

Wings Over Borden

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No. 1 S.F.T.S.

CAMP BORDEN, CANADA

Traditional Handing Over Ceremony Held

No. 1 S.F.T.S. Changes Commanding Officers

No. 1 Service Flying Training School bid farewell to Group Captain R. S. Grandy, O.B.E., Commanding Officer of this Station since September, 1940, and welcomed the new Commanding Officer, Wing Commander Douglas Muir Edwards, of Ottawa, in the traditional Handing Over Ceremony of the R.C.A.F., Friday morning, May 8, 1942.

The weather man was extremely generous with a large amount of May sunshine, as the parade, under the command of Group Captain R. S. Grandy, O.B.E., and led by the music of the combined R.C.A.S.C. and Station bands, moved smartly and immaculately into reviewing position on the tarmac before the assembled visitors.

The old commanding officer then inspected all ranks in company with the new commanding officer. After the inspection, the Group Captain took up his position at the reviewing base, flanked on his right by Wing Commander Edwards and on his left by Squadron Leader Badgley, Administrative Officer, received the salute for the last time as C.O. of No. 1 S.F.T.S. as the parade marched past. He then turned to the new C.O. and they exchanged handshakes. Walking together to a table covered with an R.C.A.F. ensign, the handing and taking over certificates were signed by the two officers.

Finished with this task, the Group Captain walked slowly to the reviewing platform and in a voice husky with emotion, bid farewell to Borden in the following words:

"Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.'s, Airmen and Airwomen, I feel that we have accomplished something in the past year and a half. We are ahead on our flying programme, our maintenance has improved, our ground services have improved, as well as all other services. We have accomplished much and MUST accomplish much more. I feel that this has been due to the greater efficiency on the part of all ranks, the hard work and long hours put in. We will have to be prepared to make ourselves still more efficient, and we have to be prepared to work harder and put in longer hours wherever we are in the Air Force.

"I have been very happy being your commanding officer and feel you have given me very good support. I thank you for your support. I also feel very happy that I am leaving you in such good hands as Wing Commander D. M. Edwards, whom I have known since he joined the Air Force, and I am happy to say that I had the honour and pleasure to assist in his

FAREWELL



GROUP CAPT. R. S. GRANDY, O.B.E.

WELCOME



WING COMMANDER D. M. EDWARDS

training.

"I am sure you will give him the same support as you have given your other commanding officers—the Air Force is like that. Some day I may have the pleasure of seeing some of you again somewhere, and I want you to know you will be welcome anywhere that I have command or in any place that I have the privilege of serving."

With these last words by the old C.O., the new commanding officer assumed command of the parade and ordered all ranks to doff hats. Group Captain Grandy, O.B.E., was cheered to the skies as he smilingly left the tarmac. He has assumed command of an Operational Station in the Eastern Air Command. He took over command of this station in September, 1940, immediately after the graduation of the first class of pilots under the Commonwealth Air Training Plan and has undoubtedly seen more graduates obtain their pilot's wings than any other commanding officer in Canada.

No. 1 S.F.T.S. was the first of the service flying training schools. Under Group Captain Grandy's command notable improvements were made in every area and branch of the station. We feel certain that he can look back with a great deal of personal pride to the outstanding accomplishments he made as commanding officer of this station. With him go our best wishes for the future and our hope for great success in his new command.

The parade marched past a second time and this time a new commanding officer was at the post to receive the salute. After the march past, the parade marched off to its dinner.

"STATION DANCE—A GREAT SUCCESS"

The monthly dance held at No. 1 S.F.T.S., Camp Borden, took place on Friday evening, May 1st. The dance was sponsored by the station fund with the kind permission of the Commanding Officer, Group Captain R. S. Grandy, O.B.E.

Mr. F. C. Kelly and his twelve piece orchestra of the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps proved to be very popular with the dancers.

The floor show was a Victory March, featuring the one and only AW2 Lavinia Sawdon, Station Drum Majorette from Hamilton, who displayed her talent in a most interesting fashion with a repertoire of dancing and baton swinging, also leading the Victory March with the able assistance of our band leader, Cpl. Griffin. At the end of the March, every one joined in and sang the R.C.A.F. Victory Song (We never falter, we never fail), etc., making it a very enjoyable evening and adding new life to the party.

At approximately eleven p.m., the spot dance prizes were presented to various couples by Squadron Leader and Mrs. G. Phillips.

It was regretted very much throughout the station, when word reached us, that Mrs. Grandy could not attend the Station dance due to illness. Miss Joan Grandy, daughter of the Commanding Officer was present and was the receiver of a lovely bouquet of mixed flowers, presented by Squadron Leader M. F. Badgley.

We wish to extend our sincere thanks for the splendid co-operation given by the C.W.A.A.F. of this School, and the Barrie Active Service Club and Canteen, also the party from Elmvale who were able to take part in making the Station dance another great success.

Wing Commander Douglas Muir Edwards

The new Commanding Officer of No. 1 Service Flying Training School is a young man, but he brings with him to his new command years of flying experience and a vast knowledge of all phases of the Air Force, both in Canada and abroad. He is 33 years of age and is a resident of Ottawa. He received his early education there and is a graduate of Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario. Joining the Royal Canadian Air Force in June, 1929, he received his early flying training here at Camp Borden. The station was at that time under the command of now Air Vice Marshal Croil. Wing Commander Edwards received his wings and commission at Borden and shortly thereafter joined the famous Siskin Aerobatic Flight, in which he remained for four years. Leaving this flight, he was posted to the 112 (A.C.) Auxiliary Squadron, R.C.A.F., at Winnipeg, remaining there approximately four years. Leaving Winnipeg, he proceeded overseas to the Central Flying School at Upavon, England. While in England the Commanding Officer made a tour of the training establishments. He returned to Canada just prior to the outbreak of the war. After a period as the Chief Flying Instructor, and then Administration Officer, Trenton, he assumed command of Central Flying School at Trenton, on its formation. This he held until recently, when he was posted to Air Force Headquarters, Ottawa. The whole station extends to Wing Commander D. M. Edwards a hearty welcome and sincerely hope that his stay in our midst will be both successful and pleasant.

Scene—No. 1 S.F.T.S., Camp Borden.

Time—1730 hours.

Speaker—An Instructor—

"I've reached a new low. The only person who ever writes to me now is my second cousin. Life is very sad."

At the same time Somewhere in the World

A former pupil thinks—
Gee, I wish I could talk to that instructor at Borden. He was a good guy. I wonder if he's still there. Think I'll write him a letter. But he'd never remember me, or he'd think I was sticking my neck out. Heck, I'll write anyway."

Six weeks later, the Instructor—

"It makes it all a lot more worthwhile when one of your pupils shows that he cares and remembers. I was never more thankful for a letter than for this one."

—W.F.B.