

**CANADIAN WAR MUSEUM
ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM**

INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT

INTERVIEW CONTROL NUMBER: 31D 5 CHRISTOPHER

INTERVIEWEE: Lieutenant-Commander (Retired) Terrance (Terry) J. Christopher

INTERVIEWER: J.R. Digger MacDougall

DATE OF INTERVIEW: 14 October 2004

LOCATION OF INTERVIEW: Senate of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario

TRANSCRIBED BY: P. Vellan

Transcription of Interview Number 31D 5 CHRISTOPHER

Lieutenant-Commander (Retired) Terrance (Terry) J. Christopher

Interviewed 14 October 2004

By J.R. Digger MacDougall

INTERVIEWER: Canadian War Museum Oral History Program Interview with Terry Christopher, recorded on the 14th of October 2004, in the Parliament Buildings, the Senate Block, in the city of Ottawa. Interviewed by J.R. Digger MacDougall. Tape 1, Side 1.

CHRISTOPHER: My name is Terrance Christopher—Terry Christopher. I was born in Sydney, Nova Scotia. I graduated from St. Francis Xavier University in 1960. I took a Masters degree in Social Work. I worked in a Nova Scotia hospital, in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. And following my experience with military families, the military recruited me to work as a Personnel Selection Officer in the Royal Canadian Navy, in 1964 at which time I joined the Royal Canadian Navy. I was the longest serving Sub Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Navy at that time, because they had given me fifty-nine months seniority.

I proceeded to learn the job of being a military officer and a Personnel Selection Officer at HMCS STADACONA. I began to work and assess military personnel as to their suitability to remain in the service. I also began to do some programs such as the development of personnel, such as officer commissioning programs and university development programs. I also worked with the hospital in Halifax, doing assessment of psychiatric cases. This was why they originally hired me from the Nova Scotia hospital to work.

INTERVIEWER: Maybe just....

CHRISTOPHER: OK. Following my stint at STADACONA—HMCS STADACONA--I was sent to CORNWALLIS, to undertake my officer training, which I did and completed. At the time I was having—my twins were born at the time I was in training at HMCS CORNWALLIS. So, it was a rather difficult and stressful time for me, as a young family man, trying to become an officer and qualify and maintain my family. Following that, I was sent back to HMCS STADACONA where I worked for a Major Hugh Vincent, and originally, of course, with Commander Bill Northy, who were early founders and motivators or movers in the branch.

Following my time at HMCS STADACONA, I was posted to the Personnel Selection Unit in Halifax. This was the beginning of the Canadian Forces Personnel Selection System, devolving into various units across Canada, and becoming involved in the selection of new applicants to the Canadian Forces. So, we dealt with Army, Navy and Air Force potential recruits and we dealt with commissioning programs, as well, in the PSU. I was the Acting or Deputy Commanding Officer of the PSU. So, I was involved also with training of young officers, such as Major Earl Dane, who later became a Personnel Selection Officer and stayed with us for many years.

Following that, I was sent to—in 1968, I went to Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, where they started the Canadian Forces Recruit School and I worked for people like Colonel Jim Morrow of the Vandoos, at the time. I became very involved with the base activities, community activities, and as I was raising a young family at the time, I was committed to becoming very involved in community to the point where I ran for Mayor and was elected Mayor of Cornwallis. Among seven other candidates, I was the first selected Mayor in the military community and we won the Apple Blossom Festival in the Annapolis Valley that year, which brought an awful lot of credit and pride and positive image to the Canadian Forces in Cornwallis.

While in Cornwallis, in 1971, I was posted to Canadian Forces Base Borden, Ontario which meant for the first time in my life I was leaving Nova Scotia, to work in Ontario. My wife and my family and I moved to Canadian Forces Base Borden, Ontario where I became—took up the position of Base Personnel Selection Officer. Again, in this capacity, I was involved with the training and development of trainees in the Canadian Forces. It was, basically, a training base. So therefore, all the people that we would see were basically students and some, of course, staff members, who had particular problems. So, we were always involved in—continuously involved on a daily basis – in appointments and assessments of individuals and making recommendations to higher headquarters, to regional headquarters, and to Ottawa.

I started to do some seminars in CFB Borden. This was an idea I had that I thought the people needed to hear about some certain things and I wanted to bring in some issues such as retirement and adult education. So, I began to start up a series of seminars, on my own, in Borden, without any particular support from higher headquarters. It was non-funded. It was an evening event. We attracted several people to those seminars and they became very well known, to a point, of course, where I also became involved in the Cancer Society and started the first Breast Cancer Awareness night in Alliston, Ontario. [I] also became involved in Alliston, in the Rotary Club in Alliston as the Vice-President, and started--was one of the early founders of the Alliston Potato Festival, which has since grown into a major, major event in that area of Tecumseh Township in Ontario.

These seminars that I originally started, people in NDHQ—my boss, particularly, in NDHQ—Lieutenant Colonel John Lafleur--had heard about them and understood where I was coming from, very well, and had the perception to invite me and want me to be posted to Ottawa. So, I took the job of being posted to Ottawa as a staff officer, working in a directorate called Directorate of Social Development Services, which was responsible at that time for—that was in 1976.

I was working, at that time, for Lieutenant Colonel Jacobs, who was a social worker by profession. He had a large social work organization. I was sort of a one-man band in his shop, in charge of a program called the Civilian Employment Assistance Program, which was referred to as CEAP in those days. My mandate from Lieutenant-Colonel Lafleur was to try to develop the CEAP program into a national program in the Canadian Armed Forces, and to give it more energy and more substance, in terms of delivery. But I had no funding, etc.

So, I began to write papers and try to market and speak about the importance of accreditation of military personnel--particularly combat arms personnel—recognition of combat arms training through education and through credits for their work and life experiences, which was an early way of—today this is very fashionable, but in 1976, this was almost unheard of. At

the time, I was working for Lieutenant Colonel Jacobs, but also I was sort of reporting on a lateral basis, in many ways, and keeping Lieutenant Colonel Lafleur and his staff advised to what I was doing. My biggest issue there, in this program, was to--because the Drug and Alcohol program was doing extremely well and very well funded and well resourced, I was always looking at that program as to: ‘how do they do it?’; ‘how do they get their money?’; ‘how did they get resourced?’

So I finally, with the support of a general that I was working for, ended up at the Canadian Forces Council. This was a major undertaking to arrive as a young staff officer, at Canadian Forces Council. There was the Chief of Defence Staff, Vice-Chief, and Directors—the Land component, the Air component--commanders of all the divisions were there. They were going to decide whether or not they were going to approve this program called CEAP which I later began to re-invent its name and use the work “SCAN”—Second Career Assistance Network.

So, I presented components of the program that I wanted to develop involving employment, involving counseling, involving job hunting and career resume, adult education, financial planning, medical issues, pension issues, pension planning and all of the kinds of things that we hear about in 2004. But I was doing this—proposing all these things in 1978—around 1977-78.

Finally, after making a proposal at the Armed Forces Council, people like General Belzile, who was there and present, who was representing the Army, agreed. And they agreed in principle to acknowledge and recognize that this program should go forward. So with that, I began to seek funding through Finance and then began to create, across the country, a series of seminars that took place on a regular basis amongst the forty-five or fifty or more Personnel Selection Officers that were at bases.

The program was delivered basically at the bases of the Canadian Forces through the Personnel Selection Officers, and this is a new tasking for them coming from a directorate which was not directly in their line of responsibility. So I, too, was facing some resistance to change and began to try to educate and sensitize the Personnel Selection Officers to the fact that this was an important function that you should be performing, and it was going to add a lot of depth and impact on our military servicemen and their families.

So, that was the beginning of the program called SCAN which evolved. We started a project ‘Second Career’ which we started at Gagetown and Halifax and Valcartier for the Combat Arms people. We wanted to ensure that they were recognized and given due credit for their work in the military. Even though their education may have been rather low when they enrolled, we wanted to ensure that their life experiences, work experiences were being recognized. It was in 19—I did that program and I worked also with the Canadian Forces Community College Program, which I started and named and founded, basically, and we started working with Loyalist College.

I was working with the Seneca College in Toronto, which was the host college for the beginnings of the birth of the Canadian Forces community college program, which went right across Canada and provided education, through distant learning and night classes and classroom classes, to the military and their families. We also had a program where military could take one to two years of training after they retired at places like Loyalist College and

Seneca College. I was also involved with the University of Manitoba. I sat on the University of Manitoba Advisory Committee. I was very involved with the development of the university program called the Canadian Forces University Program.

In 1983, I wrote—prior to that though, I wrote a book, with the co-authorship of a Dr. John Wyspianski—a good, other friend from the University of Ottawa who has recently passed away. John and I wrote the book, *SCAN for the Future*. I did three or four movies on the SCAN program—probably one of the first human resources movies that was ever done in the military. So, I spent quite a few hours and time working with production companies doing these films that were going to have a major impact as we played them; as we showed them down the road and into the future, for the Canadian Forces military personnel and their families. It had to do with the psychological, emotional and the planning of one's future and one's career.

In 1983, after being awarded the Order of Military Merit by the Governor General, through the Queen, I was made an Officer of the Order of Military Merit. I was posted to Canadian Forces Europe in Lahr, where I was to undertake a program which involved the research into women serving in combat support roles in the Canadian Armed Forces. This was not an area that I was totally familiar with, but it was an area that was of some interest to me because it had to deal with equality issues. It had to deal with harassment. It had to deal with human rights. It had to deal with specialty employment and equity employment of women. It also had to deal with women working in groups, in very stressful and very combat related situations.

So, this is why I went to Europe. But I ended up working as the Commander's Advisor in Europe on this project but also I was housed to physically working in the organization of Senior Staff Officer Personnel in Canadian Forces Europe, reporting directly to SSO Pers, Senior Personnel Officer, and the Commander CFE. I also had the opportunity of working, of course, very closely with 4 Brigade who had all the women employed in 4 Service Battalion and for a medical company, and with 4 Field Ambulance.

I spent time in the field on their Fall Ex operations, and got to observe what was happening in the field. [I] got to observe what women were going through, participate in several night type exercises. [I] actually was in a vehicle on a closed dark, dark mission in trucks, in convoys, with the lights off, running around on the German highways and German back roads, for a whole evening, and sat in the passenger seat with a woman driver. This was quite an experience. It was quite an interesting time to get to know the kinds of roles that women and men were playing in the field in Fall Ex, and what the issues were with respect to equality and harassment issues. I personally observed many incidents of harassment and issues of inequality.

INTERVIEWER: Terry, I'd like to...

CHRISTOPHER: Is that...?

INTERVIEWER: ...ask you where were you physically located within the military-- Canadian Forces military operation in Europe? Where was your office located? What were some of the communities in the immediate neighbourhood to where you were?

CHRISTOPHER: My office was located in the caserne area of Canadian Forces Europe, which was downtown in a caserne area where the Canadian Forces Europe Headquarters was located. As well, the 4 Brigade Headquarters was located also in this area that they referred to as a caserne, which was basically a compound area, sealed off by fence from this Germany community.

INTERVIEWER: So, you were right in Lahr?

CHRISTOPHER: Right in the city of Lahr.

INTERVIEWER: What were some of the other communities in the immediate area?

CHRISTOPHER: There were a number of other small, German communities in the immediate area. In fact, I lived in one of them called Langenhard, in a German community. I lived with a German farmer and his family on the hill, overlooking the little town of Sulz on the Vosges Mountains of France. We were within about twenty minutes striking distance of France, if we wanted to drive there. And so, it was very centrally situated—one hour to Switzerland and half an hour to Strasburg, and two hours to Munich or Frankfurt. So, it was very centrally located.

INTERVIEWER: Now just for our transcribers, how do you spell Langenhard?

CHRISTOPHER: L-A-N-G-E-N-H-A-R-D. There were so many small communities around, surrounding the area, and so many farming and wineries in the area that it was very fascinating to live amongst the Germans and to be part of their communities as well.

INTERVIEWER: Was that standard for Canadian Forces personnel to live...?

CHRISTOPHER: No. No.

INTERVIEWER: ...with Germans?

CHRISTOPHER: No. Many of us did. But it was pretty well standard for military families to be living in apartment buildings in downtown Lahr. There were several buildings set aside and rented or leased or owned by the military for their military families. Some of them were apartment sized—eight or nine stories—housing many families and children. Sometimes, I felt too cramped and too clustered, which in itself creates issues for young families. But many of the younger ones—younger families, with no children—there was quite a few of those came over—they would live outside, renting apartments or parts of farm houses from the Germans.

INTERVIEWER: What did your office comprise of? What sort of staff were you, and specifically, how did you report up and down the chain of command?

CHRISTOPHER: I had – at Canadian Forces Europe – I reported directly to the SSO Pers, but I had a secretary. I had a Captain who eventually ended up working for me. He was doing a lot of the administrative work. The boards of inquiry were enormous. We used to get weekly and daily boards of inquiry that we had to assess and recommend for, up to higher

headquarters, either for payment or for recommendations for change [or] recommendations for policy changes.

We became involved in the benefits program of personnel serving over in Europe. We instituted and tried to get new benefits for some of our people who we felt were underpaid in terms of their transportation benefits, living allowance benefits, housing benefits, educational benefits. These were all very important things and morale boosting things to members and their families who were serving overseas.

I also dealt with the outside units, as well, in Brussels and Geilenkirchen, in Heidelberg, and these areas. And some of their commanders would come in, from time to time, for conferences, etc. We would get to present issues or items to these conferences. I was also very involved in the U.S. Forces, and with the German Forces. In fact, [I] lectured at a German Leadership Academy, in Germany, on the issue of employment of women in non-combat support roles. Also, I spoke about human resource issues at leadership schools. Also, I was invited by the U.S. Military—the U.S. Army—to speak, in places like Bertchesgarden, to the military at conferences—international conferences they were having. I also attended several logistic conferences—operational planning conferences—that were held, with the U.S. Forces, at various sites throughout Germany.

INTERVIEWER: You had a very unique position. You were sent over to research the introduction of women into combat units. You were assigned as a Personnel Selection Officer to an operational role. Before we go into the work that you did with the research into the introduction of women into combat units in a combat environment, would you talk about your day to day duties, and exactly what you were involved in, from an operational standpoint?

CHRISTOPHER: The day to day duties in the personnel world were dictated, as well, by ops briefings, starting in the morning. If we had an early morning snowball, we would be gone out of homes, wherever we lived in Germany, at 4 a.m. probably, and be into an operational snowball routine by 5:00. And we would be in that mode until the Commander would dismiss us from that role. Basically, these snowballs were exercises based on the Cold War issues; based on the Cold War threat, at the time, and the understandings that we had with respect to Russia and the threat from communism. But also, during these exercises—some of them would go several days.

On one occasion, when I was on duty during one of these exercises, I was the receiver of the message, from National Defence Headquarters, which increased the complement of Lahr to twelve hundred people—complemented an additional twelve hundred, which was something that everybody in Lahr, and the Commander, were all promoting for several months. So, it was quite an evening when we got this particular message from Headquarters saying we were going to be increased to about twelve hundred people.

My day to day thing—work—was with 4 Brigade, and the units of 4 Brigade, and the commanding officers of 4 Brigade. So, I got to know all of these commanding officers pretty well and worked closely with their staffs to try to resolve some of their issues and some of their concerns regarding re-musters, re-assignments, boards of inquiry, and issues related to their repatriation or people being suitable to retain in Europe. There were also several issues

regarding suicide and other kinds of very serious events which took place which were life-threatening. We had to deal with those issues as well.

There [were] other occasions where we had senior officers getting into some trouble because of drinking and over drinking and, sort of discretely, we had to make sure that we did their counseling. We repatriated some of these individuals back to Canada where they could receive the proper assistance and help that they needed.

I also did a movie. Because there were a lot of young families in Europe, at the time, I did a movie on the young families and their adjustments in the environment of Europe, and the issues of employment for young women, and the expectations that people had of Germany. I was trying to project, through film documentary and acting--a drama film--the actual realistic issues of coming to Europe and being away from Canada. and being away from their families. These films were extremely well received, in both languages, and were presented in our seminars in Canada as people were being screened and as people were being selected to come to Canadian Forces Europe.

My initial posting in Europe was supposed to be for two years, from 1983 to 1985. The Commander of Canadian Forces Europe, along with the SSO Pers, requested that I stay in Europe, and asked me if I would accept an extension. So therefore, I was extended twice in Europe and remained in Europe until 1989. I was the longest serving Personnel Selection Officer in Europe. But also, I was probably one of the busiest officers in Europe because of my responsibilities to do with research, initially--the SWINTER trials--and then, becoming the Command Personnel Selection Officer in Canadian Forces Europe.

INTERVIEWER: Now, the SWINTER trials--what specifically were they? What does that stand for?

CHRISTOPHER: The SWINTER was a synonym used for the employment of women—the social research and behavioural research into the employment of women in non-combat service support roles. And so that, it was called—that research project was called SWINTER. But basically, it had to do with what men were doing and what women were doing, and how they would work together as a team, and what kinds of issues prevented them from working together as a team--whether those issues were physical--upper body strength issues--because we did do a lot of surveys with occupational therapists who came over from Canada and did some testing on upper body strength issues. But there was also the emotional issues--the issues of the wives of men who were working with women in the field in these isolated areas.

There was a wide variety of emotional upheaval and trauma related to these trials. In fact, one of my first visits with the women who were under the research project, they had been there for at least a year or two years when I arrived. My experience with them, when I went into the classroom to talk to them, informally--and I was wearing my uniform, and they were all dressed in their uniforms--they were extremely hostile towards me, and what I represented, and [said] that I should leave Europe, and go back to Canada, and leave them alone. Basically, they were extremely hostile. Many expletives were used to describe the people associated with this research project. It was very unpopular amongst the women.

INTERVIEWER: They just didn't like being in a fishbowl, so to speak?

CHRISTOPHER: They did not like being in the fishbowl aquarium that they were in and they wanted to be left alone. Many of them either wanted to get out of what they were doing and go back to Canada, or go on to remain where they were and be left alone to do their jobs. And they didn't want any one assessing them as to whether or not they could or couldn't do their jobs. They all felt they could and it was an insult to them to have anyone doing any research on them.

INTERVIEWER: So, how were you able to overcome that hostility by the women who were there to do the trials, and convince the Canadian Forces hierarchy that women should or should not be used in combat situations?

CHRISTOPHER: Combat support roles, you mean.

INTERVIEWER: Combat support roles.

CHRISTOPHER: Combat support roles. The next part of that was, of course, leading into actual combat roles. But I was there for the combat support roles. Basically, I started to get to know them, number one, and visit them in their units as they were working, and talk to them on a one on one basis, in terms of interviews. I went out to observe them, as well, in their roles and to do some of the things that they were asked to do. I got involved in being part of it. So, I personally witnessed—I was there when things were happening and was around, and they knew that. They could see that I was supportive, and not there as a spy or someone from NDHQ who was looking at them in the fishbowl.

I recognized their sensitivities and their humanness and their concerns about life and their concerns about their own careers. In fact, I had got involved also in reassignment of some of them to other roles and other jobs, during the time of the project, because it became totally unsuitable, and recognized that. Some of them were actually misplaced in jobs that they didn't really want to do. So, there were numbers of issues that they were raising.

There was a few divorces over fraternization issues. This is early in the days when we had no fraternization policy in the Canadian Forces—at least no formal written policy. So, I got involved in doing some early writings on harassment and fraternization--fraternization issues in the Canadian Forces in Europe. So, all in all, it was a very demanding role.

I had to create a report which was politically, extremely sensitive, from a military point of view and from a political point of view, because the kinds of things I was talking about in the report, no one had seen or had heard of until I raised these issues with both the military hierarchy, and the political side. So, my role—I was sort of in the middle, as the messenger, if you like, and the “researcher”, but mainly the messenger, who was there to deliver the honesty and the integrity of a report that I thought should be delivered, at that time, in 1985.

INTERVIEWER: One of the questions that comes to mind is that here you are, a naval officer, working in a totally Army and Air Force environment. Your background is psychology and social work. You're initially posted in to conduct research on the introduction of women to combat support roles, in a highly combat environment. What was the opinion of the troops, and certainly of the women that you were working with, with respect to the threat from the Warsaw Pact Forces, at this time?

CHRISTOPHER: Well, on a daily basis, in Europe, we had operation briefings on a daily basis. Warsaw Pact issues were always before us, either in terms of working with the U.S. or working with Germans or working with the French. We were always involved with the “threat”. The movements of troops in Europe was always something that was discussed in our briefings, and how close they were to our own troops who were also out exercising. We had security and intelligence reports every day that gave us a close and accurate picture of the movements of the Russian troops and other troops. So, it was a daily thing.

Amongst the troops themselves—the people who were serving—they also were very much aware, because of where they were being sent, in terms of their operations and exercises they were doing throughout the year—not just on Fall Ex. But they were away a lot, depending on what units they were with. They were briefed at all times as to what was going on. Whether they believed there was a real threat or not, I think, after a while, over in that environment, you understand that there really was a threat in those days. Times have changed, of course. But in those days, I think the troops were there, and felt they were there, and committed to the mission of protecting Europe and protecting Canada.

INTERVIEWER: You mentioned Fall Ex. Did you participate in a Fall Exercise, as well?

CHRISTOPHER: Yes. I was out on Fall Ex on several occasions during my tenure there with—usually, I would try to attach myself to—I definitely attached myself to 4 Brigade. But basically, I tried to attach myself to 4 Service Battalion. They would ensure that I had accommodation, and they would provide me with the trailer that I needed, or the tenting that I needed, or the equipment that I needed--the base. I was always—I had a complete combat outfit and all the utensils and all the things that go with that. And so, I was always-- personally and professionally, myself--ready to go on Fall Ex, and ready for any eventuality that may come our way.

So, I spent the days and the nights and some—many long nights awake, and many nights where we were awakened out of our sleep to go off and do different things in the night, on exercise, in trenches and holed up at different places and replenish and refuel vehicles. So, I was involved with a lot of that, as an observer and as a participant, in many ways. I felt as a participant in any case. I tried to join in with the other members of 4 Service Battalion and 4 Field Ambulance.

INTERVIEWER: The women that you were....

CHRISTOPHER: Also, I had occasion to participate in the Royal 22nd Regiment exercises, at night, along with the Armoured Corps. That was extremely interesting and very operational. It was very much on the edge combat stuff, and very real and very much Special Forces oriented. I felt that the Canadian Forces were very ready for what they were there to do. It was most impressive.

INTERVIEWER: Terry, on the issue of women, you were there for the SWINTER trials. You were doing research into the introduction of women at the combat roles. What did you actually see them do on exercise? What did you see them do in garrison?

CHRISTOPHER: I watched and visited areas where women were replacing tracks, for example, on tanks; were doing refueling of vehicles; and carrying huge jerry cans, as a team and as a group; were fixing engines—mechanical engines of the various vehicles that we had. They were repairing wheels and realignments, and they were doing, also, electrical work and electronic work, as well, as electronic technicians. So, I visited them in their work areas throughout the exercise.

Even in garrison, when they were in garrison, I used to visit there and watch what they were doing and watch what kinds of tasks they were required to do, especially in terms of upper body strength and lifting and using cranes and using other kinds of pulleys to lift heavy equipment. So, these jobs were not your clerking jobs. These were very much your macho sort of—historically, macho type jobs, where it was dirty work—grease monkey type dirty work.

INTERVIEWER: And what did you learn from the women about their own involvement in this type of work? What were they saying to you about their work?

CHRISTOPHER: What they were saying, and many of them were saying, in some cases, they loved their mechanical work—especially some of the track mechanics and the engine mechanics. They were very happy doing what they were doing. They were keeping up with the men. They were professing that they were as good, if not better, than the men, and some men were not as good as they were. So, there was always this tremendous competition amongst them.

In some cases, also, there was a lot of teamwork going on. Some of the men became very cooperative and understanding of the women and would work with them in terms of lifting heavy items, and participate with them in terms of a team. But the women themselves were always very proud and wanted to make sure that we all knew that they could do the job. In some cases, they couldn't because they had issues of upper body strength. Then, all these issues would come to the fore, where I would get involved in counseling them and reassigning them or trying to devise ways in which they could do their jobs, but without having to leave their occupation.

INTERVIEWER: Terry, one of the jobs that you said you did, when you were in Europe, was you assessed other rank personnel—non-commissioned personnel, for commissioning from the ranks. You got to see pretty good candidates, I would imagine, that way. What was your overall impression of officers and NCOs, throughout Europe, and within 4 Brigade?

CHRISTOPHER: Well, many of the officers that were in 4 Brigade when I was there are now colonels and generals, and came up through the promotion system. In fact, the present Chief of the Defence Staff was the Commanding Officer of 444 Squadron when I was in Germany. So, there was a very--on the average, there was a very high level of officership and leadership and high quality senior NCOs that were there, but also, there was a wide variety of newcomers to the military. And so, these were our people who were acting out and living in a foreign land and also displaying behavior that was not conducive to good order and conduct in Europe. And so, I would always become involved with the negatives as opposed to the positives.

But one of the positive areas was being able to review the files and track record of senior NCOs who eventually would become commissioned officers. They were in tough competitions for these positions, because there very few selected. However, in Europe, we seemed to have had a good track record, and there was a lot of good, high quality and high level people that were there.

They were there for a reason, because that was the operational side—the closest that anyone would ever come in contact with combat was in Canadian Forces Europe, in those days. Now, it's changed. We have Bosnia and Somalia and all the other places. But in those days, it was Canadian Forces Europe that was the leading edge of combat operations.

INTERVIEWER: What would you describe as the state of discipline with respect to military personnel there? And perhaps you could comment on the percentage that were single versus married, and your perceptions of how they operated.

CHRISTOPHER: Well, there was a large number of junior NCOs because of the nature of the combat units, which are [in] majority made up of junior NCOs. So, leadership is a big issue in Europe, because commanding so many troops was a tremendous responsibility of all the commanding officers and the senior NCOs and the regimental sergeant majors and company sergeant majors. So, it was a big item--leadership.

I thought that the discipline in Europe was excellent, considering the environment and considering the situation. The troops were ready for combat--had exercised and exercised and exercised. Practice, practice, practice was the name of the game in Europe, in the fact that eventually there would be a real live operation.

But when you have so many junior NCOs, there are issues and problems, especially with young people in the ages of 18-25, which is the majority of the ages of the young people who were serving in Europe. There are behavioural issues and social issues and acting out type issues that come to the fore that we had to deal with.

INTERVIEWER: What was, sort of, the typical punishment that would have happened to those individuals?

CHRISTOPHER: Yes, there was punishment in the units by the commanding officers. But also there was assessments that had to be done by the base Personnel Selection Officers, and which would end up on my desk, in the Command, for assessment as to whether these people should be punished further or sent home or repatriated. In some cases, if you repatriate someone, you're repatriating their families, etc., and their careers are pretty well over. Also, demotion and promotion issues would also become involved. People were demoted in rank as a result of some of the things that they were doing.

I was very often one of the reviewers of the board reports that would recommend such drastic action be taken to the Commander and to National Defence Headquarters. In cases, release was the action that would be taken. So, it was honourable or dishonourable discharge issues. Punishment would be fines of a couple of hundred dollars to several thousand dollars, depending on the incident that occurred.

INTERVIEWER: Terry, one of the things that comes to mind is the arrival of the married person to Europe. He goes into the field with his Mark IV kit bag and weapon, and the wife was left on her own. What can you say about that, from your perception as a psychologist and social worker and operational officer in Europe?

CHRISTOPHER: Well, probably, there's a couple of example of issues of that kind. For example, I had a young lady working for me, and I still keep in touch with to this day. She works in Rothesay, New Brunswick, at this day and age. But when she came to Europe, she was just newly married, and her husband was with the medical side. He was a medical assistant, and he was off on exercise. She was left in Europe, as a young married person, unable to speak German, with no possibility or very little possibility of a job until I actually interviewed her. She was basically at her "married quarters"--wherever they were staying--and she had to try to meet and greet new people, and try to make friends on her own. There were several examples of military people coming to Germany, and then, being moved right out, right away, onto exercises.

INTERVIEWER: Interview with Terry Christopher. End of Side 1 of 2.

END OF TAPE 1, SIDE 1

INTERVIEWER: Canadian War Museum Oral History Program Interview with Terry Christopher. Tape 1, Side 2.

Terry, would you just continue, please?

CHRISTOPHER: The idea of a young married couple coming over, and still on their honeymoon, to me, it seemed very common because of what I witnessed, and to a point where I began--during my time there, I made a movie about the psychological drama of coming to Europe, and adjusting in Europe, in terms of just a young married couple having adjustment issues as a couple, let alone adjustment issues to a new culture and no job, and a new environment, and of course, a military environment. And many of the spouses--young spouses--would not have been exposed to the military. So, just learning the military lingo and language and rules and regulations as it applied to them in Europe, was a major issue, and sometimes very constraining for them, and very--that they are feeling that they--the loss of their freedom; that they were "dependents". That term, most of the young married women hated--they were dependent--because it was sort of implying that they were totally dependent on the military for everything and anything.

The military had set up a nice community atmosphere in the sense that they had organizations, community support. They had women's organizations. They had craft organizations--associations. They had travel benefits and travel associations, church and community groups. But at the same time, not all the young people wanted to, or could, or were interested in joining these associations. So, many of them would make their own friends in their own married quarter areas. And if they were living out on the Germany economy, they would become very friendly and close to their German adoptive families, if you like. So, that's how the military was.

In the case of one couple, we were sponsoring or involved with their sponsorship, indirectly. She was a doctor, and they were on their honeymoon. Her first exercise in Fall Ex resulted in her divorce. These things happened. It was a nasty divorce and a nasty situation in Europe that created a great deal of embarrassment for the Commanding Officer of 4 Service Battalion. But as a doctor and getting involved with the Senior NCO, it was quite out of the norm. So, out of the norm things did happen in Europe.

INTERVIEWER: Terry....

CHRISTOPHER: Later, they happened in Canada with respect to Somalia, and the other issues that came forward in the '90s, in terms of the Canadian Armed Forces. But some of these things--I saw them, and witnessed them as they were happening in the '80s, and in some cases, reported on them.

INTERVIEWER: Terry, you mentioned sponsorship—that you, in fact, had sponsored—you and your wife had sponsored a couple who came to Europe. What was the sponsorship program, and how did it work?

CHRISTOPHER: In Europe, the sponsorship program was each unit, if it was a combat unit, had sponsors for the families that were coming over, for the military members who were being posted, so that, as a sponsor, you would assist the couple or the family to acquire accommodation. You'd assist them with their access points, arrival points in Germany, with becoming adjusted to the German community, showing them around, making sure the groceries were in their fridge in their apartment when they first arrived, and that they were met--greeted at the aircraft, and transported properly to their homes.

As a sponsor, you usually became friends with these couples, and would maintain friendship with them the whole time that you were serving in Europe, and that they were serving in Europe. In some cases, friendship continues on beyond Europe. So, a sponsor was a very important person to a newcomer, because you start to correspond with your sponsor when you're in Canada, when you would first get any inkling, or a posting message indicating you're being screened to come to Europe. You would start your relationship with your sponsor very early on, long before you would even arrive in Europe, to determine what types of accommodation you would like, or you would be seeking, and what kind of issues you'd have with your families.

Of course, the screening and the sponsorship issues were big, because any people with handicapped children, or with learning disabilities, or any autistic issues or any kinds of behaviour issues with your children, the schools—Canadian schools—were not necessarily set up to deal with all these special education issues. So, it was very important that the military family—the military member and his spouse and the children were screened properly for Europe.

This is an area that I became very involved in, in Europe, because we were getting people over who should not have been arriving in Germany, who should not have been sent. So, we began to look at the screening process, and make recommendations for change. And we instituted the movies and seminars back in Canada to orient people properly to what they could expect realistically when they came to Germany. So, this became sort of a national program back in Canada. We would even send members of our community, from Germany,

back to Canada to do the lectures and do the orientation so that they were getting real information from real people serving in Europe. This is part of the human resource program that we were interested in developing in Europe at the time.

INTERVIEWER: You were not specifically a member of a combat unit, but you were in a combat environment. So, you must have got involved in nuclear, biological and chemical drills. Tell us about that.

CHRISTOPHER: Well, in those days, we did participate in weapons training. On an annual basis, we had to ensure that we were up to scratch in terms of weapons training. So, we would spend time at the rifle range, and shooting, and practising. We would also spend time on security matters and receive lectures on security. We would also spend time practising with our gas masks, and we would do exercises in gas huts—much what you see happening in other places today. But we would do it, and it wasn't pleasant, but we would be placed in a hut, with our gas mask, and have to find our way out.

Also, we were also in a combat situation where often we would be challenged by others. We would be outside the hut or inside. They would challenge us as we were trying to find our way in or out of the place. So, it was quite the experience. We would dress in our gas outfit, and we would go through our gas drills, and checks for leaks and other things—procedures for wearing the outfit and procedures for decontamination were extremely important. We went through all the hosing and the decontamination issues, as well as practising for the day of the actual event.

INTERVIEWER: How secure...?

CHRISTOPHER: So, it was a real, real, real, real matter—a real life situation matter. Everybody took it very seriously.

INTERVIEWER: And how secure did you and, let's say, other non-combatants, if I can use that word in Europe—I'm thinking of you as an administrator; as a PSO; as a staff officer--how secure did you and other individuals, let's say, in Headquarters, feel?

CHRISTOPHER: At the time, I felt quite secure with all this training, and all the outfits that we were presented with to wear. But as time went on, in the Canadian military, after I came back from Europe, I ran into—I talked to people who were involved with the suits and modernizing the suits. So, I began to realize that we had old uniforms; that we had old equipment, but that the Canadian Forces were busy trying to modernize the gas masks and the contamination suits.

INTERVIEWER: Would you give us some insight now into the differences that existed between your job, as a PSO in a Cold War combat environment, versus what you would have experienced when you returned to, or before you went over to Europe, in Canada?

CHRISTOPHER: Well, in my earlier days as a Personnel Selection Officer, I became involved in selection of submarine candidates, and so, I was involved with HMCS BONAVENTURE in Puerto Rico, in selecting submarine candidates in the early '60s. The first group who went to train in the U.K., I selected them out of Puerto Rico, and we took them back on a Yukon aircraft, and they were sent over to the U.K. for their training.

I also got involved with Sea King naval air crewmen selection. So, I was involved in flying with Sea Kings on some many, many occasions and experiencing and watching and observing what went on in the cockpits of these particular aircraft. So, I became quite familiar with the Sea King helicopter and with submarine training and submarines themselves. I had experienced some sails in submarines, and had also been on some frigates and spent time on frigates to orient myself, in terms of what the naval occupations--trades -- were doing, and how they were conducting their exercises.

When I went into the training side of the military, for several years, I saw the training that was going on but I was basically not an operational officer at that time. I was more of an observer of the types of training, and I was dealing with the aftermath of the training—namely the failures of training. It wasn't until basically I went to Europe, although I did travel quite a bit in terms of SCAN, and doing SCAN seminars. I traveled to every base in Canada, to the United States, and to Europe. I talked and met an awful lot of military people, and talked to them about what they were doing, and how they were spending their time in their tasks.

So, it wasn't until I went to Canadian Forces Europe, that I again found myself out in the field, doing actual operational exercises, and becoming involved in the snowball activities of the base, and of the Command Headquarters, and of being in an actual, pretty well operational environment twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. This was the difference in Lahr and in Canada. I was in an operational environment twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. You had to conduct yourself accordingly, and be aware--security wise and operational wise--of why you were there in Europe at all times.

It wasn't a holiday. Although there were good times associated with being there, there was a lot of stress, and there was a lot of commitment to being in Europe. So, for me, being in Europe six years was quite an achievement because I, for six years, participated in an operational environment, before I came back to Canada, in 1989.

INTERVIEWER: Now, you had mentioned that you actually lived on a farm, with a German family. Describe that experience to us.

CHRISTOPHER: Well, my wife and I moved on the German farm by ourselves. Our kids were still attending university. In fact, two of our children were attending CMR in St. Jean, Quebec. My wife was looking for a job as a nurse. So, she finally got a job at the base hospital in the emergency department. So, she had a busy job. We lived in a German farm with a Gasthof, which was a restaurant, basically, on the property that was very active. We were near the forest area where people would often volksmarch, and where a lot of Germans would come and walk by. So, we would get to meet a lot of Germans and talk to them. There were animals on the farm. There were cows and pigs and the usual farm animals.

There was one gentleman who used to fascinate me. In the morning, when I would be going to work, [there] would be a shepherd, in the field, in the distance. To this day, I have a photo, in my home, of the shepherd. 'In the Langenhard', I call it. This shepherd was sort of dressed in very humble, tattered clothing of an old-time shepherd, with a stick, and shepherding the sheep in the field. I sort of psychologically philosophized about his life. So, that was very meaningful to me to be on this German farm.

I'd even walk out of my house—I'd walk a half a mile down the road—and there was a little chapel. In Germany, there were chapels all over the hillsides. I'd often go into the chapel and say a few prayers or just do some thinking. But I lived on a hill—the Langenhard, it was called—long hill. It was a place where there was peace. And we had wonderful vistas—views of France. So, at night, though, we would experience the weather. The advantage of living in Germany [was] we would experience the weather. We experienced the culture of the Germans. We'd go to a German church for Christmas Eve, and experience the winemaking [and] experience the seasons of the year with the Germans. We would become involved in German markets, in the German communities. We would go to their functions and participate.

So, that was the difference in living in Germany. We weren't just living with Canadians. We were living with the Germans, and learning about their culture, and trying to learn their language, and getting to know them as friends, and making sure that we were good ambassadors. We were there as ambassadors of Canada. That was our main function, as well. So, I did a lot of socializing with Germans, to ensure that the image of Canada was always front and centre, and was a positive one in their eyes. And Germans loved Canadians, for the way the Canadians treated them. We had a lot of good things in common.

INTERVIEWER: What was the daily routine, let's say, of your wife, while you were working in the military environment?

CHRISTOPHER: If she was not working in the hospital as an emergency nurse, she'd be at home. There was a lady downstairs. She was called Tante—that's a term for aunt. She wanted us to call her Tante. So, she and Gerry would often talk and get together, or share recipes or share gardening issues or talk about gardening issues. There was a language issue, but at the same time, they would make it through. Gerry would often go down to the market area in Germany, and shop, or look around, and get involved in....

INTERVIEWER: Can you tell us about the living conditions, as an observer now, and as a participant in these field trials, and being a staff officer there--what were your perceptions of the living conditions of the troops, and the living conditions of the officers in Europe, particularly those in the units of 4 Brigade?

CHRISTOPHER: I think compared to what they had in Bosnia and other places, the living conditions in Lahr were excellent. They were supplied with excellent housing—much better housing than many of them had in Canada, as a matter of fact. So, there was nothing lacking in terms of housing. If they didn't live in German apartments or German homes--renting homes or apartments on the German economy--they were well taken care of in the military apartments that were set aside for them. The apartments were spacious, but they were clustered together. So, it was like living in town homes or living in apartment buildings.

INTERVIEWER: What, in fact, were your relationships with the units of 4 Brigade?

CHRISTOPHER: Well, we would often get invited to mess dinners with 4 Brigade. I became involved with their royal visit of Princess Anne, to the Armoured Corps there—the Royal Canadian Dragoons. I became good friends with the commanding officers of the units, particularly the Armoured Corps, and the officers of the Armoured Corps. There was just not

a business relationship. It became very personal. My wife became well known amongst other wives there.

We integrated ourselves with 4 Brigade, to a point where, at the end of my time in Europe, I was invited to a special mess dinner that they were having to say farewell to all the officers, and the Commanding Officer of 4 Brigade honoured me with a special presentation and a plaque in front of all the members of 4 Brigade. That was quite an honour—quite an honour for a Personnel Selection Officer to be treated by combat officers that way.

INTERVIEWER: What did you and your wife, Gerry, do on holidays? Where did you travel? What sort of leave did you participate in? What were the amenities that you took advantage of?

CHRISTOPHER: Well, during holiday times, we would often travel on our own, really. Although on one occasion, we traveled with the community services, which was an organization organized by the military for group travel. We went to Italy, and spent a long weekend in Italy. But also, that gave us an opportunity to meet teachers and other people who were working in Lahr, as well. So, it was a good community trip and it was an opportunity to socialize and to see parts of Italy.

But often, in the wintertime, I would rent a chalet in a place called Chateau d'Oex, and we would go skiing. We became very good friends with a Dutch family—or part Dutch—well, Dutch and German. We met them through our children who came over to Germany and became friends with their family. We would invite them to join us on a ski holiday. To this day, we keep in touch with them. In fact, they had visited us in Canada in 2003.

So, Gerry and I—my wife and I—would travel to Spain and to Southern France. We'd also go to Strasbourg, to the Alsace area. We traveled in Italy. We traveled in Austria. We went to the U.K. on a few occasions. On one occasion, on duty, I went to Cyprus, and spent time in Cyprus, selecting members of the U.N. contingent in Cyprus. [I] spent almost two weeks there, talking to the members of the units and interviewing people, and getting to know what goes on in Cyprus.

INTERVIEWER: That was a duty as you were required to do for CFE?

CHRISTOPHER: That was a duty I was required to do, at the time, for CFE—that I became involved with and started in CFE, basically.

INTERVIEWER: What were the single military personnel and the married personnel, who lived both on the economy and in garrison, doing for their vacations and leave?

CHRISTOPHER: A lot of them would travel and do camping. A lot of them had bought these Volkswagen campers, and they would go camping. A lot of them would participate in these community sponsor, which was a non-public funded community service organization, which would sponsor group travel. So, they would travel on group buses and trips—bus trips—to different places.

I remember one bus trip traveling to [Chernobyl] in Russia, at the time of the accident. There was a group of spouses of senior officers, etc., on that bus trip, at the time of the nuclear

explosion in Russia. It was quite a harrowing experience to know that your spouse was traveling in that area and being exposed to that kind of environment. That wasn't all pleasant because of the security issues in those days were always there, as well, as they are in 2004.

INTERVIEWER: You mentioned that, you know...

CHRISTOPHER: Chernobyl it was—Chernobyl.

INTERVIEWER: Chernobyl—yes. Yes. You mentioned that you were involved in processing for commissioning and re-musters, and all those duties that Personnel Selection Officers did, where you sat review boards on personnel processed within 4 Brigade. Could you comment on some of your perceptions of what went on in the operational units, with respect to your job?

CHRISTOPHER: Well, in respect to my job in the operational units, if you were respected by the combat officers, you were most welcome, and considered to be part of their organization. You would develop a reputation, so you would be well received. However, if you were the type of person who was sort of insular, and couldn't identify with the troops, and with the tasks and the goals of the operational units, that would not be a good thing. So, it was very important to integrate yourself into the total military community, and become very much part of that society. As long as you were accepted by that society, you could move around in that society, and be welcomed in any part of it.

INTERVIEWER: How did you do that?

CHRISTOPHER: By networking and talking and making sure that people knew who I was, and making sure I had an open policy on my office and that I was always available to give presentations, lectures or talks or briefings or conduct discussions or attend coffee breaks or mess dinners or anything social that was going on. I attended a lot of community and regimental and company social events to make sure that I was seen as readily available. Maybe we can talk about that...

INTERVIEWER: Terry, let's assume that in the future—two hundred years in the future—a Personnel Selection Officer is listening to this tape. What would you want that individual to know about what it was like to be a Personnel Selection Officer working with 4 Brigade in Europe and with Canadian Forces Europe?

CHRISTOPHER: Well, thank you for asking that question, because I think it's very important. First of all, at this point in time, Personnel Selection Officers are usually people with at least a Bachelors degree, if not a Masters degree, or a PhD in Psychology, of some avenue of psychology. But just carrying those credentials with you is not good enough, and that is not going to make you a good officer in the Canadian Armed Forces. It's very important, I think, to become a good officer and to become a good leader in the Canadian Armed Forces, and all flows from that. I think that's so important.

If a Personnel Selection Officer who is starting out realizes that it's about human beings—it's about people. It's about the human resources and how they work, and how they work together as teams, and learn about that, and take time out to talk to people, and get out of your office to become of the scenario--to become part of the operations of the Armed Forces. I

think that's only when you then begin to understand what kind of an organization you're involved with and how important it is to be part of that team.

You're not just an isolated person specialist that gets people referred to them in a back office somewhere. You are a person who is part and parcel of the whole operation, and part of a team. You must be front and centre, and network, and display your capability, not only from a knowledge point of view, but you must put your knowledge into practice. A good practitioner and a good clinician is so important, in terms of talking and dealing with the issues of the Canadian Armed Forces of the past, in the '60s, '70s and '80s. But also the '90s and the future—2004, 2005 and beyond are going to be extremely important times for Personnel Selection Officers, and human resource officers are extremely important in the Canadian Armed Forces and will always be so. But you'll only be as important as your contribution makes you. So, it's important to make a contribution and to contribute to the goals and objectives of the Armed Forces through leadership.

INTERVIEWER: Terry, when you left the Forces, you moved into being the official reception for all of Canada, for all dignitaries of state visiting Canada, and following that, you were appointed as the Usher of the Black Rod of the Senate of Canada. How did your work in Europe, the PSO'ing that you did for 4 Brigade units in Europe, your experience in Canadian Forces Europe, prepare you for those two really important jobs for Canada?

CHRISTOPHER: Well, thank you again for asking that question. But back in 1989, when I was about ready to come home from Europe and be posted back to Canada, I was asked if I wanted to continue in the classification, or if I would be interested in doing something differently in the Armed Forces. So, since promotions were rather limited in our branch, I felt that I perhaps should pursue another area of interest and opportunity. So, I was fortunate enough to be posted to J3 Operations in National Defence Headquarters, where I worked closely with and close by with all the operational side of the Armed Forces, including peacekeeping and including JTF, which is the Joint Task Force.

I became privy to a lot of things that were happening in the Canadian Forces from 1989 to 1994, but most of the time, my duties were involving VIPs and Governor General support. I supported the Governor General through Canada 125. I wrote the largest tasking order in the Canadian Armed Forces for Canada Remembers, which was over thirty to fifty pages long, tasking Army, Navy and Air Force organizations to be present in Europe, during the Canada Remembers. I was involved with all the royal visits in Canada, in terms of supplying ceremonial and logistics support to royal visits.

So, I became very knowledgeable about royal visits and about VIP events, and how they were organized and again, networking and becoming involved with various departments of government such as Canadian Heritage, the Prime Minister's Office, [and] the Department of Foreign Affairs. So, in 1994, I was presented with the—I was made a Lieutenant of the Royal Victoria Order, by Her Majesty and Prince Phillip, at Yellowknife, in the Explorer Hotel, on departure of their Majesties from Canada.

It was a very special event for me and a very emotional event for me because it was my last time in uniform. I saluted the Queen, as she departed Iqualuit, on August 24th, 1994. Having been presented as a Lieutenant of the Royal Victoria Order, which was a recognition of personal service to Her Majesty, I felt that that was a good way to end my career, as I started

it, with taking the oath to Her Majesty, and being loyal to her, and serving her during my thirty years in the military.

So, following my career in the military, in 1994, on August 26th, on my anniversary, I was invited to work as an Associate Consultant with Price Waterhouse, which were in downsizing and relocating people, and counseling, rehabilitation--counseling of people from corporations. So, I did that for a while.

But then I got a call from Foreign Affairs, to invite me to work for them in VIP visits. I probably had met most of the leaders of the world, including Arafat, at the unusual hour of about four-thirty in the morning. So, I worked with the Prime Minister's organization for ten years, and Foreign Affairs for ten years, and became very well known for my work and my commitment to what I was doing, because I was working Canada Days. I was working Boxing Days, and twenty-four hours on duty--on a cell phone, at the ready to be called. On occasion, I would organize ceremonial memorial services on the death of a -- for example, High Commissioner of Pakistan. I was involved with the Pierre Trudeau's arrival—of Pierre Trudeau's body in Ottawa, and with the families.

So, it was a very interesting role that I was playing, but also very satisfying and fulfilling. But also a sensitive role in the sense that my previous background lent itself very well to what I was doing. It was a human role that I was playing, but I was also involved deeply in security and logistics and, of course, you never get the second chance to make a first impression. So, these events were—it was very important that they be organized well. So, I always took a lot of pride in that.

I guess I was recognized by the Prime Minister for having done my job, in terms of merit. As he said, “You're my friend, but I'm selecting—I would like you to take the position of Usher of the Black Rod based on merit and what your contribution has been to Canada. You'd be an excellent person for the position, and I'm recommending you for it.” And on December 3rd, 2002, he called me on my cell phone from his car, and told me that the Cabinet [was in] unanimous agreement that I should be the Usher of the Black Rod in the Senate of Canada, which I was appointed to on December 8th through a Governor in Council appointment.

[It] was very honourable appointment, and a very honourable way to begin another career, if you like, or another part of my career—my long journey in life as now the Usher of the Black Rod in the Senate of Canada, which is where we're doing our interview today. So, I'm very at peace with myself in terms of career. I'm also very honoured to be in this position, and I hope I carry the role of the Usher of the Black Rod, which goes back to 1348 in the British system, with honour and dignity. And I think that's what the role is—a role of honour and dignity, and a position in Canada's parliament.

INTERVIEWER: Terry, as a Personnel Selection Officer, you understand the importance of research. Your insights and opinions and your observations and participation that you have provided, through this tape, will undoubtedly benefit Canadians and Canadian researchers and historians for years. Thank you on behalf of the Canadian War Museum Oral History [Program].

CHRISTOPHER: Well, thank you very much, Digger, for giving me the opportunity to talk to you, and to speak about the military and my background and the long journey that I have

traveled, and the honourable journey that I have traveled. And I want to say special thanks to the Canadian War Museum for making this opportunity possible for me. Thank you.

INTERVIEWER: Thank you.

Interview with Terry Christopher, at the Senate of Canada, on the 14th of October, 2004.
Interview ends. [End of Tape 1, Side 2]

TRANSCRIPT ENDS