



Van Arty Assoc and RUSI Van Members News Mar 12, 2013

Wednesday Lunches

Lunches in the 15th Field Officers Mess continue with Mrs Lum cooking at home and bringing the food in. The decision has been made to renovate the upstairs (Mess) kitchen at an estimated cost of \$30-35,000. Fundraising efforts have been started, with a whiskey tasting event scheduled for March. (see below)

Remember to drop your lunch ticket in the bowl when you pick up your soup/salad.

And finally, PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE VEHICLE COMPOUND!! This Wednesday, a very big crane will be used to put a new shipping container into the compound. This may affect parking along SW 11th so please watch where you park and don't block the gate or driveway.

Lunch speaker - Wednesday March 27

Bruce Seligman, President ARKTOS Developments Ltd.

Bruce will provide us with an illustrated talk on his company's amphibious vehicles. Developed by his company in British Columbia, ARKTOS Craft are proven to have the highest level of all-round amphibious mobility in the world - particularly while crossing the transition between ice and water.

Due to their unique design ARKTOS Craft have an unsurpassed ability to manoeuvre through ice-rubble fields, significant side slopes, steep grades, muskeg, quicksand and any other water transition zones. The existing 15-meter United States Coast Guard approved ARKTOS Evacuation Craft can carry 52-passengers or 5,000 kilograms of cargo through the most severe terrain and up to 10,000 kilograms of cargo in open water, across relatively level ground and across moderate transitions between water and land.

Larger ARKTOS Craft with greater load carrying capacity and exceptional amphibious towing have been considered for several major projects, while smaller, faster ARKTOS Craft have also been conceived for patrol and rescue missions.

The 2013 Military Ball - 6th of April 2013 – Less than ONE month to go

Mark your calendars now for the Annual Vancouver Garrison's Military Ball, scheduled once again to be held at the Vancouver Hyatt Regency Hotel. The tariff to attend the Vancouver Military Ball remains unchanged for 2013 at \$110 per person - Tickets must be purchased in advance. To purchase tickets send an email to the address on the poster above to have an order form emailed back to you. We look forward to seeing you there.

Want to book a room at the host hotel for the Military Ball? The Hyatt has again offered a special room rate for our guests and the reservations link is pasted below. The rate is **\$149.00!** As per last year, this rate is *only available by booking on-line via this link*. You will **not** be able to find it if you call the Hyatt 1-800 reservation phone number or try to book via the Hyatt website

On line reservation: <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/mball2013>

The Website is now up and running. For more information go to: www.militaryball.ca



Vancouver Garrison Officers Society

The Military Ball



We invite everyone to attend our

68th Annual Military Ball

to be held at the

Hyatt Regency Hotel

on

April 6, 2013

Tickets - \$110pp

For information about the event and ticket orders please go to:
www.militaryball.ca or contact us at: bcmilitaryball@gmail.com

Whiskey Tasting Fundraiser

The 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA and the 78th Fraser Highlanders welcome you to attend a Fund Raising and Whisky Tasting event at our Armoury. There will be food, draw prizes, and music from the BC Regiment (DCO) Irish Pipes and Drums.

Tickets are \$55.00 per person for those sampling a selection of six excellent Whiskeys selected by the Officers of the Mess, or \$25.00 if you are only having beer, wine, or soft drinks from our No-Host Bar.

Only 50 tickets will be sold for the full whisky fleet!

Dress is business casual. Kilts, of course, are welcome.

DATE: March 23rd, 2013

TIME: 1800 hrs – 2300 hrs

LOCATION: 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA
2025 West 11th Ave Van BC V6J 2C7

TO RESERVE YOUR TICKET CONTACT:

LCol James Barrett

Cell: (604) 916-1766

E-Mail: barrettjd007@gmail.com

All profits will go to the 15th Field Regimental Society to be directed towards the kitchen renovation fund.

Tax receipts will be issued for all donations.

Some tickets still available for the full whiskey fleet but going fast!!!

Latest Happenings at 15 Fd Regt

I received the following from Sgt Donato Calogero last week:

The one constant at our Regiment is change... aside from all the units in Land Force Western Area (Ontario border west) being reformed into Divisions, 15th Field has also received some new kit.



The compound was recently extended to the train tracks so we could get the new truck into it... new gate too!

The Regiment has been issued 81mm mortars and several members just finished a month long

The new MSVS gun tractor got in last week. It's HUGE! You can put the old deuce and a half (2 1/2 ton SMP) in the cargo area and the 8 person crew cab is as long as the MLVW gun tractor the new vehicle is replacing! Together with the 105 mm C3's extended barrel, there needs to be consideration, every time we pull into a platform, hide or harbour, that we can get both the truck and gun out!!



mortar course. You can see the new mortars on either side of the podium in the picture taken at the change of RSM parade a few weeks ago (CWO George Dempsey took over from CWO Walker).

Australia WWII agent Nancy Wake's ashes scattered

The ashes of Australia's most decorated World War II servicewoman, former saboteur and spy Nancy Wake, have been scattered at a ceremony in France.



At one point, Nancy Wake was top of the Gestapo's most wanted list

The service took place in a forest near the village of Verneix, whose mayor attended the ceremony, as did an Australian military representative. Mrs Wake died in 2011 at the age of 98. It had been her wish that her ashes be scattered in the area, where she played a key role in the resistance movement against German occupation. Australia was represented at the ceremony by military attaché Brig Bill Sowry.

"We are here today to pass on our respects, to give her the respect she deserves," Brig Sowry said. "It's great the people of Verneix have done so much to recognise her and make this little part of France part of Australia as well."

The service was far from sombre, the BBC's Chris Bockman reports. Mrs Wake was partial to an early morning gin-and-tonic and after her ashes were scattered, there was - as she had apparently asked for - a drinks reception at the local mayor's office, he says.

'White Mouse'

Mrs Wake was one of the most highly decorated Allied secret agents of World War II. Born in New Zealand but raised in Australia, she is credited with helping hundreds of Allied personnel escape from occupied France.



The German Gestapo named her the "White Mouse" because she was so elusive. The ceremony took place in the grounds of a chateau in central France.

After studying journalism in London, Mrs Wake became a correspondent for the Chicago Tribune in Paris and reported on the rise of Adolf Hitler in Germany. After visiting Vienna in 1933, she vowed to fight against the persecution of Jews.

After the fall of France in 1940, Mrs Wake became a French Resistance courier and later a saboteur and spy - setting up escape routes and sabotaging German installations, saving hundreds of Allied lives.

She worked for British Special Operations and was parachuted into France in April 1944 before D-Day to deliver weapons to French Resistance fighters. At one point, she was top of the Gestapo's most wanted list.

"Freedom is the only thing worth living for. While I was doing that work, I used to think it didn't matter if I died, because without freedom there was no point in living," she once said of her wartime exploits.

It was only after the liberation of France that she learned her husband, French businessman Henri Fiocca, had been tortured and killed by the Gestapo for refusing to give her up. She returned to Australia in 1949, where she failed several times to win a seat in parliament. In 1957 she went back to England, where she married RAF fighter pilot John Forward. Her story inspired Sebastian Faulks' 1999 novel *Charlotte Gray*. A film based on the book, with the lead role played by Australian actress Cate Blanchett, was released in 2001.

Passing of Capt Bert Lincoln CD

I received notice yesterday that Capt (and former RSM) Bert Lincoln CD, BCR, passed away last Friday (March 8th). There will be no service.

Contracting out at DND up by \$500M despite promises to cut

The Canadian Press Posted: Mar 6, 2013

Money spent by National Defence on outside consulting and professional services has increased dramatically, even as the Harper government was warned the practice needed to be curbed. Spending on external contracting rose by \$500 million between 2009 and 2011, the year retired lieutenant-general Andrew Leslie advised the department it could safely cut 30 per cent of those agreements. The contracting figure stood at \$2.7 billion when Leslie, former top army commander, tabled his watershed analysis of how to overhaul the military in 2011. The latest set of government financial estimates shows the number was \$3.2 billion in 2011-12 — and it may be climbing.

A report tabled last week by the parliamentary budget officer suggests the amount could jump higher in the current budget year because National Defence was forced to go back and seek extra spending authority for "professional and special services." An additional \$774 million was pumped into the department in 2012-13 for contracting. That is over and above an extra \$776 million the federal government set aside to pay a class action lawsuit by disabled veterans. Even if the Harper government reduces defence contracting by \$460 million, as promised, it will still be far short of the goals set out in the Leslie report.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay suggested earlier this week that the end of the Afghan training mission in Kabul next year will ease the pressure on the department and reduce the need for outside services.

"We have soldiers, full-time soldiers, regular force soldiers, coming back from Afghanistan, assuming their positions throughout the country, throughout the department, and thus doing less contracting. So, there are savings to be found there," he told the Economic Club of Canada.

With trained soldiers fighting in Kandahar for five years, and later training Afghan forces, the Canadian army was forced to rely on private contractors to carry out some training functions and maintenance services. The trend over the last decade has been to take many of the routine jobs and rear-echelon functions in the military, including repair and overhaul of equipment, and give it to the private sector. The idea was to reserve soldiers for fighting and front-line duties.

In some cases, the decision to replace uniformed and civilian jobs at National Defence with the private sector has been made against the advice of senior military commanders, by federal bureaucrats who say it's the mandate of the Harper government to eliminate public service jobs. New Democrat defence critic Jack Harris said the situation has become "utterly incoherent" and an embarrassment. "They're all over the place when it comes to numbers," he said. "They don't seem to have a handle on this at all." The wind down of the Afghan war means this should be an era of budget savings on contractors, Harris added.

But MacKay insisted in his remarks to the economic club that no stone was being left unturned in the hunt for savings. "We are looking in very painstaking detail at every area of the department in which we can find efficiencies," he said. Private consultants and contractors provide a myriad of services, from emptying garbage pails and mopping floors, all the way to fine-tuning and repairing some of the military's state-of-the-art aircraft. Giant defence contractors also have lucrative professional services contracts, according to public accounts records.

The largest single amount paid out in 2011-12 was to U.S.-based Lockheed Martin, which took in \$175.3 million for a single engineering contract. The company best known in the political world as the builder of the F-35 stealth fighter had six other service and consulting deals with the Canadian government that year. In total, the Defence Department paid \$313.04 million to Lockheed Martin.

Gen Norman Schwarzkopf Buried at West Point

By MICHAEL HILL Associated Press WEST POINT, NY February 28, 2013

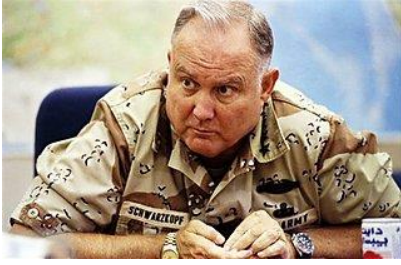
Gen Norman Schwarzkopf, the no-nonsense Desert Storm commander famously nicknamed "Stormin' Norman," graduated from the US Military Academy at West Point, soaking up its values: "Duty, Honor, Country."

He married here. He taught here. And on Thursday he was buried here.

His family and friends joined Kuwaiti officials, former Secretary of State Colin Powell, former Vice President Dick Cheney, gray clad cadets and a detail of New Jersey state troopers for a memorial service in the academy's gothic chapel Thursday afternoon. His remains were buried afterward at the cemetery on the grounds of the storied military institution.

"Norman Schwarzkopf, Class of '56, has come home," Powell said during the service.

Schwarzkopf commanded the US-led international coalition that drove Saddam Hussein's forces out of Kuwait in 1991 when Powell was chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Schwarzkopf was 78 when he died of complications from pneumonia on Dec. 27 in Tampa.



Though lauded as one of the brighter lights of the "Long Gray Line," of West Point cadets and graduates, his daughter recalled him as a loving family man equally at home in palaces and camping tents. While Americans knew him as the no-nonsense man in the desert camouflage, his children remember him dressing as a clown and doing magic tricks for children's parties, Cindy Schwarzkopf said, her voice choked with emotion. Schwarzkopf graduated from West Point in 1956 and later served two tours in Vietnam, first as an adviser to South Vietnamese paratroops and later as a battalion commander in the US Army's Americal Division. While many disillusioned career officers left the military after the war, Schwarzkopf stayed to help usher in institutional reforms. He was named commander in chief of US Central Command at Tampa's MacDill Air Force Base in 1988.

The general's "Stormin' Norman" nickname — a moniker he never was very fond of — became popular in the lead-up to Operation Desert Storm, the six-week aerial campaign that climaxed with a massive ground offensive Feb. 24-28, 1991. Iraqis were routed from Kuwait in 100 hours before US officials called a halt. "When anyone thinks of Desert Storm, they think of Stormin' Norman, The Bear; ... he was a larger than life figure," Powell said.

Schwarzkopf spent his retirement years in Tampa. While he campaigned for President George W Bush in 2000, Schwarzkopf maintained a low profile in the public debate over the second Gulf War against Iraq. Schwarzkopf was buried near his father, Col H Norman Schwarzkopf, the founder and commander of the New Jersey State Police. The academy cemetery also holds the remains of such notable military figures as Gen William Westmoreland, Lt Col George Custer and 1st Lt Laura Walker, who became the first female graduate killed in action when she died in 2005 in Afghanistan.

Schwarzkopf and his wife, Brenda, had three children: Cynthia, Jessica and Christian.

DUES 2013

It's time to pay dues again:

Vancouver Artillery Association – Dues are \$75/yr. Make cheques payable to the Vancouver Artillery Association and send to the Vancouver Artillery Association at the address below.

15 Field Regt Officers Mess – Dues are \$60/yr. Make cheques payable to 15RCA Officers Mess and send to the Associate Members Representative at the address below.

Association and Mess dues to: 2025 West 11th Ave, Vancouver, BC V6J 2C7

RUSI Vancouver – dues are \$25/yr. Make cheques payable to RUSI Vancouver and send to

Keith Freer, 524-666 Leg-in-Boot Square, Vancouver, BC V5Z 4B3. *Note: We will be voting on dues at the upcoming AGM so pay now in case they go up.*

RUSI Vancouver Society AGM

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSITITUTE –
VANCOUVER SOCIETY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the Members of the **Royal United services Institute – Vancouver Society** (the “Society”) will be held at 2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., on Wednesday, the 10th day of April, 2013, at 1330hours, for the following purposes:

1. To receive and approve the report of the Directors of the Society and the financial statements of the Society for the period ended the 31st day of December, 2012.
2. To fix and determine the number of directors.
3. To elect directors for the ensuing year.
4. To appoint Accountants for the ensuing year and to authorize the directors to fix their remuneration.
5. To fix and determine the annual membership dues.
6. To ratify, confirm and approve all acts, deed and things done by the proceedings of the directors and officers of the Society on its behalf since the last Annual General Meeting of the Society.
7. To transact such other business as may properly come before the Meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

DATED at Burnaby, B.C. this 9th day of March, 2013.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Per: _____

Robert Mugford
Secretary

Note: This notice went out last week to all paid up members. If you did not receive it please let me know so I can correct the email list.

St Patrick's Day Party



**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE
BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION'S
ST. PATRICK'S DAY "WEARING OF THE GREEN"**



DATE: SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2013

TIME: 1130 to 1800 hrs

PLACE: Drill Hall - Sergeants' Mess

PRICE: \$15.00 per person if RSVP by March 8
\$20.00 per person after March 8
Deadline March 12



ALL RANKS AND GUESTS ARE WELCOME!

RSVP: by Friday, March 8th to Graydon & Sandra Young at
sandymay@shaw.ca or call 604-543-0368

Please send payment to BCR Association
#208 – 1899 Willingdon Ave.
Burnaby, B.C. V5C 5T1

AGENDA

1130 – 1229hrs	Meet and Greet aka the cash bar is open
1230hrs	Lunch
1315hrs	The fun continues

PRIZES

- Best Wearing of the Green St. Patrick's Day Costume
- Door Prizes
- Lucky Draw/Raffle Prizes
- & More

**WATCH THE ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE – 1100hrs START
AND THEN
JOIN US AFTER FOR A GOOD TIME AND A CHANCE TO GET LUCKY**

Parade route: <http://www.celticfestvancouver.com/parade.php#map>

From the 'Punitary'

I once thought about cloning a new, more efficient brain, but then I realized I was getting ahead of myself.

Murphy's Rules of Combat Operations.

If you can think clearly, know exactly what's happening, and have total control of a situation in combat, then you're not in combat.

Great Truths

Too many people are thinking of security instead of opportunity. They seem more afraid of life than death. - *James F. Byrnes*

Curry Lunch - Ireland



Hosted by:
*The British Columbia
Regiment
Officers' Mess*

Coordinated by:
*The BC Regiment
(DCO) Association*



Date: Thursday, March 28, 2013

Time: 11:45 am - 1:30 pm
(bar opens at 11:45am)
(welcome at 12:15pm)
(lunch starts at 12:20pm)

Location: Officers' Mess - The BC Regiment
620 Beatty Street, Vancouver, BC

Dress: Business Attire (jacket & tie, ladies similar)

Price: \$30/person (\$5 discount for those that confirm
attendance by March 22, 2013)

RSVP: For more information or to register, please contact
Bill Diamond at Bill@DukeaBear.com or 604.618.3607
(Please advise of any dietary needs with your RSVP)

Payment by cheque or cash will be accepted at the door
Cheques are payable to: The BC Regiment (DCO) Association
No cancellations after March 22, 2013

NEXT LUNCH: Thursday, April 25, 2013