

## **HERE IS A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE AFP-AAC PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS CFLSPA**

*By E.W.H. (Ernie) Huntley, CD, KCPR, OVM*

*AFP/AAC Chair Emeritus*

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CFLSPA, THE CANADIAN FORCES LONG SERVICE PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION WHICH HAD FOR its PHILOSOPHY "WHEN ANYONE IS ABUSED BY ANY FORM OF AUTHORITY, WE ARE ALL EQUALLY RESPONSIBLE WHEN BY OUR LACK OF ACTION, WE ACCEPT AND CONDONE SUCH ABUSE."

THE IDEA STARTED IN 1975, WHEN 2 SGTS. AND 3 CPLS HAPPENED TO MEET AT A LOCAL COFFEE SHOP AND DISCUSSED THE NEGATIVE RECEPTION WHEN SEEKING EMPLOYMENT IN CIVILIAN LIFE.

SEVERAL MONTHS LATER A NOTICE WAS PUBLISHED, INVITING ANY MILITARY RETIREE OR THOSE SERVING AND ABOUT TO BE RETIRED ,TO ATTEND A MEETING IN WHAT WAS THE PROTESTANT CHURCH HALL AT WOLSELEY BARRACKS IN LONDON, ONTARIO. RESULTING IN LESS THAN 200 ATTENDEES.

AFTER EXPLANATIONS AND A QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD, IT WAS DECIDED TO FORM A 'NOT FOR PROFIT ASSOCIATION' AND THE SUGGESTION RESULTED WITH EX AIR FORCE CPL . . . . DANNY NADON AS NATIONAL PRESIDENT, WHO IMMEDIATELY ASKED FOR VOLUNTEERS TO FORM A SMALL COMMITTEE OF 5 MEMBERS. ANNUAL DUES WERE TO BE \$3.

AT THE END OF THE MEETING \$200 WAS COLLECTED AND HANDED TO 'NADON' FOR STARTING UP EXPENSES. FAR LESS THAN WAS NEEDED, SO THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OFFERED MORE FROM THEIR PERSONAL RESOURCES.

DURING DANNY'S TENURE IN OFFICE 1974 -77`WE REPEATEDLY SUBMITTED OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES EMPHASISING JOB ACCREDITATION AND AN IN INCREASE IN WIDOW'S BENEFITS TO 70% OF HER HUSBAND'S SUPERANNUATION TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, WITH LITTLE RESPONSE OTHER THAN AN OCCASIONAL SECRETARY ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT.

THE COMMITTEE WAS CHANGED SEVERAL TIMES AND AT THEIR MEETING IN 1975, ERNIE HUNTLEY (FATHER OF THE PRESIDENT NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, TONY HUNTLEY) WAS ELECTED AS NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT. WE THEN HAD JUST OVER 1000 MEMBERS. OUR NEWSLETTER WAS IN THE FORM OF A QUARTERLY 6 PAGE NEWSPAPER CALLED THE NATIONAL ADVOCATE, COMPOSED BY THE VP AND PROOF READ BY HIS WIFE AND A NEIGHBOUR.

ACCOMMODATION WAS A BIG PROBLEM DUE TO COST OF RENTING OR HIRING OFFICE SPACE, SO IT FELL UPON THE SHOULDERS OF THE VP TO FIND SOMETHING AFFORDABLE. AFTER EXHAUSTING OBVIOUS POSSIBILITIES, HE WENT DIRECTLY TO NATIONAL DEFENCE HQ. WHICH THROUGH THE BASE COMMANDER ALLOWED US FREE USE OF A LARGE ROOM IN 'A' BLOCK AT WOLESLEY BARRACKS. WHICH WE USED FOR SEVERAL YEARS. WE HELD BI-MONTHLY MEETINGS AT THE CHURCH HALL IN THE BARRACKS. AGM'S WERE HELD AT VARIOUS PLACES. THE LAST AT WHICH M.GEN.LEWIS MCKENZIE WAS GUEST SPEAKER JUST AFTER HIS RETIREMENT.

DURING THIS TIME WE, WE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM SOMEONE (OBVIOUSLY A FRIEND) ON THE STAFF AT DNDHQ, WARNING THAT A LETTER WAS BEING DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT TO BE SUSPICIOUS OF OUR ASSOCIATION AND IT'S OBJECTIVES, BECAUSE THEY (WE) MIGHT BECOME A THREAT TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

A WEEK LATER WE LEARNED THAT UNBEKNOWN TO US, THE RCMP AND MILITARY POLICE HAD EXAMINED OUR FILES. (THERE WERE NONE OF OUR COMMITTEE THERE AT THE TIME.)

THROUGHOUT THIS TIME, THE VICE PRESIDENT (VP) AND HIS WIFE, AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE AND TIME, TYPED LETTERS (WE HAD NO PC), AND MAILED THEM TO OVER 500 NEWS OUTLETS COUNTRYWIDE, PERIODICALS, NEWSPAPERS, RADIO AND TV STATIONS (ANY SOURCE WE COULD THINK OF TO SEEK PUBLICITY AND RECRUIT MORE MEMBERS.) THIS WAS SUCCESSFUL, BECAUSE APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIPS CAME IN VERY FAST AND AT ONE TIME WE HAD OVER 23,000 MEMBERS. (ALL RANKS FROM PRIVATE TO LT. GENERAL.)

IN 1977, DANNY NADON RESIGNED AND ERNIE HUNTLEY WAS ELECTED AS NATIONAL PRESIDENT. WE SET ABOUT FORMING AREAS AND LOCAL BRANCHES RIGHT ACROSS THE COUNTRY, AT LEAST TWO IN EVERY PROVINCE EXCEPT QUEBEC WHERE WE HAD A SMALL BRANCH OF 12 PEOPLE IN HULL. AGAIN WE WERE SUCCESSFUL AND AS TIME PASSED WE

HELD MANY MEETINGS AT VARIOUS BRANCHES. TWICE TO BOTH THE EAST AND WEST.

IT MUST BE STRESSED THAT NONE OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE RECEIVED REMUNERATION, BUT IN THE EVENT OF AREA DIRECTORS OR BRANCH CHAIRMEN TRAVELING ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION, OR ATTEND AN AGM. ACTUAL PROVEN EXPENSES WERE REFUNDED. TO KEEP COSTS LOW ACCOMMODATION DURING THEIR VISITS TO LONDON, ONTARIO, THEY WERE GUESTS IN THE HOMES OF SOME OF THE EXECUTIVES.

THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT (NP) HAD SUBMITTED A NUMBER OF BRIEFS TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE, THE HON BARNEY DANSON, WHICH RESULTED IN AN INVITATION TO MEET WITH HIM AT HIS OFFICE. MRS. HUNTLEY ACCOMPANIED HIM TO REPRESENT THE ISSUES IN RESPECT OF SPOUSES AND DEPENDANTS.

THIS WAS THE ONLY TIME ANY OF THE EXECUTIVE MET WITH A MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE. AMONG THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED WERE, JOB ACCREDITATION, THE FORMATION OF A MILITARY INSTITUTION TO BE CALLED THE MILITARY COLLEGE OF APPLIED SCIENCES (PART OF A BRIEF REGARDING JOB ACCREDITATION.) INCREASING WIDOWS BENEFITS AND A SUGGESTION THAT HELP SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ANYONE ABOUT TO RETIRE IN ORDER TO PREPARE THEM FOR CIVILIAN LIFE.

HE LISTENED CAREFULLY, THEN PICKING UP THE PHONE SPOKE TO SOMEONE AND TURNING TO THE NP. AND HIS WIFE SAID," LEAVE THIS WITH ME. AS YOU KNOW THERE IS TO BE AN ELECTION WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. WHEN I AM RE-ELECTED, I WILL SET UP AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOU BOTH TO DISCUSS THE WIDOWS ISSUES AND THE COLLEGE SUGGESTION. MEANWHILE, IF YOU GO TO ~SUCH AND SUCH OFFICE~ YOU WILL MEET LT. GENERAL JAMES SMITH, HE KNOWS YOU ARE COMING. (LT GEN. JAMES SMITH (AIR). WAS THE ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER PERSONNEL

ONCE SEATED THE MP . EXPLAINED THE SITUATION AND GENERAL SMITH LISTENED, THEN SAID, "THIS MAY BE A COINCIDENCE BUT WE ARE ALREADY WORKING ON A SIMILAR SCHEME TO ASSIST THOSE ABOUT TO RETIRE. I LIKE WHAT YOU ARE BOTH SAYING". THEN HE SPOKE ON THE PHONE AND IN LESS THAN 5 MINUTES A MAJOR ARRIVED. HIS NAME WAS TERRY CHRISTOPHER (LT.CMDR. NAVY) WHO LISTENED TO THE NP. AND HIS WIFE THEN ASKED THEM TO ACCOMPANY HIM.

THANKING GEN. SMITH THEY LEFT.

IN A SMALLER OFFICE, WAS A LADY CLERK AND A COUPLE OF DESKS TERRY CHRISTOPHER INVITED HIS VISITORS TO SIT DOWN, THEN GOING TO HIS DESK, PICKED UP A COPY OF THE BRIEF SENT TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE. HE SAID HE WAS VERY INTERESTED IN THE SUBMISSION, BUT DIFFERED SLIGHTLY IN ONE RESPECT, "IN YOUR BRIEF YOU SUGGEST THAT IT WOULD BE DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS OF SERVICE THE ADVICE SHOULD BE GIVEN, BUT I THINK IT SHOULD BE 5 YEARS. THIS WAS AGREED UPON AND ERNIE AND MRS. HUNTLEY WERE INVITED TO MEET WITH HIM EVERY TWO WEEKS UNTIL REACHING A SATISFACTORY SCHEME TO SUBMIT FOR APPROVAL. THERE WERE IN FACT 4 VISITS, ~~FLYING TO OTTAWA , STAYING OVERNIGHT AT AN HOTEL FOR AN EARLY START ON FRIDAY, RETURNING LATE FRIDAY AFTERNOON/ EVENING AFTER THE MEETING.

THIS WAS THE START OF S.C.A.N, THE SECOND CAREER ASSISTANCE NETWORK. ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM THE ORIGINAL CONCEPT, IT IS STILL IN EXISTENCE.

AGAIN NO EXPENSES WERE SUBMITTED.

THE LIBERAL PARTY WERE NOT RE-ELECTED SO WE NEVER MET BARNEY DANSON AGAIN. SO ALL OUR EFFORT AND HOPE FOR A SPEEDY RESOLUTION WERE IGNORED BY THE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT (AS IT HAS BEEN EVER SINCE REGARDLESS OF WHICH PARTY WAS IN OFFICE).

IN OCT 1977 WE WERE SUCCESSFUL IN HAVING MANY OF THE MILITARY TRADES ACCEPTABLE TO THE CIVILIAN WORK FORCE. THANKFULLY, GREAT STRIDES FAVOURING SUCH EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE SINCE THEN.

IT WAS ABOUT THIS TIME WE TOLD TO CHANGE OUR NAME BECAUSE~~ IT MIGHT CONFUSE THE PUBLIC INTO THINKING DND SUPPORTED US. ~~ WE IGNORED THIS FOR QUITE SOME TIME UNTIL WE WERE GIVEN AN ONTARIO NUMBERED COMPANY NAME BY THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH WE REFUSED TO ACCEPT. WE WERE THEN TOLD TO VACATE THE PREMISES WHICH OF COURSE WE DID, HOWEVER ONE OF THE EXECUTIVE, JOCK SHIELDS, OFFERED A ROOM AT HIS DRIVING SCHOOL SO WE MOVED IN, BY THIS TIME WE HAD A COMMODORE 64 PC.

STILL IGNORING THE ORDER TO CHANGE OUR NAME, WE `STOOD DOWN' FOR A WHILE,

DURING WHICH TIME WE DID TRY TO SATISFY THE GOVERNMENT WITH OTHER NAMES, NONE OF WHICH WAS ACCEPTABLE TO EITHER THEM OR US, UNTIL WE SUGGESTED AFP-AAC, BUT BEFORE THAT WAS ACCEPTED, IT HAD TO BE MODIFIED INTO SUITABLE (TO THE GOVERNMENT) FRENCH LANGUAGE. AN EMERGENT MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE WAS CALLED (FEW IF ANY MEETINGS FLOW HARMONIOUSLY, THIS ONE WAS NO EXCEPTION WITH REASONS PRO AND CON) EVENTUALLY AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO ACCEPT ED HALAYKO'S SUGGESTION (ED HAD BEEN VP OF CFLSPA FOR TWO YEARS) TO FORM A DIFFERENT TYPE OF ASSOCIATION, MORE ON BUSINESS LINES, SO THERE WOULD NO LONGER BE A NATIONAL PRESIDENT BUT A NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, WITH APPOINTED DIRECTORS. (MEANING OF COURSE) NO COMMITTEE! THIS WAS ACCEPTED AFTER NUMEROUS ARGUMENTS. THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT WOULD BE KNOWN AS NATIONAL PRESIDENT EMERITUS. THIS OF COURSE MEANT SOMEONE WOULD HAVE TO BE ELECTED AS NATIONAL CHAIRMAN. ED OFFERED HIS SERVICES, WHICH WERE ACCEPTED SO NO ELECTION TOOK PLACE. THE FIRST THING WAS TO INCREASE THE DUES TO \$15 TO BUILD A LEGAL FUND. THE ADVOCATE WAS SCRAPPED AND QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS WERE TO TAKE ITS PLACE. NO MORE MEETINGS HELD IN LONDON, EXCEPT THE LAST AGM PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED.

FROM THEN ON WE MADE SEVERAL VISITS TO DIFFERENT PROVINCES AND TOWNS. STILL SUBMITTING BRIEFS, WHICH IN THE MAIN WERE IGNORED BY WHICH EVER PARTY, FORMED THE GOVERNMENT AND IT WASN'T UNTIL THE HON. FLORA MACDONALD, BY ORDER IN COUNCIL ON A FRIDAY AFTERNOON TRIED TO STOP MILITARY RETIREES FROM DRAWING UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE. THIS RAISED THE IRE OF MOST OF THE MILITARY. OUR RESPONSE WAS TO MARCH ON THE HILL IN PROTEST, OVER 2.500 PEOPLE ATTENDED SOME BY COACH FROM NEARBY PROVINCES AS FAR EAST AS NS, IN ADDITION LARGE PROTESTS WERE HELD IN THE MID AND WESTERN PROVINCES,

THIS RESULTED IN MADAME FLORA, MODIFYING THE ORDER ALLOWING SOMEONE TO CLAIM UI BENEFITS IF THEY WERE ` LAID OFF' FROM A CIVILIAN JOB OBTAINED AFTER RETIREMENT.

THIS WAS ONLY A PARTIAL VICTORY. HOWEVER WE STILL ARGUED THAT IF ONE COULDN'T DRAW UI BENEFITS, THEN THEY SHOULDN'T PAY PREMIUMS. ONCE AGAIN BANGING OUR HEAD AGAINST A WALL. AS WITH AND I CANNOT RECALL JUST HOW MANY COMMITTEES BEFORE WHICH WE PRESENTED OUR ARGUMENTS.

THE RESULT OF THE COURT CASE RE THE THEFT OF OUR ACCUMULATED PENSION FUNDS, WAS A TERRIBLY COSTLY BLOW TO US, SO WHILE STILL FIGHTING, WE HAVE

ACHIEVED SEVERAL VERY IMPORTANT `VICTORIES. JOB ACCREDITATION, SCAN. SQUASHING THE ` GOLD-DIGGING `STIGMA` MARRIAGE AFTER 60 CLAUSE. AND A MODIFIED UI BENEFIT

AGAIN I REITERATE EVERY MEMBER OF PAST EXECUTIVES WERE VOLUNTEERS AND IT WASN'T UNTIL THERE WAS SUFFICIENT FUNDS AVAILABLE, PROVEN EXPENSES (IF SUBMITTED) WERE RE-EMBURED

HERE IS A LIST I FOUND OF SOME OF THE HIGH RANKING HONOURARY DIRECTORS. OF CFLSPA.

AVM WILF BEAN O.B.E. CD. GUELPH ONTARIO

AVM DOUGLAS A BRADSHAW DFC CD RET. ENGLEWOOD FLORIDA

AVM C F JOHNS MBE E.D CD RET OTTAWA ONTARIO

V ADM HARRY PORTER, CD, RCN RET HALIFAX NS.LIFAX NS.  
R. ADM. W.M. LANGMORE OBE, CD, RCN, RET HALIFAX COUNTY NS.

LT GEN. FINDLAY CLARKE CBE, CD, RET. VICTORIA BC.

BG. DR. W.L. COKE CD RET. VICTORIA BC.

B. GEN J.W. BISHOP OBE, CD, RET. VANCOUVER, BC.

B GEN J.S. ROSS DSO, CD, RET. SIDNEY, NS...