

### New Defence chief

Defence Minister Barney Danson recently announced that Vice-Admiral Robert H. Falls, of Welland, Ontario would be promoted to the rank of admiral and appointed Chief of the Defence Staff on September 15.

He will succeed General Jacques A. Dextraze, who has held the appointment since September 1972, and is retiring after a 37-year military career which began as an infantry private. Vice-Admiral Falls has served as Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff since July 1974.

He will be the first naval officer to become Chief of the Defence Staff.

Also announced was the appointment of Major-General Ramsay M. Withers, of Toronto, commander of Canadian Forces Europe, as Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff effective September 15. He is being promoted to lieutenant-general.

Canada's new top military officer, Admiral Falls, began his military career in December 1942, at the age of 18. He is now in his thirty-fifth year of service in the Armed Forces.

Initially he served with the Royal Canadian Air Force as a pilot, later transferred to the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve, the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve, and finally to the Royal Canadian Navy.

His active naval and aviation career includes service on three aircraft carriers, command of a destroyer and an aircraft carrier, and command of a naval air squadron. He was also Deputy Director of Sea/Air Warfare, Director General of Postings and Careers, Commander of the Canadian Flotilla Atlan-

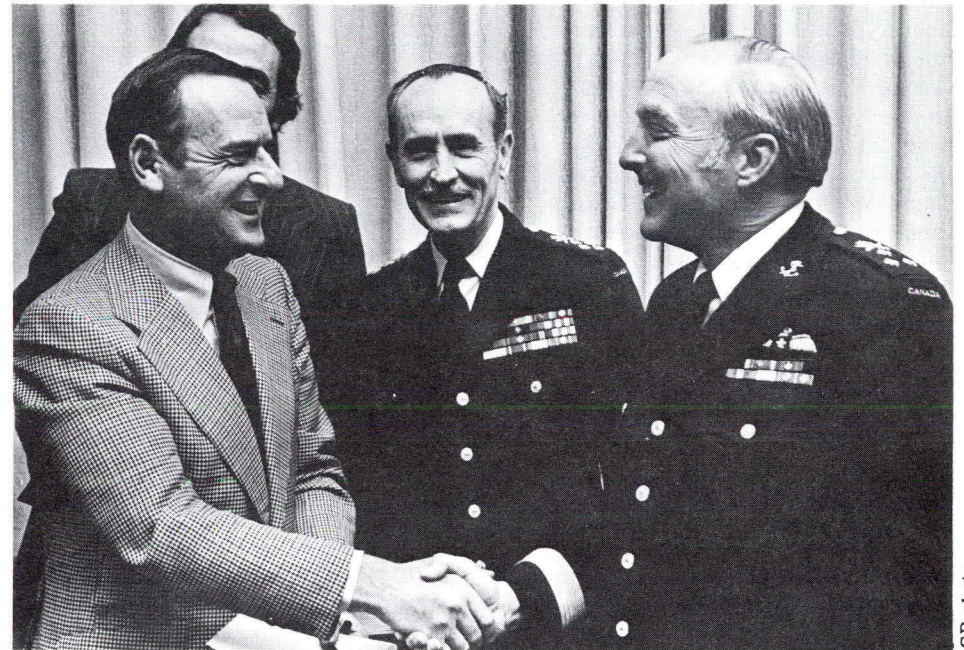
### Belgian decoration for retiring Canadian military leader

General J.A. Dextraze, CBE, CMM, DSO, CD, Chief of the Defence Staff, who is retiring in September after 37 years' service, has been honoured by Belgium.

The Cross of Grand Officer of the Order of the Crown was awarded to General Dextraze for exceptional services rendered to the people of the Republic of the Congo (now Zaire), while serving as Chief of Staff for the United Nations in that area in 1964.

Belgium Ambassador Charles Kerremans presented the award at a dinner in the general's honour at the ambassador's residence in Ottawa on April 12.

General Dextraze is cited for contributing in a decisive manner, by his personal courage and qualities as an officer, in saving the lives of numerous missionaries, teachers and other civilians in the region of Kwilu during the Congolese civil war.



Defence Minister Barney Danson (left) congratulates Vice-Admiral Robert

Falls, who succeeds General J.A. Dextraze (centre) as Defence Chief.

tic, associate assistant Deputy Minister (policy), and Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff.

In May 1976, Admiral Falls was in-

vested in the Order of Military Merit in the grade of Commander, in recognition of conspicuous merit and exceptional military service.

### Fifth year review of Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement

The Department of External Affairs announced on April 14 that senior Canadian and United States officials met in Washington on April 13 to begin the joint review of progress made since 1972 under the terms of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

The agreement, which was designed to enable the two countries to coordinate efforts to clean up and preserve the Great Lakes, stipulates that the two countries jointly review ef-

fectiveness of programs carried out under terms of the accord during the first five years of its operation. The Canadian delegation consisted of representatives of the Federal Government and the provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

Substantial progress has been made under the agreement since 1972. Many of the remedial programs are working well, but much remains to be done. The review will entail an in-depth

assessment of all of the measures undertaken by the two countries to restore the Lakes and keep them healthy. The review will probably be completed before the end of the year.

Over the next several months, meetings with the public in Great Lakes communities will be held on both sides of the border. Those meetings, the results of the comprehensive review by the Governments, and the work already undertaken by the International Joint Commission, will enable the two countries to determine how they may reaf-