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FEATURE

# A Documentary History of the Badge of the Canadian Army

BRITTANY DUNN

*Abstract: The general badge of the Canadian Army has undergone a number of changes over the years in response to changes in the status of the land forces of Canada. The most significant of these changes was the disestablishment of the Army as an independent service with unification in 1968. An impressive amount of documentation records the decisions taken with respect to the badge of Mobile Command, a design unlike its predecessor, which had been based on that of the British Army. The demise of Mobile Command saw a return to patterns based on the original design with crossed swords.*

THE FOLLOWING has been extracted from “Summary of the Evolution of the Badges of the Three Armed Services” by Brittany Dunn (Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage, April 2013) and “Summary of the Evolution and Policy of the Badges of the Royal Canadian Navy, the Canadian Army and the Royal Canadian Air Force” by Brittany Dunn (Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage, December 2013), © His Majesty the King in right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of National Defence (2013). All rights reserved.

## THE BADGE OF THE “ORIGINAL” CANADIAN ARMY

Privy Council Order (PC) 548, issued on 13 April 1928, ordered that the pattern, design, use and wear of Canadian Militia badges, as well as uniforms, clothing and equipment, were to be approved by the Minister of National Defence. Also, badges containing any

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Royal device needed to be authorised by His Majesty King George V.<sup>1</sup> On 15 May 1928, General Order 67, “Patterns and Designs of the Uniform, Clothing and Equipment and Badges of the Canadian Militia,” restated the order of PC 548 as approved by the Governor-in-Council.<sup>2</sup>

On 4 May 1945, correspondence was sent from the Director, Historical Section (DHS) in regards to a design for the Canadian Army Crest (badge) to be used in a certificate. The document noted that a Canadian Army Crest was being considered; the crest was to be “Crossed swords with Imperial crown superimposed. Below a scroll bearing word ‘CANADA’.”<sup>3</sup> Correspondence from Brigadier W.H.S. Macklin, Acting Adjutant-General, on 13 August 1946 also discussed a proposed badge for the Canadian Army. Macklin provided a black and white sketch of the design which differed from the previously suggested design. The badge was “three [conjoined] Maple Leafs superimposed on Crossed Swords, the whole surmounted by the Imperial Crown” (Figure 1).<sup>4</sup>

The badge’s elements, designed by Colonel (Col.) A.F. Duguid, bore meaningful symbols: the Crusader swords symbolised sacred trust and dignity in warfare, the maple leaves signified Canada and the Crown represented allegiance to the monarch.<sup>5</sup> Macklin requested that this design be discussed with the Garter Principal King of Arms, Sir Gerald W. Wollaston, who was the Inspector of Regimental Colours for the Canadian Army, so that it could ultimately be approved by His Majesty the King. Macklin also mentioned the British Army badge, introduced in 1938, had similar elements to the proposed Canadian badge. The British Army badge was “the Lion standing on the Imperial Crown, the whole placed on Crossed Swords” (Figure 2).

<sup>1</sup> Order-in-Council, P.C. 548, 13 April 1928, RG 2, volume 1419, 1626F, volume 1167, Library and Archives Canada (LAC).

<sup>2</sup> General Order, G.O. 67 – Patterns and Designs of the Uniform, Clothing and Equipment and Badges of the Canadian Militia, 15 May 1928, 92/252 6-6-1, volume 1, box 49, file 2, Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage (DHH).

<sup>3</sup> DHS per ADHS, Proposed (Canadian) Army Crest, 4 May 1945, 92/252 6-6-1, volume 1, box 49, file 2, DHH.

<sup>4</sup> W. H. S. Macklin, Brigadier, Acting Adjutant-General, Badge for Canadian Army, 13 August 1946, 493.009 (D40), DHH.

<sup>5</sup> W. H. S. Macklin, Major-General, Adjutant-General, Canadian Army Badge, 11 March 1952, 325.009 (D722), DHH.

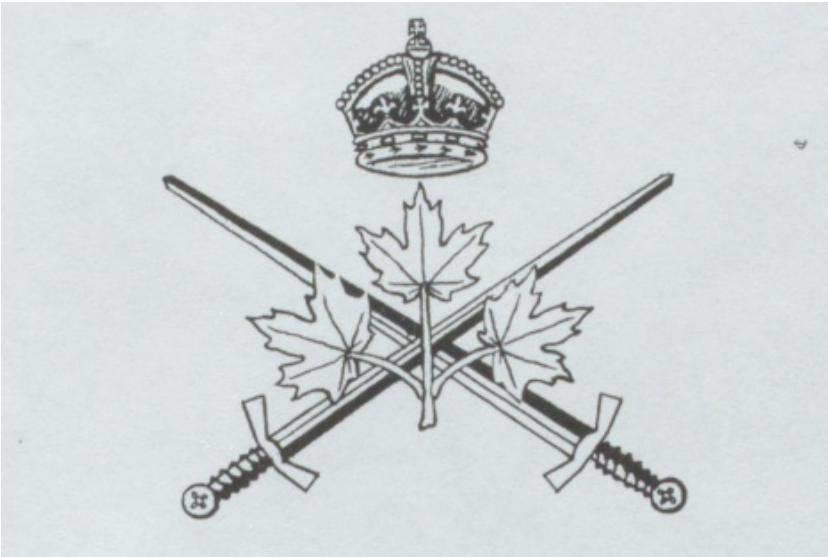


Figure 1. Proposed badge of the Canadian Army, 1946. [W. H. S. Macklin, Brigadier, Acting Adjutant-General, Badge for Canadian Army, 13 August 1946, 493.009 (D40), Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]



Figure 2. Logo of the British Army. Minus the word "Army," it is the current badge of the British Army. Shown is the version containing the St. Edward's crown of Elizabeth II. The crowns would have been the Tudor crown during the reign of George VI. [Wikipedia; contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0]

The lion and Crown in the British badge and the three maple leaves of the Canadian badge were both drawn from their respective Coats of Arms.<sup>6</sup> His Majesty King George VI approved the Canadian Army badge in February 1947.<sup>7</sup> However, it appeared that the original paintings of the badge were not signed by the King but by the Governor General, Viscount Alexander.<sup>8</sup>

A Canadian Army Order (CAO) was issued on 7 April 1947 which stated the approval of His Majesty King George VI of the Canadian Army badge. CAO 64-2, "Design – Badge for the Canadian Army," included a black and white copy of the badge and described it as: "three hard maple leaves conjoined on one stem, red; upon two Crusader's swords saltirewise points upwards, blade and grip in natural colours, guards and pommels gold; ensigned with the Imperial Crown." The order also stated that the badge was to be used by the Canadian Army as a whole and was to replace the Coat of Arms.<sup>9</sup>

A Department of National Defence – Army document from Major-General E.G. Weeks (Adjutant-General) on 2 March 1948 referred to minor changes in the Canadian Army badge.<sup>10</sup> These changes replaced the original CAO 64-2 and resulted in an amended order. The first order (7 April 1947) was superseded by CAO 64-2, "The Canadian Army Badge," issued on 21 June 1948, which included an appendix with a black and white sketch and introduced a colour copy of the Canadian Army badge (Figure 3).<sup>11</sup>

On 22 April 1953, CAO 64-5, "Royal Cypher and Crown," announced that the Royal Cypher of King George VI, with the Imperial (or Tudor) Crown, would be replaced by the Royal Cypher of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, with the St. Edward's Crown (Figure 4). The new crown was to be introduced gradually, replacing

<sup>6</sup> W. H. S. Macklin, Brigadier, Acting Adjutant-General, Badge for Canadian Army, 13 August 1946, 493.009 (D40), DHH.

<sup>7</sup> E. G. Weeks, Major-General, Adjutant-General, Badge for Canadian Army, 13 February 1947, 493.009 (D40), DHH.

<sup>8</sup> W. H. S. Macklin, Major-General, Adjutant-General, The Canadian Army Badge, 12 June 1952, 493.009 (D40), DHH.

<sup>9</sup> Canadian Army Order, CAO 64-2, "Design – Badge for the Canadian Army," 7 April 1947, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, DHH.

<sup>10</sup> E. G. Weeks to distribution, Canadian Army Badge, 2 March 1948, 92/252 6-6-1, volume 2, box 49, file 3, DHH.

<sup>11</sup> Canadian Army Order, CAO 64-2, "Design – Badge for the Canadian Army," 21 June 1948, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, DHH.



Figure 3. Canadian Army Badge, 1947. [Canadian Army Order (CAO) 64-2, "Design – Badge for the Canadian Army," Appendix, 21 June 1948, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]



Figure 4. Royal Cypher and Crown (St. Edward's Crown), Queen Elizabeth II. [Canadian Army Order (CAO) 64-5, "Royal Cypher and Crown," Appendix "A," 22 April 1953, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]



the previous crown on new designs and when replacements of standards, colours, badges, buttons, etc. were needed.<sup>12</sup>

A memorandum from the Historical Section (General Staff), Army Headquarters, on 9 October 1953 described the conventions to be followed when the Royal Crown was used on military badges. The document specified that Royal assent was needed, the Crown could not be less than a quarter of the total height of the badge and the height and width of the Crown were to be equal.<sup>13</sup> Another document from the Canadian Army Liaison Establishment in London, England to Army Headquarters in Ottawa on 17 October 1953 relayed that the changeover from the Imperial Crown to the St. Edward's Crown was to be done gradually and "with the minimum of expense."<sup>14</sup>

A further CAO 64-2 was issued on 2 August 1954 in which Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II altered the Imperial Crown of the badge to the St. Edward's Crown. As well, the blades of the swords were changed to silver from blue; both changes were shown in the appendix to the order (Figure 5).<sup>15</sup>

CAO 64-5, "Royal Cypher and Crown" (23 April, 1953), was superseded on 14 November 1955. The new order added that units granted the right to use Royal Cyphers and Crowns other than those of Elizabeth II were still allowed to do so. This order was cancelled on 31 January 1969 as was noted in Amendment List (AL) 5/69.<sup>16</sup>

The final CAO 64-2 was issued on 27 July 1959 and changed Appendix A to Annex 1 and the blades of the swords back to "natural colours, ie blue" as was shown in the order's annex (Figure 6).<sup>17</sup> Although heraldically "natural colours" meant silver, it was requested that the swords return to blue so the specification of colour was added to the order.<sup>18</sup> CAO 64-2, "The Canadian Army Badge," was

<sup>12</sup> Canadian Army Order, CAO 64-5, "Royal Cypher and Crown," 22 April 1953, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, DHH.

<sup>13</sup> Memorandum, Historical Section (GS), Army Headquarters, Use of Crown on Military Badges, 9 October 1953, 92/252 6-6-1, volume 2, box 49, file 3, DHH.

<sup>14</sup> D. K. Robertson, Canadian Army Liaison Establishment, Canadian Army Badge, 17 October 1953, 92/252 6-6-1, volume 2, box 49, file 3, DHH.

<sup>15</sup> Canadian Army Order, CAO 64-2, "The Canadian Army Badge," 2 August 1954, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, DHH.

<sup>16</sup> Canadian Army Order, CAO 64-5, "Royal Cypher and Crown," 14 November 1955, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, DHH.

<sup>17</sup> Canadian Army Order, CAO 64-2, "The Canadian Army Badge," 27 July 1959, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, DHH.

<sup>18</sup> Canadian Army Badge, n.d. [1959], U-1-007, DHH.





Figure 5. Canadian Army badge, 1954. [Canadian Army Order (CAO) 64-2, "The Canadian Army Badge," Appendix, 2 August 1954, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]

cancelled on 13 December 1968. It was superseded by the Canadian Forces Emblem as noted in AL 50/68.<sup>19</sup>

#### **THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES: COMMAND BADGE POLICY AND THE COMMAND BADGE FRAME**

On 16 September 1965, a memorandum by Commodore F. B. Caldwell, Secretary Defence Staff, recommended that a badge for each Command should be designed "if we wish to emphasize the theme of integration in our command structures."<sup>20</sup> At the 157th Defence Council Meeting on 20 September 1965, the proposed

<sup>19</sup> Canadian Army Order, CAO 64-2, "The Canadian Army Badge," 27 July 1959, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, DHH.

<sup>20</sup> F. B. Caldwell, Commodore, Secretary Defence Staff, memorandum, Badge – Mobile Command, 16 September 1965, 1060-9963, volume 1, S 1810-2 (DSecDS), DHH.



Figure 6. Canadian Army Badge, 1959. [Canadian Army Order (CAO) 64-2, "The Canadian Army Badge," Annex 1, 27 July 1959, Canadian Army Orders 60-1 to 83-16, 2010/8, box 1, file 8, Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]

Mobile Command badge was discussed and it was decided that for Command badges “some measure of uniformity and coordination was desirable and necessary.” The Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Paul Hellyer, requested a report from the Commanders of the other Commands regarding badges.<sup>21</sup> This report was sent to the Minister on 27 September 1965 and stated the current practices and opinions regarding Command badges. Clarification was given that, in that report, the term “badge” described formal badges which needed Royal Approval and the term “insignia” meant less-formal badges which could be approved by the Department of National Defence. Regarding current practices, the Navy and Army did not have a Command badge while the Air Force, which was composed of Air Transport Command, Air Defence Command and 1 Air Division, did. However, the Army was using identifying insignia on items such as vehicle flags and vehicle markings. It was noted that Flag Officer Atlantic Coast, Rear Admiral W. M. Landymore, and Flag Officer Pacific Coast, Rear Admiral M. G. Stirling, each had a badge which they intended to continue using. The report concluded that “it would appear that at the present time the new integrated Commands are thinking of an ‘insignia’ rather than the more formal ‘badge.’”<sup>22</sup>

Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS) Meeting 25/66 on 28 July 1966 stated that Field Commands were “authorized to adopt, if desired, distinctive command insignia for operational clothing and for the marking of vehicles.”<sup>23</sup> As per this meeting, it was decided on 24 August 1966 that Command badges would be worn only on operational clothing, which included combat clothing, bush clothing, flying suits, aircraft technicians’ coveralls and sailors’ working dress. The memorandum noted that “not all personnel in any Command

<sup>21</sup> Defence Council – Minutes of the 157th Meeting, 20 September 1965, Defence Council Meetings, 73/1223, box 68, 1390, DHH.

<sup>22</sup> K. L. Dyer, Vice Admiral, signed for F. R. Miller, Air Chief Marshal, Chief of the Defence Staff, memorandum, Command Badges and Insignia, 27 September 1965, 1060-9963, volume 1, P 1150-4110/C35 (CP), DHH. The terms “Navy,” “Army” and “Air Force” were used in the document, which was heavily based upon a memorandum written by Air Commodore G. F. Jacobsen on 21 September 1965: G. F. Jacobsen, Air Commodore, DGA [Director General Administration] to CP [Chief of Personnel], memorandum, Command Badges, 21 September 1965, 1060-30, P 12300-34 (DGA), DHH.

<sup>23</sup> P. W. Holloway, Group Captain, Chief of Defence Staff Meeting Minutes, Draft Minutes of CDS [Chief of Defence Staff] – Staff Meeting 25/66 – 28 Jul 66, 28 July 1966, 73/1223, box 79, 1588, DHH.

will wear the Command badge and in some Commands, very few personnel will wear Command insignia.”<sup>24</sup> However, five days later on the 29th, authorisation was given to wear Command badges on non-operational clothing as well.<sup>25</sup> It was also noted that the “wearing of insignia on combat clothing is under consideration,” although this had already been approved on 24 August 1966.<sup>26</sup>

A memorandum on 12 October 1966 by Air Marshal (A/M) E. M. Reyno, Chief of Personnel (CP), recommended a number of guidelines to be followed for designing Command insignia. He stated that, due to the multi-purpose nature of Command insignia, “a certain amount of versatility, and compatibility between designs is required.” At this time, both Mobile Command and Materiel Command had created badges using “symbolic/functional themes as opposed to heraldic” and this was considered to be the most appropriate action. Reyno suggested that “no letters, names or mottoes should be included in the design.” As well, the insignia’s background should be white unless another colour was particularly significant to the Command and the remaining colours of the badge should be restricted to red, green, purple, blue, black, gold/yellow and silver/white unless otherwise approved. The badge should also be simple, easily recognised even when miniaturised or in black and white and a distinctive shape.<sup>27</sup> These guidelines were approved by the CDS on 19 October 1966, and sent to the Commands on 27 October 1966.<sup>28</sup> Before formal instructions regarding the use of Command badges were issued, Air

<sup>24</sup> E. M. Reyno, Air Marshal, Chief of Personnel, memorandum, Command Insignia – Vehicles and Uniform, 24 August 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, P 1060-4700/00 TD 6229 (DC), LAC; E. M. Reyno, Air Marshal, Chief of Personnel, memorandum, Cloth Sleeve Insignia Mobile Command, 19 August 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, P 1060-4700/00 TD 6224A (DC) P1060-1, LAC.

<sup>25</sup> E. M. Reyno, Air Marshal, Chief of Personnel, Command Sleeve Badge – Mobile Command, 29 August 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, P 1060-4700/00 (DC), LAC.

<sup>26</sup> W. A. B. Anderson, Lieutenant-General, Commander Mobile Command, Mobile Command Uniform Insignia, 6 September 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 SVCS, LAC.

<sup>27</sup> E. M. Reyno, Air Marshal, Chief of Personnel to CDS [Chief of Defence Staff], memorandum, Command Insignia, 12 October 1966, 1060-30, P 1810-11 (DGA) TD 6284, DHH.

<sup>28</sup> F. B. Caldwell, Commodore, Secretary Defence Staff to SEC CP [Secretary Chief of Personnel], Department of National Defence Minute Sheet, Command Insignia, 19 October 1966, 1060-30, S 1060-1 DSECDS2, DHH; R. C. Weston, Air Commodore, Director General Administration, Command Insignia, 27 October 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, P 1060-4500/00 (DGA), LAC.

Commodore R. C. Weston, Director General Administration, noted that the badges could be used “for purposes such as on invitations, greeting or visiting cards, menus, for displays, or on plaques and furnishings. It could also be used as a badge on blazers or coats and on shirts or sweaters of competitive or representative Command team members.”<sup>29</sup> By 7 March 1967, each Command had a badge approved; suggested wear was to be on the right breast pocket of the new uniform.<sup>30</sup>

With the unification of the Canadian Armed Forces on 1 February 1968, it was decided that a badge requiring Royal Approval was needed for each Command.<sup>31</sup> As noted in a letter on 31 July 1968 from General (Gen.) J. V. Allard, CDS, to Lieutenant-General (Lt.-Gen.) W. A. B. Anderson, Commander Mobile Command, sent on 6 August, the Command badge frame was approved by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in June of that year. The frame was heraldically described as:

In front of two sprigs of stylized maple leaves, slipped and tied at base, resting on a motto ribbon, a round gold edged panel featuring a rope design. The whole surmounted by the St. Edward's Crown [Figure 7].

The significance of its components was explained as follows:

- a. The Crown is emblematic of the relationship of the Canadian Armed Forces to the Sovereign as Queen of Canada.
- b. The sprigs of maple leaves in stylized design approved for the National Flag of Canada provide distinctive Canadian identity.

<sup>29</sup> R. C. Weston, Air Commodore, DGA [Director General Administration] to Commander Air Defence Command, Command Badge, 19 December 1966, 1060-30, P 1060-4400/00 (DGA), DHH.

<sup>30</sup> R. C. Weston, Air Commodore, Director General Administration, Command Insignia – Badges, 7 March 1967, 1996-97/957, box 9, FMC 1060-0057-1, volume 2, FMC 1060-4700-00 TD 7123, P 1060-4500/00 (DGA), LAC. At this time the following nine Canadian Forces Commands had a badge approved: Maritime Command, Mobile Command, Materiel Command, Training Command, Air Defence Command, Air Transport Command, 1 Air Division, 4 Canadian Infantry Brigade Group and the Canadian Forces Communication System.

<sup>31</sup> Léo Cadieux to His Excellency The Right Honourable Roland Michener, Governor General of Canada, draft correspondence, April 1968, 1060-9963, volume 1, DHH.

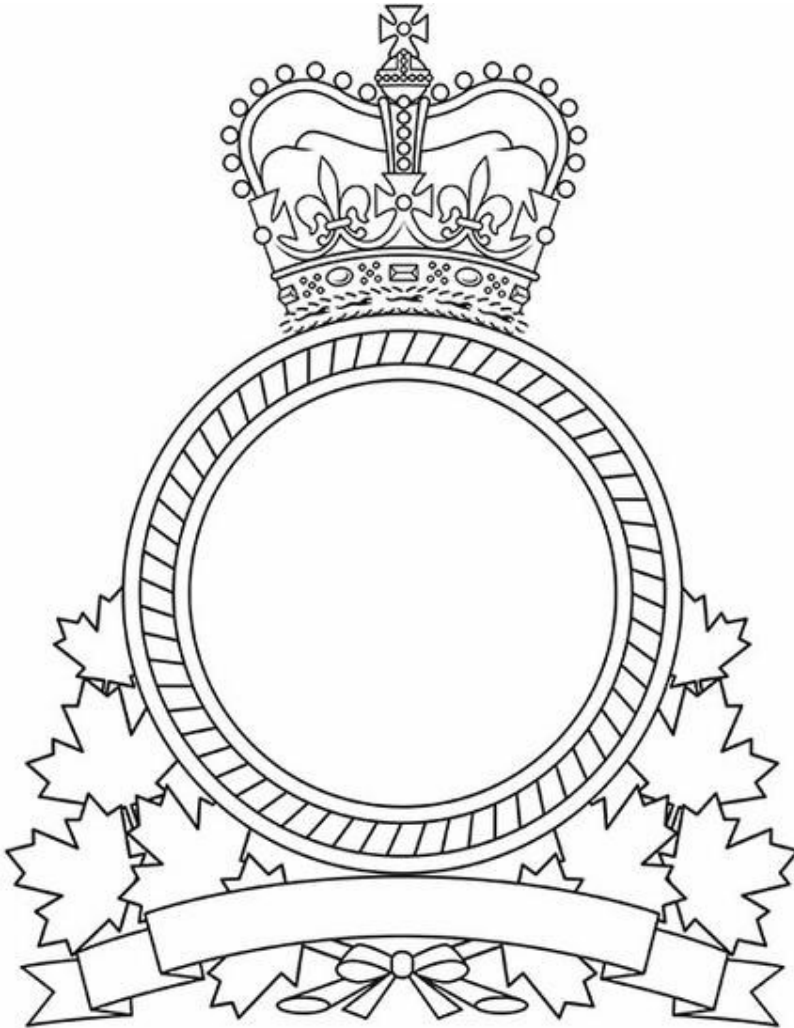


Figure 7. Canadian Armed Forces Command Badge frame, 1968. [Canadian Forces Administrative Orders Amendment List, Amendment List 52/71, 24 December 1971, Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]



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Allard also stated that “[t]he devices from the centre of the previously approved badges are being incorporated in the new frame.”<sup>32</sup>

#### THE BADGE OF MOBILE COMMAND OF THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

On 30 June 1965 at the First (1/65) Meeting of the Planning Group, Mobile Command, Item 1 on the Minutes was “Mobile Command Patch and Colour of Integrated Uniform”. Although there was little discussion on the Mobile Command (MOBCOM) patch, Commander (Designate) Lt.-Gen. Allard said he would present the proposed patch to the CDS, Air Chief Marshal Frank R. Miller;<sup>33</sup> however, a copy of the proposed insignia was not provided in the meeting minutes. At a Meeting of the Mobile Command Planning Group on 20 August 1965, it was noted that the proposed MOBCOM insignia was similar to that of a United States Army division and that of the Canadian Government Exhibition Committee; no action was taken however.<sup>34</sup> The proposed MOBCOM insignia was submitted to the CDS for approval at Meeting 3/65 of the Mobile Command Planning Group on 31 August 1965.<sup>35</sup> Although no copy or description of the insignia was attached to any of the meetings’ minutes, it was presumably the one described below.

On 7 September 1965, Captain (RCN) P. Cossette, Deputy Secretary Defence Staff, sent a memorandum with the proposed MOBCOM insignia attached to Commander (Cmdr.) V. Henry, Assistant Secretary (CP).<sup>36</sup> The attached annex displayed a gold

<sup>32</sup> J. V. Allard, General, Chief of the Defence Staff to Commander Mobile Command [Lieutenant-General W. A. B. Anderson], Approved Command Badge Frame, 31 July 1968, 1060-9963, volume 1, P 1060-280/C3-5 (DC), DHH.

<sup>33</sup> Minutes of the 1/65 Meeting of the Planning Group, Mobile Command Held in Office of COPR at 0930 HRS on Wednesday 30 Jun 65, 6 July 1965, Planning Group, Mobile Command Meetings, RG 24, volume 22459, 2002-1, volume 1, O1180-4700/00, LAC.

<sup>34</sup> Notes on a Meeting of the Mobile Command Planning Group, 20 August 1965, Mobile Command Planning Group Meetings, RG 24, volume 22459, 2002-1, volume 1, ATOB2002-1, LAC.

<sup>35</sup> Minutes of the 3/65 Meeting of the Mobile Command Planning Group Held in the Office of COPR, CFHQ [Canadian Forces Headquarters], 1430 HRS 31 Aug 65, 2 September 1965, Mobile Command Planning Group Meetings, RG 24, volume 22459, 2002-1, volume 1 FMF1180-2, LAC.

<sup>36</sup> The abbreviation “ASec” likely meant “Assistant Secretary”; however, it is possible that the abbreviation stood for “Administrative Secretary.”





Figure 8. Proposed Mobile Command badge, 1965. [FMF1901-4700/00, Annex B, 30 August 1965, 1060-9963, volume 1, attached to P. Cossette, Captain RCN, Deputy Secretary Defence Staff to ASec (CP), memorandum, Badge – Mobile Command, 7 September 1965, S 1810-2 (DSecDS), Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]

maple leaf upon four red arrowheads pointing to the cardinal points of the compass with a red border (Figure 8); Capt Cossette was unsure if a gold maple leaf was heraldically correct.<sup>37</sup>

A memorandum from Cmdr. Henry in early September 1965 stated that the stylised eleven-point maple leaf of the MOBCOM badge must be red (dark scarlet) as was shown on the Canadian Flag. He ultimately suggested the colour scheme of a red maple leaf, white background, shaded blue arrowheads and a red border; the blue of the arrowheads was meant to represent blued steel. Henry questioned, however, what the uses for the badge would be: would it be used on headdresses, as a formation patch or for use on vehicles? Ultimately,

<sup>37</sup> P. Cossette, Captain RCN [Royal Canadian Navy], Deputy Secretary Defence Staff, to ASec [Assistant Secretary] (CP) [Chief of Personnel], memorandum, Badge – Mobile Command, 7 September 1965, 1060-9963, volume 1, S 1810-2 (DSecDS), DHH.

it was concluded that the proposed badge could be used for metal insignia, black and white printing and “as a formation patch in drab colours only.” He considered the badge unsuitable for a full colour formation patch, a blazer badge and a sign or flag on vehicles.<sup>38</sup> The colours of the MOBCOM insignia were confirmed in a letter from Lt.-Gen. Allard on 6 December 1965; for the arrowheads, the light blue was to be that “which was used on the fly of the RCAF flag and the dark blue is the darker blue found in the roundel on that flag.” The red of the maple leaf was also verified as that found in the Canadian flag (Figure 9).<sup>39</sup>

The Command badge for MOBCOM was temporarily approved on 27 September 1965, subject to the receipt and assessment of the other Commands’ proposed badges.<sup>40</sup> A letter on 18 November 1965 by Lt.-Gen. Allard, Commander of MOBCOM, explained that the badge would be worn “in accordance with Orders and Instructions for Dress of the Canadian Army 201.21 on all orders of dress except the No. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and combat clothing. It will replace the Army 1st Canadian Infantry Division distinguishing patch.”<sup>41</sup> While only temporarily approved, Allard insisted on the distribution of the badge “in the interests of morale”.<sup>42</sup> Allard also desired to have the MOBCOM badge ready to wear for MOBCOM’s first anniversary

<sup>38</sup> V. Henry, Commander, A Sec [Assistant Secretary] (CP) [Chief of Personnel], memorandum, Badge – Mobile Command, n.d. [between 7 and 10 September 1965], 1060-9963, volume 1, P 1060-4700/00 (DC), DHH.

<sup>39</sup> J. V. Allard, Lieutenant-General, Commander [Mobile Command] to Chief of the Defence Staff, FMC [Force Mobile Command], Operational Vehicle Insignia, 6 December 1965, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 Comd, LAC.

<sup>40</sup> K. L. Dyer, Vice-Admiral, for Chief of the Defence Staff to Commander (Designate) Mobile Command, Insignia – Mobile Command, 27 September 1965, 1060-9963, volume 1, P 1060-4700/00 TD 5266 (DC), DHH.

<sup>41</sup> J. V. Allard, Lieutenant-General, Commander Mobile Command, Distinguishing Formation Patch – Procurement Mobile Command, 18 November 1965, 1060-9963, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00, DHH.

<sup>42</sup> J. V. Allard, Lieutenant-General, Commander Mobile Command, memorandum, Uniform Insignia – Mobile Command, 1 June 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 DC ADM, LAC.



Figure 9. Draft Mobile Command vehicle marking, 1965. [J. V. Allard, Lieutenant-General, Commander to Chief of the Defence Staff, FMC Operational Vehicle Insignia, 6 December 1965, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 Comd, Library and Archives Canada]

on 19 October 1966.<sup>43</sup> On 19 August 1966, the dark blue colour of the arrowheads was altered from the dark blue of the RCAF roundel

<sup>43</sup> R. Rowley, Major-General, Acting Commander [Mobile Command] to Chief of the Defence Staff, Mobile Command Insignia, 29 July 1966, 1060-9963, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 CSEC, DHH. However, 19 October was not the date Mobile Command was formed. 1 October 1965 was the establishment date of Mobile Command; however, Mobile Command Headquarters was established on 19 October 1965 at Longueuil, Québec. House of Commons Debates, Official Report, First Session – Twenty Seventh Parliament, volume X, 17 November–13 December 1966, December 7, 1966 – National Defence Act Amendment: Amalgamation of Navy, Army and Air Force (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1967), 10823; R. F. Miller, Air Commodore, for Chief of the Defence Staff, Canadian Forces Organization Order (CA) 65/10, "Organization – Support Services for Mobile Command Headquarters," 19 October 1965, CFOO (CA) 65/10, F1901-4700/00 (DO), DHH. No Canadian Forces Organization Order for Mobile Command itself has been found however.

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Figure 10. Mobile Command vehicle marking, 1966. [E. M Reyno, Air Marshal, Chief of Personnel, Vehicle Insignia – Mobile Command, 19 August 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, P 1060-4700/00 (DC) P12300-34 TD 6224, Library and Archives Canada]

to “Navy [dark] blue,” with the arrowheads “alternately shaded light blue and dark blue” (Figure 10).<sup>44</sup>

A letter on 29 August 1966 also included two embroidery samples of the MOBCOM badge for Commander MOBCOM to determine the shades of blue for the arrowheads. In sample A, the dark blue was that of the RCAF Roundel and the light blue was “a purer blue

<sup>44</sup> E. M Reyno, Air Marshal, Chief of Personnel, memorandum, Vehicle Insignia – Mobile Command, 19 August 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, P 1060-4700/00 (DC) P12300-34 TD 6224, LAC.

shade than the grey-blue of the RCAF Ensign". Sample B used a darker navy blue and A/M Reyno, CP, considered it less appealing than sample A (Figure 11).<sup>45</sup> In a letter on 6 September 1966, Lt.-Gen. Anderson, Commander MOBCOM, selected sample B with the darker navy blue because it was "considered more appropriate for the purpose of indicating that Mobile Command troops may be supported by sea forces." (Figure 12).<sup>46</sup> In another letter on the same day, Anderson stated that MOBCOM uniform insignia would begin to be worn on 19 October 1966 by all ranks. He also noted that the "[w]earing of insignia on combat clothing is under consideration" although this had already been approved on 24 August 1966.<sup>47</sup>

A message sent from Lieutenant-Colonel (Lt.-Col.) C.G. Forrest on behalf of MOBCOM on 14 October 1966 outlined what the MOBCOM badge represented. The message said:

The central feature is a red maple leaf on a white field enclosed by a red border, representing the national emblem in the national colours. The four arrows indicate, by use of the cardinal points of the compass, our preparedness for military service anywhere in the world. The dark and light blue of the arrows symbolize the elements of sea and air, whereby the Command achieves mobility.<sup>48</sup>

As noted above, due to unification on 1 February 1968, a badge requiring Royal Approval was needed for each Command.<sup>49</sup> Prior to this, the MOBCOM badge was not within a frame surmounted by

<sup>45</sup> E. M. Reyno, Air Marshal, Chief of Personnel, Command Sleeve Badge – Mobile Command, 29 August 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, P 1060-4700/00 (DC), LAC. The provided samples appear to have been incorrectly marked; sample "A" should be "B" and vice versa.

<sup>46</sup> W. A. B. Anderson, Lieutenant-General, Commander Mobile Command, Mobile Command Uniform Insignia, 6 September 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 SVCS, LAC.

<sup>47</sup> W. A. B. Anderson, Lieutenant-General, Commander Mobile Command, Mobile Command Uniform Insignia, 6 September 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 SVCS, LAC.

<sup>48</sup> CANMOBCOM [Mobile Command] to CANMOBGEN [generally to Mobile Command], message, 14 October 1966, 1060-9963, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 CSEC, DHH. This document is attached to W. A. B. Anderson, Lieutenant-General, Commander Mobile Command to Chief of the Defence Staff, FMC Badge, 9 December 1968, FMC1060-4700/00 SVCS, DHH.

<sup>49</sup> Léo Cadieux to His Excellency The Right Honourable Roland Michener, Governor General of Canada, draft correspondence, April 1968, 1060-9963, volume 1, DHH.





Figure 11. Embroidery samples of the arrowheads of the Mobile Command badge, 1966. (These samples appear to have been incorrectly marked; sample “A” should be “B” and vice versa.) [E. M. Reyno, Air Marshal, Chief of Personnel, Command Sleeve Badge – Mobile Command, 29 August 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, P 1060-4700/00 (DC), Library and Archives Canada]

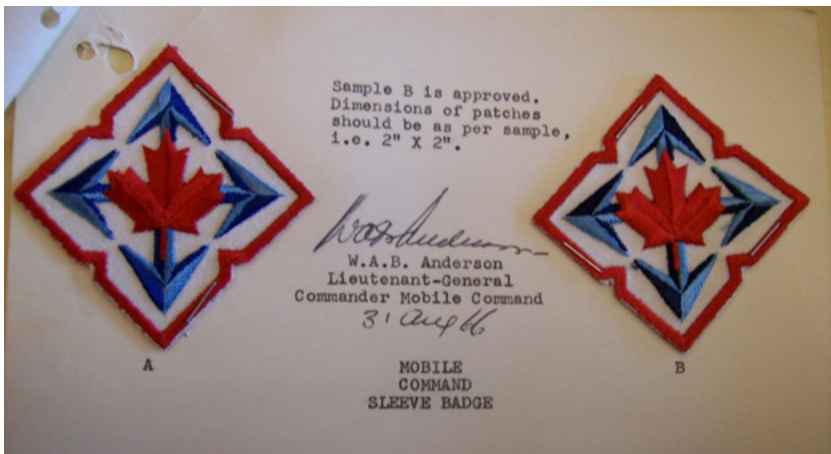


Figure 12. Samples of Mobile Command sleeve insignia, 1966. [W. A. B. Anderson, Lieutenant-General, Commander, Mobile Command Uniform Insignia, 6 September 1966, RG 24-G-1, box 19, 5250-28-13, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 SVCS, Library and Archives Canada]

the crown. This meant that the MOBCOM badge was a proposed one, as it had to be re-approved as a Command badge in the proper frame within the new unified Canadian Armed Forces.

A letter from Lt.-Gen. Anderson, Commander Mobile Command, to Lt.-Col. Buckingham, Director of Ceremonial (DC), on 23 May 1968 sought the approval of the MOBCOM motto “*Celer, Paratus, Callidus*” which translated as “Speed, Readiness, Flexibility.”<sup>50</sup> In a letter to Lt.-Col. Buckingham on 11 June 1968, Major Paul Clavel, *Service d'édition des manuels des Forces canadiennes*, suggested the alternative motto “*Ad Omnem Eventum Paratus*,” translated to “Ready for all eventualities,” as the first proposed motto did not follow the rules of Latin. Clavel conceded, however, that the motto “*Celer, Paratus, Callidus*” could be approved if it was the one Commander Mobile Command preferred.<sup>51</sup>

In a letter from Gen. Allard, Chief of the Defence Staff, to Lt.-Gen. Anderson, Commander Mobile Command, on 31 July 1968, sent on 6 August, Allard requested Anderson's approval and/or comments on the MOBCOM badge which was described as follows:

Four light and dark blue arrowheads with partial shafts radiating outward from the centre, each arrowhead pointing toward one of the four cardinal points of the compass; superimposed upon the shafts of the four arrows, a red 11-point stylized maple leaf as displayed on the Canadian flag.

The proposed motto of MOBCOM was confirmed as “*Celer, Paratus, Callidus*.”<sup>52</sup> Lt.-Gen. Anderson gave his approval of the MOBCOM badge on 20 August 1968.<sup>53</sup> Regarding the motto, a handwritten

<sup>50</sup> W. A. B. Anderson, Lieutenant-General, Commander Mobile Command, *Mobile Command Motto*, 23 May 1968, 1060-9963, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 SVCS, DHH.

<sup>51</sup> Paul Clavel, Major, OIC [Officer in Charge], *Service d'édition des manuels des Forces canadiennes* to Lieutenant-Colonel N.A. Buckingham, 11 June 1968, 1060-9963, volume 1, SED2900/20-4, DHH.

<sup>52</sup> J. V. Allard, General, Chief of the Defence Staff to Commander Mobile Command [Lieutenant-General W. A. B. Anderson], *Approved Command Badge Frame*, 31 July 1968, 1060-9963, volume 1, P 1060-280/C3-5 (DC),

<sup>53</sup> W. A. B. Anderson, Lieutenant-General, Commander Mobile Command to Chief of the Defence Staff [General J. V. Allard], *Mobile Command Badge*, 20 August 1968, 1996-97/957, box 9, FMC 1060-0057-1, volume 2, FMC1060-4700/00 COMD, LAC.



note on another letter recorded that, in a phone call on 23 August 1968 to DC, MOBCOM changed its proposed motto to “Mobile”;<sup>54</sup> no reasoning was given for this sudden change. A Mobile Command Headquarters Information Booklet from the mid-1970s explained that the motto “Mobile” “describes the primary quality of Mobile Command which allows it to fulfil its assigned mission.”<sup>55</sup>

Governor General, the Right Honourable Roland Michener’s approval of the MOBCOM badge, within the Command frame, was sought on 5 September 1968; if Michener approved, it was requested that he then seek the approval of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.<sup>56</sup> On 23 September 1968, Brigadier-General Louis-Frémont Trudeau, Assistant Secretary to the Governor General, informed the Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Leo Cadieux that Her Majesty the Queen had approved the MOBCOM badge.<sup>57</sup> The official painting was incorrectly dated, however, displaying May 1968 as the date of signature (Figure 13).<sup>58</sup>

In the 1976 Canadian Forces Publication 267, *Badges of the Canadian Forces*, the MOBCOM badge was described as “Argent four arrow heads point outwards, azure charged in centre upon their partial shafts with an eleven pointed maple leaf gules fimbriated argent.” The significance of the badge was also described:

The central feature is a red maple leaf on a white field representing the National Emblem in the National Colours. The four arrows indicate by use of the cardinal points of the compass, the preparedness for military service anywhere in the world. The dark blue and light blue of the arrows symbolize the elements of sea and air whereby the command achieves mobility.

<sup>54</sup> W. A. B. Anderson, Lieutenant-General, Commander Mobile Command, handwritten note on correspondence, 20 August 1968, 1060-9963, volume 1, FMC1060-4700/00 COMD, DHH.

<sup>55</sup> Mobile Command Headquarters Information Booklet, n.d. [1974?], 76/119, DHH.

<sup>56</sup> L. Cadieux [Minister of National Defence] to The Right Honourable Roland Michener, 5 September 1968, 1060-9963, volume 1, P 1060-280/C3-5 TD 8239, DHH.

<sup>57</sup> Louis-Frémont Trudeau, BGen [Brigadier-General], Assistant Secretary to the Governor General to The Honourable The Minister of National Defence, 23 September 1968, 1060-9963, volume 1, DHH.

<sup>58</sup> Mobile Command Badge, May 1968, UB-135, 1060-1, DHH.



Figure 13. Approved Mobile Command badge, 1968. [Mobile Command Badge, May 1968, UB-135, 1060-1, Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]



Figure 14. Mobile Command badge as it appears in the Department of National Defence publication *Badges of the Canadian Forces*, 1976. Note that the colour of the arrowheads is incorrect. [Department of National Defence, CFP 267, *Badges of the Canadian Forces*, 1976, Chapter 2 – Command and Formation Badges, Mobile Command]

The badge and heraldic description within this text, however, were inaccurate; the arrowheads were displayed and described as silver (argent) when they were in fact blue (azure) (Figure 14).<sup>59</sup>

#### **THE BADGE OF LAND FORCE COMMAND OF THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES**

As per Ministerial Organisation Order (MOO) 92158, issued on 4 September 1992, Mobile Command was re-designated Land Force

<sup>59</sup> Department of National Defence, CFP 267, *Badges of the Canadian Forces*, 1976, Chapter 2 – Command and Formation Badges, Mobile Command.

Command (LFC).<sup>60</sup> With this change, the official badge for the Command also changed. However, little information can be found regarding these processes. Correspondence from 9 January 1990 provided some information regarding a suggested LFC badge design. In anticipation of the re-organisation of Mobile Command into Land Force Command, Land Forces Central Area proposed a badge for itself as well as one for Land Forces Headquarters to be used in conjunction with the badges of the Land Forces Areas.<sup>61</sup> For the Land Forces Headquarters badge, it was suggested “the traditional Army crossed swords with three maple leaves (framed in the current Command annulus) be adopted” (Figure 15).<sup>62</sup>

However, no further documentation regarding this letter was found, therefore the reactions of National Defence Headquarters and the DC are unknown. It is clear, however, that this badge was not adopted as the LFC official badge. The official LFC badge was approved by the Governor General, the Right Honourable Roméo LeBlanc, in March 1998 (Figure 16).<sup>63</sup> Although there is no supporting documentation, it can be safely assumed that the elements of the central device of the LFC badge were taken directly from the pre-unification Canadian Army badge (Figure 6). The badge was composed of one maple leaf, instead of three conjoined as in the Canadian Army badge, and blue crossed swords; the St. Edward’s Crown was not included in the central device as it was already present in the badge frame.<sup>64</sup>

A memorandum from Col. D. G. O’Brien, Director Land Policy and Resources, on 30 September 1994 noted that “the use of the former Canadian Army badge has been widespread during recent years” in LFC. Col. O’Brien suggested that the former Army badge (Figure 6) be adopted by LFC as an official badge; it would not, however, replace the authorised badge of LFC. He argued that “the former Army badge retains significant emotional appeal among the soldiers of Land Force Command” and it would serve “as a bridge

<sup>60</sup> Ministerial Organisation Order 92158, 4 September 1992, DHH.

<sup>61</sup> The reference to Land Forces Headquarters can be assumed to mean Land Force Command.

<sup>62</sup> K. J. Kokkonen, Captain, for Commander [Land Forces Central Area], Land Forces Central Area Insignia, 9 January 1990, 2007-00338-4, box 1, FMC 1060-1, volume 15, LFCA:1060-1, LAC.

<sup>63</sup> W. C. Leach, Lieutenant-General, Chief of the Land Staff, 5 May 1998, 2012-00465-2, box 14, 1145-1, volume1, 1000-3 (DLP 4-3), LAC.

<sup>64</sup> Land Force Command [Badge], March 1998, UB-882, 1060-1, DHH.

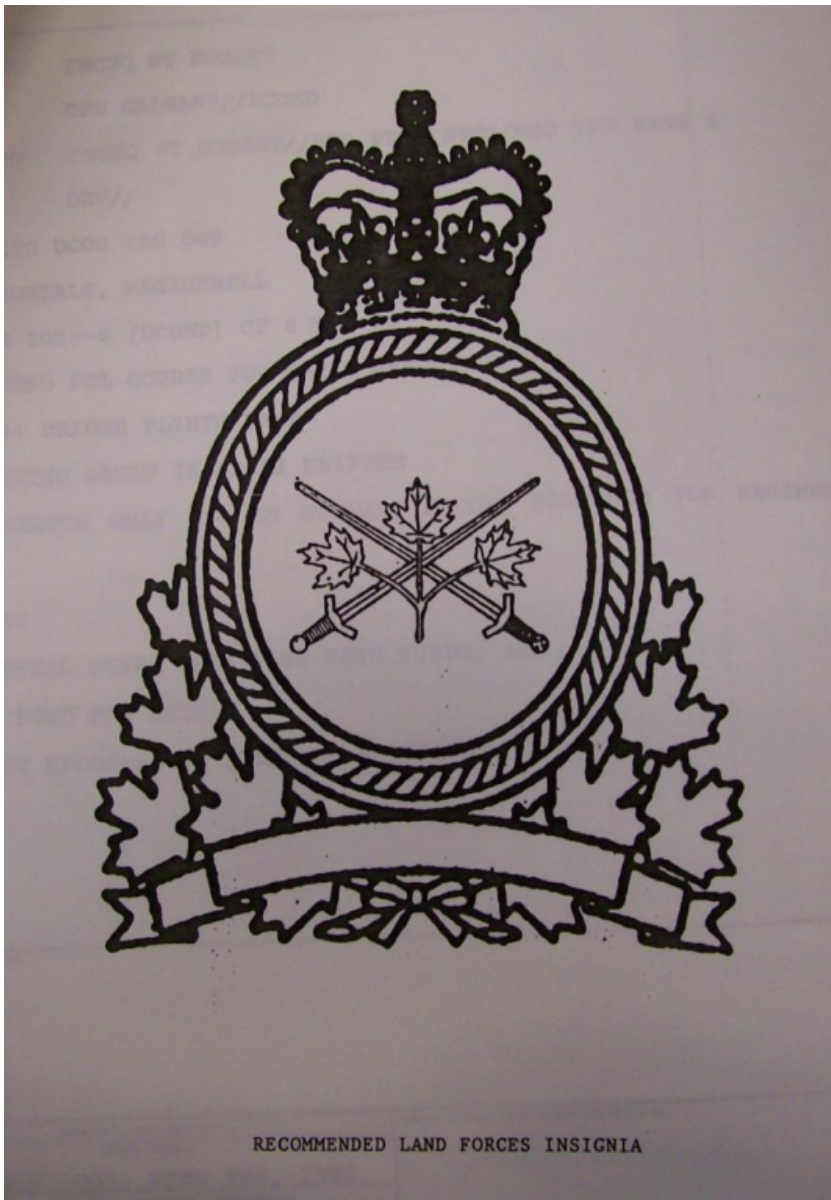


Figure 15. Proposed badge of Land Force Command, 1990. [K. J. Kokkonen, Captain, for Commander, Land Forces Central Area Insignia, 9 January 1990, 2007-00338-4, box 1, FMC 1060-1, volume 15, LFCA:1060-1, Annex B, Library and Archives Canada]



Canadian Heraldic Authority  
Autorité héraldique du Canada  
March/mars 1998

*Charles R. Mair*  
Athabaska Herald  
Héraut Athabaska

Figure 16. Approved badge of Land Force Command, 1998. [Land Force Command, March 1998, UB-882, 1060-1, Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]



between the achievements of the past and the challenges of the future.”<sup>65</sup>

### THE FIRST BADGE OF THE “RE-DESIGNATED” CANADIAN ARMY

In MOO 2011073 on 12 August 2011, Land Force Command was re-designated as the Canadian Army (CA). Lt.-Gen. P. J. Devlin, Commander Canadian Army, suggested on 29 October 2012 that, with the name change, the badge of the Command should also change so that it “better reflects the Army’s historic roots.” He recommended returning to the three maple leaf badge of the Canadian Army prior to 1967;<sup>66</sup> reference C, CAO 64-2, referred specifically to the final CAO 64-2 issued on 27 July 1959 in which the Crusader’s swords were blue. On 13 February 2013, Devlin wrote another letter in which he requested again that the old Canadian Army badge, which he incorrectly referred to as “the 1940 badge”, be placed within the Command badge frame and adopted.<sup>67</sup> Maj. M. Boisvert of the Directorate of History and Heritage requested Claire Boudreau, Chief Herald of Canada, to design a badge for the CA using the elements of the old Canadian Army badge, excluding the St. Edward’s Crown within the Command badge frame while maintaining the motto of Land Force Command.<sup>68</sup>

On 8 April 2013, Patrick Bryden, Director Land Personnel Management, conveyed Lt.-Gen. Devlin’s approval of the preliminary design, minus the motto, of the CA badge in an email to Manon Labelle, Miramichi Herald acting on behalf of the Canadian Heraldic Authority (Figure 17).<sup>69</sup> Although the colour of the swords in CAO

<sup>65</sup> D. G. O’Brien, Colonel, Director Land Policy and Resources, Internal Use of the Former Badge of the Canadian Army, 30 September 1994, 1060-1, volume 8, 1060-1 (DLPR), DHH.

<sup>66</sup> P. J. Devlin, Lieutenant-General to Dr. S. Harris, Acting Director and Chief Historian, Directorate of History and Heritage, Request for a New Canadian Army Badge, 29 October 2012, 1060-9963, volume 2, 5000-30 (G1 Heritage), DHH.

<sup>67</sup> P. J. Devlin, Lieutenant-General, Canadian Army Command Badge, 13 February 2013, 1060-9963, volume 2, 5000-30 (G1 Heritage), DHH.

<sup>68</sup> M. Boisvert, Major, Directorate of History and Heritage 3 to Dr. [Claire] Boudreau, Chief Herald of Canada, 21 February 2013, 1060-9963, volume 2, 1060-9963 (DHH 3-5), DHH.

<sup>69</sup> Manon Labelle, Miramichi Herald to Patrick Bryden, Director Land Personnel Management, Subject: Comd [Commander] CA [Canadian Army] approval – Canadian Army Badge, 8 April 2013, 1060-9963 volume 2, DHH.





Figure 17. Preliminary design of the badge of the re-designated Canadian Army, 2013. [Manon Labelle, Miramichi Herald to Patrick Bryden, Director Land Personnel Management, Subject: Comd CA approval – Canadian Army Badge, 8 April 2013, 1060-9963, volume 2, Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]

64-2 was blue, the proposed badge had silver swords; the swords were silver in CAO 64-2 of 2 August 1954, but this order had been superseded.

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Figure 18. Approved badge of the re-designated Canadian Army, 2013. [Canadian Army, 25 March 2013, UB-882a, 1060-1, Department of National Defence, Directorate of History and Heritage]

Labelle sent the complete CA badge to Bryden on 10 April 2013 (Figure 18).<sup>70</sup> The official painting of the Canadian Army badge was dated 25 March 2013 but this was incorrect;<sup>71</sup> the official painting

<sup>70</sup> Manon Labelle, Miramichi Herald to Patrick Bryden, [Director Land Personnel Management], Subject: Canadian Army, 10 April 2013, 1060-9963 volume 2, DHH.

<sup>71</sup> Canadian Army [Badge], 25 March 2013 [April 2013], UB-882a, 1060-1, DHH.

would have been signed between 8 and 10 April. On 16 July 2013, Lt.-Gen. Devlin outlined the plan for introducing the new Canadian Army badge for use as a Command pocket badge, as well as the use of the old Canadian Army badge to be used as a historic device on items such as the new CA Command Flag and Commander CA distinguishing flag. The letter noted that the changes to the badge, name and insignia of the CA were to “meet the Minister’s intent to restore the rich heritage of the CA and to situate the CA to celebrate that heritage during the significant period of commemoration from 2014-20.” As well, to reduce costs, the changes would be gradually introduced.<sup>72</sup> On 18 July 2013, Lt.-Gen. Marquis Hainse, Commander CA, revealed the new Canadian Army badge.<sup>73</sup>

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**Brittany Dunn** is a PhD Candidate in the Department of History at Wilfrid Laurier University. Her research examines death and grief in the Canadian Expeditionary Force during the First World War.

<sup>72</sup> Lieutenant-General P. J. Devlin, Commander Canadian Army, Historic Identity of the Canadian Army – Request for Badge, Name, and Insignia Changes, 16 July 2013, 1060-9963, volume 2, 5008-1 (G1 Heritage), DHH.

<sup>73</sup> Department of National Defence, “News Release – Canadian Army adopts new primary badge, visual identifier, and tagline,” 18 July 2013, <https://www.canada.ca/en/news/archive/2013/07/canadian-army-adopts-new-primary-badge-visual-identifier-tagline.html>.