

NEW DRESS FOR ARMY

The Canadian Army's new combat clothing is now in use in the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group in Germany. It will be worn for operations and field training only. Battle dress will still be worn on garrison duty and by soldiers employed in non-operational roles.

The new clothing, purely Canadian in design, has undergone extensive and strenuous field trials under Arctic as well as desert conditions.

A set of the new clothing has a jacket, jacket liner, trousers, shirt-coat, lighter summer trousers, cap and high boots.

The jacket, worn with a liner, gives protection in temperatures as low as 10 degrees Fahrenheit. It has rubberized shoulders and elbows for positive waterproofing. There are two diagonal breast pockets, each designed to hold a rifle magazine, two inside pockets for personal effects and two lower outside pockets for grenades or extra ammunition.

The trousers are designed for use in temperatures ranging from 10 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit. They have rubberized linings in the seat and down the front of the legs. Both jacket and trousers can be treated with aerosol silicone spray to provide waterproofing.

During the summer or in hot climates, the jacket is replaced by the shirt-coat and lighter trousers. Both items are similar in design to the winter ones but lack rubberized linings.

The hat is made of wedges, like a baseball cap. It has a circular brim, with one portion waterproofed and stiffened for a sun shade. It can be folded to carry in a pocket or worn under a steel helmet.

The combat boot is eight inches high, with moulded soles. It is waterproof and must not be polished, requiring only occasional treatment with a silicone compound. It is worn without puttees.

All badges of rank, the cap badge and unit titles are made of cloth and are sewn to the clothing.

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

There were 750,942 dwellings in Canada at the 1961 census date which were describable as "crowded" because they had more than 1.0 persons a room. This number accounted for 16 per cent of all occupied dwellings (exclusive of those of the collective type), a drop from 19 per cent in 1951. These homes averaged 4.7 rooms for 6.9 persons, compared to the overall average for Canada of 5.3 for 3.9 persons. (This information is contained in a housing census release of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics that relates dwelling characteristics to the number of persons to a room.)

While 47 per cent of the dwellings reporting more than one person to a room were built since 1946, 12 per cent were in need of major repairs. In comparison, 44 per cent of the less-crowded dwellings were built between 1946 and 1961, but only 4 per cent were reported as needing major repairs. A reflection of these conditions is seen in the fact that median values of owner-occupied "crowded"

dwellings amounted to \$7,317, compared to \$11,597 for those occupied by "other-owner" households. The "crowded" tenant households averaged \$55 cash rent monthly, compared to \$67 paid by "other-tenant" households.

RETURN FROM THE CONGO

After serving for nearly four years in the Congo with United Nations forces, No. 57 Canadian Signal Unit has begun to return to Canada.

In July 1960, Canada was asked by the UN to provide troops for service in the Congo—in particular, for a signal unit. The main task of this unit was to provide communications within the Congo for UN civil and military agencies. In response to this request, No. 57 Canadian Signal Unit was formed, and arrived in the Congo early in August 1960. Since that time 1811 officers and men have served with the unit. This figure includes officers and men of various service elements.

The communications squadron of the signals unit has operated several radio-teletype detachments in the interior of the Congo, usually consisting of one officer and up to ten men. Several infantry and armoured-corps officers have commanded the detachments.

In Leopoldville, the communications squadron runs a tape relay centre, a message centre, a cryptograph centre and a transmitter station, and provides despatch-rider service between all units in the Leopoldville area. It also operates and maintains the UN headquarters automatic telephone system and the UN switchboard at Katanga headquarters in Elisabethville.

WINNERS OF HIGH PRAISE

Canadian soldiers serving with the UN force have also won high praise for their efforts in saving life and preventing bloodshed in the interior. Lieutenant-Colonel Jean A. Berthiaume of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, for outstanding service. Lieutenant J.F.T.A. Liston of Montreal was appointed a member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) by Her Majesty in recognition of his efforts in rescuing a wounded Congolese soldier and preventing other casualties in a land-mine explosion at Kabongo. Both Brigadier Jacques A. Dextraze of Montreal and Quebec City and Lieutenant-Colonel Paul A. Mayer of Ottawa were commended by UN Secretary-General U Thant and President Lyndon B. Johnson of the United States for their hard work and individual acts of bravery in helping evacuate missionaries from a Congolese province infested by guerillas.

The normal tour of duty in the Congo for Canadian servicemen is six months. The tropical posting is popular with many of them, however, and about 25 per cent apply for an extended tour of duty.

Canadian troops serving in the Congo were among the first United Nations forces to receive the UN medal for service in that country. In order to qualify for this award, members of the peace force must serve a minimum of 90 days in the Congo.