



Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News June 20, 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 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 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 were supposed to start at the beginning of June 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.

July 23 - Point Atkinson Tour

July 27 - 4th Annual Korean War Veterans Day Ceremony

World War 2 - 1942

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

June 21st: Tobruk surrenders and the Germans scoop up 30,000 POWs, 3 million man-days worth of rations and 500,000 gallons of fuel. There are immediate consequences to this stunning victory – Hitler immediately makes Rommel a Field Marshal and Roosevelt immediately promises Churchill to send some of America's newest weapons to Egypt, including 300 Sherman tanks and 100 M7 105mm self-propelled guns.

June 22nd: The Vichy Prime Minister Pierre Laval makes a broadcast urging all Frenchmen to support the Germans in the war and to volunteer for labour in Germany.

June 23rd: The Germans re-enter Egypt as the British fall back to Mersa Matruh in real disarray.

June 24th: The Czech village of Lezasky shares Lidice's fate as reprisals for Heydrich's death continue.

June 25th: The Soviets fall back from Kupyansk (from which they had menaced Kharkov). Auchinleck sacks Ritchie from command of 8th Army and takes personal command. Eisenhower is made chief of American Land Forces in Europe.

June 26th: The Afrika Korps can (with the Italians) muster working 100 tanks and resume their advance. The RAF launches another 1,000 bomber raid on Bremen – this is the last one for a while as training schedules have been much disrupted by these attacks.

June 27th: PQ-17 departs Reykjavik for Archangel with 37 ships and 19 escorts as PQ-13 leaves the Soviet Arctic ports on a westbound run. The Afrika Korps forces a British withdrawal from Mersa Matruh. The Germans wrap up their Kharkov offensive, having recaptured both the city and Izyum, along with 250,000 prisoners. Private Adam Herbert Wakenshaw is one the crew of a 2 Pounder Anti-Tank Gun with the Durham Light Infantry at Mersa Matruh. When enemy fire kills or wounds all of his gun crew, Wakenshaw (whose left arm had been blown off) serves the gun by himself, knocking out another enemy vehicle and a light gun before he is killed. He is posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross.

Over 200 Sites Across BC Could Hide Live Munitions

Over 200 sites across B.C. could hide live munitions

Zoe Mcknight and Kelly Sinoski, Vancouver Sun 06.17.2013



Artillery and tank shells: Unexploded bombs, flares, grenades and various other pyrotechnics may be buried at more than 200 sites in B.C. or dumped along the coast, according to DND data obtained by The Vancouver Sun.

Unexploded bombs, flares, grenades and various other pyrotechnics may be buried at more than 200 sites in B.C. or dumped along

the coast, according to Department of National Defence data obtained by The Vancouver Sun. The military remnants, some of which may date as far back as the First World War and also include mortars, ammunition and rockets, can be found at 143 sites from Vancouver Island to Fort Nelson, mainly in former military testing areas and firing ranges, along with 58 underwater sites along the Pacific coastline. They pose a potential threat to some of BC's tourism hot spots like Tofino, the Gulf Islands and the Okanagan, as well as Vancouver beaches such as Jericho. In Tofino, for instance, an area the size of three football fields was closed in April 2012 in Pacific Rim National Park Reserve after live munitions likely dating back to the Second World War were discovered by a park visitor in the Wickanninish sand dunes. During the 1940s and 1950s, training exercises were carried out along the dunes, on Florencia Island, and surrounding waters near the park's Long Beach Unit. "Where Wickanninish Beach is, behind the Long Beach area is some really cool sand dunes. Unfortunately, that's where they found this

unexploded shell and cordoned the whole thing off. They didn't want to take any chances," said Susan Payne of the Ucluelet Chamber of Commerce. "Everybody knows the sand dunes. We used to go and play up there with our kids."

The problem of unexploded ordinance has become so widespread that the federal government in 2005 created the Unexploded Explosive Ordnance (UXO) and Legacy Sites program. Legacy sites are those once owned or used by the Department of Defence but have since been sold off to other owners such as a province, a municipality, another federal department, or private owners. There are hundreds of sites across the country, as well as 1,000 off the Atlantic coast. A firm number is impossible to pin down because many are still suspected but not confirmed, according to the department. Program staff use historical and property records, maps and interviews with local residents within the communities to assess the risk, said spokesman France Bureau. Staff also attend sites if suspicious metal is found. "As Canada's population increases, it is expected that people will come into more frequent contact with UXO on properties that were at one time remote, and therefore presented little risk," the UXO program website states. "There have been several deaths and serious injuries caused by UXO explosions in Canada. Caution is always required when entering UXO legacy sites." While munitions are old, some can still be set off. The metal cases can also cause injury from shrapnel. But most people don't even know the unexploded devices are there — until they encounter them. Two years ago, excavators working on a housing development in the 6700-block of Batchelor Bay Place in Whytecliff in West Vancouver found artillery shells believed to date back to the First or Second World War. The explosive shells, four inches in diameter and weighing around 15 kilograms, appeared to be heavily corroded but were still live, with detonators. The shells had military engravings, and the Canadian Navy's Maritime Forces Pacific, based out of Esquimalt, was called in to dispose of them.

It is unclear how the shells ended up in the area, but several sites around West Vancouver had been used to store munitions during wartime. "Every site that was used by the military could potentially have unexploded ordinance," said Mark Berhow, who describes himself as an amateur historian in sea coast artillery. "Even after (many) years, these things can be viable and explosive." Defence Construction Canada's website suggests that while most of the unexploded ordinance are found on active ranges, a significant amount is from the Second World War era. Many of the sites listed in the National Defence data were part of Coast Artillery Defences, including the First Narrows (North) Battery, where two 12-pounder quick-firing guns were temporarily located at the Capilano River Spit before being moved under the Lions Gate Bridge. One of the anti-aircraft guns was placed nearby at West Vancouver's Ambleside in 1942, posing a potential risk to that area. Jericho Beach, once home to the Royal Canadian Air Force Seaplane Base and now a city park, was also cited on the list, along with the Steveston Battery, where in the 1940s a field emplacement for two artillery guns was located on the northern bank of the mouth of the Fraser River, on top of the dike near the town. An anti-aircraft battery was also located at Steveston. (Actually in Richmond where the Lulu Island transmitter site is today.)

Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie said he was not aware of any potential unexploded ordnance in his city, which also includes the Lulu Island Transmitter site, which is near the Garden City Lands. Berhow noted this is because, in many cases, the munitions were likely buried, tossed in the river or simply dumped once the site was no longer needed. At the time, the area was likely rural and uninhabited. “Back in the day when we weren’t concerned about the environmental effort, we said ‘Get rid of it’ and they chucked it. ... It was out of sight, out of mind,” he said. In Vernon, where eight people have died since 1945 after stumbling upon explosives left behind by training exercises at the Vernon Military Camp, a lawsuit is underway between the defence department and developer K&L Land Partnership.

The company bought 1,349 acres near Kalamalka Lake for \$15 million in 2005, where it planned to build a residential subdivision. The developer claimed in documents filed in BC Supreme Court in May that the government left behind mortars and shells when the camp closed, and neglected to inform the company when it bought the land. The department denies the allegations, arguing the presence of ordnance was well-documented in local lore and in the media. Defence ministry spokeswoman Kathleen Guillot said she could not comment on whether the department has a policy of disclosure regarding the risk of ordnance when selling the sites, citing the court proceedings. Some sites have markings to warn the public of danger, but not all, Guillot said. Program staff also occasionally hold public and in-school information sessions. Andre Gerolymatos, director of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies at Simon Fraser University, noted the situation in BC is not as dire as is in places like France, where 70 to 100 people — mostly farmers — die every year from unexploded ordnances as they till their land. But while the chances of this happening in BC are “pretty low,” he urged the federal government and developers to work together to identify sites. “You don’t want to build a high-rise on unexploded shells,” he said. “It’s not a good thing. “The government has to come completely clean about where these shells are. It would be a lot cheaper now than getting lawsuits down the road.”

20 Years of Stable Funding for the Canadian Military? Think Again

David Pugliese, Ottawa Citizen June 8, 2017



Liberal defence minister Harjit Sajjan keeps saying that his government’s defence policy will guide the country’s military for a “generation.” That the policy will unfold over the next 20 years.

“For the first time, National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces will have a 20-year funding commitment,” Sajjan said Wednesday. That’s rubbish, military officers privately say. For that claim to be valid, it would require

all federal governments to follow this plan for the next 20 years. It would assume that there are no major events in the world that would change the course of the plan, for better or worse. How likely is that? Over the years, Canadian governments have shown they can’t even follow their own defence plans, let alone those from other governments. Take for instance, the

Conservative's "Canada First Defence Strategy." That 2008 document, according to then Defence Minister Peter MacKay, was designed to guide the Canadian Forces for 20 years. It lasted about two years, being scuttled when the Conservatives started cutting the Canadian military.

How about the 1987 Conservative government's defence White Paper? That called for, among other things, the purchase of a fleet of 10 to 12 nuclear submarines. Two years later the plan was dead in the water. Liberal governments have done no better. The Liberal government of Prime Minister Jean Chretien released its defence white paper in 1994. The defence strategy was followed for several years, mainly focussing on cutting personnel numbers and bases. Paul Martin's government produced a 2005 policy statement on defence and diplomacy. Not surprisingly, it didn't survive when Stephen Harper came to power a year later.

Recent events on the Korean Peninsula have highlighted both the instability of the North Korean regime and the potential vulnerability of the United States to future possible intercontinental ballistic missile attacks. The chief of US Pacific Command, Adm. Harry Harris, indicated in testimony before the House of Representatives that he would welcome additional ballistic missile defense radars and missiles in Hawaii to prevent an attack by the North Koreans. While North Korea has not yet demonstrated the capability to marry a nuclear device to an ICBM, they have repeatedly expressed the desire to do so, and have devoted significant resources to making this capability a reality. When they do, US facilities and forces stationed in Korea, Japan, Guam, and Hawaii would be immediately vulnerable to the threat of an attack. The North Koreans have increased the pace of their missile testing, with two successful launches within the past few weeks, including liquid- and solid-fueled missiles. A Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system is currently being deployed to South Korea, and a similar system is located on Guam. US forces in Japan are shielded by US Navy cruisers and destroyers with ballistic missile defense capabilities. This leaves Hawaii — which hosts a major naval base, the 25th Infantry Division, and the headquarters of both PACOM and Commander, US Pacific Fleet — as a key strategic target that is increasingly vulnerable to a North Korean attack. Deployment of a THAAD system to Hawaii could provide the protection required.

Another possible alternative would be to "operationalize" the Aegis Ashore site located at the Pacific Missile Range Facility, or PMRF, on Kauai. The Aegis Ashore site has demonstrated the capability to detect, track and destroy medium-range ballistic missiles, and it is the prototype for similar systems that are being installed in Romania and Poland. These tests involved using the existing radars at PMRF and missiles from US Navy ships based at Pearl Harbor. Exactly what would be required to operationalize the Aegis Ashore site? At a minimum, it would require conversion of the Aegis Ashore site to around-the-clock operations, probable construction of additional office and administrative spaces, an increase in assigned personnel to support operations, and provision of the SM-3 missiles, either through construction of a missile site in Hawaii, or use of the ballistic missile defense-capable US Navy ships.

Congress has already directed the secretary of defense and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to provide a report that contains “an evaluation of the ballistic and air threat to Hawaii; the efficacy (including with respect to cost and potential alternatives) of making the Aegis Ashore site at PMRF operational; deploying the preferred alternative for fielding a medium range ballistic missile defense sensor for the defense of Hawaii.” Congress, the Department of Defense and the Navy all acknowledge that a gap exists in the defense of the Hawaiian Islands and that the threat from North Korea is growing rapidly. The fastest and most immediate way to provide for the defense of Hawaii is to operationalize the Aegis Ashore site located at PMRF on Kauai. Considering recent events on the Korean Peninsula and the testimony of Harris, the Hawaiian congressional delegation should push the DoD to provide information on the operationalization of Kauai as soon as possible, with an eye toward immediately working to bring the Aegis Ashore site online.

Defending Against Growing North Korean Threats

J.J Coyne, June 1, 2017 (Photo Credit: Leah Garton/Missile Defense Agency)



Increasingly sophisticated test plans for US homeland missile defense system on horizon
Defense News

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Ed. - This week, we start a very interesting new project. We estimate it will take about a year to publish the whole diary and, for however long it takes us to publish it, we will push this publication from 8 pages to 10 - 12 pages, not counting the poster pages.

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

PREFACE

Sgt Charlie D Phelan of Kingston, Ontario, joined the Royal Canadian Artillery at age 19 and served in the RCHA from 6 Sept 1939 until his discharge on 3 Nov 1945. He served on the guns and as a driver before becoming a Technical Assistant. He worked on his diary for many years, finally putting the typewritten 300-page work together and publishing it in 2000. Part of his preface reads as follows: “This account was intended to be a record of WWII events as seen and experienced by myself. The original was written on a motley assortment of note pads, school scribblers, auxiliary services writing paper, and “liberated” ledgers. To avoid possible loss, the originals were carried in my big pack as we proceeded through our wartime journey. I copied my diary in sections, and when the opportunity arose, I mailed the various sections to my mother. After the war I transcribed my account, and my long-suffering wife Alice claims that I spent the first two years of our married life producing a hunt and peck copy from the scrawled originals.”

He goes on to say that Maj GD Mitchell, MC, CD, author of *RCHA - Right of the Line*, donated his copy to the Public Archives. Each of Charlie's five children have a copy. Other than that, very few copies were published, and copyright restrictions prevented reproductions. I am fortunate to have been presented with a copy a number of years ago. Lately, while searching the Sicily chapter for some information, I thought it a shame that Charlie's well written, thorough, and at times humorous account of serving the guns during WWII was not available to the Gunner world. I contacted Charlie's oldest son Christopher in Kingston and received his permission to go ahead with a plan. Being an avid reader of the Vancouver Artillery Association's weekly publication, I sent Bob Mugford a couple of pages to seek his opinion as to potential reader interest. He thought it would be well received. After some correspondence, it was decided that I would edit the diary, without, of course, altering its substance and thrust, so that it could be published over a reasonable period of time. It will likely consist of about 150 pages, to be published weekly at the editor's discretion.

This, then, is Sgt Phelan's story. As he said: "I hope that this account of the personal viewpoint and activity of an ordinary gunner will be of interest." I'm sure it will be. Charlie died in 2012, just two months shy of his 92nd birthday.

BGen (ret'd) Robert P (Bob) Beaudry, June 2017

The War Diary of Sgt CD Phelan, A Bty, RCHA, edited and abridged by BGen (ret'd) Bob Beaudry, and republished with the kind permission of Sgt Phelan's son Christopher

Chapter 1. War is Declared

3 Sept 1939. PM Neville Chamberlain: "We find ourselves at war."

6 Sept. The RCHA, with A and B Batteries stationed in Kingston, opened its recruiting campaign. Fort Frontenac was crowded by hundreds of men. I was in the lineup early in the morning, but it was late afternoon before I reached the front of the line. Inside, an officer gave me a quick once over and directed me upstairs. Here I was examined by half a dozen doctors who thumped, prodded, and thoroughly examined me. I was declared to be in "A" category health. I was sworn in by the Presiding Officer, then an NCO took me to Artillery Park Barracks, where I was given a pass until 0600 hours 16 September, with the proviso I return the next day to draw my kit.

7 Sept. I went to the barracks to draw my uniform and other kit. Very cheerfully they handed me a Will Form to fill out. I then carried a kitbag full of clothing, plus two armfuls of assorted equipment, all the way home. I had a uniform complete with brass ball buttons, a cavalry great-coat, and everything from cap to boots.

11 Sept. I donned my uniform for the first time. Up the street I went, determined to get used to it as soon as possible. I walked down Princess street, and by the time I went home for supper I was completely at ease in my uniform.

16 Sept. We recruits showed up at the barracks. We had breakfast, followed by our first parade, then PT. After that we had a series of lectures on discipline, organization and tactics,

followed by foot drill, gun drill, arms drill, and driving drill. Driving drill was one of the most interesting features of our days, especially for non-drivers like me. We were first taken out in huge Leyland gun trucks. The first time I got into the driver's seat I managed, more by good luck than by knowledge, to keep it between the fences, and I was as happy as a lark.

17 Sept to 30 Nov. We did gun drill until we were “advancing with – or without – dragropes” in our sleep. Organization and tactical lectures gave us a more or less a clear idea of what we were doing and why. Everyone had their share of guard duty and fire pickets. One night a recruit was on guard duty when the sergeant of the guard, accompanied by the Orderly Officer, approached. The guard challenged: “Halt! Who goes there?” “Orderly Officer”, came the reply. After a great silence the Orderly Officer asked: “Well, are you going to keep me standing like this all night?” The sentry replied “Oh no, sir. Stand at – ease!”

Some things we will always remember. Like Capt Usher marching beside a recruit who persisted in swinging his right arm forward as he stepped out with his right foot and his left arm in unison with his left foot. Capt Usher gave up when he started doing the same thing. We had a good bunch of fellows in A Bty, and we had some fine times in the barracks. One night some cheery and slightly beery chaps decided to stir up a bit of excitement. They made up a few frenched beds, put folding chairs under the blankets, and wired a stepladder into one of the beds and neatly replaced the blankets. At about 0200 hrs Bob Armishaw rolled in, well oiled. When he hit the ladder, he raged around, ripped out the ladder and threw it out the window, where it hit the sidewalk and smashed to bits. Surprisingly the guard did not hear the racket.

As December approached rumors began to fly concerning an impending move. We were going to Valcartier, Egypt, England, and just about everywhere else. These rumors were given added weight when we were issued the new “battle dress”.

Chapter 2. We Go Overseas

2 Dec. Weekend passes were granted to all who wanted them. Everyone did, but with my usual luck I was on kitchen duty – being an expert dishwasher – until 1800hrs Saturday.

6 Dec 1939. In the morning, we were ordered to turn in our beds. At the 1400 hrs parade, Sgt-Maj Shepherd told us to report back at 2115 hrs with “everything you want to bring with you”. I visited Grandma Phelan then went home. At supper, I tried to convince the family not to come to the train, but I was not successful. Back at the barracks I was issued with a rifle. After a while we marched to Fort Frontenac, passing Dad, Mother, Doretta, Evelyn, Eleanor and Don on the way. At the Fort we were locked in. When we marched out at 2245 hrs we were mobbed by a half cheering, half crying mob of hundreds as we pushed our way to the train in the Hay Market. Frank Phelan and I got to our proper car and were soon hanging out the window. Our move was supposed to be secret, but when we finally started off the train edged through a crowd of 3000. On the troop train we had parcels of food which our folks had made up for us, and a certain amount of liquor and wine, unofficially of course.

7, 8, 9 Dec. For three nights, our train rolled towards Halifax. Every little village had its group of people to give us a cheer as we rolled by, even late at night. The biggest crowd was at

Campbellton, where we had a 15-minute stop. Finally, we reached Halifax and detrained in a huge shipping shed. We were given berthing cards and began to march up a gang-plank to a huge grey liner.

10 Dec. We were aboard *The Empress of Britain*. Frank Phelan and I managed to switch a couple of cards and got cards for the same room. We had a beautifully panelled, thickly carpeted room with two bunks, white sheets, reading lamps, a large clothes closet, hot and cold water, and even a fan. What a setup! The Gunners' Mess was the Salle Jacques Cartier. A wide variety of finely prepared food was served by regular stewards, and almost any item could be had for the asking. *The Empress* was 760 feet long, 97 feet wide, and had a speed of 24 ½ knots. The ship was armed with a 6-inch naval gun on the stern and many AA guns manned by naval crews. The troops mounted and manned Lewis guns on the deck, and day and night submarine watches were kept by the crew and the troops.

We cast off at 1400 hrs. Other troopships, *The Empress of Australia*, *The Duchess of Bedford*, the *SS Aquitania*, and the *SS Bermuda*, joined us. The five troopships and the battleship *HMS Repulse*, from which flew the flag of the First Canadian Division, were in the center of a ring of destroyers and cruisers. At a little distance two French battleships and the aircraft carrier *HMS Furious* followed us. So, the first contingent left Canada.

11 Dec. We were calmly sailing along when all of a sudden, the battleship *Repulse* turned and rushed away to port at terrific speed. A line of destroyers put themselves between us and the unseen menace. They steamed back and forth laying down a dense smoke scree, and the convoy picked up speed for a couple of hours. Later the *Repulse* returned and the destroyer ring was completed again.

12-16 Dec. We had smooth sailing, although with considerable fog. There were a lot of foolish comments about the ocean like: "It looks pretty deep", and "It's sure a hell of a lot of water." We steamed on across the ocean. As we drew closer to England we were met by an escort which grew steadily stronger. Battleships, cruisers, subchasers, E boats, and minesweepers took up positions around us. Aircraft of Coastal Command appeared and dipped low over the convoy in salute.

17 Dec. We sighted the coast of Scotland early in the morning, and we stood on deck as we began to slip up the River Clyde. We dropped anchor at 1100 hrs. In the harbour, we saw every type of naval vessel, from minesweepers to the majestic *HMS Hood*.

18 Dec. During the afternoon, we were ferried ashore and almost immediately taken on a 3-mile route march to the top of a steep hill and down again, to "loosen up our muscles"! Our march ended at the railway station where we were loaded into crowded coaches that were the most uncomfortable I had ever imagined. The seats were narrow and too close together, and we got very little rest. A sign over the door read "Third Class". One of the boys found that the back of the sign read "First Class", so from then on, we rode First Class, at least in name. The lights were dimmed and the blinds were drawn as we rocked through the night.

19 Dec. We were awakened at 0430 for breakfast, which arrived at 0600 hrs. It was cold and miserable. We travelled until 1530 hrs, when we stopped and disembarked at a small town called Fleet. We were told the camp was a 15-minute walk and we started to march, loaded down with all our gear and rifles. We staggered along behind a RAMC band for about four miles. We finally reached *Leipzig Camp*, which we were to share with 2 Cdn Fd Regt. After a supper of an unpalatable stew we drew blankets and were assigned to our quarters. They were wooden buildings and were allegedly steam heated. There were 26 beds in each room and we had a fair amount of space. At night large, wooden blackouts were hung over the windows. At first the meals were horrible and the messroom filthy. A watery stew was the standard food and it was the worst concoction ever served to human beings. Numerous complaints and a fair-sized riot resulted in the British cooks leaving and the food gradually improved. It was announced that we would get Christmas or New Year's passes. I drew a New Year's pass but traded it with Vic Smith for his Christmas pass. I was soon ready to leave.

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>

A promotion in the Regimental Band. Congratulations to Major Jim Tempest.

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2017.html>

The Nominal Roll was updated with new entries in the R's and the P's. Have we included you?

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/nominal-roll---r.html>

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/nominal-roll---pq.html>

A few new photographs of Al Yelland and Eric Tyldesley Gore back in 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, and 1967.

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1963.html>

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1964.html>

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1965.html>

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1966.html>

<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1967.html>

Keep those stories and pictures coming!_Contact Leon Jensen at LeonJ1@hotmail.com

Who Is It



Last Week: The men are working to unfold one of the outrigger trails on a 90-mm M1 MAA gun on a live firing exercise in the mid 50s. They are members of the 43rd MAA and are shooting from Albert Head, the only range readily available in BC for any artillery in those days. The guy on the left in front of the leg is Sgt Al McDonald.

This Week: Our photo trove continues to grow, albeit slowly, with donations from ancient former members of the regiment, findings in our vast underground storage vault, and the occasional photo dropping out of a book. This one, however, is a slide that was in the collection of the late Vic Stevenson, and was taken by someone other than him. The reason we think so is that it is not his usual Kodachrome. However, given the price of that late, much-missed product, he might just have been saving his dimes by using another, lesser film. In any case, as one can see, the central figure, known to some of you, and named after a common building material, is nattily dressing in his fairly-new “combats”, replete with a standard-issue



arty moustache. His younger acolytes are hanging on his every word as he describes the intricacies and mysteries of his art.

That they are newly-recruited, or on a summer programme is evident when one zooms into the photo and sees not only the lack of wrinkles on their fascinated faces, but a lack of a red-felt backing to the badge of the Regiment. When

such ceased to be standard, the felt makers of distant Kyrgyzstan fell into poverty. However, your author is mystified by one thing (well, many things, but only one in this photo). Why is the most pensive student of St. Barbara wearing sergeant’s stripes upside down? Is this a musical tradition, or what? Please inform the editor, bob.mugford@outlook.com or the author, John Redmond (johnd.redmond@telus.net). By the way, don’t forget that we also have a YouTube channel under the heading:

15th Field Regiment, RCA, Museum

From the ‘Punitenary’

What do you call a cow with a twitch? Beef Jerky!

Murphy’s Other Laws

Don't be irreplaceable, if you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.

Quotable Quotes

My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person, he believed in me.

Jim Valvano



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

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 

4th Annual Korean War Veterans Day Ceremony



SPECIAL INVITATION

The Korean War Commemorative Alliance
cordially invites you to

The 4th annual Korean War Veterans Day Ceremony

To mark the 64th 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

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