

# *The Frontenac Times*

In memory of *The Wipers Times*, with apologies to Captain F.J. Roberts,  
12<sup>th</sup> Bn, Sherwood Foresters

Vol 1. No. 5

Thursday, 30 April, 1998

Price: 15¢, Granovian Occupation Army Scrip

## **Editorial Comment**

We used to wage warfare by day (from first light to last light), followed by the daily tot. During the First World War, we started to involve employing soldiers during hours of darkness to ensure they were not bored. Wiring, carrying parties and patrols were effective in maintaining morale for this purpose but few soldiers had the benefit of such QOTL (Quality of Trench Life) programs. During World War Two, it was determined that a return to mainly daylight operations and no suitable trench system for organization of systematic boredom prevention tasks was an identifiable 'force divider' of troop morale. (At least the RCAF was busy with night bombing raids.) In Korea, halting attempts were made to practice warfare at night, but there were the many difficulties of finding things (like the enemy) and generals watching for shooting stars to wish for new equipment on were distracted by rudimentary illumination techniques. After that communism-capitalism sideshow, diligent efforts were made by many armies to find a solution to the half-work-day dilemma. Thankfully, the Americans, in the 1960's, spearheaded a. means to a solution with Infrared (IR)

technology and then, the breakthrough, image intensification (II) and the Starlight Scope. Initially, due to cost and manufacturing limitations, only vital soldiers such as snipers and crew-served weapon troops could benefit from the exciting new capability to work longer hours and alleviate the boredom of operations. And now we have the 1990's – the digital warfare age. Even poor, backward armies like Canada's can afford many of the newer II toys along with the related Thermal Imaging (TI) sights for weapons, weapon systems and also many individual soldiers. Now – **NIGHT IS DAY**. Armies, including our own, can play without regard to the time of day or the position of the sun (Which doesn't matter anymore, anyway, it's not allowed to be over the yardarm during operations). Twenty-four hour operations – no more boredom for the troops, no more trying to develop programs to keep them busy (especially during those evening hours when they were looking for their daily tot). What progress!!

But I do have one simple question. Now that we can fight effectively around the clock, why did we drop "forced rest" out of Battle procedure?

Just thought I'd ask.

## Letters to the Editor.

### A View From the GateHouse

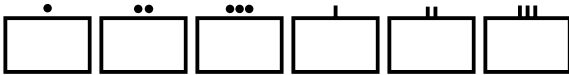
Dear Sir,

I would like to make a simple observation. It is the expressed opinion of the keepers of the gate that the party held in the Fort Frontenac Officers' mess on the night of 24 April 1998 was the longest, loudest and most raucous mid-course party in memory. It seems obvious that the focus of the training here has changed.

Perhaps the result will be a somewhat lower rate of anal-retentivism noted in past generations of staff officers.

Anon.

(Editor's Note: This view has been paraphrased from a conversation overheard somewhere in FF.)



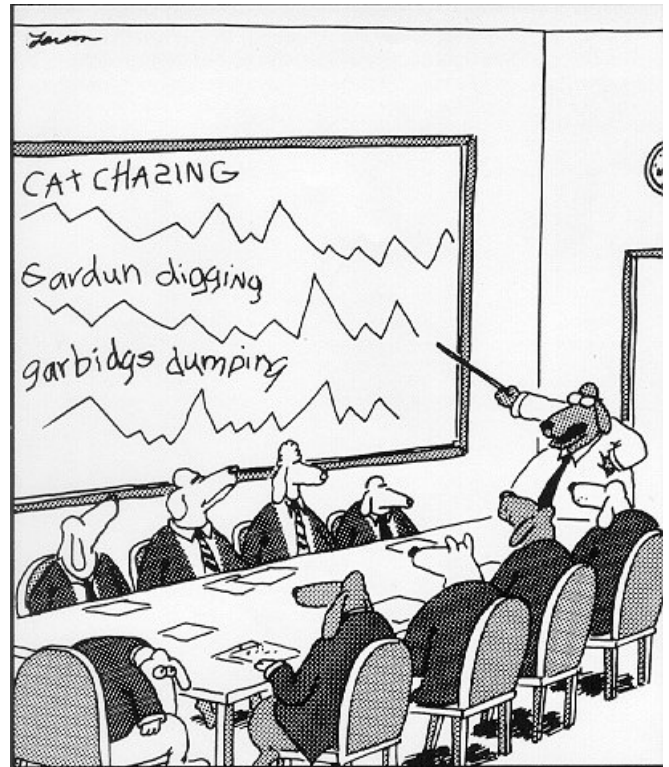
#### The Ten Commandments

- I. Thou shalt not split thy squadrons.
- II. Thou shalt win.
- III. Thou shalt have a reserve (or accept great risk).
- IV. Thou shalt not misemploy thy pioneers.
- V. Thou shalt comprehend thy enemy's tactics, though knowledge of your own is not essential.
- VI. Thou shalt display logical, though not necessarily tactical sense.
- VII. Thou shalt not count four whilst holding the holy hand grenade.
- VIII. Thou shalt find and pass through the portal if thou beest unfulfilled.
- IX. Thou shalt append a legend to thy FLOCARK if thou hast used unseemly colours or patterns not ordained by the Intelligence Sect.
- X. Thou shalt be judged "acceptable" on 29 May and thou shalt forever after pass amongst thy peers marked with the stigmata "p.l.s.c."

#### The Defensive Estimate.

Fact: I will not need fascines.

Deduction: I can use my engineers as overhead protection.



"Now, if you all would examine the chart, you will notice that - well, well ... seems Capt [redacted] has found something more engrossing than this SDI"



#### **SCC/66/SDI - The Defence Estimate**

Aim: To ensure the officer understands ~~the~~ ~~defence estimate~~ .... ~~the mobile defence~~ .... both??? .... ah! - TO DISLOCATE THE OFFICER.

LFSC → Mon ☹ Tues ☹ Wed ☹ Thurs ☺

#### **DS Quotes of the Week:**

"Have I stifled your initiative enough?"

"I didn't put my reserve on this trace because there wasn't enough room [in the battalion boundaries]."

"In four years at this college, that was the best ground I've ever heard!"  
(Too bad he didn't write it.)

## TOW

Tube-launched, Optically tracked Wire-guided missile

Five TOWs – (2½ sections) = One foot

Ten TOWs – (Platoon (-)) = Two Feet

Fifteen TOWs – (coy R West R (-)) = Three feet – One Yard

If LRAAWs were grouped in tactical units of five systems, a simple, yet effective and easily understandable system of reference would have evolved. At least until the metric system showed up.



What's the waterway that passes near NDHQ?  
"The Reno Canal."

If I'm doing the withdrawal with my eyes closed, can I employ the night sequence of events?

What's the motto of the PLDG?  
*Primus in morte.* perhaps?



Clarity – one of the principles of staffwork.

RCMP Officer to four candidates, with three maps out, roaming NAPANEE area during TEWT: "Do you need directions?"

"No, we're out on a TEWT."

"Do you know what a toot is?"

"What do you mean?"

"A toot is when a group of people go off driving and drinking through the area."

"Oh ..."

**Employment of sappers in the covering force battle:**

Dismount them.

Solidly lash an anti-tank mine to each sapper's forehead using the regimental roll of four-inch gun tape.

"Charge."

**Murphy's Laws of Staff Planning tell us that:**

**No plan remains in effect once the commander starts ad-libbing the concept of operations.**

## The Mission Verb

Etymology VS entomology. Fort Frontenac; where the process of selecting the 'right' verb is looked upon with the same distaste as close examination of roaches. Commanders toss out one verb in the mission, a couple of others in the concept of operations, a choice selection of tasty action words in 'grouping & tasks' – and what do subordinate commanders do? They winge and whine and chatter about clarification in that orders-prolonging question period. Come on gentlemen, mission command is the flavour of the month, I've told you what to do, I'm not going to tell you how to do it, just get on with it.

### New Mission Verbs:

to flail	to aggressively charge into a situation unprepared on either the moral or the physical plane, with a poorly articulated intention, attempting to look like you know what you're doing
to flounder	to experience the state of a failed flail
to endure	to quiver with suppressed frustration as you listen to 'the plan' change every time the commander opens his mouth your commander
to annoy	to dislocate your subordinate commanders by employing multiple mission verbs and then becoming offended when they request clarification

### CF verbification of other words:

to source

to attrit

**STAY LOW – MOVE FAST – DIG DEEP**

You have to laugh – (From the Daily Clippings offered by DGPA: The Ottawa Sun, 98.04.21 Worthington, Peter) "Whatever the Canadian identity used to be, our identity today seems to be pondering what our identity is. ... At one level we produce world-class comedians. At another, ...maintaining a military that has more generals than tanks, where promotions hinge on language skills; ...We train pilots - but don't let them fly so as to save money on gasoline; most of our costly warplanes are in storage. We train soldiers to shoot guns, but save money by rationing ammunition. ..."

Do you culminate during mission analysis?

Does the OPP dislocate you?

Are you stuck in a solid "C" world?

Are you "mission verb blocked"?

We have the staff aid you need. It's easy to use, pocket-sized and quiet. Ideal for that furtive mission statement development. No-one will ever know you had mission verb block. Impress your commander, impress your staff, start swimming upstream to the great spawning ground of operational staff.

Get the Spin-A-Verb.

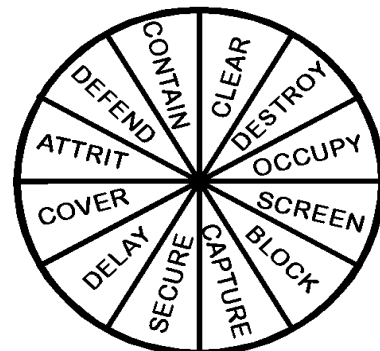
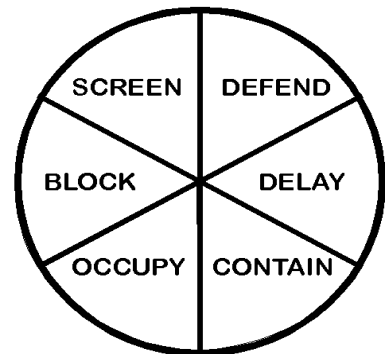
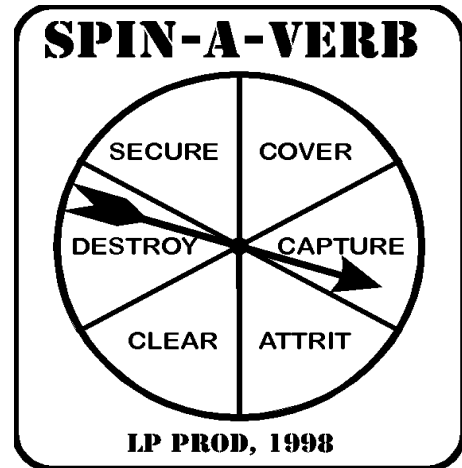
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