BRIGADIER GENERAL HERBERT W. LOVE
1913-1988
With regret and a sense of great personal loss I report the death of Herbert W. Love, a former executive director of the Arctic Institute of North America. General Love died in Green Valley, Arizona on 14 March 1988. The cause of his death was heart failure related to emphysema. As its executive director, General Love served the Institute, and served it well, from the time he took over in January 1968 until he left it under somewhat turbulent circumstances in May 1975.

Clearly he was disappointed, and somewhat discouraged, by the course of events during the latter part of his administration of the Institute, although that course was largely beyond his influence and control. This comes through plainly in what must have been his last article, published in the Fortieth Anniversary Special Issue of Arctic in December 1987 (Vol. 40, No. 4). In that article he mentions "...the joint Canadian-United States nature of the Institute, so wisely and profitably determined upon when the Institute was founded..." And he concludes by stating that: "...The writer's main regret is that an independent and joint Canadian-United States organization is no longer possible." Herb Love was a man of firm convictions, and he felt strongly on this.

Herbert Wainwright Love was born in Toronto on 7 November 1913, the son of Herbert J. and Ruth Bell Love. In due course he entered the Royal Military College in Kingston. He graduated in 1935 and was commissioned a lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Engineers. Thus began a long and distinguished military career. In 1936 Lieutenant Love was awarded a B.Sc. with honours in civil engineering by Queen's University, also in Kingston. As World War II approached, Love filled a series of Army assignments of ever-increasing responsibility. He became a captain in 1939, a major in 1942, a lieutenant colonel in 1943, a colonel in 1945, and a brigadier in 1951.

In 1940 Captain Love went overseas and embarked on a remarkable series of assignments, beginning with staff duty for a couple of years. In 1942 and 1943 he was on duty at the War Staff College. In 1943 he was with the 21st Army Group Mission to North Africa and Sicily. From 1943 to 1945 he was a staff officer with the chief engineer, 1st Canadian Army. As the war wound down, Colonel Love became in 1945 the deputy chief engineer of the 1st Canadian Army in Northwest Europe and finally the commander of the Royal Canadian Engineers, Canadian Occupation Force, in 1945 and 1946.

Among the many honours and recognitions of his notable service, he was awarded the Order of the British Empire and the Order of Orange Nassau (the Netherlands).

His career continued and expanded after his return to Canada. He was the director of Works and Accommodation of Army Headquarters in Ottawa from 1946 to 1951 and commander of the Northwest Highways System from 1951 to 1955.

It was in the latter capacity that I first met General Love. Joseph T. Flakne, of the U.S. Office of Territories and Island Possessions, and I, of the U.S. Geological Survey, were driving to Anchorage, Alaska, over the Alaska Highway in an automobile belonging to the Alaska Railroad. It was midwinter and we stopped in Whitehorse to call on the Canadian Army authorities who were in charge of the highway in Canada. As I recall, General Love was tied up somewhere, but his people greeted us warmly. We were taken to dinner and put up for the night. The next morning General Love met us for breakfast. And henceforth we were supplied with many courtesies along our frigid way until we crossed to our own turf again, into Alaska at the 141st meridian.

General Love was area commander of the Saskatchewan Area from 1955 to 1957 and deputy quartermaster general of the Army from 1957 to 1961. Finally, he was assigned to the Imperial Defence College in 1962 and was director general of Plans and Operations, Army Headquarters, 1963-64.

General Love headed a Canadian Military Mission to Tanzania in the fall of 1964. And he was in charge of Canadian Army operations in the Congo, the Gaza Strip, and Cyprus, as well as the military aspects of several Canadian delegations to Indochina, Kashmir, and Pakistan.

He retired in 1965 and that year became the director of the Montreal office of the Arctic Institute. In January 1968 he was appointed the executive director of the Institute, a position he held until May 1975, shortly before the Institute moved to Calgary. After leaving the Institute, the Loves retired to McDonald's Corners, Ontario.

In 1979, because of some of the advantages of the Arizona climate to those suffering from emphysema, the Loves tried spending a substantial part of the winter in Green Valley. There they returned every winter since 1979, except one.

On 21 October 1939 Captain Love and Anna Jane Higginson, of Belfast, were married in Quebec City. General Love is survived by his wife and two daughters — Wendy Elizabeth Parkes, of Ottawa, and Judith Anna Carrie, of Calgary.

Herb Love was of average height and had a rather light build. He was erect, with shoulders back, and he had a compelling presence that commanded attention and respect. His step was friendly and outgoing. And he was a good conversationalist, an easy public speaker, and an outstanding travelling companion.

One of my most memorable and pleasant trips with Herb was in 1974 when we, with our wives, drove leisurely in a rented car from San Francisco to Los Angeles. We had been attending an arctic symposium in San Francisco and decided, almost on the spur of the moment, to take a little time out for the trip. Our route was the incomparable California Highway 1, and the trip was outstanding.

Several times, under various circumstances, I was with Herb in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, where he had served earlier as the head of the Canadian Army unit working on the Alaska Highway. Each time I was impressed by his host of friends in the Yukon, his acceptance as a valued member of the community, and the high regard in which he was held.

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