

Larry Burden's – This Day in the RCMP

Former RCMP Larry Burden, Sgt. (Retd. #35982), has spent over ten years researching and summarizing these achievements/events by specific date.

In an effort to share his research to a large group, Larry has agreed to permit the RCMP Veterans' Association, Ottawa Division to share his work on our digital platforms (Facebook and our website).

If you wish to contact Larry Burden or provide additional information about his research, please email him at larryburden8@gmail.com.

March 1st

1917 - The Alberta Government decides to replace the RNWMP as their provincial police and create the Alberta Provincial Police Force, which lasts until 1928 when it is dissolved due to the economic effects of the Great Depression and provincial policing is resumed by the RCMP.

1918 - For his role in the investigation and arrest of a suspect in a theft of mail case in Edmonton Alberta, #5379 Constable Arthur Moss was awarded \$25 for meritorious service from the Fine Fund.

1923 - Members of Parliament defeat a vote to disband the RCMP.

1966 - As a result of solving one of Canada's highest profile cases three men receive the RCMP's highest honour, the Commissioners Commendation. A daring robbery at the Winnipeg airport netted five criminals several gold bars. #14863 Robert Morley, #17296 Thomas Gardiner and #17625 Allen Richards foiled their plans of getting rich when they arrested all five suspects and recovered the gold.

1977 - Too often police officers find themselves alone in dangerous situations having fight for their lives.

This was the case for Constable #28948 J.M. Crawford when fate brought him to a confrontation with armed and violent, deranged man at Oxford Nova Scotia. Fortunately for the lone constable, Mr. Glen Ronald Dykens came to his assistance and they were able to disarm and subdue the suspect. In recognition of his courage and support of a policeman in need of assistance Mr. Dykens was awarded the Commanding Officers Commendation and Constable Crawford received a formal Letter of Appreciation.

March 2nd

1891 - Honour Roll Number 18.

#913 Cst. James Herron, age 29, died during a blizzard near St. Mary's River, while on patrol. The native of Ireland had lost his way due to snow blindness and is believed to have shot himself after freezing his nose, wrists and fingers. He was buried in the Union Cemetery at MacLeod Alberta.

1989 - #39329 Constable B.W. Smith of Surrey, BC, earned a Commanding Officers Commendation for bravery as a result of arresting an armed robbery suspect who was thought to have been armed with a handgun and a bomb.

March 3rd

1962 - Two 14-year-old boys driving a stolen car, fled a service station without paying for gasoline. When the police caught up to them one of the boys began shooting at the police car and seriously wounded Constable #21465 Anthony Terrance Cooper who was in the passenger seat of the pursuit car. He was rushed to hospital at Moosomin, Saskatchewan and received five blood transfusions. Fortunately he survived and continued with his career retiring in 1986 as a Staff Sergeant.

1967 - Brothers match a stolen car to its thief. It is not uncommon for brothers to serve in the Mounted Police at the same time but seldom are they involved in the same case. On this day #19695 Cpl. Robert Fairhurst, a Forensic Identification specialist, attended to the Williams Lake, B.C. detachment to examine a stolen car for evidence. The car had been recovered by his older brother, #18343 Ronald Fairhurst. When the vehicle was examined, Robert found a match stub in the car which he successfully matched to the match folder that his brother had seized from the suspect's pocket!

1971 - At a ceremony at Buckingham Palace, Queen Elizabeth II invests Commissioner Nicholson as Bailiff Grand Cross of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. This was only the second time a Canadian citizen had been accorded this honour.

2005 - Honour Roll Numbers 206, 207, 208 & 209.

Constables #49673 Anthony Fitzgerald Orion Gordon age 28, **#48568, Lionide (Leo) Nicholas Johnston** age 32, **#51874 Brock Warren Myrol** 29 and **#48064 Peter**

Christopher Schiemann age 25 were murdered while guarding the scene of a chop shop, on a farm near Mayerthorpe, Alberta.

This was one of the greatest tragedies and losses to gunfire in the history of the RCMP resulting in the deaths of four members. Constables Peter Schiemann and Leo Johnston were the veterans of this squad and they only had three years' service as compared to Anthony Gordon who had two and Brock Myrol who had only graduated from the police academy two weeks previously. This tragedy began on the afternoon of March 2nd when two bailiffs went out to the farm belonging to James Roszko to execute a civil order to seize a Ford truck.

Roszko's reputation for being short tempered and violent was well known in the area so the bailiffs contacted the Mayerthorpe Detachment and asked for a member to attend to the farm to "keep the peace" while they seized the truck. When the bailiffs arrived at the property around 3:00 p.m. they found the main gate locked and saw a man they believed to be Roszko moving about the property. After calling out his name the bailiffs were confronted by two aggressive Rottweilers that rushed to the gate. While they waited for the police to arrive, they watched Roszko give them the finger get into his pickup truck and speed away from the scene. When #37858 Corporal James Martin, along with three other members from Mayerthorpe Detachment, arrived at the property they went in with the bailiffs. After pepper spraying the dogs and forcing them into a shed, they accompanied the bailiffs who proceeded to search the property for the vehicle they had come to repossess. When the men entered a large Quonset building, they discovered an automotive chop shop and marijuana grow op. The scene was then secured so a criminal search warrant could be obtained and additional members were called in from Mayerthorpe and the neighboring Whitecourt detachment to secure the scene. While the search warrant applications were prepared, the Edmonton Auto Theft Unit was notified. At 8:40 p.m. the search warrants arrived and the criminal search of the property began. After being briefed on the situation, the Mayerthorpe Detachment Commander #39934 Sgt. Pinder arrived at the scene at 10 p.m. and the RCMP-Edmonton Police Green Team arrived at 11:30 p.m. and dismantled the grow-op, seized 280 marijuana plants and left the scene at 04:30 a.m. Throughout the evening the police received several unconfirmed sightings of Roszko's vehicle in the Mayerthorpe area. Constables Gordon and Johnston are then sent to guard the scene until morning.

At 9:10 a.m. Cst. Schiemann left the Mayerthorpe Detachment, and drove out to the scene arriving shortly before the two plainclothes Auto Theft members #35087 Cpl. Steve Vigor and #42788 Cst. Garrett H. Hoogestraat. When they get out of their car, they observe two members on top of a shed sedating the dogs, then the four constables walk over to the Quonset while the Auto Theft men changed into their coveralls.

Suddenly, gunfire was heard from inside the building and upon hearing the shots Cst. Vigor yelled to his partner to call in a 10-33 (Officers need assistance) and rushed toward the front of the building where he saw James Roszko armed with a Heckler and Koch Model .308-calibre rifle come out of the building. Roszko had assumed he had shot all of the police officers and was momentarily shocked to see the other policemen in the yard.

He fired at Cpl. Vigor missing him and striking a police car. Cpl. Vigor immediately fired back and two of his shots struck Roszko in his left hand and right thigh. Roszko then staggered back inside the Quonset. As shots were being fired Cst. Hoogestraat backed his car to provide cover for his partner. After Roszko retreated inside the building the two officers called out to the members inside but no response was received from any of the men.

By 10:19 a.m. the property is crawling with members from the Emergency Response Team, explosive units, police dogs and a helicopter. At 2 p.m. an explosives unit robot equipped with a real-time video camera is sent into the Quonset and after fifteen minutes of searching the Emergency Response Team is given the order to enter the Quonset. The team members find the bodies of all four policemen and Roszko dead from a self-inflicted gunshot.

In the subsequent investigation, the members at the scene discover that Cpl. Vigor had succeeded in hitting Roszko four times when he fired back at the gunman and that two shots hit him in the groin area, a third bullet hit a pistol Roszko had tucked in the front of his pants and the fourth round hit the rifle stock the gunman was using to shoot everyone.

Immediately people began asking how a gunman could return to the farm and get the jump on four policemen; the answers were found in the examination of the scene. James Roszko had placed socks over his boots for silence and a white bed sheet that he was believed to have used as camouflage was found nearby in the snow-covered field.

Many questions still remain as to how and when he entered the building without being detected, but the fact is that he deliberately returned to the property and stalked the police officers and when the opportunity presented itself, he murdered these young policemen in a cold, calculated manner and none of them had a chance. If it had not been for the tactical emergency response training of Cpl. Vigor enabling him to return fire with such accuracy there is a very real possibility that many more policemen would have been murdered that fateful day.

The news of the multiple murders of four young policemen had an immediate impact on people across Canada, and the entire nation was thrown into a state of shock. Canada is a relatively peaceful country and police officers are seldom killed in the line of duty. The outpouring of national grief was swift and moving, which speaks to the values of the Canadian people. Unlike many other countries in the world, where the shooting death of a police officer is just a local issue, in this country it is a national tragedy.

The memorial service for the four men was broadcast live to the world and thousands of law enforcement and emergency personnel from around the world attended in person. Across the country thousands more gathered together in police stations, fire halls and community centers across the land watching the service on TV.

In recognition of his courage under fire on February 29th, 2008 Cpl. Stephen W. Vigor was awarded the Medal of Bravery by the Governor General of Canada.

March 4th

1946 - As a result of the Gouzenko revelations the RCMP laid charges against Communist Member of Parliament, Fred Rose and 13 others for spying for the Soviet Union.

1969- The RCMP decides to replace the last remaining dog sled teams with snowmobiles.

March 5th

1911- #4862 Alonzo White was awarded \$25 from the Fine Fund to for his arduous work and hardship patrols in checking on the condition of settlers in the Wild Horse and Pendant d'Oreille Districts.

1945- A Commendation is awarded to #13061 Constable William Ritchie for his prompt response and his rendering first aid to those more seriously injured than himself in train derailment near Zorre, Ontario.

2001- Honour Roll Number 196.

#32250 Constable Jurgen Siegfried Seewald age 48 was shot and killed on duty, while investigating a domestic dispute, in Cape Dorset, Nunavut.

Ziggy Seewald had been in the RCMP since 1975 and in 2000 had requested a transfer back to the Arctic from Bible Hill Nova Scotia to finish off his career. He had planned to retire in 2002. In October he was posted to the troubled community of Cape Dorset, well known for its violence due to drugs and alcohol. Around midnight on May 4th the police received a domestic abuse call from Barbara Ettinger complaining that her boyfriend Salamonie Jaw was drunk and causing problems. Cst. Seewald decided to attend the complaint himself and went over to the tri-plex. While there he found Jaw in a foul mood and he attempted to get him to sit down and shut up. When Jaw refused to comply with Seewald's commands, he got aggressive and when the policeman attempted to push him into a chair a fight broke out. Constable Seewald then resorted to using pepper spray in an effort to subdue him, but it had little effect on Jaw. As Seewald attempted to wrestle him towards the apartment door, Jaw grabbed a loaded shotgun and both he and the constable struggled for it. In the process Jaw pulled the trigger and shot Seewald in the abdomen and showing little emotion, walked out of the house. Constable Seewald was then moved to the local nursing station, but his wound was so serious that he died.

Salamonie Jaw had fled to a neighbor's house and barricaded himself inside, so the Emergency Response Team was flown in from Iqaluit. After several hours of negotiations with the police, Jaw finally gave up and walked out of the house and was arrested. Three years later he was convicted and sentenced to life in prison.

Ziggy Sewald's body was flown back to his wife and adult children in Antigonish Nova Scotia where a huge funeral was held at St. Francis Xavier University attended by over 400 uniformed police officers and hundreds of local citizens. The man who had served in the northern communities of Hay River, Fort Liard, Cape Dorset and in Amherst, Antigonish, and Bible Hill, Nova Scotia as well as with the United Nations in Yugoslavia was laid to rest in a little cemetery overlooking the Northumberland Strait at Arisaig Nova Scotia.

March 6th

1911 - #4817 Constable Edwin Smith was awarded \$25 from the Fine Fund in recognition of his good work in searching for missing settlers north of Medicine Hat, Alberta.

1938 - Stuart Taylor Wood. C.M.G. becomes the eighth permanent Commissioner and serves until April 30, 1951

Commissioner Wood had a distinguished family history including, General Zachary Taylor John Taylor, the twelfth President of the United States and Captain John Taylor Wood the famous Confederate Naval Commander, who is buried in Halifax Nova Scotia. Commissioner Wood's father was appointed an inspector in the NWMP in 1885. Both he and his father were graduates of the Royal Military College in Kingston Ontario. Commissioner Wood was commissioned as an Inspector in the RNWMP in 1912. He served as a lieutenant in WWI and retired from the RCMP in 1951. Stuart Taylor Wood died in 1966.

1962 - The RCMP investigates the bombing of an electric power pylon near Riondel BC. The investigation identifies the Sons of Freedom sect of the "The Doukhobors" as being the culprits.

1986 - Honour Roll Number 180.

#S/2886 **Robert W.C. Thomas** was murdered while working Highway Patrol near Powerview, Manitoba.

At approximately 1:00 a.m. Special Constable Robert Thomas was patrolling with is partner #37371 Constable Reginald Albert Gulliford near Powerview, Manitoba 80 miles

north of Winnipeg. They decided to check a vehicle that was parked at a service station with two occupants in the car and assumed that they had run out of gas.

After a brief conversation with the driver the two policemen turned and walked back to their car when the driver suddenly got out of his car armed with a .303 rifle and shot Cst. Thomas in the back from only six feet away killing him instantly. Cst. Gulliford managed to pull his revolver and return fire but the gunman wounded him in the wrist and chest rendering him unconscious on the pavement.

After shooting the policemen the 46-year-old gunman Edgar Martin Olson and his female passenger drove to the Fort Alexander Reserve in search of Olson's estranged common-law wife who had left him to live with her first husband Harry Fontaine. Arriving at the Fontaine residence, Olsen took them hostage and threatened to kill them both. While he held the pair hostage, one of the Fontaine children ran to a neighbor's house and called the police. During the standoff with the police, Harry Fontaine succeeded in grabbing the rifle and striking Olsen with it, as the rest of the hostages ran out of the building the police rushed in and overpowered him. After arresting Olsen, the police discovered that he was out on parole for attempted murder. He was later convicted of first-degree murder and was sentenced to 25 years in prison. He committed suicide six years later.

Special Constable Robert Thomas was buried in the United Church graveyard on the Peguis Reserve the community where he had grown up. Cst. Reg Gulliford recovered from his wounds and was eventually transferred back to his home Province of Newfoundland.

2017 - Honour Roll Number 238

As a result of increasing numbers of asylum seekers illegally crossing the border into Canada along the Quebec/American borderline, the RCMP was forced to reassign many members from their regular duties to patrol the border. One of those police officers was 42-year-old # **57789 Constable Richer E. S. Dubuc**.

On this day Cst. Dubuc was responding to a dispatch and was travelling westbound in a marked police car on Route 202 near Roxham Road, Saint-Benard-de-Lacolle, ten kilometers from the border, when he lost control of the Chevrolet Tahoe he was driving and collided with a farm tractor at 6:20 p.m. After hitting the tractor, his vehicle went off the road and slammed into an Elm tree.

He was rushed to the hospital in critical condition but died later. The driver of the survived the collision with minor injuries to his head and back.

The 6' 5" native of Joliette, Quebec and father of four children graduated from the RCMP Training Academy in June of 2009 and was posted to Codiac Detachment, in Moncton, New Brunswick. While in Moncton he became a member of the Emergency Response Team (ERT), where his former employment as a Paramedic was put to good use as the team's Emergency Medical Technician.

Two months before his death he had been transferred to the Integrated Border Enforcement Team based in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec.

On September 10th, 2017, Constable Dubec's name was added to the RCMP Cenotaph in a ceremony involving a memorial parade, the laying of wreaths, the reading of the names of the fallen members of the Force along with bagpipe laments, bugle calls and two minutes of silence. With the addition of Constable Dubec, the total number of fallen members since the creation of the North-West Mounted Police in 1873 became 238.

March 7th

1898 - #2412 Constable George Butler along with three other members left Edmonton to establish Peace River Landing Detachment.

1993 - Commendation awarded to #37077 Thomas Roy for safe arrest of armed and intoxicated man Lac La Martre, NWT.

March 8th

1900 - Members of the Lord Strathcona Horse receive an enthusiastic send-off on Parliament Hill as they depart for the Boer War. The unit includes seven officers and 26 men who are leave from the NWMP and are commanded by Supt. Samuel Benfield Steele 1849-1919.

1939 - After having lunch #6369/ O.283 Inspector Robson Armitage was walking back to his office on Rideau Street in Ottawa when he heard two gunshots. Turning towards the noise he saw two men run from the Bank of Montreal and race down the street.

Despite the fact he was unarmed and dressed in civilian clothing Armitage chased after the fugitives and caught one of the gunmen after he went down an alley and tried to climb a wooden fence. Though the robber threatened several times to shoot him, Armitage continued to wrestle with the gunman until he lost his grip on him. After freeing himself from the struggle the man raced away with Armitage still pursuing him until he was tackled a second time by the policeman near a warehouse. With the help of a citizen the gunman was finally subdued and turned over to Ottawa City Police Detective Sabourin.

The second robber was arrested a short time later and both men were convicted and sentenced to lengthy prison sentences. On September 25, 1940 Inspector Robson Armitage along with five other police and firemen were awarded the Kings Police and Fire Medal. In receiving his medal for conspicuous gallantry, the Right Honorable Ernest

LaPointe, Minister of Justice noted that Inspector Armitage's actions were exceptional considering that he was unarmed and had knowingly chased down an armed man 25 years younger in age.

1990 - The RCMP accepts the blame for bungled Donald Marshall investigation in Nova Scotia.

March 10th

1932 - #11297 John "Jack" Fossum, author of "Cop In The Closet" and "Man Catcher" joins the RCMP.

1937 - Honour Roll Number 60.

#11818 Constable George Edward Horan age 25 was killed in police car accident.

While driving from Belleville to Deseronto, Ontario Cst. Horan met an approaching Cities Service oil truck at a bridge three miles east of Deseronto. The truck sideswiped Horan's police car flipping it over and killing him instantly. William Hopping, the unlicensed truck driver was found at fault for not dimming his headlights and for not having any clearance lights on his vehicle. He received a fine of \$6.00. Cst. Horan was only the second member of the Force to be killed in a police car collision. He had only been in the RCMP for four and a half years. This was the second fatal police car accident in history of the Force. Constable Horan was buried in the Gillis Cove cemetery near his hometown of Orangedale, Nova Scotia.

1952 - A new Detachment was opened at Kitimat, B.C. by #15302 Constable James Smythe. He served from 1947 to 1972 and retired a Sgt. The author arrived in Kitimat fresh from Depot as a wide-eyed rookie on December 29, 1980.

1959 - RCMP and Royal Newfoundland Constabulary are called in to clear picket lines in the International Association of Woodworkers Union strike that began on Jan 1, 1959. The union had been decertified by Premier Smallwood government. In the clash with striking loggers 24-year-old Constable William Moss of the RNC is hit in the head with a pulp log and dies two days later in hospital in Grand Falls.

1960 – Indigenous persons received the right to vote in Canadian federal elections.

1974 - Commanding Officers Commendations are awarded to #22097 George Batt, #25212 Alexander Steeves, #25490 Robert Baird, #27633 Clarence Fidler, #28949 James Crawford & #29571 James Estey

The policemen responded to a Break and Enter at a residence in Antigonish, N.S. The thieves got the jump on one of the members and was holding him at gun point and shot at one of the police cars. The thieves then fled to nearby house and took woman hostage. After a standoff one of the thieves was shot by police and the second assailant surrendered.

March 11th

1896 – Honour Roll Number 1.

#135 Sub Constable John D. Nash age 27 was accidentally killed while on duty near Fort MacLeod. Cst. Nash was hauling logs be used in the construction of buildings at Fort Walsh by horse and wagon when the load of logs fell on him.

Nash was one of the original members of the famous March West and was from Halifax Nova Scotia. He was not the first member to die on duty in the NWMP but was the first attributed to being killed in a duty related incident. There is little known about Cst. Nash because his service file was lost when the west block of the Parliament buildings burned in 1897. He was buried in the in the Protestant plot of the Union Cemetery at Fort MacLeod, in grave 3, row 1.

1969 - The last RCMP Dog Sled Patrol is conducted at Old Crow Yukon.

1978 - Upon arriving at a hotel in Yorkton, Saskatchewan#19803 Staff Sergeant G. Parchomchuk and three other civilians removed the lifeless body of Raymond Hofer from the bottom of the swimming pool. Through their efforts in performing CPR Hofer was revived and taken to hospital. Staff Sergeant Parchomchuk and the other three citizens were awarded the Meritorious Certificate from Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. 1982– 35-cent RCMP constable on horseback postage stamp is released. It is a reproduction of the first Canadian postage stamp depicting a member of the Mounted Police that was originally released in 1935. To this day nobody knows who the Mountie was that posed for the photo that was used for the stamp image.

1982 – The 35-cent RCMP constable on horseback postage stamp is released. It is a reproduction of the first Canadian postage stamp depicting a member of the Mounted Police that was originally released in 1935. To this day nobody knows who the Mountie was that posed for the photo that was used for the stamp image.

1993 - #38439 Constable Brent Harold Veefkind, age 33 was killed on duty in a motor vehicle accident near Bezanson, Alberta.

Constable Veefkind was posted with the Grand Prairie Municipal Detachment, Alberta at the time of his death. He is one of several members of the Force who are not included in the Official Honour Rol due to a change in the policy regarding criteria for inclusion in the Honour Roll.

2011

Constable James Robert Guthrie, M.B.
Paris and Hamilton, Ontario

Constable Clifford J. Leavitt, M.B.
Spirit River, Alberta

Constable Adam D. Palmer, M.B.
Canmore, Alberta

Constable Douglas Wade Philip, M.B.
Red Deer, Alberta

On March 19, 2011, RCMP constables James Guthrie, Clifford Leavitt, Adam Palmer and Douglas Philip risked their lives to apprehend a heavily armed, escaped convict near Sexsmith, Alberta.

After setting up a road block, the officers maintained their position during the two-hour standoff. The suspect then closed in on the constables with his car and fired on them with his high-powered weapons. The officers returned fire and subsequently apprehended the criminal when his vehicle became stuck in a muddy ditch.

March 12th

1943 - #13097 Constable Charles DeLisle departed on a 151-day dog sled patrol from Pond Inlet to Fort Ross and back again covering a distance of 3,551 miles.

1975 - The RCMP charges 13 companies and 14 people with conspiring to defraud Ottawa and Ontario of \$4 million; Liberal Party members cleared in Hamilton Harbour dredging scandal.

2002 - Honour Roll Number 198.

#45279 Constable Christine Elizabeth Diotte age 35 was killed while investigating a single motor vehicle accident near Banff, Alberta.

Christine and her husband Mario had been transferred to Banff in July of 2001 and she was assigned the responsibility of field training a new recruit in December 2001. Four months later she and her recruit #51235 Constable Dave Davis were driving back to the detachment on very icy roads when a report of a roll over motor vehicle accident on the Trans-Canada Highway was received.

Constable Diotte decided to tag along with Davis and give him a hand instead of being dropped off at the detachment. The constables made their way to the scene and discovered that the vehicle had lost control on the curve of the icy road and slid into the ditch. They confirmed that there were no injuries and called for a tow truck. As the two members were removing traffic cones from the trunk of their car Constable Davis proceeded to walk over to the occupants of the roll over vehicle when a Ford Explorer came around the curve and lost control and slammed sideways into both police officers.

Constable Davis was knocked unconscious and thrown into the ditch while Diotte was crushed between the Explorer and the back of the police car. Both officers were transported by ambulance to the Mineral Springs Hospital in Banff, but Christine Diotte could not be revived.

Christine Elizabeth Diotte (nee Fish) from Thunder Bay Ontario, joined the RCMP in 1996. She was given a full regimental funeral attended by over 600 police officers including her husband, Mario. She was buried in the military section of the Canmore Cemetery.

Constable Davis spent several months recuperating from his injuries and eventually returned to full duty.

March 13th

1916 - Manitoba becomes the first province to vote for prohibition of alcoholic beverages.

1968 - Commissioners Commendations and grants from the Benefit Trust Fund for \$100 awarded to #16665 S/Sgt Peter Blake Payne and #23801 Constable Murray Donovan Charlton for the arrest of armed and dangerous man in Richmond, B.C.

1971 - FLQ terrorist Paul Rose receives a life sentence for the non-capital murder of Quebec Labour Minister Pierre Laporte who was kidnapped during the October Crisis of 1970. His brother Jacques Rose, and associates Francis Simard and Bernard Lortie were also sentenced. In November, Paul Rose receives an additional life term for kidnapping Laporte. He was granted full parole in 1982.

March 14th

1972 - Despite the fact that a juvenile offender in Fort St. James BC was shooting at six policemen in an armed standoff, officers succeeded in apprehending the young man without having to shoot him. Their actions resulted in 39-year-old #17909 Sergeant Hugh Dickson Bowyer, and Constables #27741 Karl Waversveld 23, #27918 Fredrick Duke Larson 22, #27680 William John Code 23, #28368 Larry David Charles Christensen 22 and #29161 Lewis James Wilkinson 22 being awarded Commanding Officers Commendations.

1975 - Constable # 27317 B.N. Toews was presented a Commanding Officers Commendation.

1987 - Three Special Constables rushed to the scene of a fire at Toronto's Lester B. Pearson Airport and successfully put out the blaze before the Fire Department arrived.

Special Constables D.M. Heslop, L.D. Little and #41323 K.J. L. Cosman rushed to the second floor of the administration building after a cleaner discovered the fire. Entering the area, they attempted to fight the fire with a portable fire extinguisher, but it was too small to contain the blaze. They then fought their way through the smoke and heat and attempted to use the buildings fire hose, but the valve would not open. Undaunted the trio found another fire extinguisher and finally succeeded in dousing the fire. All three members had to be treated for smoke inhalation. In recognition of their efforts, which likely saved the entire building, they were awarded Commanding Officers Commendations.

March 15th

1915 - Constables #4793 Thomas Irvine, #4436 John Goodrich & #4685 Samuel Waugh were awarded \$25 each from Fine Fund for meritorious service regarding the Donovan & McKeage cattle theft investigation in Alberta.

1931 - Warner's Pictures release "The Rivers End" starring Charles Bickford as Sgt. Derry Conniston who plays a dual role as his twin brother John Keith who he never knew because they were separated at birth and happens to be a falsely accused murderer. Sgt. Conniston is accidentally killed, by a "frosted heart" and Keith assumes the Mountie's identity and manages to solve the murder for which he was accused. This movie is a remake of a 1920 film and is redone for the third time in 1940 starring Dennis Morgan.

1962 - The George Medal was awarded to #18624 Constable Glen Garry Frazer. Frazer attended to a bank alarm in Terrace BC, and when he walked into bank, the robber who was in the process of fleeing from the bank shot him in the leg. Frazer's life was spared but his leg had to be amputated at the knee. Fraser continued on with his career and retired a Staff Sergeant.

1966 - The Certificate of Meritorious Service from the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem was issued to #23816 Constable Ivan Comete, as a result of saving the life of a man who had been pinned under steel beam at the Dorval Airport in Montreal. Constable Comete took charge of the situation and ordered others to get car jacks to lift the beam off of the victim who had ceased breathing. As the victim was being released, Comete provided artificial respiration to the man and succeeded in saving his life.

1983 - After Mrs. Anita Lee gave birth to a baby girl in the back seat of a car in Richmond BC, Constable Judy E. Jane' was called to the scene to assist because the baby wasn't breathing and the member at the scene couldn't revive the child. Constable Jane' cleared the baby's airway and gently massaged the child's chest and after seven minutes of artificial respiration succeeded in reviving the child. She was awarded the Meritorious Certificate from the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem.

1989 - Honour Roll Number 187.

#40153 Cst. Della Sonya Beyak age 21 died as a result of a motor vehicle accident, near Assiniboia, Sask. Cst. Beyak was working in the detachment office on her day off doing voluntary overtime when a massive traffic accident involving a large crane and a van occurred on Highway #2 south of the town of Assiniboia.

When the police officers at the scene requested assistance, Cst. Beyak left the office and headed to the scene in a snowstorm. When she encountered a slow-moving vehicle, she attempted to pass it and as she edged her police car to the left in an attempt to see if the path was clear she collided head on with an oncoming vehicle. Ironically the vehicle she collided with was driven by the local Coroner who was returning from the scene with the deceased driver of the van following close behind in an ambulance. The two cars collided and then the ambulance plowed into the back of the coroner's vehicle. Both the Coroner and Cst. Beyak were killed instantly.

Constable Della Beyak had only been in the RCMP for less than one year and was the first female member of the Force to be entered on the Honour Roll. She was buried in the Cemetery in her hometown of Winnipegosis, Manitoba.

March 17th

1898 - At the peak of the gold rush the Mounted Police decided to establish a new detachment on the Stikine River at the boundary post known as Moors Landing. #O.56 Inspector Philip Carteret Hill Primrose (also see October 1, 1936) was charged with leading a party of twenty men, ten horses, 25 dogs and 80 tons (72,575 kilos) of supplies to the new posting in the Yukon Territory. The group traveled from Regina Saskatchewan on the Canadian Pacific Railway to Vancouver, British Columbia and then sailed to Fort Wrangle, Alaska aboard the on the S.S. "Tees". From Fort Wrangle, they traveled on the Hudson Bay boat "Glenora" to Cottonwood Island at the mouth of the Stikine River. Then they traveled 35 miles (56 kilometers) upstream to their destination. Included in his troop of twenty men were #2357 Sgt/Major William Bowdridge, Corporals #3121 Harry Cobb, #3209 Albert Price and Constables #2430 George Alleger, #3023 John Ellis, #3172 Philip Holloway, #3181 William Binns, and #3204 Henry Ambrose.

1937 - Constable subdues two prisoners with a coal shovel.

#11361 Constable William Davis was escorting two prisoners by train in the smoking car from Edmonton Alberta to the Prince Albert Penitentiary. During the escort one of the prisoners obtained a bottle and struck Davis on the head with it. After stunning him the pair attacked him and struck him repeatedly with the bottle and then stole his revolver from his holster and tried to shoot through their leg irons. Despite being severely stunned with the bottle Constable Davis rallied and grabbing a coal shovel smacked the prisoners with it and retrieved his revolver. Having succeeded in gaining control of his assailants he continued on with the escort and delivered both of his charges to the penitentiary.

1941 - Several members of the RCMP were transferred to military service in 5th reinforcement draft to Provost Corps including #11057 Constable Thomas Tait.

1978 - The RCMP charge Toronto Sun newspaper editor Peter Worthington and publisher Donald Creighton with violating Official Secrets Act after they published information from a secret report on Soviet espionage activities in Canada.

1982 - #29673 Corporal P.J. MacQueen was driving in downtown Kitchener when he noticed a suspicious looking man outside the Mayfair Hotel. MacQueen's street sense kicked in and he decided to get another look at the man, so he circled the block. Upon his return to the scene, he found the man in a struggle with Kitchener-Waterloo policeman and was on top of the policeman attempting to grab his revolver. MacQueen jumped out of his car and entered the fray just in time to grab the gun from the assailant and subdue him. In appreciation of his actions the Kitchener-Waterloo Police awarded him a Citation for saving the life of one of their members.

1994 - #36845 Cst Thomas Gravelle while under gunfire arrested two-armed robbery suspects in Delta, B.C.

March 18th

1914 - #5333 Cst Robert Russell was given free discharge to rejoin the Imperial Army as a Reservist. Most members of the Mounted Police who left the force to serve in WW1 had to purchase out of the Force and had to pay \$5 for every month they had left in their contract. At the end of the war those men who survived were refunded their purchase.

March 19th

1901 - Following their service in the Boer War constables #3733 Cst Reginald Cadman and #3729 Cst Archibald Howard were granted free discharges from the NWMP to join the newly created South African Constabulary headed by Superintendent Sam Steele.

1985 - Honour Roll Number 177.

Dog handler **#33631 Constable Michael Joseph Buday** age 27 was shot and killed on duty as an emergency response team member, during the attempted apprehension of murder suspect Michael Oros at Tesslin Lake BC.

Michael OROS, an American fugitive from a mental institution had lived as a paranoid recluse in the wilderness around Atlin, British Columbia and Teslin Lake for several years. In the spring of 1984, a chartered bush plane dropped Gunter Lischy off with supplies at Hutsigola Lake to be picked up in the fall. On the return trip, he was not present but Oros was, with an incoherent implausible explanation. He was strongly suspected of murdering Lischy and police were called in. Oros was found in a squalid shack with some of Lischy's belongings and was arrested. No trace of Lischy could be found, nor was there any evidence to actually prove he was deceased.

In March, 1985 Michael Oros was arrested after the Emergency Response Team was flown in to assist in arresting him. During the arrest, the ERT members had to shoot and kill all of his dogs so they could apprehend him and transport him to court in Kitimat. Even though his mother made a plea to the judge to have him returned to Oregon, Oros was released by the court. The author was assigned the task of releasing Oros from cells. As #35982 Cst. Larry Burden processed him, Oros rambled on about how the CIA was using UFOs to poison the water near his cabin and had installed satellite listening devices to spy on him. With nothing more than the clothes on his back, the experienced woodsman rushed out of the Kitimat Detachment and walked back to his cabin several hundred miles away.

After his return to the area several lakeside cabins on Teslin Lake were found to have been unlawfully entered and left in shambles. An owner reported this to Teslin Detachment and an aircraft flew in to investigate. From the air, a man was spotted with dog and sled on the snow-covered ice of Teslin Lake. When the aircraft swooped lower for a better look, the man, believed to be OROS, clearly was in the act of shooting at the aircraft. The plane veered off and called for an emergency response team (ERT). Inspector #20869 / O.1177 Harry Wallace leading two Emergency Response Teams were sent north in an aircraft tasked with the responsibility of arresting Oros. The Team members were made up of ERT trained men from across the subdivision and included: #25871 K.E. Allen, #27725 M.A. Dreilich, #28748 Paul Haugen, 29535 # L. Bretfeld, #29785 Dietmar Arno Stiller, #32194 G. L. McNevitts, #32239 Girard, #33559 O'Byrne, #34604 Garry Rodgers, #34902 J.V. O'Donnell, #35674 Pierre Robert and Dogmaster Cst. Michael Buday with his dog "Trooper".

When they arrived, the team split up and traveled in two helicopters and soon found Oros traveling south on the lake ice with a dog and sled and was heading towards a forested point of land. The two teams decided to attempt to corner him on the point and landed the planes on each side of the point of land, as OROS was running into the bush. He succeeded in getting beyond the team approaching from the south and then circled back and came up behind them. As the ERT members lay in the snow watching and listening for their suspect, a rifle shot rang out and without warning Cst. Buday was shot in the head from behind. Acting on instinct Team leader Cst Rodgers whirled around and fired a shot at Oros striking him in the forehead and killing him instantly. When the team members examined Oros's .303 caliber rifle they discovered that it had misfired and likely saved Cst. Rodgers life and the life of other team members. After a funeral attended by over 400 people, Cst. Michael Joseph Buday was buried at his home town of Brooks, Alberta.

Five months after Cst. Buday's murder the skeletal remains of Gunter Lischy was found in a shallow grave on the shore of Hutsigola Lake by Constables #26906 Erickson and #32631 Warner. Lischy had been shot in the back with a .303 rifle.

Later the book "Descent into Madness" by Vernon Frolick, about this tragedy was published by Handcock House.

Constable Gary Allen Rodgers later received a Commissioners Commendation for Outstanding Service for his actions in what many dubbed the Mad Trapper of Atlin.

Post Script:

#33612 Constable John A. Buis, was very touched by the death of his troop mate and pit partner Cst. Mike Buday. Three days after Mike's death, on Friday, March 22, 1985, Cst. Buis' wife Kellie gave birth to their second child and named him James Albert Michael Buis after both his grandfathers and Cst. Mike Buday. On March 11, 2013, Reg. #60374,

Cst. James Albert Michael Buis graduated from Depot and became a regular member of the RCMP. Cst. Jamie Buis is presently posted to Coquitlam Detachment's Drug Unit.

On September 10, 2017 after the National Memorial Service at Depot Division, members of Troop 10 76/77 and Acting Commissioner Dan Dubeau, dedicated a park bench in front of the Chapel at Depot to both Cst. Buday (Honour Role # 177) and Cst. Chris Riglar, another troop mate who was killed in the line of duty (Honour Roll # 188). Troop 10, 76/77 may have the distinction of being the only RCMP troop to have two of its members killed in the line of duty.

March 20th

1971 - #24500 Constable Allan Alexander Brown responded to a report of an overturned boat involving four people on Nicola Lake near Merritt BC. Using a borrowed boat, Constable Brown searched the lake and rescued a young child, Kenneth Campbell, whom he found clinging alone to the craft. Campbell's mother, father and brother drowned in the accident with the boat they had purchased that day. The Royal Life Saving Society of Canada awarded Constable Brown with the M.G. Griffiths Certificate.

1987 - Commissioners Commendations were earned by Enderby, BC Constables, #28614 William R. Grant, #30975 Kerry L. Solinsky, #36642 Richard W. Votour, #36857 Brison R.R. Edmondson and #37616 J.P.M. Dionne after they arrested an intoxicated man who was armed at Enderby, BC. Sergeant #25045 James D. Smith received a Commanding Officers Commendation.

1990 - After recommendations by Canadian Bankers Association, the Canadian Government passed a law requiring financial institutions to keep records of large cash transactions making it more difficult for criminals to launder money. This new law greatly enhances the ability of RCMP commercial crime section to combat organized crime.

March 21st

1910 - Constable #4054 Robert Mundy was awarded \$50 from Fine Fund to for his services investigating of theft \$3,000 from the mail in Glenboro, Manitoba.

1949 - The Mounties arrive in Newfoundland

On this day the first members of the RCMP led by #11392 / O.323 Inspector Donald McKinnon arrive in St John's, Nfld. to begin setting up the new 'B' Division Head Quarters. The squad is there to begin preparations for the planned absorption of

Newfoundland Rangers as a result of Newfoundland's decision to join Canada. Accompanying McKinnon were the following;

#12035 Sgt. Bernard Peck

#10544 Sgt. Theodore Bolstad

#12373 Cst. Alexander Gillespie

#11761 Cst. Alexander Ewing

#11686 Cst. Bernard Harvey

#12627 Cpl. Lawrence Gilchrist

#12642 Cst. Archibald Watson

The next day, #14510 Cst. Joseph A. Pinto arrived on the ferry driving the first RCMP police car to be used on the Island.

2004 - We will remember them. Many early detachments have been closed as communities moved on, leaving the graves of former residents behind and often forgotten.

On this day #39316 Kim N. MacKellar, and #54370 Bryan Lasson and four Vuntut Gwitchin first nations representatives; A/Cst. Danny KASSI, Stephen Frost Sr., Dennis Frost Sr. and Kibby Tetlichy traveled 600 kms by skidoo from Old Crow to the former Herschel Island detachment location.

In addition to other duties, checked on the gravesites of #3948 Sgt Stafford Eardley AubynSelig who died January 30, 1911 and #5548 Cst Alexander Lamont (HR) who died on February 16, 1918 from typhoid fever, that he contracted while nursing the famous Arctic explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson.

March 22nd

1942 - Constable #13234 Frederick Smith McCutcheon lost his left leg as a result of a motorcycle collision with an Army truck in England. McCutcheon was serving with the Number 1. Provost Corps as a Lance Corporal and was unable to avoid hitting the truck that was making a "U" turn on a main highway.

1943 - Commendation awarded to #11840 William McElhone for his investigation into the illegal exportation of gold from Canada. He served from 1932 to 1947 achieving the rank of Sgt.

1975 - The Meritorious Certificate from the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem was awarded to #25964 Clifford Ruttan for saving life of a severely injured passenger in a motor vehicle accident near MVA Brooks, Alberta.

1979 - Commendation awarded to #32088 Cst Walter Burns of Anahim Lake, B.C. While on duty Constable Burns responded to a family dispute and was confronted by youth with rifle. The boy shot the rifle at member's feet but Cst. Burns kept his cool and was able to distract him and then wrested rifle from him.

March 25th

1962 - While flying over Stewart Lake near Fort St James B.C. an aircraft saw a hole in the ice and contacted the RCMP. Constables #17372 Ted Mason and #21253 Frank Michalski were sent to the scene. Laying planks on the ice they were able to crawl out to the hole and spotted a submerged car. Constable Michalski entered the water and after several dives in the chilly water was successful in recovering two bodies from the vehicle.

1965 - RCMP seize \$25 million worth of pure heroin in Montreal.

1972 - Most members of the RCMP serve an entire career without ever receiving an official commendation for bravery or outstanding service.

On this day retired Corporal #14858 Carl Turner Ingalls earned a Commissioners Commendation after he came to the aid of members from Thompson Manitoba who had responded to a disturbance at a local hotel. When plain cloths member, #21761 Corporal Charles. C. Koppang waded into the crowd to break up a fight he was alerted by Ingalls who happened to be at the scene. Ingalls had spotted a gun in the hand of one of the combatants and yelled "look out Chuck, he's got a gun". Ingalls then rushed into the fight to assist his friend and though the gunman threatened to kill him, he helped Corporal Koppang subdue and disarm the man.

March 26th

1885 - Honour Roll Numbers 6, 7, and 8.

#1003 Cst. Thomas James Gibson age 24, **#852 George Knox Garrett** age 24, and **#1065 George Pearce Arnold** age 25 were killed in action at the battle of Duck Lake, in the North West Rebellion.

After a rebel force lead by Gabriel Dumont 1838-1906 seized the trading Post at Duck Lake Saskatchewan an ultimatum was sent to #O.10 Superintendent Lief Newry Fitzroy Crozier telling him to surrender the NWMP post at Fort Carlton. Expecting a show of force would quell the rebellion Crozier lead a force of 56 policemen and 43 men from the Prince Albert Volunteers to Duck Lake. What Superintendent Crozier didn't know was that the Rebels outnumbered them and were laying in ambush. The two forces clashed about two miles from Duck Lake and the police and volunteers were caught in the trap and twelve men were killed and eleven more were wounded.

Fortunately for Crozier's men, Gabriel Dumont was wounded in the battle and the loss of their military leader enabled the Police and volunteers to retreat to Fort Carlton.

Among the men killed in the battle was Cst. Thomas James Gibson who had been shot through the heart. He had only been in the Force for a year. Initially he was buried in a common grave at Fort Carlton with two other constables; # 852 George Knox Garrett HR7 and #1065 George Pearce Arnold HR8 who died the next day from wounds they received at the Battle of Duck Lake. Eventually the bodies were interred and received a proper burial at St. Mary's Cemetery in Prince Albert Saskatchewan.

The following list includes some of the men who fought at the battle of Duck Lake:

#O.10 Supt Lief Crozier (wounded).
#339/ O.48 Insp. Joseph Howe (wounded),
#O.35 Surgeon Robert Miller,
#101 James Pringle, #
318 Wm Brooks,
#400 Alfred Stewart,
#425 Arthur Murray (wounded),
#433 David MacPherson,
#462 Frank Gribble,
#467 Frederick Fowler,
#484 Rouge LeFontaine
#487 Albert Montgomery,
#491 Alexander McDonald,
#516 Robert Carter,
#521 John Collins,
#525 Richard Dowsley,
#532 Thomas Gilchrest (broken leg),
#596 John Street,
#642 Archibald Cole,
#649 Frederick Dann,
#672 Frederick Garton,

#682 William Halbhaus,
#710 William Lunnin,
#730 Andrew McMillan,
#763 John Rummerfield,
#764 David Scott,
#773 William Smart,
#788 Orlando Worthington,
#850 Thomas Fleming,
#852 George Garrett (killed) (Honour Roll 7),
#854 Wm Perkin,
#897 Thomas Cochrane,
#916 Alfred Woodman,
#935 August Miller (wounded),
#947 Hugh Davidson,
#981 Thomas Hoyland,
#993 Edward Morrow,
#1003 Thomas Gibson (killed) (Honour Roll 6),
#1004 Thomas Redmond,
#1009 Albert Mountain,
#1012 William Nunn,
#1021 Ernest Todd,
#1034 Herman DesBarres,
#1045 Alfred Manners-Smith (wounded),
#1048 John Wood (wounded),
#1065 George Arnold (killed) (Honour Roll 8),
#1076 Henry Hetherington,
#1079 William Jackson,
#1082 John Edwards,
#1087 Whimpster Smith
#1099 Harold Hammond,
#1117 Sidney Gordon (wounded).

1941 - Honour Roll Number 67.

#12223 Engineer 3rd Class Daniel Everett Gillis age 32 died, when H.M.C.S. "Otter" caught fire and foundered, off Halifax, N.S.

A native of Cape Breton Island, Daniel Gillis served in the Protective Service for two years and became a member of the RCMP Marine Division when the Service was absorbed into the RCMP in 1932. Throughout his career he served aboard the RCMP vessels Adversus, Preventor, Islander, Alert and Alarm. When war was declared in 1939, he along with every member of the Marine Division was transferred to the Royal Canadian Navy and eventually he ended up serving aboard the HMCS Otter as a Chief Motor Mechanic. On the night, he died the Otter caught fire and foundered in the icy waters of the North Atlantic Ocean near Halifax Nova Scotia. The loss of the ship resulted in the death of 19 of her 41-man crew. Gillis's courage in supporting other

members of his crew after their lifeboat had capsized was later mentioned in dispatches. He died of exposure shortly before a rescue ship picked up the survivors. He left behind a wife and six children and was later buried in the Mount Olive cemetery in Halifax.

1977 - The Meritorious Certificate from the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem is awarded to #29012 Constable Barry P. Bates for saving the life of Helen Vogt a victim of an automobile crash near Coleman, Alberta by applying cardio pulmonary resuscitation.

1984 - Inspector P.M. Cummings and Sergeant H.L. Kennedy awarded Commissioners Commendation for Outstanding Service.

1988 - Constables #39476 R.J. MacLean and #37548 P.M. Delaney-Smith, were faced with a very dangerous challenge when they responded to a complaint regarding an armed intoxicated and mentally unstable man causing problems in a house at Ship's Cove, Newfoundland.

The constables managed to apprehend the violent man without incident after they were confronted by uncooperative occupants of the house the man was in. In December 1988 Constable MacLean was awarded Commissioners Commendation for bravery by Commissioner Inkster.

1995 - Commendation awarded to #42104 Cst. Donna Rorison for rescuing three occupants of a burning vehicle near Prince George, B.C.

March 28th

1964 - Tidal Wave hits Port Alberni BC.

1983 - Three members of the Whitehorse, Yukon Detachment responded to an emergency call involving a woman floating in the water and ice of the Yukon River. #17964 Staff Sergeant John William Pringle, #29522 Corporal Robert Alexander Wheadon, and #30795 Robert Peter Dunlap rushed to the river's edge and saw a woman floating near the edge of the ice. They immediately jumped onto an ice floe and attempted to rescue her. Cst. Dunlap was the first to reach her and he tried to pull the woman out of the water with a long pole, but due to her hypothermic condition she was unable to hold on and then disappeared under the ice. Risking to their own lives the three men probed the soft ice searching for the woman. Eventually, her blue jacket was seen through the thinner ice and S/Sgt. Pringle smashed a hole in the ice and caught hold of her and with the help of Cpl. Wheadon and Cst. Dunlap the men pulled the unconscious woman onto the ice. They immediately began cardiopulmonary resuscitation and

continued resuscitating her until she regained consciousness. In recognition of their bravery all three men were awarded the Medal of Bravery.

1987 - On this day Constable #36440 Evan Graham was dispatched to a report of a drunken woman who was firing a rifle into the air in the community of Tuktoyaktuk NWT. When he arrived on scene, he discovered that the suspect was very drunk, standing in the middle of a frozen pond and was swinging a rifle around in the air. Constable Graham then realized that the woman was a former matron who had worked at the local detachment and this spot was where her daughter had been killed by an impaired snowmobiler a few years earlier. When she saw the policeman, she looked at him, pointed the rifle at me and yelled out “one of you f***ing Mounties is going to die”. Constable Graham was alone without backup and saw her try to rack a bullet into the chamber of the bolt action rifle, but the bullet jammed in the rifle. As she struggled to remove the bullet the policeman used the opportunity to rush out onto the ice and tackle her. After prying the weapon from her she was taken into custody without any further incidents.

A year later Constable Evan Graham was presented a Commissioner’s Commendation for his actions.

March 29th

1974 - Honour Roll Number 147.

#29984 Constable Roger Emile Pierlet age 23 was murdered during a routine vehicle check in Cloverdale, BC.

Two demented criminals; John Miller and Vincent Cockriell, spent the night drinking and ranting about how much they hated the police. Eventually they decided they should go and kill a policeman and left Miller’s house in nearby Langley and hopped in their 1964 Dodge and drove to nearby Cloverdale. There they drew attention to themselves by squealing their tires, throwing a bottle through a window of the Justice Building and driving erratically.

After stopping their car on 176th Street and radioing his location and the suspect licence plate number Cst. Pierlet approached the vehicle. As he spoke to the driver John Miller, Vincent Cockriell shot him in the chest with a 30-30 lever action rifle. As the murderers sped away Cst. Pierlet crawled back to his car and collapsed on the ground.

Pierlet’s backup officer #27648 Cst. William J. Mead found Pierlet within minutes, but he was too late to save him. He quickly radioed for an ambulance and alerted the detachment members that Pierlet had been shot. Several road blocks were quickly set up in area and the suspect car was soon found. A dangerous high-speed chase ensued with speeds reaching over 120 miles per hour and the suspect’s plowing through a roadblock.

The chase continued onto the Port Mann Freeway before the car was finally rammed off the road by Csts. #27652 Larry Misner and #29646 Blaine Everett. The cowardly murders quickly surrendered and were taken into custody.

Miller and Cockriell were charged with murder, convicted and sentenced to hang but in 1976 the death penalty was abolished so their sentences were changed to life imprisonment. By 1995, Cockriell was already receiving day passes from prison!

Adding to the tragedy Cst. Pierlet's parents arrived in Vancouver later the same day for a visit with their son only to be met at the airport and advised of his murder. After a massive funeral service Roger Emile Pierlet was buried at the RCMP Cemetery in, Regina, Saskatchewan.

1978 - Commanding Officers Commendations awarded to Constables #27577 Gary Buss and #29982 Mike Barrett at Penticton, B.C. for alerting the occupants of an apartment building that had caught on fire. All of the occupants were able to get out safely except for one. The members entered the blaze and rescued the one remaining occupant.

1990 - Any landing you survive is a good landing!

#33880 Cpl. Peter Markgraaf was piloting a RCMP Beaver airplane CF-MPE when it crashed on takeoff from Fort Ware. Though the airplane was destroyed in the crash both the pilot and his passenger walked away with minor injuries.

2002 - Honour Roll Number 199.

#45528 Constable Wael Toufic Audi, age 29 was killed on the treacherous Highway #99 "The Sea to Sky Highway" near Squamish, BC when he attempted to complete a U turn in his unmarked patrol car.

After identifying a speeding vehicle Cst. Audi activated his emergency equipment with the intent of pursuing the violator. As he began the turn the car following him slowed down, but a tour bus pulled out and passed the slower vehicle and broad sided the police car killing him on impact. Constable Audi was a five-year member of the RCMP.