



## Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News July 11, 2017

Newsletters normally are emailed on Monday evenings. If you don't get a newsletter on time, check the websites below to see if there is a notice about the current newsletter or to see if the current edition is posted there. If the newsletter is posted, please contact me at [bob.mugford@gmail.com](mailto:bob.mugford@gmail.com) to let me know you didn't get a copy.

**Newsletter on line.** This newsletter, and previous editions, are available on the Vancouver Artillery Association website at: [www.vancouvergunners.ca](http://www.vancouvergunners.ca) and the RUSI Vancouver website at: <http://www.rusivancouver.ca/newsletter.html>. Both groups are also on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=vancouver%20artillery%20association> and <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=rusi%20vancouver>

**Wednesday Lunches** - We serve a great 5 course buffet meal for only \$20. Hope to see you all there. Attendance has been down recently. Most of our regular attendees, who are retired, are slowly fading away and the next generation seems, by and large, to be too busy to attend. Guests are always welcome and we encourage members to bring their significant others. Dress - Jacket and tie, equivalent for Ladies

**Big Changes Coming** Renovations in the Officers Mess have started and are expected to take all summer (if not longer). During renovations, lunches will be held in the WO & Sgts Mess.

**Upcoming events – Mark your calendars** See attached posters for details.

- Jul 14-16** - Aldergrove Fair
- July 19** - Yorke Island project update presentation
- July 23** - Point Atkinson Tour
- July 27** - 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Korean War Veterans Day Ceremony
- Sept 09** - WO & Sgts Mess Dinner

## World War 2 - 1942

*John Thompson Strategic analyst - quotes from his book "Spirit Over Steel"*

**July 12<sup>th</sup>:** Timoshenko gets the new Stalingrad Front as German forces reach Lisichansk and Kanteminovka. Today, another stray group of Soviet soldiers is scooped up as they try to get away from the Sevastopol area. One is a badly wounded Soviet female medic with a submachine gun, but Senior Sergeant Mariya Karpovna Baida of the 173<sup>rd</sup> Rifle Division is already famous for her fighting skills. In the fighting around Sevastopol, she once killed 15 Germans and rescued her commanding officer and eight other men from captivity. Her toughness will enable her to survive captivity (including a spell at Ravensbruck). After Stalin's death, she will be properly named as a Hero of the Soviet Union.

**July 13<sup>th</sup>:** Hitler gets excited by his Armies' advances in the virtually undefended South and orders Army Group B to advance on Stalingrad; with 6<sup>th</sup> Army getting the specific task of taking the city.

**July 14<sup>th</sup>:** The British 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Division stages some attacks to win ground beyond Ruweisat Ridge, but no gains are made despite heavy losses on both sides. Submarines and fast transports begin a five-day supply operation towards Malta; while Italian Submarines are pressed into service to carry supplies to Africa.

**July 15<sup>th</sup>:** The first planeloads of supplies to be flown over the "Hump" of the Himalayas land in China. The German counterattack at Ruweisat Ridge is surprised by the sudden increase in the efficiency of British artillery (a manifestation of the first fruits of the ongoing Larkhill Gunnery Revolution in the British and Dominion Armies). New Zealand's Captain Charles Upham VC leads his company in the attack on the ridge and fights as furiously as he did on Crete in 1941. He destroyed a tank and other vehicles, and dispatched numerous of the foe while ignoring his own wounds. He was severely wounded when captured by the Germans and ultimately ended up with the hard-case POWs in Colditz. He becomes one of the very rare men who won a second award of the Victoria Cross.

**July 16<sup>th</sup>:** Soviet assistance stiffens up at Rostov.

**July 17<sup>th</sup>:** In the Egyptian desert, Axis counter-attacks blunt the British advance at Miteirya Ridge but Rommel considers falling back anyway. Hitler interferes with his Armies in southern Russia by moving 4th Panzer Army from Army Group B (advancing towards the Caucasus Mountains and the oil fields) to Army Group A (which is trying to get across the Don).

## **The Secret Battle of the Falklands War You Have Never Heard About**

**Gavle Herald** Ricky D Phillips | June 14, 2017

*This is the untold story of a 'secret battle' fought during the Falklands war, according to one military historian. Author Ricky D Phillips says the Battle of Stanley has been ignored in the history books and is calling for the men who fought in it to receive the recognition they deserve. On the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the conflict, he shares his account of what really happened.*

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On April 2, 1982, 60 Royal Marines of the Naval Party 8901 who constituted the entire garrison for the Falkland Islands were overwhelmed by 80 Argentine Commandos. They put up a mere token defence, fired off a few shots, killed one Argentine and wounded a few more and then surrendered. That's the story you are supposed to know. It is the story that we – the British public – were all told. It is the story you will find in every book and on every website which deals with the Falklands War. It is a story which has stood for 35 years as 'established history'. That story, might I say, is rubbish. For the first time in 35 years, the accounts of the people involved from all three sides; British, Argentine and the Falkland Islanders themselves have been taken, analysed and formed into a new history with fresh interviews and in-depth research into each and every claim or quote, creating a panoramic view of a battle which were all told

never happened. The battle of Stanley - for it was a battle, not a mere skirmish – was an action on a par with Rorke's Drift, a battle which, had the world known the truth, might have cost the UK the entire Falklands War. At 0605 the battle opened with 84 Argentine Commandos attacking the British position from the rear. The night sky lit up as Moody Brook barracks, the Marines' accommodation block outside of town was torn apart by gunfire and grenades only for the Argentine Commandos to find their bunks empty and the Royal Marines already deployed. Moments later, the first Argentine casualties came when a landing craft with 40 men on board sailed through the narrow strip of water into Stanley Harbour and was destroyed, overturned and sunk with an anti-tank rocket, the tightly-packed men being plunged into the freezing, sucking waters from which none came up again.



*Argentinian troops next to an Amtrak tank*

At Government House, the seat of government in the islands, a special snatch-squad raced into the grounds to seize the governor Rex Hunt, only to run into four waiting Marines who gunned down three of them and left them lying in the garden. Now others came, rushing in four-abreast and making easy targets for the Royal

Marines who, crouched behind a stone wall, picked them off at will. "The words 'turkey shoot' flashed through my mind," said one of the defenders, Jim Fairfield. "We took targets of opportunity. There were a lot of targets and I'm a good shot."

*The Landing Craft which was on its back under the water and dragged up by the Royal Navy*

At first light, 21 amphibious armoured personnel carriers, each bearing 28 men, landed on the beach around Stanley airport and raced inland like an iron fist ready to smash the pinned-down Royal Marines, but waiting on the outskirts of town was an anti-tank section who fired rockets at the lead vehicle as it came towards them. Turning to its right, off the road, the giant 'Amtrac' APC seemed to become stuck on the bank of the road as the Royal Marines reloaded and determined to take it out; "I said 'Let's get it!' and I fired and hit it," remembered Royal Marine Stephen 'George' Brown. "I know exactly where I hit it... there



was a flash and then the smoke started to come out as she brewed up." Marines Reynolds and Gibbs also fired at it with their own weapons from out on the flank. Gibbs said: "I definitely hit it about three-quarters of the way up and along. It rocked on its suspension and blew a huge great cloud of black smoke and then died." Coming to its aid were several more Amtracs, the lead one of which was peppered with machine gun fire, taking out the gunner's scopes as the Royal Marines deployed smoke and pulled out just as the Argentine artillery zeroed their position. Nobody merged from the destroyed Amtrac.

Back at Government House, the Argentine forces had pulled back to a nearby rocky ridge, waiting for their armour to come to their aid as the Marines now engaged them in a sniping contest, with Geordie Gill, the Royal Marines' top sniper taking out a section leader, a rifleman and a machine gunner as Corporal Terry Pares beside him took out a radio operator. Marine Graham Evans said: "At one stage we were in the 11-5 club. "Eleven wounded and five killed as we were hitting them hard up there on the ridge." Meanwhile, in the streets of Stanley, several sections of Marines fought running battles with the Argentines, vaulting fences, ploughing through gardens and taking down the enemy who seemed to pop up from everywhere. One Stanley resident, who later found Argentine bodies in her garden, said: "They were fighting like lions to protect us. "I never knew our Marines could fight so hard."

23. <u>Casualties.</u>	The following	
a. Killed	-	5
b. Wounded	-	17
c. Prisoners	-	3
d. Amtrac	-	1

*Major Mike Norman's casualty report*

Finally, with Argentine forces surrounding them by the thousand, the Falklands' governor Rex Hunt agreed to talk to the Argentine commander, Admiral Busser. He knew that his Marines could – and would - fight to the finish, and so he had to make a decision. Looking at his officers, Majors

Norman and Nott he ordered them to "Tell your men to stop fighting and to lay down their arms". Later, in an interview with the Plymouth Herald, he said: "I didn't use the word 'surrender' because I knew it wasn't in the Marines' vocabulary." It had been an epic defence but sadly an inconvenient one. With the UK needing to look like it was taken by surprise and stomped over by a fascist junta – a necessary story if the world was to be on our side – the men and their story were denied. Five military medals and 12 mentions in dispatches were recommended and even approved, none were granted. When the people of the Falklands – knowing the true story – proposed to grant their own medal, the UK government silenced them. Hoping that a bare minimum report of five enemy killed, 17 wounded, three prisoners and of course the destroyed Amtrac (only what they physically saw and could confirm) would at least be believed, Major Norman put this in his official report. It was never published.

Ricky D Phillips has published a book on the conflict entitled *The First Casualty – The Untold Story of the Falklands War*

## **Joint Leonardo-BAE munition could triple US Navy gun range**



*Leonardo and BAE team on guided munitions, with US market in their sights* Defense News

ROME — A guided munition that BAE Systems and Italy’s Leonardo are offering the US Navy will triple the range of the Mk 45 guns installed on about 100 Navy vessels, keeping ships out of harm’s way in littoral operations, a BAE official has said. The two firms announced on June 28 they were partnering on adapting Leonardo’s Vulcano munition for use with BAE’s five-inch Mk 45 gun, as well as the 155-millimeter Advanced Gun System gun supplied by the firm for the US Navy’s Zumwalt class of destroyers. “With this product, we can achieve a maximum range approaching three times the range of standard ballistic ammunition from the Mk 45 gun, which is in use with the US Navy and 11 other navies around the world,” said John Perri, business development director for advanced weapons at BAE Systems.

The Vulcano 127-millimeter, or five-inch munition, which Leonardo has been developing with the Italian Navy for use on its 127-millimeter Leonardo-built guns, is GPS controlled. Each projectile is given coordinates and links to satellites for guidance during flight. Steering is undertaken through moveable fins that are protected during firing by a sabot, or jacket, that falls away after the munition leaves the barrel. As a sub-caliber round, they also have a much higher muzzle velocity. “That, in combination with fins and canards to generate lift, is why they can be effective at farther ranges,” said Perri.

Leonardo has said the 127-millimeter Vulcano munition it currently offers for use on its own guns will reach a range of up to 100 kilometers. “Better maximum range means more security for the ship since you can operate farther offshore, while the precision means you can complete more missions with fewer munitions, because the ship’s magazine capacity goes farther than it would with conventional munitions,” said Perri. BAE and Leonardo started discussing a joint offer to the US Navy after the Navy put out a request for information for a guided munition solution for the AGS gun on the Zumwalt destroyers last year, Perri said. Citing cost overruns, the US Navy last year cancelled the Long Range Land Attack Projectile program to develop a guided 155-millimeter munition run by Lockheed Martin and BAE. “We have received very strong support from the Navy for the Vulcano proposal, and we have been invited to submit proposals,” he said. The firms are also offering seeker technology, including a semi-active laser for picking out laser designated targets and an infrared seeker. “The GPS is in final qualification testing with the Italian [Ministry of Defense], the semi-active laser is in the early

stages of qualification testing and the IR seeker is in development testing,” said Perri.

The US is reportedly also interested in guided munitions that use alternatives to GPS, given the growing risk of GPS jamming. In 2104, Leonardo — then Finmeccanica — said it had spent 200 million euros developing guided munitions, encouraged by the Italian Navy, preferred the concept to missiles in the smaller spaces of the Mediterranean. The firm has previously worked with Germany’s Diehl Defence to test fire a 155-millimeter version of the munition using a German PzH 2000 howitzer. BAE and Leonardo also hope to offer Vulcano for use with the M777 and M109 howitzers used by the US military. The US Army currently uses the Raytheon Excalibur guided munition in the howitzers, but Perri said the Vulcano would offer greater range.

## **The Day North Korea Fired a Missile at SR 71 Blackbird**

*Joris Nieuwint Sep 12, 2016*



*The Blackbird in Flight.*

Throughout the 20th Century, the phrase “black projects” has become an evocative and mysterious reminder that ground-breaking new technology is continually being developed behind the scenes. The term refers to US and UK military projects which are considered highly classified, and a perfect example of this would be the SR-71 Blackbird. this aircraft, created in the 1960s, was capable of flying at more than three times the speed of the sound from its own engines. In fact, in 1976 this plane set the record for the fastest air-breathing manned aircraft in the world, after flying 2193.13 mph in July of that year. Its amazing speed and maneuverability allowed it to gather intelligence and information on geography, enemy positions, and much more. This could be done in a matter of seconds, making it an enormous asset to the US military. While carrying out reconnaissance flights, the SR-71 Blackbird could move at a speed of Mach 3+ while flying 80,000 feet above the earth. If detected and targeted by enemies on the ground or in the air, the SR-71 could simply outrun any missiles fired at it, racing out of the enemy’s range in seconds.

However, it was unlikely that their presence would ever be discovered by anyone in the first place. The plane was designed with a range of incredible features to prevent this from happening. While the shape of the wings were specifically crafted to deflect radar beams, special chemicals were added to the fuel to minimize the risk of exhaust trails being picked up by enemy systems below. This aircraft was utilized by the United States Air Force

from the year 1964 onward, until it was officially retired in 1998. Even then, two continued to be used by NASA until the following year, while many of the others found new homes in museums and exhibitions. The plane's later years were fraught with uncertainty, however. At one point, during the 1980's, the SR-71 program was shut down. Many figures higher up in the Air Force had been SR-71 pilots earlier in their careers, and so they made an effort to keep the planes funded and in use. However, as these men began to retire, a new generation took up their positions, and the aircraft subsequently lost favor with those in command. Then in the early 1990's, the US was increasingly worried about affairs in the Middle East – not to mention North Korea – and wanted the best quality reconnaissance planes available. The funds simply weren't there to create and test anything superior to the SR-71, so members of Congress pushed for the aircraft's return to service. The Air Force rejected their suggestions, and a long struggle played out between the plane's supporters and its detractors.

Eventually, however, the money Congress had assigned to reopening the program was relocated to other areas of the military. The time of the SR-71 had truly come to an end. There were 32 of these incredible machines produced in total. Twelve of them were lost in accidents, but none went down due to enemy activities. This isn't to say that the planes weren't placed in dangerous situations, of course. In fact, during the Vietnam War over 800 enemy missiles were fired just at SR-71s, although not one of them hit their target. They also flew missions over North Korea, where they were targeted as well. In 1981, North Korea launched a Russian guided missile at an SR-71 Blackbird. This footage (<https://youtu.be/reytu0y5efs>) shows that gripping encounter and demonstrates not only the prowess of these planes, but the incredible skills of the men who piloted them. The YouTube channel behind this video, The Joint Forces Channel, posts an exciting variety of content, exploring military technology and showcasing the amazing stories of individual service men and women. If you're interested in this plane in particular or in the military in general, there's sure to be something for you here.

## **Transport Canada Approves Drone Test Range in Alma, QC**

Department launches test trials of technology for surveillance in Northern Canada  
OTTAWA, June 26, 2017 /CNW/

Transport Canada is committed to enhancing the safety and security of Canadians while fostering innovation as it continues to explore the use of unmanned aircraft systems, commonly known as drones, to fulfil its mandate. The Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, has granted the UAS Centre of Excellence approval to begin operations at their test range in Alma, QC. This test range facilitates research and development and provides the industry with dedicated, restricted airspace where they can test drones beyond visual line-of-sight.

In partnership with the Iqaluit-based company Arctic UAV Inc. and the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Transport Canada will be one of the first to operate at the new test range this week as the department begins trials with a Sea-Hunter drone. The trials will provide hands-on experience operating sophisticated drones and will help develop procedures, training, and risk assessment tools for surveillance operations in Northern Canada. Transport Canada intends to

acquire a system that would use drones to survey ice and oil spills in the Canadian Arctic. In anticipation of these activities, the department awarded a contract to Arctic UAV to conduct several research and development flight trials over the next three years.

## **The War Diary of C31 L/Sgt CD Phelan, A Battery, RCHA 1939 - 1945**

### **Chapter 6, Part 2**

**30-31 Aug** How Munro and I were on duty at a machine gun nest when the warning sounded. We were pretty much excited, thinking we might get a shot at a Jerry. Suddenly, three German planes flew out of a cloud over our heads. They were big bombers, flying low, and we could see the big black crosses on their wings very clearly. However, they were out of our range. Suddenly one of them reappeared, spiralling quickly into the ground. Fire burst out along the fuselage, and three men jumped as the plane went into a steep spin and crashed into the ground. About this time the powers that be began to suspect that there was an informer in the area. Before this raid and several previous ones, a burning straw stack had been observed near the camp shortly before the bombers arrived. It was a very peculiar coincidence to say the least. The same afternoon we went out on another Brigade scheme. We reached our position about 2130 hrs, and picked away at our gun pits until 0230 hrs, when we turned in for two hours. Zero hour was 0500, so we had to get cracking in order to be ready to fire. The Colonel came along and said our gun pits were too shallow, so we had to dig down another foot. About 1300 hrs there was a noise like a freight train. In a couple of minutes, a German “sandwich” appeared. This was a flight of 18 bombers, guarded by a flight of 18 fighters above and 18 below. They passed directly overhead and soon we heard their bombs exploding in the distance as AA guns opened fire.

**1-4 Sep** Going to bed with pants and socks on is beginning to be a habit as Jerry usually shows up at least once a night. So far, our luck has been good and we have had no casualties.

**5-6 Sep 1940.** We had just begun a volleyball game when we got the order to prepare to move. We travelled most of the afternoon to a dispersal area, where we waited until dark to begin to roll again. We reached a gun position about midnight and began to dig. The clay was like rock and we strained and sweated all night for 10 hours until we managed to get the pit finished and the gun in position. In the middle of the afternoon three German bombers came into view, escorted by several fighters. Then five formations of about 15 or 20 planes each, filled the sky. Suddenly a flight of Hurricanes appeared and several dogfights were started. All at once a Messerschmitt 110 flew low over our position, hotly pursued by a Hurricane. After a couple of bursts from the Hurricane two figures leaped from the 110 which crashed just out of our sight. One of the parachutes did not open. The other floated down and he landed a couple of fields away from the guns. He had no sooner hit the ground than about 300 troops burst from cover and surrounded him. He must have had quite a shock to see so many crazy Canucks appear in an apparently empty field. He lost no time in raising his hands and shouting: ‘Kamerad!’



**7 Sep.** At 1000 hrs we began to put over a barrage of theoretical fire under the watchful eye of Brig Roberts. At 1100 we got the cease fire and packed our gear into the quad and limber. On the way back to camp "A" sub got lost, as usual, but we reached camp 20 minutes ahead of the rest of the convoy. The Luftwaffe has begun a series of very heavy raids on London, with mass raids every night. We can hear the bombs bursting in the city and can see the glow of giant fires in the distance. We have dug our tents to a depth of about 18 inches and have piled the dirt in a mound around the outside. By doing this we are fairly safe from splinters and don't have to spend our nights in the slit trenches.

**11 Sep.** According to the newspapers, invasion is just about a certainty. PM Churchill made a speech in which he warned the nation that next week might be the week. All our vehicles and guns have been checked, sights tested, and everything is ready for an instant move.

**16 Sep.** Well today is the day on which Hitler is to start his invasion of England. So far nothing has happened. I am waiting for my shift of guard duty to start. The TSM mounted the guard tonight. We were cautioned to "halt all bodies of troops and to cross-examine the individual men." There was the possibility that a body of Germans might be marching in British uniforms by officers or NCOs speaking perfect English. The idea of examining the men was that they might not be as fluent and thus might betray themselves. The final order from the TSM was "Shoot to kill." There were no near bombs and no invasion that night.

17

**18 Sep.** We got the order to pack up for yet another move. We reached a dispersal area near West Wickham late in the morning, then moved into Beckenham by troops. "A" sub of C Tp was billeted in an empty civilian home, property of Dr James Rannis. The house was a big three-storey affair with nice lawns and a large flower garden. We were immediately ordered to start digging air raid shelters in the garden. This looked bad! I was on guard the first night and saw the show Jerry put on. At 2000 hrs the sirens sounded and then we heard the throb of German planes. All of a sudden, all hell broke loose! AA guns of all sizes opened up all around us. After about 30 seconds, more fun began as the shrapnel began to rain down. The raid lasted until 0530 hrs.

**19-25 Sep.** Every night we have had a faithful reproduction of this opening scene. Bomb Disposal Squads have a steady job removing numbers of time bombs which fell in the area. The closest of these was about 150 yards away. Our house is about a quarter mile away from the Wellcome Foundation, a serum factory also known as the bughouse. We are told that in the plant there are large numbers of germs of various kinds as well as some poison gas used in experiments. Our guns, ammo, and vehicles are parked in the Foundation grounds. If this plant should be hit, the locality will be unhealthy for more reasons than one!

**29 Sep.** Andy Orr and I were walking back from Bromley at about 1100 hrs when we heard a bomb whistling down. It screamed over our heads and struck with a terrible explosion about a block away on Queen Ave. We ran to the row of houses which the bomb had struck. We pitched in to help the wardens who were just arriving. The bomb had made a direct hit on one of the houses which had contained four people. The house was completely demolished and a 20-foot

crater was left. The two adjoining houses were also completely wrecked. In one, a piece of the upper floor was hanging by a few beams. On this piece of floor was a bed with a very old man still laying there. We managed to carry him down and found to our surprise that he was completely unhurt. We then turned to five Anderson bomb shelters nearby. We tackled one completely hidden by big beams and other debris. After about half an hour we had cleared a small hole through which we could see the inside of the shelter. Almost incredibly, the people inside were alive and unhurt! We soon had them out and turned to other shelters, from which a number of people were extricated – all uninjured. We dug through the debris until early morning in a vain attempt to locate the people who had been in the house. The body of one young boy was found about 150 feet down the road. The others were never found. Finally, we had done all we could and a police car gave us a lift back to our billets.

## Chapter 7. Leave in Edinburgh

**2-3 Oct 1940.** I received my pass for my seven days leave. I took a bus and then a train to London, then by Underground to Euston Station. All the Underground stations and platforms were crowded by people who sheltered there from the nightly raids. They brought lunches and blankets, and except that they were hot and crowded the stations made ideal shelters. The night train moved very slowly in the vicinity of London, with drawn blinds and dimmed lights. Once outside the Metropolitan area we quickly picked up speed. We reached Edinburgh around 1300 hrs. I booked a bed at the Victoria League Club, and met my roommates. They were three happy-go-lucky sailors from the minesweeper *HMS Seagull*, which had been recently blown up. We teamed up for a tour of the night spots and had a great time.

**4 Oct.** I went on a guided tour of Edinburgh Castle, a massive fort high on a steep hill. Inside is the Scottish War Memorial built as a monument to the dead of WWI. The building is shaped like a cross, with indescribable fine workmanship and artistic design. There is a certain air about the place which does something to a fellow. I think the Memorial is the most beautiful and most touching place I have ever seen. Next we visited Holyroodhouse Palace, the home of Mary, Queen of Scots. We also saw the National Galleries, the Edinburgh University, and several old buildings. One of the most interesting was the “Sanctuary House.” The general idea used to be that if a prisoner should manage to escape from the prison, about 500 yards away, and succeeded in reaching the Sanctuary, he was allowed to go free.

**6 Oct.** I went by bus to see the Forth Bridge, which carries rail traffic over the Firth of Forth. It is a mile and one half long, and was opened in 1870 after seven years continual work, day and night, by 5000 men. A number of destroyers and cruisers were laying under and around the bridge. A few vessels flew barrage balloons.

**9-10 Oct.** Time rolled by and it was time to start back to camp. We had two air raid warnings on the way, so the train arrived late at Euston station, in the middle of an air raid. I stayed again at the Victoria Club, and the next day I travelled by Underground, bus, and train to Beckenham. I reported to the battery office at 1115 hrs. I was five hours and fifteen minutes late, but got

away with it because in London I had had my pass stamped at the rail station : “Delayed by Air Raid.”

## **Vancouver Artillery Association Yearbook Updates**

The war diaries updates from 100 years ago continue on our What’s New page  
<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new>

Don’t forget our Who, What, Where, When challenge!  
<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/who-what-where-when.html>

A couple of photos added in 1965 and 1966 featuring Eric Tyldesley-Gore and Al Yelland.  
<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1965.html> <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1966.html>

Photos from our Regimental Robbie Burns Dinner.  
<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2012.html>

Canada Day activities and an open letter from the Senior Serving Gunner.  
<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2017.html>

A couple of photos added in 2015 and 2016 featuring our 25 Pounder detachment exploits.  
<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2015.html> <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2016.html>

A couple of our former Commanding Officer bios were updated: Lieutenant-Colonel Coghlan and Lieutenant-Colonel Crossley. <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/cos-and-rsms.html>

Keep those stories and pictures coming!\_Contact Leon Jensen at [LeonJ1@hotmail.com](mailto:LeonJ1@hotmail.com)

### **Who Is It**



**Last Week:** The vehicle is a Car 5-Cwt, made in February by Willys Overland in the USA on a Willys MB chassis. It was made for the Canadian Army and 1,500 were on that order for overseas use. The so-called "seat-belt" is a safety strap which hooks onto the ring protruding from the dash. The driver's wiper is electric and the passenger's wiper is manually operated. The formation sign on the port side is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Division. It is a gold maple leaf on a royal blue rectangle, with a C and Roman Numeral II inside the C. The unit sign is a white

47 on the artillery red over blue colours. This unit was the 3rd Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RCA. The first figure of the War Department Census Number is visible on the hood. This is "C" for Canada. It would be followed by an "M" which was for Motor Car, then 7 numbers. We have no IDs on the passengers yet but they are all officers and the front passenger is a member of the Royal Canadian Army Pay Corps. The picture was probably taken somewhere in the UK.

**This Week:** Sometimes, we just find a photo, and don't know why it is in our collection, or what it is of. This could have been one of those, save for an eagle-eyed individual who was able to locate the city, and the period with the help of a Sherlock Holmes-style magnifying glass. The interesting point is that the person is not well-travelled, but is an aficionado of all things ancient. This was of great help (as was the fact that the next photo in the roll shows



something world-famous!). So, this week's quiz is a simple one. Can you spot one item in this photograph that can date the image? As a super-bonus, are you able to tell us in which city this was taken? If you can answer, by whom, you are cheating, or psychic.

Send your ideas to the editor, [bob.mugford@outlook.com](mailto:bob.mugford@outlook.com) or to the author, John Redmond ([johnd.redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd.redmond@telus.net)). **If you want the original jpg file, email the editor.** On a conservation note, when you scan a black and white negative or print (and negatives are always the desired medium), do so in colour at the maximum resolution possible, and save the file in TIFF format. This allows much more information to be stored than were you to do so in black and white and save as a jpeg. A TIFF can then be made into a jpeg copy for emailing or use on the web (TIFF files are very big, jpegs are not).

### **From the 'Punitary'**

What do you call a owl that does magic tricks? Hoodini.

### **Murphy's Other Laws**

If you really need an officer in a hurry, take a nap

### **Quotable Quotes**

It is not only for what we do that we are held responsible, but also for what we do not do.  
*Moliere*



## **Wednesday Lunches**

**Have you been down to Bessborough Armoury lately?**

**When was the last time you were at the  
15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment Officers' Mess?**

**Did you know that the Mess continues to offer a fine lunch  
every Wednesday at 12:00?**

**For \$20.00 you get a 5 course meal and the opportunity to reconnect  
with your Gunner friends and other guests.**

**Business attire expected.**

***The Regimental Museum opens at 10:00 every Wednesday.***



## **Leon Jensen OMM CD**

President – Vancouver Artillery Association

Will be providing an update on the

## **Yorke Island Conservancy Project**

A partnership between

BC Parks

and

The Vancouver Artillery Association

Bessborough Armoury

Wednesday 19 July 2017

13:00 hours

*Join us for lunch at 12:00 - Visit the Regimental Museum at*

# Aldergrove Fair Days – July 14, 15, & 16



## 2017 Fair Schedule

The 105th Annual Aldergrove Fair Days will run July 14, 15, & 16, 2017. Join us for one of BC's best small-town fairs, with world-class fun for the whole family!

## Main Stage

### Friday July 14, 2017

- 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM: Myles Murphy – Talented country singer / songwriter from Abbotsford
- 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM: Raw Hide Bones – Aldergrove's own classic rock band!

### Saturday July 15, 2017

- 12:00 PM – 12:30 PM: Princess Party with Alyssa Nielsen
- 12:30 PM – 1:45 PM: Emily Taylor Adams – Award-winning BC Country Music Artist (before / during / after Opening Ceremonies)
- 1:00 PM – 1:45 PM: Opening Ceremonies
  - Canadian and US National Anthems – Emily Taylor Adams
  - Featuring 21 Gun Salute
  - Community Service Awards
- 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM: True North Troubadours – Tribute to Peter, Paul and Mary and folk music of 60's
- 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM: Big Guitar – Tribute to Creedence Clearwater Revival, with Special Guest Hayley Chase – Janis Joplin Tribute
- 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM: The Daytrippers – Tribute to the Beatles
- 8:00 PM – 9:30 PM: Trooper – Legendary Canadian rock band

### Sunday July 16, 2016

- 9:30 AM – 10:15 AM: Cowboy Church
- 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM: Springman Family Band – fabulous family fun!
- 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM: Geoff Robertson – performs some great folk and pop classics
- 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM: Sunday Afternoon of Blues – featuring the area's top players, including James Thorhaug & Friends, James 'Buddy' Rogers, and John 'The Colonel'!

## Fair Location

The Fair takes place at Aldergrove Athletic Park and the Aldergrove Kinsmen Community Centre, 26770 29th Ave. in Aldergrove, BC.



# CANADA 150 TOUR of POINT ATKINSON LIGHT STATION

Lighthouse Park Preservation Society and West Vancouver Historical Society invite you to join a free guided tour of the light station grounds. Learn about the link between the lighthouse and Canada's confederation. Climb the steps to the base of the lighthouse (the tower will not be open). Enter the Fog Alarm museum to learn about its inner workings and the role of the lighthouse keeper. Sit inside the Power House to view a short slide show on the presence of the military during WWII.

**For more information about the tour and to register please email [pointatkinsonpals@gmail.com](mailto:pointatkinsonpals@gmail.com)**

## TOUR DATES

Sunday May 14

Sunday June 18

Sunday July 23

Sunday August 13

Sunday Sept. 3

## TOUR TIMES

1:00 pm & 3:00 pm

Registration required  
Limit 20 per tour



COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS OF CANADA  
FONDATIONS COMMUNAUTAIRES DU CANADA  
all for community. ensemble pour tous.



CANADA 150

Canada

## **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Korean War Veterans Day Ceremony**



### **\*SPECIAL INVITATION\***

The Korean War Commemorative Alliance  
cordially invites you to

### **The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Korean War Veterans Day Ceremony**

To mark the 64<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice

**Thursday, July 27th, 2017**

**10:30am Wreath-laying Ceremony**

**Location: "Ambassador of Peace" Korean War Memorial in  
Burnaby's Central Park  
(Boundary Road and East 46th Avenue)**

Light lunch provided by the Burnaby Firefighters following the ceremony

Kindly RSVP your attendance to [reg-asst-martin@outlook.com](mailto:reg-asst-martin@outlook.com)

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Office of the Honourable Senator Yonah Martin  
Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate  
[reg-asst-martin@outlook.com](mailto:reg-asst-martin@outlook.com) / 613-947-4078  
<http://yonahmartin.sencanada.ca>



WO & Sgts ANNUAL MESS DINER

**The Regimental Sergeant-Major  
Warrant Officers and Sergeants  
of the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment,  
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery**

*Cordially invite you  
to their*

**ANNUAL MESS DINNER**

**Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**Cocktails: 18:00 hrs Dinner: 19:00 hrs**

*To be held in the*  
**Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess  
Bessborough Armoury  
2025 West 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, BC**

RSVP required by 30<sup>st</sup> August 2017  
to the Mess Treasurer, (*Sgt Cooley*)  
2025 West 11th Ave,  
Vancouver BC V6J 2C7  
Email: [james.cooley@forces.gc.ca](mailto:james.cooley@forces.gc.ca)  
Telephone: 604-666-4331

Dress Mess Kit/Formal  
Ticket price: \$60.00  
Cheque payable to *15<sup>th</sup> Field  
Warrant Officers' and  
Sergeants' mess*. Pay at the  
door or mail in payment

Okanagan Military Tattoo 2017 - Vernon 29-30 July 2017

*Wrap Up A*  
**TATTOO**  
*This Holiday Season!*

**OKANAGAN**  
**MILITARY**  
**TATTOO**  
**2017**

**July 29<sup>th</sup> 7PM**  
**& 30<sup>th</sup> 2PM**

**SPECIAL OFFER!**  
Purchase 3 tickets  
Receive the 4<sup>th</sup> FREE!

**Special Offer Only Through Ticketseller.**  
**Call 250-549-SHOW(7469) Until Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 2016**

[www.okanagantattoo.ca](http://www.okanagantattoo.ca)    