

Men Who Make Parachutes Extra Careful Since They "Jump" With Own Handiwork

Prince Rupert Daily News
Friday, October 9, 1953



NOEL BRUNET, 37-year-old Montreal concert violinist, will be a soloist at Carnegie Hall in New York city next Friday when Leopold Stokowski conducts a concert of Canadian music. Mr. Brunet will present a concerto for violin by Alexander Brodt, a fellow Montrealer.

Eisenhower Doesn't Think War Threat on Doorstep

WASHINGTON (CP)—President Eisenhower says Russia possesses an increasing capacity of delivering an atomic attack on the United States, but he does not think the threat of war shadows North America's doorstep now.



And, in the fullest official United States statement since Moscow claimed mastery of the awesome hydrogen bomb, the president said the Russians have "a weapon, or the forerunner of a weapon, of power far in excess of the conventional atomic types."

The president announced at the same time that he will visit Ottawa Nov. 13 for a three-day conference with Prime Minister St. Laurent and Canadian authorities. He is expected to address both Houses of Parliament Nov. 14.

Eisenhower first visited Ottawa in 1946 as a general after the victory in Europe. He returned in 1951 for a one-day visit as supreme commander of NATO forces.

The president made clear he had not yet determined when to peak out publicly in detail on the problems of atomic diplomacy. He confirmed he told Adlai E. Stevenson, the 1952 Democratic nominee for president, that he was sure the state department would be interested in Stevenson's ideas of a non-aggression pact with Russia against revival of German militarism. The president also said he hadn't heard any suggestion, as widely speculated in London news dispatches, that Prime Minister Churchill had or might get agreement from Eisenhower to a proposition that Churchill go to Moscow to talk with Khrushchev.

Many questions at the press conference concerned U.S. reaction to Russia's increasing atomic capability backed by present or potential possession of the H-bomb. What one tries to do in dealing with this kind of a situation, the president said, is not necessarily to increase the overall defence cost, but rather to adjust elements of the defence structure as far as possible.

The first telegraph messages in Canada were exchanged between Toronto and Hamilton in 1846.



"An absolute blessing to my family," says Mrs. Ikari of Port Edward, about B.C. Hospital Insurance. Shown here with her children, Alan, 6 months, Linda, 3 and Brian 2, Mrs. Ikari has had hospital bills for more than \$530 paid on her behalf in the last twelve months. "Like most people, we never anticipated serious illness," says Mrs. Ikari, "now, we're thankful a thousand times over that we had hospital insurance coverage." Family protection against crippling hospital bills is available for as little as eleven cents a day. Your local B.C.H.I.S. representative, Mr. R. A. Knight, is located in the Government Agent's Office, Prince Rupert.

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GEORGE J. DAWES - The Auctioneer

By ART BRYDON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

CAMP, SHILO, Man. (CP) — Tough but gentle are the men of No. 28 Central Ordnance Depot. Commanding officer Eddie Wills, of Ottawa runs an outfit where some of Canada's toughest paratroopers, mostly with long war records, claim a knowledge of fabric and fabric repairs that would put many a housewife to shame.

The men work in the master depot mission for airborne and allied stores, a fancy name for the army's only parachute-packing centre. All parachutes blossoming behind army jumpers in Canada are prepared by these soldiers and officers.

ALL CAN JUMP

The riggers and packers who actually handle the parachutes are all jumpers and take regular jump training. The packer, who folds the chute after checking the lines and panels, is supervised in his work by the rigger, who has superior training and some stripes to back it up.

Each chute is numbered and has a long book in which a rigger's slip is inserted after each packing. The life of a chute is 100 jumps or 7½ years, after which it is retired to cargo work.

The Shilo depot does all its own trades training, using qualified jumpers who come from other ordnance units or direct from recruiting sections. Each packer and rigger may be asked to use a chute he has worked on for his next jump.

If flaws occur, the chute is passed to the repair and maintenance section. Common troubles are rips, holes or line burns. The latter occur when the 72-foot lines whipping out of the pack come in contact with nylon panels and friction causes the nylon to melt.

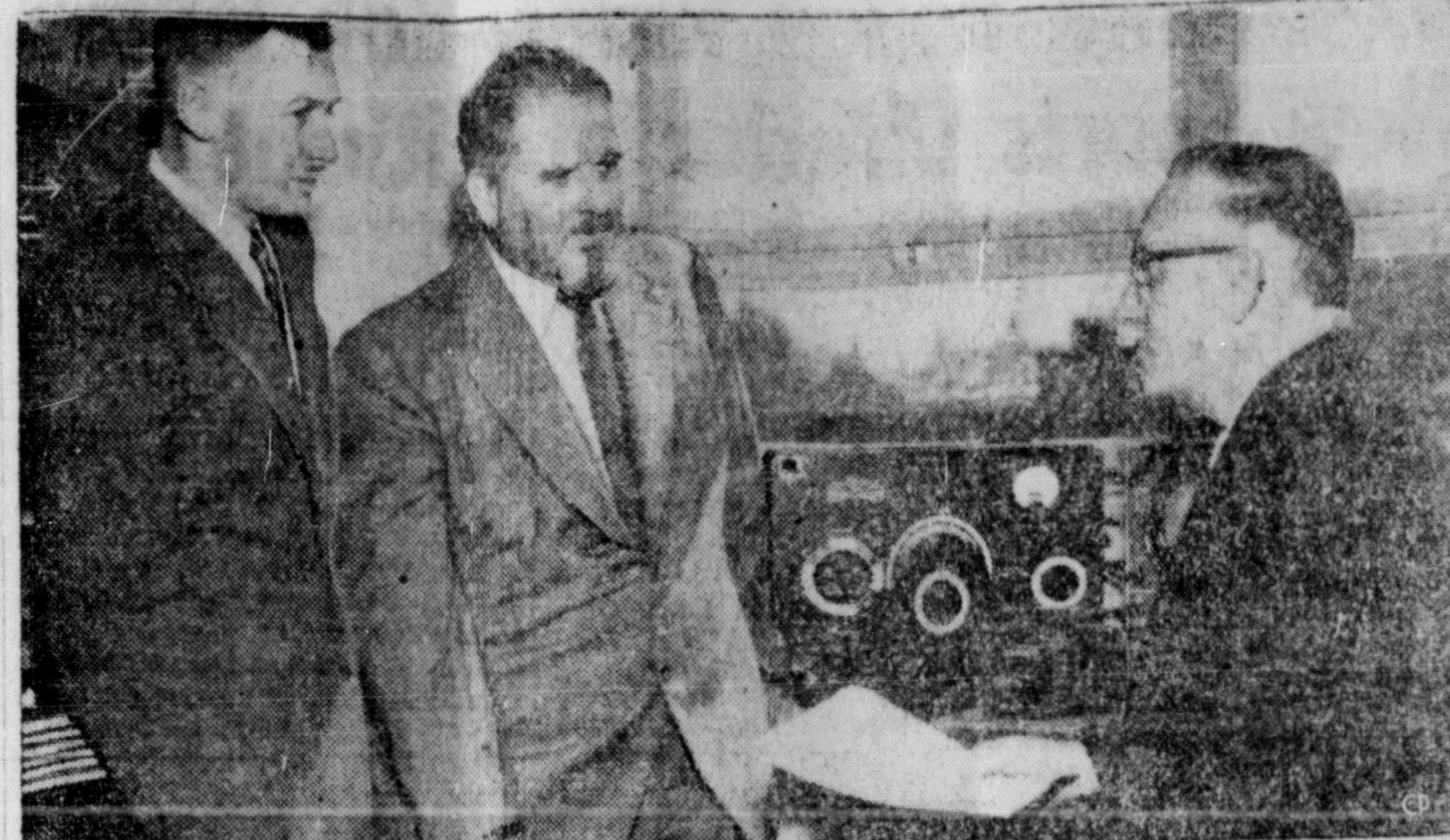
EXPERT OPERATION

Under flashing lights on long tables, the chutes are inspected and flaws noted on a chart. The rigger follows the chart when he starts his repair job, which may involve patching a small hole or replacing a panel completely. The harness may have to be stitched or worn lines replaced.

After basting his seams, the rigger turns to the shop's battery of electrically-powered sewing machines. They vary from common household size to a rugged model capable of running a straight seam through an inch plank. After another inspection the chute is returned to be packed.

Major domo of the parachute domain is Staff Sgt. Jack Hetherington, 32, of Dundurn, Sask. Sgt. Hetherington, a veteran of 11 years jumping and 15 years army service, started as a drummer boy. His experience is a key factor in the smooth operations at Shilo.

The sergeant made his first jump with the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion attached to the British Army. He was one of a few men who arrived early for D Day. He jumped into Normandy the night before, was later wounded and was a prisoner of war for 11 months.



THREE ORIGINAL MEMBERS of the team which developed the "McGill Fence," a system using radar to warn of an approaching air attack, relax in the Eaton electronics laboratory at McGill University, Montreal. Left to right: Prof. E. R. Pounder, Prof. H. G. I. Watson, and Prof. G. A. Wootton, director of the project. Results of their work, culminating in satisfactory tests, were turned over to authorities at Ottawa.

\$12,000,000 Flood Protection Proposal Offered Winnipeg by Federal Government

OTTAWA (CP)—The Resources Department says it would cost \$12,000,000 to protect Winnipeg against a recurrence of the disastrous 1950 Red River flood that caused more than \$26,000,000 in damage.

Works Minister Winters followed up the report yesterday with a statement that the federal government is willing to share the cost of flood control measures with the Manitoba government and the city of Winnipeg.

The Resources Department said a 26-mile floodway dug around the city's eastern edge to carry on the spring surges of the Red River "would offer the most positive means of flood protection to that area."

"Such a floodway would be feasible if it could be constructed with sufficient capacity to protect the Winnipeg area against any flood that can reasonably be expected to occur on the Red River."

Officials said they felt that a



DMITRI STEPANOVITCH CHUVAKHIN, former Soviet minister to Albania, has been appointed Soviet ambassador to Canada. He succeeds Georgi Zarubin, who returned to Russia shortly before the espionage trials in Canada in 1946. It has not been announced when the new ambassador will arrive in Canada.

Canadian, U.S. Woodworkers Begin Executive Meetings

VANCOUVER (CP)—Top officers of International Woodworkers of America (CIO) met here Thursday in the first meeting of a four-day executive board meeting which precedes the big IWA convention scheduled here Monday.

More than 600 delegates representing loggers and woodworkers across Canada and United States will attend the week-long convention which will formulate policy for workers in one of North America's major industries.

Convention speakers will include Walter Reuther, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and M. R. Mosher, president of the Canadian Congress of Labor.

Delegates will come from the pulp and paper mills of the U.S. deep south, the pulpwood camps

of Canada's far north, and

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