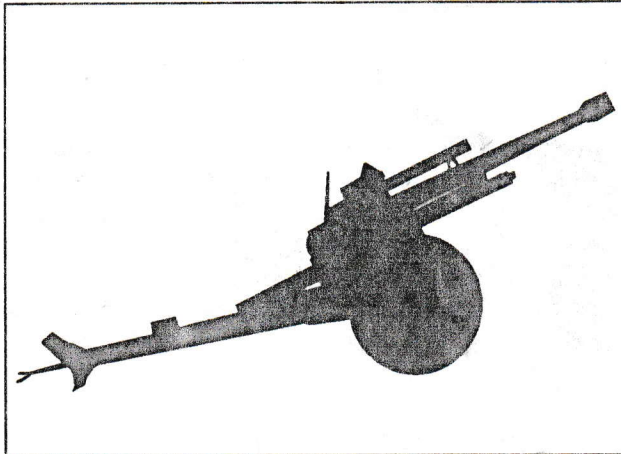


NEWSLETTER

FIFTEENTH FIELD REGIMENT RCA OFFICERS' MESS

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Editor

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15th Field Regiment RCA Officers' Mess Bookings

The Commanding Officer, L Col J.S. Brownlee-Baker, CD, has asked me to remind all members, serving and associate, of the following procedures when booking the Mess for any function:

1. All bookings shall be made through the Adjutant and/or the PMC.
2. If catering facilities are required, the service shall be provided by Mrs. Lum. Function OPIs shall inform Mrs Lum of their catering requirements.
3. Bar facilities should also be requested at the time of booking. If function OPIs require or request their own wine to be served, they are liable for corkage charges. These charges may be waived at the discretion of the Commanding Officer. However, this is a privilege, NOT a right.

Officers' Mess Refurbishing Program

The Mess Committee has launched a program to refurbish the Mess this summer. The first item to be refurbished and restored is the grand piano. This is a major undertaking as the keyboard and innards require a complete overhaul. The case requires complete refinishing and the right leg (which is held in position by gravity only) needs major surgery. It is hoped to have the job completed while the Mess is closed this summer. It is estimated that the total cost of this undertaking will be about \$5000.00. The Regiment's officers are each contributing \$100.00 to this program and the Associate Members are invited to participate as well. Cheques should be made out in favour of "15th Field Regiment Unit Funds." A receipt for tax purposes will be issued.

Commanding Officers' Photos

A question often asked about the framed photographs mounted on the walls of the stairwell leading up to the Officers' Mess is: "Which of the COs are still living?" The small black dot indicates those who are deceased.

15th Field Artillery Museum

The restoration at the Point Grey Fort is getting underway again now that the warm weather is with us. We hope to repair some of the concrete cracks and chipped areas. The door to the War Shelter is in need of some straightening so if anyone has any skills or suggestions as to how we might fix this steel door, please let us know. If you are looking for an outlet for some of your time and talent, we would be happy to see more volunteers working with us. If you can't be a volunteer, we hope you might take out a \$10.00 membership (tax deductible) to support the work of the museum. Please contact Major Vic Stevenson or Captain Keith Brown.

Mess Facilities

All members, Ordinary and Associate, are encouraged to attend and support our excellent lunches every Wednesday. Lunch, which comprises soup, salad, entrée, dessert, tea or coffee, is served from 1200 to 1300 hours for only \$9.50. Also, Associate Members are invited to visit the Mess on Thursday evening parade nights from 2100 to 2300 hours. Do come out!

Mess Photo Gallery

Some time ago your editor requested a biographical sketch and photo from all members of the Mess. The aim is to complete an album of all members so that we can put a face to a name. It would be nice to be able to recognize every member. To date, only a few members have contributed. I am repeating this request in order that we have the album completed and on display.

Military Time-Line: 50 years ago - May 1942

1. British evacuate Mandalay. 2. The next day all British troops withdraw from the north bank of the Irrawaddy River. 3. Reconnaissance photographs show Gneisau, Scharnhorst and Prinz Eugen all badly damaged. 4. In the Battle of the Coral Sea, US Navy planes intercept Japanese invasion fleet and prevent them from landing on Port Moresby; carrier Lexington lost, Yorktown damaged. 5. British forces landing on Madagascar, capture Diego Suarez; on 7 May French naval and military commanders surrender. 6. General Wainwright surrenders 15,000 American and Filipino troops. 8. Chinese under General Stilwell counter attack at Mandalay. 9. Malta bombed continuously and 3-day battle downs 112 enemy planes. 10. Churchill broadcasts that if Germans use gas in Russia, Britain will retaliate. 11. Canadian bill introduced in House of Commons to remove ban on sending conscripts overseas. 15. First British forces retreating from Burma reach India; Germans capture Kerch but Russian counteroffensive is gaining in Karkov region under Marshall Timoshenko. 21. Japan allows Red Cross representatives to visit British prisoners. 24. General Stilwell arrives in Delhi after 20 days trek through Burma. 27. Heydrich assassinated in Prague by Czech resistance fighters. Mexico declares war on Axis powers. 30-31: First RAF Bomber Command 1,000-bomber raid on Cologne. 32: Four Japanese midget submarines enter Sydney Harbour and torpedo a naval depot ship killing 19 seamen.