



27-01-01 (BC omd)

Ottawa 7, Ont
16 May 67

John E. Heward, Esquire
37 Dufferin Road
Hampstead 29
Montreal, P. Q.

Dear Mr Heward:

I am writing to you in the hope that you can be present at our Officers' Mess on Tuesday, 30 May, 1967, for a ceremony which I believe will be of special significance and great interest to you. Certainly, it promises to be a highlight of our calendar of Mess functions this Centennial Year.

The Officers' Mess at this base was fortunate in recently acquiring the HMCS Rockcliffe bell. We had need of a ship's bell to install in our main lounge, called the Chandelier Room, and to our surprise and delight discovered that the Royal Canadian Navy had authorized the HMCS Rockcliffe bell to be sent to us from the HMCS Haida in Toronto.

It is to be installed, with due ceremony, in the chandelier in our Chandelier Lounge on Tuesday, 30 May, and the festivities are slated to begin at 4:45 p. m. Vice Admiral R. L. Hennessy, DSC, CD, the Comptroller General at Canadian Forces Headquarters and the senior naval officer in the Canadian Armed Forces, has graciously consented to make the official presentation of the bell and to be the first to ring it in its new environment. We are anticipating a turnout of about 70 RCN officers at this affair and we are assured by Commodore J. C. Pratt that you will have an opportunity to renew some old acquaintances among them. As well as the 50 naval officers now stationed here at CFB Rockcliffe, there will be on hand also a good number of serving Army and Air Force officers.

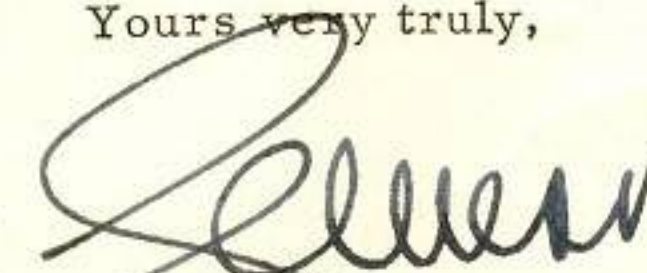
I should tell you that, more than becoming a cherished and decorative fixture, the HMCS Rockcliffe bell is to have a functional role in our Mess life. For, similar to customs established in other Messes, the bell may be rung only at authorized and specified times.

Unauthorized tolling of the bell will result in the culprit responsible paying a toll for his or her indiscretion -- usually a round of drinks for all within earshot.

In addition, we are having a display case mounted on the wall adjacent to the bell in the chandelier. This is an illuminated, glassed-in, mahogany and blue velvet setting in which are displayed a reproduction of the ship's crest, a wartime photograph of HMCS Rockcliffe at sea, and appropriate descriptions and explanations engraved in brass. A leather binder containing an abridged history of HMCS Rockcliffe will be affixed to the display case. It is planned that Admiral Hennessy will unveil this case as part of the Bell Ceremony.

It is my earnest wish that you be present for the inaugural ceremony of your old ship's bell in its new permanent home at CFB Rockcliffe Officers' Mess. Please accept this explanatory letter and the enclosed invitation as an expression of my desire that you do attend as both my personal guest and as the guest of honour of the Bell Ceremony.

Yours very truly,



J. T. West
Group Captain
Base Commander
CFB Rockcliffe

Encl.

The Base Commander and Officers
of
Canadian Forces Base, Rockcliffe

request the pleasure of the company of

John E. Neward, Esquire

at the HMCS ROCKCLIFFE Bell Ceremony,

to be held at the Officers' Mess

C F B Rockcliffe

on May 30, 1967 at 4:45 p.m.

R.I.V.P.

Dress

J. T. West, G/C

Lounge Suit

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE



MINISTÈRE DE LA DÉFENSE NATIONALE
AVIATION ROYALE DU CANADA

Canadian Forces Base Rockcliffe,
OTTAWA 7, Ontario,

21 Jun 67.

John E. Heward, Esquire,
37 Dufferin Road,
MONTREAL 29, P.Q.

Dear *John,*

At last we have the Bell Ceremony photographs added to your copy of the History of the HMCS ROCKCLIFFE, and it is my pleasure to now send along the book we asked you to accept on 30 May 67.

May I say how pleased we were that you could be with us on that memorable day. As the original captain of the HMCS ROCKCLIFFE, your participation made the occasion more meaningful as it provided that cordial link between the old and the new.

On behalf of all the officers of the CFB Rockcliffe Officers' Mess, may I extend our sincere thanks to you.


(JT West) G/C
Base Commander

P R E S E N T E D

to

John E. Heward

First Commanding Officer

of the

H M C S R O C K C L I F F E

in appreciation of his participation

on the occasion of

the Presentation of the

S H I P ' S B E L L

to the

CFB Rockcliffe Officers' Mess

30 May 67



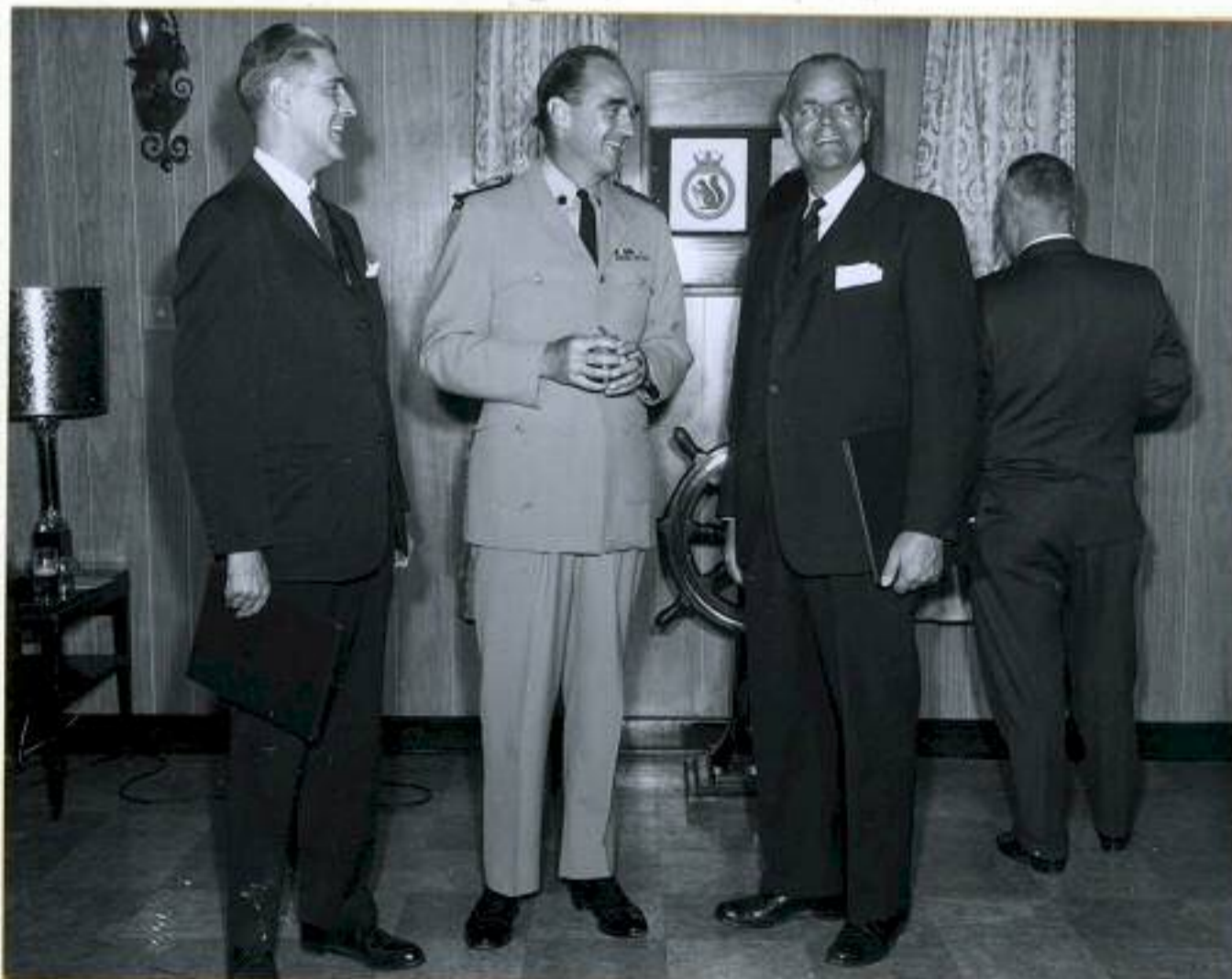
The BELL in the Chandelier



VAdm RL Hennessy unveils the showcase



Mr John Heward talks with Cmdre JC Pratt



Mr John Heward, VAdm RL Hennessy and Cdr HR Beck
enjoy a post-ceremony chuckle

PRESENTATION DAY - 30 MAY 67



Mr John Heward, VAdm RL Hennessy and Cdr HR Beck



VAdm RL Hennessy and S/L C Barlow (PMC) view showcase