Retired general was NEC director

A Quebec native and an Oakville resident, Brigadier-General Gerald Coffin, executive director of the Nisgara Escarpment Commission (NEC), died suddenly of a heart attack in Owen Sound Jan. 8. He was 61.

NEC chairman Ivor McMullin called him "a superb administrator and a gentleman who had the respect of all those who had the privilege of working with him and knowing him".

Born Jan. 12, 1919, in Gaspe, Quebec, a descendant of an old



G.R.A. COFFIN

Nantucket whaling family, Gerald Coffin attended Dalhousie and Queen's universities, graduating from the latter with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1938.

Having joined the militia as a gunner two years earlier, Mr. Coffin embarked on a 37-year military career that ended with his retirement from the Canadian Armed Forces as Brigadier-General seven years ago. He was at that time Chief of Staff, Support Services, Air Transport Command, Trenton.

As commander of emergency military response in aid of civil power in Ontario, Brigadier-General Coffin was involved in both the 1970 "October Crisis" and the 1971 prison riot at Kingston Penitentiary, Canada's largest and most serious such incident.

As executive director of the NEC, a job he assumed in late 1974; Mr. Coffin was senior staff member involved in the preparation of the master NEC

General Coffin was affiliated with the Knights of Grace of the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem, the Order of Canada, the St. John Ambulance Council for Ontario and the Scouting and Military Cadets.

He is survived by wife Jean, three daughters - Martha and Ann of Oakville and Susan Burgess of Ottawa - and son Peter of Hull, Quebec.

Funeral services were held Monday in Oakville.

No more school holiday Nov. 11?

The Halton board of education voted Thursday to support a resolution calling for the abolition of Remembrance Day as a school holi-

Circulated by the Hamilton board of education, the resolution suggested that children stay in school on Remembrance Day, and that the schools provide appropriate memorial programs.

The board received the resolution at its last meeting, but decided to consult various Legion branches in the region before endorsing it. Director of education Em

Lavender told the board all the Legion branches support the move to delete the holiday, provided the board make an effort to ensure suitable memorial programs are provided.

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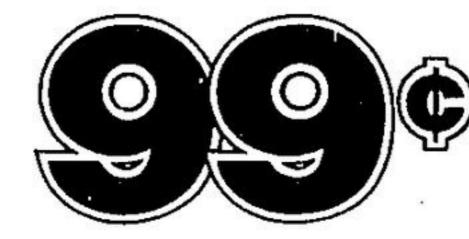
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Box-O-CHICKEN

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