



Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News Nov 1, 2016

Newsletter on line. 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>

Wednesday Lunches Mrs Lum serves an excellent meal. Anybody who has attended will attest to the fact that the quality of the meal is top notch and you get soup, salad, main course, dessert, cheese and crackers and coffee/tea for \$20 – you won't find a better meal or deal anywhere else in town. Jacket and tie required, equivalent for ladies.

Navy lunch – 30 Nov:

Upcoming events – Mark your calendars Details to follow in future editions

- Nov 11 - Remembrance Day
- Dec 3 - St Barbara's Day Special Guest night. *See invitation at end of newsletter*
- Dec 11 - Christmas Tea
- Jan 1 - New Year's Levée
- Feb 11 - Regimental reunion dinner

World War 2 - 1941

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

November 1941: Armageddon Outside Moscow

In late November 1941, when the Germans were standing at the gates of Moscow, the entire 2nd Gorki Automobile and Motorcycle Academy wrote a letter to Stalin with a request to send us to the front. Just two days later we received a telegram from Stalin, in which he thanked us for our readiness, but noted that the Motherland would need us later, and also demanded that we study harder and prepared for the coming battles better. The main message that we read between the lines in this telegram was that Moscow would not be surrendered to the Germans, and that was the main thing. Aleksandr Mikhailovich Fadin, interview for Drabkin and Sheremet, T-34 in Action.

General: Improvements in air protection for convoys and rough weather results in another drop in Allied shipping losses: 104,000 tons are lost, with the U-boats accounting for 60% of it. RAF bomber command continues to attack German cities and sometimes has 10% losses per raid. British attacks on Axis shipping in the Mediterranean cut supplies reaching Rommel by over 55%.

Nov 1st: The key to the Crimea, Simferopol, is opened by the Wehrmacht. The Germans start (and calls off the persecution of the Church).

Nov 2nd: The US Coast Guard is placed under control of the US Navy for the duration of the ‘emergency’.

Nov 3rd: The Wehrmacht takes Kursk, and is engaged in a furious battle with the aggressive but inept defenders of Tikhvin, on the railway line 200 km east of Leningrad. Tikhvin is the furthest penetration by Army Group North. The Soviet 3rd Army launches at attack on Guderian’s flank near Tula – a spoiling offensive, seeing as the Soviet force is far weaker than the German one.

Nov 5th: The Japanese decide to continue negotiations with the Americans (who are adamant about the Tripartite Pact and the Japanese presence in China).

Nov 6th: Roosevelt announces the loan of 1\$Billion to the USSR and the USS Omaha captures a German blockade runner. Stalin makes an appeal for the defence of “Holy Russia”

Nov 8th: The nadir of the RAF’s early night bombing campaign. Weather, crew error and German defences claim 37 of 400 bombers this night. The RAF is losing bomber crews faster than they are killing German civilians (or chickens and cows – night bombing is still extremely inaccurate).

BC Expands Job Protection For Canadian Military Reservists

David Pugliese, Ottawa Citizen October 27, 2016



Brigadier General Rob Roy MacKenzie, Chief of Staff Army Reserve, inspects the quarter guard upon his arrival at the Seaforth Armoury in Vancouver BC, on September 24, 2016. Capt Jim Tempest and the Band of the 15th Field in the background.

Photo: Bombardier Albert Law, 39 CBG Public Affairs LW2016-0007

British Columbia’s government says it has expanded job-protected leave for Canadian military reserve forces in the province to cover leave for military training. The leave expansion was announced Thursday by BC Premier

Christy Clark at Canadian Forces Base Comox on Vancouver Island.

The change will allow reservists unpaid leave from their civilian jobs for up to 20 days-per-year for training activities, according to the BC government. The government noted that unpaid leave for reservists is already provided for, if:

- reservists are deployed outside of Canada;
- engaged in pre- or post- deployment activities either inside or outside Canada, or
- deployed to a domestic operation dealing with an emergency.

Bids for Warships Delayed Over Amount of Canadian Content

David Pugliese, Ottawa Citizen October 12, 2016



HMCS Athabaskan returns to Halifax on October 30, 2014. The Canadian Press/Andrew Vaughan

OTTAWA — The Liberal government’s plan to accept bids for the navy’s future warships has been delayed because of a battle over the amount of Canadian content needed and the decision to allow into the competition a British design that exists only on paper. Bids were to be requested from companies in August. But a government spokesman now says the request is expected to go out to

companies sometime “in the fall” although no specific date was given. The bid package, called a request for proposals or RFP, has gone through various drafts, the latest handed to industry representatives on Sunday for comments. It is estimated that the new ships, called Canadian Surface Combatants, will cost more than \$26 billion and will be the backbone of the Royal Canadian Navy’s future fleet.

The project has seen repeated delays with the navy at one time expecting the ships by 2015. The vessels are now planned for delivery sometime in the early 2020s. Procurement Minister Judy Foote had said only designs from ships already in service or mature existing designs would be accepted because it would mean less risk and the vessels could be built faster. But industry sources say the government has now decided to consider a British warship that has yet to be built. Nicolas Boucher, spokesman for Public Services and Procurement Canada, said companies will have until Friday to provide their comments on the final RFP. “Once the industry feedback has been assessed and any resulting revisions made, the formal RFP will be released to the prequalified firms in fall 2016,” he stated. Industry sources say the government is facing a dilemma as it wants to have the maximum amount of Canadian content possible but at the same time a proven, existing design. Such designs already have on-board systems functioning and suppliers selected. It becomes a challenge to take out existing working systems and replace them with Canadian ones. Other company officials have questioned attempts by some government officials to change the bid package to allow the Type 26 ship from the British firm BAE. Under the previous rules outlined in the draft RFP, the ship design was to have been completed and reviewed by the government purchasing the vessel, in this case the United Kingdom. Industry sources say that hasn’t been done.

The United Kingdom has so far balked at signing a deal for the Type 26. British defence secretary Michael Fallon said last month he won't sign a contract for the ship until he is persuaded it's in the best interests of UK taxpayers and will provide value for money. The move to rewrite portions of the Canadian bid package to allow for the Type 26 have sparked concern among some competitors about whether bureaucrats favour the vessel even though it exists only on paper. Boucher stated in an email that BAE has been prequalified as a warship designer. Bids will be evaluated by Irving Shipbuilding Inc. and the government of Canada, he added. BAE official Anne Healey said the company can't comment on the criteria used to outline the maturity of a ship design. "We are confident that we will be able to compete for the Canadian Surface Combatant and we are looking forward to competing in a fair and open competition," she added. Healey said that steel is expected to be cut on the Type 26 ships starting next year.

US 'Stealth Takeover' of Canada's Largest Space Tech Company

David Pugliese, Ottawa Citizen October 16, 2016



A rendering of RADARSAT 2 satellite, operated by iconic Canadian space company MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates. The company's operations are now controlled by a US corporation.

An iconic Canadian space company, once the subject of an unprecedented move by the federal government to stop its sale to a US firm, now has its operations controlled by an American corporation. Eight years ago, the Conservative government took the highly unusual step of blocking the sale of the British Columbia-based MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates, also known as MDA, to Alliant Techsystems of Minneapolis. Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government intervened, saying the sale, which brought with it robotic arm technology and the high-tech Radarsat-2 satellite developed with money from Canadian taxpayers, was not of benefit to the country. The Conservatives were concerned about the US controlling such a key Canadian aerospace and defence firm. But over the last six months MDA, Canada's largest space company, has on its own significantly altered its corporate makeup to bring it within the US orbit. Its new chief executive officer, Howard Lance, is a US citizen who now operates the company from its San Francisco headquarters. SSL MDA Holdings, Inc., registered as a

corporation in Delaware, is now the operating company for all MDA businesses, both in the US and Canada, the firm has announced.

On Oct 3, the company made a series of new senior appointments, bringing in a retired US Air Force general with a background in space operations as well as a former US defence intelligence official who had worked for the CIA. “What you’re seeing is a stealth takeover of sensitive technology that Canadian taxpayers paid for,” said Steve Staples, vice president of the Rideau Institute in Ottawa, which was instrumental in the 2008 battle to stop the US purchase of MDA’s space division. “The very thing that the Conservative government was worried about has happened.” But Don Osborne, who is responsible for MDA’s Canadian operations, said the company remains firmly Canadian. He acknowledged the Canadian and US operations are now controlled by a US corporation but pointed out that there are no changes to the way business is being done in Canada. The company still has its head office in Vancouver and is traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange, he added. “From a management perspective, I have a boss who I report to who is in the United States,” said Osborne, president of MDA’s information systems group. “Companies have very complicated legal structures for all sorts of reasons.” Osborne said MDA has been very open about its need to expand and make inroads into the US market. What you’re seeing is a stealth takeover of sensitive technology that Canadian taxpayers paid for. “Part of the targeting of a US market was to bring in management that can better access that market and we would structure ourselves legally in a way which would allow us to better access that market,” he explained.

Chuck Black, an analyst in Toronto who operates a website dealing with commercial space activities, said Canada is losing control of its domestic space industry. Earlier this year, Canada’s second largest space company, COM DEV, was purchased by a US firm, Honeywell International, he pointed out. “You have one company that has been bought outright by Americans,” Black explained. “A second has reorganized so it is now operated out of the United States.” Black said MDA’s actions are aimed at winning lucrative US military and government contracts, something its Canadian pedigree had hindered. But both Black and Staples say MDA’s initiative has security implications for Canada. US law is now governing vital Canadian security and space assets. Black pointed out the US government was able to delay for years the launch of Canada’s Radarsat-2 surveillance spacecraft over its concerns about the type of data it would collect. As part of the ongoing dispute, the US government prevented American technology from being used in the satellite and Canada had to rely on other nations for components.

Staples said MDA’s restructuring gives the US government more control over the firm’s technology and how it is used. “The company executives can say all they want about being Canadian, but the fact remains that US national security interests apply to American companies and their subsidiaries wherever they are,” he explained. “So US law is now governing vital Canadian security and space assets.” MDA operates the Radarsat-2 satellite and is involved in other key Canadian space-related projects. It is also building a new generation of surveillance satellites for Canada. After announcing the decision in April 2008 to stop the sale to Alliant

Techsystems, then industry minister Jim Prentice said concerns over the transfer of Radarsat-2 technology to a US company played a major role in the Conservative government's decision.

Veteran Creates Coffee to Sustain Project that Helps Veterans



The War Horse Project (TWHP), an organization, focused on helping veterans and first responders overcome Operational Stress Injuries through equine therapy, has found an innovative way to generate funds and help even more veterans: coffee. TWHP has teamed up with the creators of SNARK (Sustainable Network of Artisan Roasted Koffie) to offer five blends and nine regional roasts. Priced between \$15.95 and \$19.95 the regional coffees come from Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Sumatra, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Peru. Blends include three Vienna roasts, a French roast, and a Swiss Water Processed Decaf. In addition, two blends were created just for the TWHP: “Bloggin’s Brew” and “Master Jacked,” designed to meet the needs of military personnel and their palates. “Our coffee offerings change with the seasons, as coffee is a crop, not a can of pop,” said Kim Berry, an artisan coffee roaster and co-founder of SNARK.

SNARK was also co-created by Jeff Lehoux, a veteran who was faced with a career-ending injury in 2005 while deployed to Afghanistan. Post-service, Lehoux started working with Maj Edward Smith, President of International Children’s Awareness Canada. He and Berry then came up with the idea of selling coffee as a way of generating revenue for non-for-profit organizations. Ten per cent of every order will go directly to TWHP. “The sale of coffee will create a monthly revenue stream to help offset the cost of providing the program to those in need, and included in that of course, is the cost of caring for the dozen or so horses that are used in the program. While we run TWHP intakes for eight months of the year, many of the alumni return over the winter months to interact and ride the horses. It is an important part of their 'aftercare' routine,” said Alison Vandergragt, Program Director at Hope Reins Equine Assisted Therapy.

Support from organizations like SNARK is vital to TWHP to ensure the organization can continue to support veterans and First Responders through equine therapy. “The importance of

having this kind of community support is vital to the program's sustainability. One of our strategic planning goals is to generate a solid revenue of monthly financial support. Having Kerryhill Realty and SNARK on board will hopefully inspire other businesses and individuals to do something similar, or commit to another method of support like monthly horse sponsorship," added Vandergragt. The next intake for the next TWHP sessions begins March 10, 2017, however, the applications are already coming in. Vandergragt expects that if a significant donation can be collected by the end of January 2017, TWHP can take on additional attendees in the next session.

To order your uniquely crafted coffee online go to <https://www.ngocoffee.com/warhorse> The coffee will be shipped to your residence. Shipping is free on orders of four pounds or more. To learn more about TWHP or to apply to the program visit their website: http://www.hopereinstherapy.com/War_Horse_Project.html

Vancouver Artillery Association Yearbook Updates

The following pages were updated over the last week. Were you in attendance at any of the events? Did we get the information correct? Have you got a story that you might wish to share? Some additional photographs? Contact Leon Jensen at LeonJ1@hotmail.com

Chilliwack Dry Deployments 1972	http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1977.html
Student Summer Employment Plan 1970	http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1978.html
Several Gun exercises 1964	http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1979.html
Albert Head Gun Exercise 1961	http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1981.html
Visit of Master Gunner 1962	http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1982.html
St Barbara's Day Dinner 1975	http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1983.html
Chilliwack Rifle Exercise 1976	http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1983.html

Don't forget about the Remembrance Day activities coming up!

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/vancouver-artillery-association-remembrance-day-activities>

Who is it?

Last Week: This is the Odin Class submarine HMS Orpheus (N46). She was launched in 1929, commissioned 1930 and sent to join the First Submarine Flotilla in the South China Sea, to be used on anti-piracy patrols. She underwent a major refit at the Whampoa Docks, Hong Kong, starting in July 1939, and returned to the UK late in the fall. On 19 June 1940, she disappeared while enroute to patrol around Benghazi. It is believed that she struck a mine in that area. We believe this photo was taken in the early '30s at the Whampoa Docks. She was probably in for a routine inspection and repaint.



This Week: As promised, we return to things green and khaki this week (and ask how you pronounce that last colour noun as a test of your age: do you say “kaekee” or “karkee”?). There are actually three greenish objects in this undated photo from the archives of 15 Field Regiment’s famous museum. In the background is a canvas topped truck, no doubt one of the famous “deuce-and-a-halves” that graced all armouries for almost three decades. In the middle-ground is a large target for our currently non-existent anti-tank regiments, probably belonging to a unit that seems to have been given quite a lot of tasks over the years. And, in the foreground is a magnificent device that not only wins wars, but keeps the makers of hearing aids in business. One need only visit our mess of a Wednesday to see the truth of that statement (the last bit, not necessarily the former).



The location of this photo is that Mecca of shopping, Oakridge Mall, in its original state: open to the elements. The photo must have been taken many years ago because, just visible to the right of the tank, is a table, upon which is a .30 cal machine gun, being playfully aimed at the line-up of civilians by a young lad. We expect such might not be allowed these days. Our question this week

is simple: in what year was this event? Were you part of it? Do you have memories of other public events held in those more innocent days when we only had to worry about the bomb. Send your memories to the editor, or to the author, John Redmond [john.d. redmond@telus.net](mailto:john.d.redmond@telus.net)

From the ‘Punitary’

What do ghosts serve for dessert? I Scream

Murphy’s Other Laws

If at first you don’t succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.

Quotable Quotes

The urge to save humanity is almost always a false-front for the urge to rule it. - *HL Mencken*

Tragic Bravery: Canada and The Battle of Hong Kong

When asked if he thought the British Colony of Hong Kong could be defended against an invasion by the Japanese in 1941, Winston Churchill replied, “not the slightest chance”.

On this 75th anniversary of the Battle of Hong Kong Cam Cathcart, President of RUSI Vancouver, will make a presentation entitled “*Tragic Bravery: Canada and The Battle of Hong Kong*” at 12 Noon, Friday, November 4, 2016 at the UBC Library Irving K. Barber Learning Centre.

The presentation takes place in the Lillooet Room of the Learning Centre, 3rd Floor, 1961 East Mall, UBC. Everyone are welcome and there is no charge for admission. Parking is available in the North Parkade, near the bus loop. Cam Cathcart will provide an overview of the fateful decision to send Canadians to Hong Kong; the battle; its aftermath, and delve into the lives of the courageous soldiers killed in battle, died in POW camps, and those who survived.



Remembrance Day Speaker Series

 THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Library
Hosted by Rare Books and Special Collections

<p>Tragic Bravery: Canada and the Battle of Hong Kong Cameron Cathcart President of the Royal United Services Institute - Vancouver Society (RUSI) and director of Vancouver's Remembrance Day ceremonies at Victory Square November 4th, 2016 12:00- 1:30 p.m. Lillooet Room, IKBLC 301, UBC Library</p>	<p>Canada's Secret Sailors: Asian Crewmen and Canadian Vessels in the Indo-Pacific Theatre Clifford Pereira, FRGS Independent researcher, curator, and museum consultant November 8th, 2016 12:00-1:30 p.m. Lillooet Room, IKBLC 301, UBC Library</p>	<p>Remembering the Great War with Canadian Writers and Artists Sherrill Grace, OC, FRSC Professor Emerita of English and University Killam Professor November 10th, 2016 12:00-1:30 p.m. Lillooet Room, IKBLC 301, UBC Library</p>
<p>As the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Hong Kong approaches, Cameron Cathcart will provide an overview of the battle, its aftermath, and delve into the personal lives of the brave Canadians whose lives were changed forever.</p>	<p>Based on research gathered over the last two years from national, provincial, and naval archives in Canada, Australia, and the U.K, Clifford J. Pereira will tell the forgotten story of hundreds of non-resident Asian seamen on vessels of the Canadian Pacific Railway deployed by the British Admiralty in the Pacific and Indian Oceans during the First World War.</p>	<p>While Canada has been surprisingly low key about commemorating the Great War since 2014, we do have a wealth of artistic material that does important work in reconstructing and remembering the war. Dr. Sherrill Grace will consider how Canada remembers the war, and why it is important to do so, focusing on works by Canadians writing about the war from a late-20th century perspective.</p>



Enjoy 15% off Best Available Rate! *It's our way of honoring you.*

Each year around this time, we take a step back from our caffeine-fueled days to remember and honor our heroes, the veterans and active duty military members. **To show our appreciation, we're proud to offer veterans 15% off Best Available Rate for stays from November 1 to November 30, 2016 at participating hotels.**

Do you know a veteran or an active military member in your community? Help us extend our gratitude and share the love. Guests must present Veterans or military ID upon hotel check-in to receive rate.

The VANCOUVER WELSH MEN'S CHOIR &
The DELTA CONCERT BAND present

Songs of Remembrance

Wednesday, Nov. 9th at 8pm

CHILLIWACK CULTURAL CENTRE

TICKETS \$34, \$32, \$17 (students)



from the CHILLIWACK CULTURAL CENTRE
Boxoffice @ Chilliwackculturalcentre.ca
or call (1) 604-391-SHOW (7469)

**10% DISCOUNT
FOR GROUPS of TEN OR MORE**



The Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir &
Band of the 15th Field Regiment present

With Glowing Hearts: Songs of Remembrance

Friday, November 11th, 2016
2:30pm

South Delta Baptist Church, 1988 56th St., Tsawwassen

Tickets \$29/\$27/\$12

10% discount for groups of 10 or more

Tickets available at www.vwmc.ca or
at the door.

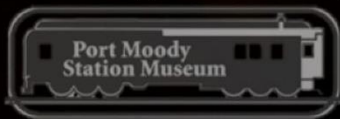


Candle Light Vigil

At the Port Moody Station Museum

Please join us on
November 10th at 8pm
to commorate those who
lost thier lives fighting for
us

Please RSVP by calling
604-939-1648
info@portmoodymuseum.org
www.portmoodymuseum.org



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

TRENCH TALKS



November 6, 2016 at 1:00pm

The Port Moody Station Museum presents
Trench Talks: Battle at Passchendaele

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SEAT 604-939-1648



Passchendaele Ridge was one of the hardest won battles in the First World War.

Learn how the Canadian finally delivered victory to one of the most desolate battlefields in all of



2734 Murray Street
Port Moody, BC, V3H 1X2
(604) 939-1648 | portmoodymuseum.org
info@portmoodymuseum.org

St Barbara's Day Special Guest Night – 3 Dec 2016



*The Commanding Officer
LCol B.A. Purcell, CD
and the Officers
of
15th Field Artillery Regiment
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery*

*request the pleasure of your company
at their annual*

**ST BARBARA'S DAY
SPECIAL GUEST NIGHT**

*to be held at the
BESSBOROUGH ARMOURY
2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, BC*

*on
Saturday, the Third of December, 2016*

*at
six o'clock for seven o'clock in the evening*

Dress: Mess Kit or Formal attire, with decorations

RSVP by 23 November 2016 with payment

Tarif: \$ 105 - Seats will be reserved when payment is received (\$95 if received by 9 November 2016). There will be no tickets available the night of the event.

*Payable to "Officers Mess 15 Fd Regt"
2025 West 11th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6J 2C7*

If paying in person, please see the Adjutant during regular work hours or Wednesday night between 7 and 10pm.

*Questions to VPMC: Capt Isaak Skuce
mess15rca@gmail.com*

From Vimy to Juno National Travelling Exhibition

The Juno Beach Centre and the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada cordially invite you to a special reception honouring the 73rd anniversary of the Christmas Dinner at Ortona in conjunction with:



**Friday, December 16, 2016
17h to 19h**

**The Seaforth Highlanders Armoury
1650 Burrard St., Vancouver, British Columbia**

*Please confirm your presence by **November 15, 2016**
dbenoit@junobeach.org / 877-828-5866 ext. 123*

From Vimy to Juno is made possible with support from the Department of Canadian Heritage.



Canada

