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August is traditionally a busy month with the rush to complete preparatory training for the Annual Exercise season. Our Line crews are ready. “Signals Line Crews” are the technicians responsible for installing, maintaining and troubleshooting communication systems both wired and wireless technologies on bases and in operations. Pole climbing is not only the identifying skill of the Line Crew but captures the romance of signalling. A Line Crew is immediately identifiable as Signals. A WWI Line picture is used as our newsletter header and the Vintage Signals Team attracts crowds of visitors at its displays with its Line Truck. Sgt Krebs-Vandeloosdrecht, of 32 Signal Regiment writes:



While Signal Operators often get the spotlight, Line Technicians are the backbone of reliable, wired communications infrastructure. During Exercise STRIDING HERMES 2, held 7–9 March 2025 at Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Borden, Ontario. Line Technicians showed their expertise in the installation, maintenance, and repair of advanced cable distribution systems that support both wired and wireless military networks. From fibre optics to communication towers, they make secure and dependable connections possible—anywhere, anytime. Featured in the colour photos are Sig Spencer, Cpl Marroquin, MCpl A. Lacroix, and Sgt Conklin.

Our thanks to Private Thayne and Private Patel, of 32 Canadian Brigade Group (32 CBG) Public Affairs for news on Exercise MERCURY WARRIOR 2025 on 6-8 June 2025. Members of 32 Signal Regiment were recognized at Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Borden, Ontario for their outstanding achievements and dedication. Congratulations to the Jimmy and Associates Award Winners, Sgt Nguyen, Toronto Sqn and Sgt Van Rossum, Borden Sqn. Sig Thiele was named 32 Signal Regiment Soldier of the Year. Private Grierson was presented with Exercise MERCURY WARRIOR 2025 Commanding Officer’s Challenge Winner. Bravo Zulu to all. During the ceremonies



the Commanding Officer’s Award was presented to 2Lt. Neville and The Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS) Commendation presented to MWO Coyle (not pictured). Congratulations to all.



Promotions and congratulations to from MCpl to Sgt Krebs-Vandeloosdrecht and from Cpl to MCpl Kibzey. Richly deserved.

On Saturday 9th August the Family Council of 32 Signal Regiment celebrated its Annual BBQ at the Staff College on Yong Blvd. With thanks to HLCol Shannon Regan and Maj Ric Rangel Bron for our family coming together to celebrate our heritage. Memories and stories abounded. Memories of 709

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Signal Regiment sprang out at HCol (ret'd) Ken Lloyd, secreted in a quiet corner to balance the BBQ cash flow, when LCol (ret'd) Jack Lee and HLCol (ret'd) Alex Moseanu sprang down to challenge him with the very same coin he had distributed when CO 709. His surrender was duly accepted and two beers owed. Thank you, Barry Duff, for a super photograph. At the BBQ an added bonus was the offer to the Friends of HMCS HAIDA by Maj Ric Rangel-bron of a four and half foot model of HMCS HAIDA. He had received the model from Mr Dean Ruston of 'Tactical Products'. Mr Ruston had received the ship from a client and wished a place where it could be cared for. Ken Lloyd, as a Director on the Board for the Friends of HMCS HAIDA gratefully received the model and passed it to LtCdr (Ret'd) Walt Dermott, on 11 Aug 2025 a fellow Director who cares for the HMCS HAIDA's Museum and gift shop.



At Blackdown Cadet Training Camp CI Audrey Chan received the Commanding Officer's Coin to acknowledge outstanding conduct, leadership, or contribution to the CTC Community. Presented by LCol Forster, CD, and CWO Henley, CD. Congratulations to CI Audrey Chan, 709 Toronto Signals Cadet Corps.



During the Warriors Day Parade on Saturday 16th August 2025, the Toronto

Signals Trumpet Band stood ready to march through the monumental Prince's Gate at Exhibition Place, Toronto. Following the Band, Capt (Ret'd) Kirk Campbell rode in the back of the Vintage Signals Team Line Truck and took this picture.





Drum Major Burke Gerhardt marched the Band, smartly through the Memorial Gate followed by the Vintage Signals Team Line Truck. Veteran Signallers and VST members Grant Longaphie and Carl Ragala brought the



Truck down from Borden and carefully watched as VST members Rick Little; Ken Lloyd; Kirk Campbell; Matt Campbell and Donatilde Carvalho carefully handled 'our' truck on to the parade. As Kirk Campbell and Matt Campbell gave sharp salutes to the saluting dais, Ken Lloyd sent "V V V" by a Navy Aldis lamp to Jack Lee and Bob Thomas.



DID YOU KNOW



Here is a story about Line crews and of LCol Elroy Forde the first Chief Signal Officer of the Canadian Corps in WW1. The liberation of Belgium and the campaign known as the 100 days was successful because of a Signals Deception plan that was directly responsible for the success of the attacks on the Hindenburg Line and the Pursuit to Mons. The communications deception included massive telegraph traffic and the release of pigeons that coincided with the movement of troops north to Ypres to deceive the attack at Amiens.

Throughout the attacks that followed, the Linemen of the Corps of Signals pushed the telegraph lines and kept abreast of the advance. A feat which had not been thought possible in the text books, that in an open warfare environment, lines could be continually extended to ensure communications with the front.

The man responsible for this deception was, LCol Elroy Forde, (born in Dundas). Retiring as a Col after the war, Col Forde is the namesake of our headquarters building at the Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electronics, "The Forde Building". Elroy Forde was also responsible for the testing and implementation of Carrier Wave Wireless transmitters that allowed airplane spotters to communicate directly with the artillery to deliver accurate and timely barrages on enemy positions, an essential part of the 100 days campaign.

LCol Forde traces his ancestry both to Hamilton and Toronto. 32 Signal Regt traces its roots back to the No 2 Signal Company, based out of Toronto in the years before the war. With the outbreak of war in 1914, No 2 Signal company travelled to Valcartier where it was stood up as 1 Can Div Signal Company, of which Elroy Forde was the CO, and deployed to Europe. 1 Can Div Signal Company was the leader in wartime communications in the First World War within the Canadian Corps and was instrumental in the continued success until the end of the war in November 1918. This information piece was written by Geoff Limbert, WO/Adjt

If you wish to add any stories or news items for 'Dispatches, please contact me at kenlloyd.mediator@gmail.com.