Stag editor culls 2019 quotes from 24 editions

From page 6

"I expect all members of our team to adhere to our shared Soldier Standards which will enhance our mobility, survivability and sustainability against peer adversaries. We will also make deliberate investments in our readiness, resilience and growth over the next year, including training tactically and realistically in an austere environment."

— 1CMBG CO Col Rob Ritchie on Road to High Readiness training

"Crawl and run and crawl and run. If your buddies got hurt during that and the yelling and crying, you couldn't stop. You had to keep going. If you stopped, well you were a dead duck, too. So you had to keep going. Which was a hard thing to do because the beach was something like ketchup … that's how blood red the beach was."

— Recollections from D-Day veteran Francis Godon, who died in early January '19. He trained for the Second World War at Camp Shilo

"It's hard, don't let me say it's not. You need hand-eye co-ordination with your sword, plus you have tactics. It's like playing a game of chess."

— CISM fencer Lt Belanna McLean

"To my wife Lindsay, and my two boys, when I took command [at 2PPCLI] I said that a thank-you isn't enough for all that you have done and continue to do in support of me and my career. Nothing has changed — you give me the strength to continue to serve. Please know that any success I have had in uniform is simply a result of the great support you have given me — and boys, I promise that after this next deployment and the posting back to where ever we end up next, a trip to Disney is in order. I've said it publicly, so there's no backing out."

— Outgoing 2PPCLI CO LCol Jay MacKeen at his Change of Command ceremony

"As an African, I am able to share the values I bring with me to Canada and to the CAF. Among these values are a strong sense of community, optimism about life, unwavering reverence for the sacred, respect for elders and duly constituted authority, unwavering loyalty to one's tribe, which in my case now happens to be Canada, laughter and joy as an antidote to all life's problems and a sense of pride in ones roots. These values colour my every interaction with soldiers and shapes the way I deal with others. As far as I am concerned, we live in the best country in the world and I am privileged to be an officer in the CAF."

1RCHA's padre Capt Joachim Nnanna

With everyone around her also saluting at the conclusion of CFB Shilo's CoC ceremony in June, daughter Elizabeth Lyttle copies her father, incoming BComd LCol Jeff Lyttle, with her own salute. The BComd's CoC was held in the picturesque and historic Canoe River Memorial Park.

Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag

"Our objective here was to assist in the development of the Latvian indirect fire capability, by training gun line tactics, techniques and procedures, and the planning and coordination of fires within an FSCC. The courses leveraged our experience to provide a progressive training environment. We taught them ways to support a brigade on operations through the de-confliction and integration of fires, as well as moving and sustaining the individual firing units as part of the overall fires plan."

— Maj Craig Cutting on training Latvian artillery soldiers how to use the M109

"Years ago when [the Canadian Army] used to employ the M109s we had a constant supply system that was running all the time. The howitzer operators never had to worry about replenishment or ammunition because it was always being taken care of through every step of the supply chain, starting with the battery echelon. That's the piece that [the Latvian Army] were really looking forward to developing."

— MWO James Aucoin, who was introduced to the self-propelled howitzer as a Gunner in '88 at CFB Shilo, is training soldiers in the Latvian Army

"'Injury' doesn't do justice to what had happened to these folks. It doesn't convey the profound, life-changing nature of what they faced. To be truthful, no words can do that, but at least 'wounded' tells people that what's happened has been inflicted upon them with the intention to kill."

— Photographer Thomas Thorne on photographing wounded Afghan soldiers for his exhibition The Wounded

"I was surprised as it was quite warm for being that far north when I was there. We were issued Arctic kit, but we really did not need to use it because it was quite warm out when we went on a three-day expedition carrying 90-litre packs."

— Shilo Army Cadet MWO Brian Badcock on his visit to Whitehorse

"I have to turn in my CADPAT, but my dress uniform I am going to donate it to the 26 Field museum."

— Outgoing 26 Field HCol Rick Felstead on his retirement

"I am constantly pushing myself to be stronger, to be faster, and to be better. Fitness teaches me to focus my mind and push myself well beyond perceived limitations."

— 1RCHA HQ Bty BC Maj Melissa Marshall

"There is little else in Canada to honour him. These medals help explain Canadian military history — a history that sometimes forgets its military heroes. His medals are evidence of his achievements and of our common heritage. We repatriated these medals to Canada. They will stay in Canada at our Regimental museum. We will also create a traveling exhibit featuring the great man and his medals. As new generations of Canadian Gunners come [to CFB Shilo] they will learn about the man and see his medals. We are very grateful to have these medals and we look forward to telling his story."

— RCA Museum director Andrew Oakden on the purchase of MGen Tom "Jingo" Strange's medals during an online auction

"One thousand, eight hundred seventy-seven Canadians died at Hill 70 and the fact that there was no monument there to commemorate them was unconscionable. [The monument] is a beautiful thing. People are travelling from all over the world to see it. Not just Canada but from England, Australia, New Zealand, Germany. The town of Lens is really delighted that they are now on the tourist map."

— Col Mark Hutchings on the Hill 70 Memorial Project

"We Gunners are honoured by the restoration of our distinctive blue beret and look forward to wearing it proudly alongside our RCCS, RCEME and C Int C comrades-in-arms."

— BGen (Ret'd) J.J. Selbie, Colonel Commandant of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery

"We did try to acquire a moveable cultural properties grant to assist with the purchase, but we had difficulty proving the value of the medals. They are unique and difficult to value."

— RCA Museum director Andrew Oakden on the purchase via online auction two of MGen Tom "Jingo" Strange's medals

"We went on a 20-kilometre hike, plus spent four days kayaking. It was windy, and rainy. Not the most comfortable, but it was challenging both physically, and mentally. I just kept going when it came to kayaking in the cold. We'd wake up the next morning, and head back out. This was a great expedition experience for me because I was exposed to things we don't have a lot of on the prairies — mountains."

— Shilo Army Cadet CWO Arthur Blakely on his trip to Chilo, South America

"Ex MAPLE RESOLVE 19 was the venue for our soldiers to maintain their war-fighting skills, conduct full-spectrum operations, and integrate with key partners and allied forces. Incorporating lessons learned from across the Canadian Army enables us to effectively train soldiers to respond appropriately and decisively."

— 1CMBG CO Col Rob Ritchie at CFB Wainwright

"[That newspaper] contained a most vibrant photographic memory that has managed to follow me around all the days of my life. It is a picture of my father, [Cpl] Walter Daniel Darling, storming the beaches of Normandy on June 6th, 1944, as part of the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders, after which I am named. That Canadian troop carrier photo is one of the most viewed pictures in the world when ever mention of the Normandy invasion is made each year on June 6, D-Day. The reason behind its use is in itself quite the tale. It has to do with the misfortune of a senior officer of the American troops assigned to the beaches farther along the coast of Normandy. In the haste to get the invasion pictures onto the front pages of the newspapers all across the United States, the entire archives of that bloody day were lost, when a boat carrying them back out to a waiting ship was swamped. The Americans were forced to use the photographs provided by Canadian photographers. Until a few years ago, virtually all photos and film of D-Day have been exclusively the pictures/film taken by Canadian wartime photographers, showing my father and his comrades carrying their — believe it or not — bicycles onto the beaches of Normandy. In actual fact the LCI 299 troop carrier photos only got to be used as much as they have been because of that misfortune."

— Glenn Darling on his father and marking the 75th anniversary of D-Day

"There can be no greater compliment to a Base Commander than one of your team finding a way to get the job done. This is how I know that CFB Shilo is Ad Omnia Paratus — Ready for Anything. One of my soldiers came up to me last week to let me know he was disappointed he would not be able to be on parade with the guard. He had a task to perform getting 2PPCLI [Battle Group] equipment ready to deploy on operation, but he wanted to shake my hand before I left."

— Outgoing BComd LCol David MacIntyre at his Change of Command ceremony

"CWO Campbell, today is your day. Three years of loyalty and dedication to this Regiment come to a noble end. You are an extraordinary soldier, warrior and confidant. Your counsel and advice to me over the year we spent together, provided perspective that made me a better CO. Your empathy for the soldier and dedication to the Regiment were critical to our success — critical to our readiness. You came to us with valuable experience cultivated over a rich career to include dismounted para battery time in 2RCHA, combat experience during TF 3-06, instructor time at CFLRS and staff experience cultivated during and post ATWO program. I never understood until now, this notion of cross-pollination being important to round out the individual. I understand now it is not about the individual so much, but about the betterment of the unit. It's about an outsider changing perspective — about an outsider pointing out how we could do things more efficiently, how we could to things smarter."

— 1RCHA CO LCol Ryan Stimpson addressed outgoing RSM CWO Maurice Campbell during his Change of Appointment ceremony

See **MISSION** page 8