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Chopper crash kills Cdn. military photographer; Gagetown–based soldier was documenting efforts to wrest strategic area from insurgents when shot down

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Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede died in a combat zone but it was his work as a military photographer documenting reconstruction that other soldiers were remembering yesterday after he was confirmed as the 56th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan. Priede, 30, based at CFB Gagetown, died when a U.S. Chinook helicopter he was riding in went down in southern Afghanistan's volatile Helmand province late Wednesday night. He was photographing coalition forces trying to wrest control of a strategic valley from insurgents to pave the way for reconstruction. Five Americans and a Briton on board were also killed when the helicopter was apparently shot down after dropping off U.S. troops. The Taliban has claimed responsibility. Initial reports suggested the helicopter was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade, said a U.S. official who insisted on anonymity. Hostile fire was also mentioned by Maj. John Thomas, a spokesman for NATO's International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF. "It was a hostile area, where the helicopter went down," Thomas said. "Initial indications are that enemy fire may have brought down the helicopter." Thomas said the Chinook had just dropped off a full load of U.S. troops from the 82nd Airborne before it went down. He said between 30 and 40 troops would likely have been on board. "There will be a full investigation," Thomas said. Lt.-Col. David Accetta, the top U.S. military spokesman at Bagram Air Base outside Kabul, said enemy fire was only one of several possibilities. "We will investigate thoroughly," he said. "There's no solid evidence we can point to that suggests it was shot down." Canadian military officials, too, said only that the incident is under investigation. A National Defence news release said Priede "was killed when the helicopter in which he was a passenger went down at approximately 9 p.m." near the town of Kajaki, about 95 kilometres northwest of Kandahar city. Priede was born in Burlington, Ont. and grew up around Grand Forks, B.C. Lt. (Navy) Desmond James worked closely with Priede while serving with the Canadian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team – or PRT – just outside Kandahar city. Flipping through a sheaf of photos that Priede took, James said Priede had learned a lot in the six weeks he'd been in the country, especially during the week he spent with the PRT. James remembered how the photographer always captured a unique view of soldiers on the ground. Priede's work was put on display at the PRT late Thursday. "He loved what he was doing, he was a great guy," James said, his eyes welling with tears. "He had a greater understanding of how important it is to continue doing what we're doing and really appreciated the chance to work down here." Priede was doing his job as photographer for the Regional Command South, which oversees multinational efforts in each of the five southern Afghan provinces. He was killed during Operation Lastay Kulang, part of the ISAF offensive against the Taliban in Helmand province.

Capturing Canadian mission combat photographer's pride

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PUBLICATION: The Record (Kitchener, Cambridge And Waterloo)
DATE: 2007.06.01
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SECTION: Front
PAGE: A6
DATELINE: CFB GAGETOWN
SOURCE: Canadian Press
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WORD COUNT: 386

A Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan when a helicopter was apparently shot down thought his work as a military photographer was one of the safest jobs in a war zone, his commander at Canadian Forces Base Gagetown said yesterday.

Col. Ryan Jestin said he spoke to Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede about two weeks ago in Afghanistan, where the 30-year-old photographer had been stationed for about one month.

"He told me he thought he had one of the safest jobs in Afghanistan," Jestin told reporters at the New Brunswick base. "So, there you go."

The military cameraman, born in Burlington, Ont., and raised in British Columbia, died along with five Americans and a Briton when the CH-47 Chinook they were flying in was apparently shot down Wednesday west of Kandahar. There were no survivors.

Roxanne Priede, in an interview from her home in Grand Forks, B.C., said her son was eager to capture images of Canada's mission.

"He really wanted to do something that would show more of what the military stood for," Priede said.

"When he called us and told us he had actually applied to go over to Afghanistan, he said he wanted to bring home the news of good stuff that was going on over there — the good things Canadians were doing over there."

Master Cpl. Priede was married and lived with his wife, Angela, near CFB Gagetown. His mother said he had volunteered to serve in Afghanistan.

"We're very proud of him," she said, choking back tears and pausing to regain her composure.

"Our son was exemplary. . . . He didn't have one black mark in the military. . . . He enjoyed what he did because he always wanted to capture as much good as possible."

Jestin said Priede was highly regarded for his camera work within the military, where he worked for various in-house publications.

The commander said he will always remember a photograph taken of Priede holding the Stanley Cup when it arrived for a brief visit to Afghanistan several weeks ago.

"That's the image that will stay with me," Jestin said. "That sort of pride and that sort of homegrown Canadian boy we're all going to miss."

Sgt. Kyle Richards, one of Priede's friends, said the photographer enjoyed shooting action scenes.

"He loved to shoot and he loved to see action," Richards said in an interview at the base.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Opposition Leader Stephane Dion sent condolences to the Priede family on yesterday.

Harper said Priede died while working with allies to fulfil Canada's commitment to bring security, democracy and self-sufficiency to the Afghan people.

"This crash occurred near the site of a hydroelectric dam that is being repaired so it can provide electricity to the southern city of Kandahar," Harper said in a statement.

Priede said she last spoke to her son on Sunday via webcam. "He was always up, always fantastic, always looking to the good of everything.

Military photographer died doing what he loved; Taliban claims responsibility for helicopter crash that killed seven

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DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Final
SECTION: Front
PAGE: A6
ILLUSTRATION: Photo: MASTER CPL. DARRELL PRIEDE / Master Cpl. DarrellPriede took this photograph last Friday in Kandahar City, Afghanistan of a sergeant climbing to a new guard tower. ; Photo: CANADIAN PRESS / Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede. ;
DATELINE: KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN
SOURCE: Canadian Press
COPYRIGHT: © 2007 Torstar Corporation
WORD COUNT: 540

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede died in a combat zone but it was his work as a military photographer documenting reconstruction that other soldiers were remembering yesterday after he was confirmed as the 56th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan.

Priede, 30, based at CFB Gagetown, N.B., died when a U.S. Chinook helicopter he was riding in went down in southern Afghanistan's volatile Helmand province late Wednesday night. He was photographing coalition forces trying to wrest control of a strategic valley from insurgents to pave the way for reconstruction.

Five Americans and a Briton on board were also killed when the helicopter was apparently shot down after dropping off U.S. troops. The Taliban has claimed responsibility.

Initial reports suggested the helicopter was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade, said a U.S. official who insisted on anonymity. Hostile fire was also mentioned by Maj. John Thomas, a spokesperson for NATO's International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF.

"It was a hostile area, where the helicopter went down," Thomas said. "Initial indications are that enemy fire may have brought down the helicopter."

Thomas said the Chinook had just dropped off a full load of U.S. troops from the 82nd Airborne before it went down. He said between 30 and 40 troops would likely have been on board.

"There will be a full investigation," Thomas said.

Lt.-Col. David Accetta, the top U.S. military spokesperson at Bagram Air Base outside Kabul, said enemy fire was only one of several possibilities.

"We will investigate thoroughly," he said. "There's no solid evidence we can point to that suggests it was shot down."

Canadian military officials, too, said only that the incident is under investigation.

Military photographer died doing what he loved; Taliban claims responsibility for helicopter crash that killed seven

A National Defence news release said Priede "was killed when the helicopter in which he was a passenger went down at approximately 9 p.m." near the town of Kajaki, about 95 kilometres northwest of Kandahar city.

Priede was born in Burlington, Ont. and grew up around Grand Forks, B.C.

Lt. (Navy) Desmond James worked closely with Priede while serving with the Canadian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team -- or PRT -- just outside Kandahar city.

Flipping through photos that Priede took, James said Priede had learned a lot in the six weeks he'd been in the country, especially during the week he spent with the reconstruction team.

James remembered how the photographer always captured a unique view of soldiers on the ground.

"He loved what he was doing, he was a great guy," James said, his eyes welling with tears.

Priede was doing his job as photographer for the Regional Command South, which oversees multinational efforts in each of the five southern Afghan provinces.

He was killed during Operation Lastay Kulang, part of an offensive against the Taliban in Helmand province.

The area has been a hotbed of military activity for months, as coalition forces tried to clear the way for the Kajaki dam reconstruction project designed to provide electricity for both Helmand and Kandahar provinces.

Priede is the second Canadian soldier to die in less than a week. Master Cpl. Matthew McCully was killed last Friday when he stepped on an explosive device. Since 2002, 56 Canadian soldiers and one Canadian diplomat have died in Afghanistan.

Canadian Brig.-Gen. Tim Grant acknowledged the Taliban are putting up determined resistance to development in the south, but he remained confident it's a battle that the international forces would win.

A purported Taliban spokesperson, Qari Yousef Ahmadi, claimed in a phone call to The Associated Press that insurgents brought down the helicopter. Ahmadi did not offer any proof, but he specified the helicopter crashed in the Kajaki district hours before NATO reported it.

NATO troops secured the wreckage yesterday after encountering enemy fighters earlier on as they approached the site. They called in an air strike "to eliminate the enemy threat."

Soldier regarded as best in his field; 56th death | War claims another life

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DATE: 2007.06.01

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BYLINE: MICHAEL STAPLES staples.michael@dailygleaner.com

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WORD COUNT: 449

The Canadian military lost one of its top photographers Wednesday in a helicopter crash in southern Afghanistan.

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, 30, from Canadian Forces Base Gagetown, was killed when a U.S. Army CH-47 Chinook went down at approximately 9 p.m. Kandahar time, about 95 kilometres northwest of Kandahar City.

Priede had been in the war-torn region since April 18 as a member of the Army News team from Gagetown.

His job was to photograph the activities of Canadian soldiers.

He was en route to an operation when the chopper was apparently attacked by a rocket-propelled grenade.

A little less than half of the 2,500 Canadian troops serving in Afghanistan are from the Gagetown-based Second Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment battle group.

"He is highly regarded in the military as one of the top photographers," said Sgt. Kyle Richards, his boss and colleague at Gagetown, on Thursday.

"Within the Army News position ... I would say that he was the top photographer at Army News."

Five U.S. soldiers and another from Britain were also killed in the crash. There were no survivors.

The Taliban has claimed responsibility for bringing down the chopper, although the incident remains under investigation by the Canadian military.

Recovery of the bodies was difficult. A unit responding to the scene of the crash was ambushed by enemy fighters.

Priede, a Burlington, Ont., native, who grew up around Grand Forks, B.C., lived in Oromocto with his wife Angela.

He also ran a photography business in Oromocto.

"He loved his family immensely and was always willing to help those in need," the family said in a statement. "He was extremely professional in his duties and was well respected by his colleagues."

"Darrell's smile and personality touched everyone he met. He was a very trustworthy, kind and dedicated man who loved his chosen profession of taking pictures both at work and at home."

Priede, who loved to travel and play golf, was excited to be in Afghanistan and proud of the work he was doing in helping the Afghan people, said the statement.

He was the oldest son of John and Roxanne Priede, of Grand Forks, B.C., where he graduated from high school in 1995.

Roxanne Priede told Canadian Press that she was proud of her eldest son.

"Our son was exemplary ... He didn't have one black mark in the military ... He enjoyed what he did because he always wanted to capture as much good as possible."

Richards said his fallen friend was an infectious person who loved everybody.

"He had a great smile, he was creative, he was great with people and he just loved to capture what people were doing," Richards said.

"He was a great friend. He will be remembered for the soldier that he was and for the man that he was."

He said Priede loved to take action shots.

While in Afghanistan, he also took a photo of Canadian soldiers with the Stanley Cup, which was published on the front page of the Maple Leaf, a military newspaper, on May 16.

The commander of CFB Gagetown, Col. Ryan Jestin, said Priede's death marked another tough day for the base.

Five of the soldiers killed in Afghanistan since Easter Sunday were from Gagetown.

Jestin said he talked to Priede during a recent visit to Afghanistan.

"He told me about two weeks ago that he thought he was in one of the safest jobs in Afghanistan," the commander said.

"He was there to capture imagery of what our guys are doing there on a daily basis."

At this point, said the commander, everyone is thinking of the families.

Jestin said Priede's body is likely to arrive at CFB Trenton on Sunday.

Since 2002, 56 Canadian soldiers and one diplomat have been killed in Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor said Priede was a valued member of the Army News team and gave his life not only to protect Canadians and our national interests, but also to provide hope to Afghans for a better future.

Mourning a mentor

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BYLINE: MICHAEL STAPLES staples.michael@dailygleaner.com
COPYRIGHT: © 2007 The Daily Gleaner (Fredericton)
WORD COUNT: 96

Army News photographer Cpl. Melanie Ferguson had to do her job Thursday and she did it with a heavy heart.

Ferguson had worked with Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede.

He died when the helicopter in which he was travelling went down in Afghansitan on Wednesday.

"If I am good at what I am doing, I know that he has got to be part of it," Ferguson said.

"He trained me and taught me a lot of things. He was a very good soldier and he was really happy to go to (Afghanistan)."

When Priede volunteered to go to Afghanistan, Ferguson stepped in and took over his duties at Gagetown.

She was given the tough task of covering Thursday's newser on his death.

"It's a big loss," she said. "He'll be in my thoughts and I'll be thinking about all of the things that we did together – all the good moments that we had together."

Military photographer killed when chopper crashed

PUBLICATION: The Telegram (St. John's)

DATE: 2007.06.01

SECTION: National

PAGE: A7

SOURCE: The Canadian Press

BYLINE: Stephanie Levitz

DATELINE: Kandahar, Afghanistan

ILLUSTRATION: Darrell Priede

WORD COUNT: 248

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede died in a combat zone, but it was his work as a military photographer documenting reconstruction that other soldiers were remembering Thursday after he was confirmed as the 56th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan. Priede, 30, based at CFB Gagetown, N.B., died when a U.S. Chinook helicopter he was riding in went down in southern Afghanistan's volatile Helmand province late Wednesday night. He was photographing coalition forces trying to wrest control of a strategic valley from insurgents to pave the way for reconstruction.

Five Americans and a Briton on board were also killed when the helicopter was apparently shot down after dropping off U.S. troops. The Taliban has claimed responsibility.

Initial reports suggested the helicopter was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade, said a U.S. official who insisted on anonymity. Hostile fire was also mentioned by Maj. John Thomas, a spokesman for NATO's International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF.

"It was a hostile area, where the helicopter went down," Thomas said. "Initial indications are that enemy fire may have brought down the helicopter."

Thomas said the Chinook had just dropped off a full load of U.S. troops from the 82nd Airborne before it went down. He said between 30 and 40 troops would likely have been on board.

"There will be a full investigation," Thomas said.

Lt.-Col. David Accetta, the top U.S. military spokesman at Bagram Air Base outside Kabul, said enemy fire was only one of several possibilities.

"We will investigate thoroughly. There's no solid evidence we can point to that suggests it was shot down."

Canadian's death is 56th in Afghanistan; Officer who took photographs for military died when helicopter shot down

PUBLICATION: The Guardian (Charlottetown)

DATE: 2007.06.01

SECTION: Front

PAGE: A1

SOURCE: CP

DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan

ILLUSTRATION: Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede, who died Thursday in Afghanistan, is shown in this recent handout photo. Canadian Press photo

WORD COUNT: 305

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"We will investigate thoroughly," he said. "There's no solid evidence we can point to that suggests it was shot down."

Canadian military officials, too, said only that the incident is under investigation.

A National Defence news release said Priede "was killed when the helicopter in which he was a passenger went down at approximately 9 p.m." near the town of Kajaki, about 95 kilometres northwest of Kandahar city. Priede was born in Burlington, Ont. and grew up around Grand Forks, B.C.

Canadian's death is 56th in Afghanistan; Officer who took photographs for military died when helicopter shot

Military photographer dies; Master Cpl. Darrell Priede killed in chopper crash in Afghanistan

PUBLICATION: Kingston Whig–Standard (ON)
DATE: 2007.06.01
SECTION: National/World
PAGE: B1
SOURCE: CP
BYLINE: Stephanie Levitz
DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan
ILLUSTRATION: Priede: Documenting reconstruction.
WORD COUNT: 579

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Lt. (Navy) Desmond James worked closely with Priede while serving with the Canadian–led Provincial Reconstruction Team – or PRT – just outside Kandahar city.

Flipping through a sheaf of photos that Priede took, James said Priede had learned a lot in the six weeks he'd been in the country, especially during the week he spent with the PRT.

James remembered how the photographer always captured a unique view of soldiers on the ground. Priede's work was put on display at the PRT late yesterday.

"He loved what he was doing, he was a great guy," James said, his eyes welling with tears.

"He had a greater understanding of how important it is to continue doing what we're doing and really appreciated the chance to work down here."

Priede was doing his job as photographer for the Regional Command South, which oversees multinational efforts in each of the five southern Afghan provinces.

He was killed during Operation Lastay Kulang, part of the ISAF offensive against the Taliban in Helmand province.

The area has been a hotbed of military activity for months, as coalition forces tried to clear the way for the Kajaki dam reconstruction project designed to provide electricity for both Helmand and Kandahar provinces.

Priede is the second Canadian soldier to die in less than a week. Master Cpl. Matthew McCully was killed last Friday when he stepped on an explosive device.

Canadian Brig.–Gen. Tim Grant acknowledged the Taliban are putting up determined resistance to development in the south, but he remained confident it's a battle that the international forces would win. "We're seeing it unfold much as we thought it would: in small groups they will attack ISAF, unsuccessfully on the bigger front," Grant told reporters at Kandahar Airfield.

A purported Taliban spokesman, Qari Yousef Ahmadi, claimed in a phone call to The Associated Press that insurgents brought down the helicopter. Ahmadi did not offer any proof, but he specified the helicopter crashed in the Kajaki district hours before NATO reported it.

Soldier's photos live on; Canadian combat photographer shot down over Afghanistan

PUBLICATION: The Chronicle–Herald

DATE: 2007.06.01

SECTION: Front

PAGE: A1

SOURCE: The Canadian Press

BYLINE: Stephanie Levitz

ILLUSTRATION: Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede of Burlington, Ont., died Wednesday when the helicopter he was riding in was shot down over Afghanistan's volatile Helmand province. Six others also died. (CP); Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede of Burlington, Ont., died Wednesday when the helicopter he was riding in was shot down over Afghanistan's volatile Helmand province. Six others also died. (CP)

WORD COUNT: 675

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"He had a greater understanding of how important it is to continue doing what we're doing and really appreciated the chance to work down here."

Priede was doing his job as photographer for the Regional Command South, which oversees multinational efforts in each of the five southern Afghan provinces.

He was killed during Operation Lastay Kulang, part of the ISAF offensive against the Taliban in Helmand province.

The area has been a hotbed of military activity for months, as coalition forces tried to clear the way for the Kajaki dam reconstruction project designed to provide electricity for both Helmand and Kandahar provinces.

Priede is the second Canadian soldier to die in less than a week. Master Cpl. Matthew McCully was killed last Friday when he stepped on an explosive device.

Since 2002, 56 Canadian soldiers and one Canadian diplomat have died in Afghanistan.

Canadian Brig.-Gen. Tim Grant acknowledged the Taliban are putting up determined resistance to development in the south, but he remained confident it's a battle that the international forces would win.

"We're seeing it unfold much as we thought it would: in small groups they will attack ISAF, unsuccessfully on the bigger front," Grant told reporters at Kandahar Airfield.

A purported Taliban spokesman, Qari Yousef Ahmadi, claimed in a phone call to The Associated Press that insurgents brought down the helicopter. Ahmadi did not offer any proof, but he specified the helicopter crashed in the Kajaki district hours before NATO reported it.

NATO troops secured the wreckage on Thursday after encountering enemy fighters earlier on as they approached the site. They called in an air strike "to eliminate the enemy threat," NATO said.

The CH-47 Chinook, a heavy transport helicopter with two rotors, can carry about 40 soldiers plus a small crew.

Helicopter crashes in Afghanistan have been relatively rare.

A Chinook crashed in February in the southern province of Zabol, killing eight U.S. personnel. Officials ruled out enemy fire as the cause.

In May 2006, another Chinook crashed attempting a nighttime landing on a small mountaintop in eastern

Kunar province, killing 10 U.S. soldiers.

In 2005, a U.S. helicopter crashed in Kunar, after apparently being hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, killing 16 Americans.

'He had a greater understanding of how important it is to continue doing what we're doing and really appreciated the chance to work down here.'

Combat photographer made 'ultimate sacrifice'; Canadian 'wanted to bring home the news of good stuff'

IDNUMBER 200706010221

PUBLICATION: Calgary Herald

DATE: 2007.06.01

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: A12

ILLUSTRATION: Colour Photo: Courtesy, Department of National Defence /Master Cpl. Darrell Priede and six others died when their helicopter crashed. ;

DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan

BYLINE: Tom Blackwell, with files from Taimoor Shah, CanWest NewsService

SOURCE: CanWest News Service; with files from The Canadian Press

WORD COUNT: 410

A young and "outstanding" Canadian combat photographer has been killed in a fiery helicopter crash, amid claims by the Taliban that it downed the chopper with new anti-aircraft weaponry.

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, 30, of Brantford, Ont., whose pictures have helped document Canada's Afghanistan mission, became the 56th Canadian service member to be killed here since 2002 and the second in less than a week. A Canadian corporal died in a bombing last Friday.

"In working to bring peace to this troubled country, he has ended up paying the ultimate sacrifice," said Brig.-Gen. Tim Grant, head of Canada's Afghanistan task force.

"There is no way to comfort those who grieve at this terrible time. However, we should all remember that Darrell was involved in a good thing, a good fight."

It was a rocky night all around Wednesday for NATO troops in the dangerous corner of south Afghanistan's Helmand province, where the Chinook helicopter fell to the ground. As a surface patrol headed to the crash site, those troops were themselves ambushed by insurgents, according to the alliance.

The pinned-down patrol eventually called for an air strike to "eliminate the enemy threat," said a news release from ISAF, NATO's Afghanistan mission. All five American crew members of the Chinook heavy lift helicopter, Priede and a British military passenger were killed in the incident, which took place in the early evening.

An Afghan civilian was injured in the shooting after the crash of the aircraft, which can carry as many as 40 soldiers.

Initial reports suggested "enemy fire may have brought down the helicopter, although the incident is still being investigated," said Lt.-Col. Angela Billings, an ISAF spokeswoman.

Priede, based in Gagetown, N.B., was a military imaging specialist taking part in an operation near the strategic Kajaki dam, scene of fierce fighting recently between mainly British soldiers and the Taliban. Priede had been in Afghanistan for less than six weeks.

Combat photographer made 'ultimate sacrifice'; Canadian 'wanted to bring home the news of good stuff'

The U.S.-funded dam is being repaired so it can deliver electricity to about two million Afghans in and around Kandahar, where electrical service is spotty at best and a serious drag on the economy.

Priede was working directly for ISAF in an operation designed to push the Taliban out of the region so crews can begin the refurbishment.

It included a night assault by part of the U.S. 82nd Airborne Division, and the helicopter had just dropped off troops.

Qari Yousef Ahmadi, a self-described Taliban spokesman, said the insurgents had used "new weapons" against the aircraft and they had worked successfully.

Roxanne Priede said from her home in Grand Forks, B.C., that her son was eager to capture images in Afghanistan.

"When he called us and told us he had actually applied to go over to Afghanistan, he said he wanted to bring home the news of good stuff."

Military photographer dies in Afghanistan; Father says his son wanted to show the world 'what good Canadians are doing over there'

IDNUMBER 200706010132
PUBLICATION: Times Colonist (Victoria)
DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A3
ILLUSTRATION: Photo: Department of National Defence / Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede is shown holding the Stanley Cup. This photo was taken just weeks ago at his military base in Afghanistan. ;
BYLINE: Chantel Eustice
SOURCE: CanWest News Service
WORD COUNT: 516

John Priede sits looking at photos of his oldest son holding the Stanley Cup, snapped just weeks ago at his military base in Afghanistan.

Early yesterday, Priede and his wife, Roxanne, of Grand Forks were visited by army personnel, including a chaplain — and plunged into what he describes as a "bad nightmare."

Their son, Darrell Jason Priede, a military photographer, was dead. The helicopter he was in crashed Wednesday outside Kandahar, near the town of Kajaki, they learned.

"It was totally devastating," he said. "I mean, it's just too bad. I was looking forward to seeing him on the news one day as a journalist or a newscaster. [That's] gone now."

Priede said his 30-year-old son, who volunteered to go to Afghanistan as a photographer, wanted to become a journalist.

"He was just the type of boy that when he put his mind to it, he just succeeded in what he did," he said. "He had that knack — that thing about it. And he's going to be greatly missed now."

As Priede spoke on the phone, he said he was flipping through photographs he printed out of his son in Afghanistan, as well as images captured through his son's camera lens.

"He's holding the Stanley Cup as I'm looking at him right now. I've got an eight-inch by 10-inch of him holding the cup and a few other photographs of him with his equipment — and Kandahar coffee from Tim Hortons. Go Canada Go," Priede said, his voice breaking a little.

He paused and added: "I mean, like I say, in the time he's been there, he's done fabulous things."

A few days ago, Priede chatted with his parents via the Internet from Kandahar, using a video webcast: "We talked to him on video for about five to six minutes. Time was up so we had to go," Priede said. "He was sitting at the booth looking at us and laughing and smiling as normal — just talking about regular things."

He said his son, who joined the army 11 years ago, loved taking photographs and was doing what he wanted to do.

"He thoroughly wanted to show the people of the world what good Canadians and people are doing over there," said Priede. "It totally backfired but he loved what he was doing and he was good at it."

Darrell Priede, along with six American and British soldiers, died when their helicopter crashed about 95 kilometres west of Kandahar, just after 9 p.m. local time.

Some reports have suggested the helicopter might have been shot down by the Taliban, but Karen Johnstone, a military spokeswoman in Ottawa, said this

hadn't been confirmed.

"The cause of the crash is currently under investigation," she said.

A release on the International Security Assistance Force website said units responding to the crash were later "ambushed by enemy fighters."

Capt. Mark Gough, an army spokesman in Halifax — who works with Canadian Forces Base Gagetown in New Brunswick where Priede was stationed — said military photographers, or "imagery technicians," play an essential role documenting the experience.

Some of Priede's photos are posted on the military's combat camera website (www.combatcamera.forces.gc.ca).

Although Priede served twice overseas in the Balkans as part of the infantry, this was his first time documenting the experience for the military, said Gough, who knew Priede personally.

He said Priede had a talent for photography and was one of the best military photographers around.

"He was a quiet, unassuming guy. His work spoke for his abilities."

John Priede said he and his wife will fly to Ontario so they can meet their son's body when it arrives at CFB Trenton on Sunday. After that, they'll go to New Brunswick to be with Priede's wife, Angela. The couple lived near the base in Oromocto.

Priede is the 56th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

Soldier made the 'ultimate sacrifice'

IDNUMBER 200706010101
PUBLICATION: The Leader-Post (Regina)
DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A3
DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan
BYLINE: Tom Blackwell
SOURCE: CanWest News Service
WORD COUNT: 539

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — A young and "outstanding" Canadian combat photographer has been killed in a fiery helicopter crash, amid claims by the Taliban that it downed the chopper with new anti-aircraft weaponry.

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, 30, of Brantford, Ont., whose images have helped document Canada's Afghanistan mission, became the 56th Canadian service member to be killed here since 2002 and the second in less than a week. A Canadian corporal died in a bombing last Friday.

"In working to bring peace to this troubled country, he has ended up paying the ultimate sacrifice," said Brig.-Gen. Tim Grant, head of Canada's Afghanistan task force.

"There is no way to comfort those who grieve at this terrible time.

However, we should all remember that Darrell was involved in a good thing, a good fight."

It was a rocky night all around Wednesday for NATO troops in the dangerous corner of south Afghanistan's Helmand province where the Chinook helicopter fell to the ground.

As a surface patrol headed in to the crash site, those troops were themselves ambushed by insurgents, according to the alliance.

The pinned-down patrol eventually called for an air strike in order to "eliminate the enemy threat," said a news release from ISAF, NATO's Afghanistan mission.

All five American crew members of the Chinook heavy-lift helicopter, Priede and a British military passenger were killed in the incident, which took place in the early evening.

An Afghan civilian was injured in the shooting after the aircraft, which can carry as many as 40 soldiers, crashed.

Reports suggested "enemy fire may have brought down the helicopter, although the incident is still being investigated," said ISAF spokeswoman, Lt.-Col. Angela Billings.

Priede, based in Gagetown, N.B., was a military imaging specialist taking part in an operation near the strategic Kajaki dam, scene of fierce fighting recently between mainly British soldiers and the Taliban. Priede had been in Afghanistan for less than six weeks.

The U.S.-funded dam is being repaired so it can deliver electricity to about two million Afghans in the region around Kandahar, where electrical service is spotty at best and a serious drag on the economy. British and other NATO forces have fought for weeks to protect it from attack.

Priede was working directly for ISAF in Operation Lastay Kulang (Pashto, for axe handle), designed to push the Taliban out of the dam area so crews can begin the refurbishment. It included a night assault by part of the United States 82nd Airborne Division, and the helicopter had just dropped off troops.

The soldier recorded similar operations in video and in still pictures to leave an accurate record of what took place, Grant said.

Qari Yousef Ahmadi, a Taliban spokesman, said the insurgents used "new weapons" against the aircraft and they had worked successfully.

"We're very happy," said Ahmadi, whose claims could not be proven independently. The Taliban has a history of making unverifiable assertions about its military prowess. Amanullah, a farmer in Khanano Kaly in Helmand province, said he saw the helicopter crash and that the Taliban had been shooting in the area.

He could not tell, however, if the craft was actually brought down by the insurgents. Amanullah, 40, who goes by just one name, described seeing the aircraft in flames on the ground near his home.

NATO has no reports of the Taliban gaining possession of any special weaponry that might make it easier to shoot down a helicopter, but it takes the reports seriously, and will change its tactics if necessary, said Grant.

He stressed that flying is still a much safer form of transportation than driving on southern Afghan roads, where the insurgents often plant explosives or resort to the work of suicide bombers.

Son wanted to show the good in Afghanistan: mother of soldier killed in crash

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL

PUBLICATION: cpw

WORD COUNT: 258

GRAND FORKS, B.C. (CP) _ The mother of a Canadian soldier killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan says her son's work as a military photographer was aimed at showing the good work Canada is doing in that war-ravaged country.

Roxanne Priede said son, Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, had served in Afghanistan for just over a month _ and he had volunteered to serve there.

``He really wanted to do something that would show more of what the military stood for," Priede said from her home in Grand Forks, B.C.

``When he called us and told us he had actually applied to go over to Afghanistan, he said he wanted to bring home the news of good stuff that was going on over there _ the good things Canadians were doing over there."

The combat cameraman, originally from the Grand Forks area, died along with five Americans and a Briton when the CH-47 Chinook they were flying in crashed in southern Afghanistan.

There were no survivors.

Initial reports suggested the chopper was hit by a rocket propelled grenade. The Taliban later claimed responsibility for bringing the chopper down.

Priede said her 30-year-old son, who was married a few years ago and was based at Canadian Forces Base Gaagetown in New Brunswick, was eager to capture images of Canada's mission in Afghanistan.

``We're very proud of him," she said, choking back tears and pausing to regain her composure.

``Our son was exemplary ... He didn't have one black mark in the military ... He enjoyed what he did because he always wanted to capture as much good as possible."

Priede said her son entered the military as a gunner in 1996 and later served as a peacekeeper in Bosnia.

On his second tour in the Balkans, he applied to become a military photographer.

The latest death brings to 56 the number of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

Canadian among 7 killed when Taliban shoots down helicopter in Afghanistan

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE POLITICS

PUBLICATION: cpw

WORD COUNT: 376

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (CP) _ A soldier based at CFB Gaagetown, N.B., was identified Thursday as the Canadian killed when a U.S. military helicopter was shot down in Afghanistan.

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, 30, a military photographer, died along with five Americans and a Briton when the CH-47 Chinook went down in southern Afghanistan's volatile Helmand province late Wednesday.

The Taliban has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Initial reports suggested the chopper was hit with a rocket propelled grenade. NATO military spokesman said there were no survivors.

NATO's International Security Assistance Force said other troops rushing to the scene were ambushed and had to call in air support to drive off their attackers.

The latest death brings to 56 the number of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

Lieut. Desmond James, stationed at the Provincial Reconstruction Team base outside Kandahar city, called Priede a professional who loved his job.

The two worked together when Priede documented the work of the various reconstructions missions carried out from the camp.

James fought back tears as he relayed the news of the soldier's death, saying it was hard for him to share the news of the tragic loss of a man he knew.

He showed photos the soldier had taken, among them a vivid snapshot of soldiers walking toward a recently refurbished mosque.

Those pictures were being hung in the PRT mess hall Thursday night.

A purported Taliban spokesman, Qari Yousef Ahmadi, claimed in a phone call to The Associated Press that insurgents were responsible for bringing down the helicopter.

Ahmadi did not offer any proof for his claim, but he specified the helicopter crashed in the Kajaki district hours before NATO reported that information. Kajaki is the site of a hydroelectric dam and the scene of recent fighting.

NATO said the CH-47 Chinook was carrying a crew of five and two military passengers when it crashed. The cause was "being determined by military officials," it said.

According to a U.S. military official, the British and Canadian soldiers were passengers on the helicopter.

The CH-47 Chinook, a heavy transport helicopter with two rotors, can carry around 40 soldiers plus a small crew. The fact it was flying at night suggested the aircraft might have been carrying troops on a nighttime air assault.

Helicopter crashes in Afghanistan have been relatively rare. A Chinook crashed in February in the southern province of Zabul, killing eight U.S. personnel. Officials ruled out enemy fire as the cause.

In May 2006, another Chinook crashed attempting a nighttime landing on a small mountaintop in eastern Kunar province, killing 10 U.S. soldiers.

In 2005, a U.S. helicopter crashed in Kunar, after apparently being hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, killing 16 Americans.

Canadian death toll in Afghanistan: 53 soldiers, one diplomat

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE POLITICS

PUBLICATION: cpw

WORD COUNT: 386

Since 2002, 56 Canadian soldiers and one diplomat have been killed in Afghanistan. Here is a list of the deaths:

2007

May 30 _ Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, killed when a U.S. helicopter was shot down by Taliban militants near in Helmand province.

May 25 _ Cpl. Matthew McCully, 25, killed by an improvised explosive device in Zhari District.

April 18 _ Master Cpl. Anthony Klumpenhower, who served with elite special forces, died after falling from a communications tower while on duty conducting surveillance in Kandahar City.

April 11 _ Master Cpl. Allan Stewart and Trooper Patrick James Pentland killed when their Coyote vehicle struck an improvised explosive device.

April 8 _ Sgt. Donald Lucas, Cpl. Aaron E. Williams, Pte. Kevin V. Kennedy, Pte. David R. Greenslade, Cpl. Christopher P. Stannix and Cpl. Brent Poland killed when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb.

March 6 _ Cpl. Kevin Megeney, 25, killed in accidental shooting at NATO base in Kandahar.

2006

Nov. 27 _ Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Girouard and Cpl. Albert Storm killed by suicide car bomber.

Oct. 14 _ Sgt. Darcy Tedford and Pte. Blake Williamson killed in ambush.

Oct. 7 _ Trooper Mark Andrew Wilson killed by roadside bomb.

Oct. 3 _ Sgt. Craig Gillam and Cpl. Robert Mitchell killed in series of mortar, rocket attacks.

Sept. 29 _ Pte. Josh Klukie killed by explosion in Panjwaii while on foot patrol.

Sept. 18 _ Pte. David Byers, Cpl. Shane Keating, Cpl. Keith Morley and Cpl. Glen Arnold killed in suicide bicycle bomb attack while on foot patrol in Panjwaii.

Sept. 4 _ Pte. Mark Graham killed when two NATO planes accidentally strafed Canadian troops in Panjwaii district.

Sept. 3 _ Sgt. Shane Stachnik, Warrant Officer Frank Robert Mellish, Pte. William Cushley and Warrant Officer Richard Francis Nolan killed in fighting in Panjwaii district.

Aug. 22 _ Cpl. David Braun killed in suicide attack.

Aug. 11 _ Cpl. Andrew Eykelenboom killed in suicide attack.

Aug. 9 _ Master Cpl. Jeffrey Walsh killed by apparent accidental discharge of rifle.

Aug. 5 _ Master Cpl. Raymond Arndt killed when his G–Wagon patrol vehicle collided with truck.

Aug. 3 _ Cpl. Christopher Reid killed by roadside bomb. Sgt. Vaughan Ingram, Cpl. Bryce Keller and Pte. Kevin Dallaire killed in rocket–propelled grenade attack.

July 22 _ Cpl. Francisco Gomez and Cpl. Jason Warren killed when car packed with explosives rammed their armoured vehicle.

July 9 _ Cpl. Anthony Boneca killed in firefight.

May 17 _ Capt. Nichola Goddard killed in Taliban ambush. She was first Canadian woman to be killed in action while serving in combat role.

April 22 _ Cpl. Matthew Dinning, Bombardier Myles Mansell, Lt. William Turner and Cpl. Randy Payne killed when their G–Wagon destroyed by roadside bomb.

March 29 _ Pte. Robert Costall killed in firefight with Taliban.

March 2 _ Cpl. Paul Davis and Master Cpl. Timothy Wilson killed when their armoured vehicle ran off road.

Jan. 15 _ Glyn Berry, British–born Canadian diplomat, killed in suicide bombing.

2005

Nov. 24 _ Pte. Braun Woodfield killed when his armoured vehicle rolled over.

2004

Jan. 27 _ Cpl. Jamie Murphy killed in suicide bombing while on patrol.

2003

Oct. 2 _ Sgt. Robert Short and Cpl. Robbie Beerenfenger killed in roadside bombing.

2002

April 17 _ Sgt. Marc Leger, Cpl. Ainsworth Dyer, Pte. Richard Green and Pte. Nathan Smith killed when U.S. F–16 fighter mistakenly bombed Canadians.

CTV National News, Thursday, May 31

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: cpw

WORD COUNT: 339

WASHINGTON _ The man who may have exposed hundreds of people to a dangerous form of tuberculosis is a personal-injury lawyer whose new father-in-law is a microbiologist who specializes in tuberculosis and works for the Centers for Disease Control; he may have to stay in isolation for up to six months. CVD.

TORONTO _ Mount Sinai closes its neonatal intensive care unit after a premature baby died of a type of blood poisoning, four other babies have also tested positive for it. CVD.

VANCOUVER _ Federal officials invoked the Quarantine Act to block a group of 39 Japanese students and two of their chaperones from boarding a flight to Tokyo on Thursday when departure screening in Vancouver revealed one girl was ill with symptoms that could be measles. CVD.

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan _ A Canadian soldier, Master Cpl. Darrell Priede was among seven NATO soldiers killed when a helicopter crashed; the Taliban has claimed that it shot the helicopter down; Priede was a combat photographer working for NATO who had been in Afghanistan for less than six weeks. CVD.

QUEBEC _ After an evening of intense negotiations with opposition parties, it appears Premier Jean Charest's Liberal government will survive. CVD.

FREDERICTON _ Young deer walks through the open doors of the provincial legislature; the deer escaped by bolting through a window. CVD.

VANCOUVER _ California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signs deal with Premier Gordon Campbell to jointly fight global warming. CVD.

SEATTLE _ Robert Soloway, 27, is accused of using zombie computers to send spam out over the Internet; on his website he bragged that he could send more than 10 million e-mails a day. CVD.

FOREST, Ont. _ Federal and provincial governments acknowledge failings that led to the death of native protester Dudley George after the release of the Ipperwash Inquiry report. CVD.

OTTAWA _ Federal government offers Mohawk leaders money to settle land claims in Ontario that is contingent on the protest at Caledonia coming to an end. CVD.

TORONTO _ Funeral held for Jordan Manners, killed last week at his school. CVD.

UNDATED _ Saab and Volvo convertibles the safest on the road. CVD.

WASHINGTON _ Annual Scripps Spelling Bee features kids spelling words most people haven't heard of. CVD.

CP Toronto

3rd Writethru CP News Budget – Thursday, May 31, 2007

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: cpw

WORD COUNT: 500

Here are the CP coverage plans as of 19:30 EDT. An updated advisory will move around 23:30. The CP editor handling World news in Toronto can be reached at 416-507-2165.

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan _ Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, a 30-year-old Canadian combat photographer, was on a U.S. Chinook helicopter that was apparently shot down after dropping off 35 American soldiers near the site of a recent battle in Helmand province, southern Afghanistan. Priede and six others on board _ five Americans and a Briton _ were killed and NATO military officials concede hostile fire may have brought down their chopper, but Canadian officials said the incident was still under investigation. The Taliban has claimed responsibility. 650 words. By Stephanie Levitz. See Photos. BC-Afghan-Cda-Death, 8th Writethru. Moved.

See also:

BC-Afghan-Cda-List. Moved.

BC-Afghan-Cda-Expanded-List. Moved Datatile.

WASHINGTON _ Canadian Omar Khadr's terrorism case is in a state of confusion now that he's fired his U.S. lawyers. Edmonton lawyer Dennis Edney says he'll fight next week to be a direct participant in Khadr's contentious case at an arraignment hearing in Guantanamo Bay. 650 words. By Beth Gorham. BC-US-Cda-Khadr. Moved.

WASHINGTON _ For the second year in a row, an Albertan has come within a heartbeat of becoming the champ at the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Nate Gartke, a 13-year-old who lives outside Spruce Grove near Edmonton, took second prize in the annual spell-fest won by Californian Evan O'Dorney. 630 words. By Beth Gorham. BC-Spelling-Bee-Cda, 6th Writethru. Moved.

WASHINGTON _ President George W. Bush, seeking to blunt international criticism of the U.S. record on climate change, urged 15 major countries to agree by the end of next year on a global target for reducing greenhouse gases. Bush called for a series of meetings to bring together countries identified as major emitters of greenhouse gases blamed for global warming. After setting a goal, the countries would be free to develop their own strategies to meet the target. 825 words. By Terence Hunt. BC-Bush. Moved.

BAGHDAD _ A battle raged in west Baghdad on Thursday after residents rose up against al-Qaida and called for U.S. military help to end random gunfire that forced people to huddle indoors, a member of the district council said. Elsewhere in Iraq, a suicide bomber hit a police recruiting centre in Fallujah, killing as many as 25 people, police said. The U.S. military said one policeman was killed and eight were wounded. 800 words. By Sinan Salaheddin. See Photo. BC-Iraq, 1st Writethru. Moved.

BEIJING _ The first panda bred in captivity and released into the wild has died in China after less than a year _ the apparent victim of a fall. Chinese officials said the body bore injuries inflicted by wild pandas, and the animal may have died trying to escape. 450 words. By Audra Ang. See Photo. BC-China-Panda-Death, 1st

Writethru. Moved.

CP News Budget, Thursday, May 31, 2007

DATE: 2007.05.31
KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES
PUBLICATION: cpw
WORD COUNT: 1907

All times ET.

For queries about non-CP syndicated copy, call the Specials Desk at 416-507-2152.

SOLDIER KILLED:

CFB GAGETOWN _ The mother of a Canadian soldier killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan says her son's work as a military photographer was aimed at showing the good work Canada is doing in that war-ravaged country. Roxanne Priede said her eldest son, Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, had served in Afghanistan for just over a month _ and he had volunteered to serve there. 500 words. By Chris Morris. PRECEDES GRAND FORKS, B.C. BC-Afghan-Cda-Death-Reax, 4th Writethru. Moved.

See also:

Ottawa _BC-Afghan-Cda-Death-NATO, 1st Writethru. Moved General (G)

Kandahar _ BC-Afghan-Cda-Death, 6th Writethru. Moved World (W).

ABORIGINAL SHOOTING REPORT

FOREST, Ont. _ The daily life of aboriginals must improve if Canada wants to avoid future tragedies like the police shooting of an unarmed aboriginal protester 12 years ago, aboriginal leaders said Thursday following a scathing public inquiry report which found the federal government's unwillingness to settle aboriginal land claims, the impatience of the former Conservative Ontario government and the cultural insensitivity of the provincial police all contributed to the death of Dudley George in Ipperwash Provincial Park. 1,000 words. By Chinta Puxley. See CP Photos. BC-Ipperwash-Inquiry, 12th Writethru. Moved.

FOREST, Ont. _ The brother of Dudley George says the aboriginal protester whose death was at the centre of the Ipperwash inquiry was vindicated and shown to be a peaceful protester. 600 words. By Colin Perkel. See CP Photos. BC-Ipperwash-George, 1st Writethru. Moved.

FOREST, Ont. _ Former Ontario premier Mike Harris wanted the occupation at Ipperwash Provincial Park to end quickly, but there is no evidence he or his officials are responsible for the subsequent shooting death of protester Dudley George, an inquiry concluded Thursday. 600 words. By Tobi Cohen. BC-Ipperwash-Harris. Moved.

OTHER CANADIAN

OTTAWA _ Lawyers for three Canadians accused of terrorist ties will not be given special access to closed-door hearings on their clients' arrest and torture abroad. Former Supreme Court judge Frank Iacobucci has been appointed to examine the cases of Abdullah Almalki, Ahmad El Maati and Muayyed Nureddin. 450 words. By Jim Bronskill. BC-Torture-Inquiry, 1st Writethru. Moved.

OTTAWA _ Air India says it was never warned about a suspicious suitcase, checked onto a connecting flight by a fictitious passenger, that turned out to carry the terrorist bomb that took 329 lives in June 1985. Rajesh Chopra, now director of Canadian operations for Air India, told a public inquiry Thursday his airline should have received a passenger manifest from now-defunct CP Air listing the connecting travelers on its flight that day from Vancouver to Toronto. 500 words. By Jim Brown. BC–Air–India, 1st Writethru. Moved.

OTTAWA _ The controversy over reimbursements for military funerals has descended into petty bickering among members of Parliament with the prime minister and Opposition leader debating who is the better Canadian. 550 words. By Murray Brewster. BC–Afghan–Cda–Funerals, 1st Writethru. Moved.

OTTAWA _ A New Democrat MP is asking the Mounties to investigate how the Foreign Affairs Department handled the release of a report on torture in Afghanistan. The department initially denied the existence of the report and Pat Martin says that's an offence under the Access to Information Act. 450 words. By John Ward. BC–Afghan–Cda–Censorship, 1st Writethru. Moved.

TORONTO _ Travelers who sat near Andrew Speaker, the man at the centre of an international XDR–TB scare, could face months of testing to determine if they were infected with the potentially fatal strain of tuberculosis that he carries. 600 words. By Helen Branswell. BC–XDR–TB–Passengers, 1st Writethru. Moved.

And moving on the World Wire on the tuberculosis story:

ATLANTA _ The honeymooner quarantined with a dangerous strain of tuberculosis was identified Thursday as a 31-year-old Atlanta personal injury lawyer whose new father-in-law is a CDC microbiologist specializing in the spread of TB. 800 words. By Greg Bluestein. See Photos. BC–XDR–TB–Traveller, 5th Writethru Bgt. Moved World (W).

See also:

Atlanta _ BC–Tuberculosis–Infection–Analysis. Moved World (W) datafile Only.

OTTAWA – The Canadian economy sprinted forward to the best performance in over a year during the first quarter, registering a 3.7 per cent annual growth rate that beat even the most optimistic expectations of the period. The strong rebound from last year's limping finish underscores to the Bank of Canada's warning earlier in the week that the economy was operating beyond its capacity without triggering inflation. 700 words. By Julian Beltrame. Stands as writethru to BC–StatsCan–GDP. BC–Economy, 2nd Writethru. Moved Business (B) and General (G).

VANCOUVER _ California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger brought his political muscle to British Columbia on Thursday, where he attended the inaugural Pacific Economic Summit to promote cross-border trade opportunities between B.C. and his state. 800 words. By Camille Bains. See CP Photos. BC–Schwarzenegger–Canada, 3rd Writethru.

QUEBEC _ Premier Jean Charest's minority government is set to survive Friday's budget vote after the Parti Quebecois surrendered in last-minute negotiations. 470 words. By Les Perreux. See CP Photo. BC–Que–Election, 4th Writethru.

SASKATOON _ Mine rescuers drilled and blasted through tonnes of rock Thursday in an effort to reach a man trapped 800 metres deep at a gold mine in northern Saskatchewan. The miner, identified by family as 29-year-old Corey Braaten, hasn't been seen or heard from since an incident Tuesday afternoon at Claude Resources' (TSX:CRJ) Seabee mine, about 400 kilometres northeast of Saskatoon. 530 words. By Tim Cook. BC–Miner–Accident, 1st Writethru. Moved on both General (G) and Business (B) wires; guard against

duplication.

WINNIPEG _ The effects of post-traumatic stress syndrome are at the centre of a Manitoba court case in which a former soldier who was found not criminally responsible for sexually assaulting a young girl. On Thursday the Manitoba Court of Appeal reserved decision on the Crown's request for a new trial for Roger Borsch. 600 words. By Steve Lambert. BC-CRIME-Soldier-Sex-PTSD, 2nd Writethru. Moved.

CALEDONIA, Ont. _ Six Nations representatives were expected to present a written reply Thursday to federal land-claim negotiators concerning a \$125-million offer for compensation regarding four Ontario claims. Ottawa offered the money late Wednesday with the condition that protesters end their 15-month occupation of a former housing development site in Caledonia, Ont. 600 words. By Christopher Maughan. BC-Native-Occupation-Offer, 3rd Writethru. Moved.

TORONTO _ A neonatal care unit at Mount Sinai Hospital remained closed Thursday, days after a highly feared bacterial infection killed a premature baby. The infant died of blood poisoning after acquiring serratia, an organism found fairly commonly in the bowels of adults. 600 words. By Noor Javed. BC-Neonatal-Closed, 3rd Writethru. Moved.

TORONTO _ The mother of Jordan Manners bent over and kissed her son's casket Thursday as mourners filed past to pay their last respects to the teenage boy who was gunned down last week at his high school. The emotional funeral for the popular 15-year-old was so packed with grieving friends and family, some mourners had to stand outside the Christian Centre Church as strains of Amazing Grace drifted from the service. 600 words. By Steve Rennie. BC-High-School-Shooting-Funeral, 2nd Writethru. Moved.

ST. JOHN'S, N.L. _ Six Newfoundland crab fishermen are alive today because of a swift response from search and rescue personnel and a united desire to leave no man behind, one of the survivors said Thursday. In an interview, Owen Power said the men stayed aboard their burning boat for as long as possible because at least one of them who didn't have a survival suit may not have survived in the icy waters of the north Atlantic. 500 words. By Tara Brautigam. See CP Photo CPT112. BC-NL-Dramatic-Rescue, 3rd Writethru. Moved.

HALIFAX _ A Nova Scotia man charged with three murders faces "difficult" legal odds in the United States if he chooses to argue that he wasn't criminally responsible due to his mental illness, says a psychiatrist who is a leading expert in New York State. Twenty-six-year-old Glen Douglas Race, who suffers from severe paranoid schizophrenia, has been charged with gunning down Darcy Manor, 35, at a remote hunting camp outside of Mooers, N.Y. 700 words. By Michael Tutton. BC-CRIME-Gay-Murders. Moved.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. _ A former sex-trade worker on Vancouver's Downtown Eastside says she met Robert Pickton in the neighbourhood in 1998 and he invited her to his farm. Giselle Ireson testified in court that the accused serial killer wanted a "date" with her but that he didn't want to meet her at her hotel room or have sex in his car. 700 words. By Wendy Cox. BC-CRIME-Pickton, 3rd Writethru. Moved.

TORONTO _ The Liberal government will adjourn the Ontario legislature next week, almost three weeks ahead of schedule, marking the unofficial start to the campaign for the Oct. 10 general election. The Liberals hope to pass any outstanding legislation by the middle of the week, and will then turn their attention to a new green plan for the province. 500 words. By Keith Leslie. BC-Legislature-Election. Moved Regional (C).

EDMONTON _ Alberta is about to become one of the last provinces to ban smoking in all public places and worksites, a major turnabout for a Progressive Conservative government that has been reluctant to force bar patrons to butt out. The government caucus approved a plan Thursday to introduce legislation that will also prohibit retail tobacco displays and prohibit sales in pharmacies, health facilities, colleges and universities. 650 words. By Jim Macdonald. BC-Alta-Smoking-Ban, 1st Writethru. Moved.

FOR THE WEEKEND:

UNDATED _ For decades, Arctic scientists have depended on radio collars and tranquilizer darts to help them understand the lives and movements of animals from beluga whales to polar bears. But the future of those research mainstays is in doubt after Inuit groups, which control the research permits scientists need, protested those methods as cruel and degrading to wildlife and put those who eat them at risk. By Bob Weber. 750 words. See CP Photo. For use any time but primarily intended for weekend. BC–Cruel–Research. Moved.

UNDATED _ The suburbs of Calgary sprawl beyond the reach of the city's public transportation system, swallowing up what were once tiny communities like Okotoks and Airdrie and putting pressure on water resources. To the north, the factories in Edmonton's so-called refinery row belch pollutants day and night, their lights casting an eerie glow that can be seen from kilometres away. That image of Alberta hardly casts the province at the centre of a burgeoning environmental movement, but Preston Manning wants to challenge that perception. 900 words. By Kristine Owrarn. For use any time but primarily intended for weekend. BC–Manning–Environment. Moved.

BURNABY, B.C. _ With the Hydrogen Highway still largely a dream outside California, Ford Motor Co. sees plug-in hybrid fuel-cell cars as a transitional step, says one of the automaker's top engineers in the field. People ultimately will demand fuel-cell vehicles that provide the same performance and flexibility as conventional autos powered by internal-combustion engines, says Mujeeb Ijaz, Ford's manager of fuel-cell vehicle engineering. 850 words. By Steve Mertl. See CP Photos. For use any time but primarily intended for weekend. BC–Ford–Fuel–Cell. Moved Business (B) and General (G).

bc-CCN-ON-GOV-OBT

DATE: 2007.05.31

PUBLICATION: cpw

WORD COUNT: 204

^Canadian Forces Member Killed in Afghanistan@<

May 31, 2007

OTTAWA, ONTARIO---(CCNMatthews – May 31, 2007) – Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede, a military Imagery Technician serving with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Regional Command (South) Headquarters at Kandahar Airfield, was killed when the helicopter in which he was a passenger went down at approximately 9 p.m. Kandahar time on 30 May, near the town of Kajaki, Helmand Province, about 95 kms northwest of Kandahar City. Master Corporal Priede was a member of the Army News Team from 3 Area Support Group, based at Canadian Forces Base Gaagetown, New Brunswick. His next of kin have been notified.

The other six non-Canadian military personnel aboard the helicopter were also killed in the incident. No further details are available at this time. ISAF is investigating the cause of the incident.

The thoughts and prayers of the men and women of the Canadian Forces go out to the family and friends of the deceased.

NOTE TO EDITOR:

A photograph of MCpl Priede will be posted on the Combat Camera Website as soon as it becomes available: <http://www.combatcamera.forces.gc.ca/> search under the last name.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Information: 613-996-2353/54

After hours: 613-792-2973

www.forces.gc.ca

INDUSTRY: Government – International, Government – Local,

Government – National, Government – Security (law enforcement,

homeland etc), Government – State

SUBJECT: OBT

NEWS RELEASE TRANSMITTED BY CCNMatthews

Canadian death toll in Afghanistan: 56 soldiers, one diplomat

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE POLITICS

PUBLICATION: cpw

WORD COUNT: 907

Since 2002, 56 Canadian soldiers and one Canadian diplomat have been killed in Afghanistan. Here is a list of the deaths:

2007

May 30 _ Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, a combat photographer based at CFB Gagetown, N.B., killed when a U.S. helicopter was reportedly shot down by the Taliban in Helmand province.

May 25 _ Cpl. Matthew McCully, 25, a signals operator from 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Headquarters and Signals Squadron based at Petawawa, Ont., killed by an improvised explosive device in Zhari district.

April 18 _ Master Cpl. Anthony Klumpenhauer, 25, of Listowel, Ont., died after falling from a communications tower while on duty with the elite Special Operations Forces Command, conducting surveillance in Kandahar City.

April 11 _ Master Cpl. Allan Stewart, 30, and Trooper Patrick James Pentland, 23, both of the Royal Canadian Dragoons based in Petawawa, Ont., killed when their Coyote vehicle struck an improvised explosive device.

April 8 _ Pte. Kevin V. Kennedy, 20, of St. Lawrence, Nfld., Sgt. Donald Lucas, 31, of Burton, N.B., Cpl. Aaron E. Williams, 23, of Lincoln, N.B., Pte. David R. Greenslade, 20, of Saint John, N.B., Cpl. Brent Poland, 37, of Sarnia, Ont., all of Gagetown, N.B.–based 2nd Battalion, RCR; and Cpl. Christopher Stannix, 24, of Dartmouth, N.S., from the Halifax–based Princess Louise Fusiliers, killed when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb in the Maywand district.

March 6 _ Cpl. Kevin Megeney, 25, of Stellarton, N.S., a member of 1st Battalion of Nova Scotia Highlanders, killed by accidental shooting at NATO base in Kandahar.

2006

Nov. 27 _ Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Girouard, his battalion's regimental sergeant major, and Cpl. Albert Storm, both of Royal Canadian Regiment based in CFB Petawawa, killed when suicide car bomber attacked their Bison armoured personnel carrier on outskirts of Kandahar City.

Oct. 14 _ Sgt. Darcy Tedford, based at CFB Petawawa, and Pte. Blake Williamson from Ottawa killed in ambush west of Kandahar.

Oct. 7 _ Trooper Mark Andrew Wilson of Royal Canadian Dragoons, based in Petawawa, Ont., killed when his armoured vehicle hit by roadside bomb in Panjwaii district.

Oct. 3 _ Sgt. Craig Gillam and Cpl. Robert Mitchell of Royal Canadian Dragoons, based in Petawawa, Ont., killed in series of mortar, rocket attacks just west of Kandahar City.

Sept. 29 _ Pte. Josh Klukie of First Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment, based in Petawawa, Ont., killed by explosion in Panjwaii while on foot patrol.

Sept. 18 _ Pte. David Byers, Cpl. Shane Keating and Cpl. Keith Morley, all of 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry based in Shilo, Man., and Cpl. Glen Arnold, 2 Field Ambulance, based in Petawawa, Ont., killed in suicide bicycle bomb attack while on foot patrol in Panjwaii.

Sept. 4 _ Pte. Mark Graham, based at CFB Petawawa, killed when two NATO planes accidentally strafed Canadian troops in Panjwaii district.

Sept. 3 _ Sgt. Shane Stachnik, Warrant Officer Frank Robert Mellish, Pte. William Cushley and Warrant Officer Richard Francis Nolan, all based at CFB Petawawa, Ont., killed in fighting in Panjwaii district.

Aug. 22 _ Cpl. David Braun, based at Shilo, Man., killed in suicide bomb attack in Kandahar City.

Aug. 11 _ Cpl. Andrew Eykelenboom, 23, of Comox, B.C., stationed with 1st Field Ambulance, based in Edmonton, killed in suicide attack.

Aug. 9 _ Master Cpl. Jeffrey Walsh, 33, of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, based in Shilo, Man., killed by apparent accidental discharge of rifle.

Aug. 5 _ Master Cpl. Raymond Arndt, 31, of Loyal Edmonton Regiment, killed when large truck collided head-on with his G-Wagon patrol vehicle.

Aug. 3 _ Cpl. Christopher Reid, 34, of 1st Battalion of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, based in Edmonton, killed by roadside bomb. Three other members of same battalion killed in rocket-propelled grenade attack by Taliban forces west of Kandahar: Sgt. Vaughan Ingram, 35, Cpl. Bryce Keller, 27, and Pte. Kevin Dallaire, 22.

July 22 _ Cpl. Francisco Gomez, 44, of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, based in Edmonton, and Cpl. Jason Warren, 29, of Black Watch, Royal Highland Regiment of Canada, based in Montreal, killed when car packed with explosives rammed their armoured vehicle.

July 9 _ Cpl. Anthony Boneca, 21, reservist from Lake Superior Scottish Regiment based in Thunder Bay, Ont., killed in firefight.

May 17 _ Capt. Nichola Goddard, artillery officer based in Shilo, Man., with 1st Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, killed in Taliban ambush during battle in Panjwaii region. She was first Canadian woman to be killed in action while serving in combat role.

April 22 _ Cpl. Matthew Dinning of Richmond Hill, Ont., stationed with 2nd Canadian Mechanized Brigade in Petawawa, Ont., Bombardier Myles Mansell of Victoria, Lt. William Turner of Toronto, stationed in Edmonton, and Cpl. Randy Payne, born in Lahr, Germany, stationed at CFB Wainright, Alta., all killed when their G-Wagon destroyed by roadside bomb near Gumbad.

March 29 _ Pte. Robert Costall of Edmonton, machine-gunner, killed in firefight with Taliban insurgents in Sangin district of Helmand province.

March 2 _ Cpl. Paul Davis of Bridgewater, N.S., and Master Cpl. Timothy Wilson of Grande Prairie, Alta.,

killed when their armoured vehicle ran off road in Kandahar area.

Jan. 15 _ Glyn Berry, British-born Canadian diplomat who had served with Foreign Affairs Department since 1977, killed in suicide bombing near Kandahar.

2005

Nov. 24 _ Pte. Braun Woodfield, born in Victoria and raised in Eastern Passage, N.S., killed when his armoured vehicle rolled over near Kandahar.

2004

Jan. 27 _ Cpl. Jamie Murphy, 26, of Conception Harbour, Nfld., killed in suicide bombing while on patrol near Kabul.

2003

Oct. 2 _ Sgt. Robert Short, 42, of Fredericton, and Cpl. Robbie Beerenfenger, 29, of Ottawa, killed in roadside bombing southwest of Kabul.

2002

April 17 _ Sgt. Marc Leger, 29, of Lancaster, Ont., Cpl. Ainsworth Dyer, 24, of Montreal, Pte. Richard Green, 21, of Mill Cove, N.S., and Pte. Nathan Smith, 27, of Tatamagouche, N.S., all killed when U.S. F-16 fighter mistakenly bombed Canadians on pre-dawn training exercise. Eight other Canadians wounded in friendly-fire incident.

--Thirteenth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 323

A stunning development in the case of a man who sparked a tuberculosis scare in Canada, the U-S and Europe.

The father-in-law of 31-year old Atlanta lawyer Andrew Speaker is a microbiologist at the U-S Centers for Disease Control.

Bob Cooksey specializes in T-B and other bacterial infections.

Cooksey won't say if he reported his son-in-law to health authorities.

Speaker suffers from a dangerous form of T-B and anyone near him on recent flights -- including one from Prague to Montreal -- is being advised to be tested for the disease. (13)

(Ipperwash-Inquiry) (Audio: P08)

The federal Indian Affairs Minister says he'll move as quickly as possible to return disputed land where an aboriginal protester was killed by police in 1995.

Prentice says he's "sorry" previous governments neglected the land claim made by the Kettle and Stoney Points First Nation.

The comments follow the release of a public inquiry report into the police shooting of Dudley George at Ipperwash Provincial Park 12 years ago.

It concludes the federal and provincial governments have to deal with land claims fairly if they want to avoid future confrontations. (13)

(Afghan-Cda-Death-NATO) (Audio: 164)

NATO's top soldier doesn't believe the fatal helicopter crash in Afghanistan that killed a Canadian soldier represents a significant change in tactics by insurgents.

Canadian General Ray Henault calls the deaths of seven soldiers, including Master Corporal Darrel Jason Priede (Preed), an "unfortunate loss."

But he says it comes with the risks posed in the volatile nation.

Prime Minister Harper has offered his condolences to the family of the 56th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan. (13)

(Schwarzenegger-Canada) (Audio: 172)

California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger is in B-C as part of his three-day Canadian trade mission.

He was welcomed in Vancouver by native dancers and B-C Premier Gordon Campbell, who praised the governor's leadership on the environment.

Schwarzenegger thanked Campbell for being passionate about tackling environmental issues. (13)

(CRIME-French-Threats)

A Quebec man is facing charges after allegedly posting a threatening anti-French rant on YouTube.

Police say they were called by someone who saw the video, which has now been removed the website.

They say an individual is heard vowing to get a weapon and seek revenge because he can't find a job because he doesn't speak enough French.

A 23-year-old man is charged with uttering threats. (13)

(Nanaimo-Crack-Kits)

The mayor of Nanaimo, B-C is livid that Vancouver Island's Health Authority is providing free "crack kits" to drug users.

The kits are part of a harm-reduction strategy, but Mayor Gary Korpan calls the program unethical and immoral.

He believes the crack kits simply encourage drug use and he wants to know who would have authorized the program without getting city approval. (13)

(NewsWatch by Phil Godin)

INDEX:Defence, International

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 142

GRAND FORKS, B.C. _The family of a Canadian soldier killed when his helicopter was apparently shot down in Afghanistan says Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede ``was always willing to help those in need."

In a statement, Priede's family describe the 30-year-old soldier as a quiet, soft-spoken man who loved his job, and enjoyed travelling and playing golf.

Priede, who was stationed at New Brunswick's C-F-B Gagetown, died yesterday along with five Americans and a Briton when the CH-47 Chinook they were flying in was reportedly shot down in southern Afghanistan.

The Taliban has claimed responsibility for bringing the chopper down.

Born in Burlington, Ontario and raised in the Grand Forks, B-C area, Priede and his wife Angela recently celebrated their fourth wedding anniversary.

His mother, Roxanne Priede, says her son volunteered to go to Afghanistan as a military photographer to show the 'good' Canadians are doing in the war-torn country.

(BN)

mim-mep

CORRECTION--Sixth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 65

Substitute the following for the first item in the Sixth NewsWatch

Fixes unedited first item, sent in error.

(Afghan-NATO-Helicopter) (Audio: 089)

The Canadian military has confirmed the death of a Canadian soldier in the crash of a U-S military helicopter in southern Afghanistan.

Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede of C-F-B Gagetown was killed, along with five Americans and a Briton.

The NATO chopper was apparently shot down in the volatile southern Helmand province.

The Taliban is claiming responsibility for the attack.

He's the 56th Canadian to die in the war-torn country since 2002. (6)

Broadcast News Toronto

--Seventh NewsWatch--

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 240

The death toll for Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan has now reached 56.

A Canadian soldier was among the seven casualties in an attack on an International Security Assistance Force helicopter.

Master Corporal Darrell Priede (preed) was based at C-F-B Gagetown, New Brunswick.

The Taliban says it shot down the chopper in Helmand province last night.

Early indications are that the helicopter was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade. (7)

(High-School-Shooting)

Hundreds of mourners are expected to attend the funeral today for a young Toronto shooting victim.

Fifteen-year-old Jordan Manners was gunned down last week in the hallway of his high school.

Two 17-year-olds are being held on first-degree murder charges.

Manners' mother, Lauren Small, yesterday issued an emotional plea for action to reduce youth violence. (7)

(XDR-TB-Airline)

Health officials are working to obtain the passenger lists of several European flights.

It's believed they were boarded over a two-week period this month by an American with a particularly bad form of tuberculosis.

The man, who also took two trans-Atlantic flights, is now under federal quarantine in Atlanta.

The Public Health Agency of Canada has identified 16 of the 28 passengers who were seated near him on a Czech Air flight he took from Prague to Montreal on May 24th. (7)

(BC-Mushroom-Warning)

B-C's Coroner's Service is sending out a warning about deadly mushrooms that closely resemble magic mushrooms.

A Victoria-area woman died just a week before her nineteenth birthday last May after taking what she thought were hallucinogenic mushrooms at a party.

The province's wild mushroom season is just getting started.

The coroner says no wild mushroom should be eaten unless identification is 100 per cent positive. (7)

(WEA–Hurricane–Season)

Tropical Storm Barbara has formed off the southwestern coast of Mexico.

Forecasters say it could strengthen into the Pacific season's first hurricane.

They'll be watching it over the next several days. (7)

(Spelling–Bee–Cdns)

Six Canadians are among 59 students still competing at the prestigious Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D–C.

The annual contest began yesterday with 286 competitors from English–speaking parts of the world -- with the finals set for tonight.

Fourteen–year–old Finola Hackett of Tofield, Alberta finished second last year. (7)

(NewsWatch by Geri Smith)

--Sixth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 270

The Canadian military has confirmed the death of a Canadian soldier in the crash of a U-S military helicopter in southern Afghanistan.

Master Corporal Jarrell Jason Priede of C-F-B Gagetown was killed, along with five Americans and a Briton.

The NATO chopper was apparently shot down in the volatile southern Helmand province.

The Taliban is claiming responsibility for the attack.

The name of the Canadian has yet to be released.

He's the 56th Canadian to die in the war-torn country since 2002. (6)

(Iraq Violence)

At least 25 people are dead after a suicide bomber struck a police recruiting centre today in the Iraqi city of Fallujah.

At least 50 others were wounded.

Officials say ten police officers are among those killed. (6)

(Quebec-Election)

The budget vote is looming in Quebec.

And it looks like there's a deadlock -- just one day before the crucial verdict on the Liberal minority government's fiscal plan.

The Liberals and the Parti Quebecois have so far failed to negotiate a deal to avoid another election.

Reports say both the P-Q and the Official Opposition A-D-Q will vote against the budget.

But the minority government would be supported in a confidence vote. (6)

(Ipperwash-Inquiry)

The final report of the provincial probe into the shooting of an aboriginal protester in Ontario's Ipperwash Provincial Park is due out today.

The inquiry commissioner is expected to outline what influence, if any, then-Conservative-premier Mike Harris played in the fatal police response.

Dudley George was shot and killed as police moved in to end a land claim protest in 1995.

Premier Dalton McGuinty figures the entire country can benefit from the report — given the mounting frustration among the native community at the slow pace of land claim talks. (6)

(XDR–TB–Airline)

More details are emerging about the American in quarantine in Atlanta with a rare form of tuberculosis.

The unidentified Georgia man not only took two transatlantic flights against doctors' advice, but also took several flights around Europe this month.

Canadian public health authorities have been in contact with 16 of 28 passengers who sat near the man on one of the transatlantic flights.

They were aboard a Czech Airlines flight from Prague to Montreal on May 24th. (6)

(WEA–Hurricane–Season)

Tropical Storm Barbara is currently spinning off the southwestern coast of Mexico.

It could become the season's first Pacific hurricane over the next several days.

The Atlantic hurricane season starts tomorrow. (6)

(NewsWatch by Geri Smith)

--Eleventh NewsWatch--

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 324

A public inquiry concludes there is widespread blame for the fatal police shooting of an aboriginal protester 12 years ago in Ontario.

Commissioner Sydney Linden says no one person or institution was responsible for the death of Dudley George at Ipperwash Provincial Park.

Linden says Ontario provincial police and former premier Mike Harris were racially insensitive and too impatient in dealing with a demonstration over land claims.

He says the federal government is also to blame because it was unwilling to negotiate those claims. (11)

(Privacy--Breaches) (P-01)

Canada's privacy watchdog says she's concerned that only a third of Canadian businesses have trained their staff in how to protect their customers' personal information.

In her annual report to Parliament, Jennifer Stoddard says the failure of many businesses to protect the data puts consumers at risk of identity theft.

The privacy commissioner's office was involved in two major data breach investigations last year -- including one involving the operator of Winners and HomeSense. (11)

(Afghan--Cda--Death)

Colleagues say a Canadian military photographer killed in a helicopter crash took a great deal of pride in documenting the work of the armed forces in Afghanistan.

Master Corporal Darrell Priede (preed) died yesterday when a NATO chopper went down in southern Afghanistan.

A public affairs officer who spent time working with Priede says he was an outstanding professional who loved his job.

Some of the photos he took are on display at the Provincial Reconstruction Team base outside Kanadhar. (11)

(Quebec--Election) (Audio: 141)

Quebec Premier Jean Charest says he believes it's possible to reach an agreement with the Parti Quebecois to save his minority government from defeat tomorrow.

But he's still defending the decision to include 950 (m) million dollars in tax cuts in the provincial budget.

The P-Q wants more money for health care and education and is threatening to vote with the Action

democratique against the budget tomorrow. (11)

(BC–Mushroom–Warning)

With British Columbia's wild mushroom season just beginning, the province's Coroner's Service is sending out a warning.

Deadly mushrooms that closely resemble magic mushrooms are blamed for the death of a Victoria–area woman last year.

The coroner warns that no wild mushroom should be eaten unless identification is 100 per cent positive. (11)

(NB–Deer–Brite) (Audio: 148)

The New Brunswick legislature gets lots of visitors — but not usually of the four–legged variety.

A deer ran through an open door into the building this morning in Fredericton.

It ended up in the legislative press room before jumping onto a desk and smashing a keyboard.

The deer eventually jumped through a window and back into the wild. (11)

(NewsWatch by Phil Godin)

INDEX:Advisories

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 281

(Cda-Afghan-Death)

The commander of New Brunswick's C-F-B Gagetown says he'll remember Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede (preed) as a soft-spoken, home-grown, Canadian boy.

The 30-year-old soldier was killed yesterday when a helicopter was reportedly shot down in Afghanistan.

Colonel Ryan Jestin says Priede was committed to the work he was doing.

Priede was a military photographer, capturing images of the work Canada is doing in Afghanistan. (BN)

(NL-Dramatic-Rescue)

One of the six Newfoundland fishermen saved after their vessel caught fire yesterday is speaking out about their dramatic rescue at sea.

Owen Power says one crew member, 18-year-old Michael Petten, was only wearing a T-shirt and shorts when the men abandoned their burning boat and jumped into the frigid North Atlantic.

The others were wearing survival suits.

Power says the men were tethered to a fishing buoy for two hours before being rescued by a Cormorant helicopter.

He credits a united desire to leave no man behind for their survival. (BN)

(NB-Rogers-Loan)

The New Brunswick government is providing telecommunications giant Rogers with a forgivable loan to help it create 244 jobs at its Moncton call centre.

The company will receive 55-hundred dollars per job from the province.

Rogers plans to add another 15-thousand square feet to its existing centre.

The company also says it will expand its wireless and cable networks in New Brunswick. (CJMO)

(NS-Weapons-Charges)

A Yarmouth County, Nova Scotia, man facing 50 charges has been sent for a psychiatric evaluation.

Most of the charges against 55-year-old Joseph Leger are firearms-related.

The charges were laid after police found pistols, handguns and illegal cigarettes at a residence in Pembroke last week.

Leger is due back in court on June 29th. (CKBW)

(NS–Standoff–Charges)

Police are investigating after a six–hour standoff in Millbrook, Nova Scotia.

A 19–year–old man was arrested shortly after 6 a–m.

Police say another person was also involved in the standoff.

Officers were called to a house in the community just before midnight after a disturbance complaint. (Truro Daily News)

(NS–Cigarette–Regulations)

Tobacco sellers in Nova Scotia now have three months to comply with regulations banning the advertising and prominent display of cigarettes in their stores.

In a statement, Health Promotion and Protection Minister Barry Barnett says the province will provide guidance to retailers as they change their displays.

As of August, verbal warnings will be issued if the regulations are not followed.

After the three–month period, the province says it will issue written warnings and consider charges for vendors who don't follow the regulations. (BN)

(Atlantic Update by Melanie Patten)

--Eighth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 284

An inquiry into the fatal police shooting of an unarmed native protester in Ontario 12 years ago says police and the federal and provincial governments all bear responsibility.

Commissioner Sydney Linden conducted an exhaustive inquiry into the police killing of Dudley George at Ipperwash Provincial Park in September 1995.

Linden faults the feds for expropriating disputed First Nations land, then failing to give it back as promised.

He also faults the former Conservative government and then-premier Mike Harris for impatience.

And he cites Ontario Provincial Police for their precipitous action, racism, faulty intelligence and poor communications. (8)

(Afghan-NATO-Helicopter) (Audio: 120)

A 56th Canadian soldier has lost his life in Afghanistan.

Master Corporal Darrell Priede (preed) was a combat photographer from C-F-B Gagetown, New Brunswick.

He was killed last night -- along with five Americans and a Briton -- when their Chinook helicopter was shot down in volatile Helmand province.

Initial reports suggest the chopper was hit with a rocket propelled grenade.

The Taliban has claimed responsibility. (8)

(Sask-Abandoned-Baby)

A baby boy who was abandoned in the restroom at a Wal-Mart store in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan is out of the hospital.

He's now in the custody of Lac La Ronge Indian Child and Family Services.

The newborn was found last Monday.

Investigators say it could be weeks before prosecutors decide whether to charge the mother. (8)

(Neonatal-Closed)

The neo-natal intensive care unit at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital has been closed after the death of a premature baby from a bacterial infection.

The infant died of blood poisoning after acquiring the harmful pathogen that causes severe infections in

babies.

The child, weighing between one and three pounds, died over the weekend. (8)

(TB–Traveller)

Authorities now say a tuberculosis patient also got on several flights between European locales over a two–week period earlier this month.

It was already known the unidentified Georgia man boarded two trans–Atlantic flights — including one from Prague to Montreal on May 24th.

Health Canada says it's managed to identify 16 of the 28 airline passengers who were seated near him on that flight. (8)

(Panda Dies)

The first panda to be released into the wilderness in China after being born in captivity has been found dead in a forest.

Officials say it appears five–year–old Xiang Xiang (see–YAHNG' see–YAHNG') fell from trees after being chased by wild pandas. (8)

(NewsWatch by Geri Smith)

--Twelfth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 294

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is extending his deepest sympathies to the family of the 56th Canadian soldier to be killed in Afghanistan.

Harper says Master Corporal Darrell Priede was helping to fulfill Canada's commitment to bring security, democracy and self-sufficiency to the Afghan people.

Priede died when the helicopter he was in went down yesterday.

A colleague at the Canadian base in Kandahar says the military photographer took pride in documenting the positive aspects of the mission. (12)

(Ipperwash-Inquiry) (Audio: 145)

An extensive inquiry blames Ontario government impatience, federal unwillingness to settle aboriginal land claims and cultural insensitivity as factors in the 1995 death of Dudley George.

The aboriginal protester was shot and killed by police during a land claim occupation at Ipperwash Provincial Park.

Commissioner Sydney Linden blames police and the provincial and federal governments of the day for George's death.

David Ramsay, Ontario's minister responsible for aboriginal affairs, has apologized to the George family. (12)

(BC-Schwarzenegger-Canada)

California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger says First Nations are the original environmentalists.

The former movie star was welcomed to British Columbia today with an aboriginal ceremony of drumming, singing and dancing.

Schwarzenegger says it's important for California to work with its native Americans.

He says everyone should have an equal opportunity to prosper. (13)

(Bush-G8-Climate) (Audio: 149)

Ahead of next week's G-8 summit in Germany, U-S President Bush is urging 15 major nations to agree on global goals for cutting greenhouse gases emissions.

He wants the countries -- identified as the worst emitters of greenhouse gases -- to reach a consensus by the end of next year.

However, they would be free to develop their own strategies to meet the target.

Bush is seeking to blunt criticism ahead of the G-8 meeting over the U-S refusal to ratify the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. (13)

(Spelling-Bee-Cda)

Three Canadians remain as the semifinals continue in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington D-C.

Calgary's Cody Wang, Anqi Dong of Saskatoon and Nate Gartke of Edmonton are among the 33 contestants who have survived the sixth round of the competition.

The semifinals continue, with the winner set to be crowned tonight. (12)

(Russia-Heat)

It's been so hot in Moscow this week that an ice-cream truck ended up stuck in melted asphalt.

For the past five days the Russian capital has been baking in the hottest weather ever recorded.

Russians, who are usually well prepared for winter, were caught by surprise by the unprecedented heat wave. (12)

(NewsWatch by Phil Godin)

--Fifteenth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 311

Canadian judges no longer have the option to allow house arrest for serious, violent crimes.

The Harper government's bill to toughen up the rules on conditional sentencing is now law.

Justice Minister Rob Nicholson says it means no more criminals convicted of serious, violent crimes will be able to serve sentences in their homes.

Most such criminals already receive prison terms. (15)

(XDR-TB-Airline) (Audio: 189)

A new twist in the story of a man now hospitalized in Denver for treatment of a drug-resistant form of tuberculosis.

It turns out he's the new son-in-law of microbiologist Bob Cooksey, at the U-S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who studies T-B and other infections.

Canadian health officials say they've identified all 28 people, including 19 Canadians, who may have come in contact with Speaker on a recent flight to Montreal from Prague. (15)

(Ipperwash-Inquiry) (Audio: P-09)

Ottawa is returning land at the heart of the 1995 Ipperwash occupation to the Stoney Point First nation.

Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice has apologized for what he called the neglect of the Ipperwash situation by previous governments.

His comments follow the release of a report by a public inquiry into the shooting death of unarmed protester Dudley George by police at Ipperwash Provincial Park.

It concluded the actions of federal and Ontario governments contributed to his death. (15)

(Afghan-Cda-Death)

The 56th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan believed that as a photographer, he had the safest job in the military.

Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede (Preed) died along with five Americans and a Briton when their Chinook helicopter was shot down yesterday west of Kandahar.

The combat photographer was born in Burlington, Ontario, and raised in British Columbia. (15)

(Ford-Fuel-Cell)

An automotive engineer at Ford sees plug-in hybrid fuel-cell cars as a transitional step to getting people into fuel-cell vehicles.

Plug-in hybrids are essentially full-time electric vehicles that use a small conventional engine to recharge a larger battery pack, drastically reducing emissions.

Substitute a fuel-cell for the internal-combustion engine and suddenly it becomes a pure zero-emission vehicle. (15)

(Cereal City USA)

People who think the idea of a Tony the Tiger sculpture is ``grrreat" should be looking at an auction in the U-S on Saturday.

The sculpture and a seat made to look like a giant Froot Loop are among the items to be sold at Cereal City U-S-A.

The long-struggling tourist attraction in Battle Creek, Michigan closed in January after more than eight years. (15)

(NewsWatch by Phil Godin)

INDEX:Advisories

DATE: 2007.05.31

KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 73

Eds: The commander of Canadian Forces Base Gagetown in New Brunswick, Col. Ryan Jestin, will make a statement at noon EDT regarding the death of a Canadian soldier in Afghanistan.

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, a Canadian Forces imagery technician based at CFB Gagetown, was killed Wednesday when the helicopter he was in crashed west of Kandahar.

Jestin's statement will be made at the base's main gates. Canadian Press reporter Chris Morris is staffing.

CP HALIFAX

Fallen Canadian soldier's photos captured front lines

IDNUMBER 200706010188
PUBLICATION: The Toronto Star
DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Met
SECTION: News
PAGE: A01
ILLUSTRATION: Darrell Priede loved his photo role.;
BYLINE: Bruce Champion-Smith
SOURCE: Toronto Star
COPYRIGHT: © 2007 Torstar Corporation
WORD COUNT: 537

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede's legacy lives on in his photos.

Photos of Canadian troops patrolling a road outside a mosque, in the buildings of Kandahar city, Canadian military personnel enjoying a visit from the Stanley Cup.

Photos from the front lines in Afghanistan.

Priede, 30, was on those front lines Wednesday night, riding in a U.S. CH-47 Chinook helicopter when it was shot down by insurgents. He was killed in the crash, along with five American crew members and a British military passenger.

The big chopper had just dropped off about 40 U.S. soldiers from the 82nd Airborne to assault a Taliban position when it was downed by enemy fire around 9 p.m. near the town of Kajaki, Helmand province, about 95 kilometres northwest of Kandahar city.

Troops going to the crash site were ambushed by insurgents, forcing them to call in an air strike.

"It was a hostile area, where the helicopter went down," said Maj. John Thomas, a spokesperson for NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

"Initial indications are that enemy fire may have brought down the helicopter," Thomas said.

One suggestion was that the chopper was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade. The Taliban has claimed responsibility for the attack, which is being determined by military officials," ISAF said in a statement.

Canadian defence officials were unable to explain what Priede was doing on the U.S. flight. However, he was attached to the ISAF Regional Command (South) Headquarters and may have been photographing allied troops as they left to battle insurgents in a strategic valley.

Yesterday, members of Canada's provincial reconstruction team in Kandahar city displayed some of his pictures in silent tribute.

"He loved taking pictures. It was definitely more than a job ... his pictures were top-notch," said Lieut. (navy) Brian Owens, a spokesperson for CFB Gagetown, where Priede was based.

"He tried to capture the essence of what it was all about," said Owens, a co-worker with Priede at the base.

Born in Burlington, Priede grew up in Grand Forks, B.C. He joined the army as a gunner in 1996 before making the move to military cameraman. He took photos and videos for use in defence department newsletters and websites.

When a chance to go to southern Afghanistan came up to document the work of allied troops, Priede jumped at the chance, Owens said.

"He was eager to go," he said.

"I think it's a very critical part of the mission because it gets back home to the soldiers what's happening on the frontlines, all the good that is being done too that perhaps isn't being captured in other media," Owens said.

Priede arrived in Kandahar in mid-April thinking his job might be less risky than others, his commander said.

"He told me he thought he had one of the safest jobs in Afghanistan," Col. Ryan Jestin told reporters at CFB Gagetown. "So, there you go."

Roxanne Priede said her son was eager to capture images of Canada's mission.

"He really wanted to do something that would show more of what the military stood for," she said from her home in Grand Forks.

"When he called us and told us he had actually applied to go over to Afghanistan, he said he wanted to bring home the news of good stuff that was going on over there – the good things Canadians were doing over there."

Priede was married and lived with his wife, Angela, near the base in a home they were renovating in their spare time. They celebrated their fourth wedding anniversary earlier this month.

"He loved his family immensely and was always willing to help those in need," she said in a statement.

"Darrell's smile and personality touched everyone he met. He was a soft-spoken, quiet person and a great listener. He was a very trustworthy, kind and dedicated man who loved his chosen profession of taking pictures, both at work and at home," she said.

Priede's death brings to 56 the number of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan since 2002. A Canadian diplomat has also been killed.

With files from the Star's wire services

Combat photographer killed; Patrol ambushed en route to scene where Canadian, 6 NATO troops brought down with helicopter

IDNUMBER: 200706010172
PUBLICATION: The Ottawa Citizen
DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A5

ILLUSTRATION: Photo: Master Cpl. Darrell Priede, DND handout / This photo --- taken by Master Cpl. Darrell Priede May 3 at the Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan --- shows soldiers posing with the Stanley Cup. Master Cpl. Priede was killed Wednesday, along with five Americans and a Briton, when their Chinook helicopter went down in volatile Helmand province. The Taliban has claimed responsibility. ; Photo: DND Handout / Master Cpl. Darrell J. Priede, a military imaging technician, on Wednesday became the 56th Canadian serviceman to be killed in Afghanistan since 2002. ;

DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan
BYLINE: Tom Blackwell, With Files From Taimoor Shah
SOURCE: National Post
WORD COUNT: 767

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan – A young and "outstanding" Canadian combat photographer has been killed in a fiery helicopter crash, amid claims by the Taliban that it downed the chopper with new anti-aircraft weaponry.

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, 30, of Brantford, Ont., whose images have helped document Canada's Afghan-istan mission, became the 56th Canadian service member to be killed here since 2002, and the second in less than a week. A Canadian corporal also died in a bombing last Friday.

"In working to bring peace to this troubled country, he has ended up paying the ultimate sacrifice," said Brig.-Gen. Tim Grant, head of Canada's Afghanistan task force.

"There is no way to comfort those who grieve at this terrible time. However, we should all remember that Darrell was involved in a good thing, a good fight." It was a rocky night all around Wednesday for NATO troops in the dangerous corner of south Afghan-istan's Helmand province, where the Chinook helicopter fell to the ground. As a surface patrol headed to the crash site, they were in turn ambushed by insurgents, according to the alliance.

The pinned-down patrol eventually called for an air strike to "eliminate the enemy threat," said a news release from ISAF, NATO's Afghanistan mission.

All five American crew members of the Chinook heavy-lift helicopter, Master Cpl. Priede and a British military passenger were killed in the incident, which took place in the early evening.

An Afghan civilian was injured in the shooting after the aircraft, which can carry as many as 40 soldiers, crashed. Initial reports suggested "enemy fire may have brought down the helicopter, although the incident is still being investigated," said Lt.-Col. Angela Billings, an ISAF spokeswoman.

Combat photographer killed; Patrol ambushed en route to scene where Canadian, 6 NATO troops brought down

Master Cpl. Priede, based in Gaagetown, N.B., was a military imaging specialist taking part in an operation near the strategic Kajaki dam, scene of fierce fighting recently between mainly British soldiers and the Taliban.

Master Cpl. Priede had been in Afghanistan for less than six weeks. The U.S.-funded dam is being repaired so it can deliver electricity to about two million Afghans in the region around Kandahar, where electrical service is spotty at best and a serious drag on the economy. British and other NATO forces have fought for weeks to protect it from insurgent attacks.

Master Cpl. Priede was working directly for ISAF in Operation Lastay Kulang (Pashto for axe handle), designed to push the Taliban out of the dam area so crews can begin the refurbishment. It included a night assault by part of the United States 82nd Airborne Division, and the helicopter had just dropped off troops.

The soldier recorded similar operations in video and in still pictures to leave an accurate record of what took place, Brig.-Gen. Grant said.

Qari Yousef Ahmadi, a self-described Taliban spokesman, said the insurgents had used "new weapons" against the aircraft and they had worked successfully.

"We're very happy," said Mr. Ahmadi, whose claims could not be proven independently. The Taliban has a history of making unverifiable assertions about its military prowess.

Amanullah, a farmer in Khanano Kaly in Helmand province, said he saw the helicopter crash and that the Taliban had been shooting in the area. He could not tell, however, if the craft was brought down by the insurgents. Amanullah, 40, who goes by just one name, described seeing the aircraft in flames on the ground near his home.

NATO has no reports of the Taliban gaining any special weaponry that might make it easier to shoot down a helicopter, but it takes the reports seriously, and will change its tactics if necessary, Brig.-Gen. Grant said.

He stressed that flying is still a much safer form of transportation than driving on southern Afghan roads, where the insurgents often plant explosives or resort to the work of suicide bombers. Nor is the incident a sign of any kind of Taliban resurgence, argued Grant.

"They can be a determined enemy and they are showing now, particularly in the Helmand river valley, that they are trying to make a last stand in this area," he said. "At the end of the day, though, they are not being successful. They are being pushed back, they are being defeated by the ISAF forces on the ground." At the base for the Canadian Forces-run provincial reconstruction team in Kandahar, where Master Cpl. Priede had worked recently, colleagues staged an impromptu exhibition of his photographs as a sort of memorial.

"He loved what he was doing: a great guy," said Lieut. Des James, who supervised the photographer. "For the short time he worked for me here, (he was) an outstanding guy, professional." Early last Friday, Cpl. Matthew McCully, 23, died after triggering an improvised explosive device reportedly planted by the Taliban.

Soldier recorded war life Died in Afghan chopper crash

SOURCETAG 0706010471

PUBLICATION: The Winnipeg Sun

DATE: 2007.06.01

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: 7

ILLUSTRATION: photo Master Cpl. Darrell Priede, a military imagery technician serving with the Canadian contingent in Kandahar, was killed when the helicopter he was in crashed in southern Afghanistan.

BYLINE: JOE WARMINGTON

WORD COUNT: 546

His weapon was his camera.

And no matter who was shooting at him, his job was to shoot history.

Canadian Armed Forces Combat Camera photographers are brave souls. The working conditions are deadly.

That reality was crystal clear once again this week with the combat death of 30-year-old Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, who was stationed in CFB Gaagetown, N.B. but who grew up in British Columbia. He was born in Burlington.

It was the sacrifice of Canadian soldiers and the people they are there to protect he went there to document. In doing that, Priede make the ultimate sacrifice — the 56th Canadian service person to do so in Afghanistan.

"But that's where he wanted to be," his sister Denise told Sun Media yesterday. "He didn't have to go there, but he wanted to. He volunteered. It was his job and he absolutely loved it."

Priede was killed Wednesday after the CH-47 Chinook helicopter he was flying in over southern Afghanistan was reportedly shot down by the Taliban — killing everyone on board including five Americans and a British airman.

Wherever they were headed, Priede was going to document it.

"He really wanted to do something that would show more of what the military stood for," his mother Roxanne Priede told The Canadian Press. "When he called us and told us he had actually applied to go over to Afghanistan, he said he wanted to bring home the news of good stuff that was going on over there — the good things Canadians were doing over there."

And he did.

In fact, Denise said when they didn't hear from him they would simply go onto the Combat Camera web site to see where he was and what he was doing.

News broke of Priede's death while NATO's military committee chairman Gen. Ray Henault was addressing the parliamentary defence committee, and the former chief of the Canadian military was saddened.

"These people play an important role in communicating with Canadians," he said of Combat Camera professionals. "They are a vital part of it and they show great courage."

It's not easy for those gutsy people. I have met them first hand in war zones like Kosovo and in the Persian Gulf and hold them in the highest regard because they really do put themselves in harms way in the interest in capturing history.

They document the hardest facts there are to document.

"They often find themselves right at the front and in real danger," says Lt. Col. Tony White, of NATO headquarters in Brussels. "They have the respect and admiration of the men and women they serve with."

AT RISK

One of the many reasons for this is the fact they get shot at and have no real way to defend themselves. Priede's family knew being at war Darrell was at risk.

"We were worried but he (had been in battle before)," said Denise, adding nothing can prepare you for horrible news like this.

So it was a jolt to the system when military officials were at her parents front door in Grand Forks, B.C. yesterday with the news.

Denise said they still didn't see it coming and have been in a state of shock ever since.

"It hurts," she said, fighting tears. "We have our good moments and our bad moments."

The bad moments are unbearable and you could hear the crying in the background from the family home. The good moments will come from remembering Darrell, who had served earlier in his career as a military gunner during conflicts in the Balkans.

He preferred his camera.

"He was so easy going," Denise said. "He loved everybody."

While most of the family is now in British Columbia he does have relatives in the GTA and did live in Oakville when he was a child. His life since 1996 has been the Canadian military where he served in Bosnia and had been stationed with his wife of two years Angie in CFB Gagetown New Brunswick.

Soon his remains will be flown back to Canada and I know a lot of journalists who have an idea of just how difficult a job this was will pay their own special tribute to Master Cpl. Priede.

It takes a lot of character to go out there and capture the highs and lows of war.

"That is what he wanted to do his whole life," said Denise. "Unfortunately, he paid for it with his life."

KEYWORDS=CANADA

Soldier recorded war life Died in Afghan chopper crash

SOURCETAG 0706010272

PUBLICATION: The Toronto Sun

DATE: 2007.06.01

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: 8

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KEYWORDS=NATIONAL

Soldier recorded war life Died in Afghan chopper crash

SOURCETAG 0706010387

PUBLICATION: The Ottawa Sun

DATE: 2007.06.01

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: 8

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KEYWORDS=NATIONAL

Soldier thought he had safe job The military photographer wanted to show the good side of the Afghanistan mission.

SOURCETAG 0706010846

PUBLICATION: The London Free Press

DATE: 2007.06.01

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: A8

ILLUSTRATION: photo by CP PRIDE: Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede holds the Stanley Cup in this photo taken when the cup was taken to Afghanistan this month. Priede was killed when the helicopter in which he was a passenger went down in Helmand province Wednesday.

BYLINE: CHRIS MORRIS, CP

DATELINE: CFB GAGETOWN

WORD COUNT: 314

A Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan when a helicopter was apparently shot down thought his work as a military photographer was one of the safest jobs in a war zone, his commander at Canadian Forces Base Gagetown said yesterday.

Col. Ryan Jestin said he spoke to Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede about two weeks ago in Afghanistan, where the 30-year-old combat photographer had been stationed for about one month.

"He told me he thought he had one of the safest jobs in Afghanistan," Jestin said at the New Brunswick base. "So, there you go."

Priede, born in Burlington and raised in British Columbia, died along with five Americans and a Briton when the CH-47 Chinook they were flying in was apparently shot down Wednesday west of Kandahar.

There were no survivors.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for bringing the chopper down. A NATO spokesperson said initial indications were that enemy fire caused the crash.

Roxanne Priede said from her home in Grand Forks, B.C., that her son was eager to capture images of Canada's mission in Afghanistan.

"He really wanted to do something that would show more of what the military stood for," Priede said.

"When he called us and told us he had actually applied to go over to Afghanistan, he said he wanted to bring home the news of good stuff that was going on over there — the good things Canadians were doing over there."

Priede was married and lived with his wife, Angela, near CFB Gagetown.

"We're very proud of him," his mother said, choking back tears and pausing to regain her composure.

Soldier thought he had safe job The military photographer wanted to show the good side of the Afghanistan mission.

"Our son was exemplary. . . . He didn't have one black mark in the military. . . . He enjoyed what he did because he always wanted to capture as much good as possible."

Jestin said Priede was highly regarded for his camera work within the military, where he worked for various in-house publications, including Army News and Combat Camera.

The commander said he will always remember a photograph taken of Priede holding the "holy grail" of trophies, the Stanley Cup, when it arrived for a brief visit to Afghanistan several weeks ago.

"That's the image that will stay with me," Jestin said. "That sort of pride and that sort of home-grown Canadian boy we're all going to miss."

Sgt. Kyle Richards, one of Priede's friends, said the photographer enjoyed shooting action scenes.

"He loved to shoot and he loved to see action," Richards said, adding that his friend had a great sense of humour.

The latest death brings to 56 the number of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

KEYWORDS=CANADA

A devastating loss; WAR'S TOLL I John and Roxanne, of Grand Forks, received a 'nightmare' visit early Thursday from army officials. Their 30-year-old son Darrell had died in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan

IDNUMBER 200706010056

PUBLICATION: Vancouver Sun

DATE: 2007.06.01

EDITION: Final

SECTION: Westcoast News

PAGE: B2

COLUMN: Chantal Eustace

ILLUSTRATION:

Photo: DND Combat Camera / Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priedewent to Afghanistan as a military photographer. He wanted to show the world what good Canadians are doing, his father, John, said. ; Colour Photo: PHOTOS BY MASTER CPL. DARRELL PRIEDE: In a photo taken May 3, Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Rick Hillier pays a visit to the Canadian troops at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan, bringing along the Stanley Cup. ; Colour Photo: PHOTOS BY MASTER CPL. DARRELL PRIEDE: 'Sky's the limit' received honourable mention in a photo contest. ; Colour Photo: PHOTOS BY MASTER CPL. DARRELL PRIEDE: Members of the Canadian Armed Forces train for their coming tour of duty in Afghanistan. ; Colour Photo: PHOTOS BY MASTER CPL. DARRELL PRIEDE: In a photo taken June 11, 2002 members of 4ESR (Engineer Support Regiment) work in conjunction with members of the Dutch Engineers. ;

KEYWORDS: INVESTMENT STRATEGY; STOCKS; PARENTS; FAMILY LAW; MEN; DEATHS

BYLINE: Chantal Eustace

SOURCE: Vancouver Sun

NOTE: Obituary of Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede.

WORD COUNT: 689

John Priede sits looking at photos of his oldest son holding the Stanley Cup, snapped just weeks ago at his military base in Afghanistan.

Early Thursday, Priede and his wife, Roxanne, of Grand Forks were visited by army personnel, including a chaplain — and plunged into what he describes as a "bad nightmare."

Their son, Darrell Jason Priede, a military photographer, was dead. The helicopter he was in crashed Wednesday outside Kandahar, near the town of Kajaki, they learned.

"It was totally devastating," he said in a telephone interview with The Vancouver Sun late Thursday morning. "I mean, it's just too bad. I was looking forward to seeing him on the news one day as a journalist or a newscaster. [That's] gone now."

A devastating loss; WAR'S TOLL I John and Roxanne, of Grand Forks, received a 'nightmare' visit early Thu

Priede says his 30-year-old son, who volunteered to go to Afghanistan as a photographer, wanted to become a journalist.

"He was just the type of boy that when he put his mind to it, he just succeeded in what he did," he says. "He had that knack — that thing about it. And he's going to be greatly missed now."

As Priede speaks on the phone, he says he's flipping through photographs he printed out of his son in Afghanistan, as well as images captured through his son's camera lens.

"He's holding the Stanley Cup as I'm looking at him right now ... I've got an eight-inch by 10-inch of him holding the cup and a few other photographs of him with his equipment — and Kandahar coffee from Tim Hortons. Go Canada Go," Priede says, his voice breaking a little.

He pauses and adds: "I mean, like I say, in the time he's been there, he's done fabulous things."

A few days ago, Priede chatted with his parents via the Internet from Kandahar, using a video webcast: "We talked to him on video for about five to six minutes. Time was up so we had to go," Priede says.

"He was sitting at the booth looking at us and laughing and smiling as normal — just talking about regular things."

He says his son, who joined the army 11 years ago, loved taking photographs and was doing what he wanted to do.

"He thoroughly wanted to show the people of the world what good Canadians and people are doing over there," says Priede. "It totally backfired but he loved what he was doing and he was good at it."

Darrell Priede, along with six American and British soldiers, died when their helicopter crashed about 95 kilometres west of Kandahar, just after 9 p.m. local time.

Some reports have suggested the helicopter may have been shot down by the Taliban, but Karen Johnstone, a military spokeswoman in Ottawa, said this hadn't been confirmed.

"The cause of the crash is currently under investigation," she said.

A release on the International Security Assistance Force website said units responding to the crash were later "ambushed by enemy fighters."

Capt. Mark Gough, an army spokesman in Halifax — who works with Canadian Forces Base Gagetown in New Brunswick where Priede was stationed — said military photographers, or "imagery technicians," play an essential role documenting the experience.

"His pictures spoke volumes [about] the work we're doing over there and are the window into our operations there," Gough said.

"Without guys like Darrell, without photos that they bring back and show back in Canada, people won't understand what we're doing over there."

Some of Priede's photos are posted on the military's combat camera website (www.combatcamera.forces.gc.ca).

Although Priede served twice overseas in the Balkans as part of the infantry, this was his first time

A devastating loss; WAR'S TOLL I John and Roxanne, of Grand Forks, received a 'nightmare' visit 70 Early Thu

documenting the experience for the military, says Gough, who knew Priede personally.

"He volunteered to go. He didn't have to go," he says.

"In this case, it was something he'd always wanted to do. This was his first tour overseas as a photographer."

He says Priede had a talent for photography and was one of the best military photographers around.

"He was a quiet, unassuming guy. His work spoke for his abilities."

John Priede said he and his wife will fly to Ontario so they can meet their son's body when it arrives at CFB Trenton on Sunday. After that, they'll go to New Brunswick to be with Priede's wife, Angela. The couple lived near the base in Oromocto.

"It's tough. His wife is even going through worse I imagine," he says.

"They had lots of plans and ambitions."

They didn't have children yet, he says.

Priede says he learned a lot from his son.

"You can never fail if you put your mind to doing something," he says, of his son's outlook. "Have ambition and go and get what you want in life."

And that's what his son did, he says.

"He told us he wanted to do it. He wanted to show what good we're doing over there," Priede says.

"He's beautiful, too. Did you see his picture? He was."

A photograph of Darrell Priede, posted on the Defence Department website, shows a well-built man with broad shoulders, clad in army fatigues. Fingers on the shutter of his Nikon, he smiles at the camera.

In a statement Thursday, Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, said Priede "gave his life not only to protect Canadians and our national interests, but also to provide hope to Afghans for a better future."

Priede is the 56th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

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Military photographer thought job a safe one; Canadian killed as 'copter shot down was documenting Afghan reconstruction

IDNUMBER 200706010195
PUBLICATION: Edmonton Journal
DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A5

ILLUSTRATION: Photo: Supplied / This photo by Master Cpl. Darrell Priede, taken on May 25 in Kandahar City, shows Sgt. Jason McDonald, with the Force Protection Company out of Camp Nathan Smith, providing security during an inspection of a new guard tower point during a visit to Afghan National Police. Priede, a combat photographer, was killed Wednesday along with five Americans and a Briton when their Chinook helicopter went down in volatile Helmand province in Afghanistan. ; Photo: Journal Stock / (Master Cpl. Darrell Jason) Priede ;

KEYWORDS: WAR
DATELINE: CFB GAGETOWN, N.B.
SOURCE: The Canadian Press
WORD COUNT: 260

CFB GAGETOWN, N.B. – A Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan when a helicopter was apparently shot down thought his work as a military photographer was one of the safest jobs in a war zone, his commander at Canadian Forces Base Gagetown said Thursday.

Col. Ryan Jestin said he spoke to Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede about two weeks ago in Afghanistan, where the 30-year-old combat photographer had been stationed for about one month.

"He told me he thought he had one of the safest jobs in Afghanistan," Jestin told reporters at the New Brunswick base. "So, there you go."

The military cameraman, born in Burlington, Ont., and raised in British Columbia, died along with five Americans and a Briton when the CH-47 Chinook they were flying in was apparently shot down Wednesday west of Kandahar.

There were no survivors.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for bringing the chopper down. A NATO spokesman said initial indications were that enemy fire caused the crash.

Roxanne Priede, in an interview from her home in Grand Forks, B.C., said her son was eager to capture images of Canada's mission in Afghanistan.

"He really wanted to do something that would show more of what the military stood for," Priede said.

"When he called us and told us he had actually applied to go over to Afghanistan, he said he wanted to bring home the news of good stuff that was going on over there — the good things Canadians were doing over

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Master Cpl. Priede was married and lived with his wife, Angela, near CFB Gagetown.

His mother said he had volunteered to serve in Afghanistan.

"We're very proud of him," she said, choking back tears and pausing to regain her composure.

"Our son was exemplary ... He didn't have one black mark in the military ... He enjoyed what he did because he always wanted to capture as much good as possible."

Jestin said Priede was highly regarded for his camera work within the military.

Soldier recorded war life Died in Afghan chopper crash

SOURCETAG 0706010724

PUBLICATION: The Edmonton Sun

DATE: 2007.06.01

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: 12

ILLUSTRATION: photo Master Cpl. Darrell Priede, a military imagery technician serving with the Canadian contingent in Kandahar, was killed when the helicopter he was in crashed in southern Afghanistan.

BYLINE: JOE WARMINGTON

WORD COUNT: 546

His weapon was his camera.

And no matter who was shooting at him, his job was to shoot history.

Canadian Armed Forces Combat Camera photographers are brave souls. The working conditions are deadly.

That reality was crystal clear once again this week with the combat death of 30-year-old Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, who was stationed in CFB Galetown, N.B. but who grew up in British Columbia. He was born in Burlington.

It was the sacrifice of Canadian soldiers and the people they are there to protect he went there to document. In doing that, Priede made the ultimate sacrifice — the 56th Canadian service person to do so in Afghanistan.

"But that's where he wanted to be," his sister Denise told Sun Media yesterday. "He didn't have to go there, but he wanted to. He volunteered. It was his job and he absolutely loved it."

Priede was killed Wednesday after the CH-47 Chinook helicopter he was flying in over southern Afghanistan was reportedly shot down by the Taliban — killing everyone on board including five Americans and a British airman.

Wherever they were headed, Priede was going to document it.

"He really wanted to do something that would show more of what the military stood for," his mother Roxanne Priede told The Canadian Press. "When he called us and told us he had actually applied to go over to Afghanistan, he said he wanted to bring home the news of good stuff that was going on over there — the good things Canadians were doing over there."

And he did.

In fact, Denise said when they didn't hear from him they would simply go onto the Combat Camera web site to see where he was and what he was doing.

News broke of Priede's death while NATO's military committee chairman Gen. Ray Henault was addressing the parliamentary defence committee, and the former chief of the Canadian military was saddened.

"These people play an important role in communicating with Canadians," he said of Combat Camera professionals. "They are a vital part of it and they show great courage."

It's not easy for those gutsy people. I have met them first hand in war zones like Kosovo and in the Persian Gulf and hold them in the highest regard because they really do put themselves in harms way in the interest in capturing history.

They document the hardest facts there are to document.

"They often find themselves right at the front and in real danger," says Lt. Col. Tony White, of NATO headquarters in Brussels. "They have the respect and admiration of the men and women they serve with."

AT RISK

One of the many reasons for this is the fact they get shot at and have no real way to defend themselves. Priede's family knew being at war Darrell was at risk.

"We were worried but he (had been in battle before)," said Denise, adding nothing can prepare you for horrible news like this.

So it was a jolt to the system when military officials were at her parents front door in Grand Forks, B.C. yesterday with the news.

Denise said they still didn't see it coming and have been in a state of shock ever since.

"It hurts," she said, fighting tears. "We have our good moments and our bad moments."

The bad moments are unbearable and you could hear the crying in the background from the family home. The good moments will come from remembering Darrell, who had served earlier in his career as a military gunner during conflicts in the Balkans.

He preferred his camera.

"He was so easy going," Denise said. "He loved everybody."

While most of the family is now in British Columbia he does have relatives in the GTA and did live in Oakville when he was a child. His life since 1996 has been the Canadian military where he served in Bosnia and had been stationed with his wife of two years Angie in CFB Gagetown New Brunswick.

Soon his remains will be flown back to Canada and I know a lot of journalists who have an idea of just how difficult a job this was will pay their own special tribute to Master Cpl. Priede.

It takes a lot of character to go out there and capture the highs and lows of war.

"That is what he wanted to do his whole life," said Denise. "Unfortunately, he paid for it with his life."

KEYWORDS=CANADA

Soldier recorded war life Died in Afghan chopper crash

SOURCETAG 0706010606

PUBLICATION: The Calgary Sun

DATE: 2007.06.01

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: 34

ILLUSTRATION: photo Master Cpl. Darrell Priede, a military imagery technician serving with the Canadian contingent in Kandahar, was killed when the helicopter he was in crashed in southern Afghanistan.

BYLINE: JOE WARMINGTON

WORD COUNT: 546

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KEYWORDS=NATIONAL

Canadian combat photographer dies in crash

IDNUMBER 200706010014
PUBLICATION: The StarPhoenix (Saskatoon)
DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Final
SECTION: World
PAGE: D8
ILLUSTRATION: Colour Photo: DND Photo / Master Cpl. Darrell J. Priede;
DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan
BYLINE: Tom Blackwell
SOURCE: CanWest News Service
WORD COUNT: 587

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — A young and "outstanding" Canadian combat photographer has been killed in a fiery helicopter crash, amid claims by the Taliban that it downed the chopper with new anti-aircraft weaponry.

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, 30, of Brantford, Ont., whose images have helped document Canada's Afghanistan mission, became the 56th Canadian service member to be killed here since 2002 and the second in less than a week. A Canadian corporal died in a bombing last Friday.

"In working to bring peace to this troubled country, he has ended up paying the ultimate sacrifice," said Brig.-Gen. Tim Grant, head of Canada's Afghanistan task force.

"There is no way to comfort those who grieve at this terrible time. However, we should all remember that Darrell was involved in a good thing, a good fight."

It was a rocky night all around Wednesday for NATO troops in the dangerous corner of south Afghanistan's Helmand province where the Chinook helicopter fell to the ground. As a surface patrol headed in to the crash site, those troops were ambushed by insurgents, according to the alliance.

The pinned-down patrol eventually called for an air strike to "eliminate the enemy threat," said a news release from ISAF, NATO's Afghanistan mission. All five American crew members of the Chinook heavy lift helicopter, Priede and a British military passenger were killed in the incident, which took place in the early evening.

An Afghan civilian was injured in the shooting after the aircraft crashed. Initial reports suggested "enemy fire may have brought down the helicopter, although the incident is still being investigated," said Lt.-Col. Angela Billings, an International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) spokesperson.

Priede, based in Gagetown, N.B., was a military photographer taking part in an operation near the strategic Kajaki dam, scene of fierce fighting recently between mainly British soldiers and the Taliban. Priede had been in Afghanistan for less than six weeks. The U.S.-funded dam is being repaired so it can deliver electricity to about two million Afghans in the region around Kandahar, where electrical service is spotty at best and a serious drag on the economy. British and other NATO forces have fought for weeks to protect it from insurgent attack.

Priede was working directly for ISAF in Operation Lastay Kulang, designed to push the Taliban out of the dam area so crews can begin the refurbishment. It included a night assault by part of the United States 82nd Airborne Division, and the helicopter had just dropped off troops.

The soldier recorded similar operations in video and in still pictures to leave an accurate record of what took place, Grant said.

Qari Yousef Ahmadi, a self-described Taliban spokesperson, said the insurgents had used "new weapons" against the aircraft and they had worked successfully.

"We're very happy," said Ahmadi, whose claims could not be proven independently. The Taliban has a history of making unverifiable assertions about its military prowess.

Amanullah, a farmer in Khanano Kaly in Helmand province, said he saw the helicopter crash and that the Taliban had been shooting in the area. He could not tell, however, if the craft was actually brought down by the insurgents.

NATO has no reports of the Taliban gaining possession of any special weaponry that might make it easier to shoot down a helicopter, but it takes the reports seriously, and will change its tactics if necessary, said Grant.

He stressed that flying is still a much safer form of transportation than driving on southern Afghan roads, where the insurgents often plant explosives or resort to the work of suicide bombers. Nor is the incident a sign of any kind of Taliban resurgence, argued Grant.

(National Post)

INSIDE TODAY'S GLOBE

PUBLICATION: GLOBE AND MAIL

IDN: 071520294

DATE: 2007.06.01

PAGE: A1 (ILLUS)

BYLINE:

SECTION: News Index

EDITION: Metro

DATELINE:

WORDS: 281

WORD COUNT: 304

Tale of two economies For Canada, these are the best of times. For the United States, they aren't yet the worst of times – but they're getting there.

The Globe explains why. Tale of two media deals Quebecor acquires Osprey Media's chain of newspapers in a \$517-million deal.

And CanWest Global sells its stake in freebie chain Metro.

Report on Business, Page B1 Document probe sought The RCMP have been asked to investigate whether the Department of Foreign Affairs broke the law when it denied the existence of documents related to the abuse of detainees in Afghanistan. News, Page A4 Doc sews up No. 100 Blue Jays ace Roy Halladay is back. And he has his 100{+t}{+h} career win to prove it. The milestone came last night in a 2–0 victory over the Chicago White Sox. Globe Sports, Page S1 More on Ipperwash Editorial The crudity and bigotry of Mike Harris's comment is inexcusable. But what made Dudley George's killing a true Canadian tragedy is that neither the protesters nor the institutions representing the public could talk to one another. Page A20 Online Reaction and links to the report, a multimedia history of Ipperwash, plus a live discussion with former Solicitor-General Bob Runciman. He takes questions on the standoff and the role of government in native land disputes beginning at 9 a.m. EDT. globeandmail.com THE AFGHAN MISSION In combat with a Nikon slung around his neck Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede, 30, a combat cameraman, died along with five U.S.

soldiers and a Briton when a Chinook helicopter was apparently shot down by the Taliban Wednesday.

News, Page A16

THE PHOTOGRAPHER We lost a good one

PUBLICATION: GLOBE AND MAIL
IDN: 071520289
DATE: 2007.06.01
PAGE: A16 (ILLUS)
BYLINE: MURRAY CAMPBELL
SECTION: International News
EDITION: Metro
DATELINE: Kandahar AFGHANISTAN
WORDS: 297
WORD COUNT: 272

MURRAY CAMPBELL KANDAHAR Darrell Priede helped me out in a pinch and if that's truly the kind of guy he was, then we lost a good one.

Master Corporal Priede and I met two weeks ago on a convoy that travelled from Camp Nathan Smith on the northern edge of Kandahar down to the edge of the vast Registan desert.

Normally a combat cameraman assigned to the southern regional command of the International Security Assistance Force, he was spending a week with Canada's provincial reconstruction team and chronicling its efforts to further Afghanistan's reconstruction.

We looked at a lot of wells and irrigation canals that day. They were crude efforts by Western standards but they were bringing hope to the people in these villages where time had stood still for thousands of years. In most of the villages we visited, for example, people lived in mud huts with no electricity or plumbing.

At one point in the day, we came to a village where a new well was being dug to help out 12 widows who had banded together after their husbands had been shot dead in recent months by four brothers in a neighbouring village.

I wanted to record the scene but the battery in my camera had gone dead. This was more than a pickle as the nearest camera shop was more than 100 kilometres away.

I asked MCpl. Priede if he would mind taking a picture of the well, the man who was organizing its digging and a villager who was the last surviving male head of household.

He readily agreed and later in the day I received a CD with 20 pictures taken that day. One of them ran in The Globe and Mail the next week with the story about the widows.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS:

GEOGRAPHIC NAME: Afghanistan; Canada

SUBJECT TERM: strife; war; deaths; biography

PERSONAL NAME: Darrell Jason Priede

ORGANIZATION NAME: Armed Forces

DEATH OF A SOLDIER NATO secures wreckage of helicopter Chinook had just dropped off 40 soldiers when it was hit by a cluster of rocket-propelled grenades fired from the ground

PUBLICATION: GLOBE AND MAIL

IDN: 071520288

DATE: 2007.06.01

PAGE: A16 (ILLUS)

BYLINE: MURRAY CAMPBELL AND ESTANISLAO OZIEWICZ

SECTION: International News

EDITION: Metro

DATELINE: KANDAHAR, TORONTO

WORDS: 601

WORD COUNT: 558

MURRAY CAMPBELL AND ESTANISLAO OZIEWICZ KANDAHAR, TORONTO NATO forces says they have secured the wreckage of a helicopter apparently shot down by Taliban insurgents, an attack that killed everyone on board, including a Canadian soldier based at CFB Gagetown, N.B.

Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede, 30, a combat cameraman, died along with five U.S. soldiers and a Briton when the U.S. military's CH-47 Chinook went down about 95 kilometres west of Kandahar city late Wednesday.

The death of the British Columbia native brings to 56 the number of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

An Afghan civilian was injured by small-arms fire after the crash in the world's largest opium-poppy-growing region, where combat has been fierce in recent months. NATO's International Security Assistance Force said other troops rushing to the scene were ambushed and had to call in air support.

A purported Taliban spokesman claimed responsibility, but his claim could not be confirmed. A NATO spokesman said: "We will try to determine everything that happened and to fully investigate the site." Canadian military officials said the helicopter had just dropped off 40 soldiers when it was hit by a cluster of rocket-propelled grenades fired from the ground. A similar attack brought down a Chinook in 2005, killing 16 U.S. soldiers.

Other Chinooks have crashed, but not as a result of enemy fire.

A Chinook crashed in February in the southern province of Zabul, killing eight U.S. personnel, but officials ruled out a military attack. And in May of 2006, another Chinook crashed attempting a nighttime landing, killing 10 U.S. soldiers.

The Chinooks, the workhorse of the U.S. fleet, normally operate at night without lights, using infrared technology, which gives them an advantage over the Taliban. But there was a full moon on Wednesday night, which removed that advantage.

DEATH OF A SOLDIER NATO secures wreckage of helicopter Chinook had just dropped off 40 soldiers wh

The commander of Canada's forces in Afghanistan praised MCpl.

Priede's role in security and rebuilding Afghanistan.

"We should all remember that Darrell was involved in a good fight," Brigadier-General Tim Grant told reporters. "In working to bring peace to this troubled country, he has ended up paying the ultimate price. There is no way to comfort those who grieve at this terrible time." The crash occurred in Helmand province, near Kajaki, scene of some of the fiercest fighting lately by troops with the multinational ISAF. A hydroelectric dam at Kajaki is being restored to bring more power to Kandahar, which still suffers from frequent blackouts.

British troops, who make up the bulk of the forces in the province, have been protecting the dam while it is being repaired.

Brig.-Gen. Grant said the Taliban are making a last stand in Helmand but they are being pushed back on the ground by ISAF troops.

"I think the Taliban continues to try to recover from the losses they have had inflicted upon them, particularly in the leadership that they have lost over the last weeks and months," Brig.-Gen.

Grant said.

"They can be a determined enemy. They are certainly showing now in the Helmand River valley that they are trying to make a last stand in this area. At the end of the day, they are not being successful.

They are being defeated by forces on the ground." Mullah Dadullah, a one-legged veteran who orchestrated an intensifying campaign of suicide attacks and beheadings, was killed in an operation in southern Afghanistan this month. He had been considered the top Taliban field commander.

Meanwhile, Canadian military officials reported fierce fights with insurgents in the Zhari district of Kandahar province early yesterday morning.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS:

GEOGRAPHIC NAME: Afghanistan

SUBJECT TERM: strife; helicopters; war; deaths; Canadians

PERSONAL NAME: Darrell Jason Priede

ORGANIZATION NAME: Armed Forces

DEATH OF A SOLDIER NATO secures wreckage of helicopter Chinook had just dropped off 40 soldiers wh

DEATH OF A SOLDIER IN COMBAT WITH A NIKON SLUNG AROUND HIS NECK

PUBLICATION: GLOBE AND MAIL

IDN: 071520286

DATE: 2007.06.01

PAGE: A16

BYLINE: MARK HUME

SECTION: International News

EDITION: Metro

DATELINE: Vancouver BC

WORDS: 521

WORD COUNT: 493

Mark Hume Vancouver A few weeks before he boarded a CH-47 Chinook Helicopter for a fatal flight into a dangerous war zone, Master Corporal Darrell Priede, an Army News photographer who went into combat with a Nikon slung around his neck, stepped in front of the camera for a rare picture.

The 30-year-old soldier from Burlington, Ont., who grew up in Grand Forks, B.C., and was based in Gagetown, N.B., had only been posted to Afghanistan for six weeks when something totally unexpected happened.

The Stanley Cup arrived at Kandahar airfield, brought in by General Rick Hillier for a surprise visit to the troops.

After shooting a series of pictures – one catching a reflective Gen. Hillier standing alone, stooping over to read names on the cup, and others of grinning soldiers with Ottawa Senators and Team Canada jerseys pulled over their combat uniforms – MCpl. Priede slipped in front of the camera to get a picture of himself posing with Lord Stanley's famous trophy.

He sent that shot home to a few friends with the subject heading: "Look what I found over here guys!!!" Friends had been e-mailing that picture around Canada when word came that he died Wednesday, along with six other NATO soldiers, when their helicopter went down about 95 kilometres northwest of Kandahar city.

He was a member of the Army News team whose job it was to record the daily life of soldiers. At Canadian Forces Base Gagetown, he shot photographs of soldiers doing routine things like registering with the Canadian Blood Services, or of veterans' widows getting awards. He took a picture of Gen. Hillier answering questions from dirty and tough-looking soldiers on a training field, and of others doing rigorous combat drills.

He set up his own business, Darrell Priede Photography, in Oromocto, N.B., where he shot weddings and portraits.

"He loved photography. It was a passion," said Sergeant Todd Berry, an Army News reporter in Halifax who often went on assignment with him.

"He was an outstanding and gentle person who loved his life and loved his country." He said MCpl. Priede originally trained in artillery, but later developed his skills as a photographer and began taking pictures for the

Army News. "Every day, he had that drive, that stamina to get out there and take pictures of soldiers doing their jobs," he said.

Afghanistan was a big part of that story, and so he felt compelled to go there.

In an interview with Canadian Press, his mother, Roxanne Priede, said he volunteered for Afghanistan because of his photo skills.

"He really wanted to do something that would show more of what the military stood for," she said from her home in Grand Forks, a picturesque little agricultural town in southeastern B.C.

"When he called us and told us he had actually applied to go over to Afghanistan, he said he wanted to bring home the news of good stuff that was going on over there, the good things Canadians were doing over there." MCpl. Priede, the 56th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan, leaves behind his wife, Angela.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS:

GEOGRAPHIC NAME: Afghanistan

SUBJECT TERM: strife; war; deaths; canadians; biography

PERSONAL NAME: Darrell Jason Priede

ORGANIZATION NAME: Armed Forces

Slain soldier a military photographer; Killed when chopper downed by Taliban

IDNUMBER 200706010129
PUBLICATION: Montreal Gazette
DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A18
ILLUSTRATION: Colour Photo: CP / Cpl. Priede was 56th Canadian killed in Afghanistan. ;
DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan
BYLINE: STEPHANIE LEVITZ
SOURCE: CP
WORD COUNT: 340

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede died in a combat zone but it was his work as a military photographer documenting reconstruction that other soldiers were remembering yesterday after he was confirmed as the 56th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan.

Priede, 30, based at CFB Gagetown, N.B., died when a U.S. Chinook helicopter he was riding in went down in southern Afghanistan's volatile Helmand province late Wednesday night. He was photographing coalition forces trying to wrest control of a strategic valley from insurgents to pave the way for reconstruction.

Five Americans and a Briton on board were also killed when the helicopter was apparently shot down after dropping off U.S. troops. The Taliban has claimed responsibility.

Initial reports suggested the helicopter was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade, said a U.S. official who insisted on anonymity. Hostile fire was also mentioned by Major John Thomas, a spokesperson for NATO's International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF.

"It was a hostile area, where the helicopter went down," Thomas said. "Initial indications are that enemy fire may have brought down the helicopter."

Thomas said the Chinook had just dropped off a full load of U.S. troops from the 82nd Airborne before it went down. He said between 30 and 40 troops would likely have been on board.

"There will be a full investigation," Thomas said.

Lt.-Col. David Accetta, the top U.S. military spokesperson at Bagram Air Base outside Kabul, said enemy fire was only one of several possibilities.

"We will investigate thoroughly," he said. "There's no solid evidence we can point to that suggests it was shot down."

Canadian military officials, too, said only that the incident is under investigation.

A National Defence news release said Priede "was killed when the helicopter in which he was a passenger went down at approximately 9 p.m." near the town of Kajaki, about 95 kilometres northwest of Kandahar city.

Priede was born in Burlington, Ont. and grew up around Grand Forks, B.C.

Lt. (Navy) Desmond James worked closely with Priede while serving with the Canadian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team – or PRT – just outside Kandahar city.

Flipping through a sheaf of photos that Priede took, James said Priede had learned a lot in the six weeks he'd been in the country, especially during the week he spent with the PRT.

James remembered how the photographer always captured a unique view of soldiers on the ground.

Burlington–born soldier killed in copter crash

IDNUMBER 200706010101
PUBLICATION: The Hamilton Spectator
DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Final
SECTION: Local
PAGE: A1
ILLUSTRATION: Photo: Darrell Priede: killed in line of duty;
BYLINE: Natalie Pona
SOURCE: The Hamilton Spectator
COPYRIGHT: © 2007 Torstar Corporation
WORD COUNT: 276

Burlington–born Master Corporal Darrell Priede died chronicling the good work he believed Canada's soldiers were doing in Afghanistan.

Priede became the 56th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan when the helicopter in which he was riding crashed. The Taliban claim they shot the aircraft down.

Speaking from her home in Grand Forks, B.C., Priede's mother, Roxanne, said he volunteered as a photographer to capture the strides his fellow soldiers were making in rebuilding the war–torn country.

"His main purpose was to capture the good," says his mother, who is from Hamilton and still has family living here. "He had a passion for his job and loved what he did."

Priede, 30, died in southern Afghanistan's volatile Helmand province late Wednesday night. He had been photographing coalition forces trying to gain control of a strategic valley from insurgents to pave the way for reconstruction.

News of Priede's death reached Ontario yesterday. Arnold Priede, of Oakville, found out about his grandson in a 7 a.m. phone call.

"I can't keep my tears back. He just left a short while ago. Not even a month," said Priede, adding his grandson moved west in about 1979.

Priede entered the military as a gunner in 1996 and later served as a peacekeeper in Bosnia. On his second tour in the Balkans, he applied to become a military photographer. He had been based at CFB Galetown, N.B.

The Priede family issued a statement that described the soldier as a quiet man who loved to travel and play golf.

"He loved his family immensely and was always willing to help those in need," the statement said, adding that he and his wife, Angela, had celebrated their fourth wedding anniversary earlier this month.

"Darrell's smile and personality touched everyone he met ... He was very excited to be in Afghanistan and proud of the work he was doing in helping the Afghan people."

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With files from The Canadian Press

Our soldiers; Recognize the sacrifice

IDNUMBER 200706010081
PUBLICATION: The Windsor Star
DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Final
SECTION: Editorial/Opinion
PAGE: A6
SOURCE: Windsor Star
WORD COUNT: 606

Another Canadian soldier will make the long journey home to Canada in a flag-draped casket this week where he will be buried with honours and the gratitude of a nation. The federal government has a moral duty to spare his loved ones any further pain by ensuring his funeral costs are covered in full without forcing his family to deal with a bureaucratic maze, or wait a needlessly long period for their just and moderate compensation.

It seems a simple enough burden, but the Department of Defence has been unable or unwilling to meet it despite the erroneous assertions in the House of Commons by embattled Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor. The former soldier told Parliament he directed his department to pay the full funeral costs of soldiers coming home from Afghanistan and that "we have been doing it since I have been in office."

In this case, O'Connor's rhetoric didn't mesh with reality. The parents of slain soldier Cpl. Matthew Dinning, who was killed by a roadside bomb in April 2006, drove eight hours from their home in Wingham to Ottawa to set the record straight.

"After reading these comments, my wife and I were offended and felt that our family's integrity was being called into question by Mr. O'Connor," said an emotional Lincoln Dinning Wednesday, flanked by his wife Laurie. "We stand here today telling you that we have not been fully reimbursed for Matthew's funeral costs; despite that, Mr. O'Connor stood up in the House of Commons and told the Canadian people the exact opposite."

Whether O'Connor misspoke in Parliament or whether bureaucrats didn't follow up on his orders, it is clear O'Connor didn't take pains to ensure his instructions were being followed to the letter. That failure is his alone and has prompted opposition politicians to renew their calls for his resignation.

During a hastily convened news conference shortly before the Dinnings held theirs, O'Connor and Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Rick Hillier said the military would cover more expenses linked to military funerals but refused to say how much more money grieving families will be allowed to access.

The Dinnings spent about \$25,000 on the funeral for their son but recognize taxpayers shouldn't be on the hook for the entire tab. They have submitted \$12,000 in receipts -- including the \$3,000 cost of an arena rental to accommodate the 2,300 mourners who attended the sombre affair -- but have so far received from Ottawa only \$6,400.

The Dinnings sent two letters to military liaison officers and one directly to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, but received only one letter in return from one of the three liaison officers handling the case, saying some of the expense claims were still under consideration.

The Dinnings' brave son answered the call of this country and lost his life in Afghanistan. You would think Harper would have shown the decency to answer a letter from his parents.

"It is not about money. It is about the principle of the thing, and families shouldn't have to go through this," said Dinning. "It's a no-brainer: Your son or daughter gives their lives for Canada and we shouldn't be penny-pinching over whether we're going to pay for funeral expenses."

For a government that accuses opposition politicians of not supporting Canada's soldiers, the Conservative government has behaved shamefully in this case.

It should reimburse the Dinning family -- immediately and with interest -- and it should ensure that no other grieving military families, including the family of Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, who was killed in Afghanistan Wednesday, are treated so shabbily and with such disrespect.

Canadian killed in Chinook crash

IDNUMBER 200706010029
PUBLICATION: The Windsor Star
DATE: 2007.06.01
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: C1 / FRONT
ILLUSTRATION: Colour Photo: Master Cpl. Darrell J. Priede;
DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan
BYLINE: Tom Blackwell
SOURCE: CanWest News Service
NOTE: Obituary of Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede.
WORD COUNT: 244

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan – A young and "outstanding" Canadian combat photographer has been killed in a fiery helicopter crash, amid claims by the Taliban that it downed the chopper with new anti-aircraft weaponry.

Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, 30, of Brantford, whose images have helped document Canada's Afghanistan mission, became the 56th Canadian service member to die here since 2002.

"In working to bring peace to this troubled country, he has ended up paying the ultimate sacrifice," said Brig.-Gen. Tim Grant, head of Canada's Afghanistan task force.

"However, we should all remember that Darrell was involved in a good thing; a good fight."

Priede's photos, many of which can be seen on the Combat Camera (www.combatcamera.forces.gc.ca) website, show military life in many lights. Photos range from portraits of soldiers working to candid shots of life on the base, including downtime — like photos of musicians performing for the troops or recently, shots of soldiers with the Stanley Cup.

It was a rocky night all around Wednesday for NATO troops in the dangerous corner of south Afghanistan's Helmand province where the Chinook helicopter fell to the ground. As a surface patrol headed to the crash site, those troops were ambushed by insurgents, according to the alliance.

The pinned-down patrol eventually called for an air strike to "eliminate the enemy threat," said a news release from ISAF, NATO's Afghanistan mission. All five American crew members of the Chinook heavy lift helicopter, Priede and a British military passenger were killed in the incident, which took place in the early evening.

Combat photographer latest Canadian casualty; AFGHANISTAN MISSION; Seven killed in NATO helicopter crash in Helmand

IDNUMBER 200706010160

PUBLICATION: National Post

DATE: 2007.06.01

EDITION: National

SECTION: World

PAGE: A17

ILLUSTRATION: Black & White Photo: Photo By: Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede / Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede took this photograph last month, when Chief of Defence Staff General Rick Hillier visited the Canadian troops at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan. Hillier brought with him the Stanley Cup and some ex-NHL members. ; Black & White Photo: Combat Camera / Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede ;

DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan

BYLINE: Tom Blackwell

SOURCE: National Post, with files from Taimoor Shah

WORD COUNT: 746

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan – A young and "outstanding" Canadian combat photographer has been killed in a fiery helicopter crash, amid claims by the Taliban it downed the chopper with new anti-aircraft weaponry.

Master Corporal Darrell Jason Priede, 30, of Brantford, Ont., whose images have helped document Canada's Afghanistan mission, became the 56th Canadian service member to be killed here since 2002 and the second in less than a week. A corporal died in a bombing last Friday.

"In working to bring peace to this troubled country, he has ended up paying the ultimate sacrifice," said Brigadier-General Tim Grant, head of Canada's Afghanistan task force.

"There is no way to comfort those who grieve at this terrible time. However, we should all remember that Darrell was involved in a good thing, a good fight."

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All five U.S. crew of the Chinook heavy-lift helicopter, Master Cpl. Priede and a British military passenger were killed in the incident, which took place in the early evening.

An Afghan civilian was injured in the shooting after the helicopter, which can carry 40 soldiers, crashed. Initial reports suggested "enemy fire may have brought down the helicopter, although the incident is still being investigated," said Lieutenant-Colonel Angela Billings, an ISAF spokeswoman.

Master Cpl. Priede, based in Gaagetown, N.B., was a military imaging specialist taking part in an operation near the strategic Kajaki dam, scene of fierce fighting recently between mainly British soldiers and the Taliban. He had been in Afghanistan for less than six weeks.

The U.S.–funded dam is being repaired so it can provide electricity for about two million Afghans in the Kandahar region, where electrical service is spotty at best and a serious drag on the economy. British and other NATO forces have fought for weeks to protect it from insurgent attack.

Master Cpl. Priede was working directly for ISAF in Operation Lastay Kulang (Pashto for axe handle), designed to push the Taliban out of the area so crews can begin the refurbishment. It included a night assault by part of the U.S. 82nd Airborne Division, and the helicopter had just dropped off troops.

The soldier recorded such operations in video and still pictures to leave an accurate record of what took place, Brig.–Gen. Grant said.

Qari Yousef Ahmadi, a self–described Taliban spokesman, said the insurgents had used "new weapons" against the helicopter and they had worked successfully.

"We're very happy," said Mr. Ahmadi, whose claims could not be proved independently. The Taliban has a history of making unverifiable assertions about its military prowess.

Amanullah, a farmer in Khanano Kaly, said he saw the helicopter crash and the Taliban had been shooting in the area. He could not tell if the craft was actually brought down by the insurgents.

The 40–year–old, who goes by just one name, described seeing the aircraft in flames on the ground near his home.

NATO has no reports of the Taliban gaining possession of any special weaponry that might make it easier to shoot down a helicopter, but it takes the reports seriously and will change its tactics if necessary, said Brig.–Gen. Grant.

He stressed that flying is still much safer than driving on southern Afghan roads, where insurgents often plant explosives or employ suicide bombers. Nor is the incident a sign of any kind of Taliban resurgence, he argued.

"They can be a determined enemy and they are showing now, particularly in the Helmand river valley, that they are trying to make a last stand in this area," he said.

"At the end of the day, though, they are not being successful. They are being pushed back, they are being defeated by the ISAF forces on the ground."

At the base for the Canadian Forces–run provincial reconstruction team in Kandahar city, where Master Cpl. Priede had worked recently, colleagues staged an impromptu exhibition of his photographs as a sort of memorial.

"He loved what he was doing: a great guy," said Lieutenant Des James, who supervised the photographer. "For the short time he worked for me here, [he was] an outstanding guy, professional."

Last Friday, Corporal Matthew McCully, 23, died after triggering an improvised explosive device reportedly planted by the Taliban. He was part of a unit that trains and mentors the Afghan national army, and was accompanying them on an operation in the Zhari district of Kandahar province. Canadian soldiers have squared off repeatedly against insurgents there in recent months.

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For a gallery of photos taken by Master Cpl. Priede, visit our Media page at nationalpost.com/media.

KEYWORDS: AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY; AUTOMOBILES

Combat photographer latest casualty Taliban claims it shot down helicopter

PUBLICATION: WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

DATE: 2007.06.01

PAGE: A1

SECTION: World Wire

WORD COUNT: 541

CNS Tom Blackwell KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — A young and "outstanding" Canadian combat photographer has been killed in a fiery helicopter crash, amid claims by the Taliban that it downed the chopper with new anti-aircraft weaponry.

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"There is no way to comfort those who grieve at this terrible time. However, we should all remember that Darrell was involved in a good thing, a good fight." It was a rocky night all around Wednesday for NATO troops in the dangerous corner of south Afghanistan's Helmand province where the Chinook helicopter fell to the ground. As a surface patrol headed in to the crash site, those troops were themselves ambushed by insurgents, according to the alliance. The pinned-down patrol eventually called for an air strike to "eliminate the enemy threat," said a news release from ISAF, NATO's Afghanistan mission. All five American crew members of the Chinook heavy lift helicopter, Priede and a British military passenger were killed in the incident, which took place in the early evening.

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— CanWest News Service