

reunion. As members of the squad reminisced about the event, all were convinced that there never has been another squad where 20 of its members became eligible for pension and six others eligible for the 35-year Gold Clasp and Stars. The 633 years of the combined service of 99/C Squad is also believed to be a record.

The weekend included a "get re-acquainted and meet the wives" reception at the Chimo Inn in Ottawa on the Friday evening, a tour of RCMP Headquarters complex on Alta Vista Drive on Saturday morning, a tour of the Rockcliffe training facilities on Saturday afternoon, culminating with a dinner and presentation ceremonies of 35-year Gold Clasps and Stars.

Activities of the next two days included a tour of the Parliament Buildings, a boat cruise on the Rideau Canal, a scenic drive to points of interest in and around Ottawa, as well as meals in some of the city's more prominent dining establishments.

After dinner on Saturday night, it was noted that, of those in attendance, two were former members from Vancouver Island, one was a former member from Newfoundland, and the rest, serving and retired members from various in-between locations across Canada. In proposing a toast to the Force, Supt. Howard Gillard (ret'd) stressed the *esprit de corps* and squad spirit that had remained strong enough over the years to bring these men together again after 35 years. He described it as a special quality that he hoped the RCMP would continue to nurture. Howard also pointed out that although members of 99/C Squad served the Force for varying periods of time, they individually contributed to the development and history of the RCMP. But, of greater importance, was that all these members gained significantly in the development of their characters and

personalities, through the tough training and varying experiences of their service inside and outside of the RCMP. Another special toast, to the wives who had followed these men back and forth across Canada, was proposed by Supt. Calvin Bungay (ret'd). Telegrams and messages from members of the squad who were unable to attend this reunion, were read following the dinner. All those in attendance were enthusiastic in expressing their joy and excitement about the reunion. It was a moving and emotional experience that renewed friendships now destined to endure for life. Many plans were made for couples to visit each other in the coming years, and the weekend concluded with plans to meet again at Depot Division in Regina, Saskatchewan, for a 40-year reunion in 1992.

The members who attended this reunion with their wives were:

G.E. "Bud" and Gerry Abell, Falmouth, N.S.

Wayne and Maxine Boutilier, Ottawa
H.D. "Bud" and Joan Bowyer, Langley, B.C.

John and Wil Briggs, Ottawa
C.A.J. "Cal" and Annabell Bungay, Dartmouth, N.S.

M. "Moe" and Marie Anne Cardinal, Richmond, B.C.

Allen and Ronna Eng, Edmonton
J.W.G. "Fitz" and Denise Fitzpatrick, Ottawa

Bruce Gibbard, Burlington, Vermont, U.S.A.

Howard and Loree Gillard, Sidney, B.C.
W. "Hook" and Olivia Last, Winnipeg
A.O. "Al" and Rose McPhee, Clarendville, Nfld.

Ron and Marion McIntyre, Calgary
Ken and Chris McEwen, Ottawa
R.J. "Bud" and Mary Ridley, Duncan, B.C.
Ralph Steeves, Dartmouth, N.S.

Bill and Gisele Stocker, Smiths Falls, Ont.
Maurice and Betty Thibeault, Ottawa
H.B. "Hank" and Edna Weys, Ottawa
George and Marney White, Halifax, N.S.
Elmer and Lucille Zwicker, Ottawa