

I see by the article in the Fall 1997 *Quarterly* that Cst. McDowell had some service in the Canadian Army, where I also served for four years. I wish both Cst. McDowell and Cst. King the best of health, and may they live many more years. All the best and may 1998 be the best ever for everyone at the RCMP!

Sincerely,

J.G. Chipping
Glenboro, Manitoba

✉ **SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT**

Dear Editor,

While reading the Summer 1997 issue of the *Quarterly*, in particular the obituary of Cst. Leo Boyd (Andy) Anderson, I was somewhat disturbed to read, "(...) he converted to regular member status on September 12, 1998 (...)." Cst. Anderson, whom I had the pleasure of knowing and working with, joined the Force on August 27, 1979, as a regular member, at the rank of special constable. On September 12, 1988, he converted to the rank of constable. His status in the Force did not change.

Considering a special constable anything other than a regular member of the Force is not only wrong, but is construed as an insult. With all due respect, I do not suggest that this was the intention of your publication; however, I hope that future issues reflect the true status of former special constables.

Cst. Cyril Cameron
Milton, Ontario

The turn of phrase "converted to regular member status" had been used widely when writing Obituaries in the past and we were simply continuing the practise. Our intention was not to portray special con-

stables for being anything other than full members of the Force. Although this is the first time that it has been brought to our attention that the wording used may not reflect the true status of special constables, and as this matter obviously remains a very important concern for those involved, we intended to set the record straight by seeking the advice of the Corps Sergeant Major's office. Here is what they said: "Special constables engaged prior to June 30, 1988, were included in the definition for regular member. The "RCMP Act" was amended and after June 30, 1988, the rank of Special Constable was eliminated. A new rank Special Constable Member was introduced, but was not included in the definition for regular member."

To make a long story short, Cst. Cameron is correct. To be accurate, the wording should read, "joined the Force as a regular member special constable and on (date), converted to constable." Because of the passage of time, this issue had become almost obscure. This is not something that can be easily determined via file review and we regret any embarrassment our previous terminology may have caused. —Editor.

✉ **WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

Dear Editor,

Reg. No. 13326, J.B. Murray (Troop "G" 1940/41) began recruit training on April 2, 1940, at Regina, Saskatchewan. Upon retirement, he became a teacher and worked in small, one-room schools in Nova Scotia for many years. He was also a long-distance runner who competed in marathons until he turned 74 years old.

Mr. Murray is quite well and has an extremely keen memory. In fact, he is still able to recite the names of his troop mates in alphabetical order, as it was done in roll call back during his "Depot" days. Any of his former friends and colleagues would, no