

First military merit medals

The first awards of Canada's new Order of Military Merit, were presented by Governor-General Roland Michener on February 21 to 92 men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces in recognition of their outstandingly meritorious service.

The Order of Military Merit, which was established on July 1, 1972, provides three degrees of membership. Five recipients were appointed as Commanders, 21 as Officers and 66 as Members of the Order. The list includes personnel of the sea, land and air elements and covers the entire span of military ranks from private to lieutenant-general.

Queen Elizabeth is Sovereign, the Governor General is Chancellor and the Chief of the Defence Staff, General Jacques Dextraze, who was also in attendance is, by virtue of his office, the Principal Commander. Earlier this year General Dextraze was invested



Order of Military Merit

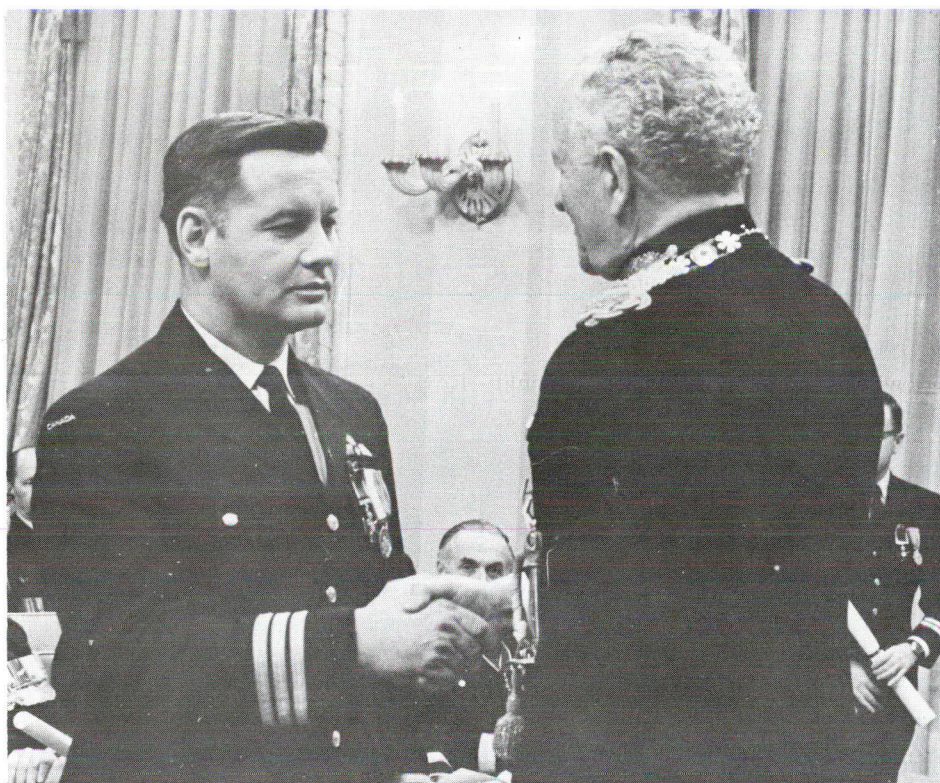
with the rank of Commander and formally installed as Principal Commander of the Order.

The new order forms part of the Canadian honours system that includes the Order of Canada and a series of three

decorations which are awarded in recognition of acts of bravery. Serving members of the Regular and Reserve Forces are eligible to be considered for the award of the Order of Military Merit. The number of appointments in any one year is related to the total strength of the Forces.

The Order of Military Merit was created to meet a need to give recognition to those officers and servicemen who display outstanding qualities of leadership and efficiency in the performance of their duties.

The badge is an enamelled, straight-end "patée" cross, with four arms narrow at the centre and expanding toward the ends. The ribbon is blue, edged in gold. The insignia of the grade of Commander is worn suspended from a ribbon around the neck. Officer and Member badges are worn on the left breast.



Department of National Defence photo

Governor-General Roland Michener congratulates Lieutenant-Colonel Borden R. Campbell on becoming an Officer of the Order of Military Merit during ceremonies at Government House on February 21. Lieutenant-

Colonel Campbell, of Fitzroy Harbour, near Ottawa, now serving with 1 Canadian Air Group, Germany, received the award for outstanding leadership while commanding Canadian Forces Station Sydney, Nova Scotia.

Regulations for safe cosmetics

National Health Minister Marc Lalonde recently announced that regulations had been proposed that would require cosmetic manufacturers to demonstrate that their products were safe. Under the new rules, the Department would have the authority to prevent sales if such evidence were not provided by a specified date.

Section 16 of the Food and Drug Act prohibits the sale of any cosmetic that has in it or upon it any substance that may cause injury to the health of the user when it is used according to directions, or by such methods of use as are customary or usual for that cosmetic.

At present the onus is on the Department of National Health and Welfare to prove a cosmetic has a substance that may cause injury. Under the proposed regulations the onus would be on the manufacturer to furnish proof of product safety.

The proposal as outlined in a letter to cosmetic manufacturers emphasized that the new regulations, if brought into force, would be used only when the safety of the cosmetic was in serious doubt.

Similar regulations for safety and effectiveness are now in effect for drugs and medical devices.