

Vandoo With Knowledge Of Chinese Is Useful

WITH THE CANADIANS IN KOREA, Dec. 21—(CP)—War is so much more fun when you know the enemy's plans . . .

It's become almost sport—except that the stakes are "for keeps"—in that part of the United Nations front manned by the 2nd Battalion Royal 22nd Regiment.

For the Vandooos, it turns out, were pretty well informed on what the Chinese in their sector were out to do, how they were getting along—and on ways to frustrate them.

Source of the Vandooos' private information is Pte. Jacques Morin of Montreal and Malbaie, Que. He understands Chinese.

Morin doesn't talk. He just listens.

Until Morin began listening in earnest at a Vandoo forward position recently, the noises heard occasionally on the company's radio frequency were so much gibberish.

As batman to Lieut. Pierre Archambault of Montreal Morin one day was near the set when the Chinese came close.

"Let me hear that," he shouted. "I can understand Chinese."

The words, he translated, were orders to attack the position ahead (presumably the Vandooos') at 11 o'clock that night. The information was passed back, spread throughout the 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade, and developments were awaited with skepticism.

That night the enemy attacked the Vandooos in company strength, found them ready and was mercilessly cut up in artillery fire from the 2nd Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery.

Morin, listening on a radio set, heard the attack ordered off. That information had barely reached brigade headquarters before it was followed up by news that the Chinese had shot up two green flares and one red one—the customary signal to fall back.

Got New Job

And that night a new factor entered into the Royal 22nd's fighting—24-year-old Morin got himself a new job.

Although he had reported on enlisting that he spoke Chinese, and the fact was entered on his documents, no one had done anything about it.

He learned it in Montreal, where he grew up with the children of Foon Lee, owner of the Nanking Grill. From the age of five, when he first began playing with the Lee children, he has spoken the language.

He never used the language in civilian life. On graduation from the Marist Fathers' high school he became an investigator with a Montreal private detective agency. He got the wanderlust when the Korea force was raised in 1950 and intends to return to detecting once his present hitch is finished—unless the army "offers me something interesting."

He is fast becoming a legend in the battalion.

Typical of the work he is enabling the Vandooos to do is their handling of a recent enemy thrust which wound up with the loss of two Chinese mortars and nineteen known casualties.

Morin reported overhearing the Chinese say their mortars "now were in position at (giving the map reference) and ready to support the patrol." Then he reported hearing the patrol's intentions.

Lt.-Col. Jacques (Jimmie) Dextraze said, "That gave us a good idea of where they were going and we made our own plans."

Make It Hot For Chinese

When the enemy said they were at a certain point and were sending two men ahead to reconnoitre, Dextraze ordered the Vandooos' mortars under Capt. Charles Forbes of Matane, Que., to fire a salvo. The Chinese reported mortar bombs passing overhead.

Dextraze lowered the range, ordered up another salvo. The Chinese then asked for stretcher-bearers—they'd had four casualties.

"Repeat," ordered Dextraze. More mortar bombs.

The Chinese: "Don't send the bearers, it's too hot here."

"Repeat," again said Dextraze.

The Chinese: "The patrol leader has just been hit, we would like permission to withdraw." They got it.

The same night Moran learned the patrol had been reformed and was being sent out again. It was making for a known Vandoo outpost.

Dextraze allowed it to get part way toward the post then ordered mortar fire. When the Chinese told their headquarters bombs had just gone overhead he again lowered the range and landed his

Y. M. C. A. News

Phalanx - Phiat

Santa Claus has been kept very busy at the Y. M. C. A. just lately. His appearance at the Phalanx-Phiat Banquet was the highlight of the evening. Turkey and fixings by candle light is not a new idea but is a very pleasant one. Harold Dobson ably took the chair for the evening and handled the proceedings like a veteran. When we managed to drag ourselves from the table the rest of the evening was spent dancing and singing. The whole affair was voted most enjoyable and it was felt that these joint sessions should be held more often.

Junior Hi-Y

Junior Hi-Y members are now walking around secure in the knowledge that they are really Junior Hi-Y members and can wear the Junior Hi-Y pins and create a Monday evening a very impressive induction ceremony was conducted by the Delta Hi-Y girls under the chairmanship of Miss Barbara Rupert. The girls had invited their mothers to witness their induction and the installation of the new officers of the club. During the banquet which was served prior to the induction Margie Jardine proposed a toast to the mothers and Mrs. J. O. MacLean answered the toast in a very inspiring way. Santa Claus came to visit for a short time and brought everyone a present and Wild Bill Hickox rode

bombs among them.

There were casualties, but no number given.

The patrol carried on. Dextraze ordered the two men in the outpost to pull out.

When 16 Chinese assaulted the empty outpost minutes later Dextraze brought Forbes' mortars down in a hailstorm of bombs. The enemy reported six casualties and were ordered: "Get out as quickly as you can."

Said Dextraze: "We fiddled with the mortars on likely routes back to the original map reference given and then just as they were about due there we plastered it. Eight more were reported wounded there, as well as two mortars."

Having k.o'd two mortars and 19 known Chinese, and had a zesty time doing it, the Vandooos then reoccupied the outpost.

Another attack was so broken up by Forbes' mortars, thanks to Morin, that the Chinese reported "so many casualties lost, and two machine guns, that we are too weak to go on."

Such was the Vandooos' advantage that apart from the patrol that assaulted the outpost, the Chinese whom Dextraze had been sniping at so successfully with the mortars had rarely been seen. Only their weapons' fire and their flares and the coincidence of their "information" with other forces regularly pieced together to form a solid picture.

For Morin, however, it was a 24-hour-day job. He was on call at the frontline dug-out all the time. Although other fellows manned the set when he was sleeping, Morin was called whenever the enemy spoke.

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T. W. BENTLEY, C.L.U.,
P. E. I. Branch Manager

THE STARS SAY--

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substantial premises, keen execution and courage, even hidden factors or forces might be vanquished. Adhere to high principle and sense of duty in seeking future or postponed benefits and security.

A child born on this day may be subject to strange or unpredictable events in life. But these may be conquered by its innate ingenuity, initiative, strong principles and sense of duty.

Day After Tomorrow

The astrological forecast is for a particularly lively and exciting day. Changed plans and commitments are in order, with social, domestic and sentimental activities of uppermost consideration. The affairs of the home and especially the children are an impelling force, while in spiritual or sentimental efforts, there may be peculiar or intangible angles. Plans, ideas, may be confused or complicated. Keep balanced, logical.

For the Birthday

Those whose birthday it is may expect a period when intimate, personal, social or romantic affiliations are to the fore. Children, the concerns of youth, their social, emotional and artistic development demand attention. There could be peculiar or intriguing slants to complicate matters, but reason and logic could indicate the way

A Christmas Wish

I wish you "Merry Christmas" And joy and peace as well. And may you hear the angels' song In every chiming bell.

And may the Yuletide gladness Find echo in your breast, And all of life be richer When the Christmas hours depart.

—Constance I. Heckbert

to face complication or cross-purposes.

A child born on this day, while socially and intellectually inclined, should possess high purpose and ideals, might also be disposed to subterfuge, hidden or quixotic tactics.

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