

Fiftieth Anniversary Of Signals Unit In Province

A reception and dance given by the Commanding Officer and Officers of 5 Signal Regiment, Royal Canadian Signals at the Charlottetown Hotel last night, marked the 50th anniversary of the organization. The following historical sketch indicates the passing changes in Signals during the half century of their operations.

Signals in Prince Edward Island goes back even before the birth of the Canadian Signalling Corps in 1903. Before the turn of the century there was an engineer unit on the island with a small section looking after local Army communications.

This section was commanded by the late W. P. Doull, afterwards a well known electrician in P. E. I.

INDEPENDENT UNIT
In 1905 an independent Signal Unit was formed, which became known as No. 12 Signalling Section and was commanded by the late Lt. W. K. Rogers. In 1911 Lt. Rogers retired in favour of his son, Lt. Keith S. Rogers.

In July 1914 No. 12 Signalling Section camped in Sussex, N. B. and the Senior Sergeant at camp that year was incidentally Sgt. E. G. Weeks, now Major General retired. On August 17th, 1914 a detachment from this Unit was the first group to leave P. E. I. for service overseas. This detachment, consisting of Sgt. Weeks, Cpl. H. R. Large, V. McLeod, and G. Gardiner, served with distinction until 1919. They were the recipients of nine decorations for service in the field, several were mentioned in dispatches, two were wounded and all returned home none the worse for wear.

Lt. K. S. Rogers served as Fort-ress Signal Officer in Halifax during the Great War.

In 1920-21 the Unit was re-organized as No. 8 Signal Company and Lt. Rogers, by now, Major, was again Commanding Officer.

In 1928 Major Rogers retired with

the rank of Lt. Col. and Command was taken over by Major F. B. Conrad, M.M., E.D., during which period it was known successively as No. 8 Signal Company, No. 2 Company of 6th Div. Sigs, No. 6 Composite Company and No. 6 District Signals. Second-in-Command was Capt. W. A. Smith and Capt. D. N. Bell as Adjutant during these years.

OTHER CHANGES
In 1938 Major Conrad went on the Supplementary Reserve with the rank of Lt. Col.

He was succeeded by his 2-ic Major W. A. Smith who organized the Unit when mobilization orders were received in September 1939. On Sept. 15th a detachment consisting of Capt. Bell, Lts. Jenkins and Johnston and forty men was sent to Sydney, N. S. to take over the fortress communications. Later in the Fall the remaining officers and men were sent to Halifax, Sydney and Mulgrave, N. S. where they remained until joining the Third Divisional Signals in Barriefield, Ontario in the Summer of 1940.

Following the war, the Charlottetown Unit was organized as 5th Divisional Signals with Lt. Col. D. N. Bell, E.D. as Commanding Officer, Major F. J. Storey as 2-ic and Majors K. M. Johnston and F. S. Jenkins as Squadron Commanders. In 1948 twelve officers and sixty men attended their first post-war Summer Camp at the Royal Canadian School of Signals, representing about half the strength of the Unit at the time.

Lt. Col. Bell was succeeded by Lt. Col. F. J. Storey, E.D. who commanded the Unit until June 1949 when he retired in favour of Lt. Col. K. M. Johnston, E.D., the present Officer Commanding. Lt. Col. Storey, incidentally, is a past-President of the Canadian Signals Association.

In March 1950 the designation of the Unit was again changed, this time to 5th Signal Regiment, R. C. Signals.

During the visit to Charlottetown

in 1951 of the then Princess Elizabeth, the Guard of Honour included a good representation from 5 Signal Regiment.

During the Coronation celebrations Sgt. Maj. E. A. Stanley, M.M.

represented the Regiment. / Eachern (D.O.): Capt. H.B. Chandler (P.S.O.); Capt. R. L. B. Champion; Lieut. S. Lancaster; Lieut. L. W. Ramsay; Lieut. A. E. Brendon; Lieut. M. L. McAleer; Lieut. L. F. McMurrer; Lieut. R. D. Manning; Lieut. J. E. Green; Lieut. J. T. Gallant; 2-Lieut. R. L. Boswall; 2-Lieut. M. G. Baril; 2-Lieut. L. V. A. MacDonald; 2-Lieut. E. C. Kelly; O-Cadet S. A. Squarebriggs; O-Cadet G. M. Andrew; O-Cadet W. G. Nelson; O-Cadet W. H. Batt.

PRESENT AWARD FOR ARCHITECTURAL ACHIEVEMENT

Governor-General Vincent Massey presents a gold medal for architectural achievement to Charles E. Craig and C. E. Pratt.

members of a Victoria firm of architects. The firm, Sharp and Thompson, Berwick, Pratt and Charles E. Craig, won the award

known as the Massey Medals for Architecture, 1955.

for its design of a Victoria old folks' village. The medal is the top prize awarded in a competition

(CP Photo)

Old R.C.M.P. Barracks Demolished

REGINA (CP) — Barrack Block B, built on Sitting Bull's campsite three years before the 1885 Riel Rebellion, is being taken down at the RCMP barracks here. Hundreds of RCMP constables were quartered in the old block during training. At the start, it was typical of any British barracks

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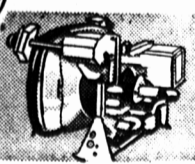
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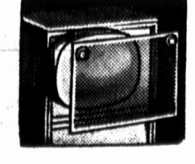
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