

THE CABLE

77 LINE REGIMENT

Volume 1, Issue 2

12 December, 2016

From the desk of the Commanding Officer:



Recently relocated to CFB Kingston

As the holiday season approaches, it brings with it the opportunity of reflection for all members of 77 Line Regiment. So, in the spirit of the holidays, I offer Volume 2 of **THE CABLE**. I trust it greets you with good energy as we bridge the geographic divide and establish what I am proud to call a Regimental Family.

The RSM and I have been fortunate to travel more than

24,000kms in 5 weeks in order to visit all 27 detachments of 77 Line Regiment. It is inspiring to witness the work you do (and the challenges that you all face) with unparalleled effort and focus.

As the Regiment approaches its 7-month anniversary, it is important to recognize all the efforts made by our CAF team and particularly those of 77 Line Regiment. Having one of our own recently deployed (November) on Op IMPACT, take a moment and reflect – we all wish WO Bruno Thibault, his spouse Sophie and their children Estelle and Olivier the very best.

You all form the best and most valued part of the Regi-

ment and it would not be the same without your involvement, support and commitment.

I would like to say thank you and send my best wishes to you and your families. May your New Year be filled with all the success and happiness you deserve.

Enjoy a safe and healthy break and return with enthusiasm and vigor to tackle 2017. Happy holidays!


- Scott Gillingham

Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding Officer



Special points of interest:

- 'TIS THE SEASON !!
- SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
 - RETIREMENTS
 - AWARDS
- POETRY INSERT —AN ORIGINAL

2 Line Squadron, ST JEAN

As part of our contribution to educating Junior Officers on the line trade we were lucky enough to welcome 2Lt Nashed Youssef in Ottawa for some On the Job Education (OJE). Although he was lucky enough to stay with us for a week, he undoubtedly would've liked to remain longer. He participated in the daily work around the NCR, from completing trouble calls, to trying his hand terminating UTP and fibre. He even had a chance to

don spurs and gear for a leisurely climb on one of the few poles at Uplands, saying it was definitely a bit nerve racking at first. In order to obtain full bragging rights at the Mess, he tackled the 80 foot self-support and proved to be a natural. He took advantage of every opportunity to learn about and observe the line trade, giving him a greater appreciation what we do.

- Cpl Jordan Knaggs
Det Ottawa



2Lt Youssef climbing an 80' tower near Bldg 475 in Uplands, Ottawa

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THE CABLE

3 Line Squadron—EDMONTON



Crew working on SEARS project in Resolute Bay

Canadian Armed Forces Arctic Training Centre (CAFATC) is located near the Resolute Bay airport, 74° North. This fall, MCpl Harrison, Cpl Davis, and Cpl Septimo were tasked to install antennas for the new Safety, Emergency and Administrative Radio System (SEARS). They constructed six antennas on two newly installed telephone poles in extreme conditions with winds steadily blowing at 60km/h and moderate snowfall. The team adapted to the weather, using a Genie Boom to install the 32ft antenna on a 45ft pole. During

the testing phase a real life emergency situation arose. A vehicle broke down outside of town in what was previously a dead zone. The occupants were able to radio for assistance utilizing the system that had just been installed. Without this new system, the occupants would have been hours without assistance, posing a risk to their safety due to the extreme weather conditions.

MCpl Harrison
Det Wainwright



Maj Doering presenting Deb and Scot Johston Branch Spousal Appreciation Certificate.



Capt Piper and 2Lt Boulet cut the Sigs Birthday Cake

...LINEMEN, WE ARE CONSTANTLY LOOKING FOR WAYS TO IMPROVE AND ADVANCE OUR INFRASTRUCTURE TO KEEP CURRENT WITH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES.

- CPL OLLIFFE

4 Line Squadron—PETAWAWA

The primary mission of 22 Wing North Bay is the defence of the aerospace of Canada. To accomplish this mission satellites and radars from all across North America are used to track the movement of any and all aircraft that pass within the North American Airspace. One of

the primary systems that are employed is the ASTERIX Radar system. ASTERIX, short for All-Purpose Structured Euro control Surveillance Information Exchange, is a state-of-the-art surveillance data format which is being adopted by the world community as the universal standard in this domain today.

Until now, the ASTERIX has been using analog modems to transmit data. 4 Line Sq Det North Bay linemen installed the line infrastructure for this new capability and were instrumental in troubleshooting the system during the testing and verification phase. The system now runs,

for the first time ever, on MPLS IP (Multi-Protocol Label Switching). This represents a significant upgrade from the slower, antiquated technology of the past. The increased bandwidth enables the Operators to receive data at faster rates, reduces errors, and further enhances their capabilities in the defence of North American Airspace.

As Canadian Forces Linemen, we are constantly looking for ways to improve and advance our infrastructure to keep current with technological advances. This is just a small step forwards to the ever changing future.

Cpl Adam Olliffe
Det North Bay



The first data stream received after switching to IP based transmission

5 Line Squadron— HALIFAX

Since the inception of 77 Line Regiment, it has been a busy transition for both Linemen and legacy ATIS Technicians in Greenwood. One of the most noteworthy happenings was the MSE Pre-Deployment Ex for Op IMPACT (ROTO 4). Things didn't really ramp up until mid to late September when the first of the many communication requirements started to roll in.

The steady stream of changing requirements and the lack

of materials available forced the Det to use 1st Line maintenance stock with WTISS replenishing the used supplies. With approximately 50 DVO locations comprising data, voice, and red drops mixed throughout the mocked up offices located in an empty hanger, the requirements increased, but the Linemen and ATIS Technicians rose to the occasion.

-Sgt Flood G.P., LLWC LCF
Det Greenwood



5 Line Squadron Detachment Greenwood Line Section
(From left to right) Cpl R.J. Keegan, MCpl M.R. Ramsay and Sgt G.P. Flood

Regimental Operations

“So how'd you like to help set up a new Line Regiment with zero Ops experience, zero exposure to the line trade, and a HQ of 5 pers?” These may not have been the CO's exact words when we first met in May, but they might as well have been. I would have thought that my many years of experience pushing paper from one cubicle to another in Ottawa would have adequately prepared me to this task, but apparently there's this place called the

field” where you really earn your stripes. I've even heard rumours that it's outside! To say that it's been a challenge would be an understatement. Thankfully, I've been lucky enough to have the help of a grizzly old LCS who doesn't hesitate to pull me aside and let me know when I'm talking too much, an RSM who can bench me with one arm tied behind his back, a DCO who has more time-in than I am old, and a CO who can write briefing notes on

his BlackBerry while driving his son to hockey tournaments. All jokes aside, it has been a very eye-opening experience and I have been extremely fortunate to have a team of Sqn Ops personnel with a wealth of experience and a genuine desire to build a relevant and responsive Ops cell. I am very proud of what we have accomplished so far and am looking forward to all the new challenges that wait us in the New Year.

-Capt M. Thomas, R Ops O

IT HAS BEEN A BUSY TRANSITION FOR BOTH LINEMEN AND LEGACY TECHNICIANS... REQUIREMENTS INCREASED, BUT THE LINEMEN AND ATIS TECHNICIANS ROSE TO THE OCCASION.
- SGT FLOOD

Significant Events

RETIREMENTS:

- Cpl Harvey (5 Line) - Oct '16
- Cpl Miller (3 Line) - Oct '16
- Cpl Murphy (4 Line) - Oct '16
- Cpl Reese (4 Line) - Nov '16
- Cpl Raycraft (2 Line) - Nov '16
- MCpl Forrest (5 Line) - Dec '16

AWARDS / MEDALS:

Canadian Decoration 1 (CD1):

Cpl King (4 Line) - Sep '16

Canadian Decoration (CD):

- MCpl Organ (5 Line) - Oct '16
- Cpl London (5 Line) - Oct '16
- Cpl Lebel (2 Line) - Oct '16

3 Line Sqn Soldier of the Quarter:

Cpl Mui - Nov '16



THROUGH

77 LINE REGIMENT

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A 2Lt's Perspective ...

I recently joined the CAF in January 2016 and I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to work at 77 Line Regt. I was posted to Regt HQ in October, and I have been mainly responsible for assisting with various administrative tasks and helping the Regt Ops section.

I was also very lucky to get a chance to spend a week with the 2 Line Sqn- Det Ottawa

Line Crew, during which time I learned about cable audits, pulling cable, fiber installs and, of course, climbing poles and towers!

I can't thank everyone at RHQ enough for their support over these past 2 months. Everyone took the time to teach me new skills that will be very beneficial for my next phase of training. I would like to also thank everyone at Det Ottawa Line

Crew for their support during the week I spent with them. I was really impressed by your work ethic and esprit de corps and I'm looking forward to more opportunities to work with the Line Trade in my future career as a Signals Officer.

- 2Lt Nashed Youssef

77 LINE REGIMENT SHAREPOINT CALENDAR: <http://collaboration-img.forces.mil.ca/sites/7CommGp/77LR/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Canadian Association of Forces Linemen Website : <http://cafl.org/>

RSM's CORNER



Myself and the CO truly enjoyed our recent visits to your detachments over the last few weeks and we were very impressed with your level of determination and professionalism in the face of so many challenges; your high level of motivation and positive outlook were inspirational to us both and we came away even more convinced that we are on the right path. We thank you for your efforts. Change is never easy but in our case very necessary and with your patience and valuable input we will overcome all of our challenges together.

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to encourage everyone to enjoy your upcoming time off with families and friends. It has been a busy journey thus far standing up a new Regiment and you all deserve the break. Keep in mind that we have WO Bruno Thibault currently deployed to Op Impact along with other brothers in arms. Take the time to send off a holiday wish to them or a small something in the mail. Most of us know what it is to be separated from our families and it is especially difficult during the holidays.

There will be many celebrations over the next few weeks so please keep safety in mind and take care of one another. Remember to always work hard and play hard but don't drink and drive.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

THROUGH

- CWO Blair MacKnight, RSM

THE CABLE

T'Was the Year Before 150 ...

*T'was the year before "One-Fifty"
As Canada grows old
When up from the Forces
A new unit Arose*

*With pride in their History
And a Swagger so Bold
These Rough and Gruff soldiers
Are the Best I've been told*

*Workshops convened
Discussions were held
Now leaders are chosen
To Spearhead this Meld*

*Quick to the Task
The HQ of Few
In promoting the New Unit
And what they can DO!*

*They work here at home
Or on some foreign soil
So they were assembled together
To shoulder their toil*

77 Line
Regiment

77^e Régiment
des Lignes

*Now, you may ask.
Of the soldiers I speak
Those hard working hard playing
Whom some have dubbed Freak*

*The Heart of the Corps
Least that's what they say
The Regiment now Named
They're here to Stay*

*Now I know this has been lengthy
But there's certainly no Doubt
Surely it's the LINEMAN
You've figured, I've been talking about*

*So up on your feet and let's toast a cheer
To 77 Line Regiment now that it's here
And as well to those Soldiers not of the Corps
Who will march forward with us as we build
our own Future....
Our History... our Lore?*

An original by:
MWO Mike Walsh, 77 Line Regt LCS