

BATTLE CLAD CANADIAN UNITS MARCH PROUDLY AT ALDERSHOT UNDER GAZE OF LOVELY QUEEN

Toronto Scottish and Saskatoon Light Infantry Reviewed By Her Majesty as Admiring Crowds Applaud

King George Mingles With British Troops Before Officers Are Presented to Rulers at Luncheon

Aldershot, April 8.—(CP Cable)—In long khaki ranks fully outfitted for war, the Toronto Scottish and the Saskatoon Light Infantry paraded proudly before Queen Elizabeth to-day. The King accompanied Her Majesty to Aldershot and spent the morning among British troops while the Queen inspected the two units of the Dominion's First Division and then stood on a canopied dais while they marched past.

Reviews Cadet Units

His Majesty reviewed two officer cadet training units of the Imperial, accompanied by Major-General A. G. L. McNaughton, general officer commanding the First Division of the Canadian Active Service Force, in his capacity as acting general officer commanding-in-chief of the Aldershot area.

Their separate inspections over the royal couple re-met at Tour-nay house to lunch with officers of the Toronto Scottish, of which the Queen is colonel-in-chief, and with seven senior officers of the Saskatoon Battalion.

In many respects it was reminiscent of the royal visit to Canada last year when there was peace. Crowds lined the royal route of tour. Bands played and the royal standard rippled from a flagstaff.

Two Great Differences

But two great differences stood out. The English crowd clapped sedately instead of cheering as Canadians did wherever Their Majesties turned. And the troops, Canadian and British alike, wore battle dress in place of the bright, full dress uniforms which livened the Canadian scenes of 1939.



Queen Elizabeth

The Toronto Scottish and the Saskatoon Light Infantry were drawn up in different sections of the far-flung Queen's parade ground when Her Majesty's sedan drove up.

The Scots were first on the program of the Scottish-born Queen. She stood under her own standard, fluttering from a staff alongside the red-carpeted reviewing stand while a pipe band skirled God Save the King.

Then she walked slowly up and down the long straight line of war-bound Canadians. Lieut.-Colonel C. C. Thompson, officer commanding the Highlanders, marched by her side. Occasionally she stopped for a friendly word with men of the ranks.

"Splendid Regiment"

Noticing his service ribbons, she asked Regimental Sergeant-Major H. E. Tuck, of Toronto, how conditions compared with those of the last war and whether the health of the troops was good.

Her Majesty gave him a warm smile when he replied, "Everything is just as fine, or finer, and our health is splendid."

The Queen made Company Quartermaster Sergeant L. E. Allard, another Torontonian, prouder than a peacock by remarking, "You're with a splendid regiment."

Private Lionel Jinman, of Toronto, assured Her Majesty, in answer to a question about the weather:

"It's much easier to take than the winter was," he said.

The inspection over, the Queen stood on the dais, with small flags at either side, for the march past. Colonel Thompson led his regiment smartly by in platoon formation as pipers blew the regimental march, All Blue Bonnets Over the Border.

Eye-Filling Scene

Despite the lack of dash of the battle dress it was an eye-filling scene. The Queen, a magnet for all eyes, wore a powder-blue dress, full length coat and an off-face matching hat. Three strands of pearls were gathered about the neck.

The parade ground grass was a sea of green and the pipe band was in regimental kilt—a striking heather colour despite its name of hoddie grey.

The march past at an end, the Queen entered her car and drove three-quarters of a mile to the spot where Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Potts had the Saskatoon Light Infantry drawn up in battle kit, complete to steel helmets.

While the units presented arms, brass bands played the national anthem in royal salute. Then Colonel Potts accompanied Her Majesty up and down the ranks of his men rigid at attention.

The march past of the westerners was the quick step of the light infantryman—estimated at 140 to the minute.

The Queen included the battalion in her program because it is affiliated with the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, of which she is colonel-in-chief and the men of the prairies marched to the Yorkshire unit's regimental tune, Jock of York.

Poses for Pictures

When the Queen reached Tour-nay house the officers of the Toronto Scottish had changed into their kilts. She posed for group pictures with the officers of the two units before the King and General McNaughton arrived.

Then, in the ante-room of the mess, the officers were presented individually to Their Majesties. Pipers started the slow march, The Highland Cradle Song, and the

royal couple led the way to luncheon.

At the end of lunch and the toast to The King, the Scots drank to the health of their colonel-in-chief with ancient Highland honours in perhaps the most brilliant episode of the day.

Mounting chairs, they stood with the right foot on the table, the left foot on the chair, and lifted glasses to the Queen. Then the officers tossed the empty glasses over their shoulders to shatter on the polished floor.

The Highlanders gave Their Majesties a rousing farewell salute as they departed. The officers and men were drawn up in long single files on either side of the roadway and, as the royal car gathered speed, they chorused three cheers that echoed and re-echoed around the barrack walls.

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