

# Armed forces stay unified

## Review of Tory recommendations 'quite a smother job'—McKinnon

OTTAWA (CP) — The armed forces will remain unified and the three services will still wear the same green uniform but there will be some changes, including a bigger voice for the top service commanders, says Defence Minister Gilles Lamontagne.

Lamontagne said Wednesday there were "too many benefits—real benefits—that have resulted from unification for us to tamper with this basic concept."

So, he rejected proposals by a unification study group for separate uniforms for the army, navy and air force elements. He also turned down some other recommendations

that would have tied military personnel more closely to any one of the services.

But the minister said at a news conference he had accepted a key study group proposal bringing the top commanders of the air, land and sea elements into the defence council and defence management committee. That means these senior service commanders will once again have a say in the top decision-making bodies in the defence department.

Former Conservative defence minister, Allan McKinnon, who set up the study group a year ago, said he thought it was "quite a smother job" Lamontagne and his department had done to the group's recommendations.

"They make a great deal about supporting some of the minor recommendations," he said. But the separate uniform idea was turned down even though the departmental review of the study group report offered evidence supporting the idea.

George Fyffe, a retired naval officer who headed the study group, applauded Lamontagne's decision to give the top service commanders a place on the defence council and management committee, but bitterly condemned the decision to reject separate service uniforms.

However, Frank Caldwell, a Navy League official and retired naval officer, said he thought "there are things that are much higher priority" than fighting for separate uniforms.

"I hope sincerely for the forces that they allow this thing to go to sleep for a while," he added.

Lamontagne's announcement ends a 12-month review of the controversial unification problem. Fyffe's group reported to him in May and he ordered a departmental review of the report to see what should be carried out.

The armed forces were unified in the late 1960s de-

spite angry upheaval within the forces, including resignations by senior military officers.

Lamontagne said he had implemented or would take action on 20 of the 30 study group recommendations. He also gave "qualified support" to three others and rejected the remaining seven outright.

He said unification had given the country "more defence effectiveness from each dollar expended than we would have obtained from three separate services."

The centralized command system helped the forces to mount a combined land, sea and air operation more quickly and efficiently than before unification.

However, the study group said it was difficult to say whether the armed forces were more effective from a fighting standpoint than they were before unification.

The defence minister quoted from the departmental review report in defending his decision against allowing separate uniforms for the army, navy and air force. The review report said "a return to three uniforms at this time would do nothing to change the substance of unification and would merely create an illusion of separateness."

The review report also said it would cost \$26.4 million over five years to introduce new uniforms for the services. McKinnon said there was no evidence offered to back up this cost claim.

The armed forces already allow officers and lower ranks to buy their own white summer uniforms as an option.

Gen. Ramsey Withers, chief of defence staff, said the defence department planned to request money for issuing tan uniforms to all servicemen for summer wear. The official ceremonial uniform would remain green and the white summer outfit would remain optional.

## 'Violence' leading killer of under-45s

VANCOUVER (CP) — A professor of surgery has told the Canadian Medical Association that violence is now the leading death cause for Canadians under age 45 and last year 16,000 Canadians died violently in traffic, recreational and industrial accidents, murders and suicides.

Dr. Bill Ghent of Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., said Wednesday that another 500,000 people were injured as a result of that violence.

For the population as a whole, only heart disease and cancer kill more people than violence.

However, in 1976, Canada spent \$7 million for cardiovascular research, \$4.5 million for cancer research and only \$220,000 to study violent deaths and injuries, he said.

Ghent applauded the association, which represents Canada's 33,000 doctors, for approving \$10,000 at its annual convention this week to establish a Canadian Trauma Foundation.

The foundation will educate Canadians about the dangers of everyday living, similar to the Canadian Cancer Society and the Canadian Heart Foundation.

"The public is not aware of the danger they face year in and year out," Ghent said. "We all have the ostrich syndrome. We all consider that we're

not going to die, we're the first humans to be immortal and that we justly deserve it. That's not true. We're all going to die."

Ghent said people must be educated to accept some responsibility for themselves, "not only through the pocketbook, but basic CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), which should be a skill we all possess to indeed be our brother's keeper."

"There's not much point in the most sophisticated transportation system, most sophisticated coronary care unit, when you drop to the ground and your wife flits around arranging flowers instead of thumping on your chest."

Besides education, other means to prevent violent deaths include better ambulance and paramedic systems, Ghent said. He praised B.C. and urged other provinces to look at it.

Ghent said paramedics with a quick response time can save 20 per cent of heart attack victims who might otherwise die before reaching hospital.

The first motor vehicle fatality in North America occurred on the streets of New York City in 1908, "when a male chauvinist, alighting from a streetcar, stopped to hand down a lady passenger."

For his chivalry he was knocked down by a horseless carriage.

## B.C. starts informal Kaiser probe

VANCOUVER (CP) — B.C.'s superintendent of brokers has begun an informal investigation into trading in shares and share options which preceded B.C. Resources Investment Corp.'s takeover bid of Kaiser Resources Ltd.

Rupert Bullock said depending on outcome of the inquiry, he might issue an order for a formal investigation with powers to subpoena witnesses.

"I accept the fact that there were rumors, but what I'm looking for is evidence," said Bullock, referring to suggestions that corporate insiders had advance knowledge of the bid.

Bullock reported last Thursday he found nothing wrong or illegal in the offer by BCRIC on Sept. 2 to buy Kaiser shares at \$55, about 70 per cent more than the trading price at the time the offer was made.

He said subsequent disclosure of heavy trading in Kaiser shares and share options on the Toronto Stock Exchange in three days preceding the BCRIC bid prompted the new inquiry.

Bullock announced the inquiry after receiving a letter from opposition justice critic Alex Macdonald (NDP—Vancouver East). Macdonald, former attorney-general, called for an investigation into trading in Kaiser shares and share options during the period.

Bullock's investigation follows similar action announced last week by the Ontario Securities Commission in the wake of reports of high volume of trading on the Toronto Stock Exchange in option contracts for exercise in October at a price of \$40.

## Labor asks delayed Tel hearing

The Victoria Labor Council has supported a move to deal a financial punch to B.C. Tel.

It took the step Wednesday night after Gil Hague of the Telecommunications Workers Union said it is obvious the company is headed toward a lockout situation and that it could benefit by such action.

Delegates to the regular council meeting approved his motion requesting that the CRTC delay B.C. Tel rate hearings until the company has signed a new collective agreement with its 11,000-member union.

The motion also says that if the employees are forced out, the CRTC should deduct from the company's revenue an amount equaling the payroll savings.

Hague said one of the main obstacles in the way of contract settlement is the company's refusal to accept a conciliator's recommendations concerning job jurisdiction.

He accused the company of wanting the right to move many more people than necessary into the management category. The ratio now, he said, is about 3.7 workers to each member of the supervisory team.

"Jurisdiction means a lot to us," Hague said. "Eventually there will be no union."

## Missing hunter returns

A search involving a Sooke rescue team and an RCMP helicopter, a tracking dog and dogmaster was called off shortly after noon Wednesday, when a missing hunter was reported safely home.

The search was organized after Sandy Morris reported his 28-year-old nephew, David Sylvester, of 1111 Admirals, failed to show up for a rendezvous Tuesday evening.

Members of the Sooke search and rescue team began scouring an area near Shield's Lake at the end of Harborview Road where Sylvester went off on his own Tuesday afternoon stalking deer.

Sylvester, who said he was tired and hungry but otherwise uninjured, said in a telephone interview Wednesday afternoon that he got lost shortly after dark and fired a couple of

shots from his .303-calibre rifle in efforts to gain some attention.

When that failed, Sylvester decided to bed down for the night between two logs. He said it was cold overnight that he was unable to get much sleep.

In the morning, he heard some cow bells and began heading for the sound, eventually coming to a road and walking out.

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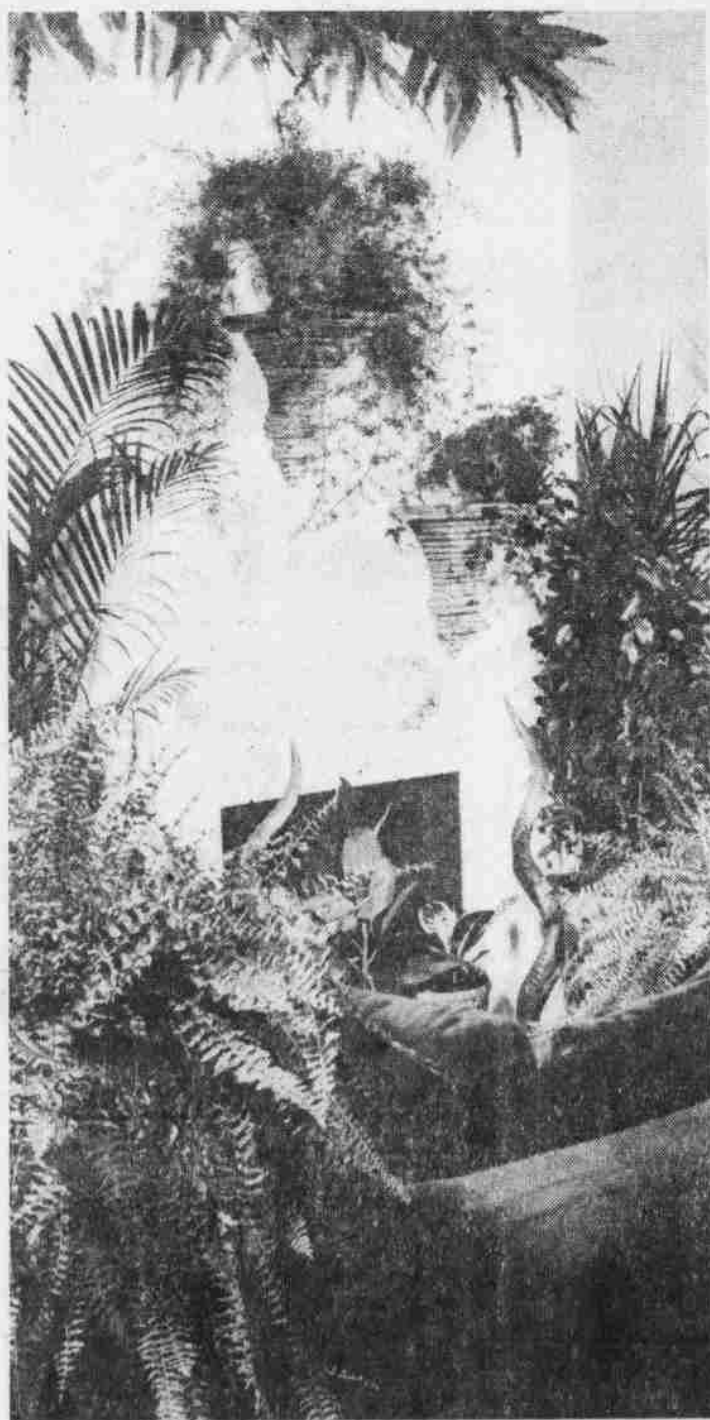
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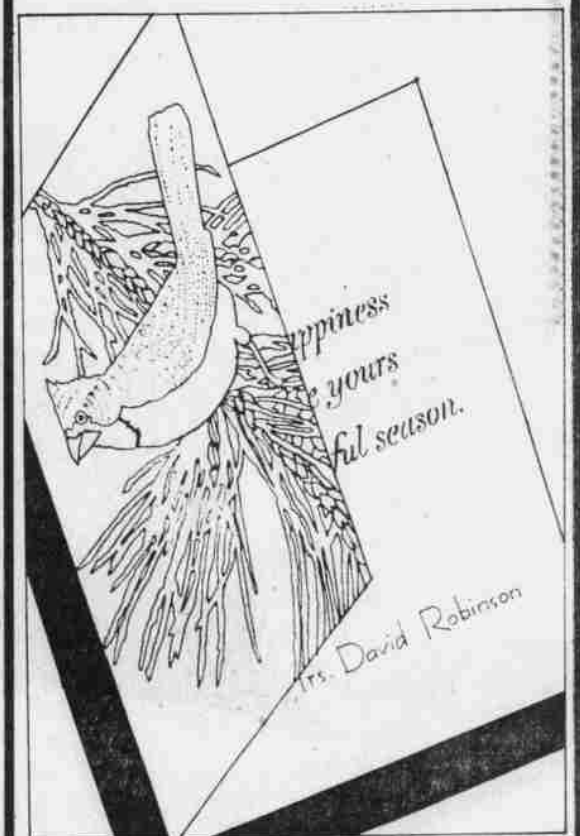
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