THE MESSAGE MUST GET THROUGH:

Bruce Carruthers and the Birth of the Canadian Signaling Corps



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Program Summary

Objective

The objectives of this educational program are to teach students about Major Wallace Bruce Matthews Carruthers, the Father of Military Communications in Canada and thereby give them an understanding of the beginnings of military signalling in Canada. Students will be guided by research questions and encouraged to think critically while examining primary documents. From these documents, students will glean information about Carruthers and the state of signalling in the Canadian military at the turn of the century. Students will have the opportunity to research methods of communication and think critically about the options that were available at that period in time. They will also have the opportunity to engage with the concept of Defining Moments, both personally and in the life of Bruce Carruthers. This assignment will encourage deeper analysis of Bruce Carruthers' life and what formed the person he became.

To complete this entire program will require 4 - 6 class sessions

All three activities will be group assignments. Not all the activities have to be completed. Teachers have the discretion to pick and choose which activities will most benefit their students. Each activity has its own separate section to allow for this flexibility. However it is recommended that if the teacher wishes to do Activity 3, Activity 1 would be beneficial in providing biographical information about Bruce Carruthers.

The Activities include:

- Sifting Through the Evidence: Primary Document Analysis
- Signalling Pros and Cons Presentation
- The Defining Moments Activity

Activity 1: Shifting Through the Evidence: Primary Document Analysis

Time allotment: 1-2 classes

The **Primary Document Analysis** activity will use a series of primary documents related to the life of Bruce Carruthers to uncover information about his life and career in the Canadian Army. The students will be broken into groups (4-5 depending on the size of the class). The first section of this activity will involve students choosing two documents from their folder and analyzing them based on a critical thinking framework. Once they have analyzed those documents, they will move on to the second section of the activity where they use the information within those documents to answer questions about the life of Bruce Carruthers. They must make reference to the document where they find the answer.

Part of this package included a Teacher's Resource where you will find a detailed list of the documents, the framework for the document analysis and the research questions in a chart format (with answers). Also included in the Teacher's Resource is a summary of Canada's contribution to the South African (Boer) War, a timeline of events in the life of Bruce Carruthers, and links to further research.



Activity #2: Signalling Pros and Cons Presentation

Time allotment: 2-3 classes

The **Signalling Pros and Cons Presentation** activity will involve researching and presenting communication technology from the turn of the 20th century. Students will be split into seven groups and assigned one of seven forms of communication. They will research the pros and cons of this form of communication and prepare a presentation with visual aids (poster, drawing, photographs, Digital audio visual presentation, props, etc). The goal will be to argue why their form of communication is the most reliable. After each group has presented, the teacher will moderate a discussion among the students to try and build a consensus for the most reliable communications technology.

This activity will require more than one class to complete. The student will need time for research and creating their visual aides. The presentations should be no more than 5-10 minutes each, with the discussion to follow. The primary document; *Methods of Communicating in the Field* by Bruce Carruthers will be an important resource and included on the activity sheet are weblinks to further resources for each form of communication.

Activity #3: Defining Moments Activity

Time allotment: 1 class

For this activity, students will be exploring the concept of Defining Moments (events or experiences in an individual's life, or nation's history that fundamentally shapes their present-day identity) by identifying these moments in their own lives and the life of Bruce Carruthers. Students will be required to defend their selections.

The teacher will introduce the concept of Defining moments and students will brainstorm how they would define the term. They will then explain how special events in a student's lives contributed to the person they are, including memorable moments, milestones, traditions, special trips etc. These moments, both good and bad, contribute to a person's development. The teacher will ask students to think of five defining moments in their own lives and explain; what it was, where it happened, when it happened, who was involved, and why they think it was such an important moment in their lives. This part of the activity will be done with the hand out. After a set period of time, the teacher will facilitate a sharing period, offering students a chance to share their defining moments.

The next section will include identifying and justifying the defining moments in the life of Bruce Carruthers. Students will be separated into groups and asked to choose two defining moments in Bruce Carruthers' life, justifying their response with evidence from the resources. The teacher will then ask each group to tell the rest which moments they decided to choose and why. Notice the similarities in the choices and discuss why those moments are so significant.

Teacher's Resource:

Shifting Through the Evidence Primary Document Analysis

This part of the program will take **1-2 classes** to complete

Primary Sources are the raw materials of history, the original resources historians look to to uncover first hand accounts of history. Engaging with primary resources can be challenging to students who have never been exposed to them before. The language of a different time, the writing style and the context all create barriers. Encouraging critical thinking is key.

Prior to distributing the assignment, engage the students in discussion about what they think a primary resource can teach them about a particular topic. Brainstorm these ideas. Instruct them to pick out information such as dates, names, places, events etc.

Also a brief introduction to the South African War (Boer War) will help place this assignment in a chronological timeline of Canadian history (see below). There is also a timeline of Bruce Carruthers' life for your reference included in this section.

List of Documents to Examine For the Assignment

The Students are not to be given this list with the explanations of the documents. It's their job to discover this information for themselves. This is only for reference should the student be unable to decipher the documents.

- At the Battle of Hardt's River Poem 1902
 - A poem outlining the glory/ loss of the Battle of Hardt's River, Carruthers featured in second stanza
- Attestation Oath for Service in South Africa
 - Oath signed by Carruthers prior to his first tour in South Africa while Queen Victoria was sovereign
- Biographical Sketch of Carruthers
 - This bio covers major events in Carruthers' career
- Canadian Special Service Forces Certificate of Service 1899
 - This is a record of his enlistment in the South African War and some biographical information
- Carruthers burial place photograph
 - \circ $\;$ Shows both Carruthers' and his wife's dates of death $\;$
- Commission Land Forces 1883
 - \circ $\,$ The Land Forces was another name for the army
 - an official document issued by a government and conferring on the recipient the rank of an officer in the armed forces



- Commission Lieutenant 1902 Land Forces
 - an official document issued by a government and conferring on the recipient the rank of an officer in the armed forces
- Letter of Commendation 1886
 - Understandably difficult to read: the main summary is that Bruce Carruther received a commendation (letter of praise) from a superior in the 21st Hussars for his excellent work instructing the Pioneers and Signallers. He received this letter on Sept 30 1886
- Methods of Communicating and Signalling in the Field.
 - This is an essay written by Carruthers detailing the necessity of trained Signallers for the Canadian Army
- PWOR Commission 1893
 - PWOR: Princess of Wales's Own Rifles (now called the Princess of Wales' Own Regiment)
 - an official document issued by a government and conferring on the recipient the rank of an officer in the armed forces
- RMC First Class Certificate 1883
 - \circ $\,$ Graduation certificate from RMC with transcript
- RMC Record Sheet
 - This is a membership record in the RMC Club (for alumni) stating some biographical information about Carruthers, including his military record, some non- military activities and his date of dead
- School of Instruction in Army Signalling 1886
 - A certificate stating that Bruce Carruthers has passed a course of instruction in Army Signalling dated 22 June 1886 and can act as a instructor for the British Army
- School of Military Engineering 1884
 - A certificate stating that Bruce Carruthers has passed a course of instruction in Field works and is qualified to be an instructor of Cavalry Pioneers dated 9 May 1884 (field works include military construction)
- Special Certificate 1887
 - An examination certificate for a promotion to the rank of Captain
- July 25 1902 Article, Daily British Whig
 - This article details the return celebration that Carruthers and another officer, Surgeon Lt Col Duff received when they returned home to Kingston after the end of the South African War.
- July 26 1902 Article, Daily British Whig
 - The article details the Hardt's River battle and Carruthers' contribution to it
- Transcript of the "Two Near VCs of the South African War" c1902
 - This report further details the events during the battle of Hardt's River and Carruthers' contribution

Primary Document Analysis

When engaging with a primary document it is important to remember a number of key questions:

- 1. What kind of document is it?
 - a. Is it a letter?
 - b. Is it a photograph?
 - c. Is it a certificate?
 - d. Is it a newspaper article?
 - e. Is it an essay?
 - f. Is it a government document?
- 2. What are its parts?
 - a. Is there an author?
 - b. Is there a date?
 - c. Are there locations mentioned?
 - d. Who is mentioned within the document?
- 3. Next is the Analysis
 - a. What is it talking about?
 - b. Can you summarize in your own words the content in the document?
 - c. Can you explain why it was written?
 - d. What is the historical context? Or What was happening at that time in history?

For this exercise the student groups will choose two documents from their folder and perform an analysis of those documents using the questions above.

Example:

· ·	1		
Primary Document Name	What Kind of Document?	Name the Parts	Analysis
PWOR Commission	Certificate	Signed by the Colonel Adjutant General of Militia 7th April 1893 Dominion of Canada Bruce Carruthers is mentioned, as is Queen Victoria PWOR also mentioned	This document conferred the rank of Captain in the 14th Battalion of the Princess of Wales own Rifles (Regiment) starting on 7 April 1893. It calls Carruthers to do his duty diligently and commands his subordinates to obey Carruthers as their Captain It is written in the Monarch's own voice (stating later in the document that this is the "56th year of our reign") Monarch's often refer to themselves in the plural due to the concept of the "Royal we". It was written to give to Carruthers' to prove his commission as Captain. At this point in history, Canada was a very young nation very much still connected to the British Empire and Queen Victoria was the Queen of Canada

Answer Sheet for Teacher Reference

Research Questions	Answers	Sources
When did Bruce Carruthers enroll in RMC?	September 5, 1879	First Class Certificate
When did Bruce Carruthers graduate from RMC?	June 25th, 1883	First Class Certificate
After passing the course of Instruction in Army Signalling, Carruthers was qualified to act as a in Army Signalling	Instructor	School of Army Signalling 1886
What year was Carruthers qualified to instruct the Cavalry Pioneers?	1884	School of Military Engineering 1884
In 1893, Bruce Carruthers was appointed which rank? What was the Battalion number and regiment?	1893, Captain in the 14th Battalion, "The Princess of Wales' Own Rifles"	PWOR Commission 1893
How old was Bruce Carruthers when he volunteered for the Boer War in 1899	35 8/12 years	Canadian Special Service Force Certificate of Service 1899
Read the poem "At the Battle of Hardt River"; summarize the role of Bruce Carruthers in three-five lines.	The Canadians were at Hardt's River in South Africa fighting the Boers. Carruthers was present and encouraged his men to fight with the greatest amount of stamina possible. The Canadians would not surrender and remained patriotic to Canada till their dying breaths. Carruthers and his troops won glory for Canada. Explain to students that this particular fight shed the greatest number of deaths the Canadian had seen in war prior to WWI.	At the Battle of Hardt's River Poem 1902
What are the six forms of communication available in the fields according to Carruthers?	Telegraph, Telephone, Wireless Telegraphy, Visual Signalling, Mounted Orderlies, Cyclists	Methods of Communicating and Signalling in the Field pg 103
What forms of communication are the enemy likely to want to destroy?	Telegram and Telephone	Methods of Communicating and Signalling in the Field pg 103
Why are mounted orderlies and cyclists dangerous forms of communication in hostile countries?	The messenger must travel long distances through unknown	Methods of Communicating and Signalling in the Field pg 104

	territories which may be occupied by the enemy who are armed	
According to Carruthers, which method of communication is advantageous?	Visual signalling	Methods of Communicating and Signalling in the Field pg 104
Carruthers states 10 situations where visual signalling could be used. What are they?	 a. In the more advanced position of an army in hilly countries with unfriendly inhabitants b. When detachments of an army are at rest for a definite period c. Between outposts and advance guards and their main bodies d. During advance of the cavalry division covering an army, by keeping up communication between connecting and communicating posts e. Between detached posts and columns f. Between points of temporary importance in a defensive position g. Between ships and shore h. Between units j. During Calvary reconnaissance 	Methods of Communicating and Signalling in the Field pg 104-105
When does visual signalling fail?	Fog or a storm, dims sight	Methods of Communicating and Signalling in the Field pg 105
During the South African War (Boer War) when did the authorities realize the need for signalling?	When the Regiment arrive at DeAar and Orange River, steps were taken to organize a corps	Methods of Communicating and Signalling in the Field pg 107

What prize did the City of Kingston give to Bruce Carruthers upon his return to Kingston in July 1902?	Sword of Honour	The Daily Whig July 25 1902
Which group had the superior numbers during the Battle of Hardt River, The British/Canadians or the Boers?	The Boers 2500 to the Canadian/British 1291	July 26 1902 Article, Daily British Whig
Describe the events at The Battle of Hardt's River.	The men formed into a half-moon shape to face the Boers. They stampeded the Boers, 17 of 21 Canadians were killed or wounded, and the cavalry would not give up until they defeated the Boers.	Transcript of the "Two Near VCs of the South African War" c1902
Who was Carruthers married to?	Henrietta Macpherson	Photograph of Carruthers burial place
What was General Order 167?	The order authorizing the formation of the Signalling Corp	Biographical Sketch of Carruthers pg 1
When did Bruce Carruthers die?	21 October 1910	Biographical Sketch of Carruthers pg 2 and RMC Record Sheet and Photograph of Carruthers burial place

Teacher Reference Pages: Bruce Carruthers: Biographical Timeline

Friday 13 th February 1863	Wallace Bruce Matthews Carruthers Born in Kingston.
1879	Enrolled in the Royal Military College in Kingston
1883	Graduated from RMC Accepted commission with the British Army; 21 st Hussars
January 31 st , 1887	Mary Matthews Carruthers, Bruce's mother dies
February 4 th , 1889	John Bruce Carruthers Dies
1892	Returned to Canada and commissioned as Lieutenant (later Captain) in the Princes of Wales' Own Rifles
1899	Enlisted as a Sgt. With the 2 nd Special Service Force Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment for overseas service in South African (Boer) War. Sailed on Sardinian for Capetown October 30 th
February 12 th 1900	RCR in action
Feb 27 th 1900	Battle of Paardeburg
1 st November 1900	Regiment returns to Canada
1901	Commissioned as Lieutenant with the 2 nd Canadian Mounted Rifles
December 1901	Married Henrietta MacPherson
13 th December 1901	Citizens gather for the send off at Grand Trunk Station
14 January 1902	Sailed
17 th February 1902	Arrived at S. Africa
March 31 st 1902	Lt. Carruthers commanding no 3 and 4 troops of E Squadron acting as a rearguard to a reconnaissance party ran into a large Boer Force at the junction of the Brakspruit and Hart Rivers. The Battle of Harts (Klienhardts) River. 17 out of the 21 were killed. The Boers took their weapons and equipment and released them. Bruce was promoted to Captain (unattached list) and mentioned in Despatches for the action.
July 24 th 1902	Returned to Kingston; welcome home ceremonies; presented with sword. July 25th
24 October 1903	A distinct signalling organization for the Canadian Army. Special General order: Canadian Signalling Corps established
February 3 rd 1904	Carruthers appointed inspector of Signals
March 1906	Carruthers appointed assistant adjutant-General for signalling
November 23 rd 1907	Wife dies
March 1908	Distinctive cap and collar badges designed by Carruthers are authorized by General Order 33

July 1908	New Uniform adopted
October 21 st 1910	Carruthers died of Tuberculosis

Canada & The South African War, 1899-1902

The South African War (1899-1902) or, as it is also known, the *Boer War*, marked Canada's first official dispatch of troops to an overseas war.

In 1899, fighting erupted between Great Britain and two small republics in South Africa. The two republics, settled by Boers, descendants of the region's first Dutch immigrants, were not expected to survive for long against the world's greatest power. Pro-Empire Canadians nevertheless urged their government to help. The war, they argued, pitted British freedom, justice, and civilization against Boer backwardness.

While many English-Canadians supported Britain's cause in South Africa, most French-Canadians and many recent immigrants from countries other than Britain wondered why Canada should fight in a war half way around the world. Concerned with maintaining national stability and political popularity, Prime Minister Sir Wilfrid Laurier did not want to commit his government. Yet the bonds of Empire were strong and public pressure mounted. As a compromise, Laurier agreed to send a battalion of volunteers to South Africa.

Over the next three years, more than 7,000 Canadians, including 12 women nurses, served overseas. They would fight in key battles from Paardeberg to Leliefontein. The Boers inflicted heavy losses on the British, but were defeated in several key engagements. Refusing to surrender, the Boers turned to a guerrilla war of ambush and retreat. In this second phase of fighting, Canadians participated in numerous small actions. Gruelling mounted patrols sought to bring the enemy to battle, and harsh conditions ensured that all soldiers struggled against disease and snipers' bullets.

Imperial forces attempted to deny the Boers the food, water and lodging afforded by sympathetic farmers. They burned Boer houses and farms, and moved civilians to internment camps, where thousands died from disease. This harsh strategy eventually defeated the Boers.

Of the Canadians who served in South Africa, 267 were killed and are listed in the Books of Remembrance. The Canadian government claimed at the time that this overseas expedition was not a precedent. History would prove otherwise. The new century would see Canadians serve in two world wars, the Korean War, and dozens of peacekeeping missions.

Links for Further Research

Battle of Hart's River https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/battles-and-stages/battle-of-harts-river

Boer war links

https://www.warmuseum.ca/cwm/exhibitions/boer/boerwarhistory_e.html https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/south-african-war

Primary Documents

AT THE BATTLE OF HARDT RIVER, 1902

A thrill of joy – yet sadness fills each heart For our brave Canadian stand at (Kleinhardt) Where they fought the Boers that day Till scarce a man was left they say They've won glory for Canada and flag

Bruce Carruthers' little band of men (By the hundreds) they charged – they fought to take them then His shot the leader kills "Back – No Surrender" how it thrills He's won glory for Canada and flag

Remember Evans dying on the veldt Firing his last shot of a hundred in his belt Smashing rifles while Grim Death Still struggles for his breath He's won glory for Canada and flag

All Nations praise, some envy as they cheer Hearts knit to the Mother Country have no fear Our Anglo Saxon blood We'll win glory for Canada and flag

To those mourning lost ones (among) the brave Our Empire weeps with you (oer) their graves We'll write each honoured name On our country's roll of fame They've won glory for Canada and flag



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GATH TO BE TAKEN IN PRESENCE OF ATTRATING OFFICER-

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Zored water in

I Bruck Carrietters owner that I will woll and trucky serve our severeign Ledy the queen, in the Contedian Volunteers for Active Service, until isofully discharged, and that I will result be Majesty's energies and seuce Her Unjosty's peace to be knyt on land and on sea, and that I will, in all matters appartaining to my porvice, faithfully discharge my duty proceeding to inv. So help no Cod.

S.F. 1919

I Bruch Carruthers harsty dealers that I an willing to carve wherever Hor Majesty the queen may direct, in the Canadian Volusteers for Active Service, under the provisions of the Militia Act of Canada, so far as it applies, under the queen's Regulations and Orders for the Arry, and Army Act, for the term of six months or the year if required, or until sponer instally discharged or dismissed, at the rate of ay fixed for the Personent Corps of Geneda, with landed in South Africa, and after discourstation to serve in Her Majesty's Rogalar Forces at the rate of may fixed by the Hoyal Warrant for the pay of the British Army, and I have menordingly

taken the chove Oath of Allegiance, Simod

Witness & A hompson Attenting Officer.

BOX 157 ARCHIVES

THE LATE MJOR W. B. M. CARRUTHERS

The late Major W.B.M. Carruthers is recognized as the founder of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, as it owes its existence to his foresight and detormination.

DSIGS

1963

Major Carruthers was born at Kingston in 1863, graduated with honours from the Royal Military College of Canada in 1863 and immediately accepted a commission in the British Regular Army as a lieutenant in the 21st Hussars. Nine years later he was commissioned in the 14th Battalion, The Princess of Walcs' Own Fifles, Canadian Militia, and rose to the rank of captain. On the outbreak of the South African Har, he revorted to the rank of sergeant to be able to go on active service with the Royal Canadian Regiment. He returned with the Regiment to Canada in November 1900, was discharged, but re-enrolled one year later as senior lieutenant with the 2nd Regiment, Canadian Mounted Rifles, which was being raised for service in South Africa.

This officer errived for his second tour in South Africa in February, 1902, and returned to Canada in June of that year. In those few months he participated in the action near Hert River. On 31 March a recommandssence party was marching to the junction of the Brakspruit and Hart rivers when it overbook a much larger enery force. It Carruthers was commanding Nos 3 and 4 Troops of & Squadron as the rear guard when the Boors attacked with rifles and light artillery and drows in one defence nost. Carruthers immediately had his mon dismount and although there was no cover, they held the energy at bay for some time. Their action, in which 17 of the 21 troopers under Carruthers were either killed or wounded, won from the Officer Commanding the highest praise as he described the "invincible courage and devotion to duty" of Bruce Carruthers and his party. Carruthers had so distinguished himself that he was montioned in despatches, and promoted to captain on the Unattached List "in recognition / cf services in South Africa".

After his return to Canada, Cupt Carruthers' bogan his campaign to persuade the militury authorities to establish a separate signalling service, presumably as a result of his experiences with communications in the recent highly mobile war in South Africa. As sarly as April 1903 Lord Dundonald had remarked in public on the need for "a better system of Signals" in the army.

On the surface 1903 seemed an unpropitious time to press for such an innovation as a signal corps. Canadians were bound to return to their unmilitary tradition now that hostilities had cossed, and the great government-sconsored campaign to peole the Canadian west was already absorbing much of their interest and energies. Nevertheless, the war had aroused some enthusiasm for soldiering, and Lord Pundenald's referms in the Canadian Militis were made with a view to meeting any future hostilities in Europe. But military signaling was still a ratter of visual signals, by flags, lemps and holiographs operated by anyons interested. Telephone and telegraph communications were already in the capable hands of the engineers, and wireless, which had been used in military operations for the first time in South Africa, was still regarded as an unproven novelty, or even as a toy. Forward signals then, in the Empire. It was Capt, Carruthers' aim to create such an arm, and to the extent that the Canadian Signal Corps made this a reality, it is largely his mount.

As a result of his representations, General Order 167 of 1903 was issued, authorizing the formation of a "Signalling Corps" with an establishment of 18 officers and 84 other ranks. From this modest beginning grow the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals of to-day.

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Biography D Sigs 1963 C&E Museum Archives Box 157 - 2 -

In 1904, Capt. Carruthers was promoted to Major and appointed Inspector of Signalling.

At the same time, Capt FA Lister, RCR, who had completed a course at the British School of Signalling, Aldershot, was made Assistant Inspector of Signalling. These two men were to share the duties of Inspotor, Carruthers having the western Military Districts, and Lister the eastern Districts. The maxt step was the establishment of Signalling Corps Headquarters in Carruthers' home town, Kingston, Ontario.

The Inspector of Signalling became responsible to the Militia Council for the supervision of all signalling instruction and practice in Canada, for the inspection of Signallers and equipment in all Permanent Force and Active Militia units, for an annual report on unit efficiency, and for the scale and suitability of all signalling equipment.

In 1905 the work of the new Corps in training signallors really got unler way. Training was with heliograph, lamp, flags, and semaphore, and detailed efficiency standards were laid down for those who hoped to receive specialists' pay.

Provision was made for qualifying signallers and maintaining a uniform system of signalling by offering six or eight-week courses at the various permanent headquarters, under the supervision of the Inspector of Signalling. All of this training was based on British Army signalling procedures.

A major reorganization of the young Corps occurred in 1906. The positions of Carruthers and Lister were clarified by making the former Assistant Adjutant-General for Signalling and the latter Deputy A.A.G.S. The Signalling Service of the Canadian Militia was defined as consisting of the Signalling Corps including a regimental staff drawn from the Permanent Force, and regimental signallers of the Permanent Force, city and rural corps.

The choice of the distinguishing uniform colour -- French grey ---The choice of the distinguishing uniform colour--French grey--and the design of the Corps badge was Carruthers' tribute to the regiment of his first commission, the 21st Hussars, redesignated in 1897 the 21st (Empress of India's) Lancers. Crossed flags had replaced crossed lances, "CSC" had been substituted for "XXI", and the Corps motto replaced the regimental name on the soroll. The Canadian Signalling Corps now pressessed distinguishing dress and badges--a sign that it had come of age.

On 21 October 1910, almost seven years to the day since his Corps was established, Bruce Carruthers died in his native Kingston.

Directorate of Signals Army Headquarters 19 Apr 63

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CANADIAN SPECIAL SERVICE FORCES. SOUTH AFRICA, 1899-1900. Particulars Respecting : Sergt Carruthers, W13. M. No. 9 Service-Battn. R. C. R . 5090111 Corps 2n Hana Onl Enlisted at On 10th 35 years. Age .. - Out. K Birthplace 9. W. O. Kiples. 14 Former Corps In Trade or Calling . 3 Religion there. 13. Brother John Next of Kin. Kingston, Out: Banker Address of next of Kin Married or Single Number and age of Children Remarks: Queens me du .P. T. O.



by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of at Protain and Techund, Daren Defender of the Juith, Compress of Judia, Gol to Car Transly and well believed Mallees Braces Mathews Cauthers Guthen Goverling We repeating especial First and Confidence in your Legalty Courses, and good Conduct, do by these Presental custitute and Appoint you to be an Officer in Car Land _____ Peres from the Eight _____ day of areques is styles are therefore energially and diligently to discharge your July as such on the Rank of Lites treast or in such higher Read as The many from time to time hereafter to pleased to promote as appoint you to of which a notification well be made in the London Gazette, and you are at all times to service and well desception on . Some lette the informer Officers and . Un serving under you and are your best endurences to keep them in good Order and Inspline . And We do hereby Command them to Oley you as their superior Officer, and you to of were and follow such Orders and Directions as from time to time you shall main from Us a very your superior (fire according to the Rules and Assorption of Marian pursuance of the Frust hardy reposed in your Given at Our Court at Saint facuers the Sice day of auguest 1853. in the Porty Secure The of Our Rings. By Her Magarty's Commond. Waltace Arnes Macheres Carneliers, Gout. fatting the flut want hand For

Imand Re D. SWARD by the Grace of God of the United Hingdom of Great Britain and Inland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas. King. Defender of the Juith . Omperor of India Se Carruthers, Gentleman, Greeting: To Our Trusty and well beloved B. We reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty Courage, and good Conduct. do by these Presents Constitute and Appoint you to be an Officer in Our Land Forces from Fourteenth day of fancary 1909 You are therefore carefully and deligently to discharge your Laty as such in the Rank of Leutenant or in such higher Rank as "I'r may from time to time hereafter be pleased to promote or appoint you to of which a notification will be made in the London Gazette, and you are at all times to exercise and well discipline in Arms both the inferior Officers and Men serving under you and use your best endeavours to keep them in good Order and Discipline. And We do hereby Commund them to Obey you as their superior Officer, and you to observe and follow such Orders and Directions as from time to time you shall receive from Us or any your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War' in pursuance of the Trust hereby reposed in you. Given at Our Court, at Saint Jamos's, the Six tee atta day of August 1903 in the Second Your of Our Reign. By His Majesty's Command.

Carruthers, Gent: R

Lucule nant (temperary rank) Land Forces.

St. John Brodnets

Ballin collig SEpt 30 15 1886 dint Curutans CR 3382-3 21d Hullas. Sam directed by the Inspector forward togon the following celing from his Ascervations on the late Annual Inspection. "Pionearing and Signalling were extremely Leledones and dieat farmethers dea heat condit for the manner his Which he has this tructed the Romeers and Figuellers, " There the honor the Jun Your most Bedient hereant att ley In Colonesh found, 21th Auerand.

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METHODS OF

Communicating and Signalling in the Field

-BY-

CAPT. BRUCE CARRUTHERS, R.O.,

Signalling Secretary Royal Canadians,

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

An army in the field cannot be expected to act with any degree of success unless the General Officer commanding has a trustworthy and rapid means of receiving and conveying intelligence and orders from his headquarters to the most distant outposts through his Divisional Generals, Brigadier Generals, Officers commanding Regiments, O C. Picquets, Detached Posts and Observation Posts These communications in the field are established by means of the following methods :—

 Telegraph. (2) Telephone. (3) Wireless Telegraphy.
 (4) Visual Signalling. (5) Mounted Orderlies. (6) Cyclists. Each of these has its advantages and its disadvantages, depending in a great measure upon the nature of the country in which the operations are being conducted. Let us consider concisely each of these methods in detail.

The telegram and telephone are universally recognized as the most rapid and most accurate of all for purposes of communication from point to point, but in times of war in a hostile country when an active and mobile enemy may stealthily swoop down upon your line of communication at any point, and in a mement destroy by a single compression of the pinchers the whole medium, it is apparent that it would not be acting discretely to rely entirely upon this single means, however perfect and satisfactory it may be when in working order.

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The third method of Wireless Telegraphy I submit has not been sufficiently established to warrant its universal acceptance. Should it ever be perfected, I see in its aim and use the solution of all difficulties which present themselves under this head. Whilst scientific experimenters are searching for a practical realization of this most perfect of all systems. we must recognize in the meantime, the necessity for an application of the best means at our disposal for the accomplishment of this absolutely essential and indispensable communication above referred to.

With respect to Mounted Orderlies and Cyclists, it is evident that in many instances the nature of the country would materially interfere with their effectiveness, and the long distance fire arms makes it unsafe, under certain circumstances, for a successful transmission of what might be a most important message.

Visual signalling is the method to which I wish particularly to call your attention. It possesses the great advantage of hav-ing its line of communication not presenting many points of attack to an army, requires little transport and possesses great mobility. From the advantages above alluded to we can easily conclude that it would be of special value in the more advanced positions of the army taking up the work when the telegraph and telephone had left off, or when no other means would be employed, such as from invested positions as was at one time Ladysmith, Kimberly and Mafeking, also between columns on the march where the ground is too rough to traverse or where there are no roads. It can also be used to supplement the telegraph or telephone, either relieving it of pressure or filling a gap in the line should communication be interrupted. It thus should invariably be associated with the tel.graph and telephone as an alternative method in case of accident. This principle was recognized in South Africa when possible, and to my personal knowledge Springs, in the Transvaal, was connected with Elandsfontein, near Johannesburg, by telegraph, and supplemented, in case of accident, by conveniently established Helio and Lamp, signalling stations. It is most usefully employed, (1) in the more advanced position of an army in hilly countries with unfriendly inhabitants. (2) When de-tachments of an army are at rest for a definite period. (3) Between outposts and advance guards and their main bodies. (4) During advance of the cavalry division covering an army, by keeping up

communication between connecting and communicating posts laterally and from front to rear. (5) Between detached posts and columns. (6) Between points of temporary importance in a defensive position. (7) Between ships and shore. (8) Between permanent station forts. (9) Between units. (10) During cavalry reconnoissance and such exigencies as might multiply in a campaign of war. In case of a tog or storm which dims the medium of sight, visual signalling fails, but under those conditions signallers if mounted could, with perfect safety, transmit any urgent message under the protection given by the fog by temporarily doing the duty of a mounted orderly, and with this contigency in view it seems most advisable to have signallers provided with horses. Besides, from my experience in South Africa, on many occasions on the line of march, when communication was required between advanced and rear guards, or flanking parties or between columns marching upon parallel roads, before we could establish communication, the column would have moved a considerable distance, and we found the work of rejoining the column most exhausting. Also, after an infantry signaller has marched 15 or 20 miles in a semi-tropical country especially, he cannot be expected at once to be in as fresh a condition, necessary for proper efficiency as a mounted signaller who can go from one post of the field to another with comparative case and rapidity.

The different methods of communicating in the field that I have mentioned provide an army with a means of receiving and conveying intelligence and orders under varying circumstances. Should one system fail we can readily supplant it by another more suitable. To visual signalling is given the burden of the work, as it fulfils the most important conditions, and for that reason I lay particular stress upon it. Never has greater use been made of this system than during the war in South Africa, and 1 quote some remarks of our Brigadier General Smith-Dorien, whose opinion all military men are bound to respect, in order to impress upon you the great value of the art of signalling My first experience with our Brigadier was on the march from Grospan to Paardeberg. I was attached to his staff on one particular day in charge of signallers, when two of our Companies under Col. Buchan were ordered to search some kopjes on the left flank where the enemy was reported to be. The General at once asked me, "Are there signallers with those Companies ?" I replied, "Yes sir. "Good" he said. "I lay it down as a principle that whenever a body of troops is detached from the main column, either on the move or at the halt, signallers should always accompany them in order that instant communication may be established." He then continued, "I never tire out the horses of my staff in conveying orders and collecting reports when signallers can be used; now Sergeant do not forget this." I can assure you, gentlemen, I did not forget these instructions, difficult as it was at times to provide trained men, for our numbers were few. I found the same value was attached to signalling by other Generals throughout the Company; no matter how large or how small were the detached bodies, it was insisted upon that signalling communications should be established with headquarters.

Let us also for a moment consider the moral effect, take as example of the outposts guarding the main body at rest from surprise. The Commanding Officer at headquarters will be inspired with confidence when he knows that by a few flashes of helio by day or lamp by night, he can be informed of the whereabouts of an enemy and the direction of attack, and the Officer commanding picquet and his men realize that they can be in instant communication with headquarters and receive timely reinforcements if needed. I can assure you we signallers were the center of intense interest indeed when in times of anxiety the blinkling and twinkling of our lamps or helios conveyed trustworthy information from outposts to headquarters I honestly believe that in cases where British troops were taken by surprise and disaster ensued was due to a combination of poor scouting and careless or no signal arrangements; fortunately for our regiment we were never taken by surprise, and all credit is due to our Commanding Officer who took every possible precaution to guard against such a fate, and though we at times were worked very hard, and of course grumbled as all soldiers do, we realized that these precautions saved us in many instances from disaster.

In summing up the remarks I think you will agree with me, that no body of troops can claim to be in an efficient state ready to take the field unless it has attached to it a body of trained signallers fully equipped in every respect, and that every Battery of Artillery, Regiment of Cavalry and Regiment of Infantry should have its proper complement in our Canadian forces.

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OUR UNPREPAREDNESS BEFORE THE WAR.

Before the First Contingent left for South Africa, no provision was made for either trained signallers or signalling equipment. The authorities did not evidently recognize at the time its necessity, it was only when the Regiment arrived at DeAar and Orange River that steps were taken to organize a corps. As the Adjutant knew that I was the only experienced certificated instractor in Army Signalling with the Regiment, I was appointed Signalling Sergeant under Signalling Officer Lieut Caldwell, and upon me devolved the responsibility of training a body of Signallers after we had actually taken the field. I hesitated to accept the position, knowing the great responsibility of its nature, the little time available and the very raw material I had to work with. I also recognized the fact that any inaccuracy in reading orders might involve great loss of life. When I first started to select men many obstacles at first put in my way. Company Officers naturally did not care to part with their best men, who alone seemed to me possible, however, in time I succeeded in getting together an intelligent lot who soon got interested in their work, and after six weeks' instruction at Belmont, where, fortunately for us, we were stationed, we were able to provide signallers for Regiment duty such as communication between piequets and headquarters, and some of the more intelligent men who had been old telegraphers, mastered the Helio and Lamps and were able to brigade duty.

I mention the above to let you know how unprepared we were, as far as signalling is concerned, before the war. I would like to ask the question, are we any better off now? I believe not. I communicate these views for the express purpose of interesting you in this important subject and giving you what information I have gained from my experince in South Africa. I consider it a duty, and I feel satisfied that if this matter is properly brought before the authorities, they will not close their eyes to its importance. Steps should at once be taken to organise Signalling Corps throughout the Canadian Militia, insisting upon every unit having its staff of Signallers. Inspectors of Signalling should be appointed in different districts, responsible that instruction is given in accordance with regulations. Later on I should like to see a School of Signalling organized with power to grant Certificates, and in this way we would soon have a capable lot of Instructors throughout the Militia and an efficient and highly trained body of Signallers.

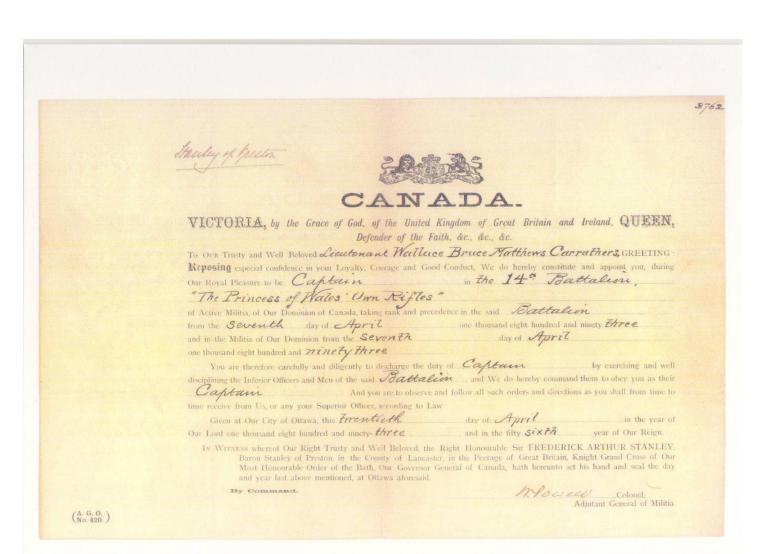
I trust that within a short space of time it will be an impossible thing for any body of troops leaving Canada's shores, to be without Signallers highly trained and fully equipped in every respect. Let us not leave this most important department to be established upon the field of battle under the nervous strain and excitement which is not conducive to efficient development of this art, to accomplish which requires time and much practice.

BRUCE CARRUTHERS,

Capt. R. O.,

Late Signalling Sergt Royal Canadians while in South Africa, and for some years Instructor in Army Signalling 21st Hussars.





ROYAL MUATARY COLLEGAN CANADA ULAISIS FIRST CITY ALD IN PRIME SECOND Thereby Certify that Gentleman Cadet joined the Royal Military College on <u>South to be the second</u> to the pull presented term of Service and of age and quilted it on <u>2006</u> having completed the full presented term of Service and Course of Instruction and being entitled by Regulations and pern marks recorded in the Books of the College to receive a First Class Cortificate for professioney and also the distinction of **Hencurs** or Special Mention as shown and purther that he qualified in the subjects specified in the subjected table as Pass This Certificate to be in th

RECORD SHEET WORK SHEET ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE CLUB OF CANADA "问题: 一词 法派 allege No. 82 Name in full 196 Wallace Bruce Mathews Carruthers. Membership] Date of Leaving College ate of Joining College **RMC Club C**: 3 120 26 June 83 **Club** Archives dent Permanent Address Tame and Residence of Parents John Carruthers (Father) King **诺**拉 and th Militia or Imperial Army Captain 教书:一部 tofession or Business followed after leaving College 電控制時 military Schools and University at which education received before and after leaving College. Collegiate Institute Galt, G Adere Distinctions-Academic and Athletic, State (Such as prizes for Studies, Decorations, "First" in sports, etc - Chl. 11. 7. 82. 155 Class Certy Short Sketch of Civil Career since leaving College, or Army Career + Civil Career Military Services 2122 1892 Lune South Office 1899 -00 Died 21-10-1910 withor of " " Kings medal (1 bla Provident R.M.C. Club 1904. Price mer of tran 1902 45 P.W.O.R. 14 Sketch of your career will be made from the above information, which will later be submitted to you at approval. You will greatly assist by giving all the possible information as promptly as possible. Please make return in the enclosed envelope. MILITARY C & E MUSEUM MILITARY CURATOR R. D. WILLIAMS, Secretary-Treasurer. CFB KINGSTON Room 612, 85 Richmond St. West, Toronto 2, Cana PO BOX 17000 STN FORCES KINGSTON ON K7K 7P4

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Aldershot Form 8.



School of Instruction in Army Signalling.

ALDERSHOT, 22" Juny 1886.

CR 3382-

This is to Certify that dieut U. B. U. Carruthers

21 t Hussard has passed through a course of Instruction in Army Signalling

at Aldershot Camp, and that he is hereby qualified to act as * Instructor

"Here state whother In structor of Assistant Instructor-

in Army Signalling.

No. of marks out of 300 ... 19.7

Inspector of Army Signalling.

Signature of Bearer.

F&T 125 9-84

Alderabot.

29

S. F. 661. R 3382 School of Military Engineering. This is to Cortify that Lieut, W.B. M. Carruthers 21st Hussars passed through a course of Instruction in Field Works at the School of Military Engineering, and that the following is the report of his qualifications :---Qualified to act as Instructor to Cavalry Pioneers. alles to au Lace. Colonel, Royal Engineers, Signature of Bearer. Commandant, S.M.E.



EXAMINATION FOR PROMOTION.

SPECIAL CERTIFICATE.

hiert. W. B. M. Cassuthers, 21 d Juscass, on

examination for the rank of Captain

at Fermoy in January 1887 attained the higher standard of proficiency entitling him to a Special Certificate.

distinguished in Military Lay

MILITARY EDUCATION DIVISION,

Lebruary 1887.

Director General of Military Education.

un bly feur



All the world loves a lover, but worships, a hero !' The truth of this adage was fully demonstrated at one o clock, when citizens turned out in large numbers to extend a hearty welcome to returning South African heroes. The best, in the land is none too good for gallant lads who go-forth to bastle for home and empire, and these heroes are deserving of the kindliest. consideration at the hands of the stay-at-homes. These veterans have braved danger, faced death, suffered hunger, loss of sleep, fatigue and all. sorts of hardship incident to warfare, in order that the integrity of the British empire might be maintained and that the rights of British subjects might be established and a suffen foe taught not to trifle with the anger of the British lion.

Is it not compatible with the sense of right that citizens should become enthusiastic over the deck of valor performed by these heroes, that they should raise their voices in loud acclaim in welcoming them home, and extend to them the freedom of the city?

The Daily British Whig no. 173 July 25 1902 (Friday) The half will never be told of the deeds of self-sacrifice and heroism performed by these brave soldiers on the field of battle Remarkable incidents of valor will come to the surface; but there are countless deeds which merit the distinction of Victoria cross that never come to light. Were all these known, there would be many Canadian veterans to day proudly wearing the coveted decoration, which tells in silent language of brave deeds performed in the face of great danger.

The ceremonies connected with the welcome-home which began Thursday concluded to-day at noon, when trowds of citizens gathered at the Grand Trunk station and on adjacent streets to extend hearty greetings to the veterans. The officers and men of the R.C.F.A., were in attendance, but the 14th regiment was conspicuously absent, and many were the adverse criticisms heard of the nonappearance of the citizen soldiers, to which corps almost every returning veteran had belonged. Lieut Col. Skinner, commanding officer, was present in uniform, but he was the only representative the regiment had.

Among those on the platform were: Col. Montizambert, D.O.C., Col. Drory, C.B., Col. H. R. Smith, Hon. William Harty, mayor Shaw and members of the city council, city soli-citor Melntyre, city_clerk_Shannon; Col. John Duff, and many other citizens of note." The men of the R.C.F. A. were drawn up in single line for the purpose of keeping the platform clear of the crowds, which surged to and fro in an effort to get near, the home coming soldiers. The splendid band of the 47th-regiment, under command of instructor Jacobs, was io attendance, and rendered sweet music prior to the incoming of the train. As the train steamed into the station the band struck up the national anthem, which was drowned in the cheering of the vast multitude

The crowd refused to be kept in bounds, and made a frantic rush-for the front of the platform, and soon Capt. Bruce Carruthers and his comrades were surrounded by an enthusiastic throng, eager to grasp, their hands; as many as stx citizens clasped Capt. Carruthers' hands at once, so anxious were they to bid him welcome. His comrades were shown just as much attention, everybody being glad to see the Kingston boys return sale and sound. Ccremony was nisregarded; it was case of the stronger getting nearest the heroes, the weaker being thrust back. This sort of struggle continued for some minutes; aiter which mayor Shaw, with the assistance of the city-clerk, succeeded in having a procession formed, and a start was made for the city buildings. The 17th hand was in the lead: then came_mayor Shaw, Capt. Carruthers and Surgeon-Lieut.-Col. Duff, members of the city council, returned veterans, officers, etc., all parading inside two lines of artillervmen. All along the route-the massed citizens cheered lustily. waved handkerchiefs, clapped hands and made other demonstrations' of pleasure. It was a thrilling spectacle. The steps leading up to the city buildings were thronged by joyous

buildings were thronged by joyous citizens, ladies predominating, their fresh, soft-tinted carments, the fluttering of handkerchiels and constant shifting of position presented a kaleidoscopic scene that would have sent an actist sinto raptures. Boom was quickly made for the mayor and yets erans, and when order had been created out of the chaotic mass of struggling humanity, mayor Shaw stepped forward and read this address :

William terre Address To The Heroes. - "Po Lieut, Bruce Carruthers, Surgeon Lieut (ol. H. R. Dulf, non-commissioned officers and men of the Bud Canadian mounted rifles We, the members of the corporation of - the titys of Kingston, desire to congratulate you on your safe return from the sent of war in South Africa. It is with the greatest pleasure that we recognize the efficient work which has been done by you in behalf of the empire in the war which has happily been inst closed. You have assisted in hringing credit to the empire, to Canada and to our own troops; and the gallant stand made by a few Canadians at the battle of .. Hart's River has commanded the admiration of not only the people of Canada; but of the mother country, and of the woild generally: You, Lieut, Carruthers were the leader of this band of heroes, and as you have been singled out by the commander in chief as having particularly distinguished your-self, we have thought we would only be contained on the wishes of the civi-zens in presenting you with this sword - as a token of our admiration for the courage displayed by you. To you: Surgeon Lieut. Cel - Duff: appreciation of the noble worl, done let you in the field find T circulastan-cessor extreme danger, in alleviating she sufferings of those who had the misiortune to be wounded during both campaigns in which you were engage

ed. With the friends and relatives of those who gave up their lives so notly for their country, we desire to ex-press our deepest sympathy. We trust if may be many years before Cannda is called upon to assist the möther country under like circumstances. But if the time does come, we feel certain that there will be as true and loval a band ready a march to the front as that which we have the pleasure in welcoming home today. The address was signed on behalf of the citizens, by mayor Shaw and the city clerk, major L. W. Shannon. The swords are of the latest pattern, that which Col. Duff received being of the cavalry pattern, while Capt. Carrithers' was an unfantry sword. Both are of chaste workmanship and the finest quality that could be purchased. They will be suitably

be purchased. They will be suitably engraved forthwith, as time did not permit, between their arrival here and the hour of their presentation.

The Herees Speak.

"The Maple Leaf Forever," sounded forth from the band, and it only required sumebody to start the song to have it sung through. Applause greetod Capt. W. Bruce Carruthers, as, sword in hand, he stepped forward so reply. Capt Carruthers looked sturdy and since thinner then usual on account of hard compargning, but handsome withal, his sharp cut features being tanned almost the color of the bathar bygings and boots be wore He was attired in kheki and wore a broad brininged hat with a maple leaf crest on the side, his whole appearance being one to inspire conidence and respect.

"It is with feelings of greatest pleasure that I again return to my native city," said he. "It is a doublepleasure to know that we have done something that has merited the good will and respect of the citizens, nor would I be just did I not express my feelings over the honor my fellow citizens have done me to-day. When we started for South Africa our commanding officer reminded us that we had the keeping of, the honor of Canada in our hands. It is for you to judge whether or not we have kept that honor unsullied. But it is easy to do brave deeds of konor when we have good, brave men under us. An officer cannot do anything himself, he must be supported by brave men and have their good-will and confidence. While I ampleased to come back with so many of my comrades, I am sorry all of them are not with me. Some of them are still in hospital in South Africa. where, they underwent operations that deprived them of eves, arms and limbs; others, who were badly damaged have been invalided to England, while still others have been left leneath the soil of South Africa, under little mounds and crosses which, I know will everlastingly bind. Canada and the mother country together." With thanks for the gift of the sword, which he would always prize. Capt. Carruthers withdrew and

cheers, while the band struck up "For-He's a Jolly Good Fellow." Cheering burst forth agew when Surgeon Lieut. Coll Duff stepped forth htonzed and weather beatan, but looking every inch a thorough soldier.

"This is an occasion when one has much to say, but finds it impossible to say it," remarked the gallant colonel."

"You know better what I want to say than I do myself. It is a source of gratification to know that I have done my duty and that my course has met with the approval of my fellow citizens. We all felt that while we were representing Canand at the battle front, we had the honor of Kingston in our hands and we felt that we must uphold that at all hazards. While all the Canadians did well, I would like to say something more particular about the men of my own staff. First, there was Charlie-Bennett, a brave, active soldier. He had charge of the pony that carried the hospital panniers at the Hart's River fight. The pony was killed and Bennett received a bullet through his hat. William Guy was another who was very much in evi-dence in that fight. There are plenty of brave deeds done on the field that are not recorded. Let me give you one instance : At Hart's River word that the hospital one reached wounded. of our officers, was The only man who- volunteered to go out and look for him was a -Kingstonian -He went out and crossed the entire fire line, only to find that he had gone to the wrong end; he had to recross the whole front of that blazing line before he found the wounded officer. That brave volunteer was Dan Eby, whom I saw carrying Lieut. Markham into hospital. That was a deed that deserved more mention than it has received." The speaker_closed his remarks by kindly thanking the electors of Rideau ward for having elected him to the city council in January last, while he was homeward bound the first time from South Africa, "To receive such a hearty welcome home, to receive such a sword of honor for doing one's duty is a source of great satisfaction to

and a start

Proud Of Bruce. · Before closing his speech, Col. Duff made kindly reference to the callant fight made by Capt: W. Bruce Carruthers at Hart's River. The speak-er was the first one to go out to the succour of the wounded and he was in a position to know that if any man deserved, special mention, that man was Bruce Carruthers, and if anyone disputed this claim, the speaker would like to challenge him. "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" was rendered by the band, after which cheers were given for Capi Carruthers, Col. Duli, and the returning noncommissioned officers and men. Carriages were then entered, Capt. Car nuthers, Col. Duff. mayor Shaw and alderman Farrell in the lotting one, then other veterans and aldermen in others a carriage being also provided for Mrs. Carruthers and Mrs. John McIntyre A procession was then for-med and the heroes were escorted homes the 47th band providing music along the line of march and at the homes of the veterans. Those who landed at' noon with Capt. Carruthers were troopers E Reberts, Rhoddy, W. Macdonnell and 1) Scott, making twenty six all told who have arrived. . The flags on the city and other public buildings were flying at the mast head. The city buildings were also

decorated with streamers

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The Daily British Whig No. 174 July 26 1902 (Saturday)

They trekked to Volksrust. On the 19th they reached Klerksdorp. the British headquarters for that part of the Transvaal, and the base of operations for the army in the field. Here the Canadians joined Col-Cookson's column, and on the 23rd. they started on the big drive, known as the Klerksdorp drive. The troops made eighty miles in twenty-three hours over rough and unknown country-a remarkable record. Three hanthred Boers were captured, and any amount of cattle, wagvons, etc., were secured "This was the hardest drive of the whole campaign. The column returned to Klerksdorp on the 26th and three days later started out again.

Little Hart's River.

It was during this march, that the column "stumbled" upon the Hart's River fight. Three columns under Cols. Kerr, Low and Cookson, had gone out; to search for the Boers. Gen. Walter Kitchener. a brother of the commander-in-chief, was in comfrand-of the brigade. The columns were in touch on the morning of the 31st. After marching all morning and not coming in contact with the Boers. the native guides were dismissed as useless. Col. Cookson sent for Lieut. Callachan, of the Canadian scouts, and he struck the marks of the Boer guins at once. The columns then, took an entirely different direction, goin-toward Boschpan. In some way Cook-son's column got out of touch with the other columns during the night, and it was this column that bore the brunt of the desperate but brilliant fight. It was 1,291 strong, and 900 of these were Canadians, it might properly be regarded as a Canadian col-At 2 p.m. next day the column came in contact with the Boers. The scouts resported that the enemy had 1,500 men, but since his capture. Delarev. who was in command of the Boers. has stated that 2,500 of his crafty countrymen engaged in the buttle. The British and Canadians, with less than half that number. did not shirk a fight. They had found the enemy at last, and did, not mean that they should escape again.

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It was a stub-

Lornly contested - Battle. The Boers were in the woods on both sides of the column, and thereby had a great, advantage, For two hours and a half the battle-raged and then the Boers drew off. The column suffered 200 casualties, fifty-nine being among the Canadians. Of the men-who wore the maple leaf, twelve <u>laid</u> down their lives for Britain's sake a sacrifice they did not make in vain, "

** 3.

Carruthers' Gallant"Stand. "Capt. Bruce Carruthers was in command of a company of Canadi-ans," said Col. Duff, "and they made the stand of the day, separated as they were from the rest of the column. He and his gallant little band did very much to prevent the Boers from rushing the camp. As soon as he found out what a hot place they were in, Carruthers told his men to romember that they were all Canadians and that there was no such thing as surrender; they would fight it out, let the result be what it might. Thus encouraged, the Canadians, and the 28th mounted infantryas well, stood their ground and fought Gercely on until every man was eith-er killed or wounded. Cookson said early in the fight, when he saw the way in which Carruthers went to work that the Boers would not rush the camp. He gave the brave Kingstonian. credit for saving the camp." and and

The column; as soon as the Boers' were repulsed, hegan to entrench itself in case of a night attack, or an assault in the early morning, as was more - probable. But the Boers had had enough of it, and they withdrew with their dead and wounded. Every loval Canadian has just cause to be proud of the splendid work of ;; the Canadians in this, one of the fiercest engagements of the latter part of the campaign. This historio kattle is known- by several names-Klein (Little) Hart's River, Boschhult and Boschnan. About noon next day. Gen. Kitchener arrived with Col. Low's column, and relieved the Canadians. There was no further sign of the Boers. Delarey wanted to renew the attack in the morning, but his men refused to do so; they had seen enough of the Canadians. The column then marched to Drepul-and on Aud 15th returned to Klerksdorp, the wound d having previously been sent there. In the meantime the British destroyed & all the mealie fields in the district, ' so

has to prevent the Roers income obtains ing supplies. The Vryburg Drive. Matters were quiet until May 5th when the columns started on the Vryburg drive: through the whole of the southern Transvaal to the border of Cape Colony. The troops marched 125 miles in seven days, covering fifty uiles frontage all the way. This was the largest drive in the campaign. The troops participated in several smallsized engagements, and rounded up over 5-0 Boers on the last day. On the 16th they started back, reaching Klerksdorp on the 22nd.

and the column started on the home trek. On the 17th the horses were handed in at Elandsfontein, where there was a large remount depot. On the 21th the nien entrained for Dur-ban, and three days later embarked on the SS. Winnifredian. Not a moment's time was given the Canadians in Durban, although they desired it in order to make some purchases and to pick up some relies and souvenirs. of South Africa. The passage home was a pleasant one, the best of accommodation being furnished. After twenty-four days' sail on the Atlantic, the Winnifredian again landed her gallant passengers on Canadian soil at Halifax.

Boers Welcomed Peace.

"The Boers were all glad when peace was proclaimed," said Col. Duff. "They were happy to come in and surrender their arms, and they did so readily. The intelligence department estimated the number of Boers in the field to be between 9,000 and 10,000. Before we lest for home 19,200 men had surrendered. This did not include the loreign element, which had crossed the border and were far away. There were fully 90,000 Hoers in the field from the beginning to the end of the campaign, and it was thought that not more than 50,000 were under arms. This shows how we underestimated the strength of the CREEIV.

"There were no hardships in this campaign when compared with thu previous ones, participated in by the Canadians. We had few night marches; and we never wanted for food. It was extremely fortunate that the 2nd C.M.R. went to South Africa. Had they not, been sent. Canada 'would not have been represented in the last campaign, and there would have been 'no Canadian corps, There when peace was proclaimed and the war came to an end."

From The Battle Front. "I tell you that little shaver Jamie son' is a brick; he is a plucky little beggar and no mistake," remarked a returned veteran last evening. "How many boys of fourteen would have faced a ride from here to Halifax ? Not many. Then when he got there not being content with his ramblings, he hig himself away on the steamer and dia not show himself until the boat was so far out that there was no danger of his being put ashore. That is not the only way he showed his pluck. At Hart's River during that severe engagement, he became so exasperated at the boldness of the Boers, that he persisted in shouldering a rifle and taking a place on the firing line, and we had a difficult time restraining him. He is full of grit, and would make a capital soldier if he continued in the service." "The citizens of Kingston are a frigid sort of people," remarked a well-known merchant last evening. "It takes a lot of working up to strouse their enthusiasm. Just look at the cool reception they accorded the returning soldiers. Do you mean to say that if Capt. Carruthers or Col-Daf belonged to Toronto or Montreal they would have been allowed to return home without a fuss being made over theor? Not much; their feats would have been heralaed broadcast as the only incidents worthy of note that took place during the war, and when they returned home they would have been greeted with the booming of car-non, the music of brass bands and the cheers of the entire populace.

Oh.

yes, that little reception tendered the veterans vesterday was all right in its way; it was Kingston's limit. The people here are afraid to turn around for fear it will cost, something. I would like to suggest a banquet for the veterans; but I am afraid to do so out of fear of being looked upon as insane because of my extravagant ideas."

Trooper David, Carson, one of the three sons of ex-Sergt Robert Carson, messenger in the customs house, who enlisted for service in South Africa, to fight for king and country, has returned home, looking remarkably fit after his experience. Trooper James Carson is en route home on the troopship Cestrian, while trooper William Carson, of the South African constabulary, is still in South Africa He likes the work and is likely to remain in the dark continent.

Trooper Emerson Tiffin, of the C. M. R. was left behind at Kimberley on account of illness. His many Triends here hope soon to hear of his recovery.

In his last letter home trooper E: Aiken, C.M.R., son of Capt. R. E. Aiken, stated that he expected to remain in South Africa at least six months.

P.R. Marshall Carruthers File C&E Museum Archives

17 June 2004

This transcript, taken from a photo copy of a writing by P.R. Marshall "Two Near VC s of the South African War. Reportedly reprinted from a report submitted to "Minister of Militia and Defence Canada, by LCOL Evans commanding Officer CMR." C1902.

"When the camp was being attacked Lieutenant Carruthers party (about 21 men to the 3rd and 4th Troops of E squadron) had moved off to the right of the farm. Sergeant Hodgins, with another party of the 3rd and 4th troops E Squadron, was to the right of Lieutenant Carruthers. Still further to right was detached post of about 75 mounted infantry. Several hundred Boers swept down on this post on the right stampeding the mounted infantry, who galloped through the line occupied by our men. Lieutenant Carruthers assisted by Sergeant Perry, Corporal Wilkinson, Lance Corporal Bond and Private McCall, kept his men in hand dismounted them and formed into a half-moon shape to face the Boers. Sergeant Hodgins whose men were being swept off in the stampede, rallied about ten of them and dismounted to meet the attack. The splendid stand made by Lieutenant Carruthers' party, without cover of any kind against over-whelming odds, was well worthy of the best traditions of Canada and the whole Empire. Before their ammunition was exhausted 17 out of the 21 were either killed or wounded. Corporal Wilkinson, shot twice, both in the arm and body continued fighting until he was shot through the eye. He than threw the bolt of his rifle into the log grass to render it useless to the enemy. Private Evans, although mortally wounded through the bowels, exhausted his own ammunition, secured another bandolier, used it up, and as the Boers were making their final rush, he broke his rifle rendering it useless. Private Evans died shortly after being brought into camp. Private Minchin, although wounded in six places, fired his last shot when the Boers were only 25 yards off and through his rifle bolt into the grass. I have mentioned only a few individual incidents showing the spirit displayed by this party, but an equally invincible courage and devotion to duty was displayed by Lieutenant Carruthers and every one of the party with him."

DRH Curator

Sifting Through the Evidence Primary Document Analysis Student Worksheet

Examining primary documents can be a challenge if you have never examined them before. A Primary Source refers to a document that reflects the first hand life experience of the person in question. They are very important for historians to learn about the past but are not always clear in what they mean. Primary document analysis requires *interpretation*. We need to figure out what this particular source is trying to say to us.

When first looking at the document, you want to try to identify what kind of document it is; such as certificates, letters, poems, photographs, newspaper articles, etc and try to discover as much information about the person as possible. Look for dates, places, people's names, events to build a biographical sketch of the person's life.

This file tells the story of Wallace Bruce Mathews Carruthers, a Canadian soldier of the South African War (also known as the Boer War) and the founder of the Canadian Signalling Corps. Your task is to find out as much as possible about him as a person. The following questions have been prepared to provide you with an idea of what researchers look for. Answer them and you will have an idea of what a portion of Bruce Carruthers' life was like.

Sifting Through the Evidence

Primary Document Analysis

When engaging with a primary document it is important to remember a number of key questions:

- 1. What kind of document is it?
 - a. Is it a letter?
 - b. Is it a photograph?
 - c. Is it a certificate?
 - d. Is it a newspaper article?
 - e. Is it an essay?
 - f. Is it a government document?

2. What are its parts?

- a. Is there an author?
- b. Is there a date?
- c. Are there locations mentioned?
- d. Who is mentioned within the document?

3. Time to Analyze

- a. What is it talking about?
- b. Can you summarize in your own words the content in the document?
- c. Can you explain why it was written?
- d. What is the historical context? Or What was happening at that time in history?



<u>Assignment</u>: For this exercise, choose two documents from your folder and perform an analysis of those documents using the questions above.

Primary Document Name	What Kind of Document?	Name the Parts	Analysis

Now that you understand how to interpret a primary document, use this knowledge to answer the Research Questions about Bruce Carruthers' Life using all the documents in your folder.

Assignment: Along with the other members of your group, look through and examine the Primary Source Documents & Materials in this file. Read the following questions, and answer them accordingly. Be sure to note the source of your answers.

Fill Out You Answers in this Table

Research Question	Answer	Source
When did Bruce Carruthers enroll in RMC?		

When did Bruce Carruthers graduate from RMC?	
After passing the course of Instruction in Army Signalling, Carruthers was qualified to act as a in Army Signalling	
What year was Carruthers qualified to instruct the Cavalry Pioneers?	
In 1893, Bruce Carruthers was appointed which rank? What was the Battalion number and regiment?	
How old was Bruce Carruthers when he volunteered for the Boer War in 1899	
Read the poem "At the Battle of Hardt River"; summarize the role of Bruce Carruthers in three-five lines.	
What are the six forms of communication available in the fields according to Carruthers?	

What forms of communication are the enemy likely to want to destroy?	
Why are mounted orderlies and cyclists dangerous forms of communication in hostile countries?	
According to Carruthers, which method of communication is advantageous?	
Carruthers states 10 situations where visual signalling could be used. What are they?	
When does visual signalling fail?	

During the South African War (Boer War) when did the authorities realize the need for signalling?	
What prize did the City of Kingston give to Bruce Carruthers upon his return to Kingston in July 1902?	
Which group had the superior numbers during the Battle of Hardt River, The British/Canadians or the Boers?	
Describe the events at The Battle of Hardt's River.	
Who was Carruthers married to?	
What was General Order 167?	
When did Bruce Carruthers die?	

Signalling Pro and Cons Presentation Teacher Information

The objective for this assignment is to teach students about the different methods of communication at the start of the 20th century in an interactive way.

Time to complete:

- 1-2 classes for research and visual aide prep (at teacher's discretion, if it is more advantageous to assign as homework, that would save class time)
- 1 class for presentations and discussion

Materials:

- Assignment sheet
- A copy of Methods of Communicating in the Field by Bruce Carruthers
- Access to Internet for research purposes
- Arts and Crafts supplies

Students will be split into groups for this activity.

Assignment: As a group, students will research the pros and cons of their method of communication. They will prepare an argument as to why their method is the most reliable. Each group will present their argument with visual aids (poster, drawing, photographs, Digital audio visual presentation, props, etc). The goal is trying to be as convincing as possible. Every person in the group must speak. When all the groups have presented, the teacher will moderate a class discussion to come to a consensus on which method is the most reliable. Presentations should be no more than 5-10 mins in length.

The teacher will assign one method of communication to each group. They are as follows;

- Telegraph
- Telephone
- Wireless Telegraphy
- Heliograph
- Signal Lamp
- Despatch Riders/Runners
- Semaphore

For the Discussion, it would be advantageous to create large Pro/Con lists using chart/easel paper so the students can visualize and weigh out the pros and cons for each form of technology.

Links for Further Research

Heliograph http://www.douglas-self.com/MUSEUM/COMMS/heliograph/heliograph.htm



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heliograph

Telegraph

https://www.thoughtco.com/the-history-of-the-electric-telegraph-and-telegraphy-1992542 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telegraph

Telephone

https://www.thoughtco.com/history-of-the-telephone-alexander-graham-bell-1991380 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_telephone

Wireless Telegraphy

https://www.thoughtco.com/invention-of-radio-1992382 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wireless_telegraphy

Begbie Oil Lamp/Signal Lamp http://www.telegraph-office.com/pages/Black-Watch-Signal-Unit.html https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Signal_lamp https://www.sofo.org.uk/exhibits/begbie-oil-signal-lamp/

Despatch Runners/Riders

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Despatch_rider https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Runner_(soldier) https://www.historyextra.com/period/first-world-war/real-history-trench-runners-ww1-messengers-1917-what-lik e/ https://www.history.com/news/world-war-i-runners-1917

Semaphore

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_semaphore http://www.themeter.net/semaphore_e.htm?Submit=open

Signalling Pros and Cons Student Assignment Sheet

Signalling in the early 20th century was not as easy as it is today. There were no cell phones, texting, Instagram or Tik Tok. There were methods such as despatch runners/riders that have been around since ancient times, much more recent developments such as the beginnings of Wireless telegraphy and everything in between. Each method has its pros and cons, advantages and disadvantages.

Assignment:

For this assignment, your teacher will split you into groups and assign you a method of communication to research and present. As a group, you will research the pros and cons of the assigned method of communication and will prepare an argument as to why your method is the most reliable. Each group will present their argument with visual aids (posters, drawings, photographs, Digital audio visual presentations, props, etc). The goal is trying to be as convincing as possible. Every person in the group must speak. Presentations should be no more than 5-10 mins in length. When all the groups have presented, your teacher will moderate a class discussion to come to a consensus on which method is the most reliable.

You will use *Methods of Communicating in the Field* by Bruce Carruthers as your primary resource for research. There are also links to websites that will provide you with additional information to form your argument.

Links for Further Research

Heliograph http://www.douglas-self.com/MUSEUM/COMMS/heliogra ph/heliograph.htm http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heliograph

Telegraph https://www.thoughtco.com/the-history-of-the-electric-tel egraph-and-telegraphy-1992542 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telegraph

Telephone

https://www.thoughtco.com/history-of-the-telephone-alex ander-graham-bell-1991380 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_telephone

Wireless Telegraphy https://www.thoughtco.com/invention-of-radio-1992382 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wireless_telegraphy Begbie Oil Lamp/Signal Lamp http://www.telegraph-office.com/pages/Black-Watch-Sig nal-Unit.html https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Signal_lamp https://www.sofo.org.uk/exhibits/begbie-oil-signal-lamp/

Despatch Runners/Riders

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Despatch_rider https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Runner_(soldier) https://www.historyextra.com/period/first-world-war/realhistory-trench-runners-ww1-messengers-1917-what-like/ https://www.history.com/news/world-war-i-runners-1917

Semaphore

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_semaphore http://www.themeter.net/semaphore_e.htm?Submit=ope n



Defining Moments Teacher's Resource

During this activity, students will explore the concept of "defining moments" (events or experiences in an individual's life, or nation's history that fundamentally shapes their present-day identity) by identifying these moments in their own lives and the life of Bruce Carruthers. Students will be required to defend their selections. It is recommended that this activity be done after the *Sifting Through The Evidence* Primary Document Analysis Activity. This will allow the students to have a prior understanding of Bruce Carruthers' life.

Resources:

- Biographical Sketch of Bruce Carruthers (from the Sifting Through the Evidence Activity)
- Other Primary Documents, as the teacher deems appropriate (from the *Sifting Through the Evidence* Activity)
- Boer War Summary (from *Teacher's Resource Sifting Through the Evidence*)

Time Allotment: 1 class

Procedure:

Part One – "Defining Moments in Your Life" (Individual Activity)

Introduce the term "Defining Moments" to the class. Write this term on the board. Ask students what they think this term means. Allow a few minutes for an informal classroom discussion/brainstorming.

Explain to students that as they (the students) have grown and developed, there have been special events in each of their lives that have influenced the person each one is today. Such events could include such things as special trips, religious traditions, family events, personal relationships, memorable moments, etc. These are known as "Defining Moments" because they are so memorable and, perhaps, they involved important decisions or choices, or they helped to develop the student in a certain aspect. The teacher asks each student to identify five or six of these defining moments in each of their own lives.

Hand out Personal Defining Moments sheet from the package. Direct students to think about 5 "Defining Moments" in their own lives. Have students record these moments on the sheet. Allow approximately 10-15 minutes for students to fill out their charts.

Offer the opportunity for students to share one of their "Defining Moments" with the rest of the class. (Teachers can facilitate this process by sharing one of their own). If the teacher wishes, they may collect the charts.



Part Two – "Defining Moments in the Life of Bruce Carruthers" (Group Activity/Class Discussion)

Distribute Student Worksheet: "Defining Moments in the Life of Bruce Carruthers". Within their Learning Groups, have students select (in their opinion) the 2 most significant "Defining Moments" in the life of Bruce Carruthers.

Have each group share their selections with the rest of the class. Students must be able to defend their selections. What is the same? What is different? Have students hand in their worksheets.



Student's Defining Moments Worksheet

Name: _____

	Defining Moment #1	Defining Moment #2	Defining Moment #3	Defining Moment #4	Defining Moment #5
WHO					
(identify anyone as well as yourself)					
WHEN					
(identify when this took place, date, if possible)					
WHERE					
(be specific)					
WHAT					
(explain the event)					
WHY					
was this a defining moment in your life? Take some time to think about it before					





Defining Moments in the Life of Bruce Carruthers Worksheet:

	Moment #1	Moment #2
wно		
identify all of the important individuals involved		
WHEN		
(be as specific as possible)		
WHERE		
(be as specific as possible., street, city, province, north/south, etc.)		
WHAT		
details of event/acco mplishment s of the individual		
WHY		
a Defining Moment in the Life of Bruce Carruthers		

