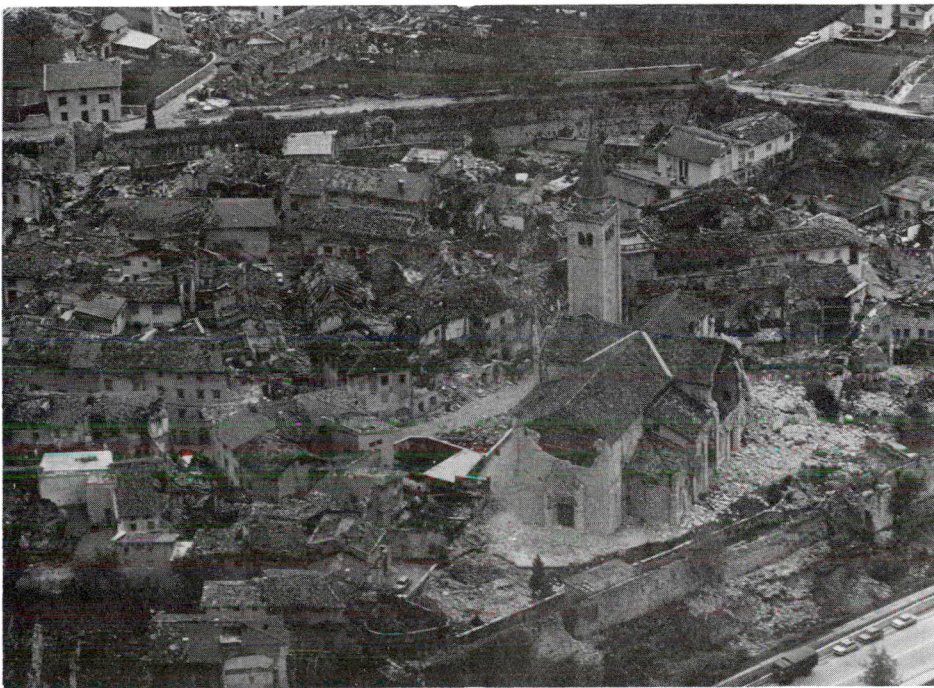


Canadians and the earthquake in Italy

Captain Robert (Buck) McBride of Calgary, Alberta, was killed and Sergeant Robert Abar and Captain Raymond Massey injured, when their helicopter crashed into a cable-car pylon flying over Italy's earthquake-struck area last month. They were part of a Canadian Armed Forces group from Lahr, Germany, which had come to help in the earthquake relief effort.

Canadian Forces personnel had been dispatched by air to the scene of the disaster, landing at Rivolto military airport. They were followed by a road convoy that drove about 460 miles to Venzone. The group — about 280-strong — was under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Jean Laliberté.

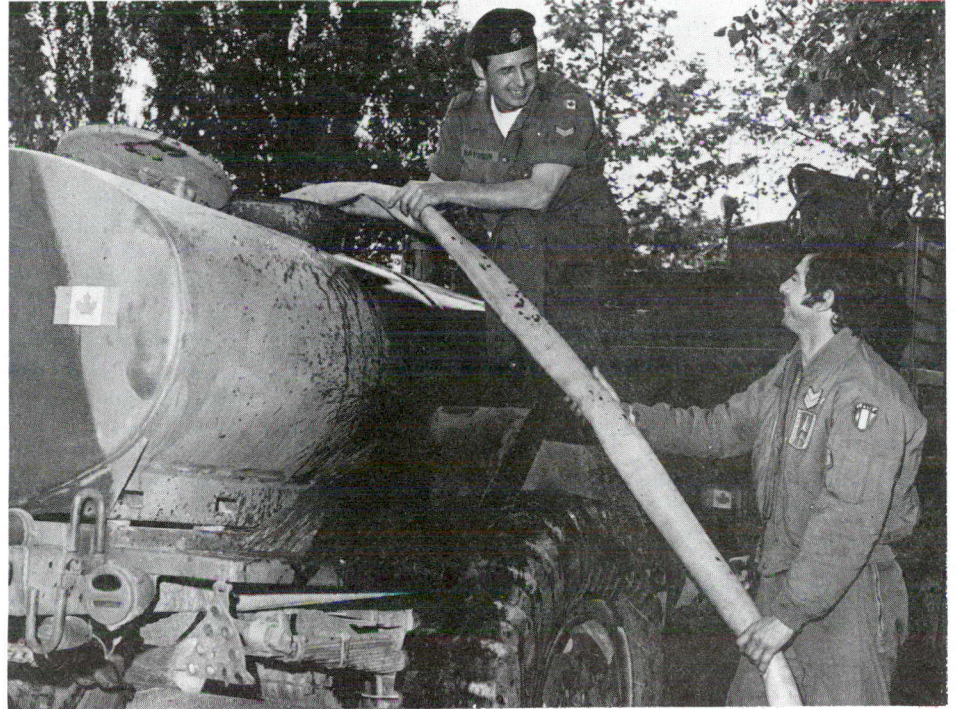
The troops provided manpower assistance, engineering expertise, medical equipment and a mobile water-purification system — which proved invaluable — all used in co-operation with local communities. Rain, which later deluged the stricken area, washed away part of the water-purification system and it was repaired under the guidance of Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Moore, an engineer, who replaced Lieutenant-Colonel Laliberté.



The town of Venzone, one of the Italian communities devastated recently by severe earthquakes in the country's northern region. Some 280

Canadian Forces Corporal Al Davidson (left), and Italian Forces Sergeant Maraglino Domenico refill water-trailer during 'quake relief operations in

Udine, Italy. Corporal Davidson is a member of Canadian contingent dispatched to the stricken area on request of the Italian Government.



Many of the injured were referred to the Canadian camp by an Italian doctor from Proviono, where the medical clinic was considered unsafe. About

50 soldiers of the Royal 22nd Regiment (the "Van Doos") set up a tent hospital at San Daniele, which housed about 80 patients. Later they installed wiring, lighting etc. in a building nearby that was converted into a more permanent hospital. In Carnia, they brought lighting and power to a refugee camp.

Canadian Forces personnel also acted as cooks in one of the local communities. Using Italian food, under the guidance of an Italian cook, they prepared food for some 450 people *per* meal. At press time, the Canadians were still working in the area.

In Ottawa, the Prime Minister said the Government would provide \$1 million towards assistance for the earthquake victims and Immigration Minister Robert Andras said high priority was being given to immigration applications from the stricken area of Northern Italy.

In Toronto, organizers of private funds had collected some \$700,000 and were aiming at \$1 million. There are an estimated 60,000 persons in Canada who have relatives in the area — about 1,000 of whom have taken advantage of the free flights by CP Air and Alitalia to return there to help.

members of the Canadian Forces from Lahr, West Germany, were dispatched by air and road to the earthquake area to help in relief operations.