

## Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News – 23 April 2024

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](mailto: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](http://www.vancouvergunners.ca) and the RUSI Vancouver website at: <http://www.rusivancouver.ca/newsletter.html>. Both groups are also on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=vancouver%20artillery%20association> and <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=rusi%20vancouver>

## Upcoming events – Mark your calendars – see poster section for details.

### Commemoration Cyprus 2024

### 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of Holland Battlefield Tour

**Apr 24** Wednesday Zoom lunch meeting

**May 01** **NO ZOOM LUNCH MEETING**

**RUSI Vancouver AGM** Live meeting in lecture room at 1100hrs

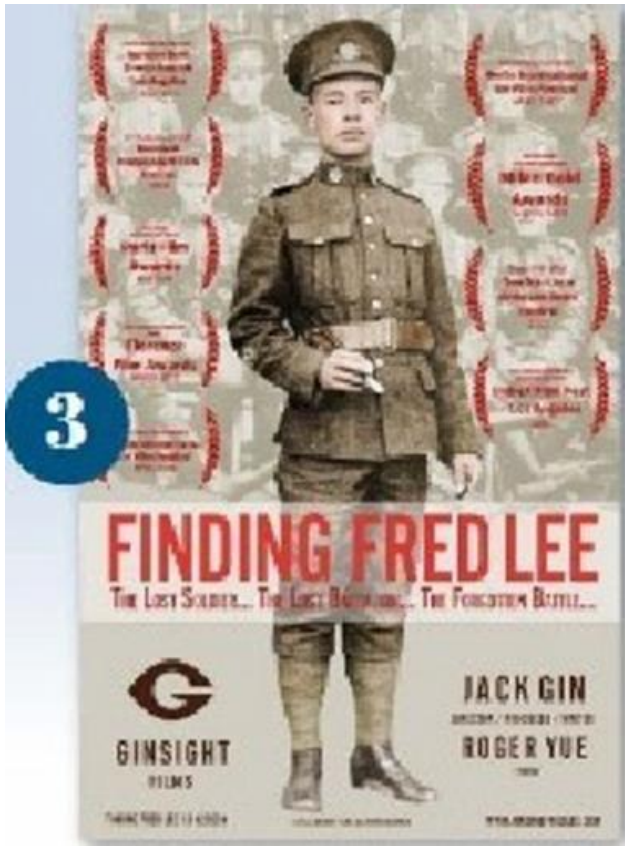
**Lunch and speaker 1200hrs**

**Jun 06** Screenings of *Gino - A Child of War*

## Next Wednesday Lunch and Speaker – 1 May 2024

Please join us on Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> to welcome our guest speaker, Lunch starts at 1200hrs, and the presentation will take place in the lecture room at 1330hrs.

We don't have menu details yet, but our featured speaker will be Jack Gin (showing his documentary about a WW1 soldier named Fred Lee. Jack was astonished to learn that a Chinese Canadian kid named Fred Lee volunteered to fight for Canada during the first World War. "As a child who grew up in Canada and educated here, we never heard these stories"; says Jack. So, the engineer and entrepreneur went in search of Fred's story, and he created an award-winning documentary in the process.



*Finding Fred Lee* is told through Gins eyes as he journeys to Lee’s hometown of Kamloops to uncover traces of this forgotten son. Lee was an honour roll student and the son of a pioneer businessman. He signed up with the Rocky Mountain Rangers at a time when Chinese Canadians couldn't vote. Most could not hold a traditional job. He left town on the CPR— the railway that his father supplied with timbers and that thousands of Chinese men helped build. Lee survived Vimy with the 47<sup>th</sup> Battalion but was killed during the battle for Hill 70. The hill was captured but 1,877 Canadians lost their lives. His remains were never found.

The documentary takes viewers to a recently commemorated Hill 70 Memorial Park at Lens, France. A walkway emblazoned with maple leaves, named after Fred Lee, who is remembered on a panel dedicated to him. Jack Gin located Fred Lee’s

nephew, and the search continues for other family members. The film has screened in Kamloops, at the Canadian War Museum, and at the Asian Film Festival in Vancouver, and it has won the best short documentary award at the International Art Festival in Berlin. Private Fred Lee is no longer forgotten,

Cost is \$35 per person. Reservations and payment in advance are required. Those wishing to attend must RSVP HLCol Don Foster @ [dgfoster60@gmail.com](mailto:dgfoster60@gmail.com) **Prepayment for lunch tickets required by 26 April**. E-transfer may be made to: [15rca100th@gmail.com](mailto:15rca100th@gmail.com)

If you cannot make an e-transfer, please make payment arrangements 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](mailto:dgfoster60@gmail.com) or Colonel (Retired) Keith Maxwell at (604) 865-0612 or [kdm Maxwell@gmail.com](mailto:kdm Maxwell@gmail.com)

Menu
Caprese spinach salad with balsamic reduction
Pork Milanese with lemon garlic sauce
Herbed mashed potatoes
Roasted vegetable medley
Assorted dessert squares
Coffee and Tea
<b>Reservations required by 26 April</b>

## **Screenings of Gino - A Child of War**

**GREATER VANCOUVER PREMIERE: Il Centro Italian Cultural Centre 'Screening of 'Gino: A Child of War 2:00 pm' FOR CADETS, CADET FAMILIES, SENIORS AND CIC/MILITARY MEMBERS on JUNE 2, 2024**

This is a heartwarming, family friendly true story to please all audiences. We have organized a special **AFTERNOON MATINEE** for a reduced price of **\$16.00 for Cadets, Cadet families, Seniors, and CIC/MILITARY Members**, I would very much hope that the Associations who support cadet corps would consider sponsoring some tickets for their local cadet corps, with tickets also available for interested families to attend as well.

\* Partial Ticket proceeds in Support of the Army Cadet League of Canada and Canadian Youth!!

Tickets are limited so get them early, so you won't be disappointed. The Premieres in other cities have been SOLD OUT well in advance of the screening so get yours today.

*Gino: A Child of War 2 min trailer:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCTi9C5jWvM>

FOR AFTERNOON SCREENING - cut and paste this link:-

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/gino-a-child-of-war-tickets-866984392657?aff=oddtcreator>

**For more information and Tickets:**

Cathy Bach, National President

Army Cadet League of Canada 778-995-2306

**For tickets sold in a block (10 or more)** we would prefer an etranfer directly to Karen Storwick. That way we don't pay the Eventbrite ticket fee and the donation to the ACLC will be greater!!! Karen will then produce 'a ticket' and send it to me. I will have them printed and delivered either in person or by mail to you. This is the email info to use for etranfer to Karen directly for block purchases.

Karen Storwick [karenstorwick@combinedforces.ca](mailto:karenstorwick@combinedforces.ca) (403) 478-0435

**Evening Showing** - An evening showing has also been arranged, an '**adult only**' showing including a reception after. Doors open at 6:30 for 7:00 show. Tickets \$27.50.

Dress - Business Casual. \* Partial Ticket proceeds in Support of the Army Cadet League of Canada and Canadian Youth!! At Il Centro Italian Cultural Centre, 3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver, BC.

*Gino: A Child of War 2 min trailer:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCTi9C5jWvM>

FOR EVENING SCREENING - cut and paste this link:-

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/gino-a-child-of-war-tickets-866984392657?aff=oddtcreator>

Or contact Karen Storwick 403-478-0435

See news story: <https://globalnews.ca/video/10029175/calgary-made-film-tells-story-of-soldiers-who-rescued-orphan-in-second-world-war-in-italy>

**See Poster in poster section.**

# How Patriot Proved Itself in Ukraine and Secured a Fresh Future

Jen Judson *Defence News* 9 April 2024



*US Patriot missile batteries stand ready in Poland on April 10, 2022.*

*(Sgt 1<sup>st</sup> Class Christopher Smith/US Army)*

to help it fend off the barrage of complex missiles Russia was using. But the system had never proved itself against a missile like the Kinzhal. Even so, the Patriot system blocked the incoming missile, defusing the weapon and several others, according to US officials. Since then, the Patriot system has continued to successfully intercept a wide range of Russian weaponry. It has shot down Russian aircraft like Su-34 fighters flying nearly 100 miles away, and intercepted missiles as far as 130 miles away, according to Oleksandr Musiienko, head of the Kyiv-based nongovernmental organization the Center for Military and Legal Studies.

*A Russian Air Force MiG-31K jet carries the high-precision hypersonic missile Kh-47M2 Kinzhal during the Victory Day military parade.*

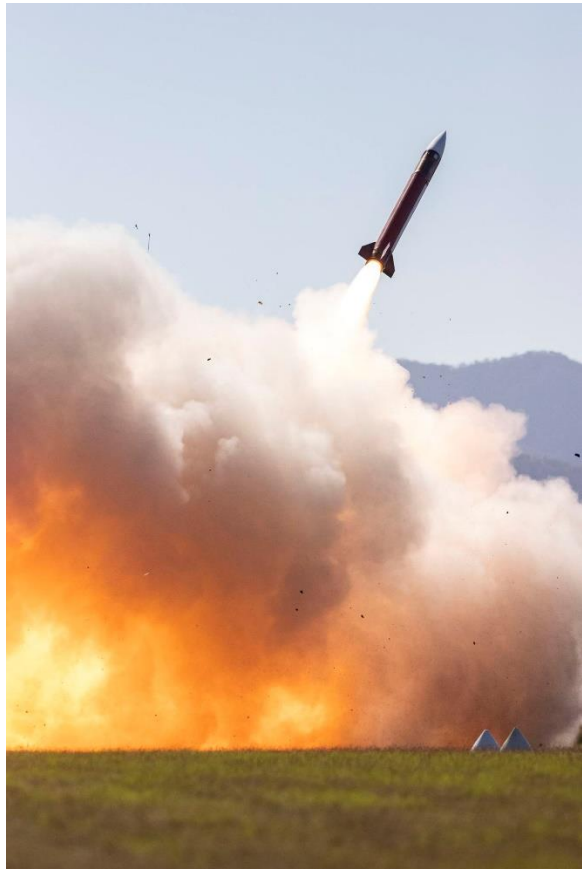
*(Pavel Golovkin/AP)*



The success of the RTX-made Patriot system in Ukraine comes as the US Army aims to replace the Patriot with an integrated air and missile defense system better able to connect with other equipment on the battlefield and equipped with a more capable radar. But the Patriot system's dominance in Ukraine has attracted fresh attention and potential customers from around the world. What might have looked like an aging system not long ago now appears to be a workhorse that could be used for years to come. "Patriot has prove[d] to be a very reliable system," said Ben Hodges, a retired three-star general who commanded US Army forces in Europe following Russia's annexation of Crimea. "The Ukrainians learned very quickly how to operate it, and even

more impressively they learned very quickly how to employ it to great effect.” “Nations are much more alive to the [air and missile defense] threat,” he added.

The Patriot system was first introduced to counter threats to the United States during the Cold War. But it faced significant battle when forces deployed the system in the Middle East during the Persian Gulf War and the Iraq War. In those early years, the Patriot experienced major failures. In 1991, for example, the system failed to intercept an Iraqi Al Hussein Scud missile, which hit barracks in Saudi Arabia and killed 28 US soldiers. The system was then involved in



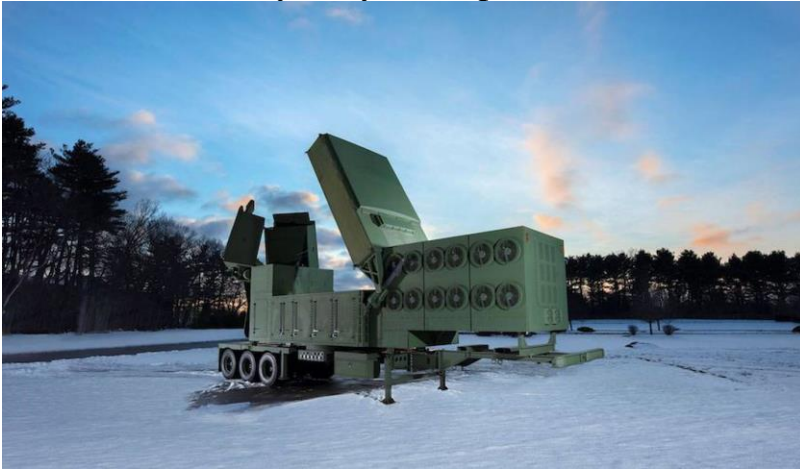
three friendly fire incidents in 2003 during the Iraq War; in one case, a Patriot shot down a British Royal Air Force Tornado jet, killing its two crew members. Despite these failures, the US Army has long relied on the system. Indeed, its Patriot units for years maintained the highest operational tempo across any units in the service with the longest deployments. Despite the incidents in Iraq, it was heavily used there and successfully countered ballistic missile threats. And plenty of other countries also use the system, which is made up of eight truck-mounted launchers, a ground radar, a control station and a power generator. The launchers can each hold four interceptors.

*A US Army Patriot missile fires to engage a target at the Shoalwater Bay Training Area in Queensland, Australia, during the 2021 Talisman Sabre exercise.*

*(Cpl Jarrod McAneney/Australian Defence Department)*

According to Raytheon, an RTX company that manufactures the Patriot system, 19 countries have purchased the weapon and there are more than 250 Patriot fire units around the world. Tom Laliberty, Raytheon’s president of land and air defense systems, told Defense News in a recent interview the US owns 85-90 of those, with the rest distributed among the other 18 customer countries. “The system has just been continually improved based on feedback we get from the now 19 countries that use Patriot,” he said. Russia’s 2014 annexation of Crimea led to a sales burst. Eastern European countries jumped to buy Patriot systems to enhance their own defenses. Romania, Poland and Sweden signed on as new customers in the years between Russia’s annexation of Crimea and the country’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022. But during the same time, the US Army started making plans to replace the Patriot, seeking a capability with a more flexible command-and-control system and a radar capable of full coverage. The Patriot radar’s existing configuration creates blind spots for the system. The Army is slated to build a new Patriot battery to replace the one sent to Ukraine and to secure one more battalion’s worth of systems. But the service will gradually replace individual elements of the Patriot system over the next several decades. Eventually, all of those upgraded elements will become a new

system known as Integrated Air and Missile Defense. The first piece to be replaced will be the Patriot's command-and-control system, which will be swapped out with the Northrop Grumman-developed Integrated Battle Command System. IBCS, approved for full-rate production last year, will enable the system to connect with a variety of other sensors and shooters on the battlefield. Next, the Patriot system's radar is slated to be replaced with the Raytheon-developed Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Sensor, or LTAMDS. The first set of prototype radars is undergoing tests with the Army; they are expected to offer 360-degree coverage.



*The Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Sensor, shown here, is slated to replace the Patriot system's radar.*  
(Darrell Ames/US Army)

In recent months, the sensor completed four successful live-fire demonstrations at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico. The Army's Integrated Air and Missile Defense system will be designed to tie into a broader air defense architecture using IBCS. The service is also expected to be able to easily improve the technology through software updates. But the system's success in Ukraine has made clear there remains interest for the Patriot in its current state. Switzerland purchased five batteries and 75 missiles in November 2022, and Romania plans to buy additional fire units. At least two other European countries are close to announcing plans to buy Patriot, according to Laliberty, who declined to identify them. Germany announced in March it would buy more Patriot systems to augment its air defense capabilities. Raytheon won a \$1.2 billion contract that buys radars, launchers, command-and-control stations, spares and support, according to a company statement. Slovakia has publicly expressed interest in buying Patriot systems following a NATO-owned Patriot system's deployment to the country in 2022.

*A Romanian Patriot system fires a missile during a drill at the Capu Midia shooting range next to the Black Sea on Nov. 15, 2023.*  
(Daniel Mihailescu/AFP via Getty Images)



Raytheon's production lines are churning out five fire units for the contract with Switzerland, Laliberty said, and the company anticipates an additional 12 will be under contract within the next 18 months. "Given that our capacity supports the production of 12 fire units a year, there is sufficient capacity to support current as well as future contracts as they materialize,"

he noted. Raytheon also received a contract in January to replace the US Patriot battery donated to Ukraine. That was paid for with fiscal 2023 supplemental funding approved by Congress. Now, the company is focused on boosting production of the missiles the Patriot system uses as interceptors. The PAC-3 Missile Segment Enhancement weapons, made by Lockheed Martin, are the most capable missile variant used by the system. In 2018, Lockheed's annual rate of building those missiles was 350. The company planned to increase that to 500 annually. But Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 has put new pressure on this effort, and the US Army has provided funding to get Lockheed to 550 missiles per year. In December, the firm said it reached a rate of 500 per year.

The company built an 85,000-square-foot facility equipped with automated systems to build PAC-3 MSE missiles and is now preparing to produce 650 a year by 2027. Boeing, which supplies the seeker for the PAC-3 MSE, is also planning to accelerate production, according to Jim Bryan, the company's director of integrated air and missile defense. Bryan said Boeing last year added 35,000 square feet to its factory, enabling a 30% production increase. Many of the expansion efforts by Lockheed and its suppliers preceded government funding. The companies are banking on both an increase in US government spending in the coming years as well as a rise in orders from international customers. "From a demand future, we continue to see it. We meet with customers all the time, and we think we'll be adding new customers to the MSE line," Brenda Davidson, Lockheed's vice president of PAC-3 programs, told Defense News. "The areas of Asia-Pacific and the Middle East continue to be very, very important to us."

Indeed, those two regions have existing Patriot customers that continue to rely on the system. And geopolitical hot spots, such as the Taiwan Strait and the Red Sea, are driving demand for air defense more broadly — regardless of which system is available. Increasingly savvy ballistic missiles and emerging hypersonic missiles are creating new challenges for air defense systems. The US Army has named air defense one of its highest priorities and is adjusting its funding accordingly. In the fiscal 2025 budget released in March, the Army asked for \$602 million in research and development efforts for Integrated Air and Missile Defense and \$2.8 billion in procurement, which covers modernized capabilities beyond the Patriot system. For Patriot modifications alone, the Army planned to spend \$1.7 billion between FY24 and FY28, according to FY24 budget documents. Now, the Army is requesting an additional \$2.29 billion across the same time period to modify and upgrade its Patriot capability, according to FY25 documents.

The head of US Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Lt Gen Sean Gainey, said the service has sought to reduce pressure on Patriot air defense units, but has been stymied by today's demands. "Prior to the recent increase in deployments, we were continuing to move along a path to regain some of that readiness," he told Defense News in March. The "demand has limited our ability to regain a lot of that readiness back." He said the Army hopes international allies will help as they increasingly buy air defense capabilities. "It's going to be a challenge as long as we have the high demand moving forward on our soldiers. But leveraging our partners and leveraging our modernization goals are the ways that we can eventually, sometime in the future, start alleviating some of that pressure," Gainey added. Hodges, however, said there remains just one US Patriot battalion committed to Europe. "I have seen and heard a lot more conversation about"

air and missile defense integration among allies and partners in Europe, he noted, “but I have not seen marked increases in capabilities, nor have I seen a large-scale, theaterwide, joint, multinational air [and] missile defense exercise that presents the same sort of challenge a Russian attack would bring.” “None of us has enough capacity to defend much of what must be protected. So, integration and regional approaches are necessary,” Hodges added. For his part, Gainey said some European countries are interested in adopting the US Army’s modernized capability, including the Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Sensor as well as the Integrated Battle Command System. Poland, for example, is the first country to field the latter. “Patriot has a place,” Gainey said. “They will still operate out there hand in hand until we fully modernize the air and missile defense force.”

## **Putin's Military Bribery Attempt Could Have Consequences**

*Vladyslava Kovalenko MSN 13 April 2024*



*Russian dictator Vladimir Putin  
(Getty Images)© RBC-Ukraine.*

The Kremlin is attempting to bribe Russian military personnel to prolong the war against Ukraine and incentivize Russians to enlist in the army. However, this could have consequences for the Russian economy, according to the British Ministry of Defense on X. It's

noted that on April 6, the Russian dictator Vladimir Putin passed two laws to support military personnel fighting against Ukraine and their families. The first law exempts occupiers from paying interest on consumer loans and introduces credit holidays. This follows a law from October 2022, which exempted mobilized and other participants of the Russian invasion from accruing penalties for late payments for housing, utilities, loans, and credit card debt.

The second law, signed by Putin, amends the Russian labour code and prohibits employers from dismissing the widows of Russian servicemen within one year from the date of their husband's death. "The Kremlin has likely instituted these laws in hopes of appeasing Russian service personnel, financially incentivizing more recruits to join the fight in exchange for state benefits and limiting criticism from the wives of deceased service personnel," the summary states. British intelligence notes that any payment holidays could have long-term consequences for the Russian economic situation and prospects.

The Russian Ministry of Defense conceals losses of occupation forces in Ukraine. According to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Russia has lost over 452,000 soldiers since the start of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Just in the last day, our troops have eliminated over 1,000 Russians. British intelligence reports that Russia is recruiting approximately 30,000 new



soldiers to the army each month. This allows it to continue its aggressive war against Ukraine. Meanwhile, Russian opposition media outlets have stated that with the start of the Russian offensive, losses of occupation forces on the front line have significantly increased.

## Armoury Open House



*VAA Volunteers at the Museum display.  
L -R Doug Loney, Bob Mugford and Andrew MacRae.  
Tony Gee also helped in the Museum's rooms.*

*Sgt Stephen Hilbich and Capt Michael Vuorensivu at the recruiting display. Capt Vuorensivu is the Regiment's padre and OIC of the event.*



*Bdr Andrew Blacklock and MBdr Patrick Luong manning the C3 display.*



The Regiment held a very successful open house with about 200+ individuals dropping by Bessborough Armoury to say hello and find out more about the Regiment. Members of the Regimental museum and the Vancouver Artillery

Association staffed the Museum and the display of antique vehicles, guns and equipment on the parade square.

## **BC Military Gala**

As last year, the red and blue lighting of the Ballroom make photo taking very difficult. The dinner was great, the entertainment was excellent, and a great time was had by all.



*L-R: - James Kitamura,  
BMO Regional President  
Personal Banking. BC & Yukon Region*

*Aaron Kueng , BMO Regional Vice  
President Vancouver East & Burnaby.*

*BGen SG Graham OMM MSM CD  
Commander 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Division*

*15 Fd RCA HLCol Don Foster*

BMO was the Gala's biggest sponsor.  
More details next week.

## **Military Family Resource (Mainland BC) 2024 Scholarships**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The links attached below will take you to the MFRC (BC) links for information on scholarships available to the families of our serving members on the Mainland of BC.

Mainland BC MFRC is pleased to offer two scholarships (up to \$2000 each) each year. Scholarships are for those entering or continuing in a post-secondary program leading to a certificate/diploma/degree from university, trade school, school of fine arts, or community college.

Applicants must be the children currently serving Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members (Regular, PRes, Canadian Rangers, COATS-CIC/GSO). Siblings of currently serving CAF members may apply if both the CAF member and the sibling have their primary residence with their parents. Additionally, spouses/partners of CAF members may apply for the scholarship. Applicants must reside within the mainland BC area. One scholarship will be available for those 19 or under at the time of application deadline, and one for those 20 or older at the time of application deadline.

**Deadline to apply: May 3, 2024**

<https://cfmws.ca/mainland-bc/services-for-families/mainland-bc-post-secondary-scholarship>

<https://cfmws.ca/mainland-bc/services-for-families/mainland-bc-post-secondary-scholarship>

## Vancouver Gunners Website Update

**Bessborough Armoury Open House – 20 April 2024-** The Regiment held a very successful open house with about 200+ individuals dropping by Bessborough Armoury to say hello and find out more about the Regiment. There was a C3 set up, recruiting table, small arms table band quartet (or was it a sextet?) and the indirect fire trainer. In addition, the Regimental Museum was open, and the older guns were on display manned by volunteers from the Vancouver Artillery Association. Plus, we had the Royal Canadian Artillery Association represented. There was even a BBQ food truck. Great job by everyone! Great comments by the visitors.  
<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/open-house-2024.html>

**Yorke Island Excursion** - The 85Vics are planning their annual weekend cleanup visit to Yorke Island on the first weekend of May 2024. Interested in joining them? Send me an email.  
[president.vcrgunners@gmail.com](mailto:president.vcrgunners@gmail.com)

**68 Battery 30'ish Year Campout Reunion** - May 24 at 4 PM – May 26 at 12 PM - Harrison West - Camp Cove Campground  
Anne Nikodem (former Bombardier Anne Edwards) and Terry Stratton (former Bombardier Terry Stratton) are organizing another 68 Battery camping reunion. Same as last year, its a 10 vehicle allowance (50 person max) with the booking (additional fees for extra vehicles and day guests). <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2024.html>

**OP Take Post 2025** - Check out The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery website for the latest update on OP Take Post 2025 - an 80th Anniversary Liberation of Holland Commemorative Battlefield Tour from 2 to 11 May 2025. <https://rca-arc.org/the-rca-association/op-take-post/>

**Photos** - Have you got any photos of past regimental activities? Send them to [president.vcrgunners@gmail.com](mailto:president.vcrgunners@gmail.com) and we'll post them to the website.

**Wednesday Lunch Zoom Meeting** - Join us to check up on your old lunch buddies. Click on this link. <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72758359360?pwd=XE0y7bIBCNvTYsIFcFlZ6g1e1pfzMP.1> or use Meeting ID: 727 5835 9360 Passcode: pFPey6

**Remember – Stay healthy and stay safe!**

## Who (or What) Is It?



**Last Week: James Montgomery Doohan.** Born March 3, 1920 · Vancouver, BC. Best known as Scotty in Star Trek, he was educated at High School in Sarnia, Ontario, where he acted in school productions. When WWII began, he joined the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery eventually obtaining the rank of Captain. He was wounded on D-Day, suffering severe damage to his right middle finger, which was removed ahead of first knuckle, then became a flying observer for the rest of the war. His daring aerial maneuvers flying in an observation plane got him known as the craziest pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force. Once the war ended, he found himself on many other adventures although none of them would come anywhere close to what he experienced before. He would become a popular voice actor who participated in thousands of CBC programs spread across both radio and

television. Later on, during the mid-1960's, he would develop into the Star Trek great we now know as Montgomery Scott, "Scotty".

**This Week:** Many of you probably joined the throngs in downtown Vancouver celebrating the government's recently announced increase in defence spending. It was certainly a celebration to remember, although sadly it seems not to have been well-covered by the media, who are more intent on spreading lies about the earth being a sphere, and solar eclipses devastating the eyes of Upper and Lower Canadians. Nonetheless, the traditionally military-minded Vancouverites made up for that with their hearty renditions of patriotic songs, impromptu ceremonial drill, and flag-waving.



That said, many celebrants wondered what great pieces of equipment await our already well-equipped armed forces. Would there be self-propelled guns? What about attack helicopters? Maybe there will even be aircraft carriers again: one for each coast! That would be not unexpected, given the generosity of this and previous governments. One can hardly wait! Sadly, one piece of kit that will not be acquired by our lads, lasses, and others is this interesting thing-a-ma-jig. It showed up in a history book a colleague was

reading, and instantly attracted the attention of one and all. What it seems to be is some kind of tracked vehicle, although the tracks are unlike any we have ever seen. The radiator seems to date it to a period before some of our younger readers were born, such as the 1920s or 30s, times of rapid change in all things military (and naval, so some don't feel left out).

So, just what it was, and who owned it is up to you to research and report. Send your musings to the editor, Bob Mugford ([bob.mugford@gmail.com](mailto:bob.mugford@gmail.com)), or the author, John Redmond ([johnd.redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd.redmond@telus.net)). And, keep your fingers crossed for those self-propelled guns for the RCA.

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

Why did the two plants decide to grow next to each other. Because they were buds.

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

The more a weapon costs, the farther you will have to send it away to be repaired.

### **Quotable Quotes**

Ah! Being young is beautiful but being old is comfortable. *Will Rogers*

## 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. Click on this link:-  
(this link will take you **straight to the waiting room** – no password needed)

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72758359360?pwd=XE0y7bIBCNvTYsIFcFlZ6g1e1pfzMP.1>

or use Meeting ID 727 5835 9360 **and the secret passcode is pFPey6**

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

Attendance at this meeting is falling off. If you haven't been on for a while, we miss you so come back and join us.

# Finding Fred Lee – Bio of Jack Gin



## Profile – Jack Gin

2 pager - Update Jan 2023

### J.M. (Jack) Gin, P.Eng

Business Mentor – Advisor – Director - Entrepreneur  
Writer – Editor – Filmmaker - Philanthropist

Email: [jackgin20@gmail.com](mailto:jackgin20@gmail.com)

Phone: +1.604.807.3492

Residence: Burnaby, BC, Canada

URL: [www.JackGin.com](http://www.JackGin.com)

Nationality: Canadian

### Key Skills

- **Leadership:** Former President, CEO and Chairman of TSX listed technology firm. Has also held senior executive positions with other public and privately held companies over 25 year international business career. Director, business advisor and mentor.
- **Commercial:** Startup to IPO to exit-sale entrepreneur of security technology firm with five international offices. **Notably skilled in international business development of industrial and technology products and services** to Fortune 500 and government organizations
- **Technical:** Engineering background with proven history of innovative problem solving in fields ranging from construction to electro-optics.
- **Other:** Raised financing on the TSX exchange and holds record of continuous profitability and successful exit as a publicly listed company. Became an industry expert, public speaker and writer for globally recognized security tech company.

### Professional Experience

- *Documentary Writer / Editor / Producer*  
**Finding Fred Lee 1.0 ... (not yet released)**  
**GinSight Films** – (Vancouver 2017 to present)
- *Project Review Committee – independent (2017 to 2019)*  
**Sustainable Development Technology Canada**
- *Director* (Vancouver – 2008 to present)  
**Saltworks Technologies Inc.** – desalination, clean tech startup
- *Director* (Vancouver – 2011 to 2022)  
**SemiosBIO Technologies Inc.** – sustainable technology startup
- *President & Director* (Vancouver – 2008 to 2010)  
**Seanees Capital Corporation** – Capital Pool Corporation (TSX-V)
- *President, CEO and Chairman of the Board* (Vancouver - 1997-2008)  
**Extreme CCTV Inc. (EXC:TSX)** – manufacturer night vision specialty surveillance
- *Director* (Quebec City – 2003-2008)  
**Obzerv Technologies Inc.** – electro-optics technology startup
- *Director* (United Kingdom – 2001-2008)  
**Derwent Systems Ltd.** – manufacturer night vision specialist
- *VP Business Development, Director* (Vancouver - 1994-1997)  
**Silent Witness Enterprises Ltd (SWE:TSX)** – manufacturer surveillance equipment
- *VP Business Development* (Vancouver - 1990-1994)  
**Weatherhaven Resources Ltd** – manufacturer air transportable industrial shelters

### Professional Associations

- Professional Engineer in BC (APEG BC) - RETIRED
- Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD)

**Education**

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- Bachelor of Applied Science - Engineering – University of British Columbia (1983)
- Institute Corporate Directors – Directors Education Program DEP8 (2011)

**Patents**

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- **U.S. Patent 6,912,007** / China Patent 02 8 29969.8 - Securable Corner Surveillance
- **Canada Patent 2,438,939** – Dual Surveillance Camera System
- **U.S. Patent 7,346,196** – Rotatable Switchbox Camera / Illuminator for Face Rec
- **China Patent 02 8 27154.8** – Dual Camera Surveillance and Control System

**Philanthropy**

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- **Jack & Sylvia Gin Foundation (JSGF)** – a registered Canadian giving charity
- **Jack Gin Family Foundation (JGFF)** – a donor advised fund at the Vancouver Foundation

Focus on at-risk women and children locally and globally

Organizations Supported (partial list) since 2008:

- Union Gospel Mission – Vancouver ... ongoing projects
- Seeds of Hope Children’s Ministry – Zambia ... ongoing projects
- Ratanak – Cambodia ... various projects
- St Paul’s Hospital (new) – Founder’s Wall
- Various other hospitals, schools, libraries

**Community Involvement**

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- **Community Preview – Finding Fred Lee – StoryTelling Centre** – Vancouver 2022
- **Community Preview – Finding Fred Lee – Kamloops BC - 2022**
- **Honourary Rocky Mountain Ranger – Kamloops BC - 2018**
- **Patron – Chinese Canadian Military Museum – 2018**
- **City of Burnaby 2013** – Environmental Sustainability Strategy Committee
- **Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee 2012** – Medal Program for Gov Gen office
- **Entrepreneur-in-Residence** - SFU Venture Labs (2012 to 2017)
- **Mentor-in-Residence** - SFU Venture Connection (2010 to 2012)
- **Vancouver 2010 Olympics Volunteer** – Technology Sector (2009-2010)
- **Torchbearer** – Vancouver 2010 Olympics
- **BCIT Entrepreneurship** - Program Advisory Committee (2005-2008)

**Background**

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Born, raised and educated in Vancouver Canada, where he resides as an active citizen involved with startup technology businesses and various charities. An **E&Y Entrepreneur of the Year**, he acts as a mentor, advisor and/or Board Director to various people and organizations. He is a rare startup-to-ipo-to-exit-sale entrepreneur. The establishment of his own charities upon the exit sale of Extreme CCTV in 2008 has allowed for significant community giving in perpetuity.

Export market development has required a history of travel - 38 countries, mostly in the Asia-Pacific and Europe, and extensively throughout North America. His work as an independent director, philanthropist and **story-telling filmmaker** requires a full agenda in time and travel.

He is an outdoor sports enthusiast currently focused on golf and downhill skiing. He is a father to three, a grandfather to three, and a member of the Vancouver Golf Club.

**Jack’s 4G Rule ...** Live to Give. Do Good. Thank God. Play Golf. **Live-Do-Thank-Play**



# Screenings of Gino - A Child of War

**ILCENTRO** ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTRE

IS PROUD TO PRESENT



TICKETS  
\$16  
MATINEE

**Sunday June 2nd, 2:00pm Matinee, doors open at 1:30**



For Tickets scan the QR code or call Cathy Bach (778) 995-2306

IL CENTRO ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTRE, 3075 SLOCAN STREET, VANCOUVER, BC

"Gino: A Child of War" is an inspiring docu-drama, shedding light on an incredible story of hope and boundless kindness of the human spirit amid the chaos of war. The film narrates the story of Gino Farnetti-Bragaglia, a five-year-old boy who, in 1944, was a frightened, hungry, and wandering amidst the war-torn ruins of Torrice, Italy, by compassionate Canadian soldiers. For the next ten months, Gino found shelter, nourishment, and care among his Canadian 'guardian angels'. A special relationship developed between Gino, Lloyd 'Red' Oliver and other Canadian soldiers. This film portrays their remarkable relationship and the story that connects them to this day.





**Evening event – Adults only**



**IL CENTRO** ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTRE  
IS PROUD TO PRESENT

A ROBERT CURTIN FILM  
GINO FARNETTI-BRAGAGLIA MARIANGELA RONDINELLI GIANNI BLASI & HARRY ANTHONY KOONAR

# GINO

## A CHILD OF WAR

A COMBINED FORCES PRODUCTION

**TICKETS \$27.50 EVENING**

A SPECIAL PRESENTATION

[iCFF] Italian Contemporary Film Festival  
VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA  
Canadian Film Centre  
United Film Festival Production Group Presents

**Sunday June 2nd, 7:00pm Evening, doors open at 6:30**

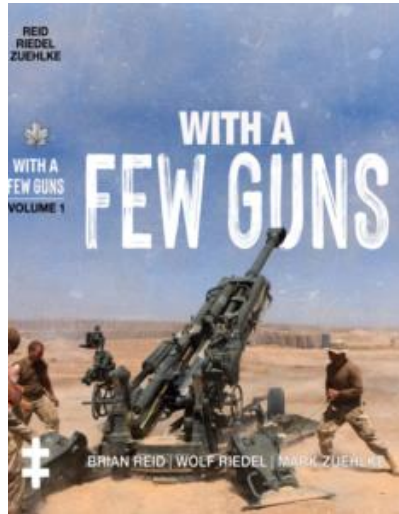


**For Tickets scan the QR code or call Karen (403) 478-0435**

**IL CENTRO ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTRE, 3075 SLOCAN STREET, VANCOUVER, BC**

"Gino: A Child of War" is an inspiring docu-drama, shedding light on an incredible story of hope and boundless kindness of the human spirit amid the chaos of war. The film narrates the story of Gino Farnetti-Bragaglia, a five-year-old boy discovered frightened, hungry, and wandering amidst the war-torn ruins of Torrice, Italy, in 1944, by compassionate Canadian soldiers. For the next ten months, Gino found shelter, nourishment, and care among his Canadian 'guardian angels'. A special bond formed between Gino, Lloyd 'Red' Oliver and other Canadian soldiers. This film portrays their remarkable relationship and the untold story that connects them to this day.

## With a Few Guns



### **With A Few Guns – The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery in Afghanistan Volume I 2002-2006**

Authored by Col (Retd) Wolf Riedel and Mark Zuehlke,  
building on the work of LCol (Retd) Brian Reid

This two-volume set captures the experiences of Canadian Gunners and the Regimental family during the Afghanistan era.

- Volume 1 – 2002-2006, publication date **4 December 2023!**  
The translation “Avec quelques canons” is expected for autumn 2024.
- Volume 2 – 2007 to 2014, targeted publication date 2024/2025

[READ SELECTED EXCERPTS FROM VOLUME 1](#)

<https://rca-arc.org/excerpts-from-with-a-few-guns/>

*We can't complete Volume 2 without your help. Be part of this significant undertaking – tell your story, submit your photos. Even the smallest detail touches someone!*

Contact [mrgnrsmith@gmail.com](mailto:mrgnrsmith@gmail.com) and make sure *our* story is recorded for generations to come!

“With A Few Guns” is dedicated to the greater family of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery—from those who served with distinction in the face of danger in Afghanistan, to those who trained and supported them to become mission-ready, and especially to those who kept the rest of the family together at home. In memory of “Reid B.A of the RCA” (1939-2023) and his dedicated service to the Guns, his sage advice and his literary prowess in recording parts of the Canadian Army’s rich history.

**[With a Few Guns E-Book - Now Available on Amazon](#)**

See: <https://www.amazon.ca/Few-Guns-Artillery-Afghanistan-2002-2006/dp/1990644864>

# 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of Holland Battlefield Tour



**OP TAKE POST  
To Gunners and  
friends**



**Fields of Fire Tours  
and Merit Travel Canada  
presents**

## **80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Victory Tour 2-11 May 2025 Gunners in the Liberation of the Netherlands**



An American in the back of a tank of the 101st Airborne Division in the 'Victory' town of the Netherlands.



- Attend the Canadian ceremony at Wageningen on Liberation Day.
- Visit important Canadian battlefields in the Netherlands
- Pay tribute to Canada's war dead of the Victory Campaign
- Visit the Dutch Army Artillery Museum
- Visit monuments, museums, and Commonwealth War Cemeteries
- Led by experienced military historians and veterans.

For more information contact Merit Travel  
TZajkovski@MeritTravel.com or BTrudeauSt.Onge@MeritTravel.com, or  
call 866-341-1777 | Trina #6214 or Brianne #6902

## 80th Anniversary of Victory Tour

**Day 1 – 2 May** ... Depart Canada for Amsterdam.

**Day 2 – 3 May** ... We arrive in Amsterdam, meet our bus and then drive to our hotel. In the afternoon we will visit the Airborne Museum in Arnhem to examine this epic battle. We will check into our hotel for the next eight nights:

**Mercure Hotel Nijmegen**

**Day 3 – 4 May** ... Today is the Dutch Remembrance Day and we will attend the Canadian memorial ceremony at Holten Canadian War Cemetery and the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery.

**Day 4 – 5 May** ... This is the big day for ceremonies: Liberation Day. We will join the crowds of people in Wageningen for the Canadian commemoration and parade. Some of our group will march in the parade.

**Day 5 – 6 May** ... We will hit the battlefields today when we look at the largest Canadian directed operation of the war: Op Veritable. We will end the day with a visit to Groesbeek Cemetery and the nearby Liberation Museum

**Day 6 – 7 May** ... Today we will visit the Dutch Artillery Museum in t'Harde. The day will wrap up with the Heroes March across the Oversteek Bridge in Nijmegen.

**Day 7 – 8 May** ... Today we will be back on the battlefields as we tour the sites of Operation Blockbuster, the Hochwald, and the capture of Xanten.

**Day 8 – 9 May** ... Our last day on the battlefield will see us visiting the crossing of the Rhine in Op Plunder and the battles for Emmerich. We will also see where the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Parachute Battalion landed on Op Varsity.

**Day 9 – 10 May** ... Several options today, including a free day in the Nijmegen area, or a daytrip to Amsterdam by train or bus, where the resistance museum and the art galleries are highly recommended. Our last night in Nijmegen.

**Day 10 – 11 May** ... We will depart early to get our flights back to Canada from Amsterdam airport. Anyone staying on in Europe can make easy connections from the airport.

### Tour Price (Land Only)

**CAD \$3700** – (per person, Double occupancy)  
(single supplement: **\$1150** – limited availability)

Airfare can be added, see with travel agent and will vary according to point of departure.

**\$600 per person non-refundable deposit required by the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2024**  
**Balance of payment required 29 January 2025**

#### Price includes:

- \* all breakfasts and a bagged lunch daily
- \* all travel by coach bus
- \* accommodation as shown in the itinerary
- \* opening reception and final dinner
- \* services of historian/guides

#### Not Included:

- \* return airfare from Canada to Amsterdam
- \* travel insurance
- \* train trip to Amsterdam on free day
- \* Lunch & dinner on 11 May
- \* items of a personal nature such as beverages

Note: limited single room availability – “first come, first served”

**All terms and conditions available at [www.foftours.com](http://www.foftours.com)**

For more information contact Merit Travel  
TZajkovski@MeritTravel.com or BTrudeauSt.Onge@MeritTravel.com, or  
call 866-341-1777 | Trina #6214 or Brianne #6902

# 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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](#)

