

**VETERANS' NEWS** The Kamloops Division of the RCMP Veterans' Association welcomed new members: Reg. No. 29577, ex-Cpl. W.A. Zaksauskas, Reg. No. 26256, ex-S/Sgt. W. Roberts, and Reg. No. 29836, ex-Cst. R.I.P. Stevens. Okanagan Division welcomed Mr. G. Crawford, retired Pipe-Major of the R.C.A. Reserve, as associate member.

## **"M" DIVISION HEADQUARTERS — WHITEHORSE, YUKON**

**BIRTH** To Reg. No. 40410, Cst. Jeff Mercier and his wife, Lara, a daughter, Georgia Christiane, on December 16, 1998, at Whitehorse.

**INTERNATIONAL FIREARMS COMPETITION** The RCMP has a long and proud history in the Yukon, having recently celebrated its 100th anniversary in the Territory in 1995. Throughout this history, there has been an extremely close working relationship with the Alaska State Troopers (AST), with Mounties and Troopers working side by side along the border between the Yukon Territory and the State of Alaska. The working relationship between the two agencies is further enhanced through the annual International Law Enforcement Firearms Competition. This competition is the longest running international law enforcement firearms event in the world and celebrated its 38th anniversary in 1998.

The firearms match is alternatively hosted by each organization and has been held at a variety of locations throughout the Yukon and Alaska. The 1998 competition was held at the Whitehorse Rifle and Pistol Club, located approximately 5 km from Whitehorse on picturesque Grey Mountain.

The competition consists of a team of five marksmen from each agency and their respective COs, shooting their course of fire/annual qualification with their issue sidearm. The team members then exchange sidearms and shoot the opposing team's course of fire/annual qualification. The scores of each team member are compiled for each course of fire and then added together to form the grand aggregate total to determine the winner of the competition. The COs' scores are not included in the grand aggregate for the team. In addition to the team competition, a friendly rivalry has developed between the COs of each team — their scores for their courses of fire are totalled and the high shooter is awarded the coveted Commissioner's Trophy.

The Troopers have changed sidearms five times over the history of the competition, their current issue being a .40 calibre Smith and Wesson. In 1996, the RCMP completed a sidearm replacement program, replacing the .38 calibre revolver with the 9mm pistol. This may have accounted for our victory in 1997 after a long series of losses. Unfortunately in 1998, the team was unable to retain possession of the trophy, giving it up to the Troopers



*(Photo 1): Commr. Murray presented the Commissioner's Trophy for the highest scoring CO to Insp. Brian Huddle. (Photo 2): Insp. Huddle (L), presented Lt. Jeff Hall, team captain for the Alaska State Troopers, with their trophy for winning the competition. (Photo 3): The "Top Guns" (L-R): Sgt. Randy Fraser (1163-38X) and Lt. Jeff Hall (1166-52X).*