

New emphasis on reserves

A major shift of emphasis to the reserves evolved during the year, to reinforce the need for professional back-up support for the regular force.

The reserves will be brought up to standards for integration with the regular force in time of need. They will get more pay and equipment, and more extensive training with regular force elements in Canada and overseas. Also, they have been issued with the Canadian Forces new green uniform. Additionally, those whose military qualifications are current may be eligible for tours of duty with Canadian peace-keeping elements.

During 1973 the reserves were involved in many operations and training exercises with their regular force counterparts. They provided the back-up to operate the student summer employment programme, and undertook a variety of other projects independently. In addition, more than 300 from the land component (militia) served with the Canadian Forces in Europe during NATO training exercises.

Naval reservists, in addition to meeting their normal training schedule, also mounted extensive programmes in observance of their 50th anniversary.

One project involved a 20-day, 1,200-mile trip in July and August from Yellowknife to Tuktoyatuk in the Northwest Territories. Twelve reserve sailors, from seven naval divisions across the country, made the survival training venture in two 27-foot, sail-equipped whalers. They com-

pleted the journey five days ahead of schedule.

While naval reservists trained ashore and at sea, the militia was engaged in a variety of land-based operations. Meanwhile, search and rescue and other operational training occupied the air reserve

Summer employment

Since the inception of federal government programmes to provide summer employment for students, the defence department has been in the vanguard of organizing and operating a variety of projects.

Also in 1973, under the supervision of the Canadian Forces, student reservists mounted the guard on Ottawa's Parliament Hill; performed a tattoo on St. John's Signal Hill (in Newfoundland); cleaned up waterfront properties, brushland, and took part in pollution control and other environmental protection projects across the country.

Other parts of the programme included specially designed training to give students basic military training in caring for themselves and others.

Apart from normal summer cadet camps across the country, the year also saw the first camp for young Canadians from the Arctic. Called "North of 60," it was held at Whitehorse, with cadets from 11 Arctic units attending, under the auspices of Canadian Forces Northern Region. They learned to live and operate on water, in bush, barrenlands, and mountain terrain.

New word on aircraft

As a result of a new policy in 1973, the word "Canada" all of a sudden became a familiar sight at military and civilian airports at home and abroad. It now appears on all armed forces aircraft, replacing the former "Canadian Armed Forces", and "Forces Armees Canadiennes." The words "Armed Forces" and "Forces Armees" now appear in two lines to the left and right of roundels on the fuselage of aircraft.

When it came to lifting, the forces did more than lift their feet during the year. One task involved the recovery of a Sea King helicopter from a depth of 525 ft. in the Atlantic, about 30 miles south of Halifax. Using a floating crane, a 50-man work party and the new mini-submersible, the SDL1, the helicopter was recovered in four days.

Meanwhile, at Shilo base in western Manitoba, trials were conducted on something called SIMRAD, a new distance-measuring device employing laser beams.

And on the other side of the world in 1973, two Canadian servicemen replanted their roots in China after an absence of several years.

They were Col. D. G. Struthers, first Canadian Forces attaché to the People's Republic of China, and Warrant Officer V. L. Lee, his assistant. Both lived in China as youths with their parents. ♦

History made visible

Canada's museums may not reach so far back into the past as some in Europe, but they preserve what is available with an enthusiastic feeling for history made visible — perhaps because, unlike Europeans, Canadians do not regularly encounter their past in the streets and buildings where they live.

In Canada, government money and private money is being poured into the construction of museums preserving their agricultural history. People are also eagerly giving their time to the task. Museum construction is a favourite activity among those drumming up projects for employment under the Local Initiatives Programme (by which the government sponsors the unemployed to do work that is of value to the community).

The result of all this enthusiasm is a rash of agricultural museums springing up through the country which tell the story of

Canada's development as a farming country from the earliest days, and tell it very graphically.

What began as a museum in Austin, Manitoba, has evolved into a reconstruction of an old prairie village. Acres and acres of equipment have been brought in and donated. A saw mill has been reconditioned, and the museum's manager has set up a programme of selective tree-cutting on the premises. He puts felled trees through the saw mill so that visitors can see how things used to be done.

Saskatoon's agricultural museum began in an old airplane hangar, but has recently moved to new quarters costing more than \$1m. Inside the front door, they have recreated the main street of an old prairie town at the turn of the century. There is a print shop and a blacksmith's shop and the dirt floor represents the road through the town.

Sickles and steam engines, sod buildings, horse-drawn wagons, cutters and ploughs are carefully preserved and displayed in these museums. Besides early farm implements, they also display kitchen utensils and furniture used by the pioneers and anything else belonging to the pioneer rural era, including firearms.

The Federal Department of Agriculture gives financial assistance to one agricultural museum in each province; it is up to the provincial departments to designate which of its museums shall receive that assistance. To date there are four: in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and British Columbia.

To qualify for a federal grant, a museum must be provincial in nature and operated on a continual basis. The government will pay half the cost of a building and half the museum's annual upkeep, up to a maximum of \$6,000. ♦