

Sappers Visit the Queen

By BGen Steve Irwin (Ret'd), Canadian Military Engineer Colonel Commandant



Capt Jacques Landry (CME Adjt), CWO Glenn Simpkin (CME CWO), my wife Deanna and I visited Buckingham Palace on 27 June 2018. We were met by a Lady in Waiting and the Queen's Equerry. CWO Simpkin and I had an audience with Her Majesty of about 30 minutes. We started by presenting her with the book and DVD, *Clearing the Way*, the story of 23 Field Squadron's experiences on Op MEDUSA. She asked several questions. We then discussed the growth of the CME Branch, the leadership positions we are now holding, and the missions we are conducting today. We also spoke of the CMEA, the Invictus Games, and the support programs for those who suffer from PTSD. The Queen then invited Capt Landry and my wife into the room.

Yes, I did boast of your exploits.

After the audience, we visited those from the RCAF who are currently providing the guard at the Palace. We spoke with Cpl Charles Johnston, a Firefighter at 8 Wing Trenton.



From left to right: Capt Jacques Landry, BGen Steve Irwin (Ret'd), Cpl Charles Johnston, Mrs. Deanna Irwin and CWO Glenn Simpkin

Buckingham Palace, London, 27 June 2018

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