



Ray Ollivier, with the hat, shows his brother Bob, of Georgetown, the routes of his travels during the past eight years in Asia. Ray just returned Friday from Johannesburg, South Africa.

World traveller returns home after eight years on the road

The Ollivier family of Georgetown welcomed home Saturday one of its members who has been travelling and living in distant parts.

Eight years ago on June 28, 1969, when he was 31, Ray Ollivier said goodbye to his parents, Ray and Lillian Ollivier, his siblings and friends to leave on a journey that would take him and some companions overland from Europe to Tokyo, Japan, in time to Expo 70.

On Friday, after a 19-hour flight from Johannesburg, South Africa, Ray stepped into his mother's kitchen and shook some of the dust off his 15,000 mile journey from his hat.

The journey began August 10, 1969 in a Hovercraft crossing the English channel to Calais, France. With Ray were five companions outfitted with a Land Rover and a Morris van. Their budget was \$15 a week. They got as far as New Delhi, India, before the expedition broke up and went its separate way.

At that point they had crossed Europe to Vienna, toured Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, the Black Sea, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and finally India. "We were quite an unusual outfit," Ray told The Herald.

His trip was packed with adventure, sound and sights almost enough for a lifetime and in the myriad of events are two at least he remembers which keep alive the old saying that "It's a small world."

The first was in Florida, Greece where Ray had instructions from the Karolitis family of Georgetown to visit their family in the village from which they come.

When the party arrived they discovered that no one in the village could understand anything but Greek. Finally a school master was brought who could speak English and told them the Karolitis' were in the fields and were not expected back until 5 p.m., Ray said. But when the schoolmaster discovered the purpose of their visit, "that turned on the whole village," he said and the group were offered banana cognac.

Another incident was when Ray was thumbing a ride into Istanbul. The driver of the first car to stop, a sports car, was from Streetsville, Ontario. But the tiny car was too small to accommodate Ray's six foot, six inch frame and the driver went off, never to be seen again, he said.

When the trip broke up in New Delhi, Ray made plans to go to southern Africa, spend about four months there and move on. Instead, he stayed seven years and got married. His two children and wife, he expects to bring over within the next six months.

In 1972, after working as a buyer for a burglar alarm company and some other administrative jobs, "there came a little recession," he said, "and I got the chop."

He formed Afri-Can Features, a film company he still owns. His plans include exhibiting some films he brought with him to audiences in Georgetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Ollivier visited their son for three months in 1973, the year he met Peggy Watson, his future wife.

Mrs. Ollivier said they were surprised when their son called two weeks ago to inform them of his return. "We're glad to see him back."

Actonians to meet with province

Though it has been reported that Actonians for Action have been granted a meeting with provincial officials to look at the possibility of Acton re-establishing a separate identity in Halton region, no one has bothered to tell committee members.

Vice-chairman of the Acton ratepayers group Norm Elliott says that they have heard nothing from the government since they made their application to meet with treasurer, Darcy McKeough.

He says he explained how the situation stood to a reporter who called him recently but that reporter then called the ministry and found out about the meeting on his own.

So far as the committee goes there has been no communication from the government, not even so much as a telephone call let alone anything in writing to say when the meeting is to be held or who they will see.

The fact that the Region's Bill 151 committee has also asked the government to take another look at regional government won't hurt their cause when they get to Queen's Park, says Mr. Elliott. But what the Acton committee wants is not the same as the study regional government is asking for.

"We are asking that they do a feasibility study on whether Acton could function on its own in the region," says Mr. Elliott. "The region wants an over-all look at the way regional government is functioning. It was obvious when we met them that they had other problems to worry about besides what we wanted."

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FOR FALL 1977

PUBLISHED BY THE HERALD

Team policing study

Several persons have been questioning Mayor Harry Barrett about the experiment in Burlington on team policing, and Mayor Barrett is upset he is being questioned on the report when the police commissioners have not yet seen it.

Mayor Barrett, speaking at the police commission meeting on Thursday, in Oakville, said Dr. David Jackson, a psychologist who prepared the report, should appear before the police commission.

Team policing is designed to recreate the old-style image of the policeman on his own beat, knowing most of the people he serves. The advantage to the system is the opportunity for personal contact between the policeman and the public.

The three-year-old experiment apparently justifies team policing in Halton, Dr. Jackson said when the preliminary draft of the report was reviewed by Halton Police Chief Ken Skerrett, police commission officials and representatives of the solicitor-general's office at a closed meeting Aug. 16.

Mayor Barrett said the report will have to be a commission's decision because it will be a budgetary item.

Chief Ken Skerrett criticized the press for printing information on team policing and said the "press always dig up dirt." He said he based that comment on 31 years experience of dealing with the press.

As for the report, Chief Skerrett said he didn't buy the suggestion that team policing spread throughout Halton county.

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Tire contract awarded

Firestone Tires of Georgetown is awarded a contract for 125 tires for District 1 of Halton Regional Police. Quotations submitted to Chief Ken Skerrett, which he presented at a police commission meeting held Thursday in Oakville are for police special radials summer tires and snow tires and include the cost for balancing.



NEW EQUIPMENT

Lorne Scots Cadets try out new equipment. Some members of the 676 Lorne Scots Cadet Corps took to the water in their new assault boats. This will be part of the training taking place in the Georgetown Army Cadets this year.

First Canadian photo course

Sheridan College is offering the first Canadian course in biological photography. The two-year diploma course runs one evening starting Sept. 29 and will also include some weekend workshops. The course is sponsored by the Toronto chapter of the Biological Photography Association and is designed for those people interested in a career in the fields of dentistry, forensic science, medicine, ophthalmology, veterinary medicine or natural sciences.

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