

Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News Feb 25, 2020

Newsletters normally are emailed on Monday evenings. If you don't get a future newsletter on time, check the websites below to see if there is a notice about the current newsletter or to see if the current edition is posted there. If the newsletter is posted, please contact me at bob.mugford@gmail.com to let me know you didn't get your copy.

Newsletter 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 need your support to keep the lunches going. Hope all you regular attendees can keep coming. The Mess serves a great 5 course buffet meal for only \$20. Guests are always welcome, and we encourage members to bring their significant others and friends. Dress - Jacket and tie, equivalent for Ladies. For serving personnel, uniform of the day is always acceptable at lunch.

Upcoming events – Mark your calendars See attached posters for details.

Feb 26 NOABC Luncheon Speaker - Capt Don Chapman – 737 Max

Mar 06 78FH & 15 Fd Whiskey Tasting

Apr 05 Vimy Day Commemoration & Army Cadet Parade

World War 2 – 1945

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

Feb 26th: Strange, Egypt never declared war on Italy and Germany when their armies were on its soil, but they now declare war on Germany and Japan... one might think they want to get on this ‘United Nations’ thing the Allies keep talking about. The Germans start to evacuate wounded and refugees from the Pomeranian coast. Meiktila’s airfields are pressed into service to fly in reinforcements for 17th Division. Corregidor is liberated although a few Japanese are still hiding (20 will surrender in 1946), but 894 Americans have become casualties in addition to over 6,600 Japanese dead and 69 mostly wounded prisoners. There are renewed British and Canadian attacks in the Rhineland towards Uedem and Calcar. The Rhineland Campaign is the last of a trio of utterly brutal campaigns undertaken by the Canadians in Northwest Europe; which makes the hard-bitten fighters who remain more valuable than ever. In one of these attacks, Sgt Aubrey Cosens of the Queen’s Own Rifles of Canada, directs the four remaining men of his platoon to give him covering fire while he directs a tank to break up a German counter-attack, then support his lone assault on a trio of defended farm buildings. A sniper kills

him when he reports to his company commander. He is posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross.

Feb 27th: Udem and Calcar are taken in the Rhineland; Third Army is converging on Trier; and elements of 1st Army reach Modrath en route to Cologne. With their supply route endangered at Meiktila, the Japanese are finding it difficult to keep 19th Indian from lunging towards Mandalay. Iwo Jima has an enduring legacy of heroism; and another of the many men who fell there is Gunnery Sergeant William G Walsh of the 27th Marines. His companies have repeatedly gone up the heavily defended slope of Hill 362 and taken heavy losses, but have been clearing out numerous pillboxes, trenches and bunkers. Gunnery Sergeant Walsh has been instrumental in leading this assault. Finally, at the summit, many of the remaining Japanese have clustered together on the reverse slope and shower the handful of remaining Marines with grenades. When one grenade lands amidst his men, Gunny Walsh immediately throws himself upon it. He is posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

Feb 28th: The Japanese belief that the British Corps at Meiktila is lightly armed is about to be dismissed – as the opening barrage and tank support for the 17th Indian Infantry lunges into this vital Japanese communications and supply centre. Troops from 41st US Infantry land on Palawan in the Philippines, at Puerto Princesa. Pharmacists Mate 2nd Class John Harlan Willis of the US Navy is serving as a corpsman with the 27th Marines on Iwo Jima. As the Marines he serves with close in on the intricately designed death traps of a Japanese defensive complex, he is himself wounded while tending to wounded Marines. Evacuated to a battalion aid station, he returns to his company and resumes his work. Working forward to a wounded marine pinned in a shell crater, he is subjected to a series of grenade attacks from Japanese infantry. He hurls back eight of their grenades before the ninth one explodes in his hands, killing him. His selfless courage results in a posthumous award of the Medal of Honor.

March 1945: The Rhine is Crossed

“There was a lot of flak up there. The American pilots kept completely steady. When an aircraft was hit, the pilot would fly on and get rid of his parachutists and only then would he abandon ship or turn and try to get back.” -Brigadier Nigel Poett, commander of the British 5th Parachute Brigade on the Rhine Crossing

General: 179,000 tons of bombs are dropped by Allied Heavy Bombers on Germany with a series of massive raids (1 US raid uses 1,500 bombers). Le May redesigns B-29 tactics for Japan.

Mar 1st: TF-58 works over Okinawa today, sinking a pair of minor Japanese warships. The Japanese are hanging on to a few blocks in Manila’s administrative centre. The Marines on Iwo Jima start trying to take the 3rd Airfield on the island. The Soviets rupture the German defences in Pomerania and lunge toward Kolberg. US 9th Army is making excellent progress towards the Rhine and takes Munchen-Gladbach and Neuss. Canada’s Fred Tilston had a reputation for being stubborn, today he proves it. In the Rhineland Offensive, Major Fred Tilston of the Essex Scottish Regiment leads his company on a ferocious assault into a well-prepared German

position in the Hochwald. Tilston's stubborn courage and leadership make all the difference in a prolonged hard-fought encounter against repeated German counterattacks, but he is wounded three times during the fight and eventually loses both legs and wins the Victoria Cross. The full citation is well worth reading – but it is a long one.

Mar 2nd: King Michael of Romania is forced to dismiss his government because of Soviet pressure. American warships bombard targets in the Ryukyus. Trier is captured by XX Corps of US 3rd Army while 9th Army captures Venlo and Roermond, while reaching the Rhine opposite Dusseldorf. Stab me, will you? Naik Fazal Din of the 10th Baluch Regiment is leading his men in clearing bunkers when six Japanese rush him and one stabs Din through the chest with a sword. Din wrestles the sword away, kills his assailant with it and rallies his men by killing another Japanese soldier. He dies of his wounds after reporting to his platoon commander and is subsequently awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross.

Mar 3rd: Manila is liberated, but the city's appearance hasn't been improved by it; 20,000 Japanese soldiers are dead in the rubble as are about 1,000 Americans and as many as 100,000 civilians killed by the despairing Japanese. US marines capture the third airfield on Iwo Jima and finally clear the 'The Mincer' – the hard core in the defences on the Island. Canadian and US troops link up at Geldern, thus chopping what is left of the Rhineland defences into a pocket. US 7th Army takes Forbach. 17th Indian Division completes its capture of Meiktila and starts digging in, the Japanese forces to the north have their supply lines completely severed. SS Gruppenfuhrer Arthur Nebe (who has evidently been an increasingly reluctant SS officer since 1938) is hung for complicity in the July 20th plot against Hitler. A leader whose men have become a well-knit team cannot but love them, but there can be a very steep price to pay for this love. Lt William Basil Weston is with the West Yorkshires during the clearing of Meiktila. He is leading his platoon with superb skill against a fiercely resisting enemy when they encounter a particularly well-defended bunker. He is wounded in the entrance way. Knowing that his men cannot finish the destruction of the bunker and will incur heavy casualties if they attempt to rescue him, he detonates one of his own grenades, taking his own life but finishing the enemy and sparing his men further loss. He is posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross.

New Batch of Machine Guns for Canadian Military

Will be delivered in December *David Pugliese, Ottawa Citizen January 28, 2020*



C6A1 FLEX General Purpose Machine Guns.

Colt Canada photo.

The Canadian government is buying a little more than 3,600 machine guns to replace aging weapons in its stocks. An earlier batch

of new machine guns have already been delivered to some of the troops. For this latest contract, the government is purchasing 3,626 new C6A1 FLEX General Purpose Machine Guns (GPMGs) from Colt Canada of Kitchener, ON. First deliveries of this batch of new GPMGs are anticipated in December 2020, with final deliveries in July 2023, the Department of National Defence noted in a news release. The value of the contract is \$96.97 million but that includes taxes. The guns feature a durable polymer butt stock instead of the current wooden style, according to the Department of National Defence.

Additionally, soldiers will be able to attach pointing devices and optical sighting systems to the new weapon to help increase their operational effectiveness. The General Purpose Machine Gun usually sells to military forces for around \$13,000. The DND says the cost for this purchase is around double because other gear and spare parts are being bought at the same time. “The total acquisition is 8,790 items, which includes 3,626 C6s and over 5,000 supplementary items, including a variety of spare parts, cleaning and repair kits, (and) slings to carry the GPMG,” DND spokesman Dan Le Bouthillier noted. Some of the extra cost, however, is the premium to have the guns supplied by Colt Canada. This was a non-competitive contract awarded to Colt Canada under the Munitions Supply Program. With the MSP, Canada has chosen to maintain the capability to produce military munitions and small arms domestically.

A number of the new weapons will be mounted on vehicles such as the Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle and the rest will be used to help replenish reserve stock, according to the DND. The machine guns are to replace weapons that were purchased 30 years ago and are reaching the end of their service life. In July 2017 the Canadian government announced it was purchasing 1148 new C6A1 FLEX General Purpose Machine Guns from Colt Canada. The first batch of those guns has been delivered. Some are already in the hands of the soldiers. The older C6 machine guns will eventually be taken out of service and declared surplus. “The eventual disposal plan will take into account the fact that the C6 GPMG is a prohibited firearm and various options will be assessed, including using them as in-classroom training aids for Canadian Armed Forces training schools, museum display, deactivation, sale, donation, or destruction through smelting,” the DND told *Defence Watch*.

New Armoured Vehicle Fleet Faces More Problems

Civilian vehicle hit near Petawawa. *David Pugliese, Ottawa Citizen February 18, 2020*



Soldiers with the King's Own Calgary Regiment show off one of the military's new \$2.5 Million TAPV (Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle) vehicles at Spruce Meadows on Thursday June 7, 2018. Gavin Young/Postmedia

The Canadian military is investigating potential problems with brakes on its new armoured vehicle fleet which may have contributed to a number of incidents, including where one of the 18-tonne vehicles hit a car near Petawawa. There have been

eight reported incidents involving problems with stopping or issues with brakes affecting the Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicles, or TAPVs. A formal safety advisory was issued Feb. 12 to the army units using the \$600-million TAPV fleet. But the use of the vehicles is not being restricted at this time. The brake issues started being reported in January 2018 and the intermittent problem has only occurred at speeds in the range of five to 15 kilometres an hour, according to the Canadian Forces. “We are working with experts to try and determine if there is a problem with the vehicles braking performance at low-speed, and if the problem is isolated to a few vehicles or the result of something that may affect the wider fleet,” noted army spokesman LCol Doug MacNair.

So far, the Canadian Forces and Department of National Defence has been unable to replicate the reported problem, nor have inspections uncovered any obvious causes. There have been no injuries as a result of the incidents. Among the eight incidents is a Feb. 3 accident during which a TAPV rolled through a red light and hit a civilian vehicle near Canadian Forces Base Petawawa. No injuries were reported, and Ontario Provincial Police issued a ticket to the TAPV driver for failing to stop at a red light. Driver error was the “apparent problem” according to the Canadian Forces. But sources point out the driver in question reported problems with the TAPV brakes. During a change of command parade in Halifax in November 2019 a TAPV hit a wall causing minor damage after the brakes failed to stop the vehicle. A soldier near the vehicle had to “take evasive action to avoid being struck,” according to the Canadian Forces. In one case the brakes on a TAPV caught fire. In the aftermath of several other incidents involving brake failure large amounts of ice were found in the brake drums. In another case a TAPV hit the side of a bridge during training. “Following each of these incidents, technicians were unable to locate a problem with the brakes after they conducted technical inspections,” the Canadian Forces added.

In 2016 the TAPV fleet had brake issues. At that time, it was determined the anti-lock braking system on the vehicles was engaging erratically at higher speeds. A retrofit was introduced across the entire fleet to deal with that problem. The military says there is no evidence to suggest a connection between the 2016 braking issues and these latest incidents. Last year this newspaper reported on a series of rollovers and fires affecting the TAPV fleet. Between April 2014 and January 2019 there had been 10 incidents when Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicles have tipped on to their sides, six where they have rolled over completely, and four where they have caught fire. Pat Finn, then the assistant deputy minister in charge of procurement at the Department of National Defence, said at the time there have been no serious injuries as a result of the incidents. Finn suggested the rollovers might be caused because of the high centre of gravity the vehicles have. Training was improved to deal with the issue of rollovers. No explanation was provided at the time for the cause behind the fires.

The TAPVs have also faced other problems, according to DND documents obtained by this newspaper using the Access to Information law. The TAPV program has “experienced a number of significant technical issues, particularly affecting vehicle mobility,” then-Conservative defence minister Rob Nicholson was told in August 2014. There have been problems with the suspension, steering and other items on the vehicle, according to the briefing

document for Nicholson. The technical issues significantly delayed the test program for the vehicles, the document added. The Conservative government announced the TAPV contract in 2012 as part of its re-equipping of the Canadian Army. Canada bought 500 TAPVs from Textron, a U.S. defence firm, at a cost of \$603 million. The TAPV is a wheeled combat vehicle that will conduct reconnaissance and surveillance, security, command and control, and armoured transport of personnel and equipment. The TAPV project cost taxpayers a total of \$1.2 billion, which not only includes the vehicles but also includes the building of infrastructure to house them, as well as the purchase of ammunition and service support for the equipment.

The US Army is Finally Testing New Combat Boots

Thousands of Soldiers Complained About Their Current Pair.

Matthew Cox, Military.com January 14, 2019

US Army footwear experts have begun field-testing a handful of new combat boot designs after thousands of soldiers responded to a survey that they would rather buy their own than wear service-issued boots. The survey, conducted by the Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Soldier Center at Natick, Massachusetts, found that about 50 percent of the 14,000 soldiers surveyed prefer to buy commercial-made combat boots that are "lighter, more flexible, require less break-in time, and feel more like athletic shoes than traditional combat boots," Anita Perkins, RDECOM Soldier Center footwear research engineer and technical lead for the Army Combat Boot Improvement effort, said in a recent press release. "Great strides have been made recently in the Army's environment-specific footwear, for jungle, mountain, or cold weather locations, but there is substantial room for improvement in the general-purpose boots which are issued to new recruits."



Army Combat Boot Prototype A is made with a soft 'tumbled' leather which will reduce break-in time, as well as a low density midsole to reduce weight.

(US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command)

The Army awarded contracts to Altama, Belleville Boot Company and McRae Footwear to design prototype boots featuring new types of leather and other materials for more flexibility and reduced weight, David Accetta, a spokesman for Army Natick Soldier Research, Development & Engineering Center, told Military.com. One of the manufacturers designed two prototypes, and the other two submitted one each, but information on which company designed which prototype was unavailable at press time.

Army Combat Boot Prototype B is fully lined and padded to increase comfort and reduce blisters. The cupped outsole is stitched to the upper for high durability at low weight.

(US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command)



This month, the Army is issuing the new combat boot prototypes to recruits in Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Soldiers stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, will also participate in the test, Accetta said. One hundred pairs of each type are going to both Fort Leonard Wood and Fort Jackson, and 200 pairs of each prototype will go to Fort Bliss, he said.



Army Combat Boot Prototype C is constructed from "split" or suede leather to increase flexibility and breathability of the upper, as well as a low density midsole to reduce weight.
(US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command)

The soldiers will wear the boots throughout training. Army testers are scheduled to return to the three locations in March and April to collect soldier feedback. The different prototypes will also be tested and evaluated in the Footwear Performance Lab at Natick using a number of high-technology tests for properties such as breathability, durability, break-in period, water resistance, shock attenuation, ankle stability and support, flexibility and traction, Accetta said.

Army Combat Boot Prototype D is manufactured with novel high-strength woven fabric in place of the leather used in traditional combat boots. This is expected to eliminate the need for break-in while increasing flexibility and breathability.
(US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command)



The Soldier Center will then provide recommendations to Project Manager Soldier Protection and Individual Equipment for future development of the next generation of Army Combat Boots. "It is not likely that one of these prototypes will become the next Army combat boot," Accetta said. "After the testing and evaluation by soldiers, we will collect feedback that will be used to create the next prototype using the best features from the different boots. It is entirely possible that materials and design features from one boot will be combined with materials and design features from another boot."

Vancouver Artillery Association Yearbook Updates

It's been a bit of a slow week on the website. I've discovered that there are only so many names that I could fit on one page of our on-line nominal roll. Apparently, once you reach that limit, it begins to severely bog down. I've reached that limit and currently working on dividing u the pages 500+ Bs equals 5 pages NOT 1 page. Sigh. Only 4,000 more names to move around....

Here's the latest uploads:

A couple of Gunners were helping out the 39 Signal Regiment as casualties
<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2020.html>

Master Bombardier Donato Calogero on course in 1987

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1987.html>

Major Ord from 5th Canadian Siege Battery passed away in 1952

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1952.html>

Who was the first member of the 15th to land on Juno Beach? Apparently, the padre!

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1944.html>

A couple of new group photos have gone up:

15th (Vancouver) Coast Brigade RCA Headquarters in 1940

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1940---15th-vcr-coast-bde-rca-casf.html>

31st Heavy Battery RCA in 1941

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1941---15th-vcr-coast-bde-rca-casf.html>

War Diaries from 5th Canadian Siege Battery have been updated on line.

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/war-diaries>

Commanding officers and Regimental Sergeants Major books are now on line

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/commanding-officers-and-regimental-sergeants-major>

Keep those stories, names, calendar events and pictures coming!

president.vcrgunners@gmail.com

Who (or What) Is It?

Last Week: This is an ARL 44 tank at Mourmelon-le-Grand, a military camp in north-eastern France. The **ARL 44** was a French heavy tank, the development of which started just before the end of the Second World War. The specifications were not at first overly ambitious and called for a thirty-ton vehicle with 60 mm of armour and armed with a 75 mm SA modèle 1944 Long 70 gun, rendering a penetration of 80 mm steel at 1000 metres and developed by engineer Lafargue from the 75 mm CA 32 gun. The ARL 44 clearly shows that it is based on earlier French heavy tank design. The hull is long, 722 centimetres, but relatively narrow, just as a vehicle meant to cross wide trenches would be. The covered suspension, with its many small road wheels, that had already been outdated in the thirties, is the most obvious sign of its basic Char B1 ancestry; it is in essence identical to that of the Char B1 ter. Only sixty of these tanks were ever completed, from 1949 onwards. The type proved to be unsatisfactory and was phased out in 1953.



This Week: As a nipper, growing up in an era of fast technological change, and in an area whose skies were often filled with amazing aircraft (I once even glimpsed the legendary Avro

Arrow!), it is only natural that I developed an early interest in science and science fiction. The lurid covers of popular magazines and books of that time still give me a thrill. Indeed, my elementary school pal, George, and I even penned a book in grade four, in which Martians invaded our planet. Our illustrated tome was inspired by HG Wells' "War of the Worlds", or, to be accurate, the Classics Illustrated version. We were certain that it was only a matter of time before our dreams became reality, and had great confidence in the idea of progress, eagerly anticipating our atomic-powered cars and personal helicopters that would fly us the three blocks to Fairfield Elementary in Cardinal Heights, just south of RCAF Station Rockcliffe. Sadly, the tycoons of industry had other priorities, so we are still waiting.



However, not all our dreams failed to come true, as this week's photo might prove. Surely, this is an alien ship of some sort, hidden away by the authorities in some dusty, remote storage facility deep within a restricted area, and controlled

by an agency so secretive that it doesn't even have a name. Or is it? We leave the answer to you. Please tell us from what planet this ship originates by contacting the editor, (bob.mugford@gmail.com), or the author, Space Cadet John Redmond (johnd._redmond@telus.net). To infinity, and beyond!

From the 'Punitary'

What do you call a mind reader who can't read minds anymore? A telepathetic

Murphy's Other Laws

The commander in the field is always right and the rear echelon is wrong, unless proved otherwise.

Quotable Quotes

Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune; but great minds rise above them. -
Washington Irving



The Naval Officers' Association of British Columbia
Founded 1919

Luncheon Speaker's Series organized by NOABC

Wednesday, February 26, 2020
1130 am for lunch at 12:00noon - Speaker at 1pm.
Officers Mess Bessborough Armoury
2025 West 11th Ave. Vancouver, BC.

Aviation Safety and the Boeing 737 Max
Captain Don Chapman, Recently Retired United Airline Pilot

Fixing the 737 MAX and getting it back in the air is crucial for Boeing. But it's not the only major challenge facing the embattled aircraft maker. Boeing also needs to focus on its next generation of passenger planes. Boeing has made its efforts clear as it works on getting the 737 MAX approved to fly which is expected to happen by the middle of this year. How will the eventual FAA approval be received by air passengers? Will potential customers shun this aircraft due to its safety record? What has led to the failings of Boeing and the FAA to come to this? Captain Don Chapman will share some of his thoughts on the 737 MAX Saga.

Speaker's biography



Flying is his passion and Captain Don Chapman is also the founder of the "Lost Canadian Organization" (www.lostcanadian.com) that has helped thousands of "lost Canadians" regain their Canadian citizenship. However, he will speak to us not on the "Lost Canadians" (as that will be a future topic at another lunch) but on aviation safety today. Prior to founding the Lost Canadian organization Don was flying full-time as an airline pilot and a strong advocate for aviation safety. He has testified before the US Congress when at that time his life was

being threatened for speaking out. Don is very passionate about air flight safety and was a source for the CBC on their story regarding aviation safety. Over twelve years ago he took a leave of absence from flying as a commercial pilot for United Airline and devoted full-time not for personal gains but to serve and help others. As FAA rules all commercial pilots must retire by the age of 65, he reluctantly halted his community service a year and a half ago and re-certified himself with United and flew in 2019 in control and captain of his aircraft. He retired last fall.

Don has volunteered his services at several schools, lecturing from the University of Toronto Dental school talking about finances to being invited to address the law schools at the University of New Brunswick and at UVIC. He also has spoken at many, many US and Canadian Universities, including dozens of service organizations from the Rotary and Lions, to the Vancouver Club and Military organizations.

**If you plan to attend the lunch and presentation, please respond to David Reece
by Sunday, February 23, 2020**

At either drees@telus.net or call/text at 778-227-8203 so that he can advise the caterer.

**15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA
&
The 78th Fraser's Highlanders**

Annual 2020 Fund Raiser and Whisky Tasting Night

The 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA and the 78th Fraser's Highlanders invite you, and any like-minded guests of your acquaintance, to attend our annual fund raising and whisky tasting event at the historic Bessborough Armoury. There will be food, draw prizes, music, and there will be whisky!

For the Full 'Whisky Fleet', Tickets are **\$55.00** per person by Credit Card, Cheque, or by exact change, otherwise your \$60 in bills will be gratefully accepted towards our good cause. Bernard who will be relieving you of your burden of carrying cash will meet you at the front door and will be most appreciative. For those who are driving or prefer the options from the No-Host bar, you pay a meager **\$25.00**.

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

Dress is business casual. Kilts and highland dress, of course, are most welcome.

DATE: Friday – March 6th, 2020

TIME: 1800 hrs – 2300 hrs

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

**DO NOT MISS OUT!
TO RESERVE YOUR TICKET CONTACT:**

Major James Barrett
Cell: (604) 916-1766
E-Mail: barrettjd007@gmail.com

All profits raised by the event will be equally shared between the 15th Field Regimental Society and the 78th Fraser Highlanders Fort Fraser Garrison in support of their activities.

Tax receipts will be issued for all donations upon request.

Vimy Day Commemoration & Army Cadet Parade



You are invited to attend

The Vimy Day Commemoration & Army Cadet Parade

at

Mountain View Cemetery

5455 Fraser Street, Vancouver, BC

Commonwealth War Graves Section

on

Sunday - April 5, 2020 – 10:15 am

*The Vimy Day Commemoration is sponsored by
RUSI Vancouver Society with generous support from
Mountain View Cemetery and Veterans Affairs Canada.*

VIA Rail Savings to CAF Veterans and DND Civilian Personnel

VIA Rail offers savings on train travel in Canada to Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members, veterans, and National Defence Civilian Personnel: 25% discount on the best available adult, senior, student, youth and child fares in all classes & all trains for qualifying DND/CAF members and immediate family.

How to Book:- Use the discount code “12070” when booking your train travel. To book online: <http://www.viarail.ca/en/canadian-forces>

When booking by telephone or at a VIA station advise the VIA agent that you wish the military discount prior to the agent booking your travel.

What identification do I require?

The offer is valid for any passenger 18 years of age or older who has at least one of the following forms of identification plus one additional piece of photo identification:

- CAF Identification Card (NDI 20)
- Record of Service Card (NDI 75)
- Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) Benefit Card
- Discharge Certificate from any branch of the CAF
- Statement of Service from any branch of the CAF
- Valid DND Temporary ID card (NDI 10)
- Civilian employees must present their DND ID card and COne card
- CAF member or veteran COne card (with photo ID)

More information - For more information visit the [VIA Rail website](#).

CARRY-ON BAGGAGE

Active and veteran members of Canadian Forces. Civilian employees

- Retired and current Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members are entitled to extra baggage allowance. This exemption does not extend to family members of the Military.
- Applicable to personal travel or as part of a military assignment.
- Members must present a military identification card.

Carry-On Baggage Allowance:

- No fee for regular baggage exceeding the baggage allowance in weight or quantity
- No fee applies for non-standard items if the passenger is able to carry the baggage on board and if the item is permitted on board (see list).
- If the military member has more baggage than the authorized allowance (in weight or quantity), the member must carry the baggage.
-

CHECKED BAGGAGE

Active and veteran members of Canadian Forces. Civilian employees

- Retired and current Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members are entitled to extra baggage allowance. This exemption does not extend to family members of the Military.
- Applicable to personal travel or as part of a military assignment.
- Members must present a military identification card.

Checked Baggage Allowance

- No fees applicable for additional baggage. The number of additional items is unlimited.
- No fees for items up to 32 kg (70 lbs.).
- No fee applicable for non-standard items that are part of the articles accepted (refer to list) in our baggage cars (canoes, kayaks, bicycles, etc.) . *Please note some items require 48hr notice.
- As a safety measure for our employees, we do not accept baggage weighing more than 32 kg (70 lbs.). The passenger always has the option of bringing the overweight item on board, as long as the member does not require the assistance of an agent. The member also has the option of spreading the weight in more than one baggage.