



Leaked cabinet documents reveal origin of the IPMS Canada Sweating Beaver!

After many years of relative quiet, the IPMS Canada "Sweating Beaver" has once again become news, with accusations of ministerial improprieties and government cover-ups. Some Ottawa pundits have gone as far as to say that this is the worst scandal since the notorious *Lepys* affair which caused an international incident with Poland.

Loathe though we are to contribute to the frenzy of tabloid rumour mongering, our legal department assures the editorial board that we may repeat here the facts provided in our recent deposition to the RCMP and Crown Attorney's office. So... the story of the IPMS Canada Sweating Beaver!

It began late in 1972, when an unmarked brown package arrived at Box 626, addressed to the Editor. The package, sent from the town of Medley (now Cold Lake), Alberta, contained camera-ready (this being the pre-computer era) material for a large double-issue RT. The subject of this special



issue was North American Sea Furies – their colour schemes and markings. Known to this day as "the Sea Fury Special", the issue was a landmark for its standard of research, presentation and artwork. All you could ever want to know about RCN Sea Furies!

The issue was the work of two IPMS Canada members

from Medley – Bob Bowles and Ray Cryderman. They came up with the idea and produced the material on their own, completely unbeknownst to the RT editorial board! It was obviously a labour of love as well as a massive undertaking.

This was underscored by the last paragraph of their text:

"It's late.... and it's late because this turned out bigger than we'd planned. If you've got any squawks, complaints, or (preferably) additional material, we'd sure like to hear from you. Write us direct:

*Bob Bowles
Ray Cryderman*

"Now... if our kids can recognize us, and our wives will ever speak to us again... we'll go home..."

– all under the exhausted, sweating, Medly Muddler beaver seen below. Needless to say, what could IPMS Canada do but adopt the poor fellow as our own? From these humble beginnings he has gone on to adorn an endless array of t-shirts, beer mugs, posters, flyers, and the notorious *Lepys* (more of which later... perhaps).

the Original





In this rondel from an illuminated medieval manuscript, hunters have cornered two beavers. The hunter on the far right already holds beaver testicles, as the poor little beaver at bottom right twists his neck around to bite off his testicles.

