

# Governor-General's Award Finally Catches up With Whitehorse Scout Hero

Pauls Roy

It's official now. Roy Paul, 16, of 123 Humewood Drive, Belleville yesterday was finally awarded a Certificate of Meritorious Conduct from the Governor-General for the rescue of four young girls lost in the night and the snow near Whitehorse, N.W.T. during March of 1962.

Roy was Patrol Leader Roy Paul at the time, a Queen's Scout in the scout troop at the RCAF Station at Whitehorse. The four girls — all about 12 years old and one of them Roy's sister, started to walk from the married quarters of the station to the Department of Transport area. They chose to walk directly, crossing through a cleared area of bush, rather than follow the road. They left about three o'clock in sub-zero weather.

When the girls didn't return for supper, at about six o'clock, J. Leslie Paul, Roy's father, set out to look for them. He drove along the road the girls should have followed, and saw the tracks where they had cut through the brush. He tried to follow, but broke through the crust on the snow and floundered waist-deep. He returned to his home and set about organizing a search party.

While the search party was being organized, Roy put on his own snowshoes and set out to track the girls. He found them within an hour, huddled in a three-sided shelter, cold and tired. They had lost their way less than a mile from the houses of the married quarters.

There was nothing Roy could do for them, so he walked back out, and returned with the search party. The girls were carried home, by the search party, about 10 o'clock.

Roy was recommended for the Governor-General's Award in recognition of his act, but a hitch came up when the award was to be presented. Such awards are normally presented on Feb. 22 — Lord Baden Powell's birthday — but Roy had moved to Belleville by then, and was no longer associated with scouts.

The award was forwarded to Belleville and finally presented yesterday by Percival Pickering, President of the District Council of the Boy Scouts, and Murray Maw, Boy Scout District Commissioner in an unofficial ceremony.

The presentation came just in time — next month Roy will be moving with his family to Penticton, B.C.



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**AT LAST** — 16-year-old Roy Paul, of 123 Humewood Drive, Belleville, was presented the Governor - General's Certificate of Meritorious Conduct yesterday, in recognition of his rescue of four girls, lost in the Northwest Territories, more than a year ago. Making the presentation are Percival Pickering, President of the District Council of the Boy Scouts, and Murray Maw, Boy Scouts District Commissioner.