

Tough Canadian Soldiers of Veterans Guard Defend Empire Outpost on Bahamas



Overlooking rooftops and harbour of Nassau, Bahamas, Veterans Guardsman J. Saddler of Sherbrooke, Que., is silhouetted against sunset as he stands sentry before Government House. Statue at right is of Christopher Columbus.



Duke of Windsor chats with Private J. E. de Balanhard, Toronto, sentry at Government House east gate. Below, left to right: ex-miner Pte. D. McLeod, Sydney; Pte. Jimmy Wilson, Edmonton; Pte. E. V. Thompson, Roches Point, Ont.



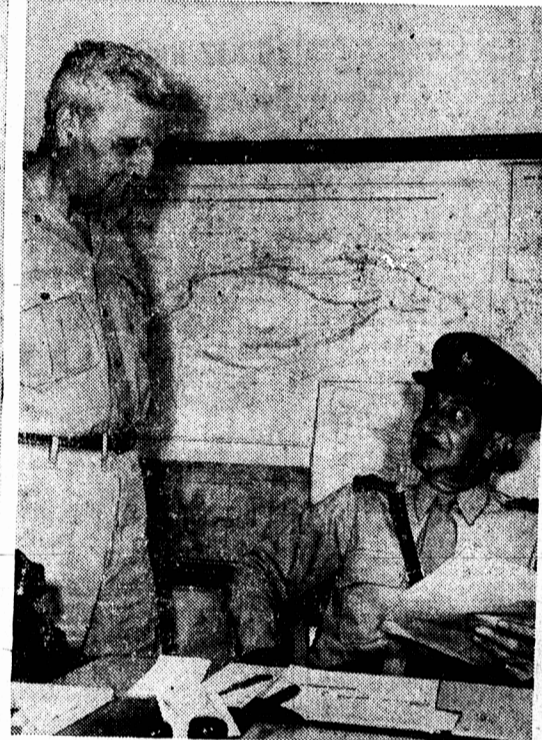
Inspection occurs in balmy morning air 'neath palm trees. Ex-soldiers' Veterans guard protects vital non-combat zones, releases active army regiments.



Changing the guard. These men, though veterans of the last war, are lean, tough and fit. They enjoy same rate of pay, rank and promotion as active army.



Privates E. E. Wilkie, La Have, N.S., and W. H. Jackson of Montreal go through mortar practice, part of their daily duties in the defense of the Bahamas.



Col. A. W. De Wolf of Halifax (at desk) is the officer in command of Canadian Veterans Guard and the Bahamian Forces on these Atlantic Isles.



The vets are ready for any attack. Every day they have gas mask drill, gunnery and mortar practice and defensive manoeuvres as part of their duties.



Sgt. G. E. Spencer, Edmonton; Pte. A. G. Fraser, Qualicum Beach, Vancouver Island; Corp. G. Breme, Listowel, Ont.; Pte. A. J. White, Timmins; and Corp. F. M. Middleton, Nanaimo, leave headquarters, Royal Montague Hotel, for swim.



Successful European offensive increases need for Veterans Guard to protect Empire outposts not in battle zones. Pte. W. Bell, Vancouver, aims mortar.



Corporal I. L. Parker of Shubenacadie, N.S., has nine children of his own. He gets a little homesick for them sometimes, and can't resist playing with the tots who gather on Bahamas beaches to admire Canadian soldiers.

NFB Photos by Rommy Jaques for CANADIAN ARMY.