



*A patrol of C Coy, 1R22ER moves down a snow covered road during a training exercise in the Federal Republic of Germany.*

Sir Billy Butlin first came to Britain as a sergeant in the Canadian Army in World War I, and whose philanthropy to Canadian veterans in Britain will be long remembered.

Some of the Anglo-Canadian military links are financial. Canada spends millions of dollars every year in Europe on the procurement and maintenance of military hardware. The great bulk of that money comes to the United Kingdom.

In terms of history there are some traditional links between battle units in Canada and those in the United Kingdom. For instance the British Blues and Royals are paired with the Royal Canadian Dragoons and the Governor General's Horse Guard; the 17th/21st Lancers with Lord Strathcona's Light Horse; the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment with Les Fusiliers de Sherbrooke; the Royal Welsh Fusiliers with the 22e Regiment (the 'Van Doos'); the Gordon Highlanders with the 48th Highlanders, and the London Scottish with the Toronto Scottish. The Queen Mother is Colonel-in-Chief of the Toronto Scottish, and visits her regiment frequently. Officers and men from the Prince of Wales' three regiments in Canada, the Royal Regiment, Lord Strathcona's Horse, and the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, were generously accorded roles in the ceremonies attending His Royal Highness' wedding in July.

Whilst Canada has, for many years, awarded its own decorations for distinguished service, recently two Canadians had the special



*A trio of Canadian, US and German officers meet during a NATO exercise in West Germany.*

privilege of being invested by the Queen. On 17 February 1981, at a ceremony in Buckingham Palace, Lt General R Gutknecht CAF, was awarded the Order of Military Merit, and Major John Easson CAF, 8th Canadian Hussars, the MBE Military Division. In the past 94 Canadians have been presented with Victoria Crosses by their ruling monarch, and thousands have received other military awards.

Canada became autonomous in 1867 and fully politically independent of Britain in 1931, but the two countries have retained military links which benefit them both. What they have achieved together serves as a model for other allies and gives evidence of the greater strength, efficiency and comradeship that result from closer military co-operation. ♣



*Hungry Bird by Meredith Evans 1975. (Pen and ink, and watercolour)*