

Col John Stanley Beeman (1914 -2002)



Colonel Beeman joined the Canadian Army in Dec 1933 as a Second Lieutenant with the University of British Columbia contingent of the Canadian Officer Training Corps. He joined 6 Field Company, RCE in 1934 and was promoted to Lieutenant in May 1937. During the Second World War, Major Beeman commanded both 1 Field Squadron and 4th Field Park Squadron in the Italian theatre. He assumed command of 4th Field Park Squadron when it was still in Italy and commanded it during its deployment to Belgium where it became part of 1st Canadian Army.

He handed over command of 4th Field Park Squadron in 1945 and returned to Canada. Upon promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, he was given command of the 1st Canadian Engineer Service Platoon (Utilities) of the Canadian Army Pacific Force. He was preparing to go to the US Army Engineer School in Fort Belvoir Virginia for training on US equipment, organizations and tactics when the war with Japan ended.

After the war, Lieutenant Colonel Beeman became District Engineer Officer for Military District 13 in Alberta and commanded 13 Works Company in Calgary. In 1946 he was Director Accommodation and Fire Protection at Army Headquarters. He then became Command Engineer, Western Command, headquartered in Alberta, in 1947. Then, in 1950-1952 Colonel Beeman served as the Senior Highway Engineer of the Northwest Highway System based in Whitehorse in the Yukon Territory.

He retired from the Canadian Forces in the 1960s and passed away on 13 November 2002. He was survived by his widow Mary.