

1) TORONTO DRILL SCHEDULE

Drills are again scheduled for Wednesday nights at Fort York Armoury on Fleet St not far from the Princes Gates of the CNE. The dates are:

Jan 11; Feb 1 & 15; Mar 1, 15 & 29; Apr 12 & 26; May 10

For the information of recruits, drills start at 8:00PM, on the west side of the Parade Square. Dress is informal, with Bicorns, Waistbelts w/bayonets, Muskets & Slings. Muskets should have wooden snappers or drivers rather than flints. Parking for the armoury is difficult and can be found on either side of the road leading up to Fort York. Parking behind the armoury is for Reserve Army personnel only.

2) MORE ON THE WINTER PARTY INCLUDING DRIVING INSTRUCTIONS

As previously announced, the Winter Party will be held at Appleby College in Oakville on Saturday, February 25, 1989. Arrival at 6:00PM. There is NO need to be fashionably late!! Dinner will be served at 7:00PM.

Please bring all your own libations, including mixes. All Section Leaders will please bring a bag of ice. The ladies are NOT asked to bring desserts.

To get there- from the QEW, take the Dorval Rd exit south to the Lakeshore Rd. Dorval ends at Lakeshore and the drive from the QEW to the Lakeshore feels quite long. Turn right onto Lakeshore. About 2km on the left side is Appleby College. For those who arrive in decent time, parking will be obvious as No2 Section is providing a Guard .

Don't forget that skits, dance routines, etc.. are most welcome.

3) PROMOTIONS IN THE FIRST BATTALION

William Shaw to Lance Corporal, No1 Section, Col's Coy

Andrew Weston to Lance Corporal, No4 Section, Col's Coy vice
Moreau promoted.

Bill has been an active member of the Regiment for two years and a key member of John Moore's No2 Section. He has agreed to transfer to Dave Moore's No1 Section to act for L/Cpl Gerry MacMartin who cannot be quite so active as previous.

Andy has also been with the Regiment in No4 Section for two years and has been active in unit affairs in the Ottawa region including the organization of the Saturday Pub Night at Majors Hill Park.

4) TRANSFERS IN THE COLONEL'S COMPANY

In an attempt to better balance the attendance and geographical sense of the Sections, a few transfers have been put forward. The following listing indicates where those men are TRANSFERRED TO.

No1 Section	No2 Section	No3 Section	No4 Section
Bill Shaw	Phil Hooper	Tex Joyner	Larry Ostola
Brock Dittrick	Mike LeBlanc	David Kirby	Dick Beaudin
	Ian Hooper		

5) HISTORICAL PROJECT IN CORNWALL

You should recall that Cornwall Ontario was founded in 1784 by members of two companies from the 1st Bn King's Royal Yorkers. There is no plaque or any other remembrance in that city to commemorate its Yorker roots. Fortunately, the original homestead of one of those Yorkers remains intact and is being restored as Snetsinger Park.

Cpl Mathias Snetsinger of Samuel Anderson's Light Infantry Company built his house in 1787 on what is now Toll Gate Road. Snetsinger had been a very active member of the Regiment, having served at Oriskany in 1777 under Captain Stephen Watts and in 1782 serving in the Secret Service at the Loyal Blockhouse on the Richelieu River.

The Park will be dedicated in 1990 or 91 and Bob Snetsinger of the Toronto Branch (the folks who have so often supported the Regiment with funds) hopes that our unit will be there to see it is done well.

6) DEWITT BAILEY SENDS US AN INTERESTING PIECE FROM THE BRITISH ARCHIVES

"ADM1/4143, f.1. 1 August 1780. 'Fifteen Packages making about Ten Tons of Cloathing and Regimental Stores for the Provincial Regiment commanded by Sir John Johnson in Canada, having been provided by his Agent Mr. Blackburn, I am directed by Lord George Germain to desire you will move the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to give directions that the said Packages may be received on board the Transports which carry out the Recruits or Provisions to Quebec.

Wm Knox"

DeWitt postulates that this shipment represented the introduction of the second clothing period to the regiment. Perhaps, although Mollo & McGregor's book, "Uniforms of the American Revolution" states that the decision to clothe the Loyalist Corps in red was made in 1778 (p.38) and the assumption has been made that these Corps, including the Royal Yorkers, were thus equipped in the 1779 season.

An interesting letter by Sir John to the agent, Mr. Blackburne dated September 22nd, 1780 adds more information to this issue. (as found in the book written by Sir John Johnson, Sixth Baronet of New York entitled, "The North American Johnsons, A Short Story of Triumph and Tragedy", pp. 64&65)

"I wrote you sometime ago and enclosed you a Bill on Drummond's Bank (Harley and Drummond) for L2,000 and an order on Mr. Baker for whatever money of mine he might have in his hands. Letters to him have miscarried. I send you another which makes the third, having sent them by Halifax in the month of January. You will also receive herewith a second Bill of Exchange for L2,000 which I must earnestly wish may come safe to hand having been so long already kept out of it to my no little mortification. The favourable opinion entertained of my constant endeavours to promote the service of my most gracious Sovereign are highly flattering to me, and I hope the result of the expedition I am now going upon will prove serviceable and that my conduct will merit further approbation and be the means of procuring an establishment for my regiment, which now consists of two battalions, the Generals Beating order for which, dated 12th July last I have ordered to be sent to you that you may apply for the 20 months offreckonings to enable you to send me their cloathing and accoutrements which I would have you to do by the safest conveyance next year, together with the cloathing for the first battalion which must be ordered to be made larger than the last, they proving too small for most of the men. You will find by the Beating order that the establishment of each battalion is five-hundred-and-sixty rank and file whereas you only sent cloathing for the provincial establishment.

6 cont'd.

You should also send a sergeant major's and drum major's suit, the appointments to be the same for both battalions. If you would as I mentioned to you before send me four men to form a small band and to teach others, together with two french horns, two bassons, a clarinet, and hautboy. You might engage them upon the term other regiments do and send them out in good transport or that ship with the cloathing, and thereby give pleasure to the gentlemen of the regiment as well as your humble servant. When I see the arms coming out for the officers of the first battalion I shall send for the like proportions if they are approved for the gentlemen of the second."

The letter continues on some personal matters including, the sending out of "about L100 of cloathing for Lady Johnson and if Mrs. Blackburne will take choice of them I am sure they will give pleasure and turn out a good little appointment."

Many important facts & questions are to be noted from this letter.

- a) the need for larger clothing.
- b) that the size of the Yorker battalions were as the Regulars rather than the provincials.
- c) proof of special uniforms for SjtMjr and DrmMjr.
- d) the Band....are these the recruits noted in the first letter?
- e) NOTE- new accoutrements for the men (is this the introduction of the shoulder carriages for the bayonets? new cartridge pouches?) and new arms for the Officers (fusils? swords?) .

Was the 'too small' issue of uniforms the old green or first red?? There are rebel sources which suggest that the Royal Yorkers were in red on the October 1780 Schoharie and Mohawk Valleys Raid. Or, were those red uniforms those of the Brit Regulars that were on the Expedition?? Obviously, more research needed.

7) THE BUCKLED SHOES

A number of you have already asked for the forms for these shoes. Please remember that you must return them to me so that we can get the discount!!!

8) ANOTHER LITTLE LOYALIST

Good news from Angela and Peter Johnson. Born December 10 a daughter, Meredith Grace. This one is named after Peter's second cousin, fifteen times removed and Angela's third cousin, seven times removed. If the Johnson's don't find out what's causing this soon, they're going to run out of names!

AT DRILLS, NEW RECRUITS HAVE TO MASTER THE FIRELOCK, AND SECONDLY THE BOTTLE. THEY TEND TO BE QUICK LEARNERS WITH THE LATTER!



P. JOHNSON
APR. 88



IT AIN'T NO GRENADE-LAUNCHER, BUT IT'LL DO!

P. JOHNSON
MAY 87

GRENADIER HURLEY IS VERY THEM OL' DRILL BLUES - PT. 4
LITERAL-MINDED