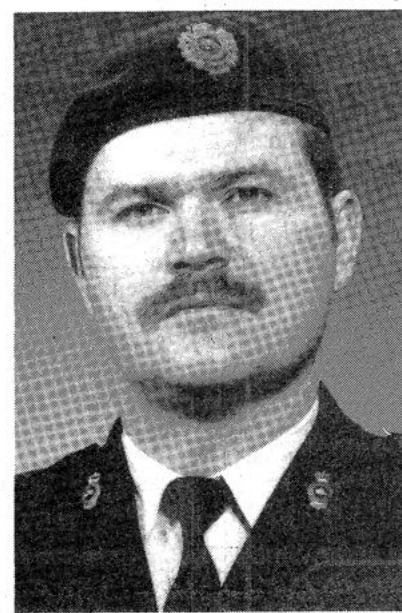




ROAD construction at the Casino Range.



REMOVAL of the Big Missouri Dam on the B.C./Alaska border in 1980.



MAJOR BILL WENMAN
... incoming
Commanding Officer

Change of Command

The 9th of June also marks another significant military event for the Squadron. The unit will be saying its farewell to one Commanding Officer and welcoming in another. This ceremony normally takes place every three years.

In July of 1987, Major C. D. (Doug) Wright took over command of the Squadron from Major D. G. Buskas in the fields of Wainwright, Alta. On June 9th, Major W. M. (Bill) Wenman will be taking over command of the Squadron at a ceremony that will take place at the Armory at 2:30 p.m.

Major Wright was born in Wetaskiwin, Alta. in 1953 and enrolled into the Canadian Armed Forces in August 1971. He graduated from Royal Military College with a degree in civil engineering.

Once completing Military Engineer Officer training at CFSME Chilliwack he went to his first posting to the Construction Engineer (CE) Section, CFB Edmonton as the Requirements Officer. In 1977 he was posted to CFBHQ Lahr, West Germany as an Engineer Project Officer and a year later to Baden as the Second in Command of the CE Section.

In 1980 Captain Wright was posted to 2 Combat Engineer Regiment (2 CER), Petawawa, Ontario where he served as Heavy Equipment Troop Commander, Airborne Field Troop Command and Adjutant. During this time he also spent six months in Cyprus with the Canadian Airborne Regiment

and attended the Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff College in Kingston. In 1983 he was transferred to HQ Special Service Force (SSF) Petawawa as the Brigade Training Officer. During this tour he also was the SSF Officer of Primary Interest for the Canadian Air Sea Transportable Brigade in Norway. Two years later he returned to 2 CER as the Deputy Commanding Officer.

Major Wright is married to former Mary Tauscher of Barriere, Alta. and they have one daughter named Melissa.

Major Bill Wenman graduated from Royal Roads Military College as a military engineer and was first posted with 1 CER in Chilliwack, B.C. He then moved to Calgary to the Construction Engineering Section. He has also served in Lahr, West Germany as a staff officer. He returned to Chilliwack to the Canadian Forces School of Military Engineering where he held two positions in the Field Training Squadron, namely, Bridge Troop Commander and Minewarfare and Demolitions Troop Commander. Since 1987, Major Wenman has served with the National Defense Headquarters in Ottawa as a Personnel Policy Development Staff Officer.

The Squadron will miss Major Wright as he has become an integral part of the unit; however, it looks forward to getting to know Major Wenman. June 9th indeed is a busy day for the unit though one that will be enjoyed.



MAJOR DOUG WRIGHT
... outgoing
Commanding Officer

Freedom of the City

City of Trail honors the 44 Field Engineer Squadron Canadian Military Engineers for 43 years of service in the community by bestowing the unit with Freedom of the city on June 9th. This rare honor has only been proclaimed on seven other occasions by the City of Trail since 1961 which signifies its importance. An honor once proclaimed is retained forever.

Freedom of the city was originally a civilian award which was later extended to military units. Over time a ceremony was developed for proclaiming Freedom of the City to a military unit. The citizens of Trail are invited to view the ceremony on June 9th.

At 10:45 a.m. the Squadron will form up on Pine Ave. and Victoria St. and start to march towards City Hall. The unit colors, which is the National Flag, is encased and bayonets are unfixed. At 11:00 a.m. in front of the City Hall the Squadron, will be halted by Staff Sgt. Laurie DeWitt, Chief of Police.

The Commanding Officer of the Squadron, Maj. C.D. (Doug) Wright, will accompany Staff Sgt. DeWitt to the door of the City Hall. Once there Maj. Wright will rap on the door three times with the pommel of his sword.

Mayor Marc Marcolin, a Freeman himself, will open the door and accompanied by the city council will form up at the entrance. Mayor Marcolin will then read the proclamation which declares that 44th Field Squadron has Freedom of the City.

The Squadron will then fix bayonets and the colors will be marched on parade. Maj. Wright will give the salute to Mayor Marcolin as the unit marches past city Hall.

The Squadron will then march through downtown and finish at the Victoria St. parking lot.

The Squadron was formed on June 5th, 1947, though it was not until 1948 with the installation of the unit's first Commanding Officer Maj. John Biker, that the unit actually existed. The Squadron's first home was in the Tadanac Barracks, Tadanac, B.C. From this location the unit moved to downtown Trail into the building now used by River Belle Restaurant.

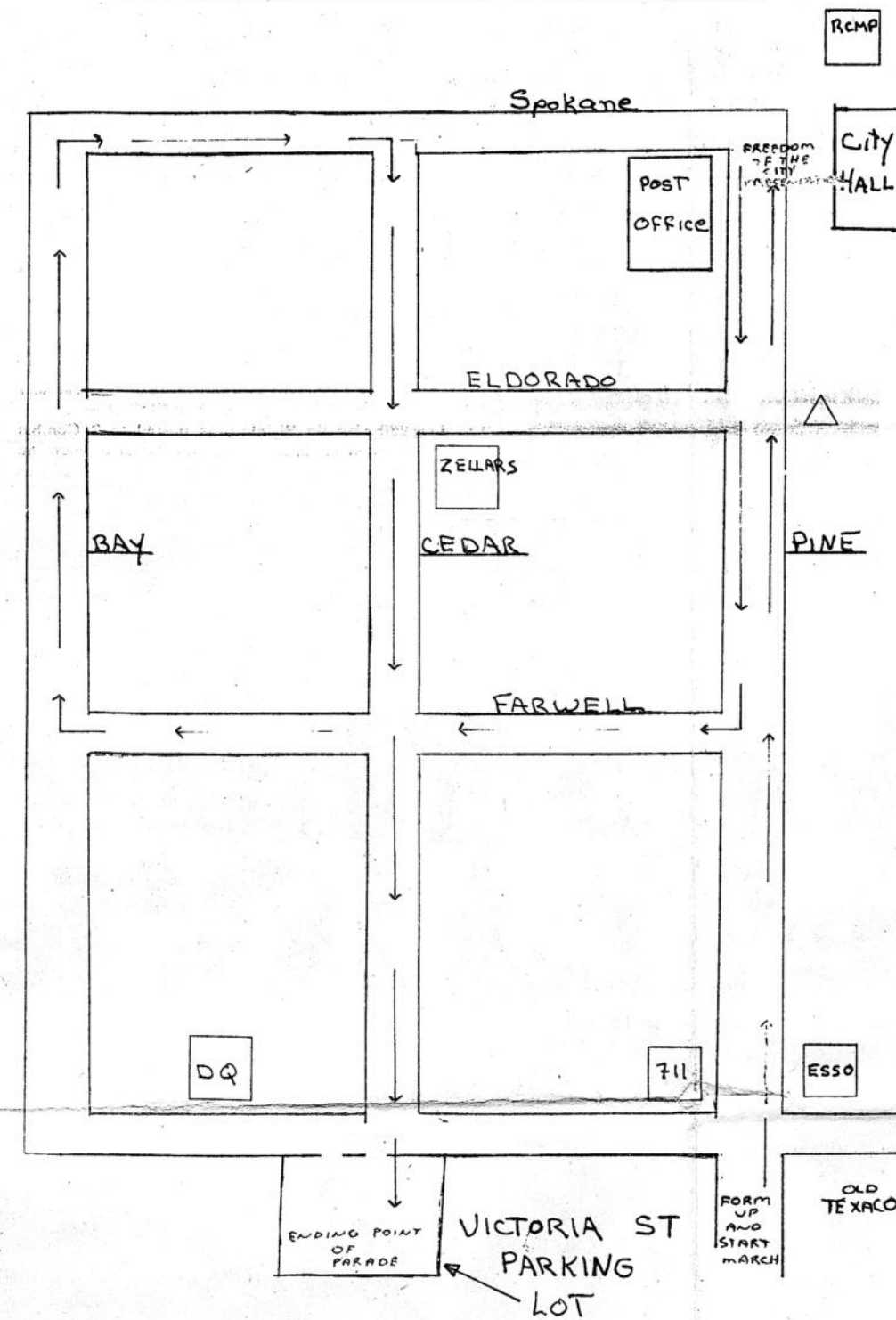
The present Armory was constructed in 1953 and upon completion of the building the unit relocated into it. The Squadron shared the armory with the 24th MAA (Medium Anti-Aircraft), formally the 109 Field Battery of the 24th (Kootenay) Field Brigade, and a company of the CWAC (Canadian Women Army Corps).

The Squadron has been distinguished by winning three Hertzberg Trophies for the best Militia Engineer tasks Canada-wide. The first was in 1981 with the demolition of a dam near Stewart, B.C. The second took place with the construction of a road on Red Mountain in 1982. The final award took place in 1984 with the building of a suspension bridge at Zuckerberg Island, Castlegar.

The unit has also done many other projects in the community such as the building of a weapons range at Casino and road and bridge repair, to name a few.

All in all June 9th marks a very important day for 44th Field Engineer Squadron, the Freedom of the City an honor well deserved and deeply appreciated by the unit.

PARADE ROUTE



ASSAULT water crossing on the Columbia River across from Cominco.



BRIDGE construction — Nancy Greene / Blueberry Paulson area.



City of Trail

Trail City Council is pleased to honor the 44th Field Engineer Squadron with the Freedom of the city.

The Squadron members have assisted the city on numerous occasions in dealing with floods, land slips and other natural emergencies. The Squadron has also helped in a variety of projects of benefit to Trail sport organizations and clubs and local athletes.

The Citizens of our Trail are indebted to the 44th Field Engineer Squadron and its members over the years and it is fitting that the City's highest honor be bestowed on the Squadron in this anniversary year.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

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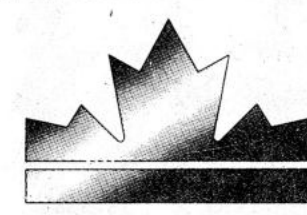
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Congratulates
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CONGRATULATIONS

To the 44 Field Engineer
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We salute your leadership
and outstanding contri-
butions. Your strength,
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