



Ready, set, march. The 756 Georgetown air cadets squadron was out in fine force last week. After inspecting the young men and women in green uniform, Brigadier General J.H. Roddick of Downsview told them that "every cadet on parade is a winner". This is the 42nd year of the air cadet movement. Originally formed to select teens to join the Royal Canadian Air Force, the movement's purpose later became to develop attributes of good citizenship, good physical health and interest in the Canadian military forces. Each summer 250 cadets are selected for special summer camps in leadership and 60 for exchange visits abroad. (Herald photos by Anl Pederian)



The 14th annual inspection for squadron 756 of the air cadets included the presentation of awards to outstanding young members of the squadron. Receiving trophies were (front row, left to right) Leading Air Cadet (LAC) Joel Brown for "Best dressed cadet of the year", Warrant Officer (WO) Elizabeth Groskorth for "Marksmanship", Corporal Dave Collier for "Most Improved band member", (back row) Corporal Arnaud Ng for "Best First-year Cadet", Flight Sergeant Frank Bernhardt for "Most Congenial Cadet", Sergeant Wayne Devereaux for "Best Junior NCO", Flight Sergeant Darren Harvey for "Initiative and Enthusiasm", WO Dave Gourlay for "Air Cadet of the Year", and WO Pete Wodhams for Leadership.

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Acton boys among 27 presented Chief Scout Awards

Two Acton boys were among 27 Scouts honored last week with the presentation of the coveted Chief Scout Award.

Ken McKee and Ted Moysie of First Acton joined 25 other Scouts and one Venturer at Halton regional headquarters a week ago Sunday for a special ceremony arranged by Halton's provincial field executive, Bob Carlaw.

Following greetings from assistant provincial commissioner Jim Dills and an invocation by Rev. Paul Jackson of Oakville's Anglican parish, Burlington district commissioner Don McNaughton outlined the Chief Scout Award program as well as the Queen Venturer program for those in attendance.

Provincial commissioner Fred Wiskin then presented the awards, bestowing framed certificates signed by Governor-General Ed Schreyer to Acton's Ken and Ted as proud troop Scouter Robert McKee looked on.

Guest speaker Bob Gracey, Hornby's Rover leader, issued a challenge on Venturing and Rovering.



Ken McKee (left) and Ted Moysie of First Acton Scouts were among 27 area Scouts honored along with one Venturer last week when provincial Scouting commissioner Fred Wiskin presented them with the coveted Chief Scout Award. The boys' outstanding efforts in their troop activities earned them the special certificates signed by Governor-General Ed Schreyer. First Acton is led by Scouter Robert McKee and is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Acton.

(Photo by Jean Layman)

Robber hits local gas bar

A male gas bar cashier at John's Auto Service on Acton's Mill Street East was held up Friday night by a young man wearing a nylon stocking over his head and carrying a single-barrel sawed-off shotgun.

Halton regional police said the suspect was in his late teens, white, about 145 pounds and about 5 feet 6 inches tall.

The dark-haired thief, wearing blue jeans, a denim jacket and dark gloves ran off after the lone attendant handed over cash in the till.

There were no customers present at the time of the hold-up, which was 10 p.m. Nobody was injured and no arrests have yet been made. Halton regional police are investigating.

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MP decries our defence slump

By PAUL DORSEY
Herald editor

Canada's stature among member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has slipped so much that it "doesn't even figure" in many current military discussions, according to Brampton-Georgetown MP John McDermid.

The Progressive Conservative MP arrived home late last week from his first parliamentary trip involving a NATO conference on one of Portugal's Madeira Islands. Mr. McDermid was one of 12 MPs and senators who constituted Canada's delegation to the five-day conference.

As well as offering unanimous support to Great Britain in its war with Argentina over the Falkland Islands, Mr. McDermid told The Herald, the conference delegates brought each other up to date on current plans and resources and future expectations.

Canada's own military resources, while not directly criticized by delegates from other nations, were generally acknowledged as having declined substantially since the early 1960s, the MP said. Among several reports on NATO resources tabled at the conference, he noted, one which evaluated Canadian military manpower "was not flattering at all".

"(The delegates) were quite perturbed that Canada has more non-commissioned officers than privates," Mr. McDermid said. "But the biggest disappointment for me was that, in the discussions between the United States and Europe, Canada didn't even figure."

With Canada now ranked "ninth or tenth" among the NATO countries in

terms of military contributions, he added, delegates were also concerned that our reserve forces are already depleted and further cutbacks have been made recently.

"We've slipped very badly," he said. Mr. McDermid stressed, however, that Canada is still regarded highly by fellow NATO members, all of which share general concern over such issues as the nuclear arms build-up.

Around the conference table, he said, there was both a consensus of "fear over the Warsaw Pact"

and general optimism over Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev's recent call for arms limitations negotiations.

Sharing his fellow delegates' concern over the nuclear arms race, Mr. McDermid said he personally feels a nuclear confrontation and its resultant holocaust are "not why we were put on this earth".

The Canadian delegations visit to Portugal also included a visit to Portuguese parliament in Lisbon.

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