Standing on bridges

It was a somber, moving vigil on the bridges spanning Highway 401 across Northumberland County last Sunday evening. Crowds gathered to honour the funeral procession of the the six Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan July 4: Captain Jefferson Francis, 1st Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, based in Shilo, Man.; Master Corporal Colin Bason, a B.C.-based reservist; and Corporal Jordan Anderson, Captain Matthew Johnathan Dawe, Corporal Cole Bartsch and Private Lane Watkins, all with the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry based in Edmonton. Alta.

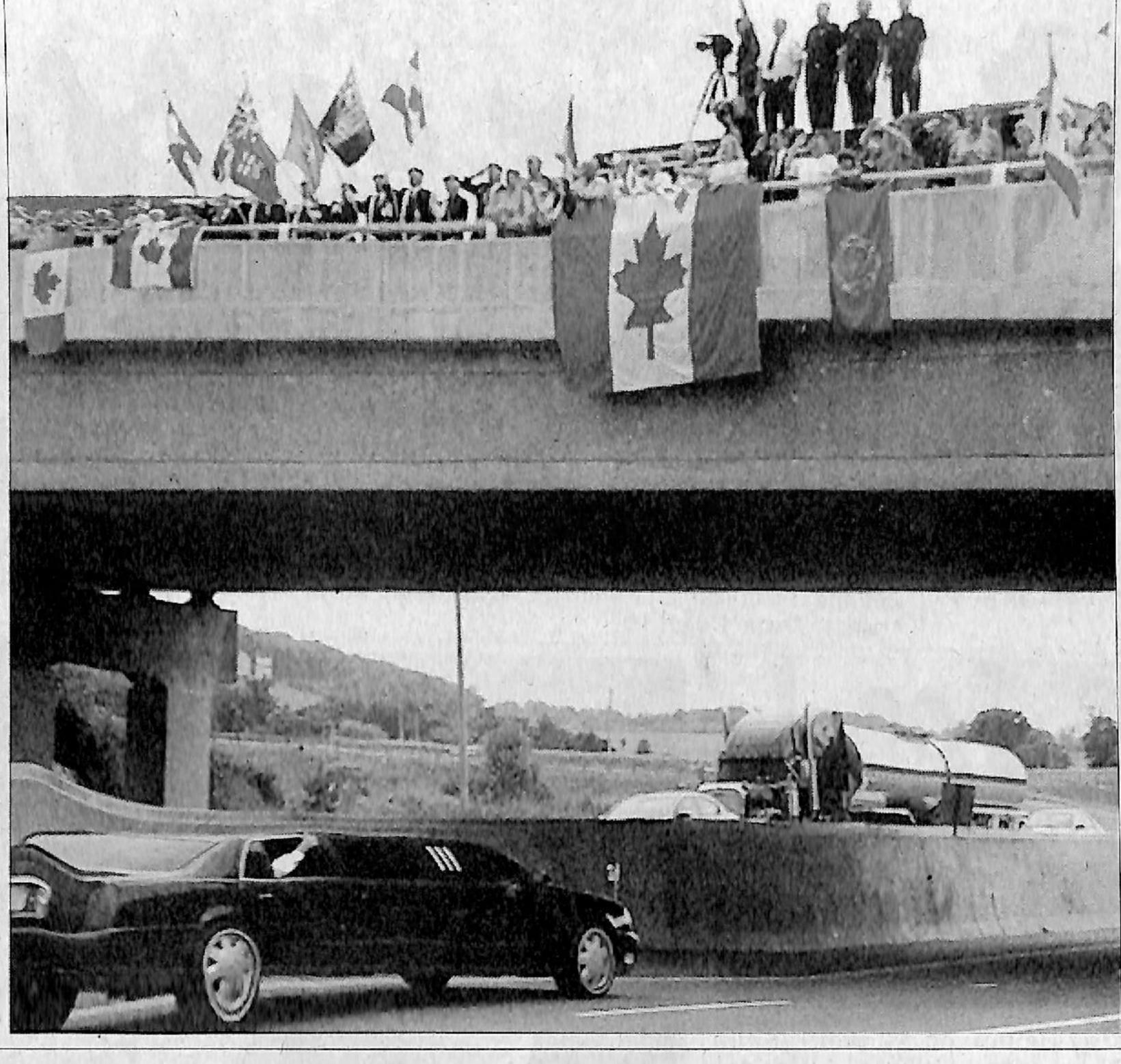
BRIGHTON, RIGHT

PHOTO BY JOYCE CASSIN

At Brighton, County Rd. 30 overpass, right, the bridge was lined with patriotic citizens, firefighters, police, ambulance, the Royal Canadian Legion Colour Guard. People were even lined up in the south parking lot. As the six-hearse procession passed below, a family member in one hearse signalled a thumbs-up.

COLBORNE, BELOW

At Herley Road overpass at Colborne, below, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 187 Colour Guard gave the Salute of Farewell as the procession passed below. Cramahe Fire Fighters stood at attention on a fire truck while an estimated 140 people saluted, waves and indicated their support for the families of the fallen soldiers.





Alnwick/ Haldimand seeks ATV advice

By Bob Owen lowen@xplornet.com

At its July 5 meeting, Alnwick/Haldimand Township did what its Deputy Clerk, Robin vandeMoosdyk predicted. In a recorded 6-1 vote, with Councillor Bill Holmes the only opponent, the township voted to seek the advice of its lawyer and the provincial Municipal Affairs Department before it decides what to do with a draft ATV proposal.

The proposal made by a committee of council would have allowed the operation of ATVs on all township roads, but carried with it stringent restraints for ATV users.

After a brief discussion, an amendment by Councillor Ray Benns won the day. In the amended resolution, council opted to consult its lawyer, Wayne Fairbrother and Municipal Services Planner Michael Keene, then the township's ATV committee, before going any further.

The controlled discussion did not sit well with at least two residents who felt that, by the time there was public input, it would be a done deal.

It was necessary for Mayor Bill Finley to clamp down heavily on a couple of members of the audience of about 40 who threatened to break protocol and turn the council discussion into an open debate.

In a phone interview July 4, the deputy clerk anticipated the township would hold a public meeting before any decision was made to create a bylaw covering the use of the vehicles on township property.

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