

Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News 18 April 2023

Newsletters normally are emailed on Monday evenings. If you don't get a future 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 to let me know you didn't get your copy.

Newsletter online. This newsletter and previous editions are available on the Vancouver Artillery Association website at: 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>

Upcoming events – Mark your calendars

Commemoration Cyprus 2024 – see poster section

- Apr 19** Wed 'Zoom' lunch meeting
Apr 26 Wed 'Zoom' lunch meeting
May 03 Wed 'Zoom' lunch meeting
May 06 **The 2023 Army Gala at the Sheraton Wall Centre** www.militarygala.ca
May 18 **Thursday** lunch at the Mess. Speaker Roddy MacKenzie:-
Bomber Command: Churchill's Greatest Triumph

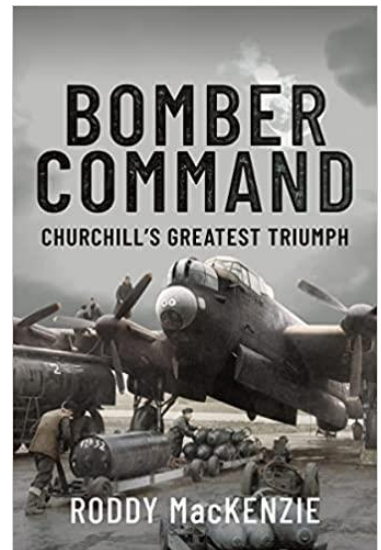
Roddy MacKenzie – Bomber Command: Churchill's Greatest Triumph



Please join us on **Thursday**, 18 May to welcome our next guest speaker, Roddy MacKenzie. He will speak to us about his recently published book on Bomber Command in the Second World War. Roddy MacKenzie's father served with the Royal Canadian Air Force in Bomber Command during the Second World War, but like so many brave veterans who had survived the war, he spoke little of his exploits. When Roddy started on his personal journey to discover something of what his father had achieved, he uncovered a great deal about the devastating effectiveness of Bomber Command and the vital role it played in the defeat of Third Reich. Roddy became a man on a mission, and this revealing, and often personal study, is the result. Bomber

Command: Churchill's Greatest Triumph takes the reader through the early days of the Second World War and introduces all the key individuals who turned the Command into the war-winning weapon it eventually became, as well as detailing the men and machines which flew night after night into the heart of Hitler's Germany.

The main focus of his book is the destruction and dislocation wrought by the bombing to reduce, and ultimately destroy, Germany's ability to make war. In his analysis, Roddy dug deep into German archival material to uncover facts rarely presented to either German or English language readers. These demonstrate that Bomber Command's continual efforts, at appalling cost in aircrew casualties and aircraft losses, did far more damage to the Reich than the Allies knew. Roddy MacKenzie was born and raised in Calgary and educated at the University of Calgary and the University of British Columbia. He was a municipal lawyer acting for municipalities throughout BC, a Queen's Scout, a Seaforth Highlanders Patron and a Life Member of Clan MacKenzie, the Monarchist League of Canada and the Bomber Command Memorial and Museum of Canada. He is also a member of the Churchill Society, Probus, the RAF Club in London, the Air Force Officers and Naval Associations of BC, and the Bomber Command Associations of Australia and New Zealand. *Also available at Amazon.ca for \$48.24*



Thursday (not Wednesday) Lunch – May 18, 2023

Lunch will consist of Roast Beef (Sirloin Tip), mashed potatoes (with gravy), mixed carrots and peppers with a small selection of desserts. The bar will be open as usual. Lunch will be restricted to 30 attendees. (If there is a good response that limit may be raised to 40.)

Lunch starts at **1200hrs**, and Roddy MacKenzie's presentation will take place in the lecture room at **1315hrs**.

Cost will be \$25 per person. **Reservations and payment in advance is required.**

Those wishing to attend must RSVP HLCol Don Foster @ dgfoster60@gmail.com

Prepayment for lunch tickets required by May 5, 2023.

E-transfer may be made to: 15rca100th@gmail.com

If you cannot e-transfer please make payment arrangements in advance with HLCol Don Foster. There will be no cash or credit card option available at the door.

For further information, contact HLCol Don Foster at (604)809-6242 or dgfoster60@gmail.com
or –

Colonel (Retired) Keith Maxwell at (604) 865-0612 or kdmawell@gmail.com

Luminaries Call on Ottawa to Stop Backsliding on National Defence

Political and military luminaries' letter says 'business as usual' won't be enough to cope with a more dangerous world. *Murray Brewster · CBC News · Apr 17, 2023*



NATO Sec Gen Jens Stoltenberg and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau arrive in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, on Aug. 25, 2022. A letter signed by members of Canada's political and military elite say Canada can no longer afford to give short shrift to national security. (Jason Franson/The Canadian Press)

More than 60 of this country's former top security officials, military commanders and politicians — along with a former top Supreme Court justice — have signed an open letter imploring the Liberal government to take national security and defence more seriously. The letter was released Monday by the Conference of Defence Associations Institute (CDAI). It includes the signatures of five former Liberal and Conservative defence ministers, nine former chiefs of the defence staff, four former ambassadors, two former top national security and intelligence advisers, a former director of the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service (CSIS), business leaders and former chief justice of the Supreme Court Beverley McLachlin. "There is no more important responsibility for the federal government than protecting Canadians against all threats — foreign and domestic," says the letter, a copy of which was obtained by CBC News. "Now is the time to fully discharge the commitments we have made to our allies and partners in sharing the burden of the collective security, commitments which are essential to safeguard our peace, prosperity and way of life."

While the criticism is mostly aimed at the current Liberal government, the letter acknowledges that successive governments since the end of the Cold War have reduced Canada's emphasis on defence and foreign policy. "Among the most important responsibilities of the federal government is the need to protect the safety and security of its citizens, defend Canadian sovereignty and maintain our territorial integrity," says the letter. "However, in recent decades, issues of national security and defence are rarely treated as a priority other than in times of great peril." Jens Stoltenberg, Secretary General of NATO, recently signaled the military alliance's upcoming leaders summit in Vilnius, Lithuania would reset allied expectations about defence spending in light of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and rising tensions with China.

NATO Sec Gen Jens Stoltenberg has signalled the alliance is going to start expecting more from its members when it comes to military spending. (Jonas Ekstromer/TT News Agency via AP)



Stoltenberg said members are quickly coming to regard the NATO benchmark for members' defence spending — two per cent of the gross domestic product — as the "floor, not the ceiling." The open letter says, "Canada cannot afford to conduct 'business as usual'" and strongly encourages Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his cabinet to "lead and act with a sense of urgency" and accelerate the timelines for the purchase of new equipment. Last month, NATO published an annual report that shows Canada's defence spending amounted to just 1.29 per cent of GDP in fiscal 2022-2023. Critically, the letter said the federal government needs to invest in improving the ability of the Department of National Defence (DND) "to spend its budget in an expeditious and timely manner." For years, DND has been unable to spend its full appropriation, with tens of billions of dollars going unspent since the end of the Afghan war. Under the former Conservative government, that money used to lapse back to the federal treasury. The Liberals changed the rules to allow the department to keep more of the cash until it's ready to spend it.

The Canadian Press recently uncovered an internal DND report that said roughly 30 per cent of the department's military procurement positions — 4,200 jobs — were vacant at the end of May last year. Separately, almost a decade ago, an independent study by the Conference of Defence Associations Institute (CDAI) and the MacDonald-Laurier Institute said that cuts introduced by the Liberal government under Jean Chretien in the 1990s gutted the military's equipment-buying branch, while the Conservatives did nothing to fix the problem after winning power. Retired Lieutenant General Guy Thibault, the chair of the CDAI, said the decision was made to draft the letter after the government decided recently to open up the defence policy review to public consultation, further pushing back its delivery for what might be a year.



Minister of Foreign Affairs Melanie Joly has said decisions about Canada's military spending will have to wait for the completion of the defence policy review. (Justin Tang/The Canadian Press)

Foreign Affairs Minister Mélanie Joly said recently that decisions on whether Canada would aspire to meet the NATO spending target would be made in the aftermath of the policy review, which is supposed to look at Canada's defence posture both overseas and at home. Thibault said the policy update is being delayed during a time of great peril for global peace and security due to the threats posed by China and Russia. He said authoritarian regimes are continuing their military expansion and are willing to use force to achieve their aims. "The recent federal budget was largely a summary of previous announcements without any acknowledgement that the government must accelerate program spending," he said. Thibault pointed to the non-partisan nature of the letter and its criticism.

Last fall, the recipient of CDAI's annual Vimy Award, retired lieutenant-general Michel Maisonneuve, delivered a blistering acceptance speech that many interpreted as a thinly veiled attack on the Liberal government. In it, he railed against divisive leaders, cancel culture and the sorry state of the Canadian military. The CDAI, which bills itself as non-partisan, distanced itself

from Maisonneuve's remarks, saying they did not reflect the institute's views. Thibault said he hopes the Liberal government will consider seriously the letter's expression of deep concern for the future security of the country.

Russian T-90 Tank Left at US Truck Stop

The Russian T-90A tank taken off the battlefield in Ukraine appears to be headed to the Aberdeen Test Center. Howard Altman, Joseph Trevithick *The War Zone* Apr 14, 2023



Courtesy of Reddit user Mutantlight

Thanks to a shipping label on the barrel of the main gun of a Russian T-90A tank that wound up at a Louisiana truck stop, we now have an idea where it came from and where it may have been headed before the truck hauling it broke down Tuesday night, leaving it sitting at Peto's Travel

Center and Casino. The shipping label, photographs of which were shared with us by Louisiana resident John Phelps, shows it was sent from an organization called the “multinational assessment field team” with the port of embarkation listed as Gdynia, Poland. Its port of destination was Beaumont, Texas, about 90 miles west of where the tank wound up. The "ultimate consignee" on the label is Building 358, 6850 Lanyard Rd, Aberdeen Proving Ground. That's the home of the US Army Aberdeen Test Center (ATC).

This shipping label on the barrel of the T-90A tank provides details of where it came from and where it was headed. It shows This shows the "ultimate consignee" is the Army's Aberdeen Test Center in Maryland. And the "ultimate consignee" is the Army's Aberdeen Test Center in Maryland. (Courtesy of John Phelps)



According to its website, ATC's mission is to:

- Provide test, and test support, services for authorized customers within and outside of DoD, including Government and non-Government organizations, domestic, and foreign.
- Perform comprehensive test and training, both real and simulated.
- Exploit emerging technologies.
- Develop leading-edge instrumentation and test methodologies.

Today, "ATC is the Defense Department's lead agency for land-combat, direct-fire, and live-fire vulnerability testing," according to ATC. "ATC is a multi-purpose test center with diverse capabilities. It has become a world-class testing, training, modeling, simulation, and experimentation facility that gives American Warfighters superior materiel and technology." As

an example of what ATC does, in 2019, we wrote about how the Army was going to blow up an old 747 there to test the vulnerabilities of commercial aircraft to explosives. Given all that, it makes sense the T-90A, which open-source intelligence investigators say was captured by Ukraine from Russia last September and appears to be the one seen in this video below, would wind up at ATC. But how much can be learned from the tank is unclear. The T-90A, which had damaged front and rear fenders, is fairly modern by Russian standards, having been produced in 2004, according to the Warspotting.net OSINT group. However, as we reported yesterday, the pictures shared with us by Reddit user Mutantlight and Cody Sellers, a manager at Peto's Travel Center and Casino in Roanoke, Louisiana, show that the tank is clearly not fully kitted out. But it did have some explosive reactive armor (ERA) containers on the turret. It also had the "dazzlers" at least, still fitted from the Shtora-1 self-protection system. Its various machine guns have been removed.



(Courtesy of Reddit user Mutantlight)

It also notably lacks some Western fire control components, which some T-90As have been equipped with in the past. We had several questions for ATC as

well as Army headquarters in the Pentagon. Among them what the tank will be used for, how it got into the US, where it was headed, details about the tank's battle history, whether there were security concerns about it being left for days at a truck stop and whether the ERA containers were inert or contained explosives. Friday afternoon, an ATC spokesperson referred our questions to Army headquarters and Army officials we reached out to yesterday and today have not yet provided any information.

Also unclear is which company was delivering the tank when its truck broke down, leading to the layover at Peto's. Officials at AAA Logistics of Dayton, Ohio, the name of the company on the cab of the truck that picked it up last night at about 8:00 pm local time, did not return messages seeking comment. Sellers, the truck stop manager, told us one of the drivers told him the truck was headed for Maryland. This is the state where the Aberdeen Test Center is located in. Phelps said when he asked the truck driver if it was headed to Aberdeen based on the label, the driver said, "yeah, how did you know that?" and told him it was headed to Maryland. So, while we have some answers about where the tank appears to be headed, many more questions remain unanswered. Whether this vehicle will be used for destructive testing — such as testing weaponry against it — or to familiarize troops with foreign equipment, or some other sort of foreign materiel exploitation (FME) use, we just can't say at this time.

US Run Outpost in Greenland Renamed Pituffik Space Base

Thule no more. *Rachel S Cohen USAF News Apr 10, 2023*

Thule Air Base, the US run ballistic missile-warning site in Greenland, was renamed ‘*Pituffik Space Base*’ in an April 6 ceremony at America’s northernmost military installation. Pituffik (pronounced “bee-doo-FEEK,” according to the Space Force) is the latest base with a military space mission to receive a new name since the US Space Force was established in December 2019. Most space-focused installations, like *Patrick Space Force Base* in Florida or *Vandenberg Space Force Base* in California, have dropped the “Air Force Base” moniker for new management. Pituffik — the traditional Greenlandic name of the region — is the first Space Force installation to get a completely different title. “This renaming represents our wish to celebrate and acknowledge the rich cultural heritage of Greenland and its people and how important they are to the sustainment of this installation against the harsh environment north of the Arctic Circle,” Chief of Space Operations Gen Chance Saltzman said at the ceremony, according to a press release.



Clouds roll over the Thule Tracking Station, known as callsign "POGO," operated by the 23rd Space Operations Squadron, Detachment 1, at Thule Air Base, Greenland, Aug 11, 2022. The detachment's extreme northern location allows contact with polar orbiting satellites 10-12 times per day ranging in altitude from 120 miles to 24,800 miles above the earth's surface. (Paul Honnick/Space Force)

Situated about 750 miles north of the Arctic Circle on Greenland’s remote northwest coast, Pituffik has grown increasingly important to the United States as global powers jockey for military and economic influence in the Arctic. The Space Force guardians who work there protect the US homeland against ballistic missile strikes and identify objects in a growing field of space debris. “Crews operate the Upgraded Early Warning Radar weapon system, a phased-array radar that detects and reports attack assessments of sea-launched and intercontinental ballistic missile threats in support of strategic missile warning and missile defense,” the Space Force’s website says of the 12th Space Warning Squadron. “Additionally, the radar supports space domain awareness by tracking and characterizing objects in orbit around the earth.” Around 150 people are stationed at Pituffik. Troops must reach the base — which is surrounded by ice for nine months each year — on specialized C-130 transport planes equipped with skis.

US to Fast-Track Abrams Tanks for Ukraine by Choosing Older Version

Joe Gould and Jen Judson Defense News Mar 21, 2023



Members of the US Army 1st Division, 9th Regiment, 1st Battalion unload heavy combat equipment, including Abrams tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles, near the Pabrade military base in Lithuania on Oct. 21, 2019. The future of Baltic defense plans will be on the agenda during a meeting of NATO leaders on Dec 4, 2019, in London.

(Photo by Petras Malukas/AFP via Getty Images)

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon announced it will speed up its delivery of Patriot missiles and M1 Abrams tanks to Ukraine, opting to send a refurbished older model that can be ready faster and reach Ukrainian troops fighting Russia’s invasion force by this fall. The original plan was to send Ukraine 31 of the newer M1A2 Abrams, which could have taken a year or two to build and ship. But Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has approved new plans to send the older M1A1 version from Army stocks, which will be easier for Ukrainian forces to learn to use and maintain as they fight Russia’s invasion. “DoD, in close coordination with Ukraine, made the decision to buy the M1A1 variant which will enable us to significantly expedite delivery timelines, and deliver this important capability to Ukraine by the fall of this year,” said the Pentagon’s press secretary, Brig Gen Patrick Ryder.

The US will refurbish excess M1 hulls and ship them as the M1A1 SA variant, outfitting the 70-ton behemoths with 120mm cannons and 50-caliber machine guns. Poland in January signed a contract for 250 M1A2 Abrams SEPV3 tanks; US Defense Department officials could not immediately say how they planned to juggle the Ukraine purchase and foreign military sales. The Pentagon is committed to training Ukrainian troops on using and maintaining the tanks, but no details or timeline were forthcoming on Tuesday. Separately, Patriot surface-to-air guided missile defense systems will be deployed to Ukraine faster than originally planned, Ryder said. That’s because Ukrainian soldiers will complete their training on the systems at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, faster than scheduled. The US pledged one Patriot battery in December, and Germany pledged an additional Patriot battery. US President Joe Biden announced in January he would send 31 General Dynamics Land Systems-made tanks to Ukraine, reversing course after Germany cleared the way for Europe to send its own main battle tanks.

Ukrainian leaders have pressed for the Abrams to strengthen their defenses in anticipation of Russia mounting a spring offensive, and earlier this year Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that August would be “too late” for the weapons to make a difference. After visiting the Abrams factory in Lima, Ohio, Rep Mike Quigley, D-Ill., who co-chairs the Ukraine

Caucus, criticized the Biden administration's pace in deciding to send tanks to Ukraine. "To folks who think I'm being too strong," Quigley said, "what do you want the Ukrainians to do? Hurl rocks at the Russian tanks?"

Army officials were saying publicly for weeks that they were wrestling with faster options, once the decision had been made, but it was tough. "A tank by itself is not a military capability. You have to send the whole package, and that includes ammunition, vehicles to maintain it, fuel, and you have to do the training on the system so that it can be sustained in combat," Army acquisition chief Doug Bush said at a Defense News webinar earlier this month. "Efforts are underway to do it as quickly as possible." Beyond concerns about how quickly the tanks will arrive, it's unclear whether they will arrive in large enough numbers to make a difference. Thirty-one tanks is enough to outfit three tank companies, said retired Maj. Gen. Patrick Donahoe, former commander of the Army's Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, Georgia. "They need brigades, not companies. Right now, we're seeing this kind of 'drip, drip' with platoons and companies," Donahoe said. "If you only give them one battalion, you don't give them the capability to overmatch the Russians, which a number of Western-style armored brigades would give them."

Vancouver Gunners Website Update

Yorke Island Adventure

Yorke Island Trip confirmed for April 21-24. Still looking for some adventurous types.

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yorke-island-venture>

Domestic Operations bar on the Special Service Mission

The petition appears stalled at 160 and needs to reach 500! Have you got family and friends interested in supporting a proposal to recognize those soldiers that have assisted in battling forest fires and floods? This could be a great incentive for recruiting and retention. Remember, serving Canadians are not allowed to sign parliamentary petitions, but their family members can.

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/house-of-commons-e-petition>

Special Guest Night 2004

Peter Moogk has sent in some more photos from his personal collection. These are from the St. Barbara's Day dinner on 04 December 2004 (19 years ago!).

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/st-barbara-2004.html>

Honour House - Tour of Honour

Honorary Colonel Al Degenova's Honour House sets off on a Tour of Honour through the province. <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-update-2023>

Yearbook Update - 2017 - Vimy Ridge Commemoration

Three more photos have been added to the 100 round salute fired at Fort Rod Hill by the Gunners of 15th Field Artillery Regiment and the 5th (BC) Field Artillery Regiment

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-update-2017-vimy-ridge-commemoration>

Yearbook Update 2023 - HMCS Winnipeg

Earlier this year, the brigade Honoraries enjoyed a tour of HMCS Winnipeg at CFB Esquimalt provided by Commander Annick Fortin and her command team.

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-update-2023-hmcs-winnipeg>

Our zoom channel will be open on Wednesday from noon at <https://zoom.us/j/6802412956> and the secret passcode is pFPey6. **Remember – Stay healthy and stay safe!**

Who (or What) Is It?

Last Week: The *Trent Affair* was a diplomatic incident in 1861 during the American Civil War.



On November 8, 1861, USS *San Jacinto*, commanded by Union Captain Charles Wilkes, intercepted the British mail packet RMS *Trent* and removed, as contraband of war, two Confederate envoys: James Murray Mason and John Slidell. The envoys were bound for Britain and France to press the Confederacy's case for diplomatic recognition and to lobby for possible financial and military support. Public reaction in the United States was to celebrate the capture and rally against Britain, threatening war. In the Confederate states, the hope was that the incident would lead to a permanent rupture in Anglo-American relations and possibly even war, or at least diplomatic recognition by Britain. Confederates realized their cause potentially depended on

intervention by Britain and France.

In Britain, there was widespread disapproval of this violation of neutral rights and insult to their national honor. The British government demanded an apology and the release of the prisoners and took steps to strengthen its military forces in British North America and the North Atlantic. President Abraham Lincoln and his top advisors did not want to risk war with Britain over this issue. After several tense weeks, the crisis was resolved when the Lincoln administration released the envoys and disavowed Captain Wilkes's actions, although without a formal apology. Mason and Slidell resumed their voyage to Europe.

The action in the engraving shows British troops, in early 1862, rushing to reinforce the garrisons in the two Canadas. They arrived by ship to Halifax, and then, because the St Lawrence was frozen, used sleds to across the Maritimes.

This Week: The history of motor vehicles in the armed forces of the world goes back to the second half of the 19th century, with steam tractors, such as was featured a few weeks ago. Naturally, with the convenience of the internal combustion engine on offer, more and more types of vehicles entered service, eventually sending Old Dobbin and his friends to the glue factory. All of our well-educated readers, and that includes most of you, save for the ones who just look at the pictures, know of the ubiquitous “Jeep” of Second World War fame. It served in various models for decades and is still to be seen at collectors’ events. In fact, the author’s father’s first post-war automobile was a jeep, still in service, that was given to him for his personal use. The

only drawback was that no one could ever find the canvas top for it, so some of my early memories are of bracing journeys around Prince Edward Island in the winter. Nonetheless, I survived, and my mother just.

The Canadian Armed Forces, ever on the alert to purchase the very best kit for our troops, regardless of cost, replaced the last model of the Jeep with the mighty Iltis, one of which can be seen on the floor of Bessborough Armoury, resplendent in its NATO green. Other nations took different routes, with our southern neighbour adopting the HUMVEE, while our traditional ally, the United Kingdom, went first with the Austin Champion, then, having learned why Austins are no longer on the market, settled on various models of the Land Rover. These can be seen to this day in Vancouver, being driven to and from schools and shopping malls, tasks in which they excel.



However, there are other makes, and other users. This week's photo displays the charms of one of the smaller ones, which nonetheless can obviously accommodate quite a crowd. But what is this vehicle, and who are these ladies. Is this the MT pool of the Women's Brigade of Death? Probably not, as they were a Russian Civil War unit, and this seems to date from a later time. If

you know the auto, and the ladies, let us know by contacting the editor, Bob Mugford (bob.mugford@gmail.com), or the author, John Redmond (johnd.redmond@telus.net).

From the 'Punitary'

What did the juicer do to the lemons? Gave them some ade.

Murphy's Other Laws

When a junior officer says "They'll never expect this" it means "I want to try something stupid".

Quotable Quotes

To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift. - *Steve Prefontaine*

Wednesday Digital Video Lunch

No need to worry about COVID-19 when you go digital. Pop into our video lunch **at noon** on Wednesdays and say hi. All you need is a laptop, tablet or smartphone. These sessions are being hosted by the Vancouver Artillery Association and are **open to all – especially those who attended our Wednesday lunches.**

Join us to check up on your old lunch buddies.

<https://zoom.us/j/6802412956> and the secret passcode is pFPey6



Zoom is the leader in modern enterprise video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, chat, and webinars across mobile, desktop, and room systems. Zoom Rooms is the original software-based conference room solution used around the world in board, conference, huddle, and training rooms, as well as executive offices and classrooms. Founded in 2011, Zoom helps businesses and organizations bring their teams together in a frictionless environment to get more done. Zoom is a publicly traded company headquartered in San

Jose, CA.

Invite 2 friends! We have room for 100! See you on Wednesdays at noon. Bring your own lunch and beverage of choice.

BC Military Gala 2023

BC Military Gala 2023 - SATURDAY MAY 6, 2023

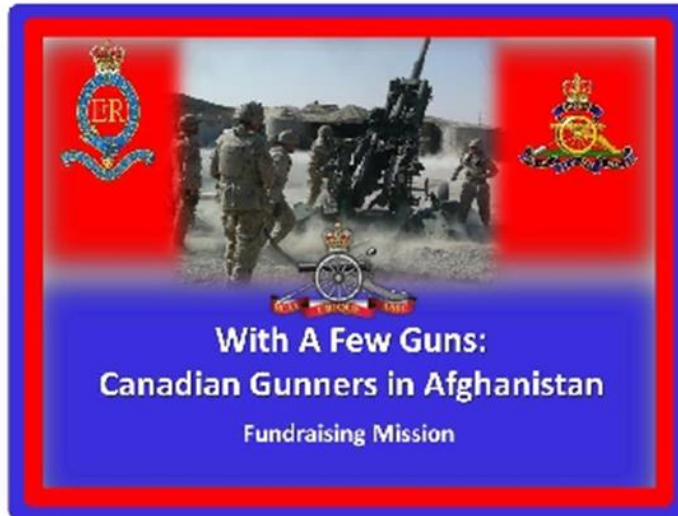


We are please to provide notice that the annual BC Military Gala is back after a three-year hiatus due to Covid. The ball will be held at Vancouver's Sheraton Wall Centre Hotel. 1800 for 1900hrs.

www.militarygala.ca

With a Few Guns

“With a Few Guns” Calling For Support! Donate Now!



With a Few Guns will be an accounting of the contribution Canadian Gunners made to operations in Afghanistan from initial deployment in 2002 until withdrawal in March 2014. The book will not be an “official history” but will tell the story of the approximately 3,000 Gunners who served in Afghanistan, Regular Force and Reserves, in any and all positions, in any and all functions, as well as the stories of commanders and supported arms, and Gunner families.

We have three accomplished and exceptional authors:

Lieutenant-Colonel (Retired) Brian Reid

Colonel (Retired) Wolf Riedel

Mr. Mark Zuehlke

We are launching this fundraising initiative to cover expenses and get the book published, while keeping the price affordable. *With a Few Guns* is being written with the backing of the RCA Association, and all donations will be eligible for a tax receipt. Any monies donated in excess of what is needed will remain with the RCAA for support to the causes as espoused by the RCAA.

Our MISSION is to raise \$75,000 (+)

Questions may be directed to: WithAFewGuns@gmail.com

To Donate:

Go to: <https://rca-arc.org/>

Scroll down to: **Donate**

Go to : The Royal Canadian Artillery Association

Then donate to: RCAA Donation "With a Few Guns"

Commemoration Cyprus 2024



Commemoration Chypre 2024



Commemoration Cyprus 2024



Mission

...commémorer la contribution du Canada à la mission de l'ONU à Chypre à l'occasion du 50e anniversaire de la guerre de 1974.

...commemorate Canada's contribution to the UN mission in Cyprus on the 50th anniversary of the 1974 war.



WHAT - Cyprus 2024 Pilgrimage.

GOAL - to capture the history and stories from those who served in Cyprus with emphasis on the actions that took place during the 1974 war, **A FORGOTTEN WAR.**

WHEN - November 2024.

WHO - All Cyprus and Canadian Airborne Regiment Veterans and family members.

WHERE - Nicosia Cyprus, lodged at the Hilton Hotel.

COST - Pay as you go trip with individual costs in the \$5000 to 6000 range. Costs covered will include airfare, hotel with breakfast and expenses such as transportation.

TRAVEL - Will be arranged by professional travel agents, with pre and post tour travel options available.

PROGRAM - Seven days: three days of battlefield tours, three days of excursions, and one day of Remembrance.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND UPDATES ARE AVAILABLE BY JOINING THE CYPRUS 2024 FACEBOOK GROUP [Cyprus2024 | Facebook](#)

QUOI - Pèlerinage à Chypre 2024.

OBJECTIF - capturer l'histoire et les récits de ceux qui ont servi à Chypre en mettant l'accent sur les actions qui ont eu lieu là pendant la guerre de 1974, **UNE GUERRE OUBLIÉE.**

QUAND - Novembre 2024.

QUI - Tous les vétérans de Chypre, du Régiment aéroporté canadien et les membres de leurs familles.

OÙ - Nicosie Chypre, logés à l'hôtel Hilton.

COÛT - Voyage à la carte avec des coûts individuels inclus, environ \$5000 et 6000. Les coûts comprendront le billet d'avion, l'hôtel avec petit-déjeuner et les dépenses telles que le transport.

VOYAGE - Sera organisé par des agents de voyage professionnels, avec options de voyage avant et après la réunion.

PROGRAMME - Sept jours: trois jours de visites du champ de bataille, trois jours d'excursions et une journée du Souvenir.

PLUS D'INFORMATIONS ET MISES À JOUR SONT DISPONIBLES EN REJOIGNANT LE GROUPE FACEBOOK CYPRUS 2024 [Cyprus2024 | Facebook](#)

