changed before the squadron became involved.

The clearing of the Port of Antwerp was considered to be of greater strategical value at this time and so the Kangaroos were moved west to play a part in that operation. The first action was against the heavily defended city of S'Hertogenbosch on 23 October 44. Following this, the Squadron was used continuously, assaulting Schiburg, St. Michiels-gestel, Bortel, Eesch, Moergestel, Tilburg, Kaatcheuvel, Waspick, Waspick-Boven, Raamsdonk and Laan. The Squadron was then released from action and regrouped at Tilburg, Holland. This was the last of the Kangaroo Squadron, known as such. It had to its credit some thirty 'lifts', a creditable performance in the short two months of its life.

While the Squadron was thus busily engaged during the last week of October some far-reaching changes were taking place. So important had been the work of the Kangaroos at the Falaise Gap and at Le Havre, Boulogne and Calais, and so clearly had it been shown that this was the best method of reducing Infantry casualties and of seizing objectives with speed that the Army Group decided to form a Regiment of Kangaroos with each of the two armies under command. Consequently on 24 October 1944, First Canadian Army authorized the formation of the 1st Canadian Armoured Carrier Regiment. Regimental Headquarters were established in Antwerp and the work of forming a Regiment of two Squadrons and a headquarters was started. R.H.Q. offices were set up in an apartment in Antwerp and headquarters personnel and vehicles were assembled in nearby Rumpst. Scarcely had this been done when the Regiment was placed under command Second British Army as of 1 November with instructions to be ready for action as a Regiment by 8 Nov.

Fortunately this proposed operation did not materialize and the Regiment was given some much needed time for organization. Tilburg in Holland was selected as the point for concentration. To this town came the Squadron fresh from action and RHQ and reinforcements from Antwerp and Ghent. November and December were spent in organizing and the Regiment was brought up to strength in personnel and vehicles. The original Squadron was divided in half in order to provide a nucleus of experienced men in the new Squadrons. Each of the two new Squadrons had 53 Kangaroos of the converted Ram type, each with a crew of at least two. Four troops were formed per Squadron each capable of lifting a company of Infantry. A Squadron could thus carry a Battalion.

Personnel of the Kangaroo Regiment were drawn from all units of the Canadian Armoured Corps and some from Artillery formations. Every province and every Military District had its quota of representatives. These diverse elements with their scattered loyalties were moulded by mud and blood and toil and danger of a difficult winter campaign into a united Regiment of high morale.

While the Regiment was forming, the decision was reached to include it in the 79 British Armoured Division. This transfer took place in December and the Kangaroos earned the distinction of being the only Canadian formation in this famous assault Division.

Early in January a half-squadron of the Regiment was employed successfully in a relatively small but difficult operation at Wanssum Wood in a blinding snowstorm. Two days later the Regiment as a whole moved to the area of Winterslag, Belgium, in preparation for operation "Blackcock". From here an offensive was launched between the Maas and the Roer well into Germany itself with the intention of relieving pressure on the Ardennes sector. Assaults were made from Sittard against Susteren, Baakenhoven, Dieteren, Oudroosteren, Echt and Schilberg; thence eastward to Koningsbosch and Waldefucht and then to Schierwaldenwrath, Putt, Waldenwrath, Steaten and Erpen, with a final lunge to Uetterath, Dremen and Heinsberg. This operation was carried out under the most difficult conditions. Icy roads slowed down progress sometimes to one mile perhour. Snow and sleet, ice and wintry cold, fog and darkness, long hours of waiting and driving, mined and cratered roads, rain and mud and sodden fields, movement or action every day and night—all these things made the January campaign memorable. Endurance was tested to the limit. Hazards abounded. S.P. guns, shell-fire, mortars and innumerable mines exacted a toll in men and vehicles. More than sixty of the one hundred and six Ram carriers required attention from the recovery crews and the L.A.D. Twenty-two Kangaroos had struck mines, nine had been knocked out by shell fire. However the Kangaroos proved one of the decisive factors in the operation and demonstrated their value even under the most difficult conditions. The Germans were driven back across the Roer.

February 45 once again saw the Kangaroo Regiment in action, after an all too brief period for refitting. This time it was the big thing; Operation "Veritable", the clearing of the German between the Maas and the Rhine. The cracking of the Wehrmacht. The breaching of the Siegfried line. Operation Veritable began on 8 February 45. The Regiment moved off from Nijmegen, crossing the line at Frasselt and continuing through for twenty-nine days of incessant fighting. Here the Kangaroos took part in attacks on Kranenburg, Frasselt, Schottiede, Hingsberg feature, Bresserber, Cleve, Moyland, Hasselt, The Pimple, The Molk and the high ground south of Calcar, Hochwald Forest and the road to Veen and finally Xanten. This operation, like the rest, has many and varied stories.

Organized By GO 77, July 1, 1897 as Montreal Hussars and in 1898 was designated The Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars. The numerical prefix, 17th, was added in 1907. GO 139, 1912 added "Argenteuil Rangers" to the title but the unit reverted to the main title by GO 26, 1920. In 1958 it joined with the 6th Duke of York Royal Canadian Hussars to become "The Royal Canadian Hussars". Uniform blue with white facings. Allied with the 13th/18th Hussars by GO 35, 1925.

Badges and Insignia

C17-1. C. The heraldic rose of York on a maple leaf, inscribed D.Y.R.C.H. Permission of H.R.H. Duke of York was received to use his badge and motto. GO 55, 1898. The badge, in brass, is a heraldic rose enclosed within a double circle inscribed HONI SOIT QUE MAL Y PENSE surmounted by a Royal Coronet. All laid upon a maple leaf with the letters D.Y. R.C.H. in the five points of the same. 26 x 25.

C17-2. C. Similiar to above but rose in white enamel barbed in green, circle and surrounding letters in blue. In gilt. 28 x 26.

C17-3. Cap. The white rose in silver, remainder of badge in gilt. Beneath a spray of maple leaves the Roman numeral XVII surrounded by two scrolls, the upper inscribed DUKE OF YORK'S the lower ROYAL CANADIAN HUSSARS and surmounted by the White Rose of the House of York, within the Garter ensigned with the coronet of a Royal Duke. 46x48. GO 23, 1931.

C17-4. C. As for C17-3 except 26 x 27. GO 23, 1931.

C17-5. Sh. The word HUSSARS in plain block letters in a downward curve surmounted by the Roman numeral XVII in a straight bar. 25 x 45. In gilt. GO 23, 1931.

C17-6. Cap. As for C17-3 except in brass. GO 23, 1931.

C17-7. C. As for C17-4 except in brass. GO 23, 1931.

C17-8. Sh. As for C17-5 except in brass. GO 23, 1931.

C17-9. PO. In silver, the Royal Cypher surmounted by the Imperial Crown. GO 75, 1932.

C17-10. PO. In gilt, as for C17-9. GO 70, 1939.

THE 18th MOUNTED RIFLES

Organized April 2, 1907. Became The Manitoba Mounted Rifles in 1921 and was converted to artillery April 1, 1946. Uniform scarlet with Myrtle Green facings as of GO 128, 1931.

Badges and Insignia

C18-1. Cap. The Bull-Dog and Roman Numerals to be in silver or white metal, the remainder of the badge in gilt or gilding metal. The British Bull-Dog surrounded by a wreath of Maple Leaves, surmounted by a Tudor Crown. Below, the Roman numerals XVIII, and on a scroll, the motto UT IRRUANTS OMNES. 46h. GO 41, 1909. 48 x 40.

C18-2. C. In gilt or gilding metal. The British Bull-Dog standing on a scroll bearing the motto UT IRRUANTS OMNES. 32 x 39. GO 41, 1909. In pairs.

THE MANITOBA MOUNTED RIFLES

C18-3. Cap. In gilt with Bull-Dog in silver. Within a wreath of Maple Leaves, a circular riband bearing the words MANITOBA MOUNTED RIFLES, in the centre a British Bull-Dog standing; at the base of the wreath, a riband inscribed with the motto UT IRRUANTS OMNES, the whole surmounted by an Imperial Crown. GO 46, 1922. 48 x 40. "1st" between front legs of dog.

C18-4. C. In gilt with Bull-Dog in silver. Within a circular riband bearing the words MANITOBA MOUNTED RIFLES, a British Bull-Dog standing; below the circle a riband inscribed with the motto UT IRRUANTS OMNES. In pairs. GO 46, 1922. 35 x 29. "1st" between front legs of dog.

C18-5. Cap. As for C18-3 except the notation "1st" is removed. GO 47, 1933.

C18-6. Cap. As for C18-5 except in white metal and brass. GO 47, 1933.

C18-7. C. As for C18-4 except the notation "1st" is removed. GO 47, 1933.

C18-8. C. As for C18-7 except in white metal and brass. GO 47, 1933.

C18-9. Sh. In brass, the letters "M.M.R." in 13 mm plain block. GO 122, 1928.

C18-10. HP. As for C18-5. GO 47, 1933.

C18-11. WP. As for C18-5. GO 47, 1933.

C18-12. PO. As for C18-5. GO 47, 1933.

19th ALBERTA DRAGOONS

Organized February 1, 1908, GO 11, as the 19th Alberta Mounted Rifles from units of the Canadian Mounted Rifles organized December 1, 1905. It was redesignated the 19th Alberta Dragoons January 3, 1911. Uniform, scarlet with yellow facings. Allied with the 15th/19th Hussars.

Badges and Insignia

C19-1. HP. A horse in silver, enclosed within a wreath of maple leaves closed at the top with an Imperial Crown. All in gilding metal. A scroll inscribed THE ALBERTA-MOUNTED-RIFLES with regimental number "19" underneath, all in silver and laid across the lower part of the wreath. GO 80, 1908. 65 x 60.

C19-2. WP. Design as for C19-1. 64 x 77. GO 80, 1908.

C19-3. PO. Design as for C19-1. 39 x 42. GO 80, 1908.

C19-4. Cap. A horse standing alert, tail extended. 39 x 42. GO 80, 1908.

C19-5. C. A horse standing alert. 35 x 32. GO 80, 1908. In pairs.

- C19-6. Sh. The letters "19th M.R." resting on the word ALBERTA in concave segment. 10 mm high, letters. 25 x 49. In brass. GO80, 1908.
- C19-7. Cap. A horse standing on a mound, in gilt, with regimental number "19" underneath. Beneath all a scroll inscribed THE ALBERTA MOUNTED RIFLES, in silver. 55 x 43. 1908.
- C19-8. Cap. As for C19-7 except in brass. 55 x 43. 1908.
- C19-9. C. As for C19-8 except 37 x 31. 1908. In pairs.
- C19-10. Cap. In bronze. As for C19-8 except scroll reads ALBERTA DRAGOONS. 47 x 45. 1911.
- C19-11. C. As for C19-10 except 35 x 30. 1911. In pairs.
- C19-12. Sh. In brass. XIX with DRAGOONS in a curved line below. 52 x 32. 1911.
- C19-13. Sh. In brass. XIX in fancy Roman numerals.
- C19-14. Cap. In bronze. A horse standing upon the prairie, below which is a scroll inscribed ALBERTA DRAGOONS, while between the two words are the numerals "19". 45 x 46. GO 79, 1927.
- C19-15. C. In bronze. As for C19-14 except 30 x 32. GO 79, 1927. In pairs.
- C19-16. Sh. In bronze. The word ALBERTA in an upward curve surmounting the word DRAGOONS in a downward curve. 40 mm wide. GO 79, 1927.
- C19-17. HP. Horse, scroll and numeral, in silver, wreath and crown, in gilt. Within a wreath of maple leaves a horse standing on the prairie and below, the numeral "19" with scroll inscribed ALBERTA DRAGOONS; the whole ensigned with the Imperial Crown. 70 x 63. GO 126, 1932.
- C19-18. WP. Design as for C19-17. GO 126, 1932.
- C19-19. PO. Design as for C19-14. GO 126, 1932.
- C19-20. Sh. As for C19-16 except between the upward and downward curves the Roman numeral "XIX". GO 8, 1939.
- C19-21. Cap. In brass. A horse standing on the prairie. Below, a scroll inscribed EDMONTON FUSILIERS R.C.A.C. Encircled by the scroll and prairie the numerals "19". 45 x 47. CAO 10. Feb 24, 1947.
- C19-22. C. In brass. As for C19-21 except in pairs and 30 x 31. 1947.
- C19-23. Cap. In brass. As for C19-21 except scroll reads ALBERTA REGIMENT R.C.A.C. CAO 167, February 27, 1950.
- C19-24. C. As for C19-23 except in pairs and 30 x 31. 1950.
- C19-25. Cap. In brass. As for C19-10 except horse does not have a mane and style of lettering is different. 45 x 46. 1954.
- C19-26. C. As for C19-25 except in pairs and 30 x 31. 1954.

20th BORDER HORSE

Organized April 1, 1908 as the 20th Mounted Rifles. Redesignated as 20th Border Horse by GO 27, 1910. Reorganized as The Border Horse by GO 200, 1921. Amalgamated with the 12th Manitoba Dragoons March 31, 1935. Uniform scarlet with yellow facings.

Badges and Insignia

C20-1. C. A mountain lion's head and motto DO AND HOPE within a wreath of maple leaves and ears of wheat surmounted by a Tudor Crown beneath a scroll inscribed "20th BORDER HORSE". Lion's head in silver, remainder in gilt. 35 x 30. GO 2, 1912.

C20-2. C. As for C20-1 except in brass. 1912.

C20-3. Cap. As for C20-1 except 38 x 33. 1912.

C20-4. HP. As for C20-1. 1912.

C20-5. PO. As for C20-1. 1912.

C20-6. Cap. In bronze. A horse rampant, supported by a scroll inscribed THE BORDER HORSE. GO 71, 1922.

C20-7. C. In bronze. As for C20-6. In pairs. GO 71, 1922.

C20-8. Sh. In bronze. The words THE BORDER HORSE in two curved lines in half inch letters, the words THE BORDER forming the top curve and HORSE the lower. GO 123, 1928.

C20-9. HP. As for C20-6. GO 114, 1932.

C20-10. WP. As for C20-6. GO 114, 1932.

C20-11. PO. As for C20-6. GO 114, 1932.

SASKATCHEWAN DRAGOONS (20th ARMoured REGIMENT)

C20-12. Cap. Ensigned with the Imperial Crown, the Arms of the Province of Saskatchewan; dexter and sinister to the shield the Roman numeral "X"; the whole supported by a scroll inscribed ESPRIT D'INITIATIVE. Crown, numeral and scroll in silver, arms of Province in gilt. CAO 110, January 24, 1949. 45 x 45.

C20-13. Cap. As for C20-12 except in white metal and bronze. 1949.

C20-14. C. Ensigned with the Imperial Crown, the Arms of Saskatchewan. In silver. 42 x 20. CAO 110. 1949.

C20-15. Cap. As for C20-13 except St. Edward's Crown. 1953.

Organized June 1, 1901 as Canadian Mounted Rifles and changed to Alberta Rangers in 1906. Designated as 21st Alberta Hussars in 1908. Joined with the 23rd Mounted Rifles to form The Alberta Mounted Rifles by GO 26, 1920. Uniform scarlet with white facings. Allied with the 3rd King's Own Hussars.

Badges and Insignia

C21-1. Cap. An oval wreath of maple leaves resting on a convex bar inscribed "21st A.H." and surmounted by an Imperial Crown enclosing a shield bearing a buffalo head in centre with the inscription NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSIT around bottom and sides. 45 x 32. GO 67, 1910. Wreath, head, numerals and letters in silver, remainder in gilt.

C21-2. C. As for C21-1 except 32 x 26. GO 67, 1910.

C21-3. Cap. As for C21-1 except in brass.

C21-4. C. As for C21-2 except in brass. 39 x 33. 1910.

22nd SASKATCHEWAN LIGHT HORSE

Organized as Canadian Mounted Rifles April 1, 1907 and redesignated as 22nd Saskatchewan Light Horse by GO 37, 1908. The unit was changed to The Saskatchewan Mounted Rifles by GO 26, 1920. It amalgamated with the 16th Canadian Light Horse December 15, 1936. Uniform scarlet with white facings. Allied with 9th Queen's Royal Lancers.

Badges and Insignia

C22-1. Cap. In gilt. A gamecock standing upon a trumpet which rests upon a staff. All upon a lined background and enclosed within a horizontal oval inscribed SASKATCHEWAN LIGHT HORSE on the upper part and on lower, the regimental number "22" with a laurel spray extending out from each side. Underneath all a scroll inscribed VIGIL ANTIBUS. 40 x 36. GO 3, 1910.

C22-2. C. In brass, in pairs. A horse's head in harness with regimental number "22" underneath, enclosed within a horseshoe. Underneath all a scroll inscribed LIGHT HORSE with a sprig of maple leaves extending up on each side of the horseshoe. 33 x 40. GO 3, 1910.

C22-3. Cap. Within a horse-shoe, inscribed with the name SASKATCHEWAN & horse's head, and the numeral "22"; above a wheat sheaf, with scroll and motto FOR CANADA AND EMPIRE, below, two crossed rifles, and ribbon inscribed LIGHT HORSE on either side, a spray of Maple Leaves. In gilt. 43 x 43. GO 2, 1912.

C22-4. C. Within a horse-shoe, inscribed with the name SASKATCHEWAN & horse's head and the numeral "22"; below, a ribbon inscribed LIGHT HORSE; and on either side a spray of Maple Leaves. In gilt. 32 x 38. GO 2, 1912.

C22-5. Cap. In brass. A double circle inscribed SASKATCHEWAN MOUNTED RIFLES supported on each side by wreaths of maple and surmounted by an Imperial Crown. Inside the circle the head and shoulders of a buffalo. The whole supported by a ribband inscribed CANADA AND EMPIRE. 45 x 51. GO 90, 1926.

C22-6. C. A double circle carrying the inscription "1st C.M.R." supported on each side by a wreath of maple leaves and surmounted by an Imperial Crown. Within the circle the head and shoulders of a buffalo. The whole supported by a ribbon inscribed SASKATCHEWAN MOUNTED RIFLES. In brass. 29 x 32. GO 90, 1926. In pairs.

C22-7. Sh. In brass. The letters "S.M.R." . GO 90, 1926.

C22-8. HP. As for C22-5. GO 95, 1932.

C22-9. WP. As for C22-5. GO 95, 1932.

C22-10. PO. As for C22-5. GO 95, 1932.

23rd ALBERTA RANGERS

Organized as Canadian Mounted Rifles June 1, 1901 to become the 23rd Mounted Rifles April 1, 1908 and redesignated as the 23rd Alberta Rangers June 1, 1908. By GO 100, 1922 it was reorganized as the 2nd Regiment, Alberta Mounted Rifles. It united with the 19th Alberta Dragoons December 15, 1936. Uniform scarlet with white facings.

Badges and Insignia

C23-1. C. A stag's head, with the motto PRO ARIS ET FOCIS. In silver. GO 81 and 183, 1907. Discontinued in 1912.

C23-2. Cap. A wolf's head in silver (grey finish) remainder in gilt. The head of a timber wolf full face enclosed within a double oval inscribed ACTER ET CELER surrounded by a wreath of maple leaves and surmounted by an Imperial Crown resting upon a small scroll inscribed CANADA. Underneath the wreath a scroll inscribed ALBERTA-23rd-RANGERS. 38 high. GO 58, 1913.

C23-3. Cap. As for C23-2 except in gilding metal. GO 58, 1913.

C23-4. C. As for C23-2 except in brass. 32 x 27. GO 58, 1913.

C23-5. C. In gilt. As C23-4 but Royal Crown and wolf's head in white metal. 31 x 23.

INDEPENDANT SQUADRON, LIGHT HORSE

C23-6. Cap. On a ground work of the Union Flag a Canadian Red Deer, standing in water, and encircled by a wreath of Maple Leaves; above, a bar with the regimental initials, "R.D.I.S." surmounted by a Tudor Crown; below, a scroll and motto AUDAX ET CELER. Red deer, scroll, motto and initials and bar in silver, remainder in gilt. 45 x 32. GO 54, 1912.

C23-7. C. As for C23-6 except 32 x 25. GO 54, 1912.

THE ALBERTA MOUNTED RIFLES

The 1st Regiment was formed from the 21st Alberta Hussars and the 2nd Regiment from the 23rd Alberta Rangers in 1920.

C23-8. Cap. In bronze. Upon a Maple Leaf the crest of Alberta and two scrolls. the one above the crest bearing the word ALBERTA and the one below the crest the words MOUNTED RIFLES. 45 x 45. GO 145, 1924.

C23-9. C. In bronze. A horse's head rising from a Coronet on a shield surrounded by a wreath of Maple Leaves surmounted by an Imperial Crown; under the crown a small plate inscribed "3rd C.M.R.", the whole supported by a scroll bearing the inscription "1st A.M.R.". 29 x 26. GO 145, 1924.

C23-10. Sh. In bronze. The initials "A.M.R." in $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch letters with the numeral "1" worn above.

Note: The 2nd Regiment also wore C23-9 as their cap badge.

C23-11. C. In bronze. A wolf's head over a scroll bearing the words ALBERTA MOUNTED RIFLES with a large numeral "2" showing through from behind the head. 26 x 29. GO 145, 1924. Disc. July 1, 1932.

C23-12. Sh. As for C23-10 but numeral "2" worn above. GO 145, 1924.

THE SOUTH ALBERTA HORSE

Formed January 1, 1931 from The Alberta Mounted Rifles, reorganized with the 15th Alberta Light Horse December 15, 1936.

C23-13. Cap. In brass. On an annulus, ensigned with the Imperial Crown and inscribed ACTER ET CELER, a wolf's head, and beneath, on a scroll, the title THE SOUTH ALBERTA HORSE. 42 x 39. GO 113, 1932.

C23-14. C. As for C23-13 except. 35 x 38. GO 113, 1932.

C23-15. Sh. In brass. The initials "S.A.H." in $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch plain block letters. GO 113, 1932.

C23-16. PO. As for C23-13. GO 113, 1932.

C23-17. WP. As for C23-13. GO 113, 1932.

24th REGIMENT (GREY'S HORSE)

Organized April 2, 1908 as the 24th Regiment Grey's Horse and by GO 26, 1920 became 9th (Grey's) Horse. The regiment was disbanded in February 1936. Uniform scarlet with yellow facings.

Badges and Insignia

C24-1. Cap. A bordure engrailed, surmounted by a ducal crown, in the centre a lion rampant with Roman numeral "XXIV" below; across the top the words GREY'S HORSE and on the sides and lower part, the motto of the regiment DE BON VOULOIR LE ROI. In gilt, solid, by J.R. Gaunt; 37 x 20. GO 37, 1910.

C24-2. C. A lion rampant, on a base, in pairs. In gilt. 25 x 21. GO 37, 1910. Crest of Earl Grey.

C24-3. Cap. Bronze with white metal lettering. On a plain disc the figure and letters "9th". On each side of the disc a spray of laurel leaves, surmounted by a Victorian Crown between the ends of the sprays. Two ribands cross the lower part of the disc inscribed GREY'S HORSE. GO 71, 1922.

C24-4. C. As for C24-3 except smaller. GO 71, 1922.

C24-5. Sh. The numeral of the regiment in Roman numerals "XXIV" 23mm high. GO 37, 1910.

C24-6. Sh. In brass. The letters "9 Q.R." in $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch high plain block. 1928.

25th BRANT DRAGOONS

Organized April 1, 1909 as the 25th Brant Dragoons. By GO 26, 1920 was renumbered the 10th Brant Dragoons. In 1936 was amalgamated with the 2nd Dragoons to become the 2nd/10th Dragoons. Uniform scarlet with yellow facings. Allies with 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons.

Badges and Insignia

C25-1. Cap. Head and shoulders of an Indian supported by a scroll inscribed BRANT DRAGOONS and the numeral "25". Below, a quiver and a bow and arrow, crossed, and a small scroll with motto SAGITTARII. Indian, bow and arrows in gold, scrolls and inscription in silver. 39 high. GO 37, 1910.

C25-2. C. The head and shoulders of an Indian warrior in full head-dress with a scroll underneath inscribed BRANT-25-DRAGOONS. The regimental number being laid across the scroll. Indian in gold, scroll and inscription in silver. 27 x 38. GO 37, 1910. In pairs.

C25-3. As for C25-2, except in brass.

C25-4. HP. The Indian, scroll, and bow and arrows in silver upon a black background, the star in silver and the remainder in gilt. Superimposed upon a cavalry star a wreath of maple leaves ensigned with the Imperial crown. Within the wreath the head and shoulders of an Indian facing dexter supported by a scroll inscribed BRANT DRAGOONS with the numeral "25" in the centre; below, a bow and sheaf of arrows crossed. Across the bottom of the wreath a scroll inscribed SAGITTARII. 128 x 102.

C25-5. Cap. As for C25-1 except numeral reads "10". GO 71, 1922.

C25-6. C. As for C25-2 except numeral reads "10". GO 71, 1922.

C25-7. Sh. The word BRANT in $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch letters in brass with the numeral "10" above. GO 124, 1928.

Our space is too limited to attempt one, let alone the whole. The job was done again despite appalling conditions and despite the desperate opposition of the German Paratroop divisions, the cream of the enemy's army. Again casualties were suffered, again recovery of damaged and bogged down vehicles called for ceaseless effort. Another sixty Kangaroos, as in January, had to be pulled out of the mud or repaired after A/Tk or bazooka fire.

The Regiment was once more withdrawn for refitting. The next job was to be the most spectacular and the last. Operation Plunder; the crossing of the mighty Rhine and final mopping-up of the German Army. The Regiment crossed the famous water barrier on the twenty-seventh of March. It was the first Canadian Armoured formation to cross. Here the fighting was tough at first with some casualties being suffered. The Regiment took part in many and varied operations during this, the final, phase of the war. Attacks went in on Millingen, Megchelen, Landorft, Ruurlo, Barculo, Barchem, Lochem, Haarle Marienburg, Marehead, Hijsen, Groenberg, Assen, Hooghalen, Rolde, Balu, Loon, Groningen and an advance made from Anholt through Varsveld and Twist to the Noorde soude Kanal, Meppen, Sogel, Lorup, Borger, Vrees, Werelts and Oldenburg. The last "lift" was done on the morning of the fifth of May 1945 at 0700 hours. The war officially ended in the Canadian sector one hour later. The advance made that morning was one of some seven miles north and east of Oldenburg, Germany. It ended with the complete surrender of an entire Austrian infantry Battalion. Not a shot was fired. This was the end of the Wehrmacht's organized resistance.

In the next few days the Regiment gathered in a concentration area at Peheim, Germany. The suddenness of the War's end was difficult to grasp. On the 11 May the last full parade of the unit was held. The Commanding Officer addressed the Regiment. Here are some excerpts from his speech. Of achievement, "----history of the Kangaroos is brief, extending only from the latter part of August to May----but it is packed full of actions from Normandy to Germany." Of sacrifice, "----a casualty list of 17 killed and seventy-one wounded----the price of success. We honour today our comrades who made the supreme sacrifice," Of distinction, "----the only Regiment to be formed in Holland----Hence the orange color we have adopted for our shoulder flash; The only Canadian Kangaroo Regiment and the pioneers in the British Army of that form of service; The only Canadian Regiment in the 79 British Armoured Division.----Further by good fortune, we have achieved some "Firsts" which no one can take from us----First Canadian Regiment to be entirely within Germany" (January '45)----First Canadian Regiment across the Siegfried line February '45)----First Armoured Regiment of the Canadian Army to cross the Rhine (27 March 1945).

And in conclusion----"Peace has now come to Europe. The long course of the war has been brought to a successful conclusion. We stand here conquerors on German soil, destroyers of the curse of Nazism----."

Thus did the Kangaroo Regiment fight and work in the great struggle. The problem of moving the Infantry from Start line to objective at speed and with minimum of casualties had been solved. The tactical handling of Infantry in battle had been revolutionized by the Kangaroo.

Few events in the history of the American West have so captured the imagination as the Battle of the Little Big Horn, where five companies of the famous Seventh Cavalry were wiped out to the last man. No white man survived that melee on Battle Ridge, above the river, and the "official" story appears to have been based largely on the garbled account given by a young Crow Indian scout who saw only the first few minutes of the fight. For years, the country thought of it as the "Custer Massacre".

Today it is possible to get a more accurate story of that battle and, possibly, a more objective view of George Armstrong Custer. There seem to be few balanced accounts of the man. Writers have eulogized him as a dashing soldier, a master of strategy and cavalry tactics -- or they have condemned him as a mere opportunist, an egotistic glory-hunter. The truth probably lies somewhere in between. Examine his actions at the Little Big Horn, and judge for yourself.

It was generally known that the Sioux and their Cheyenne allies used the area along the Little Big Horn River for an encampment during the early summer; it was a good place for their annual sun dance, there was plenty of grass for their horses, and good water. The Army had planned a three-pronged campaign against the Indians there -- troops

During the previous winter, Custer had visited New York, had been greatly lionized, and had even been given reason to believe that he could have the Democratic nomination for President the coming fall. But shortly after, he became involved in an investigation of War Department scandals, during which Custer made charges of corruption against no less a person than Orville Grant, the brother of the President. It almost cost him his commission -- he had to abase himself and make a personal plea to Grant even to be allowed to go on this campaign. All of his hopes of high office, honor and advancement rode on the accomplishment of some dazzling feat of arms which would blot out his present disgrace. Perhaps he could not let himself believe his scouts' reports -- he needed a victory, and perhaps he figured the possible victory was worth the gamble.

He almost brought it off. When he came down the coulee at the head of his troop, he was riding toward an almost deserted camp. Nearly every Cheyenne fighting man was several miles to the south, where Major Reno's battalion was taking a terrible beating. So, as Custer started his charge across the ford, he was opposed by only four rifle-bearing warriors -- Bobtail Horse, Roan Bear, Calf, and White Cow Bull, an Oglala Sioux -- four men against 215! These four threw themselves behind a low ridge near the riverbank, and poured a frantic fire into the approaching cavalry. They would not be able to stop the troop from smashing its way through the village before other Indian fighting men returned from the Reno fight.

They did not have to. Because, midway across the river the charge came to a dead stop. Men leaped from their horses to pick up the dead or dying body of a man clad in buckskin, a man shot through the left breast. Then, in a scene of hopeless confusion, the troops milled aimlessly about, and then retreated up the hill now known as Battle Ridge. All the heart seemed out of them, and when the returning Indian forces charged the disorganized troopers, it was all over. In less than 25 minutes all of Custer's command lay dead.

It is almost certain that the tall man in buckskins who fell at the ford was Custer himself. Nothing else would account for the immediate dead stop, the concern for the fallen soldier, and the disorganized retreat. Instead of being the last man to die, as the popular legend has it, he was almost the first of his troop to fall.

The facts go against the legend in other ways. Until after the battle, none of the Indians were aware that they were fighting "Long Hair" Custer. They had no reason to think that he was anywhere in the vicinity, and they would not have recognized him anyway -- he had clipped short his long golden hair. An Indian named Bad Soup recognized his body after the battle.

It is interesting, if fruitless, to speculate what might have been, except for the desperate stand made by Bobtail Horse, Roan Bear, White Cow Bull and Calf, one of whom wrote finis to the most famous Indian fighter of his time. He almost made it -- but nothing pays off on "almost".



General George A. Custer, U.S.A.



Sitting Bull, famous Sioux chief.

RANK BADGES

The following notification appeared in Camp Orders No. 4, Aug. 25th, 1915:

4. BADGES OF RANK. Badges of Rank to be worn on the sleeve. Under Canadian Regulations badges of rank are worn on the shoulder strap, but under Imperial Regulations they are worn on the sleeve.

Inasmuch as the Canadian Expeditionary Forces on leaving Canada pass under the control of the Imperial authorities, badges of rank, in the case of Officers of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces, should be worn on the sleeve, and the change must be made before proceeding overseas.

—H.Q. 96-11-49, dated 23-8-15.

Governor General's Medals 1873-1877

DOMINION ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.

Gun practice with 6-pr. breach-loading rifled field guns, 28 points in 3 minutes and 45 seconds.

1876. Bronze medal. Sergt. R. J. McLeod, Halifax Field Battery of Militia Artillery.

1876. Bronze do Bomb. C. Savage.
Bronze do Sergt. M. Hamel.
Bronze do Gunr. J. Becher.
1877. Bronze do Bomb. H. Copp.
Bronze do Capt. D. McCrae.
Bronze do Gunner J. Cass.

DOMINION ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.

Competition between A and B Batteries.

1876. Bronze medal Bomb. T. G. Laister, "B" Battery.
1877. Bronze do Bomb. G. Adams, "A" Battery.

RIFLE ASSOCIATION, NOVA SCOTIA.

1876. Silver medal E. Eaton, 68th Bat.
Bronze do E. C. Wallace, 78th Bat.
1877. Silver do Sergt. P. Hickey.
Bronze do Lieut. B. A. Weston.

RIFLE ASSOCIATION, MANITOBA.

1876. Silver medal T. P. Murray.
Bronze do J. R. McIntyre.
1877. Silver do E. C. Smith.
Bronze do William Fraser.

PROVINCIAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, QUEBEC.

1873. Silver medal Major Cotton, Canadian Artillery.
Silver do Sergeant-Major Wynne.
1876. Silver do G. A. Shaw.
Bronze do Sergt. Riddell.
1877. Silver do Private Ivanson.
Bronze do Sergt. Holthy.

PROVINCIAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, NEW BRUNSWICK.

1873. Silver medal Ensign C. Johnson, 71st Batt.
1874. Silver do Sergt. Baird.
1875. Silver do Lt.-Colonel Beec.
1876. Silver do Lieut. Worden.
Bronze do Sergt. J. Hunter.
1877. Silver do Sergt. Weyman.
Bronze do Private Kinnear.

PROVINCIAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

1875. Silver medal Sergt. J. C. Brown.
Bronze do Sergt. A. Jackson.
1876. Silver do Sergt. J. C. Brown.
Bronze do R. Wolfenden.
1877. Silver do Sergt. E. Fletcher.
Bronze do Sergt. J. C. Brown.

PROVINCIAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ONTARIO.

1876. Silver medal Sergt. D. Mitchell.
Bronze do Sergt. T. Mitchell.
1877. Silver do Sergt. Kincaide.
Bronze do Capt. Anderson.

DOMINION RIFLE ASSOCIATION, OTTAWA.
Competition at Ottawa.

1873. Gold medal Sergt. McMullen, 10th Batt.
Silver do Sergt. Baillie, 47th Batt.
Bronze do Ensign Trihey, G. T. Rifles.
1874. Gold do Lieut. Whitman.
Silver do Sergt. Bennett.
Bronze do Lieut. Balfour.
1875. Gold do Lieut. Macnachten.
Silver do Bombr. Crowe.
Bronze do Captain Anderson, 10th Royals.
1876. Gold do Lieut. J. Hunter, N. B. Engineers.
Silver do Captain A. P. Patrick, O. R. G. Artillery.
Bronze do Capt. W. B. Boyd, 34th Batt.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S FOOT GUARDS, OTTAWA.

Challenge Medal, winner to receive Bronze Medal.
1874. Silver medal Sent to Lt.-Col. Rosa.
Bronze do A. Cotton.
1875. Bronze do Capt. A. H. Todd.
1876. Bronze do Lance-Cor. F. Newby.
1877. Bronze do Cor. T. P. Carroll.

LIEUT.-COLONEL GEO. T. DENISON.
Bronze Medal presented to Colonel Denison in recognition of his having won the prize offered by the Czar of Russia for the best Essay on the History of Cavalry.

DRESS OF W.O.'S AND STAFF SERGTS.

Warrant Officers and Staff Sergeants armed in peace with a sword, will, on Active Service, be armed and equipped in the same way as N.C.O.'s and men in their Unit. (C.O. No. 4, dated Sep. 21, 1915.) (M.O. 136 of 1915.)

WEARING OF SWORDS BY OFFICERS OF THE C.E.F.

It is notified for the information of all concerned that swords are not to be worn on parades and other duties by Officers of the Canadian Expeditionary Force unless otherwise directed. (C.O. No. 6, d/. 13/11/15).