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Canadian killed in ICCS helicopter attacked in Vietnam

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, informed the House of Commons on April 9 of the death in South Vietnam, while on duty with the International Commission for Control and Supervision, of Captain Charles Eugene Laviolette, who had been killed when the ICCS helicopter in which he was a passenger crashed near Lao Bao with the loss of all nine persons aboard.

Mr. Sharp described as follows the circumstances surrounding the incident:

...The Canadian Government deploras this tragic and unnecessary incident which, according to preliminary investigation and reports, was the result of a hostile act directed, either deliberately or by mistake, against helicopters which were clearly marked with ICCS insignia. One helicopter was struck by a missile fired from the ground, presumably by the party in whose area of occupation the incident occurred, while it was approaching Lao Bao on an ICCS mission. This happened despite the fact that all the safety procedures and precautions designed specifically to prevent such incidents had been

carefully followed. The team had secured the Viet Cong's assurances of safe passage, as witnessed by the presence of two of their representatives on the stricken helicopter, and according to our information, the helicopters did not stray from the designated flight corridor to which these assurances of safety specifically applied. I wish to state as clearly and as forcefully as I am able, Mr. Speaker, the conviction of the Canadian Government that absolutely no circumstances should ever justify the firing upon personnel of the International Control Commission by any of the belligerents. Even if these helicopters had strayed off course, which all the evidence available to us denies, the penalty for losing one's way in the cause of peace should not be death at the hands of one of the signatories to the Paris peace agreement.

While we were under no illusions at the start of our participation in the ICCS concerning the dangers that existed for Canadian personnel in Vietnam, we have advocated and, we believed, had secured adequate safety and security measures in the field, based largely on trust in the assurances the ICCS is given by the parties involved in each particular case. However, the circumstances of this incident and the events which followed, particularly the hindrances encountered by the Commission in its efforts to locate and bring aid to ICCS personnel on the missing aircraft, are such that they jeopardize this trust even to the point of questioning the ability of the PRG representative in Saigon to speak for all of the military formations occu-



Wide World photo

The body of Captain Charles Laviolette of Quebec City is lowered from aircraft in Saigon on April 9.

pying the area in question. It cannot but have an effect on the future operations of the ICCS in the deployment of its teams and its investigatory capacities, and as a result, on the attitude of the Canadian Government toward continued participation on the Commission.

Events leading to tragedy

The International Commission is still attempting to carry out a detailed investigation of the incident, and until it is completed, not all details will be known. In the meantime, however, Mr. Speaker, I wish to provide the House with the following information, as we have it to date, on events leading up to Saturday's tragedy, what we know of the incident itself, and what has passed since.

Under Article 4(d) of the Protocol on international supervision, attached to the 1973 Paris agreement, Lao Bao is a specifically designated team site of the ICCS. According to the agreement, the Lao Bao team was to have been in place and operational within at least 30 days after the agreement was signed. However, for a variety of reasons, it was not until March 17 that the first helicopter reconnaissance visit took place to Lao Bao, *via* Quang Tri and Gio Linh. For this visit the necessary assurances of safety were received from the Vietnamese parties involved and the Viet Cong provided liaison officials to accompany the ICCS team. A second reconnaissance visit was planned for April 5, to see if the Lao Bao facilities were ready for ICCS occupation, but it was abandoned when the Viet Cong liaison personnel were prevented by officials of the Republic of Vietnam at Quang Tri from boarding the helicopter.

This reconnaissance flight was rescheduled for April 7; on the morning of April 7, at Quang Tri, with clearances and safety guarantees for the flight received from both the South Vietnamese and Viet Cong authorities, the crew of ICCS helicopters numbers 006 and 115 were carefully briefed by Captain Parent on the exact routing designated by the Viet Cong as being safe for travel to Lao Bao. The two helicopters left Quang Tri at nine o'clock in the morning on April 7 for Gio Linh, where two Viet Cong liaison personnel boarded helicopter 006 and

a third boarded helicopter 115. The helicopters departed at 11.15 a.m. and proceeded along the route designated by the Viet Cong, from Gio Linh to Dong Ha, and from Dong Ha toward Lao Bao following Highway 9 at a pre-arranged altitude of 1,000 meters within the corridor two kilometers either side of Highway 9. At ten minutes before noon, helicopter 115 reported that it was in its final approach to Lao Bao. Approximately three minutes later the ICCS team in Quang Tri received a transmission from the helicopters to the effect that one was receiving ground fire and that the other helicopter had been hit by a missile and was going down. Canadian personnel aboard the surviving helicopter confirm that their helicopter was fired upon at this time. They report that it took evasive action and landed in a hamlet on Highway 9, from where they walked to the crash site of the other helicopter, about two kilometers away. There is therefore no reason to believe that either helicopter was outside the flight corridor at the time of the incident, and the weather conditions were excellent. The helicopter which landed safely was fired upon with small-arms after it was on the ground, where its ICCS markings could not have been mistaken. The PRG authorities in Quang Tri have issued their own account of what they call "the incident". They claim that the two helicopters were at least 25 kilometers, that is about 15 miles, away from the approved flight corridor when helicopter number 006 was shot down. The statement maintains that they had been this far off course for 40 minutes.

Within minutes, the Commission's regional headquarters at Hue were informed of the radio distress report and were told that there had been subsequent loss of contact. Immediately, Canadian and other ICCS personnel began common efforts in Quang Tri and in Saigon to get information on what had happened, and most important, to launch a search-and-rescue mission.

Rescue request refused

All efforts were to no avail. At Quang Tri, about 40 miles away, Colonel McLeod, commander of Canadian forces in ICCS Region 1, contacted representatives of the Viet Cong, which claims to be the party in control of the area

of the incident, who were across the river from Quang Tri. During the course of the afternoon of April 7, he was three times refused permission to proceed by either land or air to Lao Bao. He was eventually informed early in the evening of April 7 that necessary arrangements for safe passage to Lao Bao could not be made. Later he was told that one helicopter had landed safely, but that the other had, and I quote, met with an accident unquote. The PRG, or Viet Cong, representative would give no information on casualties or on the condition of the personnel involved. In Saigon, while General McAlpine and his three colleagues on the Military Committee of the ICCS left for Hue to conduct the inquiry personally, similar attempts were being made to secure information from the PRG or Viet Cong delegation to the Two-Party Joint Military Commission. These efforts, which involved a three-hour meeting between the PRG representatives and the Indonesian Chairman acting on behalf of the Commission, also failed. The Viet Cong would not permit a proffered American search-and-rescue operation to proceed from Thailand as the Commission had requested, and they refused to provide liaison officers for any search organized by the ICCS, although helicopters were standing by. Nor would they give any information on the personnel involved. Almost 24 hours after the incident, the best that could be obtained from the Viet Cong was a letter to the Commission confirming that one helicopter had "met with an accident", and that the PRG was organizing its own search-and-rescue operation.

Report given at last

By this time General McAlpine had proceeded from Hue to Quang Tri with other members of the ICCS Military Committee where, on the morning of April 8, he met with the same PRG representative who had refused Colonel McLeod permission the day before to go to Lao Bao. The Viet Cong representative reported, at last, that all those aboard one helicopter had been killed in the quote accident unquote, but he still either could not or would not say which helicopter was involved. General McAlpine was also told that the Viet Cong were bringing out the dead and survivors to Gio Linh that

Immigration during 1972

Canada received 122,066 immigrants in 1972, a minimal increase of 106 people (0.1 per cent) over those who immigrated in 1971, Manpower and Immigration Minister Robert Andras announced on April 3. "This is the first time since 1967 that immigration has shown an increase," Mr. Andras said. "It is mainly the result of the special Ugandan-Asian expellee movement which accounted for 5,021 newcomers and the approval of landed immigrant status for approximately 35,000 non-immigrant visitors who had made applications for entry over the last two or three years."

There has been a general decline in immigration since 1967 when 222,876 entries were recorded. In 1968, immigration totalled 183,974; in 1969 - 161,531; 1970 - 147,713; 1971 - 121,900.

The United States, for the second consecutive year, was the major source country in 1972, providing 22,618 immigrants (18.5 per cent), a decrease of 1,748 over the previous year's figure; it was followed by Britain with 18,197, (14.9 per cent), compared to 15,451 in 1971.

The major source countries in 1972, with 1971 figures in brackets, were: United States, 22,618 (20,870); Britain, 18,197 (15,451); Portugal, 8,737 (9,157); Hong Kong, 6,297 (5,009); India, 5,049 (5,313); Uganda, 5,021 (149); Italy, 4,608 (5,790); Greece, 4,016 (4,769); the Philippines, 3,946 (4,180); and Jamaica, 3,092 (3,903).

Province of choice

Ontario led the provinces in attracting immigrants, with 63,805 (52.3 per cent). British Columbia replaced Quebec in second place with 20,107 (16.5 per cent). Quebec received 18,592 (15.2 per cent), Alberta 8,390 (6.9 per cent), Manitoba 5,262 (4.3 per cent) and Saskatchewan 1,511 (1.2 per cent). Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island shared 3,348 (2.7 per cent), and the Yukon and Northwest Territories received 305 (0.3 per cent).

The number of immigrants added to the labour force dropped to 59,432, compared to 61,282 in 1971. Of this total, 15,389 (25.9 per cent) were in the manufacturing, mechanical, and

construction categories; 15,262 (25.7 per cent) were classified as professional and technical; 8,549 (14.4 per cent) in clerical; 6,575 (11.1 per cent) service and recreation; 4,368 (7.4 per cent) managerial; and 2,460 (4.1 per cent) in commerce and finance.

There were 60,070 males and 61,936 females in the 1972 immigration movement. The majority of immigrants, 96,916 (79.4 per cent), were under 35 years of age.

Grain sale to Soviet Union

Contracts, estimated at \$200 million, covering the sale of 1.5 million metric tons (about 58 million bushels) of wheat and 500,000 metric tons (about 24 million bushels) of barley have been signed by the Canadian Wheat Board and V/O Exportkhleb, the grain-

trading corporation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Otto Lang, the Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, announced on April 9.

The shipments, which will include a number of grades of spring wheat and durum, will be made from Pacific and East ports as well as the Port of Churchill during April to October. "I'm particularly pleased that our northern port of Churchill will be handling a share of this shipment," Mr. Lang said. "Shipments against these contracts will be from supplies currently available in Canada. This will require the heavy volume movement of Western grains to be maintained throughout the current crop year," he added.

Meanwhile, shipments are continuing under contracts signed with the U.S.S.R. in February and July last year for 185 million bushels of wheat.



Pearson name for "Miles-for-Millions walk"

In honour of the late Lester B. Pearson the "Miles-for-Millions" walk this year will be renamed the Pearson Memorial Walk when in May, for the seventh year, thousands of Canadians will support international development with their

aching feet. Governor-General Roland Mitchener (centre) and Secretary of State for External Affairs Mitchell Sharp (right) are seen among the crowd of last year's marchers.

Photo courtesy CIDA

IDRC grant for family-planning research in Mexico

A grant of \$287,100 to the National Nutrition Institute in Mexico City to support research into human reproduction and improved methods of fertility regulation at six centres in Central America was announced this month by Dr. W. David Hopper, President of the International Development Research Centre in Ottawa.

This collaborative research between units at the Nutrition Institute and four regional universities in Mexico and the University of Costa Rica will be linked to a world-wide program of research in human reproduction that has been launched by the World Health Organization in Geneva. The IDRC has already contributed \$232,000 to the WHO expanded program of research, but this will be its first contribution to a regional group.

At present, the largest amount of research into human reproduction and improved methods of fertility control is being carried out in Europe and North America. A major objective of the WHO program has been to designate clinical research centres in other parts of the world to expand research into methods that are most appropriate in those regions. The Institute in Mexico City is one of these designated centres.

As well as doing specific research into methods of fertility control, including new intrauterine devices and

improved hormonal compounds, the Central American group will work with governments and private organizations in developing clinical services and analysing the work of family-planning teams. It will also work with universities in expanding the training in medical schools and at post-doctoral levels in human reproduction, population and family planning.

The IDRC grant will cover the salary of a Latin American endocrine biochemist who is to set up a hormone reference laboratory service for the whole unit. It will also provide funds for a documentation and information centre at the Nutrition Institute to be a centralized source for all six centres, and travel funds to allow researchers from all the centres to meet regularly to review their program.

Dr. Carlos Gual, Chairman of the Department of Endocrinology at the Nutrition Institute, will be in charge of the collaborative research. All the other units are headed by post-doctoral graduates of the Institute, and it is hoped that Venezuela and Guatemala will join the network when post-doctoral students who are now studying in Mexico City return to their own countries.

The IDRC, created in Canada in 1970, supports research in science and technology for the specific needs of developing countries.

Budding lawyers work as temporary policemen

Justice Minister Otto Lang recently announced that financial assistance would be provided to the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police to launch a nation-wide program of hiring law students to serve on police forces during the summer months.

"This scheme will provide law students with an insight into police work of great value to them in their professional careers," said Mr. Lang. "They will come to understand the very difficult law enforcement problems faced by the police. And the police will gain a better appreciation of the thinking and attitudes of young people towards law enforcement. The heart of this program is the relation between law student and policeman which will

narrow the gap between the legal profession and youth and the police."

The Minister indicated that a program of this type had been operated by the Victoria Police Force in British Columbia for several years and that reports had been most favourable. It will now be extended this summer across the country through federal help.

"Chief Constable Gregory of the Victoria Police Force has been instrumental in the development of this program," said Mr. Lang. "I am happy to announce that he has been granted a leave of absence to take on the task of organizing the first nation-wide program. He will be communicating very soon with police forces and law schools."

Canadian team study tourism in Spain

A team of 11 tourism experts from Ontario left recently for Spain to find out how that country "does its thing" in the hospitality industries.

The tour is fourth in a series of fact-finding missions organized by the Ontario Ministry of Industry and Tourism — the previous ones were to Ireland, France, Austria and Mexico.

The group will visit six of the country's prime tourist regions in their two-week survey. The key centres to be studied include Madrid, Malaga, Grenada, Sevilla, Las Palmas and Tenerife.

Among more than a dozen major aspects of the tourism industry to be studied are: impact of governmental seed money in Spanish tourism; co-operation among governmental services and travel agencies in promoting tourism in Spain and foreign countries, and craft and souvenir industries.

Also to be investigated are such diverse areas of the travel business as staff-training methods, "package" tours and convention business.

New national wildlife area in Southern Ontario

The 1,450-acre Big Creek Marsh on Lake Erie, near Port Rowan, Ontario, has been purchased by the Federal Government in a continuing program to preserve wetlands for waterfowl, Jack Davis, Minister of the Environment, announced recently. The land was bought from the Toronto and Big Creek Shooting Club.

The marsh — a portion of the delta formed by Big Creek at the base of Long Point Peninsula — provides food and rest for thousands of ducks during spring and autumn migration. It is also a moulting area for ducks in the summer, and a well-known resting place for migrating whistling swans in spring.

A management plan will be developed by the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and a federal-provincial committee, formed for this purpose, will consider recommendations on the use of the area from such interested groups as naturalists and hunters.

Sawdust used as land-fill in the construction of roads

In 1970, the Western Federal Products Laboratory (WFPL) of the federal Department of the Environment was approached by the British Columbia Department of Highways for advice on the possible use of sawdust as stable land-fill during the construction of an interchange on the Trans-Canada Highway, where a 30-inch high-pressure natural-gas pipeline crossed underneath one of the proposed approach roads. Normal aggregate road-fill was considered too heavy and a risk to the underlying gas pipeline. The use of sawdust was considered as a light and inexpensive substitute. Since the Department of Highways had no previous experience in the use of sawdust above the water-table, a co-operative experiment with the WFPL was undertaken.

The use of wood-preserving chemicals to prevent the biological breakdown of the sawdust was considered. However, no such chemicals are totally resistant to leaching by water. Since the proposed interchange was flanked by fresh-water drainage ditches on prime arable farm land, the use of toxic chemical preservatives was discounted. For the same reasons, the use of fire retardants to prevent possible spontaneous combustion was also excluded.

Since all evidence in the field of biodegradation of wood indicates that under anaerobic conditions the degradation of wood is very slow, it was concluded that good service from sawdust would be possible under such conditions.

In autumn of 1970, some 1,000 cubic yards of mixed old and new hardwood sawdust was used in a 75-foot-long portion of approach road to a depth of about nine feet. This sawdust was compacted and covered entirely over the top surface and edges with heavy-duty polyethylene sheet. A surface layer of sand was added and then a temporary road surface. Thermocouples for temperature measurement were installed within the sawdust at various positions and also tubes for the extraction of gas samples. Subsequently, regular temperature recordings and gas analyses for carbon dioxide and methane were done by the WFPL.

Temperatures within the sawdust-fill decreased during the autumn and spring

'Mrs. Markham' at O'Keefe Centre



Honor Blackman

Honor Blackman and Dame Cicely Courtneidge headlined a cast of nine international stars in the British comedy hit *Move Over Mrs. Markham*, which began a two-week run on April 2 at the O'Keefe Centre in Toronto. The play first opened at London's Vaudeville Theatre on March 17, 1971, and enjoyed a run of two years.

Move Over Mrs. Markham, involves three sets of couples, an amorous, eccentric dog-fancier, an interior decorator, and a prim and proper authoress. The three couples all want to use the luxurious penthouse flat of publisher Philip Markham and his wife Joanna, for romantic escapades. The comedy results from the ensuing chaos. The play is directed by John Chapman, who, together with Ray Cooney, wrote the script.

Appearing with Miss Blackman and Dame Cicely were Terence Alexander,

Peter Byrne, Elspet Gray, Trevor Bannister, Bryan Coleman, Anna Dawson and Ann Kennedy.

Honor Blackman, who plays Mrs Markham, is probably best known as co-star of the popular TV series *The Avengers*. Her film roles vary from seductive judo-throwing in *Goldfinger* to a sensitive portrayal in *The Virgin and the Gypsy*. Her latest appearances have been in two West End thrillers, *Wait Until Dark* and *Who Killed Santa Claus?*

Dame Cicely Courtneidge appeared in revues throughout the 1920s and '30s. Her credits include stage shows *Under Your Hat*, *Something in the Air*, *The Bride Comes Back*, and *Her Excellency*, and such films as *The Ghost Train*, *Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines*, *Spider's Web*, and *The L-Shaped Room*. In 1951, she received the C.B.E., and in 1972 she was created Dame of the British Empire. She published her autobiography, *Cicely*, in 1953.



Cicely Courtneidge

of 1971-72 and only showed slight increases during the summer of 1972, following normal ambient temperature changes. At no time was there any indication of high energy biological activity.

Carbon dioxide and methane levels within the sawdust increased rapidly and then stabilized. These results indicated complete restriction of aerobic activity and the development of methane-producing micro-organisms. From these observations, it was concluded that biodegradation of the sawdust was proceeding only very slowly and that no immediate settling due to its loss of density and compaction

would occur. Without further experimentation, no estimate of the long-term stability of such a road system could be made, but further sites will be considered and tested as the need arises.

The application of sawdust as road or land-fill, using this anaerobic technique developed and tested by the Western Forest Products Laboratory, has considerable potential in future city development. It could also remove the rapidly-increasing problem facing the lumber industry of what to do with and how to utilize its fast-accumulating hog-fuel. The importance of this latter problem and its solution is, at present, under consideration.

Stanley Cup record and World Hockey Association quarter finals

National Hockey League

Quarter finals, Series A

April 12, Montreal 4, Buffalo 2

Montreal wins best of seven four games to two.

Series D

April 12, Philadelphia 4, Minnesota 2

Philadelphia wins best of seven four games to two.

Semi finals, Series E

April 14, Philadelphia 5, Montreal 4

April 17, Montreal 4, Philadelphia 3

Series F

April 12, New York 4, Chicago 1

April 15, Chicago 5, New York 4

April 17, Chicago 2, New York 1

World Hockey Association

Quarter finals

East

New England wins best of seven four games to one.

Cleveland wins best of seven four games to none.

West

Winnipeg wins best of seven four games to one.

Houston leads best of seven three games to two.

Sugar maples in London churchyard

Two Canadian sugar maples are alive, well, and growing after being planted during February, in the new churchyard garden of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. They are there because Toronto stockbroker, Robert A. Wisener, thought it would be an appropriate gesture, in Britain's "Plant-a-Tree-Year" to present them to the

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city authorities. Also the trees mark the opening of Mr. Wisener's company new offices. A small nickel-chromium plaque made in Toronto records the date and the occasion.

The trees were planted at a short ceremony attended by city officials, the Dean of St. Paul's, J.H. Warren, High Commissioner for Canada in London, and Ontario Agent General, Ward Cornell.

Continued from P. 2

evening, and that he and his colleagues should proceed there to receive them. Early in the morning of April 9, which was yesterday afternoon by our time, General McAlpine received the Canadian survivors and we were able to positively identify, for the first time, which helicopter had been shot down. As I mentioned above, the survivors were examined medically and found to be in good condition.

"Accident" statement enforced

We have been informed by the Canadian representative on the Military Committee of the ICCS, Major General McAlpine, that when the so-called PRG officially handed over the bodies and survivors on the morning of April 9 at Gio Linh, it made an attempt to have the ICCS Military Committee sign a prepared statement claiming that the helicopters were off course and that the incident was an accident. The ICCS Military Committee quite rightly refused to meet such an outrageous demand.

From the reports which we have received, however, it is understood that before they were released, the surviving passengers and crew of the helicopter had been required to sign statements prepared by the PRG that they were off course, and that it was implied that if they refused they might not be returned to ICCS authorities. I understand that the survivors did sign the statements; I am sure that Honourable Members will make no mistake about the value of such statements signed under these circumstances....

Mr. Speaker, that is the extent of the information which is available to us now. I am bound to say that this incident is only the most tragic of a number of cases in which ICCS aircraft, all of which are clearly and

prominently marked, have been fired upon. As Honourable Members will recall, the first such incidents occurred in late February. Since the incident of which I have just given an account, I have received a report that another ICCS helicopter has been fired upon within the past 24 hours. Two Canadians were among its passengers. On April 9, in the southernmost of the ICCS's seven regions, the ICCS helicopter was accompanying a helicopter of the Joint Military Commission near a team-site called Vi Thanh. The JMC helicopter was flying at an altitude of 500 feet, and the ICCS helicopter was following it at an altitude of 6,500 feet. Both were fired upon from the ground, and the JMC helicopter is reported to have been hit by a number of rounds. As a result, all ICCS helicopters in the region have been grounded pending consideration of the matter by the ICCS at its headquarters in Saigon.

I wish to assure all Canadians, and especially the families and friends of Canadians serving in Vietnam, that the Government is taking these incidents very seriously indeed....

Continued participation in doubt

Such serious incidents will, of course, have a bearing upon the Government's decision concerning Canada's continued participation in the ICCS. Honourable Members will recall that in my statement to the House late last month, I said that the general situation in Vietnam was highly unsatisfactory, and that Canada would terminate its participation at the end of June if the situation did not improve substantially. Since then, the general situation has not improved; in fact it has deteriorated. If it does not improve very substantially, it will be clear that by continuing to serve in the ICCS, we would be staying on to observe, not a peace, not a cease-fire but a continuing war. We would be doing so, as this recent deplorable incident makes clear, at totally unjustified human risk. This we will not do. This House may be sure, and all Canadians may be sure, that we will not continue to risk Canadian lives in fulfilment of a task which is not worth doing. The parties are responsible for making the task worthwhile, by making it a task in support of peace in Vietnam. We will expect them to fulfil that responsibility.