

Carolyn Cooper

I was in the Canadian Military from 1984-1995 as a Signals Operator and as an ICU nurse. I served in Bosnia in 1994-1995 for 7 months with the Royal Canadian Dragoons as an ICU nurse. During the Ice Storm in 1998 I coordinated the medical services in the Ottawa and rural areas around Ottawa, once again with the Royal Canadian Dragoons who were in charge of this operation.

Patrick Dallaire

I joined the Canadian forces In April 1990, after my 10 week recruit training in St Jean Quebec, I went to Borden, Ont for my Supply Technician course. In 1991 I was posted to CFB Comox, BC where I worked with the search and rescue squadron as Supply Tech until my departure in 1993 to CFB Petawawa. I stayed in Petawawa until 2000. During my time there I worked with 2 Service Battalion and the Royal Canadian Dragoons (Armoured Corps).

In addition I did 2 tours overseas, both in Bosnia from July 1994 - February 1995 and from December 1998 - August 1999. In 2000, I was posted to the NATO Air Base in Geilenkirchen, Germany where I remained until 2004. My last posting was in Ottawa from 1994 - May 8 1998, which is the date I retired from the Canadian Forces as a Sergeant.

Today, I still provide logistical and supply support to Canadian Forces as a Public Servant with the Department of National Defence.

2005 was designated as the National Year of the Veteran. Since that time, we have taken this opportunity to recall the variety of ways people have served or are serving.



In Flanders Fields

By: Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, MD (1872-1918)

Canadian Army

IN FLANDERS FIELDS the poppies blow

**Between the crosses row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.**

**We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.**

**Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.**



Service, so that when war was declared I was serving as junior officer on a ship in the port of Churchill, loading a cargo of wheat for the United Kingdom.

The next three years were spent mostly on the North Atlantic carrying war supplies from the United States to Britain, usually sailing in convoys of 30 to 100 ships. In the early days many ships were lost to U-boats, but conditions improved as more escorts became available, particularly with the advent of the great little Canadian Corvette.

On April 16th, 1942 I was serving as second officer of the 'Empire Dryden'. We had sailed the previous day from New York carrying a cargo of ammunitions, aircraft parts and rations, bound to the port of Alexandria, Egypt. At 9 pm. we were torpedoed and the ship sank in a very few minutes. All 51 crew members were able to get off the ship and we divided into two lifeboats. Some three weeks later, those of us in my boat were picked up by an American passenger ship. The other boat with 25 men was never found. All ships at that time were under strict instructions not to stop for any reason, as all kinds of decoys were being used to attract targets. That captain chose to disregard those orders and rescued us.

"The Wondrous Works of the Lord"!!! Ps. 107

The following years were spent mostly on ships supplying the armed forces during the North African landings and following up through Sicily and Italy. The highlight of that period happened in Bari, a small port in southeast Italy. On Dec. 2, 1943 aircraft bombed the harbour and sank 15 allied ships, most of which were loaded with ammunitions. The explosions and devastation were horrific. Five ships only were left floating and the "Empire Sunbeam" in which I was serving as Chief Officer, was one of them.

S. Ray Julian

Enlisted in the Royal Canadian Signals in 1950.

Overseas tours – Vientiane, Laos, Phnom Cambodia,

at all in the spring of 1945.

When the war in Europe was over, in May 1945, the war in the Pacific was still raging. The Dutch colonies in the East Indies were still held by the Japanese. In record time an expeditionary force was assembled in Holland, and sent to the Far East. I was part of that force.

It took a troop transport ship 21 or 22 days to go from Rotterdam to Jakarta. I became part of the Royal Dutch East Indies Forces and entered a world of insurgency and guerilla warfare. On my 21st birthday, during skirmishes in West Java, I was hit by shrapnel from a hand grenade. After a week in a military hospital I was back with my unit. I cannot describe my feelings of gratitude for this miracle. I had come incredibly close to serious damage or possibly death. All I had was a scar, and in time the eyebrow grew back again and made the scar almost invisible. In 1949 the Dutch East Indies ceased to exist and became the Republic of Indonesia.

It was only after I had returned home, after four years of military service, that I realized that my mother had suffered more than anyone else. When I was in the hospital I had written her what had happened and I had apologized for writing such a short letter. My excuse was that it was difficult to write with one eye. To her this meant that I had lost an eye; to me it just meant that it was bandaged. When she finally saw me again I knew that she had expected my face to be disfigured, and that in all her letters after the incident she had never wanted to ask me about it.

terranean, Caribbean, and Central America. Deployed on HMCS Protector during the Gulf War in 1990-1991 and acted as deck officer and boarding party officer. Served on seven fishery patrols off the Grand Banks, boarding and inspecting trawlers from countries such as Spain, Ukraine, Japan, Portugal and Thailand. Trained as unarmed United Nations Military Observer 1992 and deployed to Cambodia in 1993 for monitoring of cease-fire and elections. After successful elections and confirmation of withdrawal of Vietnamese troops, readied for deployment to Rwanda. Deployment to Rwanda cancelled by Canadian government. 1995 trained for deployment to Croatia to serve as UNMO in Krajinas (Serb population). Before deployment to Zagreb, Croat Army invaded region and conducted ethnic cleansing – mission cancelled. Trained for deployment to Israel on border with Egypt, mission cancelled. 1999 posted to Ottawa to work in National Defense Command Center monitoring national and international missions. Worked as watch officer during Kosovo War (bombings and covert insertions), during several natural disasters (flooding in Manitoba & Quebec, forest fires in British Columbia) and during withdrawal of UN forces from Sierra Leone. Last watches during 9/11 and post-9/11 emergency preparedness.

Art van Draanen

I am glad that we have Remembrance Day and that we take the time to remember those we lost. We did not do that, could not do that, and were discouraged from doing that at the time of their death.

I need to mention here that my parents had suffered immensely during the war. We lived in Rotterdam, the second largest city in the Netherlands and the largest port in Europe. The Germans bombed, and completely destroyed the city in May 1940, and after that the Allies regularly bombed the port. During the last year of the war my only brother was killed in one of those now daily air raids. The last year of the war also brought severe food shortages, culminating in no food

Hanoi, North Vietnam, Saigon South Vietnam with the International Supervisory and Control Commission (Geneva Convention). Kolsas, Norway – Allied Forces Northern Europe (North Atlantic Treaty Organization – NATO) Postings in Canada were at various locations including Alert, Ellesmere Island.

Retired from the military in 1980. Joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1980 as a civilian and served at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in Mons, Belgium and in 1985 was transferred to a position with Headquarters Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia and was located with a lodger unit at the Naval Weapons Station, Yorktown, Virginia. Retired from NATO in 1996

William (Bill) MacIver

Bill joined the Regular Army in 1951 and was commissioned as second lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Infantry Corps later that year. During his career he served in the Royal Canadian Regiment and the Regiment of Canadian Guards. He served as an infantry commander and staff officer in various locations in Canada and also in Korea and Germany. He is a graduate of the Canadian Army Staff College and is the recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal and the Canadian Forces Decoration. He left the military in 1966 with the rank of Major, to pursue a career in the Public Service. He continues to serve as an executive director with the Canadian Guards Association. His involvement includes matters relating to membership, assisting individuals with disability pension applications and the Regimental Museum located at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa. In the summer of 2008, he was selected, as part of a government sponsored delegation, to go to Korea to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice.

Pat (Madeleine) McEwing

W303827 CPL MCEWING. M.T.

I enlisted in the RCAF (Women's Division) in the early part of 1942 when they lowered the age limit. I was a

clerk admin (secretary) and did my military training at #6 Manning Depot I Toronto. I was then posted to RCAF Station Rockcliffe, Ontario. We worked in Ottawa during the day and were transported to Rockcliffe at night. I was responsible for ordering aircraft parts and components for aircraft here in Canada. I was then in charge of all the establishments for all the Service flying schools plus the vehicles and equipment – working for 7 officers – keeping all amendments up to date. In 1943 I was posted to #9 Bombing and Gunnery School where we trained the air gunners and flight engineers to be sent overseas. I worked in the orderly room on the updating of their test results and medical records. Following this, in 1944, I was posted to Station uplands where I was secretary to officers who were working on the ongoing supply of aircraft and vehicles to all Service Flying Training stations and Elementary Flying Service depots. I was on the Guard of Honour with 50 airwomen and 50 airmen. We were called out whenever a VIP came to Ottawa on things pertaining to the war. I was married on Nov. 10, 1945 and honourably discharged in 1946.

Allen B. Fraser

I served in the Canadian Army from 1942 – 1946, having arrived in the United Kingdom in the spring of 1944 and serving in action with the Stormont District Glengarry Highlanders in Belgium, Germany, and Holland until the end of the war.

Bette Jones

From 1941 – 1946, I served as Corporal with the Royal Signal Corps as a switch board supervisor in the southern part of England, mostly in the London area.

Lieutenant Commander Jamie MacKay

Jamie joined the Canadian Forces in 1976 entering the Royal Military College in Kingston Ontario. Upon graduation in 1980 he completed further training in Victoria BC and Borden, Ontario and joined the Fleet in

Halifax, NS.

Highlights of his career include: working in the Saint John, NB shipyard during the Navy Frigate construction program, being a member of the initial crew of the new HMCS Regina, sailing through the Panama Canal, visiting many countries in South East Asia and the Pacific rim, serving as the Support Co-ordinator at the Canadian Task force in devastated Dili, East Timor after the violence of August 1999, and working with Aussies and Kiwis, running a naval support unit from the desert during the second Gulf War, and again working with Aussies and Kiwis, training Canadian Forces Logistics Officers, (tri service) in Borden, meeting people from diverse backgrounds from around the world. Jamie has served in every major ship class in service in the Canadian Navy as the Ship's Supply officer and has held a number of senior appointments and joint positions ashore. Jamie holds the rank of Lieutenant Commander and expects to retire from uniformed service in the next year or so.

Stuart Preston

I joined the Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reserve from school on my 18th birthday in April of 1944. Basic training was received at HMCS Carleton at Dows Lake in Ottawa, advanced training at Cornwallis Nova Scotia, then to HMCS Lisgar at the dockyard in Halifax. In Feb. 1946 I was honourably discharged from Montreal HMCS Donacona. In 1947, I joined the army in Kingston, Ontario. Postings included: Petawawa; Wainwright, Alberta; Kingston; Vancouver; Germany; Borden; and Shilo, Manitoba, retiring from the Army in 1972.

Colin McKeown

Twenty-one years service in the Canadian Navy. Trained as communicator, weapons officer of a frigate and navigator. Served on three NATO deployments of four-six months each during the Cold War. Sailed throughout the world with United States and British navies such as Europe, Medi-