

NOTE

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HISTORICAL SECTION

CANADIAN FORCES HEADQUARTERS

2 July 1965

Historical Activities
Within the Canadian Army

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R E P O R T N O . 1

HISTORICAL SECTION

CANADIAN FORCES HEADQUARTERS

2 July 1965

Historical Activities
within the Canadian Army

1. This account of the historical organizations serving the Canadian Army from 1915 to 1965 replaces Report No. 95 which was dated 31 May 1962.

Lord Beaverbrook's Organization

2. In January 1915 Sir Max Aitken was appointed Canadian representative at G.H.Q., B.E.F. to deal with "records generally appertaining to the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Forces and particularly the reporting of all casualties occurring therein." (1) The Canadian Prime Minister expected him to give "the public of Canada an account of the performance of Canadian Troops." (2) He generally referred to himself as the "Canadian Eye-Witness." In January 1916, Aitken, now Lord Beaverbrook, was authorized to create a Canadian War Records Office, which would be the "home of the History of Canada's War," as distinct from the Canadian Record Office of the A.G. Branch of the Overseas Headquarters in London. Popular publications included pamphlets, booklets, books and a daily newspaper for the troops, illustrated by its own photographers. The Canadian War Records Office also administered the war artists employed by a separate Canadian War Memorials Fund (of which Lord Beaverbrook was a member). (3)

3. The principal task of the Historical Section within the Canadian War Records Office was the collection of documents and maps. The Public Record Office in Chancery Lane, London, W.C. 2 provided three rooms to hold war diaries and members of its staff tendered professional advice. Two Canadian officers were sent to France to suggest improvements in the compilation of war diaries and to collect any material relevant to the operations of the C.E.F. The sketchiness of the documents for 1915 was demonstrated by an officer who undertook a narrative of the Second Battle of Ypres. During the summer of 1917 the Dominion Archivist, Dr. A.G. Doughty, was specially commissioned into the C.E.F. and sent overseas in the rank of lieutenant-colonel to see what was being done. He recommended that, until the cessation of hostilities, all parcels and boxes of documents collected from units and headquarters should be held intact by the Canadian War Records Office. (4)

4. Lord Beaverbrook wrote two popular volumes entitled Canada in Flanders. These were published in London, as was a third volume written by Major Charles G.D. Roberts, a well-established Canadian author. A fourth volume was drafted. During the demobilization period a separate War Narrative Section was formed in London. Headed by Brig.-Gen. R. Brutinel, it comprised four majors, two captains and two lieutenants who had been engaged in active operations. This Section produced the interim report on Canadian Corps operations during the whole of 1918, which was

submitted by Lt.-Gen. Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.O.C. Canadian Corps, and published in the Report of the Ministry, Overseas Military Forces of Canada, 1918. Work on a detailed narrative of Canadian Corps operations during the period 15 July-11 November 1918 was still incomplete when the Canadian War Records Office was disbanded in the summer of 1919 and all personnel and historical records returned to Canada.(5)

Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank's Organization

5. Order in Council P.C. 19 of 17 January 1917 entrusted Brig.-Gen. A.E. Cruikshank with the task of collecting "material and records necessary to compile the history of the present war so far as the same more particularly relates to the work undertaken and carried out in Canada." This record was to include "the work and services" performed by such bodies as the War Purchasing Commission, Imperial Munitions Board, the Pensions and Claims Board, and various national charitable organizations. Born on 29 June 1854, Lt.-Col. Cruikshank had had nearly 22 years commissioned service in the N.P.A.M. before he was taken into the Permanent Force on 1 May 1909 to become District Officer Commanding, Military District No. 13. Since his new task seemed to be mainly concerned with records, Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank was specially employed under the Adjutant General. Effective 1 April 1917, he was seconded to the Public Archives of Canada. Apart from a trip overseas during April-July 1918, he spent his time examining files in Ottawa.

6. On 28 October 1918 Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank proposed, in a personal letter to the Minister of Militia and Defence, the immediate formation of a Historical Section of the General Staff. The main function of such a section would be "not the preservation and classification, but the study" of documents.(6) Continuing, he wrote:

As regards the present war, the great mass of documents in possession of the Militia Department, are Administrative, rather than Historical, but when eventually the war diaries and other documents relating to active military operations accumulated in France and England are sent over, the quantity of Historical matter will unquestionably be very large.

As I think you know I have given considerable study for many years past, to the documents preserved in our Archives relating to the military history of Canada, and the creation and maintenance of its military forces, and have acquired some reputation by my writings on those subjects, not only in Canada, but in the United States and Great Britain. The work of accumulating materials for an authoritative history of the Canadian Militia from the conquest of Canada to Confederation based on contemporary official records is well advanced, and I shall be prepared very shortly to proceed with its compilation, with a view to publication.

Order in Council P.C. 2814 of 15 November 1918 authorized Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank to be transferred from the A.G. Branch to become "Director of the Historical Section of the General Staff."

7. Verbal approval was given by the Minister for the preparation of A History of the Organization, Development and Services of the Military and Naval Forces of Canada from the Peace of Paris in 1763, With Illustrative Documents. Three small volumes were compiled under Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank's direction and published during 1919 and 1920. (7) Volume I consisted of 50 pages of narrative and about 90 pages of printed documents; Volume III, containing 40 pages of text and better than 200 pages of documents, ended at the year 1784. The manuscripts of two further volumes, dealing with the Maritime Provinces before 1783, are still held in the Historical Section.

8. Meanwhile members of the Historical Section were cataloguing documents dealing with the Great War, 1914-1919. Attached C.E.F. officers were engaged in special studies of Medical, Dental, Nursing and Chaplain Services; efforts were being made to have a similar study made of Canadians serving in the Royal Air Force. (The Medical studies were the basis for Col. A.E. Snell's volume, The C.A.M.C. with the Canadian Corps during the last Hundred Days of the Great War, published by the Department of National Defence in 1924 in the interests of medical training. Col. W. Beattie's narrative of Chaplain Services was, however, not considered good enough for publication. Order in Council P.C. 1736 of 22 August 1919 authorized the retention of "certain officers" returned to Canada from the War Narrative Section in London until such time as they might complete their detailed narrative of Canadian Corps operations during the Last Hundred Days of the Great War. This work was now directed by Major A.F. Duguid, D.S.O. (8) He had gone overseas with the First Contingent in 1914 as an artillery officer; later he held artillery staff appointments. Born in Scotland on 31 August 1887, he was a graduate in civil engineering from McGill University.

9. Examination of Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank's Papers, now in the Public Archives of Canada, suggests that he had been gathering together material for a narrative of his own on the Last Hundred Days, and for one on the Battle of the Somme. Apparently he hoped to compensate for his lack of active service and ignorance of conditions of modern warfare by a close study of lengthy letters and reports sent him by personal friends who had been in action overseas. Now, however, Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank turned his attention to compiling "A Narrative on the Formation and Operations of the First Canadian Division, to the end of the Second Battle of Ypres, May 4, 1915," This he organized in a similar manner to his previously mentioned volumes on the History of the Organization, Development and Services of the Military and Naval Forces of Canada from the Peace of Paris in 1763.

10. On 23 October 1920 the Chief of the General Staff, Maj.-Gen. J.H. MacBrien, instructed Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank to prepare a submission to the Militia Council recommending that the Historical Section "be placed on a permanent footing to enable its present work to be carried to finality." (9) Less than a month later, on 17 November, Maj.-Gen. MacBrien sent a much more explicit letter to the D.H.S.:

At a recent meeting of the military members of the Militia Council it was considered advisable to have the history of the operations of the Canadian Forces in the late War written in the same detail as is now being done for the Last

Hundred Days by the War Narrative Section under Major Duguid. It was also considered essential that an officer with detailed experience of the operations of the Canadian Troops in France should be associated with you in the writing of this history.

It is being recommended to the Hon'ble. the Minister that an officer with the necessary qualifications, such as Major Duguid possesses, be appointed a Deputy Director of the Historical Section so as to be in a position to advise you on the compilation of the History and also to be in a position to take over your work should you fall ill or be unable to complete the task for any other reason.

It is thought that the best way to give effect to what is wanted is for the work of the present War Narrative Section to be extended so as to include the whole of the operations in France.(10)

The duties of the War Narrative Section were extended as directed. On 4 January 1921 the C.G.S. directed that "no publication be made for the present of any history dealing with early operations of the Canadian Forces in France."(11) He suggested that Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank's own narrative might be brought to an end with the landing of the first Canadians in France. Any history dealing with operations would have to be approved by the C.G.S. for publication.

11. Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank, however, had gone ahead and had 1500 copies of his narrative printed by the King's Printer in a format similar to that of A History of the Organization, Development and Services of the Military and Naval Forces of Canada from the Peace of Paris in 1763, to the Present Time. He now submitted to the C.G.S. a copy of this Canadian War Records Vol. I. A Narrative on the Formation and Operations of the First Canadian Division, to the end of the Second Battle of Ypres, May 4, 1915. With Illustrative Documents and Maps. Edited by the Historical Section, General Staff, Ottawa, 1920. There were only 28 pages of narrative, unattractively presented; this was followed by 333 pages of miscellaneous documents; there were no illustrations; no maps had been bound in the grey paper-bound volume. Maj.-Gen. MacBrien's reply, dated 19 January 1921, was very pointed:

The question of the publication of Volume I, Canadian War Records, has been referred to the Minister of Militia and Defence [Hon. Hugh Guthrie]. He has accepted the advice given to him by me, which was to the effect that the Volume referred to was not to be published. The Volume in question has been read by Generals Currie, Elmsley and Morrison, Colonel J. Sutherland Brown and myself. We are all of the same opinion - that a much fuller work is desirable and that it would be unwise to issue Volume I to the public as it stands at present.

In view of this decision it is proposed to extend the work of the War Narrative Section so as to include the complete history of the part played by the Canadians in the Great War. This will necessitate an expansion of Major Duguid's

staff. He is desirous of having certain personnel associated with him who have had actual experience in the Field.(12)

In view of the Canadian Government's determination to curtail militia expenditure, several existing members of the Historical Section would have to be dismissed to make room for the personnel Major Duguid wanted. Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank submitted another establishment and historical programme(13) but it was not approved. Instead, Order in Council P.C. 1652 of 27 May 1921 decreed the retirement of Brig.-Gen. Cruikshank. Effective 1 June, Major Duguid was to become Director of the Historical Section.

Col Duguid's Regime

12. The new Director was appointed to the Royal Canadian Artillery of the Permanent Active Militia as a major, but he was given the temporary rank of colonel to put him on the same footing as all other Directors at Militia Headquarters. The duties of his reorganized Historical Section were set forth in Order in Council P.C. 1652 of 27 May 1921:

- (a) The collection, classification, co-ordination, preservation and safe custody of all war diaries, reports, official and other correspondence, maps, plans and other documents or material containing information and data relating to the participation of Canada and the Canadian Military Forces in the Great War.
- (b) The compilation and publication of a complete official history of the Recruiting, Organization, Mobilization, Equipment and Services of the Canadian Expeditionary Force in Canada from the 4th August, 1914, to the completion of demobilization and the further records as defined in the aforesaid Order in Council of 17 January 1917 (P.C. 19).
- (c) The compilation and publication of a complete official historical account of the services of the Military Forces of Canada in the Great War out of Canada. This History will be supplemented by more detailed histories of certain technical branches of the Service.
- (d) The preparation and publication of Historical monographs, as required, on special military subjects connected with the History of Canada.
- (e) The compilation of such military historical information and data relating to Canada as may be required from time to time by the Historical Section (Military Branch) of the Committee of Imperial Defence.
- (f) The preparation of location ledgers for Canadian military units serving in the Field during the late War and the supply of necessary data to the Imperial War Graves Commission and the Honours and Awards Branch of the Record Office.
- (g) The supply of information from the records in its custody to properly accredited historical investigators and the facilitation of their researches.

13. With the exception of Capt. J.F. Cummins, C.M.S.C., and Capt. J.I.P. Neal, who was now appointed to the R.C.E. for employment as a cartographer, the personnel selected for continuing service were all to be civil servants. Apart from one principal clerk (Mr. A.C. Wiltshire), who had become a permanent civil servant in his previous position, the civilians were to be paid from the Demobilization Appropriation and were to be considered only temporary employees.(14) Naturally this attitude was upsetting to members of the Historical Section; only permanent civil servants in those days were eligible for periodic increases beyond the minimum salary for a position, and for eventual retirement with a pension based on salary and the number of years they had contributed to the pension fund. Furthermore, two of the male clerks and two of the female typists were engaged by the Civil Service Commission for only six months at a time. Apparently the Minister of Militia and Defence had told his Cabinet colleagues, when Order in Council P.C. 1652 of 27 May 1921 was under discussion, that "this was a temporary measure."(15) The C.G.S. protested on 26 August, but the Deputy Minister evaded the issue after consulting the Minister.(16) On 31 March 1923 Maj.-Gen. MacBrien, now Chief of Staff of a new Department of National Defence, sent a more strongly worded protest to the Deputy Minister:

At the time of the re-organization of the Historical Section a definite undertaking was given to those in the Section that their appointments would be made permanent. This was done by me on the authority of the then Minister, Mr. Guthrie.

The fact that the Section itself was regarded as a temporary organization constitutes no reason why the personnel should also be temporary, when their services are required for such a long period. In all probability the work of this Section may continue anywhere from five to ten years.

There is no apparent reason why, if their positions are made permanent, they should not continue to be paid from the Demobilization Appropriation, so that the reason given that no provision was made in the Civil Government Appropriation for this year does not affect the question.

I strongly recommend that the definite undertaking referred to above be carried out and a breach of faith on the part of this Department avoided.(17)

Since this memorandum appeared to have been "prematurely buried, in the words of Maj.-Gen. MacBrien, he raised the issue again on 20 March 1924 with Mr. G.J. Desbarats who was now strongly entrenched as Deputy Minister.(18) The question of whether or not the Historical Section should be placed on a permanent footing was debated during the summer and the decision was in the negative.(19) On 18 December, however, the Deputy Minister requested the Civil Service Commission to have the civilian personnel classified.(20) This was done, with the following result:(21)

Head Clerks	2
Principal Clerks	2
Clerks (Grade 4)	2
Clerk (Grade 3)	1
Clerk (Grade 2)	1
Stenographer (Grade 2)	1
Typists (Grade 1)	2
TOTAL	11

A submission was made to the Treasury Board during August 1925, but an answer was never obtained.(22)

14. The Deputy Minister's letter of 11 August 1924 to the Civil Service Commission had divulged that the Historical Section proposed to produce an Official History in 11 volumes:

General History

Ypres, 1915	August 1914-September	1915
The Salient, 1915-16	September 1915-August	1916
The Somme, 1916	August 1916-January	1917
Vimy, 1917	January 1917-October	1917
Passchendaele, 1917	October 1917-March	1918
Amiens, 1918	March 1918-August	1918
Arras-Mons, 1918	August 1918-November	1919

Other Arms and Services

Engineer Services	1914-1919
Medical Services	1914-1919
Chaplain Services	1914-1919
Nursing Services	1914-1919 (23)

The volume dealing with Medical Services was then in the hands of the King's Printer. Written by Sir Andrew Macphail of McGill University, it was published in 1925. His brother Alexander, a professor at Queen's University and onetime colonel in the Canadian Engineers, was nominated by the Engineering Institute of Canada to write a similar volume on Engineer Services,(24) but no official arrangement was ever concluded. The record of Chaplain Services (see para 8) required "only to be written in narrative form."(25) It was commonly believed that the storm of protest raised by those attacked personally in the Medical History was the reason why other special volumes were not attempted. The scheme of work submitted by Col. Duguid on 5 January 1928 disclosed that an eighth volume was proposed for the General History: the volume on Arras-Mons would now conclude with the Armistice and the additional volume would describe demobilization, military "sideshows," and post-war reorganization.(26)

15. Col. Duguid's approach was to break down each of the proposed volumes of General History into chapters and sub-sections, and then create separate folders for each of the latter. After a monograph, buttressed by appendices, was compiled for each, a narrator would write the text. Presumably Col. Duguid envisaged himself as being the narrator. Capt. Cummins, Capt Neal and the senior civilians (W. Douglas and W. Davidson) had been employed for varying periods with the Headquarters of the Canadian Corps in the Field. There they had "acquired an intimate knowledge of the Operations and

Intelligence Branches of the General Staff and of the Administrative branch of the Staff, and familiarity with the mass of documents which accumulated in connection with the operations, which makes them most valuable for the research work which will be involved in the preparation of the material for the History." (27) Capt. Neal had been employed drawing maps, in the rank of lieutenant. Mr. Douglas had lost an arm in action and had held the rank of captain. None of them, however, had performed duties requiring staff training; nor had they had any training in historical research. The other male and more junior members of the Historical Section possessed the common qualification of service in France, in combatant and/or clerical capacities. Promotion was vertical, to fill vacancies occurring in this ad hoc organization, (28) and newcomers were acceptable replacements only if they had had overseas service. Col. Duguid's memorandum of 19 December 1924 to the Assistant Deputy Minister, recommending the appointment of two clerk-stenographers, is revealing:

But after accuracy, the important qualifications are a knowledge of Canadian units and formations in the field, and experience in handling overseas correspondence. Skill in typing and speed in taking dictation are valuable but not essential. (29)

To make matters worse, the preparation of monographs was only part-time work, when the staff was not involved in ordinary administrative work, assisting regimental historians, preparing lectures for officers on courses, answering queries from the Minister, other directorates and the public, checking drafts of the British Official History, or preparing ledgers for field units (when any specific enquiry could have been answered from the war diary, as is the present practice). Some 135 tons of documents, returned from overseas in 1919 or collected from units in Canada, and personal papers donated by individuals, were unpacked, indexed, arranged, and rearranged during the years 1921-1928, but approximately 10 tons still remained to be examined. Membership on the Battle Honours Committee, and the meticulous checking required to rule on claims, however, was work these individuals performed creditably. Col. Duguid spent considerable time helping with the Memorial Chamber for the Peace Tower of the Parliament Buildings. (30) Although he had paid two extended visits (1924 and 1926) to the Historical Section of the Committee of Imperial Defence in London, England, Col. Duguid does not seem to have been impressed by the amount of time required by the author or authors to write a volume on British military operations after the preliminary work was finished. (31) Thus there was no reality to Col. Duguid's contention of 5 January 1928 that the first volume of the General History would be available by January 1929 and subsequent volumes at yearly intervals thereafter. (32) The C.G.S. accepted Col. Duguid's explanation, however, and in his letter of 17 January, explaining to the Deputy Minister "the causes of delay in writing the History," wrote that "Colonel Duguid is not only an enthusiast in the work, with an accurate mind and a sound and discriminating judgement, but can also bring to the task a literary style that ensures the matter being treated with distinction as well as historical accuracy." (33)

16. On 11 December 1928, however, the Minister of National Defence, Hon. J.L. Ralston, appointed a committee to investigate. Dr. H.M. Tory (President of the National Research Council) headed the Committee, whose members were Major-General H.C. Thacker (C.G.S.), Dr. Adam Shortt (Chairman, Historical Documents Publications Board, Public Archives of Canada), Lt.-Col. Wilfrid Bovey,

(Director of Extramural Relations, McGill University) and Professor N. McL. Rogers (Queen's University). On 2 January 1929 it recommended that the Government appoint a competent historian to write a history of "Canada's Effort in the War," which should cover social, economic and political institutions as well as the purely military story. Separate volumes should be devoted to the military campaigns and individual services. The historian should be accorded complete editorial freedom, subject to the right of an Advisory Board to express a contrary opinion. This Advisory Board should be responsible to the Prime Minister or another member of the Cabinet. An immediate start was essential, so that documents might be amplified or supplemented by the personal knowledge of participants. It was the opinion of the Committee that:

...the existing organization of the Historical Section of the Department of National Defence should be retained, but should be transferred to become a separate Branch of the Public Archives.

...the services of the officer in charge of this section, Col. A.F. Duguid, D.S.O., be utilized in connection with the preparation of all material to be used in the writing of the military history of the war.(34)

17. In December 1929 the Government approved the Committee's recommendations in principle.(35) Negotiations between the Department of National Defence, Dominion Archivist and Civil Service Commission led to the drafting of an Order in Council which would transfer the historical records and civilian staff to the Public Archives, and second the existing military staff for employment there.(36) The new C.G.S.(Maj.-Gen. A.G.L. McNaughton) was personally opposed to the transfer, since he considered it "preferable for a military history per se to be written in a military atmosphere, where the opinions and guidance of trained military officers were readily available, rather than under the aegis of a civilian staff not trained in the appreciation of military problems."(37) Negotiations continued on an inter-departmental basis, but administrative problems were not resolved before there was a general election. The Conservative Government which took office on 7 August 1930 was not prepared to sanction a comprehensive historical programme when Canada was in the depths of a severe financial depression, so the matter seems to have been quietly shelved.(38)

18. During the winter of 1932, the Canadian Legion began to campaign for publication of an Official History. Various members asked questions in the House of Commons. On 16 May the Minister of National Defence, Hon. D.M. Sutherland, told questioners that "Work will be started on the first volume immediately.... I hope that before Parliament meets next year one volume will be ready.... Colonel Duguid will write the history."(39) On 18 May the C.G.S. advised Col. Duguid that other tasks hitherto undertaken by the Historical Section could be curtailed in order to expedite the production of the Official History.(40) However, two of the senior members of Col. Duguid's Section, Messrs. Wiltshire and Scanlon, had managed to secure better positions elsewhere in 1930 and their duties had been assumed by subordinate clerks. Efforts to fill the establishment were now discouraged by the Deputy Minister, who advised the C.G.S. on 23 July 1932 that the "situation regarding the Historical Section is that there is no authorized establishment in existence and, therefore, there are no vacancies to which anyone can be

appointed."(41) Moreover, new government expenditure was discouraged by the depressed state of the national economy. On 9 December 1932, however, the A.G. agreed to detail a W.O.I. (Staff Sergeant-Major W. Boss) for duty and lend a civilian clerk (replaced by a W.O.II in 1938).(42) They reported to the Historical Section early in 1933.

19. In 1938, Volume I of the General History (From the Outbreak of War to the Formation of the Canadian Corps, August 1914-September 1915) was published, by the King's Printer, with a companion volume of appendices and maps. There were no illustrations. The Preface stated that Col. Duguid had been "named historian" only in 1932, giving as source the Minister's statement to the House of Commons on 16 May 1932 that "Colonel Duguid will write the history." This statement took no account of the authority given by Order in Council P.C. 1652 of 27 May 1921 to write an Official History (see para 12) and the programme subsequently outlined by Col. Duguid and reported upon (see paras 14-15). Subsequent research by others would demonstrate that this study, though valuable in many respects, had shortcomings. For instance, the story, which was widely accepted as being typically Canadian, that Sam Hughes had said "I'll be damned if I will," when Lord Kitchener wanted to break up Canadian units (pages 126-127) was in fact based only on the recollection, two decades later, of an individual who was present, and seems to have been largely unfounded; the story of the combination shield-shovel patented in the name of Miss MacAdam was so incomplete as to be misleading (page 79); several statements in the text were contradicted by appendices.

20. Another attempt was being made to obtain a permanent establishment when the Second World War erupted. Major Cummins, W.O.1 Boss and W.O.2 Blyth were loaned to the A.G. Branch to help with the mobilization of the C.A.S.F.(43) On 4 September 1939 therefore Col. Duguid suggested to the C.G.S. that work on the Official History might be suspended.(44). On 15 September the C.G.S. replied that it would be "very undesirable that work on the Official History should be discontinued; in fact, I feel it should be speeded up as much as possible."(45) Personnel posted away would be returned as soon as possible and the Historical Section should be expanded. Major Cummins, Lt. Boss and Q.M.S. Blyth were returned to the Historical Section early in 1940. It was then possible to lend Mr. W. Douglas to A.G. Records to create a new War Diaries sub-section.(46) Action was taken under "blanketing instructions," such as those of Order in Council P.C. 39/537 of 8 February 1940, to obtain at long last permanent status for the civilian employees of the Historical Section. Late in 1940 Captain Neal obtained his majority. It was nearly two years, however, before Major Cummins became a lieutenant-colonel. Before the end of 1942 Boss was a major. Ill health forced Lt.-Col. Cummins into retirement, with effect from 3 August 1943. By the late autumn of 1943 there was a considerable military staff - 19 officers and 24 other ranks (including C.W.A.C.) - to handle the war diaries received from units in Canada and overseas (triplicate copies returned by sea in periodic batches), other documents, and to compile reports of military activities in Canada. The officers were mostly overage or of too low a category for overseas service. Major G.W.L. Nicholson, who joined the Section in 1943, was a 41-year old high school principal from Battleford, Sask. War artists commissioned to provide a pictorial record were placed under Col. Duguid's aegis while employed in Canada. In effect, work on the General History of the Great War ceased. Col. Duguid was responsible for the whole to a D.C.G.S. (C).

C.M.H.Q. Section

21. As early as 28 November 1939 Brig. H.D.G. Crerar, B.G.S. of the Canadian Military Headquarters in London, discussed with the Hon. T.A. Crerar, heading a Canadian Government Mission to the United Kingdom, both the importance of appointing a Public Relations Officer before Canadian troops began arriving overseas and the establishment of an Historical Section(G.S.).(47) According to the telegram Brig. Crerar then despatched to N.D.H.Q.

...most important that officer be appointed to supervise collection historical data including war diaries statistical returns etc. Should be competent writer trained in historical work and have good military knowledge. Suggest C.P. Stacey well known writer on Canadian Military history now Princeton University by approached. May early decision above matters be given.(48)

On 26 January 1940 authority was received to appoint Mr. W.G. Abel, a Canadian resident in London, as Public Relations Officer at C.M.H.Q.(49)(initially serving in a civilian capacity), but no action was taken respecting an Historical Officer. Maj.-Gen. A.G.L. McNaughton, G.O.C. 1st Canadian Division, had discussed the matter with Col. Duguid before leaving Ottawa.(50) On 3 January 1940 Maj.-Gen. McNaughton explained to Brig. Crerar his idea that there should be a small section of one officer and a few other ranks located at G.H.Q. 2nd Echelon; its main function would be to check war diaries submitted by units and formations and, when these were not being produced suitably, to make the necessary suggestions.(51) By this time the two officers appointed to handle war diaries under the Officer i/c Records, C.M.H.Q. were actually in London, in possession of instructions provided them in Ottawa by Col. Duguid to amplify C.A.S.F. Routine Order 194 of 9 December 1939.(52)

22. Maj.-Gen. Crerar returned to Canada in July 1940 and became C.G.S. The Minister of National Defence (Hon. J.L. Ralston) subsequently approved the appointment of Professor C.P. Stacey, A.M., Ph.D., as Historical Officer C.M.H.Q., with the rank of major and grading of G.S.O.II.(53) Major Stacey was 34 years of age, a graduate of the Universities of Toronto, Oxford and Princeton, and on the Reserve of Officers, 2nd Divisional Signals, N.P.A.M. His appointment was effective 21 October, but he spent some time with the Historical Section at N.D.H.Q., being briefed by Col. Duguid, before proceeding overseas. Major Stacey was to "collect and prepare material for the future use of the official Historian."(54) He assumed his appointment at C.M.H.Q. on 26 December 1940, Theoretically he was a G.S.O.II in the Staff Duties section of the G.S. Branch, but in practice he was responsible directly to the B.G.S. In accordance with his instructions, Major Stacey compiled and returned to Ottawa reports on the current activities of the Canadian Army Overseas. The Historical Officer was subsequently required to supervise the programme for the employment of Official War Artists with the Canadian Army Overseas. Major Stacey found that keeping up with current matters kept him too busy to concern himself with the past events of 1939-1940; he accordingly requested on 6 March 1942 that a professional historian be appointed to assist him.(55) Although Lt.-Gen. McNaughton (G.O.C.-in-C., First Cdn Army), Lt.-Gen. Crerar (G.O.C., 1 Cdn Corps) and Lt.-Gen. K. Stuart (C.G.S.) concurred, there were delays. Only on 16 October was Major Stacey joined by Major

G.F.G. Stanley, a Mount Allison University history professor who had been commanding a bilingual company at 70 C.A.(B)T.C., Fredericton, N.B. Major Stanley began to write a detailed narrative of overseas events during 1939-1940, working under Major Stacey's direction. There were now three war artists working under Major Stacey's general supervision.(56) By 27 February 1943 he had written and returned to N.D.H.Q. 90 historical reports on various topics; Major Stanley had completed a first chapter of his Preliminary Overseas Narrative and was working on the second chapter.(57)

23. While the C.G.S. was visiting the United Kingdom during the winter of 1943, he suggested that there should be a material increase in the size of the Historical Section at C.M.H.Q. and that it should undertake active planning to facilitate the publication of an Official History at the earliest possible moment after the war. Major Stacey pointed out, in a memorandum dated 27 February 1943, that additional historical officers should be acquired, both to write detailed reports on current activities and pending operations and to accelerate the progress of Major Stanley's Narrative. The result would be a firm foundation upon which an Official Historian could begin to write. Major Stacey warned, however, that it would be "useless to organize a narrative of Canadian events in the European theatre if nothing is done to prepare a complementary narrative of events in those theatres of activity for which Ottawa takes direct responsibility; Canada and adjacent areas, the West Indies, Iceland, the Far East, etc."(58)

24. On 17 May 1943 Capt. E.T. Heathcote joined the Historical Section to administer the War Artist programme. On 20 May Capt. A.T. Sesia was appointed Field Historical Officer of 1 Cdn Inf Div, which was scheduled to participate in the invasion of Sicily. He was accompanied to Sicily by a War Artist (A/Capt. W.A. Ogilvie). During the winter of 1944 Col. Duguid visited the United Kingdom; Lt.-Col. Stacey accompanied him on a short visit to the Canadians serving in Italy. On 5 May 1944 the War Diaries Section was transferred from the Officer i/c Records to Lt.-Col. Stacey's Historical Section at C.M.H.Q. Sufficient officers were subsequently acquired to permit the posting of an Historical Officer and War Artist to the headquarters of each corps and division during the fighting and to provide a rotation pool at C.M.H.Q., where reports were written while waiting for a tour of duty in the field. Most of these officers were university graduates who had done graduate work in history or related fields and were available in the reinforcement stream. Lt.-Col. Stanley supervised the writing of reports at C.M.H.Q., and as well continued to produce his Preliminary Overseas Narrative with the assistance of Lt. J.M. Hitsman, and later of Major G.S. Graham of the History Department at Queen's University. Another Queen's professor who had gone to Italy as 1 Cdn Corps Historical Officer, W.E.C. Harrison, subsequently wrote the Army Commander's Despatches and became a lieutenant-colonel.(59) On 21 October 1944, Lt.-Col. Stacey was promoted to the rank of colonel.

Col. Stacey as Director

25. During April 1943 the C.G.S. decided to implement some of the suggestions for an Official History of the war then in progress, which had been advanced by Major Stacey on 27 February (see para 23), rather than approve the programme put forward by Col. Duguid on 24 December 1942. Apart from the

provision of narrators, nothing happened until 9 December 1944, when the D.C.G.S.(A) told Col. Duguid to draft a detailed submission respecting an Official History. This was developed in consultation with Col. Stacey who was in Ottawa on a liaison visit (5 December 1944-8 January 1945). Col. Duguid made his submission on 13 January 1945.(60) It proposed publication of a Preliminary Sketch History (100,000 words) for the information of the general public, approximately a year after the end of hostilities. Four volumes of an Official History should be developed concurrently and completed within five years after the end of hostilities. Personnel already employed in army historical work were considered competent to undertake this project.(61) Col. Stacey agreed to Col. Duguid's suggestion that Lt.-Col. Stanley be sent to the Historical Section at N.D.H.Q. to commence writing a Preliminary Narrative of events in Canada and to assume other responsibilities in connection with the Second World War, so that Col. Duguid could resume work on Volume II of his General History of the Great War, 1914-1919. On 25 April the Minister of National Defence (Gen. McNaughton) agreed to the proposed programme.

26. By the time this news reached C.M.H.Q., the war in Europe had ended. Therefore Col. Stacey believed that someone should be appointed Official Historian or General Editor of the project and that prompt action should be taken to secure the continued services of experienced narrators of the Historical Section, C.M.H.Q. He himself was on leave of absence from Princeton University; three of his officers had similar university posts to return to and more junior officers had been kept from academic careers only by wartime military service. Only the prospect of permanent employment would induce them to continue in uniform to work on an Official History of the Second World War. The most important point made in Col. Stacey's memorandum addressed to the D.C.G.S., C.M.H.Q. on 10 May 1945 follows:

...if the History is to be worth anything the Official Historian must be placed in an independent position, which should be defined in advance by Order in Council. The formula used in the last Official History - to the effect that the author has been given full access to official documents, but that inferences drawn and opinions expressed are those of the author himself, for which the Department is in no way responsible - would be a sound guide to procedure and should be taken literally. I think that any individual would be unwise to undertake the responsibilities involved without an understanding that he would be fully responsible, that he would have an adequate staff, and that his work would not be subject to censorship except on grounds of military security.(62)

On 16 May the Chief of Staff, C.M.H.Q. (Lt.-Gen. P.J. Montague) forwarded a copy of Col. Stacey's memorandum to the Army Commander (Gen. Crerar). The Chief of Staff agreed that, "if this History is ever to be produced in proper form within a reasonable time, the Government should appoint an Official Historian, make him completely independent of the DHS at NDHQ, and give him an adequate staff, proper facilities and a contract in specific terms."(63) Lt.-Gen. Montague felt that "Stacey is the logical and by far the best qualified person to undertake this task, but I certainly would not advise him to do so, or even suggest that

should do so, unless the conditions outlined above were fulfilled by the Government in advance." The Army Commander agreed, (64) and a recommendation was sent to N.D.H.Q. on 30 June. (65)

27. Only on 17 August did the C.G.S. reply from N.D.H.Q. that the Minister had "decided that the work will be carried out within the framework of the Active Army and by Army personnel, as an Army project." (66) However, this telegram continued in a discouraging fashion:

Approval has been given by the Minister for the continuance of Colonel C.P. Stacey in his present post, with rank and grading not less than he now has, as Official Historian, in charge of Production of the History of the Canadian Army in this war. This appointment will be subject to the normal conditions under which all staff officers are employed. No Government can waive control of material contained in official publications. Colonel Stacey should be so informed.

The continued employment of other historical personnel will be continued under similar conditions.

Sympathetic consideration will be given to questions of re-establishment and compensation on termination of period of employment in the Active Army.

Col. Stacey was not impressed. As he had pointed out earlier, no competent officer was likely to "give up the prospect of permanent safe employment in civil life, in a university or elsewhere, for the sake of a temporary writing appointment which may leave him unemployed at the end of five years - perhaps in the middle of a depression like that of the thirties." (67)

28. By the time the Chief of Staff, C.M.H.Q. was able to send Col. Stacey's comments to N.D.H.Q. on 14 September, a new C.G.S. (Lt.-Gen. C. Foulkes) and a new Minister (Hon. D.C. Abbott) were planning a post-war Canadian Army. Col. Stacey considered the following requirements to be essential:

- (A) Official Historian should have access to CGS when occasion arises.
- (B) Volumes of History when completed and recommended by Official Historian for publication should be subject to approval only on CGS and Ministerial level. This analagous to Australian practice. Object is not to prevent circulation and discussion of drafts which is clearly desirable but to guard against petty or interested interference and speed up work.
- (C) Staff employed in preparing history both at CMHQ and DND should be exclusively responsible to Official Historian and required to perform no other tasks. This entails separate staff to deal with inquiries and miscellaneous historical work but would eliminate a major cause of delay operative in case of 1914-19 history. (68)

On 25 September the C.G.S. replied by telegram agreeing to those conditions. Historical Officers could be employed with the Interim Force until 30 September 1947 and "special consideration for continuing employment in PF when formed" could be given "if otherwise suitable." (69) The telegram suggested that Col. Stacey should visit Ottawa to discuss details.

29. Following Col. Stacey's arrival in Ottawa the C.G.S. proposed to appoint him Director of the Historical Section; Col. Duguid, who was 58 years of age and due for retirement at 60, should be retained as Official Historian of the Great War, 1914-1919 to complete his General History. Lt.-Col. Stanley (already in Ottawa) should become Deputy Director of the Historical Section. An Executive Officer (lieutenant-colonel) should be appointed to handle routine matters within the Section. Ministerial approval was given on 12 October 1945. (70) It might be noted here that although Col. Stacey could deal with the C.G.S. on matters affecting the Official History, in other matters he acted as a normal General Staff director. On 21 October Col. Duguid ceased being Director and became C.E.F. Historian, with a special increment to the Historical Section to complete his General History. He was relieved of all other responsibilities.

30. On 18 October the Minister had approved the programme drawn up by Col. Stacey. Publication of three illustrated booklets - "The Canadians in Britain, 1939-1944," "From Pachino to Ortona; The Canadian Campaign in Sicily and Italy, 1943" and "Canada's Battle of Normandy: The Canadian Share in the Operations, 6 June-1 September 1944" - would be carried to completion, but no further booklets would be undertaken. Instead, work would begin at once on the Preliminary Historical Sketch of 100,000 words approved earlier (see para 25); this would be primarily an account of Canadian operations overseas. With an "adequate staff," it should be possible to write the following four volumes of Official History "within five years unless unforeseen obstacles arise" (71):

Volume I: The organization and training of the Canadian Army in the United Kingdom, and operations based on that country to July 1943. This will include France (June 1940), Defence of England, Spitsbergen, Gibraltar, North Africa, Dieppe.

Volume II: Sicily and Italy. To be comprehensive account of the Canadian Army's participation in the war in the Mediterranean Theatre, from the planning of the Sicily assault to the withdrawal of Canadian troops from Italy.

Volume III: North-West Europe. To be a comprehensive account of the Canadian Army's participation in the Campaign, from the planning of the Normandy assault to the German surrender. A very brief account of the Canadian share in the subsequent occupation of Germany might advantageously be included.

Volume IV: General Military Policy, Events in and around Canada, Operations based on Canada. (Preparations for war; mobilization and development of the Army; home defence arrangements; garrisons in Newfoundland, Jamaica, etc; operations at Hong Kong and Kiska.)

31. Several Historical Officers were returned from C.M.H.Q. to work on the Canadian Policy Narrative being directed by Lt.-Col. Stanley. Their places in the C.M.H.Q. Historical Section were taken by battle-experienced officers who were in no hurry to return to Canada. Early in 1946 Major C.J. Lynn-Grant (O i/c War Diaries, C.M.H.Q.) became Executive Officer of the Historical Section, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Col. Stacey began writing his Sketch History from the Historical narratives and reports already completed, dividing his time between Ottawa and London until the autumn of 1946. Progress was satisfactory, but Lt.-Col. Stanley, Lt.-Col. Harrison and Major G.S. Graham had signified their intention of returning to university teaching, Lt.-Col. S.H.S. Hughes decided to resume legal training and there were lesser establishment problems.(72)

32. The appointment of Hon. Brooke Claxton as single Minister of National Defence on 12 December 1946 by the Canadian Government was apparently intended to introduce drastic economies in the Navy, Army and Air Force. The new Minister told the C.G.S. that the writing of military history should come to an end by 31 March 1948, by which time Col. Stacey's Preliminary Sketch History and popular volumes of naval and air history should be ready for publication.(73) Work on Col. Duguid's General History of the Great War should terminate on 31 March 1947; this had been recommended by the C.G.S. earlier, since there was no hope of completing it before 1953 at the earliest (indeed subsequent investigation would reveal that Col. Duguid's staff had only one chapter of Volume II ready for circulation). The Naval and Air Force historical staffs created during the Second World War were to be dissolved by 31 March 1948; the Historical Section(G.S.) of the Army Headquarters would continue on a smaller establishment, but write no history other than instructional studies for use at military schools and staff courses.(74) This policy was approved by the Cabinet Defence Committee on 14 January 1947.(75) Col. Stacey's programme, however, had been specifically approved by two previous Ministers (Gen. McNaughton and Mr. Abbott). After some civilians who had heard what was proposed (Professor G.W. Brown, and Mr. L.B. Pearson of External Affairs) interested themselves in the matter, the C.G.S. supported Col. Stacey during an interview with Mr. Claxton on 20 January, when Col. Stacey (who had been told by the C.G.S. to speak frankly) told the Minister that it appeared to him that the proposed change of policy was a breach of faith. Mr. Claxton then suggested that Col. Stacey's programme might be retained but modified.(76) Col. Stacey's proposed changes were recommended to the Minister by the C.G.S. on 23 January: the fourth volume should be an inter-service study of the Canadian Government's policy for the three services.(77) Mr. Claxton agreed and told the Defence Council on 29 January that "certain commitments having been made by his predecessor to Colonel Stacey of the Army Historical Section it was necessary to review the decisions made in regard to histories."(78) The proposed scope of Col. Stacey's work "would be enlarged so as to cover the military effort of Canada in the broad sense." On 31 January Mr. Claxton obtained the approval of the Cabinet

Defence Committee for continuation of work on an Official History of the Second World War with a view to its completion by 1950.(79)

33. Col. Duguid commenced his retirement leave on 31 March 1947. All C.E.F. records were transferred to the Public Archives of Canada, where they might be studied by civilian historians. Two members of Col. Duguid's civilian staff accompanied them. Mr. E. Pye and his stenographer were absorbed in the continuing Historical Section to answer general inquiries on military history. Lt. (later Major) C.C.J. Bond, R.C.E. remained as cartographer. Major Nicholson, who would be in charge of the C.M.H.Q. Historical Section until it ceased on 30 September 1947, became Deputy Director and a lieutenant-colonel. Major T.M. Hunter was attached to the Canadian Army Liaison Establishment in London to obtain information from British sources and to supply British historians with Canadian material. Col. Stacey's plan for an all-military staff of narrators had to be modified when Capt. A.G. Steiger and Capt. J.M. Hitsman were rejected for service in the Active Force on the respective grounds of age and health; positions were obtained for them as Civil Servants. Mr. Steiger studied captured German documents in order to compile narratives of enemy formations opposed to the Canadians during operations. Mr. Hitsman undertook studies of Canadian manpower problems for later use in the writing of the Official History's policy volume. Two majors, two captains and one lieutenant were writing reports on Canadian operations. Since there was an Executive Officer, the Administrative Officer (Capt. L.R. Cameron) spent much of his time as research assistant to Col. Stacey. Another captain was responsible for cataloguing the historical material received and answering inquiries.

34. There was the allied problem of a history of Army Medical Services. Dr. W.R. Feasby of Toronto, a wartime lieutenant-colonel and now editor of Modern Medicine of Canada and the Ontario Medical Review had been employed by Treasury Board Minute at \$175.00 per month on a part-time basis to write a history. The Minister's desire to amalgamate functions common to the three Services brought about a decision to produce a two-volume History of Canadian Medical Services within five years; this would include the medical services of the three Armed Forces and some allied civilian services. Dr. Feasby was named author. Detailed army narratives were written by a temporary sub-section (medical officer and a non-medical narrator) attached to the Historical Section and using its clerical facilities. Medical Services of the R.C.N. and R.C.A.F. supplied draft chapters of their own activities for inclusion.(80) Volume II dealing with professional and clinical matters was published in 1953; Volume I (organization and Campaigns) was published in 1956.

35. Since the Minister of National Defence had indicated that there should be only one Historical Section, that of Army Headquarters, there was an implied suggestion that it would be a combined or joint section. On 28 February 1947 Col. Stacey suggested that the services of personnel belonging to the R.C.N. and R.C.A.F. Historical Sections, which were to be disbanded by 31 March 1948, would be most valuable for the production of his policy volume. He would particularly welcome the addition of Dr. G.N. Tucker, the Naval Historian.(81) During the course of a meeting on Services Histories held on 2 April 1947, however, Dr. Tucker stated that he had no desire for employment in a joint historical section, as soon as he had completed whatever

publication was authorized, he intended to return to university teaching. There were no trained historians now on his staff. The Air Historian, W/C F.H. Hitchins, and S/L H.H. Coulson, had been teaching in American universities before the war, but now they were interested in carrying on as members of a combined historical section at suitable Civil Service salaries (since they had been refused continuing service in the R.C.A.F. on the grounds of age).(82) After considerable discussion, the acting C.G.S. signed a submission to the Chiefs of Staff Committee. Dated 30 July 1947, it suggested that either the Army's Historical Section should be reorganized, so that it could cater to the needs of the R.C.N. and R.C.A.F., or a truly inter-service historical section should be created and its director made responsible directly to the Chiefs of Staff Committee.(83) The C.G.S., however, was bothered by the fact that the Minister did not like the first of the two volumes of naval history and that their publication, as well as that of the third volume of R.C.A.F. popular history, was uncertain. Lt.-Gen. Foulkes thought that Army Historians should avoid taking any responsibility for R.C.N. and R.C.A.F. publications.(84) According to the minutes of the Chiefs of Staff Committee meeting held on 26 August, the C.G.S. expressed the view that, while the formation of a Joint Historical Section comprising an historian from each of the Services and a combined staff was desirable, no action should be taken to implement the proposal until such time as the writing of present histories had been completed. Furthermore, the agency to which the Section should report would require careful consideration. In consequence, decision was deferred until the meeting scheduled for 30 September. After further discussion at that time, decision was deferred until 15 January 1948.

36. On 12 January 1948 Col. Stacey suggested to the C.G.S. that it would be much easier to continue with work on the Official History, particularly on the policy volume, if a decision were reached regarding the future status of the Historical Section. He particularly desired to secure the services of Dr. F.H. Hitchins, whom the R.C.A.F. was then employing as a temporary Civil Servant. However, little progress had been made towards publishing either the R.C.N. or R.C.A.F. volumes and Col. Stacey recognized the importance attached by the C.G.S. to having the Army avoid any responsibility for them.(85) On 17 February the Chiefs of Staff Committee accepted Lt.-Gen. Foulkes' suggestion that the question of an inter-service historical section be deferred until completion of the short service histories of the Second World War.

37. Col. Stacey's Preliminary Sketch History was published in May 1948 as The Canadian Army, 1939-1945: An Official Historical Summary. The third and final volume of The R.C.A.F. Overseas (The Sixth Year) appeared in 1949. The Far Distant Ships, a popular account of naval operations written under contract by Joseph Schull, and based on Naval Historical Section Narratives appeared in 1950. Dr. Tucker's two-volume history The Naval Service of Canada was published in 1952. However, Dr. Hitchins had been re-appointed to the R.C.A.F. as a wing commander and was trying to perform the functions of Air Historian with a staff of one corporal. Mr. E.C. Russell, M.A., a wartime naval officer, was similarly functioning as Naval Historian.

38. The Canadian Army, 1939-1945 got favourable notices, and received the Governor General's Award for Non-Fiction in 1949. As soon as the fourth volume of the Army history was converted into a general policy volume, Col. Stacey pointed out that he

would require to study the minutes and other government papers of the Cabinet War Committee. Both the Official Historian in Australia and the Chief Military Historian in the United Kingdom had access to War Cabinet documents. On 12 August 1948 Prime Minister W.L. Mackenzie King agreed that "the official historian and senior members of his staff" should be given access to the minutes and other records of the War Committee of the Cabinet. Col. Stacey was told to make the necessary arrangements with the Clerk of the Privy Council.(86)

39. By this time Col. Stacey was busy with Volume I of the Official History; Lt.-Col. Nicholson was working on Volume II. In May 1952 responsibility for editing draft narratives and reports written by other members of the Historical Section was given to Major Hunter. Certain of the earlier preliminary reports were found to be inadequate, which made it necessary to undertake more original research than had been originally contemplated. On 20 March 1953 Col. Stacey sent a draft of Volume I to the C.G.S., recommending it for submission to the Minister and publication. On 26 November of the same year he sent a draft of Volume II to the C.G.S. Mr. Claxton, however, took no action before he resigned on 1 July 1954. His successor, Hon. R.O. Campney, subsequently agreed that the drafts should be set up in type and that galley proofs should go to him. Mr. Campney was troubled by the contents of the volumes, however, and finally decided to lay the matter before his Cabinet colleagues. On 16 August 1955 the Cabinet decided that the Minister of National Defence should not assume responsibility for editing the history; the history should be prefaced by a disclaimer to the effect that the opinions expressed were those of the historian. In consequence, Volume I which was published late in 1955 under the title of Six Years of War and Volume II, published in 1956 as The Canadian in Italy, were subjected to censorship only on grounds of military security (which necessitated one deletion). The only control exercised over their contents was that involved in the general principles laid down by the Cabinet concerning the use of its minutes. These resulted, in the case of Six Years of War, in a very considerable number of verbal alterations which were carried out by Col. Stacey and cleared with the Privy Council Office.(87) When Col. Stacey submitted the manuscript of Volume III for approval in January 1959, Gen. Foulkes now (Chairman, Chiefs of Staff) urged that the Minister, now Hon. G.R. Pearkes, not attempt to vet it. Mr. Pearkes agreed that it should be produced on the responsibility of the historian and not on the responsibility of the Department.(88) It was published early in 1960 as The Victory Campaign.

40. As early as 1956 an illustrated booklet was published under the title "Canada's Army in Korea." Drafted by Capt. F.R. McGuire, who had spent a year in the Far East as Historical Officer, it had been serialized in the Canadian Army Journal. An Historical Officer had been appointed to the Canadian Army Special Force organized during the summer of 1950, and a total of three members of the Historical Section held this appointment in turn. Also during 1956, on 6 February, the C.G.S. approved Col. Stacey's suggestion that confidential narratives be prepared dealing with Canadian defence policy and the development of the Army during the important period after 1945.(89) (Studies of defence policy were subsequently completed for the periods 1945-1950 and 1950-1955; reports were also compiled on the Canadian Rangers, Bilingual Problems in the Post-War Army, and Survival Operations.) During 1957 a paperback account of "Marlborough and the War of the Spanish Succession", written by Lt.-Col. Nicholson, was published by the Directorate of Military Training.

The titles of five similar paperbacks written for students studying military history are listed in the Appendix.

41. Publication of a summary history of the C.E.F. had been urged by the Canadian Legion as early as 1948. On more than one occasion during 1955 the Minister of National Defence had expressed personal interest in such a project to Col. Stacey. On 21 November 1955 Col. Stacey advised the C.G.S. that Lt.-Col. Nicholson would be free to begin work on a single volume history late in 1956 and it could be done without increasing the size of the Historical Section. On 21 June 1956 Mr. Campney secured Cabinet approval for the project. Research into the C.E.F. records was undertaken at the Public Archives Records Centre by Lt.-Col. Nicholson and a staff of three officers. Considerable use was made of the material compiled by Col. Duguid. During the late spring of 1959 Lt.-Col. Nicholson toured the battlefields of the onetime Western Front.(90)

42. Col. Stacey retired in 1959, on reaching the age limit; family reasons made him unwilling to continue. The Minister approved the promotion of Lt.-Col. Nicholson to succeed him. Col. Stacey was willing to retain a connection with the Historical Section as a civilian consultant and to write the policy volume authorized by Mr. Claxton in 1947, with no compensation beyond travelling and living expenses during any necessary visits to Ottawa. Gen. Foulkes suggested to the Minister on 26 January 1959, however, that "if this is to be an official history, we should have the necessary control over the historian by paying for his efforts," and that Col. Stacey should be called out in the summers and given his usual pay and allowances.(91). The Minister concurred. Arrangements were made for members of the Historical Section and both the Naval and Air Historians to provide Col. Stacey with draft narratives on particular topics.(92) A proposal that a one-volume account of Canadian operations in Korea be written was rebuffed by Gen. Foulkes, who suggested in May 1959 that "the material be prepared and the question of publishing the history be held in abeyance for a year."(93) Col. Stacey vacated the appointment of director on 31 July 1959; he had accepted a teaching post at the University of Toronto.


Recent Changes

43. Col. Nicholson assumed the duties of Director immediately but nothing was said of Col. Stacey's right of direct reference to the C.G.S. The appointment of Executive Officer lapsed. Lt.-Col. H.F. Wood, P.P.C.L.I. became Deputy Director. During the late autumn he began preliminary work on a history of operations in Korea, where he had commanded 3 P.P.C.L.I. Early in 1960 the Army Establishment Committee recommended a considerable reduction in the strength of the Historical Section. However, the Major, Captain, W.O.1 and others due to retire later in the year were permitted to finish their service in the Historical Section. On 15 May 1961 the Minister, now Hon. Douglas S. Harkness, approved the preparation and publication of a single volume (150,000 words) about Canadian military operations in Korea.(94) On 1 September 1961, Col. Nicholson retired, but an arrangement was made whereby he was to complete the C.E.F. volume on a part-time basis. The cartographer (Major Bond) also retired at this time and further mapping was left to a sergeant. Only two of the continuing narrators possessed graduate degrees in history. However, an annually increasing number of inquiries for the Minister's office, senior officers and other directorates of the Headquarters, other government departments and private citizens were now being handled more efficiently by Mrs. W.O. Sorby, M.B.E. (one-time senior C.W.A.C. officer at C.M.H.Q.).

44. The new Director, Col. G.M.C. Sprung, M.C., M.A., Ph.D., did not actually assume his appointment until mid-September 1961. A graduate in philosophy from the University of Berlin and a wartime intelligence staff officer, Col. Sprung was not familiar with historical matters. Work continued on Col. Nicholson's Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914-1919, which was published in 1962, and on Lt.-Col. Wood's volume on Korean operations. In April 1962 a Manpower Study Group recommended to the Minister that the Army Historical Section be made responsible for tri-service and defence history. Not until 9 October 1962 did the Minister direct the three Service Historians to study the best means of unification. When they met with the Co-ordinator, Joint Staff on 30 November, however, the Naval and Air Historians were unwilling to concede that the Minister had given any actual direction. On 15 January 1963 the Minister approved Col. Sprung's plan for an historical volume on the Armed Forces to mark the Canadian Centennial of 1967. The Naval and Air Historians and the Defence Research Board agreed to contribute chapters to what would be primarily an Army project until such time as there should be a single inter-service historical section.(95) Practically all existing research and writing was suspended so that the Army Historical Section could devote its attention to this Centennial Volume. On 31 August 1964 Col. Sprung ceased being Director and commenced his retirement leave,

45. Since the new Liberal Government headed by Rt. Hon. L.B. Pearson was committed to integration of the Armed Forces, a single Canadian Forces Headquarters, has been established in Ottawa, with effect from 1 August 1964. Lt.-Col. Wood merely assumed the temporary title of Army Historian. After some initial confusion, during which the three existing Historical Sections were placed under the Chief of Operational Readiness, they were transferred to control by the Secretary of the Defence Staff on 10 November 1964. Until a Director should be appointed, it was agreed that the Naval Historian should co-ordinate planning for a single inter-service historical section.(96) Lt.-Col. Hunter commenced his retirement leave on 30 April 1965; Lt.-Col. Wood commenced his own retirement leave on 31 May, with his Korean volume in the galley proof stage. Action on integration, however, was now being taken. The Minister of National Defence (the Hon. Paul T. Hellyer) invited Col. Stacey to take leave from the University of Toronto and inaugurate the new combined Historical Section. On 1 May 1965 Col. Stacey took up the appointment of Director, Historical Section, Canadian Forces Headquarters. Since he was employed temporarily under contract as a civilian, he wished to be known as Dr. Stacey.

46. This Report was drafted by Dr. J. Mackay Hitsman, and incorporates comments by Dr. C.P. Stacey.


C.P. Stacey

Director, Historical Section

APPENDIX

RECENT HISTORICAL SECTION PUBLICATIONS

- 1946 - The Canadians in Britain, 1939-1944
- 1946 - From Pachino to Ortona, 1943
- 1946 - Canada's Battle in Normandy
- 1947 - Les Canadiens en Grande Bretagne, 1939-1944
- 1947 - De Pachino à Ortona, 1943
- 1947 - Les Canadiens dans la Bataille en Normandie
- 1948 - The Canadian Army, 1939-1945
- 1949 - L'Armée Canadienne, 1939-1945
- 1950 - Introduction to the Study of Military History (for DMT)
- 1953 - Medical History - Vol. II - Clinical Subjects
- 1955 - Introduction à l'Etude de l'Histoire Militaire (for DMT)
- 1955 - Marlborough and the War of the Spanish Succession
(for DMT)
- 1955 - Six Years of War
- 1956 - The Canadians in Italy
- 1956 - Medical History - Vol. I - Organization and Campaigns
- 1956 - Canada's Army in Korea
- 1956 - L'Armée Canadienne en Corée
- 1957 - Six Années de Guerre
- 1957 - The Western Front, 1914 (for DMT)
- 1958 - The British Campaigns in the Peninsula, 1808-1814
(for DMT)
- 1960 - Les Canadiens en Italie, 1943-1945
- 1960 - Introduction to the Study of Military History
(5th Edition, 2nd Revision) (for DMT)
- 1960 - The Victory Campaign
- 1961 - La Campagne de la Victoire
- 1961 - Marshal Foch: A Study in Leadership (for DMT)
- 1961 - Military Inspection Services in Canada, 1855-1950
- 1962 - Canadian Expeditionary Force, 1914-1919
- 1963 - Corps expéditionnaire canadien, 1914-1919
- 1964 - Napoleon in Victory and Defeat (for DMT)
- 1964 - The Regiments and Corps of The Canadian Army

CHART "A"

HISTORICAL SECTION (GS), 1939

Col. A.F. Duguid
(Director)

Capt. J.I.P. Neal
(Maps)

Major J.F. Cummins
(Ass. to Director)
Supervises clerical work, writes
monographs, works with Director
on Official History and other tasks

Mr. W. Davidson,
(Great War Archivist)
Custody war diaries,
furnishes information
for Official History
and outside historians

Mr. W. Douglas
(Head Clerk)
Also prepares data for
Official History.

Mr. E. Pye
(Clerk, Grade 4)
Military history inquiries
and monographs

W.O. I Boss, W.
Prepares monographs,
answers to queries and
routine work on Official
History

W.O. II Blyth, R.
Statistical Charts
for Official History

Mr. G.T. Bowen
(Clerk, unclassified)
Custody of C.E.F. documents
not held by Mr. Davidson

Mr. R.S. Meade
(Clerk Stenographer, Grade 2)

Miss E. Esdale
(Stenographer, Grade 2)

Miss I. Fortier
(Typist)

Orderly
(Cpl)

Miss I. Doland
(Typist, Grade 1)

CHART "B"

HISTORICAL SECTION, 1955.

Director - Col. Stacey
Steno & - W.O. II Lemay
Supt Clerk

Medical Sub-Section
Capt. - Blocked
Sgt Grindlay

Major Bissonnette
at C. A. L. E., London

D/Director - Lt.-Col. Nicholson
Steno - S/Sgt Woollam

Hist 1 (Executive)
Lt.-Col. Lynn-Grant
Steno Miss Meehan

Hist 2 (Narrators)
Lt.-Col. Carlisle
Steno - Mrs. Scott

Hist 1A

Capt. Cameron
Typist - vacant

General Office
Sgt Soucy
Pte Lanoue (Orderly)

War Diaries

Sgt Azar
Cpl Kilmartin
Cpl Allan

Hist 1B

Major Fenelon
W.O. I Fowler
S/Sgt MacDonald
Cpl Handley
Cpl Smith
Cpl Lanthier
Pte Richer
Clerk 3 (vanant)
Mrs. Fraser (typist)

Mr. Pye
Mrs. Lapointe (typist)

Hist 2A

Major Hunter
Capt. Disher
Capt. McGuire
Capt. - blocked
Capt. vacant
Mr. Hitsman
Mr. Steiger

Typing Pool

S/Sgt Wellstood
Sgt St.-Jean
Cpl Sigouin
Cpl Lamothe
Mr. Wallingford (typist)
Civilian steno - vacant

Hist 2B(Maps)

Capt. Bond
Sgt. MacKay

CHART "C"
HISTORICAL SECTION, 1962

Director - Col. G.M.C. Sprung
D.D. Hist - Lt.-Col. H.F. Wood

Hist 1
Capt. A.L. Disher
WO 2 L.T. Catton
S/Sgt R.C. Wellstood
Sgt J.E.P.E. St-Jean
Mrs. M.A.C. Cote (Stenographer 2)
Mr. J.A.G. Vallières (Orderly)

Hist 2
Lt.-Col. T.M. Hunter

Narrators
Major D.J. Goodspeed
Capt. F.R. McGuire
Capt. J.A. Swettenham
Lt. R.W. Cuthbert
Lt. R.I. Martin

Cartographer
Sgt E.H. Ellwand

Mr. J.M. Hitsman (Archivist 4)
Mr. A.G. Steiger (Tech Offr 6)

Hist 1A
(War Diaries)
Sgt A.A. Azar
Sgt H.C. Desjardins

Hist 1B
(Inquiries)
Mrs. W.O. Sorby (A.O.3)
S/Sgt J.J. MacDonald
Sgt P.R. Marshall
Cpl R. Lamothe
Cpl. P.A. Gower
Mr. S.M. Wallingford
(Typist 2)

Typist Pool
Sgt G.H. St-Jean
Cpl W.R. McRoberts
Miss M.M. Creamer (Typist 2)
Mrs. C.A. Griecken (Typist 1)
Mrs. G. McKeigan (Stenographer 2)

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