

Operation 'Bootstrap': Militants declare war

LIESHA WAGNER STAHL
Minister of Media Leaks

Tom Thekan squints his eyes and leans back in his studio/workshop located in the Campbellville Lumberyard Village. The fine furniture-maker/craftsman has been appointed secretary of Municipal Defence and Strategic Operations and war has been declared.

"It's not a destructive war though," he carefully points out, "but a constructive war. We don't want tanks and guns, but we do need innovative ideas, attitude re-adjustments and cooperation. We're going to put an end to this recession here and now and one of the keys to our success will be improved communications. We've already implemented changes to the existing local phone system here in Campbellville to make it more effective."

The Ministry has apparently now advocated the answering of phones with a positive, "It's a great day in Campbellville".

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Gord Greig

Economic Research Activity Network (E.A.R.N.)

To spearhead and coordinate this assault on the recession, a War Cabinet has been established, including Tom, furniture maker/craftsman; Gordon Greig — Secretary of Economic Activity Research Network (E.A.R.N.); businesswoman Oriana Currie — Minister of Communication, Information and Propaganda; antique dealers Phyllis Moore and John Aitken — Ministers of Penny Pinching and Dollar Doling and Minister of Economic Expansion respectively; and Liesha Wagner Stahl — "drafted" as Minister of Media Leaks.

The War Cabinet realizes the effects of this recession have been felt by every business, every level of government and each one of us individually — but believes we still have the talent, resources and the power to evoke change. They feel the glory days of the '80s have left us with bad business habits, sloppy

service and the complacency to allow them to continue.

"We have complete control over every transaction (encounter) that we engage in during the course of a day — whether we are the buyer or the seller," explains Tom. Another Minister says, "The fun has gone out of transactions — it's just, 'get the goods, pay the bill' and go back to the security of your own home."

Today that missing element of fun is called "customer communications". In the past was known as, "chit-chat, banter and small talk". Transactions have to become positive experiences once again, regardless of which side of the transaction we are on. "When work becomes fun, it ceases to be work," points out Gord Greig.

"We believe that the recession is about 70 per cent psychological and perception and only about 30 per cent rational economics. We can't affect the price of crude oil," another Minister pipes up, "but we can have a direct impact on the quality of service which accompanies that sale of crude oil."

The War Cabinet feels confident that the negative psychological element can be effectively combated with heavy dosages of "attitude adjustment" agents — which will allow Brian Mulroney and Bob Rae to focus on the 30 per cent "rational economics".

The Municipal Centre for Scientific Research has developed a top secret potent agent that already has been released into the Campbellville atmosphere. The agent, known only as P.O.S.I.C., positively affects the psyche and has been proven safe and effective on humans, but has little or no effect on livestock, vegetables or politicians. According to a reliable military source, as support for this war effort continues to spread, enough P.O.S.I.C. has been stockpiled to blanket the entire Town of Milton...

The Ministry has also developed the 'Molecular Theory of Economic Activity' at the National Centre for Scientific Research (Tom's studio) that consists of having to keep the molecules moving and bumping into other molecules, generating potential economic activity.

One such molecule was directed by Tom himself. He heard that a company in Windsor, planning to make room for a new equipment, wanted to get rid of a large antique bandsaw for a song. A quick phone call to the Ontario Agricultural Museum informed them, of the dilemma in Windsor. The results? A lovely new exhibit at the O.A.M., much needed to space at the Windsor plant, a great tax credit for the company, jobs for electricians, millwrights, movers and truck drivers, gas... well, you catch the drift. Molecular Activity = Jobs + \$.

But this little molecule hasn't stopped bumping yet. While dealing with the bandsaw problem, a 150 year old steam engine with a huge 14-foot flywheel was discovered hidden away in another part of the plant — and it still works like a song. Another quick call was made, but this time to the Hamilton Steam Museum — and they're interested! ... well, you know the rest. Just keep those molecules moving!

It isn't just business, though. It's everywhere — from the federal government down to our local councils. Gordon Greig, Minister of E.A.R.N., is especially perturbed by the 'airplows' that frequent the Campbellville area. "We need our own version of patriot missiles, something to shoot those dam Airplows back down to the ground where they belong."

He's referring to Town of Milton snowplows that travel along the

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Phyllis Moore
Penny Pinching Minister

Regional roads and points out that they use up man-hours, gas and tire-wear by going from one place to the other with their plows up in the air. Figure.

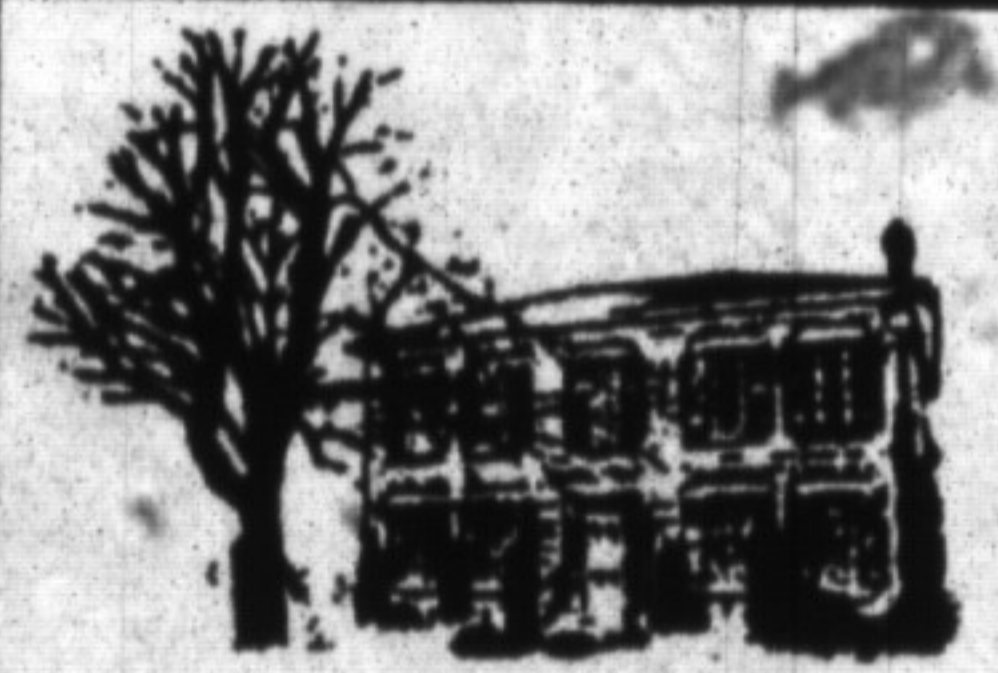
"One has to wonder if this is the most efficient use of our tax dollars," asks a concerned Phyllis Moore, penny-pinching Minister of P.P.D.D.

The Ministry believes the end of the recession will start in Campbellville and quickly spread into Milton, and then other neighbouring communities, by utilizing all our resources and manpower under the guidance of Town Council and the leadership of Mayor Gordon Krantz. A strong coalition force could launch a cooperative and coordinated effort to finally and effectively snuff out this elusive enemy, 'The Recession'.

Milton is one of the most financially-successful municipalities in Ontario, is graced with a beautiful new leisure centre, an award-winning Town Hall, a village full of craftpersons and artwork, and is surrounded by conservation areas and nestled against the Niagara Escarpment. All this beauty — as well as situated on a major commercial artery of Southern Ontario. How can we go wrong?

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HERE



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3—The Canadian Champion, Good News, February 26, 1992

GOOD **M&M** NEWS
meat shops

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optimum tenderness and
taste. 6x6 oz. portions. **19⁹⁹** box

**GOOD NEWS FROM
DOWNTOWN MILTON!**

- ★ The Farmers' Market returns for its 1992 engagement! Every Saturday morning from June 6th through October 31st.
- ★ Half-barrel planters filled with flowers will appear Downtown in May.
- ★ Moonlight Magic will be bigger and better in 1992! Mark June 19th on your calendar.
- ★ Service is still the #1 promise everyone Downtown makes to you, the Valued Customers!!



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