

JAN 16 1946

**THREE FAMOUS FIGHTING REGIMENTS  
RETURN TO TORONTO TODAY.**

Today sees the return of three famous fighting regiments to their home city of Toronto. They are, in alphabetical order, the Governor-General's Horse Guards, the Royal Canadian Dragoons, and the Toronto Irish. All three brought new honor to Canada by gallant service in Italy and western Europe, and of all three the people of Toronto are proud.

The Governor-General's Horse Guards are Canada's oldest cavalry regiment. Formed in 1810 as a troop of horse, it was once known as the 1st Toronto Independent Troop of Cavalry. As the Governor-General's Body Guards of Upper Canada it had a distinguished record in the first world war. In 1936 it was amalgamated with the Mississauga Horse under its present name. It played a big part in the breaching of the Hitler and Gothic Lines in Italy. In Holland it helped clear Nijmegen Island and shared in the hard fighting from the capture of Arnhem to the final victory.

The Royal Canadian Dragoons went overseas in 1941 and reached Sicily in 1943. They were engaged in the hard fighting around Ortona and helped breach the Gustav, Hitler and Gothic Lines. In the spring of 1945 they were transferred to the western front, where they distinguished themselves by clearing the Friesland Peninsula, an armored car action, counted one of the most brilliant of the war, in which they advanced 250 miles without infantry support. With the Polish Armored Division they later captured the port of Wilhelmshafen in what was their last fight of the war.

The Toronto Irish Regiment has come back with a feather in its cap. It went overseas with a jaunty cockade on the side of the regimental green bonnet and comes back with a blue plume in the cockade's place. The plume commemorates a gallant action at Coriano in one of the hardest battles of the Italian war. Two allied divisions had failed to hold the strategic point of Coriano and the job was given to the 5th Canadian Armored Division, of which the Irish were a part. They took Coriano ridge and their parent regiment, the London Irish Rifles, asked them to wear the blue plume in honor of the day. Like the Dragoons and the Horse Guards, the Irish distinguished themselves also on the western front. The commanding officer of the returning battalion, Lt.-Col. George Macartney, enlisted as a private at the beginning of the war, as did his second-in-command, Major N. A. Hickling, and his predecessor in command, Lt.-Col. Lee Payne.

Also returning today are the 49th anti-tank battery of the Royal Canadian Artillery, with details from other units. To them, as to the men of the three Toronto regiments, the people of Toronto give a heartfelt welcome.

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