

bout de papier

Vol. 31, No. 1

CANADA'S MAGAZINE OF DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN SERVICE
LE MAGAZINE CANADIEN DE LA DIPLOMATIE ET DU SERVICE EXTÉRIEUR

THE FORGOTTEN FLAG

David
Clendenning

THE TRAITOR WHO WASN'T

The Story of Herbert Norman

Kurt F. Jensen

TRAVELS TO THE END OF HISTORY

The Fall of the Berlin Wall in Photographs

Gary Edward Luton

The PAFSO Awards
Celebrate 30 Years

Concours de photos
de l'APASE 2019

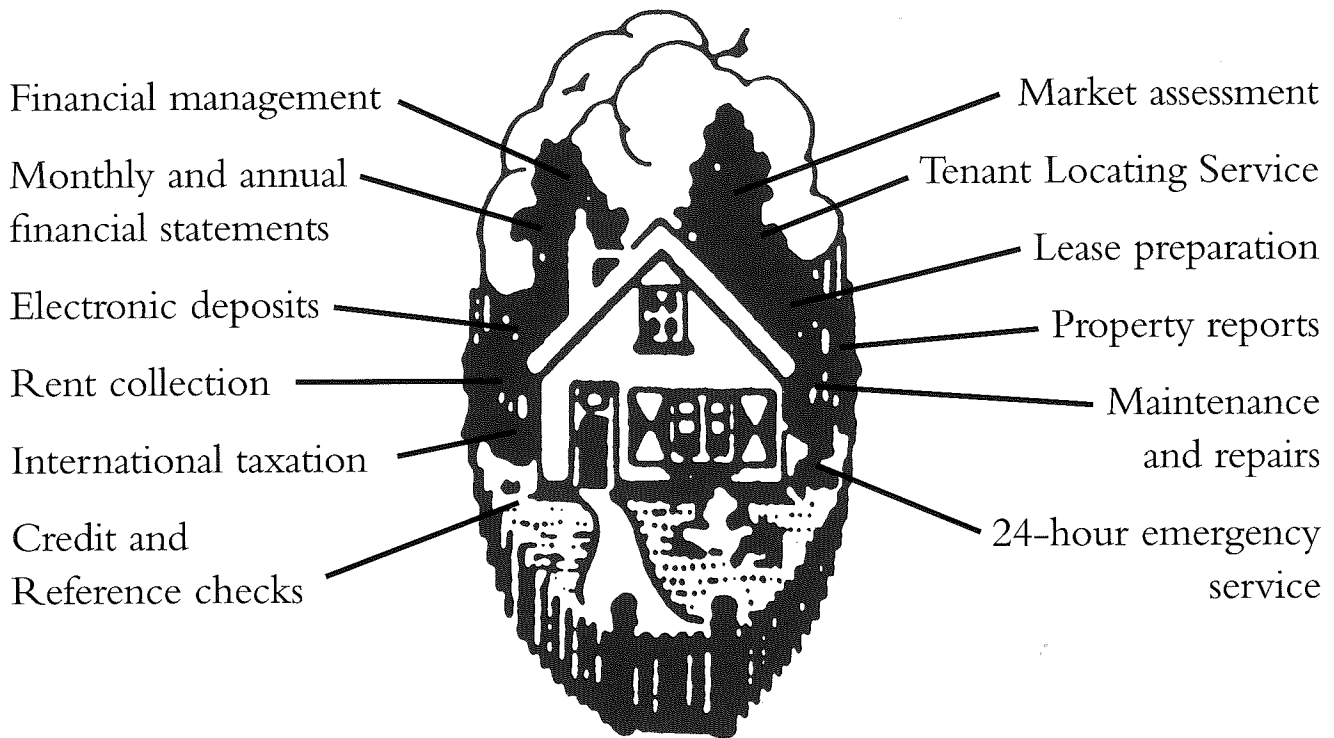


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WORD FROM THE EDITOR // MOT DU RÉDACTEUR

A Difficult Year

Christian Ranger
Rédacteur en chef



DEAR READERS,

As many of you have noted, **bout de papier** has been missing in action for a year. Internally, we suffered significant losses and hit a production stall, from which we are recovering. Separately, our Association's circumstances are evolving. As this issue goes to print, the moment is ripe for a reflection on the orientation of the magazine. In order to properly do so, **bout de papier** will pause production after this issue.

L'APASE créera un groupe de travail dont le mandat sera de se pencher sur l'avenir du magazine, son rôle dans l'écologie de l'Association, sa modernisation mainte fois repoussée et les ressources nécessaires à son renouveau. Dans les mots de Cael Husband, « it's time for a re-bout ». Je souscris pleinement à cette approche.

Cette étape, importante dans la vie de ce magazine quadragénaire, mérite d'être expliquée. Mais d'abord, voici un bref retour sur une année difficile.

Nous n'avons publié qu'un numéro en 2019, ce qui nous place en porte-à-faux avec tous les standards de publication. Notre numérotation (vous tenez entre les mains le numéro 31-1, celui-ci faisant suite à 30-4) suggère que **bout** voie le jour quatre fois l'an. La pratique de la dernière décennie est plus près de trois. Et le minimum pour être considéré un magazine au Canada, ce sont deux numéros l'an.

What happened? The short answer is that we hit a slippery patch last spring, which threw us off course. The Board was motivated to increase the cadence of production, and we had a good issue lined up discussing the Canada brand. Then, in a dismaying sequence, five features that were being penned failed to materialize, leaving us empty-handed.

As editor of an all-volunteer publication, I have learned that it is unwise to rely on every text you are promised. Still, five out of five? We struggled looking for alternative content, but the magazine's shelves were bare. Content generation takes time: it needs an idea and an author, giving rise to a text, which is then reviewed and edited, before it is templated and off to print.

A couple of months earlier, before we realized we had a content problem, **bout's** managing editor Debra Hulley took extended medical leave. In addition to knowing **bout** inside out, Debra had an incredible network, through which leads and articles would naturally bubble up. She has not, and likely will not, return to her former position in the PAFSO office.

Hector Mackenzie also withdrew from the board in 2019, after he retired from Global Affairs. A friend of Debra, Hector has written the column *From the Archives* for longer than I can remember. Our editorial board thus lost two of its pillars, both of whom will be deeply missed.

Spring became summer, and I found myself with much less time to dedicate to the magazine than I had anticipated, which made bouncing back glacially slow. Being away from Ottawa did not help.

bout de papier a une dette immense à l'égard de Debra Hulley. Une dette que même moi, je ne saisis pas complètement. Il y a près de 15 ans que je gravite autour du magazine et il y a plus de 15 ans que ses rédacteurs vouent à Debra un respect sans faille. Le magazine que j'ai repris portait sa marque comme une parentalité. C'est sans doute aussi vrai du bureau de l'APASE, dont elle a été la figure centrale pendant plusieurs années.

Affirmer ceci, ce n'est pas remettre en cause la compétence ou le dévouement des diverses personnes qui aujourd'hui prennent son relai, dans le bureau ou auprès de **bout de papier**. C'est simplement mesurer sa présence

par son absence, évaluer son impact à l'aune de son don et de ce qu'il avait de personnel. Le magazine ne sera pas le même sans elle.

Le changement de garde dans les bureaux de l'APASE s'accompagne de transformations au sein de l'Association. Je me réfère à la création du poste de Président pleinement rémunéré (une initiative pilote sur laquelle la prochaine AGA devra se prononcer) et à la revue stratégique qui en découle. Il convient aussi de saluer le retour de la filière « développement » au sein de l'Association et l'arrivée de ces collègues qui élargissent la famille du Service extérieur.

Ces changements, qui sont en gestation depuis un moment, rendent la réflexion sur l'avenir du magazine non seulement pertinente mais aussi nécessaire. Il faut forger une nouvelle vision commune. Le magazine est interpellé sous trois angles : **bout de papier** est un outil de rayonnement du Service extérieur, il lie et alimente notre communauté de pratique et, inévitablement, sa publication requiert des ressources humaines et financières. La question maîtresse est de savoir comment s'inscrit **bout** dans l'APASE renouvelée.

Cette réflexion nous donnera l'opportunité de revoir la mécanique derrière le magazine. Dans le monde dématérialisé post-COVID produire un magazine papier est-il un symbole d'archaïsme ou, au contraire, un facteur de différenciation apprécié? Doit-on choisir tout l'un ou l'autre? Les réponses à ces questions ont des implications importantes sur la production de contenu.

Finalement, il importera aussi de se pencher sur les rôles et responsabilités. Bien que **bout de papier** ait longtemps opéré comme s'il était une entité distincte de l'exécutif, dans les faits il n'a jamais eu de constitution propre. Sa structure de gouvernance mérite d'être étudiée.

I first approached the magazine holistically when I took over as editor in 2017. Although I had been contributing content for a decade – ferreting out texts, editing some, tentatively inking others – I had never really thought of our four-decade old community publication as an institution. But there it was.

Questions popped. Why was it structured as it was? How did it make ends meet? How did the editor derive authority? As I studied **bout**'s fragile construction, as something to be preserved, perpetuated, and perhaps fashioned, two risks loomed large among the more benign. One was **bout**'s historical reliance on Debra Hulley. The other one was its vulnerability to an eventual change of heart of PAFSO's executive.

I shared these concerns with a few other observers, but I quickly had to park them. The weight of the editor's main task (guiding content creation) soon caught up to me, and I dedicated myself as best I could to it. Little did I know that both would come to a head in the same year.

PAFSO's strategic review survey, one of many tools to assess the sustainability of the Association's paid presidency, yielded a tonne of positive feedback for the magazine. Some questioned its relevance or asked for a more regular schedule. Others wished we had gone digital already... yet. But most highlighted the value of the publication.

Over the years, I have heard people articulate vastly different conceptions of **bout de papier**. This is normal and it is healthy. But it is comforting, as we go through difficult times, to know that members appreciate the work that goes into producing **bout**. Indeed, comparing these recent results with **bout**'s own survey of the membership, now five or six years ago, reveals steady support for the publication.

The survey input will inform our future orientation. One cannot presume the conclusions of the working group that will guide the "re-bout", or the reaction of the Executive Committee when presented with an eventual plan, but the modest reassurance I can give to those who have enjoyed this magazine is that I do not think it faces an existential threat.

My own view has been, and remains, that **bout**'s purpose is to chronicle the Foreign Service from a practitioner's perspective. We tell our stories to ourselves, and to those who would listen. What unites us is having undertaken to serve Canada in variable and changing circumstances, abroad when called to do so. The reality of a modern Foreign Service brings glorious moments. It also carries difficult circumstances and personal sacrifices, as the current crisis illustrates.

As for the future, one certainty is that **bout** needs more engagement by people such as yourselves. Before the decision was made to take a hiatus, I was advocating running a recruitment drive, to bring out writers and editors. There are many who love words among us, whether these are printed on paper, published virtually, or spoken. As a community of practice, we have unique and colourful experiences that bridge the personal and the professional. Together, they tell the story of Canada's Foreign Service.

Mexico City, April 2020. 

As I write this, the world has entered its COVID-induced nightmare. Boris is in intensive care. The presidents of the three largest countries of the American continent have adopted a peculiar brand of optimism, telling their nationals that normalcy will soon return. But understanding and conceptualizing the implications of this crisis will require calmer times. The concept of distance seems likely to evolve, bringing changes to the role and the circumstances of representation abroad.

bout would like to express pride and solidarity with colleagues affected by the crisis. An important contingent of officers and their families are undergoing quarantine in temporary accommodations. Another group of officers remain deployed in challenging circumstances, providing emergency services to stranded Canadians. This crisis, like many other crises, highlights the value of a professional, resilient and adaptive Foreign Service.

A Letter to the Future

Pam Isfeld

President, PAFSO // Présidente de l'APASE



ON 11 MARCH I WAS HALFWAY through what was supposed to be the first draft of this piece. I was writing about my work as PAFSO's first full-time President, which has included conducting the first strategic review in our organization's history and working with our new Executive Director to improve our governance and agility. The big news, I thought, was our plan to put **bout de papier** on hiatus to revamp and relaunch it in early 2021.

Mais, la crise de la COVID-19 nous guettait au tournant et devait déferler sur nous le 13 mars. Nous avons décidé de fermer les bureaux de l'APASE aux visiteurs et d'affecter le plus grand nombre d'employés possible en télétravail à la maison. La ministre de la Santé nous a ordonné de pratiquer la « distanciation sociale » et de ne quitter la maison que pour des activités essentielles.

Une semaine plus tard, le ministre des Affaires mondiales avait sommé tous les voyageurs canadiens de rentrer au pays pendant qu'ils le pouvaient encore, et AMC avait ordonné l'évacuation obligatoire à l'échelle mondiale des employés et des personnes à leur charge vulnérables.

A few days later, GAC gave Heads of Mission in 72 dangerous posts authority to order the repatriation of non-essential staff and dependents. Nearly 1,000 of our members and their dependents returned to Canada on 72 hours' notice or less. By 16 March, Canada had banned entry to all non-citizens and restricted international arrivals to only four airports across the country. On 18 March, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the closure of the Canada-US border for the first time since Confederation.

Other nations took similar measures, closing borders and shutting down airports, and by 23 March, almost one million Canadians and permanent residents had come home. Thousands more were left stranded.

Au moment d'écrire ces lignes, les membres de l'APASE et leurs collègues continuent de travailler sans relâche dans les missions et à l'étranger, à la maison, en quarantaine et dans les bureaux afin d'assurer le bon fonctionnement des

opérations cruciales et d'aider les Canadiens. Le Centre de surveillance et d'intervention d'urgence d'AMC a répondu à plus de 10 000 appels et 35 000 courriels de voyageurs désespérés.

Dans les circonstances, il est impossible de savoir ce qui sera pertinent dans les quelque huit semaines qu'il faudra pour la parution du présent numéro de **bout de papier**, mais peut-être que mon message adressé à l'avenir servira de rappel de ce qui était jugé important aujourd'hui.

Many of us comfort ourselves with the reminder that the world has seen worse pandemics, although not since influenza took the lives of 75 million people in 1918. Thanks to better public health education, and mass communication to help mobilize populations to take part in social distancing, this one is likely to kill far fewer people, despite its lethality.

What we have never seen is the kind of economic shutdown that today's governments have imposed in their efforts to combat COVID-19 or the release of resources by major economic powers as they seek to cushion the impact.

Dans le bon vieux temps, c'est-à-dire il y a une semaine ou deux, certains Canadiens se cramponnaient peut-être à l'espoir que la pandémie puisse nous épargner complètement. Nous avons peu de personnes affectées en comparaison de pays comme la Chine et l'Italie, mais, à partir de la mi-mars, les chiffres ont grimpé. À l'heure actuelle, nous sommes tous et toutes engagés dans un effort massif de solidarité sociale afin d'« aplatis la courbe » et de maintenir le nombre de cas à moins de 200 par 100 000 personnes de manière que nous puissions protéger nos populations vulnérables et éviter que nos hôpitaux soient débordés.

By the time you read this, you'll know if we succeeded. You might also see whether we've managed to maintain our solidarity.

Everyone is seeking certainty, but there's simply none to be had.

Disasters have a way of shaking up the status quo. An unprecedented event requires a unique response that will

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not – and should not – come quickly. When disruption shifts a population's sense of identity and priority, profound personal, institutional, and even national change can be possible.

Contemporary history gives us many examples of disaster testing regimes, including Hurricane Katrina in the US, when the Bush Administration was held responsible for what many voters saw as an inadequate, even racist response. In Mexico City in 1985 and Managua in 1972, weak government responses led to the end of one-party government and garnered popular support for what would become the Sandinista revolution. Mikhail Gorbachev attributes the collapse of the Soviet Union not just to his launch of perestroika but to the meltdown of Chernobyl.

Les gens dont les vies sont bouleversées sont peu enclins à accepter un statu quo qui ne fonctionne pas. Au cours des deux dernières semaines, l'inimaginable s'est déjà produit à maintes reprises. La grande majorité de l'économie s'est effondrée, nous nous sommes repliés à la maison, et le gouvernement s'est engagé à injecter des milliards de dollars dans de nouveaux programmes sociaux afin d'aider à atténuer l'impact.

We have entered a period that will sorely test individuals and institutions, and some are passing the test better than others. So far, I have seen the members of Canada's professional Foreign Service respond with competence, compassion, and genuine care for each other as well as those we serve. In the immediate aftermath of the crisis, I have been proud to see how quickly PAFSO members mobilized to help stricken Canadians, keep critical government operations moving, and help each other care for their families and loved ones. Many of our members remain at missions abroad, serving Canadians even as they face their own fear and exhaustion.

Cette crise, toutefois, a fait ressortir les lacunes résultant de décennies d'érosion du service extérieur professionnel. Nous sommes un pays du G7 et, pourtant, nous venons au 18^e rang pour ce qui est de la représentation diplomatique à l'étranger, loin derrière l'Argentine, le Mexique et les Pays-Bas. Nous avons 120 ambassades et 179 consulats, dont bon nombre ne comptent que 2-3 employés canadiens soutenus par du personnel dévoué recruté sur place. À tout moment, il y a bien moins d'un millier de diplomates canadiens à l'étranger. Bref, nos effectifs sont surtaxés, même dans les meilleures conditions.

As our Management Consular and Immigration Officers do the heroic work of repatriating tens of thousands of stranded Canadians and permanent residents, they were hampered by our low staffing levels even before the necessary evacuation of vulnerable and non-essential personnel. At headquarters, numbers are similarly small, and much of Global Affairs Canada has now been re-tasked to support the consular effort.

Our Trade Commissioner colleagues are being called on, not only to convince airlines to arrange flights but also to shore up the crucial supply chains for life-saving drugs and

medical equipment in the face of closing borders and widespread economic shutdown. Much of this work relies upon relationships and contacts that take time, effort and human interaction to build.

Les agents politiques et les chefs de mission comptent sur leurs contacts locaux et la bonne volonté du gouvernement hôte ou, parfois, des autorités militaires pour obtenir l'accès aux espaces aériens fermés. Pour les persuader de faire une exception dans le cas des vols d'évacuation canadiens, ils doivent racheter des faveurs et convaincre leurs homologues de lever temporairement le confinement. Tout comme nos collègues de l'Aide internationale, ils œuvrent aussi à évaluer les incidences politiques, économiques et sociales à long terme de la crise sur les intérêts Canada et sur les plus démunis partout dans le monde.


Ce genre de diplomatie est difficile et repose sur des liens, une compréhension et des rapports personnels préétablis. Le fait qu'un grand nombre d'ambassades ne comptent que sur un seul agent politique canadien, souvent accrédité auprès de multiples pays à la fois, n'est qu'un des nombreux obstacles qui rendent leur tâche plus difficile à cet égard.

As the Foreign Service officers who remain abroad struggle with exhaustion, illness, and worry about friends and family, those at headquarters face their own set of uncertainties. The massive reorientation of resources towards consular services means fewer people to do the important work of assessing the long-term impact of the crisis and the likely reactions of our enemies and, perhaps equally importantly, our allies.

By the time you read this, you will know whether or not our massive acts of national and international social solidarity have made a dent in the virus.

Perhaps this catastrophe will help us define what is essential by allowing us to imagine profound change in a world where so much has been altered by forces beyond our will. Perhaps reinvestment in critical infrastructures, such as our health care systems and our Foreign Service will be part of these redefined priorities.

Nous en sommes à un point de l'histoire où rien n'est coulé dans le béton. Nos actes auront de lourdes conséquences et ils dépendront de la façon donc nous interprétons les événements et des valeurs que nous chérissons dans une période de bouleversement choquant.

Il y a toutefois une chose dont je suis certaine : le rôle et la contribution du service extérieur professionnel seront importants pour la suite des choses. 

Cette crise, toutefois, a fait ressortir les lacunes résultant de décennies d'érosion du service extérieur professionnel. Nos effectifs sont surtaxés, même dans les meilleures conditions.



FEATURE // REPORTAGE

Travels to the End of History

THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL IN PHOTOGRAPHS

Story and photos by Gary Edward Luton

Prologue

FOLLOWING WORLD WAR II, the occupying forces – Britain, France, the United States and the Soviet Union (“The Four Powers”) – divided a defeated Germany into two states. The western zones became the Federal German Republic, or West Germany, and the Eastern zone became, ironically, the German Democratic Republic (GDR), or East Germany. The former capital, divided by a Four Power Agreement into West and Soviet-controlled East Berlin, was originally ruled side-by-side in Zones of Occupation, or spheres of influence.

In many ways, the War did not end in 1945. Post-war inter-Allied challenges over currency and large flows of refugees from the east created a combustible situation that burst into flames in the spring of 1948 when the western sectors of Berlin were isolated by a 15-month Soviet Blockade. Disagreement on what to do with Germany to ensure no further large-scale conflict resulted in a protracted Cold War with the Soviet Union.

The East German military was prone to repress any dissent or workers’ strikes in the Soviet Zone. However,

as disaffection by the population grew over time it resulted in a continual exodus. To stem the flow of refugees, construction on the Wall began in August 1961. Originally designed to keep people out, the Berlin Wall ultimately kept people in. During October 1961, US and Soviet tanks faced each other across a 100-metre divide at Checkpoint Charlie, a crossing for the military, and one of the Cold War’s riskiest flash points.

Twenty-eight years later, following a period of similar disaffection due to slow economic growth and the doctrinal collapse of communism, a psychological wall began to crumble. Starting in the summer of 1989, some East Germans used Socialist Hungary’s relaxed travel restrictions, and the removal of a barbed wire fence with Austria, to escape to West Germany. On 9 November, 1989, with travel restrictions lifted, thousands of Germans made their way to and through the physical barrier. By Sunday the 12th, the population of West Berlin had doubled with the arrival of more than two million East Germans.



History in the making

Berlin and Germany had held a certain fascination for me since adolescence and remained somewhere in the back of my imagination. Having Germanic roots on both sides of the family, my relationship with Germany had always been complex – due in part to the Kaiser and the Führer, and an English grandfather and father both wounded on the battlefields of Europe. In addition, my brother in the British Army would also serve in Germany during the Cold War, as did many other Canadians.

By the late 70s and early 80s, West Berlin had become the artistic capital of Europe, due in part to inexpensive real estate, with both Iggy Pop and David Bowie living and producing albums there. While to me Berlin brought to mind Dietrich, Mann, Isherwood and Fassbinder – cultural figures I had come to appreciate – in 1989 it also was where Cold War communism bumped up against capitalism, and East confronted West in a potentially deadly standoff.

From Kuwait where I was serving my first posting, I watched the news reports with a certain fascination. Was

it possible? Berlin and its Wall symbolized a heady mix of intrigue and geopolitics for any student of international relations at the time. (As an undergraduate at Queen's, I recalled a visiting German Herr Doktor Professor who concluded a lecture to our first-year class with the measured baritone and confident intonation of Kissinger: "...And Germany will never be reunited in our lifetime...")

Clearly, history was in the making and a visit to Berlin in November 1989, cameras in hand, would prove irresistible. As I made my plan to travel from Kuwait, reports indicated that thousands of military conscripts were already working in East German factories and mines to fill abandoned jobs due to a mass exodus to the West.

Night train to Berlin

A fan of rail journeys, I flew to neighbouring Baghdad hoping to travel to Berlin on the historic Baghdad to Berlin route. Due to transit problems with Turkey at the border, I then flew on to

Istanbul to catch a train there. I booked a night train that, if memory serves, travelled via Sofia, Belgrade, Budapest and on to Berlin.

Although we departed from Istanbul's "orientalist" Sirkeci station on the European side of the Bosphorus, where the iconic 19th century Orient Express ended its run from Paris, this was no Orient Express. Ahmet, a Turkish guest worker en route to Berlin, kindly shared his olives and garlic cloves with me in a chilly economy compartment on the journey through Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Hungary.

The train journey is a bit of a blur. I have no photographs, due in part to security concerns that did not permit taking pictures. However, I recall standing on a drafty platform in Sofia with the hands of the station clock unmoving, except for an occasional twitch. Little did I know that the Bulgarians had just ousted Communist Party Leader Todor Zhivkov who had ruled the country for 35 years. The new leaders were already in the process of disbanding the feared secret police that used to spy on dissidents and foreign travellers alike.

As we passed through the Slavonian plains of Yugoslavia, with their dense forests and farms, we caught glimpses of cabbages in frost-covered fields and peasants carrying bundles of kindling as soldiers with drab uniforms and high-browed peaked caps – common throughout the East Bloc – boarded the train at several points to check our papers and prod our luggage for contraband.

When we crossed the Danube at Budapest, Hungary's Socialist Party had already convened its last congress the month before, adopted legislation providing for multi-party parliamentary elections, and proclaimed itself a Republic. These events, along with the earlier opening of Hungary's border with Austria, had helped spark events in Berlin.

The end of history?

On arrival in West Berlin, I bid good-bye to Ahmet. Four flags were still flying after 44 years and the Wall was still standing, but the inter-German border was by then a fiction.

A copy of *The Berlin-American Reporter*, left in my hotel room, referred to Berlin as "the most peaceful occupied city in the world." It led with a blazing headline: THE WALL FALLS! The air was blue from an influx of two-cycle East German cars and the atmosphere was festive but subdued. The Cold War was not over just yet, as there were no assurances of the irreversibility of a nascent move to democratize.

From a viewing platform at Checkpoint Charlie, I can still see in my mind's eye a man dressed all in black with his fedora, small Leica and red








notebook in hand, as if frozen in time, staring at the Wall that had defined life in Berlin for a generation. The Checkpoint, with French, British and American military policemen on duty, was frequently mistaken as a border crossing point by visitors en route to East Berlin. Until days before, they had been there primarily to oversee the movement of active duty military personnel travelling to the Soviet Sector, but no longer.

The photographs I took turned my lens on Berliners and their “watchers” who observed, listened and spied relentlessly on their compatriots. A small boy with his toy-like jeweller’s hammer who, seemingly having broken through the Wall, reveals an observation tower with guards still in place. But, as a graffiti artist made clear, “Charlie’s Retired 10 Nov. 1989.” Citizens went about their lives almost as if nothing had happened with East German polizei simply standing idle, as if this might indeed have been the “end of history.”

Epilogue

The fall of the Berlin Wall and lifting of the Iron Curtain coincided with the collapse of the Soviet Union. US President George H.W. Bush and Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev held a Summit aboard a ship off Malta on 2–3 December, 1989 where they would officially declare an end to the Cold War. The tsunami of revolutions that occurred through the Eastern Bloc in 1989–90 would change the map of Eastern Europe and the geopolitics of the world.

In June 1990, the East German military began to dismantle the Wall, and the GDR adopted the West German currency the following month. Less than a year after the first opening of the Wall, German reunification took place on 3 October 1990. In 1991, the Soviet Union dissolved into 15 new or reconstituted independent states. The Yugoslavia I had travelled through by train soon disintegrated into various warring ethnic factions. The Yugoslav Wars that followed resulted in horrific war crimes being committed, the deaths of thousands and, ultimately, the independence of Serbia-Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia Herzegovina and Macedonia.

Marxist scholars thought that society would reach its pinnacle when the workers finally triumphed against Capitalism. In a social sense, history would end. As if to anticipate the opposite scenario, in 1989 Francis Fukuyama published an influential essay called “The End of History,” which suggested the events described in this article were not the end of an era, but in fact heralded the ascendancy of Western liberal democracy. He expanded his thesis in a 1992 bestselling book *The End of History and the Last Man*. The future rarely works quite as planned. 



GARY EDWARD LUTON was Director of the Treaty Law Division from 2012 to 2019. His most recent postings abroad were as Head of Mission in Doha, Qatar and Mumbai, India. Currently he is a Scholar in Residence in the Legal Bureau.



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FEATURE // REPORTAGE

Unmentionables

EXCERPTS FROM *NOT MENTIONED IN DISPATCHES/
CONFIDENCES PEU DIPLOMATIQUES*

Here are three excerpts from *Not Mentioned in Dispatches / Confidences peu diplomatiques*, the recently released collection of over 50 intriguing stories and anecdotes published by our colleague organization the Retired Heads of Mission Association (l'Association des chefs de mission à la retraite.) We encourage **bout de papier** readers who would like to read more accounts of diplomats serving Canada abroad to order the complete collection through the RHOMA/ACMAR website at rhoma-acmar.ca



Honneur et fierté

Jean-Pierre Bolduc

En même temps que les vaccins pré-affectation pour le Niger en 1974, Jean-Pierre Bolduc recevait à tout jamais la pique de l'international. S'ensuivit une longue carrière à l'ACDI, ponctuée de plusieurs mandats spéciaux. De 2001 à 2010, il a été Chef de mission successivement au Ghana, en RD Congo et au Sénégal. Depuis le début, il a été accompagné, encouragé et appuyé par sa conjointe Ghislaine.

LE POSTE D'AMBASSADEUR PROCURE de multiples occasions de ressentir l'honneur et la fierté de représenter le Canada. C'est le cas dès le moment où on nous propose d'être considéré pour le poste, puis lorsque la décision vient, lorsqu'on rencontre ensuite le gouverneur général à ce titre, lorsqu'on présente les lettres de créance et le traditionnel : « J'ai l'honneur de vous présenter les lettres par lesquelles Son excellence la gouverneure générale du Canada m'accrédite auprès de vous en tant qu'ambassadeur (ou haut-commissaire) ... » Puis les visites de dignitaires, les représentations au plus haut niveau, etc.

Il y a aussi de ces moments inattendus, petits et grands, qui essaient le mandat. Dans mon cas, l'un de ceux-ci s'est produit au Ghana, pendant mon affectation comme haut-commissaire de 2001 à 2004.

À un certain moment, j'apprends que le Musée canadien des civilisations (MCC – devenu depuis le Musée canadien de l'histoire) veut remettre aux autorités traditionnelles deux artefacts en bois sculptés. Ces objets avaient été ramenés au Canada au début du siècle dernier par un membre du personnel médical qui avait servi dans une expédition militaire britannique chargée en 1900 de mater une révolte du peuple Asante, menée par la reine mère Yaa Asantewa, dont le fils, roi des Asantes (Asantehene) avait été contraint à l'exil par les autorités britanniques.

Un des artefacts était un tambour. L'autre était un siège cérémonial. Chez les Asantes, le pouvoir est symbolisé entre autres par le siège royal (« Golden Stool »); ce siège-banc de la fin du 19^e siècle ramené du Ghana a un caractère sacré et donc une valeur symbolique à plusieurs titres. Le secrétaire particulier du Asantehene avait adressé au Musée en 2001 une requête de rapatriement des artefacts.

Le Canada est l'un des pays ayant adhéré à la Convention de l'UNESCO relative aux mesures à prendre « pour interdire et empêcher l'importation, l'exportation et le transfert de propriétés illicites des biens culturels ». Après

analyse des éléments démontrant que les objets avaient été pris de façon irrégulière dans le palais de la reine des Adansi, le conseil d'administration du MCC décida en décembre 2003 de retourner ce « butin de guerre ». M^{me} Carmelle Bégin, conservatrice en chef de la division des études culturelles au MCC est donc venue rendre les articles. Nous en avons fait la présentation officielle au nom du gouvernement du Canada.

La remise s'est effectuée en grande pompe le 19 février 2004 à Kumasi, à quelque 250 kilomètres au nord d'Accra, au palais de Manhyia du Asantehene Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, 16^e roi des Asantes, entouré de son imposante cour. En recevant les artefacts, le monarque a remercié chaleureusement le Canada, et a dit souhaiter que le geste puisse servir d'exemple à d'autres pays qui ont de quelque façon été impliqués dans la spoliation des biens culturels, en particulier lors de guerres et autres conflits. Le petit siège de la fin du 19^e siècle avait donc une valeur symbolique à plus d'un titre.

Coïncidence : alors que j'étais occupé à écrire ce texte en novembre 2018, les actualités internationales ont rapporté que le président français Emmanuel Macron avait demandé à ses services de s'occuper de cette question des biens culturels acquis de diverses façons et de la suite à lui donner. Il n'était certainement pas sans savoir qu'il ouvrait alors une boîte de Pandore, pour les pays colonisateurs en particulier.

Lors de la cérémonie de remise des artefacts, le groupe incluait M^{me} Bégin du MCC, monsieur Kwame Sarpong, qui avait ses entrées au palais et avait facilité toute l'opération, mon épouse Ghislaine, et aussi ma mère que j'avais amenée du Canada pour célébrer son 81^e anniversaire de naissance. Ma mère était impressionnée, c'est le moins qu'on puisse dire, et les Ghanéens, y compris Sa Majesté Otumfuo Osei Tutu, étaient ravis et émus de sa présence : la vénération des Africains pour les personnes âgées ne s'est pas démentie.

J'avais déjà rencontré le Asantehene avec Ghislaine et des responsables du haut-commissariat. La visite à ce dirigeant traditionnel puissant du nord du Ghana est un passage obligé pour les élus nationaux, y compris le président du pays, et pour nombre d'ambassadeurs. Le Canada a une longue histoire d'amitié et de coopération avec le Ghana, en particulier le nord du pays, et j'étais allé le rencontrer dès mon premier voyage dans la région. Après l'échange officiel qui s'était fait via un interprète tel que l'exigeait le protocole, nous avons eu une conversation informelle en anglais; Otumfuo Osei Tutu avait été conseiller principal dans le domaine des finances à Toronto de 1981 à 1985. Il est par la suite rentré au Ghana et a pris la couronne en 1999 après le décès de son prédécesseur. Homme très agréable que je suis retourné saluer à Kumasi à la fin de mon affectation.

La position du Musée quant au butin de guerre, la remise par le Canada des artefacts, la rencontre avec le roi, sa réaction, la présence de ma mère et l'amour qui lui a été prodigué, tout a constitué pour moi source d'honneur et de fierté.

À propos de rien

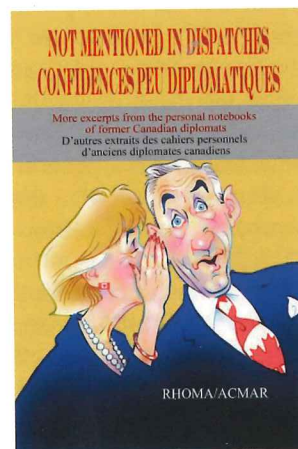
Robin Higham

CE FUT UNE JOURNÉE DIFFICILE à la Conférence de la FAO et du PAM sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale des Nations Unies. Les délégués des pays en voie de développement et des pays industrialisés s'étaient confrontés pour rédiger le rapport final. L'enjeu du rapport en question se centrait sur l'utilisation du langage du G77 (pays en voie de développement) concernant **LE** « Nouvel ordre économique » (soigneusement défini à l'avance et établissant un précédent), ou **UN** « Nouvel ordre économique » (intentionnellement non-défini) préféré par le Groupe de Genève (pays industrialisés). En conséquence, une certaine tension régnait parmi les nombreux invités des deux camps lorsqu'ils arrivèrent chez nous pour un dîner décontracté ce soir-là. Déjà bien à l'aise pour accueillir un groupe de collègues représentants permanents, de délégués des capitales et de fonctionnaires de la FAO et du PAM, nous savions faire preuve de souplesse pour prévoir combien d'entre eux seraient finalement présents. Certains viendraient sans conjoint, d'autres peut-être avec deux, certains ne se pointeraient pas du tout... Lorsque la cuisine annonce que « Madame est servie », les invités, détendus par l'apéritif mais encore un peu méfiants par rapport à la façon dont la conversation pourrait se dérouler, ont pris place aux cinq tables rondes. Notre serveur aux yeux d'aigle, immédiatement comprenant qu'il allait y avoir une place en trop, a discrètement enlevé et réajusté les couverts pour convenir à l'autre « Nouvel ordre » de la soirée. Les convives étaient installés quand du fond du couloir un bruit d'écoulement d'eau suivi par la réapparition de l'invitée disparue, et... qui ne trouvait pas de place à l'auberge! La tension de la journée fut vite dissipée par un éclat de rire collectif lorsque son mari s'est précipité pour dire : « Qui tire la chasse, perd sa place. »

Apropos of nothing

John Graham

THE CHARGÉ IN CIUDAD TRUJILLO (now Santo Domingo) had been medically evacuated, and I, aged 26, had become Chargé of a miniscule embassy imminently hosting the National Day reception for which my erstwhile boss had purchased five cases of an Ontario wine known in those days by a variety of popular names including "Moose Champagne". July 1st was a debacle. Bacteria laden meatballs knocked out half the cabinet, senior generals and most of the diplomatic corps. I discussed the scale of the carnage with Assistant Trade Commissioner, Clark Leith, one of the victims and the only other officer in the mission. "Well", he responded "look at the bright side." "What bright side?" I demanded. "This is a bloody disaster!" "At least", said Clark "no one will remember the champagne."



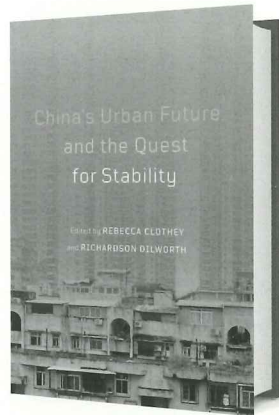
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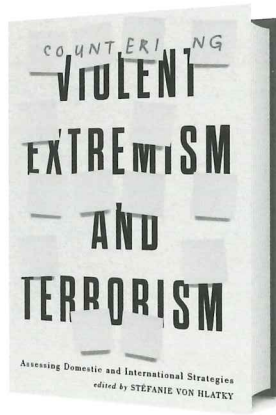
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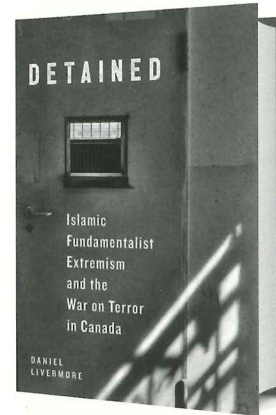
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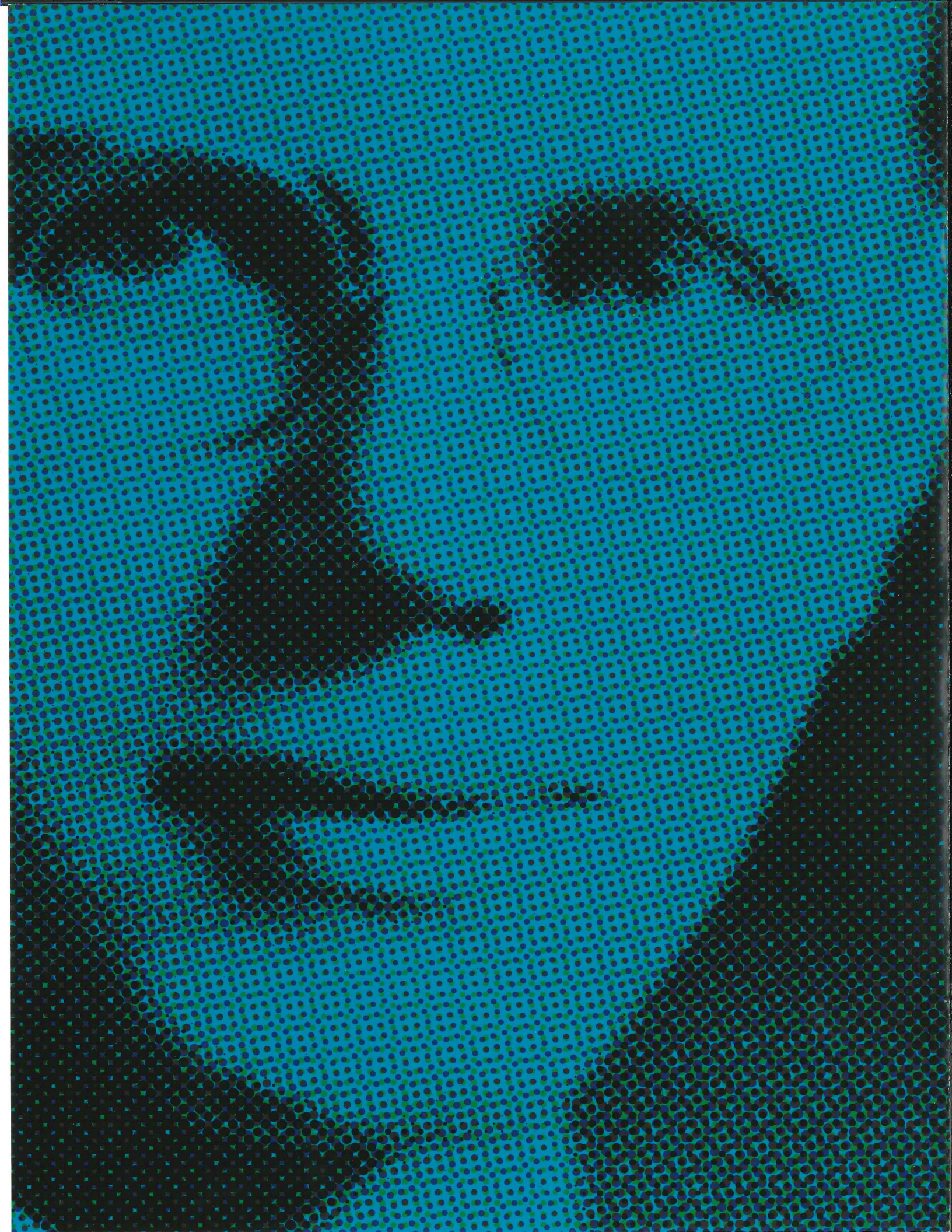


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KURT F. JENSEN is a retired Foreign Service officer. After retirement he became an Adjunct Professor at Carleton University, where he taught courses on foreign intelligence. He is the author of *Escape from Germany* (2019).

FEATURE // REPORTAGE

The Traitor Who Wasn't

THE STORY OF HERBERT NORMAN

by Kurt F. Jensen

HERBERT NORMAN WAS A SENIOR and respected Canadian diplomat hounded to his suicide, in Cairo in 1957, by American McCarthyites seizing on his dalliance with the ideas of communism. Norman was interested in Marxist thought, and probably remained a moderate socialist throughout his life... but he was not a life-long communist and did not betray Canada, as alleged by the FBI, RCMP/ Security Service and McCarthyites.

This article will not retrace the debate around the accusations leveled against Norman. Excellent books and articles achieve that goal.* The story of Herbert Norman is fascinating from a different perspective: it brings us back to the days of war and postwar intelligence, which have had a structuring influence on today's intelligence relations.

Norman probably was a de facto communist – or close to one – in the 1930s, while at Cambridge University. So were many other students. Some

were Soviet spies. The vast majority, including Norman, were not. By the end of the 1930s, he had given up his Communist sympathies, as did so many other fellow travellers as they left the folds of academia for the real world.

Peyton V. Lyon, a former Foreign Service officer and then Adjunct Professor at Carleton University, was contracted in 1989 to assess the various allegations and was given access to all Canadian government documents relating to Herbert Norman. He is the only writer on Norman to have had such total access. His conclusion was that Norman was neither a spy nor a traitor.

In his report, Peyton Lyon briefly acknowledges that Norman was associated with Canadian foreign intelligence during World War II and in the immediate years which followed. But he provides few details. Indeed, details of most of Norman's intelligence activities remained classified until early in this century, about 60 years after his death.

* See Roger Bowen, *Innocence is Not Enough* (*innocent*) and James Barron, *No Sense of Evil* (*guilty*).

By the fall of 1944, the outcome of the war was already foreseen and, with human resources at External Affairs in short supply, Norman and his staff, only ever a few, returned at the beginning of 1945.

Early career: Japan expert

Norman had been posted to Japan as a language officer in the late 1930s and was eventually repatriated after war with Japan was declared. His assignment in Japan did not include intelligence duties. Shortly after his return to Canada, and debriefing, Norman was assigned to intelligence functions within External Affairs. When a second group of Canadians were repatriated from Japanese captivity and returned to Canada in 1943 aboard the Swedish ship *S.S. Gripsholm*, Norman prepared the detailed political and intelligence questionnaire to be used in their debriefing. Norman and a Captain from military intelligence named Archibald then joined the ship in Rio de Janeiro to debrief the returnees en route home.

British intelligence briefly sought to recruit Herbert Norman to be a member of British Security Coordination (BSC). The BSC was the British intelligence organization located in New York under William Stephenson, a Canadian expatriate who headed all British intelligence activities in the Western Hemisphere. As Norman was already assigned to Canadian intelligence responsibilities, Canada refused to let him be transferred to British intelligence.

Evolving intelligence architecture

By this time Norman was already heavily involved in foreign intelligence matters with the Examination Unit (XU), the wartime predecessor to today's Communications Security Establishment (CSE), Canada's SIGINT service, which had been established by External Affairs early in 1941. Lester B. Pearson, having returned from a posting to London which included liaison duties with British intelligence, oversaw Canada's small intelligence organization. He left most of the daily tasks to Tommy Stone, a middle-ranking Foreign Service officer.

In the spring of 1942, Stone established an Information Centre at the Examination Unit, largely a research organization to support SIGINT activities. That September, Stone also established a very secret External Affairs unit under Norman to liaise on SIGINT with British Security Coordination, the British intelligence station in New York. The new unit was Canada's first all-source intelligence analysis organization. For the first year, its focus was exclusively on Japan, to take advantage of Norman's particular skills and knowledge. In the second year a second officer, A.R. Menzies, was added to analyze Canada's SIGINT collection against Vichy France (and later the Free French).

By the fall of 1944, the outcome of the war was already foreseen and, with human resources at External Affairs in short supply, Norman and his staff, only ever a few,

returned at the beginning of 1945. So did all the files which they had worked on.

Back at External Affairs, Norman assumed new responsibilities. Although it appears that he no longer prepared extensive intelligence assessments as had been done while co-located with XU, he continued to review SIGINT on Japan.

Recent opening of classified files

Most information about Norman's unit remained classified until very recently, even though the history of XU was made public in several stages. The little information available on the special intelligence section comes from CSE files which have been released to Library and Archives Canada (and declassified). The files of the special intelligence section returned to External Affairs in 1945 were not among the files which passed to CSE from XU (and CBNRC, a postwar name for Canadian SIGINT).

Only one of the special intelligence section's assessments prepared by Norman's unit at XU appears to have survived. It was written in 1943 and is a report on the Dutch East Indies, occupied by the Japanese. It covers Japanese and Sumatran society, nationalism, ethnicity and the Japanese occupation of the islands. It was an excellent, very detailed intelligence report and one can assume that it was typical of the production of the special intelligence section.

The whereabouts of other reports from the secret unit are unknown. They may have been destroyed. They may also rest somewhere in the still-secret intelligence files of Global Affairs Canada.

US-Canada intelligence relations

Canada's wartime intelligence partner in the United States was primarily military intelligence (G2), which had responsibility for SIGINT. A highly stressed relationship existed between the American armed forces and the US Office of Strategic Services (OSS), run by 'Wild Bill' Donovan, a World War I Medal of Honor winner and leader of an intelligence organization pursuing flamboyant, commando-like intelligence activities. The American military, however, did not want Canada to deal with any of the OSS.

OSS made a war contribution but not as dramatic as its members claimed in their memoirs. OSS, however, possessed what eventually became an excellent intelligence analysis organization (which formed the postwar INR, the current intelligence unit in the State Department).

Herbert Norman insisted on establishing ties to the analytical side of the OSS and formed a tenuous relationship. In the fall of 1942 Norman made a regular visit to the BSC in New York and onward to OSS in Washington. The OSS already valued the intelligence assessments prepared by Norman at the special intelligence unit in the XU, and he valued the raw material which the OSS could share with him.

The relationship, however, remained troubled. Canada feared that Norman's links with the OSS would come to the attention of G2 and cause problems for Canada's more important intelligence ties to US SIGINT. Other relationships also existed between Canada and the OSS, but they were carefully controlled for fear of discovery by G2.

The OSS at some point also attempted to recruit Norman as a permanent liaison officer in Washington between the OSS and Canadian and British intelligence organizations. Norman's views on this are unknown, but External Affairs would never have agreed to this since it would have directly threatened Canada's more important intelligence ties with G2.

Postwar career and witch hunt

Norman, a relatively junior External Affairs officer throughout the war, was often tasked with participation on Canadian interdepartmental intelligence committees, particularly towards the end of the war, when he was back at the Department and less focused on intelligence analysis. He was not a senior participant in these matters but more a highly respected junior officer, who had the skills to represent the Department well when called upon to participate in meetings.

With the conclusion of World War II in 1945, most of Canada's intelligence commitments were drastically reduced, at least for the first few years. By this time Norman was viewed as an important young officer. When Yale University sought to recruit him for a teaching position, Prime Minister Mackenzie King intervened with Lester B. Pearson to ensure that the department did not let him leave. Instead, after a brief sojourn in the Philippines helping to repatriate captured Canadians, he was promoted and sent to Tokyo on loan to the Allied occupations authorities, where he worked in the US Counter-Intelligence Corps (CIC) with the nominal rank of Major.

The stint attached to US military intelligence lasted about a year, after which Norman briefly served in Washington as an assistant to Pearson, before returning to Tokyo as Head of the Canadian Liaison Mission, and advisor to General MacArthur, which lasted until 1950. The end of his tour in Japan and planned posting to Ottawa in the American and Far Eastern Division coincided with the start of the hounding of Norman by Americans as a communist and likely Soviet agent.

Thus began Norman's nightmare. It continued intermittently until his

death in 1957. No declassified files suggest that Norman's involvement in intelligence matters continued after his return from Japan. That is not unusual. Then and now, Canadian diplomats rotate in and out of intelligence assignments as resources and interests dictate.

There is evidence that the real target of the FBI and McCarthyites, with implicit support from the RCMP/Security Service, was Lester B. Pearson, first a Foreign Service officer, then Minister of External Affairs, and finally Prime Minister. His fall as a Communist supporter, a Communist, or a Soviet spy would have greatly enhanced the political prestige of extreme rightists in both North American countries. Like Norman, Pearson was the victim of innuendo, fake news, and pure hatred. There is no, repeat no, evidence that even begins to suggest that Pearson was a national security threat. Nor that Norman was.

In the more than 50 years since his death, none of the multiple file searches, defector debriefings, and other intelligence sources have shown any evidence of Communist affiliation by Norman after completing his university education, nor of espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union or any other foreign power. Norman was a victim of American paranoia about traitors and spies which followed the Gouzenko defection and revelations, and spurred to insane extents by Senator McCarthy, a man of limited intellect but unlimited adherence to "fake news".

When Yale University sought to recruit him for a teaching position, Prime Minister Mackenzie King intervened with Lester B. Pearson to ensure that the department did not let him leave.

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MONTREAL, JEUDI 4 AVRIL 1957

Fin dramatique de l'ambassadeur Jorman Régrets unanimes du Parlement canadien

Saut du 7e étage d'un édifice de la capitale égyptienne

L'ambassadeur attribue le triste événement à "la pollution hostile" faite à M. Norman par un sous-comité du Sénat américain.

Les défenseurs

Non seulement le gouvernement canadien, mais le département d'Etat américain s'étaient portés garants de l'intégrité de l'ambassadeur.

Le Caire, 4 (AP) — M. Herbert Norman, ambassadeur du Canada auprès de l'Égypte, s'est suicidé en sautant du septième étage de l'édifice où se trouve le domicile de M. Caid Elgi, ministre de Santé.

Il avait 48 ans. Les accusations portées contre lui par un sous-comité sénatorial américain d'illustres démenties et par le gouvernement canadien et par le département d'Etat américain l'avaient poussé au désespoir.

Le police égyptienne a constaté que M. Norman avait sauté par un balcon d'un édifice public en compagnie d'un jeune homme. M. Norman n'est apparemment pas le seul à avoir sauté d'un balcon. Un autre ressortissant canadien avait sauté d'un balcon d'un édifice public en compagnie d'un jeune homme.

Dernières nouvelles

Il est dit que M. Norman avait sauté d'un balcon d'un édifice public en compagnie d'un jeune homme. M. Norman n'est apparemment pas le seul à avoir sauté d'un balcon. Un autre ressortissant canadien avait sauté d'un balcon d'un édifice public en compagnie d'un jeune homme.

Le comité sénatorial américain s'acharne contre le diplomate

Washington, 4 (AP) — M. Alvin Karpis, directeur du comité sénatorial américain chargé de l'enquête sur les activités de M. Norman, a déclaré que le comité sénatorial américain s'acharne contre le diplomate canadien.

Le comité sénatorial américain s'acharne contre le diplomate canadien. Le comité sénatorial américain s'acharne contre le diplomate canadien.

Réquisitoires aux Communes contre la calomnie qui tue

Tous les chefs de parti aux Communes ont l'intention de voter des résolutions qui condamnent les accusations faites contre M. Norman.

Les chefs de parti aux Communes ont l'intention de voter des résolutions qui condamnent les accusations faites contre M. Norman.



M. HERBERT NORMAN, ambassadeur du Canada au Caire, dont on a vu le portrait en première page de ce journal, a été accusé de trahison par le comité sénatorial américain. Ses amis personnels ont tenté de le défendre, mais le comité sénatorial américain a insisté sur sa culpabilité.

Étapes de l'affaire H. Norman

Dès 1951, il avait été accusé d'avoir été un agent des services secrets américains.

Dès 1951, il avait été accusé d'avoir été un agent des services secrets américains.

Londres réduit de \$747 millions son budget de défense

Le Livre Blanc annonce l'abolition, dès 1960, du service militaire obligatoire, le retrait progressif des troupes de Libye et de Corée.

Haiti sous l'autorité de l'armée

Le général Cantave assure la responsabilité de l'ordre public.

FEATURE // REPORTAGE

The Forgotten Flag

A RARE DISCOVERY OF AN EARLY
CANADIAN RED ENSIGN, CIRCA 1868

by David Clendenning



A Canadian diplomat, **DAVID CLENDENNING** served as a Trade Commissioner in Washington, Lagos, Ankara and Port-of-Spain. He retired from the Foreign Service in 2011. Before joining the Canadian civil service in 1973, David worked for wealth management firms. He discovered photography in the early 2000s and has become a well-known fine art and documentary photographer. David lives in Ottawa and now devotes most of his time to tennis, writing, and travelling to photograph historic architecture and exotic landscapes.

Photo: Early Canadian Red Ensign, Sotheby's Catalogue 2010

In 1965, the Maple Leaf replaced the Canadian Red Ensign as the national flag of Canada. Red Ensigns across the country were being retired. Two years later, I discovered a pristine example of what would turn out to be the first Canadian Red Ensign (circa 1868) hidden away in a small antique store in Quebec. This is the story of that flag's recovery from obscurity, its authentication as a rare Canadian historical artefact, and the struggle to find it a place in Canada's national heritage.

DURING A ROAD TRIP FROM HALIFAX to Expo '67 in Montréal, I took a detour to visit a museum in Knowlton, Quebec, to see if they had on display any stoves or iron works produced at my family's 19th century Wm. Clendenning foundry in Old Montréal. While touring the village, I happened upon an antique shop in which I spotted a large, immaculate, blood-red Ensign draped over a stair banister.

The flag displayed a canton of the Union Jack and, in the fly, a quartered shield containing the arms of the four original provinces (Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia), surmounted by the Royal Crown of Queen Victoria. The coat of arms of Ontario appeared to be particularly primitive, as if the designer of the flag was not sure what a maple leaf looked like. The cloth was in pristine condition with just a few small insect holes; it looked original and old. The construction of the Union Jack in the upper hoist consisted of individual pieces of red, white, and blue wool fabric, laboriously and precisely sewn together.

I could barely contain my excitement. As a university student of history at the time when the Red Ensign was replaced by the Maple Leaf, I was acutely aware of the Red Ensign's history. It was the flag of my boyhood and its significance felt personal.

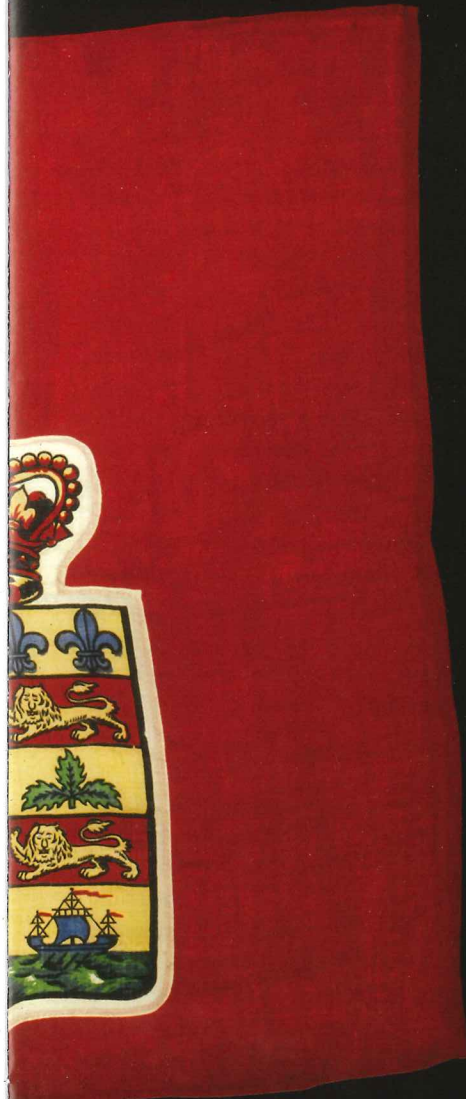
The asking price was \$190 which, at the time, was not an insignificant amount; I had hoped to celebrate in style at Expo '67! However, I felt strongly that there was something special about this flag. Excitedly,

I left the shop with my new purchase, protected in an acid-free box.

In the ensuing 40 years, I moved from Toronto to Ottawa and worked abroad as a member of Canada's Trade Commissioner Service. The flag remained in storage in a military steel ammunition box which had belonged to my father. After my return to Canada in 1989 from my posting in Turkey, I happened across the flag while rifling through my stored belongings. I felt a rush of excitement and I decided that I would do whatever research was necessary to confirm the flag's authenticity, provenance, cultural importance and monetary value.

In November 2008, the Ottawa Public Library Foundation held a fundraising event – "An Evening with Sir John A." – at the Château Laurier, Ottawa; historical material on Sir John A., including his portrait and several historic letters, were to be displayed in the lobby. The organizers asked me to include the Red Ensign in the exhibition. The restorer setting up the display prepared an independent condition report on the flag, which noted its excellent condition, size, and material texture, all of which proved to be extremely helpful in eventually determining the flag's provenance.

Soon after the exhibition, I took the flag to the Canadian Conservation Institute to confirm its date and the material's authenticity. The Institute took further steps to protect the four-by-seven-foot flag by placing it on acid-free tissue paper and carefully rolling it into a cylinder.





David Clendenning with his Red Ensign in a glass case at the Château Laurier.

In July 2009, I presented the flag to the Anglican Bishop Ralph Spence in Hamilton, Ontario. Bishop Spence was closely associated with the Canadian Heraldry Authority and considered to be Canada's definitive expert in the field of vexillology – the scientific study of flags. At that time, he possessed Canada's foremost collection of old Canadian flags.

On seeing the flag for the first time, Bishop Spence exclaimed, "You have it!" He authenticated the artefact as an extremely rare Red Ensign, dating from shortly after May 1868, the year in which the quartered four-province Canadian badge first appeared. However, Bishop Spence decried the sad state of valuations of historical artefacts in Canada, especially textiles such as flags. A recent sale of a historically significant flag – an old Governor General flag – had fetched a mere \$900.

Next, I contacted Andrew Gibbs – then, an independent appraiser at Heffel Fine Art auction house – to determine a fair market value for the flag. Due to the rarity of the flag and in order to arrive at a fair market value, I suggested that Gibbs search beyond Canada's borders to find comparable flags of international importance.

In arriving at the appraisal price, Gibbs included the sale prices of other iconic flags: an early 19th-century Napoleonic service boat flag (\$80,500); a silk sledging flag from Scott's British Antarctic Expedition (\$69,400); an 1862 Confederate battle flag (\$94,300); an 18th-century Union flag, flown at Battle of the Glorious First of June (\$91,000); a 12-star first

national Confederate flag (\$71,700); and a 34-star American national flag commemorating Kansas statehood (\$53,775). An appraisal price of \$50,000 was reached for the Red Ensign.

First, I offered the flag to the Government of Canada, but without proof that the flag had actually flown on Parliament Hill, the government would not take it. They suggested I contact the Canadian Museum of History, and I did so in May 2009. However, the Museum also declined, eventually informing me that it already had a comparable flag in its collection. My curiosity piqued, I asked to see the Museum's flag.

The museum's version (CMCC-SMCC No. 2007.79.1) and my Red Ensign were the same approximate size. They had been made in England at the same factory and appeared to be of the same period. Both flags had an orange tinge through the red colour, something that was not seen in later versions of the Red Ensign.

The differences were also pronounced: my Red Ensign was in pristine shape, while the Museum's was worn and not in a good condition. The badge in the fly of my version was almost a third larger than the badge in the Museum's. This and the orange tinge meant that arguably mine was a "prototype" and, thus, the "first" of the original Red Ensigns of 1868. No known extant object could compete with this identification to challenge its position as "Canada's first Red Ensign".

By then, I had become greatly attached to the flag, but I also thought it should have a better home, especially because it was a unique historical artefact from the first years of Canada's nationhood and of great cultural interest to Canada. My search for an appropriate place for the flag continued.

Putting a price on a priceless artefact

After some further months, I determined that my only option was to auction the flag with the hope that it would remain in Canadian hands.

Following discussions with a few different auction houses, I decided on Sotheby's for two reasons. Firstly, Sotheby's was committed to selling Canadian art, but also occasionally sold important Canadian artefacts. A few years previously, the war club that the Shawnee warrior and chief, Tecumseh, presented to Major-General Sir Isaac Brock during the War of 1812, was offered for private sale to Canadian cultural institutions. I had been shocked to learn that the artefact was turned down; it ended up in the US. With Sotheby's auction house based in Toronto, I thought I had a fighting chance to keep the Red Ensign in Canada.

Secondly, at a private meeting at the Château Laurier, the president of Sotheby's, David Silcox, agreed to undertake a major marketing initiative to promote the flag to their clients and the public, something other auction houses did not offer. We shook hands, drank a scotch, and I handed over my Red Ensign for Silcox to take back to Toronto.

Sotheby's superb promotional efforts resulted in significant press coverage prior to the June 2010 auction in Toronto. The flag was displayed on several television shows; a highlight was David Silcox's interview on CTV's *Canada AM*—then, Canada's most-watched morning newsmagazine show. Silcox told how, for nearly a century, Canadians flew the Canadian Red Ensign to distinguish themselves from all others and it was the pretender to the national flag. The segment captured the importance of the Red Ensign in an emotional and patriotic way.

Canada under the Red Ensign

Normally, auction house catalogues print words in black on a white background. At the 2010 auction, the page was reversed to white text on a jet-black background, with the brilliant red of the flag placed across the top. The note gave not only an accurate description of the flag, but it also provided the story of the importance of the flag to Canadians and their national identity:

“The Red Ensign, from which this historic flag was adapted, was the official flag of the British Merchant Marine. By definition, it was meant to be flown only by ships at sea. Early in the 17th century, it had been a flag of the Royal Navy, but King Charles II had confirmed it as the merchantmen’s pennant in 1674. The Hudson’s Bay Company, chartered in 1670 and the oldest commercial corporation in the Americas, therefore flew it aboard their ships.

[...] The Red Ensign had crept almost surreptitiously inland all along the eastern seaboard over the years prior to Confederation and was already in use by merchantmen in Canada, a use that was finally made official under a British Admiralty warrant issued in 1892. Local versions of the Ensign were allowed. The adaptation of the Red Ensign in Canada with this 1868 version, therefore, was never made precisely official and never approved or adopted by Parliament. Sir John A. MacDonald made sure, however, that it flew over Parliament Hill and above Canadian public buildings. In 1891, the Governor General, Lord Stanley—he of the Stanley Cup in hockey—declared it to be ‘the recognized Flag of the Dominion, both afloat and ashore’.

[...] [T]he Red Ensign was the Canadian flag during the First and Second World Wars: first it flew over those killed at Vimy, the Somme, Passchendaele, Ypres, Flanders, and other battlefields; then it was part of the Italian campaign, the liberation of Holland, Hong Kong, and the Battles of Britain and the North Atlantic. Later, it supported our troops in Korea. It then continued to serve until Canada adopted its own flag forty-five years ago in 1965.

[...] The Red Ensign is a powerful Canadian symbol, which has a long, affectionate, and great history in Canada, having flown over our early settlements, our distant outposts, our government buildings, our schools and post offices, and our cemeteries and war graves, for well over 350 years. This particular version and this particular flag, representing Canada in the year of its Confederation, is one of the rarest and most magnificent of all, with its exceptional condition and its brilliant original colours still forcefully intact. The power of its pure, rich colour, the scale of it, and the pivotal moment it represents in our country’s history, is unmatched.”

A new home for the Red Ensign


The auction at the Royal Ontario Museum took place on the evening of 2 June 2010 and attracted many collectors.

The flag was Lot 46 and listed as: “Canadian School, Red Ensign, c. 1868. Printed and stitched wool, linen edge, hemp rope. All seams are folded over and sewn in a straight stitch. 119 by 226.0 cm, 47 by 89 in. Estimate 40,000–60,000.”

The bids moved quickly from the opening offer of \$40,000 to \$90,000. Then, beyond all expectations, a new Canadian collector emerged to seal the final sale price. He paid \$117,500—a record for a Canadian textile artefact.

There was lot of press coverage following the auction. It transpired that the purchaser was a retired investment banker from Western Canada who came primarily to purchase the Canadian Red Ensign.

I was overjoyed that the selling price for the Ensign reached such a lofty height; this vindicated my conviction that the flag's value should reflect its importance in Canadian history.

I was very relieved that the flag was to stay in Canadian hands. I was proud to have been the flag's guardian for over 50 years. I hope that someday it will end up in its true home, either Canada's Parliament or Canada's Library and Archives, where it can be taken care of as a relic of more than 150 years deserves. 



FEATURE // REPORTAGE

Concours de photo de l'APASE 2019

PREMIER PRIX

*En haut, le ciel; en bas,
le sable; à l'intérieur,
la paix, l'erg Chebbi,
Maroc, par Corina Pinto*

LE THÈME DU CONCOURS 2019, « Vu d'ici », visait à donner aux membres de l'APASE une occasion de démontrer leurs compétences photographiques en captant leur expérience unique de la vie des agents du service extérieur dans des photos prises partout dans le monde.

Le jury de cette année a octroyé le premier prix à l'œuvre de Corina Pinto, « En haut, le ciel; en bas, le sable; à l'intérieur, la paix, l'erg Chebbi, Maroc ». « Lorsque cette photo fut prise, la "vu d'ici" était littéralement l'image de mon

conjoint à dos de chameau », se rappelle-t-elle. « Mais maintenant, je vois les dunes de sable à couper le souffle, les costumes traditionnels bleu indigo; je sens la menthe et les tajines; j'entends gémir les chameaux et les nuages de poussière. Et je ne peux m'empêcher de penser à toutes les interactions avec les habitants qui nous ont amenés jusque là. En fin de compte, ce sont les personnes que vous rencontrez en chemin qui importent plus que la destination. »



DEUXIÈME PRIX
*Chevalier du ciel, Al Fursan,
Émirats Arabes Unis,
par Julie Sirois*



TROISIÈME PRIX
*Jockey en formation, Mongolie,
par Kimberly Phillips*

MENTION HONORABLE

*Recharge nomadique,
Monts Atlas, Maroc,
par Gurvir Khosa*



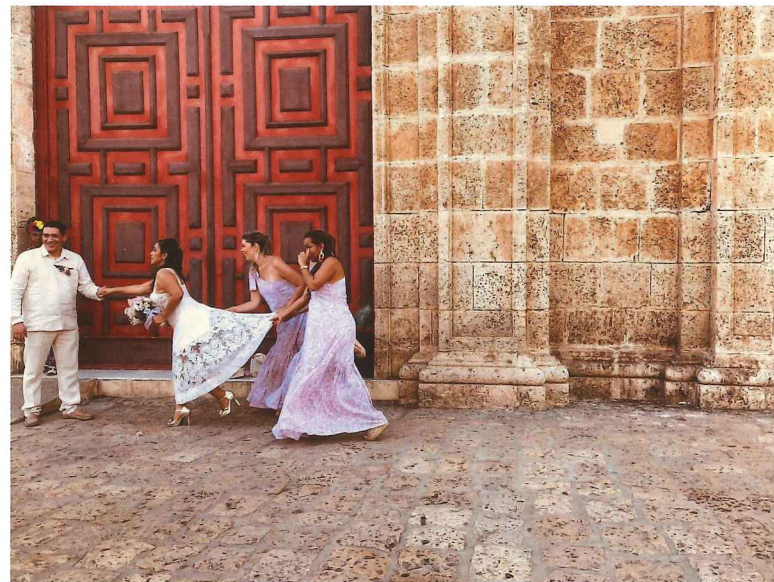
MENTION HONORABLE

*Fleurs de prunier avec neige, Tokyo, Japon,
par Joshua Hodgson*



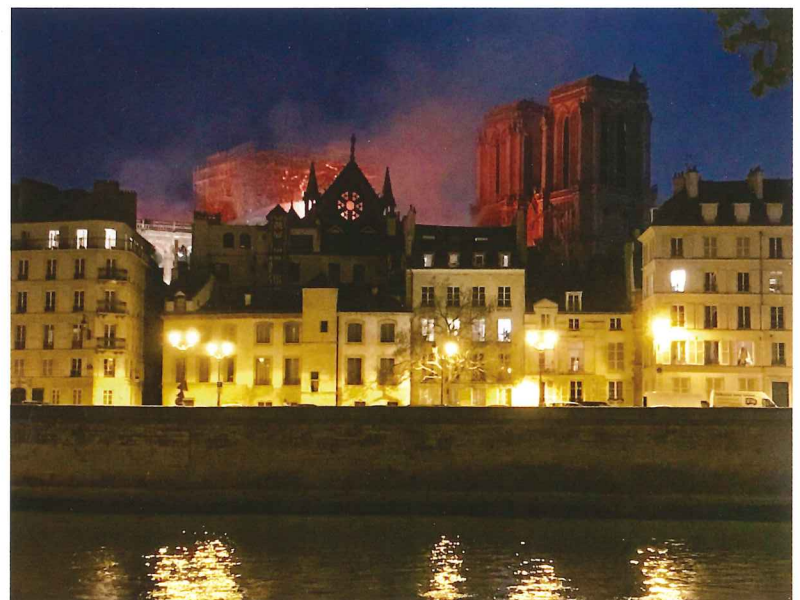
MENTION HONORABLE

Beauté tragique, Paris, France, par Karim Amégan



MENTION HONORABLE

Noces à Carthagène, Colombie, par Claudio Ramirez



MENTION HONORABLE

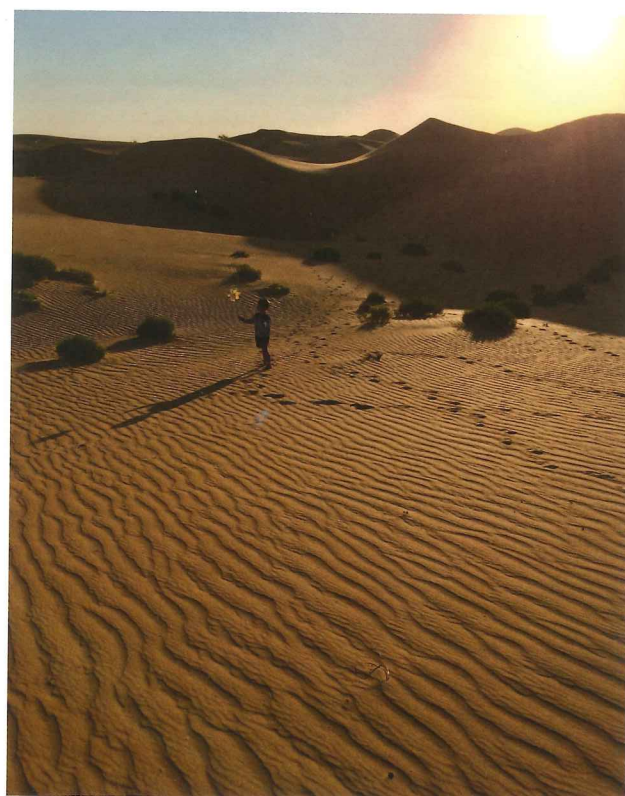
*Trajet quotidien,
Varsovie, Pologne,
par Corina Pinto*



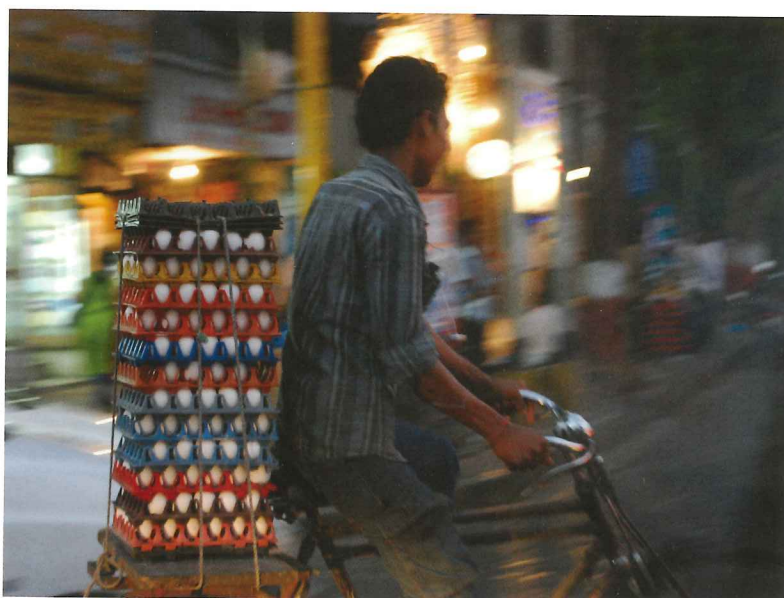
MENTION HONORABLE
*Promenade en après-midi,
Ginza, Tokyo, Japon,
par Nicolas St-Pierre*



MENTION HONORABLE
Salut aux couleurs, Londres, Royaume-Uni, par Melissa Tam



MENTION HONORABLE
*Nouveau bac à sable d'arrière-cour,
Abu Dhabi, Émirats Arabes Unis,
par Chris Gravel*



MENTION HONORABLE
*La diplomatie est une
question d'équilibre,
Mumbai, Inde,
par Sabine Nolke*

FEATURE // REPORTAGE

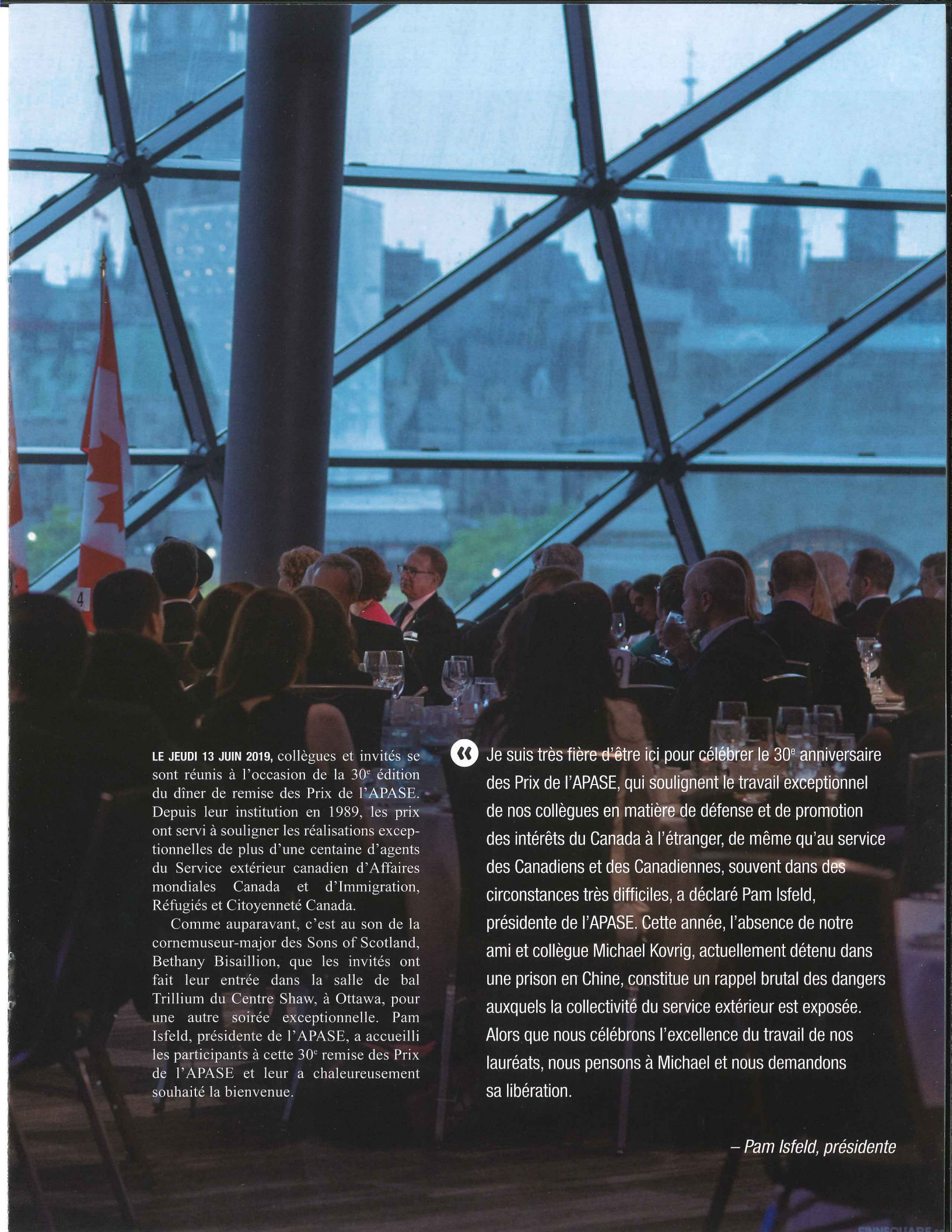
LES PRIX DE L'APASE

2019

30

ANS

event photography by John Finnigan Lin



LE JEUDI 13 JUIN 2019, collègues et invités se sont réunis à l'occasion de la 30^e édition du dîner de remise des Prix de l'APASE. Depuis leur institution en 1989, les prix ont servi à souligner les réalisations exceptionnelles de plus d'une centaine d'agents du Service extérieur canadien d'Affaires mondiales Canada et d'Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada.

Comme auparavant, c'est au son de la cornemuseur-major des Sons of Scotland, Bethany Bisailion, que les invités ont fait leur entrée dans la salle de bal Trillium du Centre Shaw, à Ottawa, pour une autre soirée exceptionnelle. Pam Isfeld, présidente de l'APASE, a accueilli les participants à cette 30^e remise des Prix de l'APASE et leur a chaleureusement souhaité la bienvenue.

« Je suis très fière d'être ici pour célébrer le 30^e anniversaire des Prix de l'APASE, qui soulignent le travail exceptionnel de nos collègues en matière de défense et de promotion des intérêts du Canada à l'étranger, de même qu'au service des Canadiens et des Canadiennes, souvent dans des circonstances très difficiles, a déclaré Pam Isfeld, présidente de l'APASE. Cette année, l'absence de notre ami et collègue Michael Kovrig, actuellement détenu dans une prison en Chine, constitue un rappel brutal des dangers auxquels la collectivité du service extérieur est exposée. Alors que nous célébrons l'excellence du travail de nos lauréats, nous pensons à Michael et nous demandons sa libération.

– Pam Isfeld, présidente

Patricia Atkinson

PATRICIA ATKINSON, chef du Groupe de travail du Venezuela, a été un élément clé dans la conception et la mise en œuvre de la stratégie du Canada pour la promotion de la démocratie et la défense des droits de la personne au Venezuela, tout en positionnant le Canada comme un chef de file dans cet hémisphère.

Patricia, and the superb team she assembled and led, supported the Minister's engagement and played key roles in the substance and organization of 11 meetings of the 13 country Lima group which coordinates action on Venezuela. She assisted in developing three rounds of sanctions against the regime and spearheaded work leading to a \$53 million aid package for Venezuelan victims and impacted neighbouring countries. She has provided sensitive support to the Embassy in Caracas during this difficult period.

Pour les qualités exceptionnelles en matière de pensée stratégique, de leadership et de gestion d'équipe dont elle a fait preuve, Patricia Atkinson est lauréate du Prix de l'APASE 2019.



*Marta Morgan, Deputy
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
and Patricia Atkinson*

“ I'm deeply honoured to have received this award. Working on Venezuela has taught and challenged me more than any other assignment in my Foreign Service career. Venezuela is a case study in how Canada can stretch the boundaries of traditional diplomacy, but it also demonstrates that investment in a professional and continually renewed Foreign Service is crucial to meeting these challenges.



Malcolm Campbell

In Beijing, Foreign Service officer **MALCOLM CAMPBELL** led the design of CAN+, an innovative program to streamline visa issuance for low risk travellers. This resulted in 40% of applicants receiving expedited processing, thus freeing up visa officers for more complex cases.

Durant l'Opération réfugiés syriens, Malcolm a créé un système qui a consolidé l'information sur les réfugiés syriens obtenue de sources variées, de sorte que les centres des opérations à Beyrouth et au Canada puissent se partager le traitement.

Returning to Ottawa in 2017, Malcolm coordinated a disparate team that designed "Chinook," a tool to improve thousands of temporary resident decisions. While providing access to more data, facilitating work sharing and enhancing consistency, Chinook delivered a 25% productivity gain and improved officer moral and confidence. Malcolm's expert knowledge, deft coordination, and sensitive communications ensured success.

Pour sa créativité exceptionnelle, sa virtuosité sur le plan technique et ses qualités de communicateur exceptionnelles, sans oublier ses qualités de leader de l'innovation, Malcolm Campbell reçoit le Prix de l'APASE 2019.



Lori MacDonald, Acting Deputy Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and Malcolm Campbell

“ Immigration is hard work. Sometimes under challenging circumstances, but in the end it's always rewarding.

Despite the tough circumstances we're all living under now in 2020, I'm excited to see all of the innovative ideas that will come out of IRCC and the International Network under these challenging conditions to continue achieving our goals.





Suzanne Elliott

En sa qualité de directrice adjointe de la Section des cas familiaux aux Opérations consulaires, **SUZANNE ELLIOTT** gère un exigeant portefeuille et elle fait constamment preuve de beaucoup d'initiative et de créativité, d'engagement envers les Canadiens et les Canadiennes, d'une efficacité interculturelle intense et d'une capacité unique d'inspirer autrui. L'équipe de Suzanne fournit des services consulaires aux enfants canadiens victimes d'abus ou abandonnés à l'étranger et elle s'occupe des cas d'enlèvement international d'enfant par l'un des deux parents. Son équipe a rapatrié des centaines d'enfants au Canada au cours des quatre dernières années.

Many of the cases Suzanne managed involved women subjected to gender-based violence and/or were in imminent physical danger. There is often no room for error and frequently only a single chance to intervene.

Pour son engagement indéfectible à venir en aide à des enfants, femmes et familles canadiens désespérés et pour avoir ouvert la voie à de nouveaux moyens d'élargir le rayonnement consulaire du Canada aux plus vulnérables, Suzanne Elliott se voit décerner le Prix de l'APASE 2019.

*Marta Morgan, Deputy
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
and Suzanne Elliott*

“ In the moment, I was overcome with memories of hardship and loss endured by Canadians; their dignity and bravery under extraordinary circumstances; the determination to provide assistance with compassion and to accept this as success when other outcomes are outside of your control; and the solidarity of our consular staff to support each other.





Richard Kohler, Past President and Executive Vice-President of RHOMA and Gary Luton

Gary Luton se voit décerner le prix de l'ACMAR

Outre les quatre prix de l'APASE, l'Association des chefs de mission à la retraite (l'ACMAR) a annoncé le nom du lauréat du prix pour la meilleure contribution au magazine **bout de papier** de l'APASE. M. Gary Luton, a mérité le prix pour son article « Three Days in November: The Siege of Mumbai » (30-4).

Les gagnants des prix de présence



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2019 Panel of Judges // Jury de sélection 2019

DR. ROLAND PARIS is Professor of International Affairs at the University of Ottawa's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and an Associate Fellow in the US and the Americas Program at Chatham House.

DR. LINDA DUXBURY is a professor at the Sprott School of Business at Carleton University where she teaches master's and PhD courses in Managing Change, as well as the master's course in Organizational Behaviour.

MS. ANNE ARNOTT is a retired public servant with 38 years of experience in the immigration field. She was a proud member of PAFSO, was Vice President for two years, and is herself a recipient of a PAFSO award.

MME EMMANUELLE LATRAVERSE est analyste politique pour le Réseau TVA. Elle anime également l'émission politique hebdomadaire *La Joute Dimanche* sur les ondes de LCN, ainsi qu'une balado politique *Emmanuelle présente*, sur la vie et le parcours des politiciens canadiens et québécois.

M. YVES BRODEUR est ancien agent du Service extérieur qui a eu une carrière très diversifiée. Il a été porte-parole de l'OTAN, ambassadeur auprès de la République Turque et ambassadeur et Représentant permanent du Canada à l'OTAN avant sa retraite en 2015.

MR. TOM MacDONALD is a former Trade Commissioner and Trade Negotiator who retired from Global Affairs Canada in 2016. He was Ambassador to Argentina, Consul General in Sydney and Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, as well as Chargé d'affaires in Libya and Brunei.



FEATURE // REPORTAGE

A Lonely Telex Leads to a Blockbuster File

THE DEBUT OF CANADA'S EDUCATION MARKETING ABROAD

by David Lysne



DAVID LYSNE joined the Canadian Foreign Service in 1969 and served internationally in Bern, Switzerland, London, England, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Chicago, Illinois.

EDUCATION MARKETING IS NOW A DYNAMIC DOSSIER, well established within International Trade activities at Global Affairs Canada (GAC). In a statement released on 22 August, 2019, the then Minister of Trade Diversification, Jim Carr, noted that “in 2018, more than 720,000 international students at all levels studied in Canada and contributed an estimated \$21.6 billion to Canada’s economy.” This figure reflects transportation, housing, food, and other costs paid by students while in Canada.

As well, Canadian education marketing boasts one of the classiest and most effective websites among all federal government departments in Canada. Statistics for the EduCanada.ca website show 751,903 visitors and 6,963,125 page views in 2018 alone! It is worth a visit to see for yourself. The Canadian educational “brand” is extremely well represented!

There will soon be more than 30 full-time employees plus co-op students and contractors at GAC headquarters to support these activities, according to Nancy Hector, Deputy Director in the International Education Division (BIE) in Ottawa. As well, there are 72 employees at Missions in the education sector, of whom 18 are dedicated full-time to education activities.

Education officers at our missions abroad are supported by Regional Education Trade Commissioners (RETCs) who oversee specific geographic locations and support a wide variety of education marketing services. RETCs located in São Paulo cover Asia and Oceania, Latin America and the Caribbean. Two other RETCs are in Ottawa and are responsible for Europe, the United States, the Middle East and Africa.

Internationally, education marketing activities are distributed among trade and political officers, depending on the Mission. These operatives work in close cooperation with Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) officers, who have the statutory authority to provide international students with the legal documents to study in Canada. From the very beginning of the Canadian government’s involvement in education marketing, officers from Global Affairs Canada have enjoyed close and complementary working relationships with their Immigration colleagues.

The beginning of education marketing as a departmental activity

While education marketing has grown enormously over the years, it had its humble origins in a mid-sized Canadian Embassy in Seoul, the capital of the Republic of Korea in the late 1980s and early-to-mid 1990s.

In order to understand why Seoul is rightly credited with being the birthplace of Canada’s education marketing abroad, we need to place South Korea in the context of what was taking place economically in various areas of Asia, vis-a-vis what was taking place in Canada at the same time.

During the late 1980s and early 1990s, certain Asian countries and jurisdictions experienced massive economic growth. South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore were known as the “Four Tigers”. In 1992, the Department of External Affairs and International Trade, as it was called at the time, issued a detailed statement predicting that by the year 2000, those Four Tigers “were likely to reach a European level of industrialization with higher economic growth rates than any of the countries belonging to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

(OECD).” The statement continued, “Japan alone is a larger market for Canada than the United Kingdom, France, Italy, and West Germany combined...”

The document further noted that Canada attracted direct investment from Asia Pacific businesses and entrepreneurs, which exceeded CAD \$3 billion in 1988. As well, it was estimated that each year “over 950,000 tourists from the Asia Pacific visited Canada and as the economies of the region continue to strengthen, these numbers are expected to increase.”

In 1989, Canada responded to – or some might argue, anticipated – the emergence of Asia’s monumental growth by launching an imaginative project in the Asia Pacific Region, popularly known as the Pacific 2000 programme. The Right Honourable Joe Clark, then Secretary of State for External Affairs and International Trade, addressed the Business Council of British Columbia in Vancouver on 19 April, 1989, indicating the Pacific 2000 initiative would include, inter alia, a Pacific 2000 Project Fund “so that Canada could become better known in Asia Pacific.”

A lonely telex appears at External Affairs and International Trade headquarters

While there was no direct reference in the Pacific 2000 document to increasing the number of international students from the Asia Pacific region, a single telex from our High Commission in Singapore (Singapore being one of the Four Tigers) to the Lester B. Pearson Building in late 1988–89 asked if the High Commission should be represented at an international student fair run by a well-known international company. The telex from Singapore also asked which section of the Commission should represent Canada at the fair if attendance was recommended.

The External Affairs officer who received the telex was a colleague of mine, a member of the political and economic stream working in the briefly integrated immigration section of the Asia Pacific Branch on the 5th floor of LBP. The telex apparently elicited scant interest from trade officials on the 5th floor of LBP, who, it was thought, were primarily focused on promoting trade, not in services but in tangible products. As well, at that time, the Academic Relations Division of External was mainly dedicated to the establishment of Canadian Studies Programmes abroad, as well as dispensing Commonwealth scholarships – far from the business of promoting Canadian educational services abroad.

With little interest from either the trade officials in the Asia Pacific Branch or the Academic Relations Division, my political officer colleague asked if I might be interested in dealing with Singapore’s request. He was surprised, I think, and somewhat relieved when I responded that I was most interested in responding to the telex. At the time, I had just returned from the Consulate General in Chicago, where

In 1989,
Canada
responded
to the
emergence
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monumental
growth by
launching an
imaginative
project in
the Region



A snapshot of the times: David Lysne and young pianist Lucille Chung in Seoul at a Canada Week Celebration in 1988.

I had served as a Political, Economic and Public Affairs officer for four years.

The thought of working on a file which dealt with international students resonated with my background and work experience. My wife, Linda, and I had served as Canadian University Services Overseas (CUSO) volunteers in Guyana, South America from 1966–68. I had taught a first-year World History Course at the fledgling University of Guyana and Linda had taught at a private school for girls. After our two-year stint in Guyana, we had returned to the University of Alberta (U of A), our Alma Mater. I had taken a position as Foreign Student Advisor and Assistant Dean of Men. Both my wife and I had served as live-in Wardens in the Graduate Student residence, which had a large percentage of International students. It was after a year in that position that I joined the federal Department of Citizenship and Immigration, where I learned the importance of laws pertaining to visa requirements for international students wanting to study in Canada. I later transferred to the Political and Economic stream of External Affairs.

So, I guess by default, I wound up being responsible for encouraging our office in Singapore to send a Commission representative to the Fair. I cannot recall if we were advised that a Commission representative ever in fact attended the Fair. Neither do I recall ever seeing a report from our Mission in Singapore indicating the Mission had participated in the Fair.

Meanwhile, in about the same timeframe as the Education Fair in Singapore, telexes started being directed to me in the Asia Pacific Branch from the Embassy in Seoul from Greg Shea, a Second Secretary and Vice-Consul in the Political and Economic Section.

Greg used a new vocabulary when sending telexes to External Ottawa on education matters. Words such as “promotion,” and terms such as “marketing Canadian education services and products” started to take their place with such terms as “academic relations” and references to the well-known Canadian Studies and Women’s Studies Programme in Seoul. However, even the term “trade”, at that time, so far as I recall, did not enter the lexicon in describing what was going on at posts in education marketing matters!

Major challenges in education marketing lay ahead for the embassy

Soon it became obvious that while the Embassy staffers in Seoul were interested in promoting Canada as a destination for South Korean students, the Embassy was starting from a very basic level. While the Mission in Seoul made great strides in the late 1980s in raising Canada’s profile in South Korea through a number of highly public events, the Embassy still had many challenges to overcome in order to even think about the “promotion” of Canada as an education destination for Korean students.

Our competitors had an edge. American and British educational capacities in education were well-established and well-known in South Korea so they did not need to promote their education systems.

Australia had already made education marketing inroads in Korea. It was widely known that the Australians had a number of stand-alone Education Centres operating internationally which could attract Korean students with a 10-hour plane trip between Seoul and Sydney, versus a 16-hour flight from, say, Seoul to Toronto!

Under the Canadian Constitution, provinces have primary responsibility for education matters. Promoting education at a federal level therefore brought a new institutional landscape to navigate.

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada was a powerful, country-wide non-government entity furthering the interests of the Canadian university community. The Association of Canadian Community Colleges was its counterpart, representing community colleges. The Canadian Bureau of International Education was another non-government agency interested in international education matters, which even tried (but failed) to establish a Canadian education information office in Kuala Lumpur. While the Embassy in Seoul took these organizations into account, it did not seek them as education marketing partners.

The Canadian Embassy in Seoul and External in Ottawa made every effort not to offend either the existing international education players in Canada or disturb

provincial sensitivities. Examples of this accommodation saw External Headquarters in Ottawa and the Embassy in Seoul eventually treat education marketing as a trade-oriented file. Ironically, the political officers at the mission were initially in charge of the international education programme providing information for prospective students obtained directly from Canadian education institutions and other education providers.

The Embassy in Seoul did a masterful job in steering through a maze of obvious and not so obvious challenges to provide a hitherto unknown service to the Canadian education industry.

A new entity is born in a Canadian mission abroad

By 1993, the Canadian Education Marketing Office in Seoul had evolved incrementally and was firmly in place. It was located within the Embassy with two locally-engaged staff who were overseen, not by a Trade Officer, but by Ron Macintosh, the Political and Economic Counsellor and Consul. While Ron oversaw the office's operations, he gave much credit to previously mentioned Greg Shea, for being the major driver of the education marketing file at that time. Greg introduced the concept of actively assisting Canadian education institutions and other suppliers in promoting their institutions.

With the establishment of the Education Information Office in Seoul, Ron also had high praise for the role of Citizenship and Immigration (C&I) staff at the Embassy. Ron noted that while C&I officers were not directly involved in the operation of the Education Office, they regularly dispatched personnel to fairs to answer student visa and authorization questions. He also noted that family members of Canadian C&I officers attended student fairs, volunteering their time as resource persons to promote Canada as a study destination.

Rodney Briggs, another officer from the Political stream, came to the Seoul mission in 1994 and assumed his position as Manager of the Education Information Centre. Rodney was instrumental in overseeing an increase in the number of student authorizations from 400 to 8,000 by the time he left the post in 1996 to assume his position as President of the nascent Canadian Education Centre Network (CECN) with the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada in Vancouver.

The rapid growth of the education marketing file over subsequent years

In late 1993 and early 1994, as word spread and excitement – yes excitement – built on the success of the Seoul model, the Asia Pacific Branch in External undertook a comprehensive marketing study to review the success of the Seoul operation and to determine the possibility of establishing additional Education Centres throughout Asia Pacific region. The findings of the marketing study were published, widely read, and well received by a variety of

Canadian education players, senior External and International Trade officials, and at least one Federal Minister! The report was a hot number.

To follow up on the positive results of the marketing study, the Asia Pacific Branch of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (External had been renamed) held a much-anticipated education marketing conference from 11–14 March, 1994 in Vancouver to discuss the results of the study. The invitees included representatives from federal and provincial governments, academic institutions, educational associations and non-government organizations countrywide to develop a five-year strategy for marketing education products and services in the Asia Pacific region.


There was general agreement at the conference that many jurisdictions in the Asia Pacific region provided excellent marketing opportunities for a wide range of Canadian education providers. Delegates to the conference expressed strong interest in developing new educational markets beyond the Asia Pacific region, and indicated there was domestic capacity to meet new market demands!

Six months later, on 1 November, 1994, International Trade Minister Roy MacLaren announced the intention of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), in cooperation with the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, to establish a Network of Canadian Information Centres (CICs) in Asia Pacific in partnership with the well-placed and well-staffed Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada in Vancouver. Beyond South Korea, additional markets of interest included Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, China, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Thailand. In subsequent years, many Canadian Education Information Centres opened in those very countries.

The lonely telex has the last word!

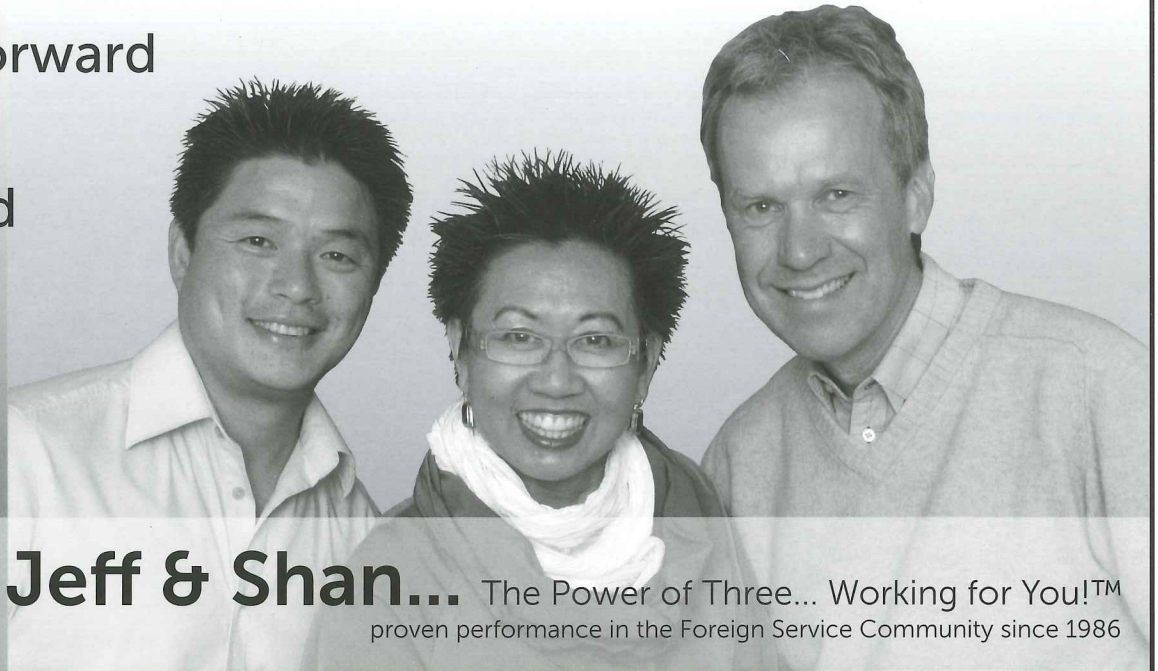
While Prime Minister Chrétien was scheduled to open the Canadian Information Centre in Bangkok, Thailand, in early 1996, his trip was delayed, much to the disappointment of Mission staff. The Prime Minister, however, did open the Canadian Information Centre's first Canadian Education Fair in Thailand during what was described as "prime education fair season" as part of a 1997 Team Canada visit.

The Education Fair has become a prominent instrument of Canadian education marketing, giving human expression to the Canadian brand of education. Missions participated in more than 280 education promotion activities in 2018, including education fairs.

External Affairs and International Trade, under the recent moniker of Global Affairs Canada has indeed come a long way from the lonely telex that had trouble finding a landing spot at Headquarters back in the late 1980s! 

**By 1993,
the Canadian
Education
Marketing
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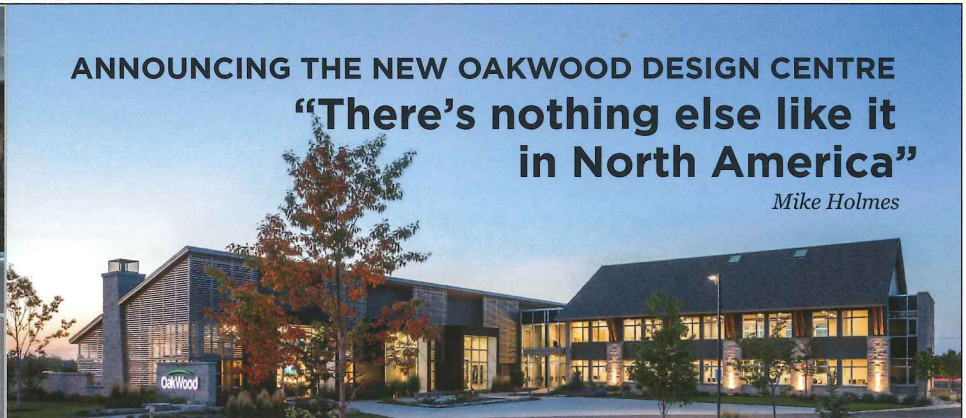


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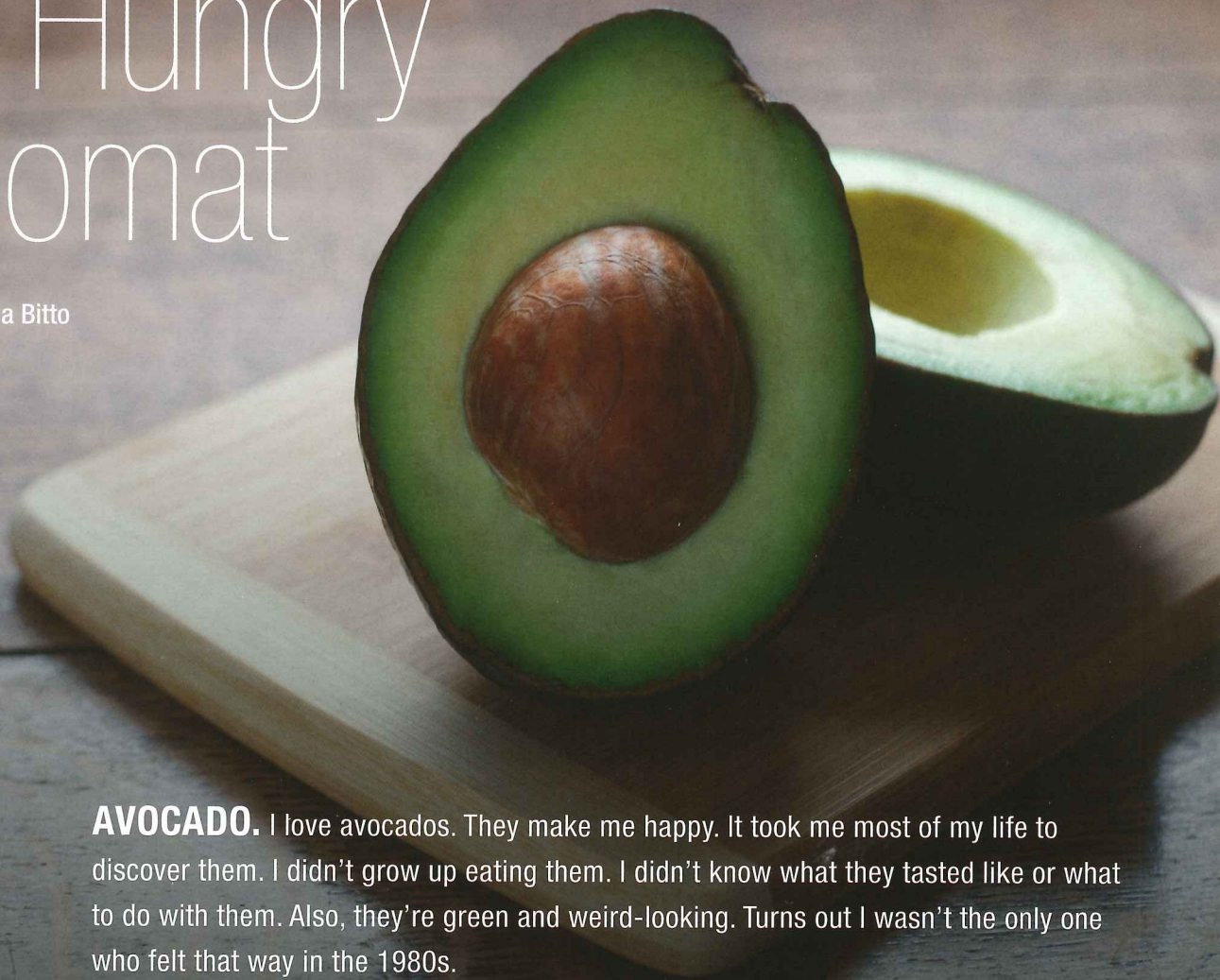
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Let’s get started!

The Hungry Diplomat

by Lisa Bitto



AVOCADO. I love avocados. They make me happy. It took me most of my life to discover them. I didn't grow up eating them. I didn't know what they tasted like or what to do with them. Also, they're green and weird-looking. Turns out I wasn't the only one who felt that way in the 1980s.

LISA BITTO is a political Foreign Service officer and believes food is one of life's greatest simple pleasures. She enjoys using culinary diplomacy to bring people together and has been known to create cookie distribution lists at work. Her current obsessions include Turkish flatbread, jam-making and milkshakes.

BUT NOW I'VE SEEN TRUTH. This fruit is magical. It's full of good stuff, including monounsaturated fat and vitamin K, which helps your blood to clot, and vitamins B5 and B6 for good hair, skin and immunity. Avos also have folate and fibre. Plus, they're creamy and easy to prepare. So if you have ready access, why aren't you eating them?

Mexico is by far the world's largest producer of avocados, producing about three times more than the next closest country. The Dominican Republic, Indonesia and a number of Latin American countries are also strong producers, with the US and Oceania growing more modest quantities. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the US is the largest consumer; a 1990s marketing campaign made guacamole a signature Super Bowl item and consumption there exploded permanently. Global consumption of avocados also continues to grow. The Netherlands, which imports South American avocados for most of Europe, has seen its avocado importations grow fourfold in just eight years.

Avocados' increased popularity has also brought some controversy. Avocado trees need water, but do not have the means to seek it from deep in the soil, owing to their shallow root system. That means regular irrigation is needed in dry climates. California's recently-ended long-term drought, combined with its huge agricultural sector, generated debate over the use of water for crops like almonds, pomegranates and avos. In the case of almonds, a boycott was proposed, given the significant amounts of land devoted to a cash crop that is mostly shipped abroad; avocados escaped being directly targeted.

Some people in the US and Canada don't consider the avocado vegan. To pollinate avocado flowers in California, bees are brought in from across the US (and a large percentage have died there in the past due to exposure to pesticides), violating the vegan ethic that food production should not exploit an animal or cause suffering. Concern over the exploitation of bees is also the

reason vegans don't eat honey. While I don't find the argument entirely convincing as an omnivore, I certainly do think it is worth considering from an ecological and sustainability point of view.

Okay, heavy conversation is over. Let's talk about how to prep an avocado. Many are intimidated by this process, but it's really easy if you remember the following advice.

First, only eat an avocado when it's ripe. Press your thumb next to the stem at the skinny end of the avo and it should sink in with a bit of resistance. If not, it's not ripe yet and no amount of wishing will help you. You can pop it in a paper bag or just leave it out in a bowl. Place it somewhere you'll see it in 24 hours – I leave mine near the coffee grinder and check each morning. When it's ripe, eat it within a day or pop it in the fridge and it'll stay perfect for a week. Avos are infamous for their short time

at peak perfection, so when you happen upon it, be ready for action!

Second, don't use a knife for anything except to cut it in half. Place the avo on its side on a cutting board and use a sharp knife to slice it down the centre until you hit the pit. Turn it over and repeat. Then twist the two sides and pull apart. Use a spoon (yes, a spoon) to gently work the pit loose and scoop it out. Don't try to be impressive by swiping it with a knife; there's no need for that kind of carnage. Then (no, put the knife down), use the very same spoon to smoothly scoop out each half of the avo. From there, go ahead and slice or mash it. Don't follow what most instructions say to score the soft flesh while holding a half avocado in your hand. The knife passes through the fruit and skin easily and is increasingly sending people to hospital with "avocado hand". It's a real thing. Google it.

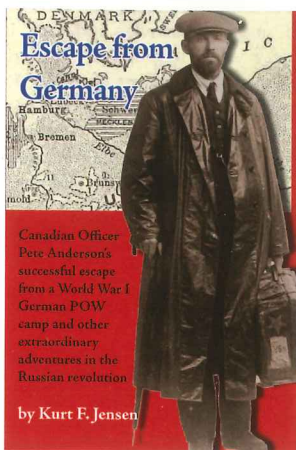
RECIPE // RECETTE

Guacamole

Guacamole can be as complicated or simple as you want it to be. At its most basic, I just use mashed avo, with salt, lime and garlic. Add cilantro, diced onion, some salsa, or anything else you think it needs. I don't measure, just eyeball what seems reasonable. Add a bit of each at a time and add more if you think it needs it.

And don't limit yourself to eating it only with tortilla chips; my favourite application is as a sandwich spread with chicken, bacon and cheese, a topping on tortilla soup or as a condiment on eggs with toast. When you buy a whole bag of wonderful Mexican avocados, you need options, since you'll be eating an awful lot of it! I've also seen it baked into chocolate cake, but I'll leave it to you to decide if you're ready to take such an unorthodox step and eat chocolate cake that is slightly tinged green.





BOOK REVIEW // CRITIQUE DE LIVRE

Escape from Germany

Canadian officer Pete Anderson's successful escape from a World War I German POW camp

reviewed by Terry S. Wood

BY KURT F. JENSEN

COMMONERS' PUBLISHING,
OTTAWA, 2019.
248 pp

TERRY WOOD retired from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in 2013 after 31 years in the Foreign Service, with postings in Mexico City, Washington D.C. and Vienna. He joined the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, where he led its \$150 million USD Kazakhstan-hosted Low Enriched Uranium Bank project from 2013–15. Terry returned to Global Affairs Canada in 2017–18 as a counter-proliferation specialist.

THE SUBTITLE OF *ESCAPE FROM GERMANY* could well be “the story of Pete Anderson, a genuine Canadian hero”. Through meticulous research conducted over 40 years, Jensen ably makes the case in his commendable biography that Anderson is an exceptional Canadian well worth remembering.

The story of the eventful life and times of Peter Anderson comprises three main narratives. The first, and in many respects the *leitmotif* of *Escape from Germany*, is Jensen’s colourful portrayal of Anderson as the typical hard-working and talented immigrant who achieves great success and wealth in his adopted country. As a first-generation Danish immigrant himself, Jensen tells this story with empathy and authority.

Like many first-generation immigrants, failure, either in peace or war, was never an option for Anderson. Born in Denmark to a modest farming family, Anderson emigrated to Canada in 1888, where he arrived in Winnipeg barely 20 years old, alone and with next to nothing. Although his original goal was to gain sufficient knowledge and experience to be able to return and become a Danish military officer, by the time of WWI Anderson had become a very wealthy and successful businessman, working his way up from logging, hunting and trapping in Manitoba to Edmonton where he became the biggest supplier of bricks and construction materials in the Prairie provinces. Along the way he developed into a committed Canadian nationalist as well as a senior local militia officer, with his battalion one of the first Canadian units to deploy to Europe after the outbreak of the War.

In the title narrative, Jensen relates the gripping story of Anderson’s capture and daring escape from a German POW camp. Anderson was captured on 24 April, 1916, during what for the Allies was the disastrous second battle of Ypres. It was his birthday,

and he spent the day demonstrating, as usual, considerable bravery and leadership, including personally inflicting at least 50 casualties on the rapidly advancing German army. Determined not to be held for long, in late September Anderson successfully escaped from the POW camp in Saxony where he was being interned. Less than two weeks later, after a series of harrowing experiences, Anderson crawled under the barbed wire border to freedom into his native and neutral Denmark. So adept at passing himself off as a neutral Scandinavian, he was able to travel partway by train through the heart of Germany, visiting Berlin and Hamburg en route, picking up valuable military intelligence along the way.

Anderson was one of only 100 Canadian POWs to successfully escape and reach freedom during WWI. He was the only Canadian officer to do so and, at 47 years old, the oldest. He would eventually be awarded a Distinguished Service Order for his remarkable accomplishment, one of two he was awarded, which is itself exceptional.

Despite this incredible achievement, what Anderson most wanted – a successful and meaningful war – proved elusive, at least on the Western Front. Jensen details the frustrations and outright obstacles that Anderson, like many bright and highly motivated self-made men, faced in the British-dominated Canadian Army. Anderson actively railed against the significant wastage of men and material that he saw resulting from incompetent military leadership, ineffective tactics and irrelevant rules and regulations. Being noticeably non-British in a quintessentially British-dominated institution was a further significant impediment. More darkly, groundless

Anderson was captured on April 24, 1916, during what for the Allies was the disastrous second battle of Ypres. It was his birthday.

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whispers persisted that his successful escape was really the result of him being a German spy or at least a sympathizer.

As a result, Anderson struggled to obtain what he considered a meaningful post, despite his prewar military training and militia commission, not to mention his business acumen, that had prepared him better than most. Nevertheless, through his persistent efforts, and building on his experiences in the Western Canada wilderness, he overcame various inane bureaucratic obstacles to establish a "Sniping and Scouting School" addressing what he ably demonstrated to be a critical front-line need. He also anonymously authored a ground-breaking training manual on the skills involved that was immediately embraced by the US Marines.

In another main story of *Escape from Germany*, equally heroic and little remembered, Jensen documents Anderson's leading role in the Canadian contribution to the Allied Expeditionary Force in Northern Russia. Anderson was the last officer to join the second and smaller of the two Canadian contingents involved, which was deployed south of Murmansk from September 1918 to August 1919. It was there that Anderson finally achieved his life-long goal of a front-line military command. The original Allied mission was to guard Allied military supplies stockpiled in Northern Russia from being captured by Germany, but with the war's end this quickly morphed into training Russian "White" counter-revolutionary forces and provision of more active military support. The small Canadian contingent, all experienced veterans, eventually found themselves spearheading Allied intelligence gathering and combat operations against the Bolsheviks in the depths of a Russian winter, sometimes deep behind enemy lines.

Notably, in April 1919, after learning that a large Bolshevik force was assembling at a nearby railway town, representing a serious threat to the Allies, Anderson took the initiative to quickly organize and lead a highly successful pre-emptive attack, capturing the town and securing the region. The hide-bound British-led Allied high command initially considered court-marring Anderson for not seeking prior approval for the attack, but the value of the victory was later appreciated, and Anderson was promoted. He received a Distinguished Service

Order, his first, for the initiative, along with several foreign honours. But the limited Allied intervention in Russia was soon over, and by December 1919, after an absence of more than five years, Anderson was back in Edmonton, where he received the greatest welcome accorded to any returning WWI veteran.

Decimated by his extended absence and changing times, Anderson's business struggled during the challenging post-war era and never regained its previous prosperity. Anderson gradually faded from public life, eventually retiring to Victoria, B.C. in 1942. Always one who sought to live life on his own terms, he shot himself in August 1945, some time after being diagnosed with cancer. Taking place the day after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, his suicide received limited media attention.

Although he leaves no stone unturned and has unearthed significant new material on the hero of *Escape from Germany*, Jensen admits that Anderson remains something of an enigma in that he left virtually no record of his own personal feelings, notably how he felt about being away from his family and business for so long, to the clear detriment of at least the latter. While Anderson was justifiably proud of what he accomplished in realizing his life-long military ambitions, he neither sought glory nor considered himself a hero, according to Jensen. His main motivation was to do what he considered to be his duty, and to do it as well as he possibly could. Anderson was typically Canadian in this regard. That he did it so well, against all obstacles, makes him a genuine Canadian hero. And because, as Jensen notes, Canadians tend not to honour their heroes, it is no surprise that he has largely been forgotten. It is to Jensen's credit, and to our benefit, that Anderson's remarkable story is brought back to life.



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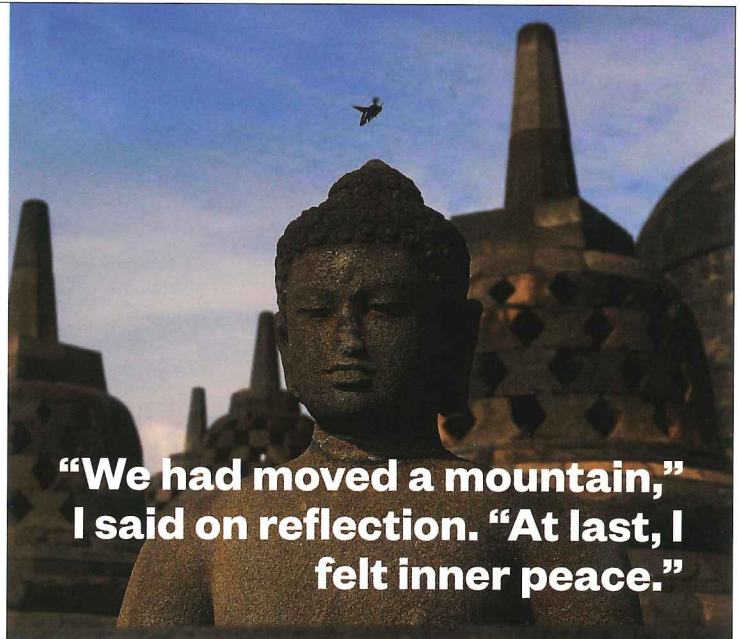
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The Caravanserai of Mist and Moonlight

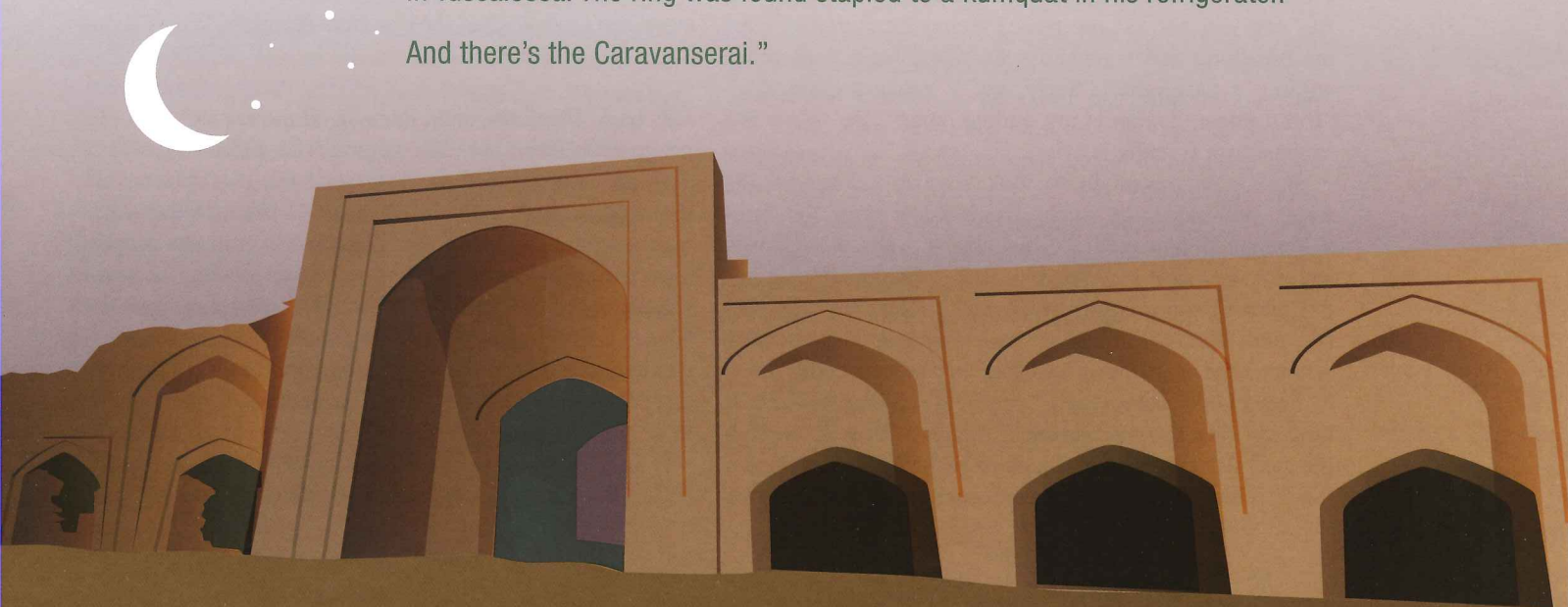
HAIRY HARRY JANUARY MEETS THE DJINN, REPORTS A AALTO

by A Aalto

A AALTO is working in transition. The Caravanserai reflects the Kapan Han in Skopje ("han" is another word for "caravanserai"). The Bush Bazaar derives from Fritz Leiber's "Bazaar of the Bizarre", part of the "Fafhrd and the Gray Mouser" series. SNL fans will recognize their Father Guido, although mine is not the same. The Apostolic Penitentiary is real and will I hope forgive me. And a shout out to Father Joe, recently named to high office in the Curia.

We are walking a country road behind a deserted church, cold wind blowing. A waning moon casts knife-thin shadows from the bare branches and silent owls cut across the stars. Father Guido says, "There are four kinds of places. Most, like the street you stepped into this morning, are not hard to find. Others are always there, but most people can't see them – like Diagon Alley. The third is only sometimes there, like Brigadoon, which appears one night in a century. Then there is the Caravanserai of Moon and Moonlight. Always somewhere, but not always where it was the last time."

I say, "So GPS is not a big help." "No, but there are other things." He lifts his hand and flashes a silver ring with a black stone. "Crafted for Saint Bevan the Bewildered, last seen entering an amusement park in Tuscaloosa. The ring was found stapled to a kumquat in his refrigerator. And there's the Caravanserai."



THE STORY BEGINS A FEW days before in my office, where I help merchandise of negotiable provenance find new owners. There is a tall guy in the client chair, long dark robes and a broad-brimmed hat. The dog-collar makes him one of God's mechanics, the bandito moustache says he's no St. Francis. He introduces himself as Father Guido Gnocchi. I ask how I can help.

"What do you know about the seal of the confessional?" he says. "No seal ever makes me confess," I reply. "No, it means when someone confesses their sins to a priest, the priest cannot on pain of excommunication tell anyone what was said." "Right, sort of *omerta* with incense."

"If you like, Mr. January. But things can get complicated. A hypothetical example. A man, call him Mr. Christian, comes to a priest. He confesses a big crime he's about to pull off. He's skipping town as soon as the deed is done, he wants it off his conscience, this priest is the only one he trusts. He spells it out and asks for absolution. The priest says no, because Christian refuses to abandon his plan, and anyway we do not absolve in advance. Christian goes away. The next day, he is run down and killed in the street."

"But two days after the funeral, Christian's daughter visits me, shows me a USB key. She found it in his desk with instructions to give it to me in the event of his death. The key held a long audio file. It was encrypted, but we broke it – the Church has always been good with cryptic texts."

I ask, "So what does the file say?" "It was a recording of his confession to the priest. I can't tell you more, because of the seal. I can say it poses severe legal and theological issues. But the immediate problem is that the key was stolen from St. Peter's last week, by a man called Rialto Sleazewagon. I am a trouble-shooter for the Apostolic Penitentiary..."

"The Vatican hoosegow?" "No, the tribunal that handles cases involving the confessional. The Cardinal in charge wants me to get the key back. You know Sleazewagon and have a record for finding objects that have gone astray, so I'm asking your help."

"I am willing. I can take the Church or leave it. Sleazewagon, however, gives cockroaches a bad name. But can you not tell me more? Being cautious has kept me breathing and I generally do not enter a dark room without a flashlight." "Sorry, no." "You are dogmatic." "I'm a priest, dogma is my middle name." He shows me his passport. It really is.

Back in the moonlight, we look down on a clearing in the forest. Half-hidden by patchy fog is a low stone fort from a Foreign Legion movie – high blank walls with towers and domes visible over the top. Father Guido strides up to the gateway and greets the two guards. They are eight feet tall, dark blue, mean-looking and muscular. They flourish scimitars and snarl. Other than that, they seem friendly.

Father Guido comes back. "The djinn will admit us. In fact, the Lady in Indigo wants to see us tonight." We walk through the gate. If the outside of the place is shabby and dusty, the inside is bright and gaudy. A huge open space is surrounded

on all sides by rows of archways, with a second row on top. The square is a crowded and noisy night market, lit by long rows of torches along the walls and on tall poles among the booths. Merchants and hawkers sell everything that is exotic and colourful.

Father Guido says, "Caravanserais serve as a resting place for caravans. Here the traders can find safety and shelter for themselves and their goods and their camels. They can get food and drink and other supplies. There is a mosque and a hospital. You can still find caravanserais in places Starbucks and the Internet have not reached. This one is different because it moves around as much as the caravans do. Every new moon, it vanishes and reappears somewhere else."

I say, "Is there somewhere to get a drink?" "The Inn of the Wandering Han. Everybody goes there, so it's the best place to start looking for Sleazewagon." Passing along the colonnade, we enter an archway into the sound of loud voices and bad singing, the smell of spilled beer and ganja. It is Rick's in Casablanca, minus the piano and the Nazis. White walls, low ceiling with whirling fans, palms and cactus in pots, waiters rushing among tables crowded with people from all over – traders in the latest kaftans, mercenaries in the latest weaponry, tourists taking selfies, a guy in the corner eating cotton candy, a samisen player being pelted with food but refusing to take the hint. Some of the guests are not human, but Guido does not seem to notice. No sign of Sleazewagon.

By the bar, two bruisers start to fight. Just as things are getting interesting, this dame wanders over. She is tall and broad and has a warm smile. "Boys, boys. You know the house rules." She flattens one of the uglies with a right to the throat. The other one charges her and gets thrown right out the window over her shoulder. Not a hair out of place, she nods to the barman. "Refill on fire-water for Table 13. Get the waiter to check the extinguisher while he's there."

Guido says, "The innkeeper. She was a top gladiator until the league tricked her into a death-match with her lover and she watched him bleed out on the sands. After seriously downsizing league management, she took her savings and bought the Inn. They call her *La Serena* 'cause there's no trouble when she's around. If anyone knows about Sleazewagon, it will be her."

He goes over. "Serena, hello." "Hey, the holy tumbleweed rolls back. Of all the djinn joints in all the towns..." "Let's not go there, sweet lady, lest memories be stirred." He sneaks a glance in my direction. "But can I ask if a man named Rialto Sleazewagon has been around?" "Short, skinny guy with a moustache like a dying shoelace? Yeah, he skipped town yesterday in a hurry. Word is, he was looking for a safe place to cache something. He spent most of his time with the boys in the back room. Who want to talk to you, by the way." Guido replies, "Not big on wizards, me. Besides, I have an appointment with the Lady in a few minutes, so they'll have to wait." *La Serena* nods him off.

The Lady in Indigo is waiting for us in a private garden off the far end of the square. She sits on a marble bench

under a jasmine arbour. A short but statuesque figure in a dark sari, she has grey hair, she is still beautiful and she has a voice that lets you know who is in charge. "Father Guido, welcome back. Mr. January, a pleasure. I don't have much time, so let's get down to it."

"You are looking for Rialto Sleazewagon. He came recommended by a man who, as a result, is no longer my advisor. He wanted safekeeping for a small item, something he said would make him rich. He said you were on his heels, so I have been expecting you. I offered him our usual contract and suggested he try the wizards at the Inn on the details. But he wanted one more thing. If he could not get back to reclaim the item himself, he said, he would send someone else. Against that possibility, he left a half-clue for me to give his agent if he or she convinced me to do so. So, Father Guido, can you convince me?"

Guido thinks hard and says, "I'm not going to tell you I am here as Sleazewagon's agent. I am here to get back something he stole. The only way to convince you is to tell you the story of that item. He doesn't even know what it is." And he tells her the story of Mr. Christian, starting with what he says in my office, then going on, "What I am about to tell you violates the laws of my Church, but I can think of no other way to go."

"What Christian confessed went back 20 years. While enrolled in an MBA program, he did case studies of famous financial fraudsters. Learning from their mistakes, he drew up a scheme to make himself rich, by setting up a charitable trust drawing in money from the rich, investing the funds and devoting the income to good works – medical research, grants to education, housing for the poor, Indigenous reconciliation, support for human rights. He lived a life that was genuinely unostentatious. He distributed billions, he became a byword for practical charity, he changed the lives of myriads. Yet it was all a sham, he confessed. His only purpose, from the very beginning, was to get control over a vast amount of money and then disappear with it. All the rest had been nothing more than a means to that end. He was a week from pulling the plug when he went to see the priest, and he died before he could carry it off."

"I don't know why he had the recording sent to me after his death. We did some work together at one of our missions, and I knew the priest he'd confessed to. Anyway, news of the key's existence leaked and Sleazewagon found out, but he didn't know the details. He always thought Christian too good to be true and assumed the key contained the access codes to his secret bank accounts. But part of Christian's genius was that he hadn't embezzled anything – yet. It was ready to disappear into his pocket with a click of the mouse but was still in the fund's accounts when he died. Meanwhile, the decrypted recording put the cat among the pigeons at the Vatican. The problem was theological. Was a man who had done nothing but good all his life, given a hand up to millions, funded worthy causes, never hurt anyone – at the same time a man who the whole time planned to steal from people who trusted him, money

that could have helped millions more – but a man who was never able to carry out his evil plan – was that man evil or good in the eyes of God?"

"*Pater dimitte mihi quoniam peccavi*. I have told you this at peril of my soul. But that is why the Church wants the key back, to curtail moral confusion. From Sleazewagon's point of view, there is no monetary benefit in having it, so he is not losing anything. What do you think?"

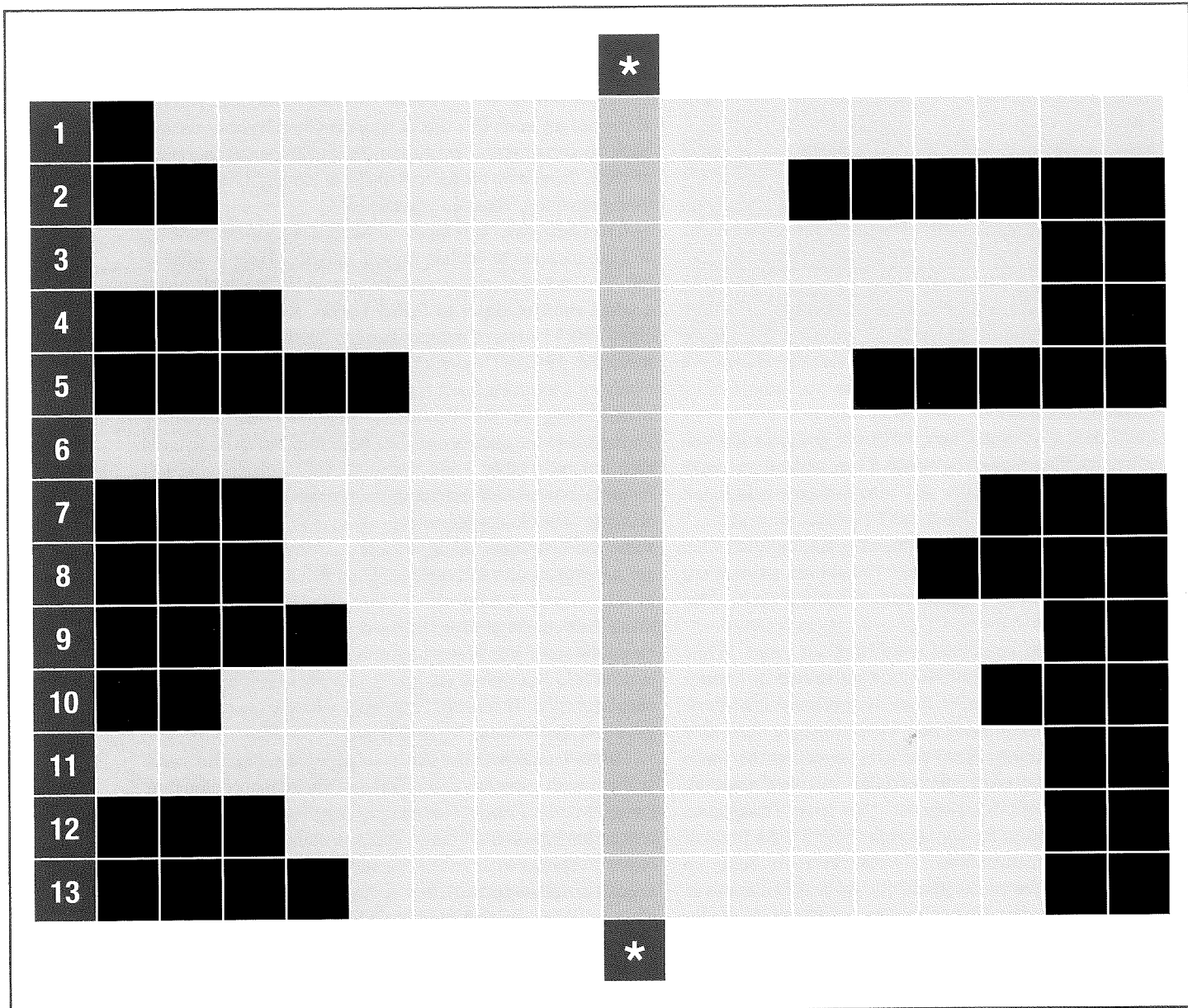
The Lady says, "It is far too unlikely a story to be made up, so I am inclined to declare myself satisfied. Here is what he left. You should discuss it with the boys at the Inn." She hands a small sheet of paper to Father Guido. It contains a blank chart with 13 rows of squares stacked one on another. As we leave the garden, I see a straggle of what looks like cotton candy on a thorn bush not far from the arbour.

Returning to the Wandering Han, we are taken by La Serena to the back room. The boys turn out to be five old men around a table. I use "men" loosely, because one is a hippo in a safari suit and another a human-sized salamander, drinking what looks like a cup of lava. In front of them is some kind of chess game, except that the playing squares are moving around and the pieces are differently weird. One of the wizards speaks up. "Father, Mr. January. Welcome to our little conclave. Word from the Arbour is that you wish to claim the item Mr. Sleazewagon left with us. All you have to do is ask. Ask one of us. And if you ask the wrong one, no second chance. This list of clues goes with the chart the Lady gave you. Believe me, it gets old fast."

Father Guido puts the pieces of paper together. He stares at them with growing confusion and shrinking confidence. I say, "Maybe I can do something here." And soon I show him a clue between the stars. We look over the wizards. The one who speaks to us looks like he is from Agatha Christie, a small town lawyer maybe, in a three-piece suit and granny-glasses. There is a thin little Oriental man in traditional Siamese get-up I know from fencing a job at the Costume Museum. The third is dressed like someone from Kiss, which I always blame for my early deafness. The hippo and the salamander I describe already. Guido steps up to one of them and says, "You are the holder." The wizard says, "Correct. But I do not actually have the key. We gave it to the Bush Bazaar to hide."

Guido explains for me. "It's a shop just down the colonnade, seems to be full of treasure. Gold, silver, jewels, art, exotic food and drink, drugs, the works. But it's really all trash, hidden under a glamour that makes you desperate to possess this stuff you don't need and can't afford." "Oh yeah, like advertising." "The firm started out as a garden shop with a specialty in barrier bushes but later went into banking and other financial services – it was the original hedge fund." The wizard we finger earlier leans over the chessboard and lifts a small figure. "This *netsuke* is a duplicate of one you will find in the Bazaar. Its glamour hides not the usual kitsch but the item you seek. Please give my regards to the djinn."

The place is as Guido describes, full of amazing stuff, staffed by smiling bozos in silks and turbans and smiling



- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 Dickens' story of Little Nell | 5 Yukon town, home of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation | 9 Sinatra nickname |
| 2 Central Criminal Court, London | 6 First Slavic literary language | 10 It begins with Genesis |
| 3 Hemingway's last novel | 7 Palaeolithic period | 11 Arboreal climax community |
| 4 Cocktail made with whiskey and bitters | 8 American car, produced from 1902 to 2004 | 12 Prolific fossil site in Tanzania |
| | | 13 He called for his fiddlers three |

women in not so much. I drag Guido away from the ladies and we toss the joint. Finally, on a shelf in the back, I spot the duplicate *netsuke* – a little Japanese carpenter with a hammer bending over his work. Guido swaps the two pieces under the beady eye of the merchants. The item he picks up changes into a small plain USB key. The merchants bow.

We go back to the Inn to tell the wizards the exchange is made. As we are shaking hands, claws and hooves, an old man in white walks into the room eating cotton candy. He picks up the key from the table. "So this is what all the fuss was about," he says. "St. Bevan!" says Father Guido. "I thought you were in Tuscaloosa." "Well, I was, you know,

but I moved on. Thanks for bringing me back the ring. Why does it smell of kumquats? But those fools in Rome are wrong to make such a fuss about it. This Christian did a lot of good for people in need and he set a great example for others. Whether he was a good man or an evil one is for Saint Peter to decide.” And he drops the key into the iron cup of lava in front of the salamander wizard. Guido gulps and says, “The Cardinal is going to be so pissed...”

Can you duplicate Harry’s feat by working out the code phrase and identifying the target wizard? **bout de papier** will award a book prize signed by A Aalto to the submitter of the first correct answer drawn from a hat on 3 July, 2020. Not necessary for winning, but can you provide a translation for Guido’s Latin phrase near the end of his talk with the Lady in Indigo? Poetic licence here: the Church actually only grants sainthood after death. No wonder Bevan is bewildered.

WHO STOLE THE VOTE IN RIO GUAPO?

Answer

The override deactivation code for the ECM is the phrase **VERDAD PARA LA GENTE**, which means “Truth for the people”. The completed chart below gives details on each party. The first letter of each word is the reading for the two-digit number identifying the box in which that word is found; if the number is 16, for example, the word in that box is Typhoon and the code letter is T. [As a sidebar, in encryptions of this type, I and J are considered the same to make the number of letters 25, which is easier to use than 26.]

	1	2	3	4	5
6 Leader	TYPHOON	ELEFANTE	O’LEARY	UI	VELVETA
7 Nickname	SKIPPER	GAUCHO	BONZE	AYATOLLAH	MOUSE
8 Party Name	PROSPERITY	INTEGRITY	REALITY	DESTINY	HIGHLIFE
9 Symbol	CORMORANT	FISH	LEAF	WHIP	YACHT
0 HQ City	XENA	KELOWNA	NIRVANA	ZUMBA	QUERIDA

The main flavouring ingredients for the chicken dish *mole poblano* are chili and chocolate. It’s delicious. Really.

Winner

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