lies in a recognition of that fact, leading to the establishment of clear boundaries and clear agreements as to who decides when what can be destroyed, and who does what in the no-man’s-land of semicurrency between our territories.

To “bridge” the gap is fine. To fudge the difference, however, in the hope of appeasing or hoodwinking persons preoccupied with current concerns to the detriment of archives — is not.

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Canadian Peacekeepers in the Yemen: Setting the Record Straight

In his review (Archivaria 26) of my book In the Eye of the Storm: A History of Canadian Peacekeeping, Brereton Greenhous cites Leonard Johnson’s A General for Peace as describing the truth about the Yemen Observation Mission of 1963-64. The fact is that Johnson paid a three-day inspection visit to UNYOM during its beginnings and offers his reminiscences and views of it based on that brief experience. My account was based on the UNYOM Diary, headquarters reports, and interviews with a cross-section of those involved during the entire mission of one year and three months.

Squadron Leader A.I. Umbach, who commanded 134 Air Transport Unit, feels Johnson’s description of the breakdown of discipline and disintegration of morale is “grossly exaggerated.” The forced repatriation early of only four Canadians of more than one hundred who served there bears this out.

I hope this letter will be reprinted in your next issue to help rectify in the minds of the readers a distorted view of the overall performance of our troops in the Yemen.

Fred Gaffen
Canadian War Museum