



Van Arty Assoc and RUSI Van Members News July 30, 2013

Wednesday Lunches

Lunches in the 15th Field Officers Mess continue with Mrs Lum cooking at home and bringing the food in.

Mrs Lum has announced that she will be taking a vacation in August. Last lunch Aug 7th and resume on Sept 4th. NO LUNCHESES on Aug 14, 21 or 28th.

Summer Dress is in effect. Just to clarify, this does not mean shorts, sandals and tee shirts. Summer dress for civilian clothing means you take off your jacket and tie so you can be more comfortable on hot days. On cool days, many of us keep jackets and ties on to keep standards up.

The basic renovation plan submitted for the kitchen has been approved. DND will pay for changes to the building envelope and that leaves us with a cost of around \$20,000. We have collected approximately \$12,000 to date so we will have to get another round of fund raising going to bring in the balance. It is probably too much to hope that the work would be carried out while Mrs Lum is on holiday.

The Royal Canadian Mint honours the 60th anniversary of the Korean Armistice with a special edition silver dollar

In commemoration of the armistice which ended combat on the Korean Peninsula 60 years ago, the Royal Canadian Mint has crafted a 99.99% pure silver dollar featuring an adaptation of the reverse of the original Korea Medal awarded to all Commonwealth forces who served in the war.

In adapting the Korea Medal design for this coin, Royal Canadian Mint engravers faithfully preserved Edward Carter Preston's original depiction of Hercules, the idealized warrior from Greek mythology, slaying the indomitable hydra-headed monster as an allegory for the perilous struggles of war, and a tribute to those who freely go to battle. In addition, the original engraving of "KOREA" has been expanded to include "CORÉE", to reflect Canada's official bilingualism.

Along with the Mary Gillick effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the word "CANADA" appeared on the Korea Medal's obverse in order to distinguish medals awarded to Canadian military personnel. This same effigy, used on Canadian circulation coinage 60 years ago, returns to the obverse of this 2013-dated fine silver coin.

Limited to a mintage of 10,000 examples world-wide, this silver coin is available for \$69.95 CDN. The Royal Canadian Mint will donate \$10.00 from the sale of each coin to Canadian Korean War Veteran organizations.



This silver collector coin can now be ordered directly from the Mint at 1-800-267-1871 in Canada, 1-800-268-6468 in the US, or on the Internet at www.mint.ca. The coin will also be available as of July 9, 2013, at the Royal Canadian Mint's boutiques in Ottawa, Winnipeg and Vancouver, as well as through the Mint's global network of dealers and distributors, including participating Canada Post outlets.

US Services Continue Efforts to Open Combat Jobs for Women

By Claudette Roulo American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, July 25, 2013 - The Defense Department continues working toward its goal of ensuring the mission is met with fully qualified and capable personnel, regardless of gender, the Pentagon's director of officer and enlisted personnel management said here yesterday. Speaking at a House Armed Services Committee subcommittee hearing on women in service, Juliet Beyler said the services and US Special Operations Command are working with research agencies to review and validate occupational standards.

"The department is proceeding in a measured, deliberate and responsible manner to implement changes that enable service members to serve in any capacity based on their ability and qualifications," she said. Each service is conducting thorough doctrine, training, education, facilities and policy analyses to ensure deliberate and responsible implementation, she added. Beyler was joined at the hearing by witnesses from each of the military services and SOCOM. "Our goal is to integrate women leaders and soldiers into recently opened positions and units as expeditiously as possible," said Army Lt Gen Howard B. Bromberg, deputy chief of staff for personnel. The first step is to validate the physical and mental performance standards for every military occupation, he said.

From there, a battery of tests will be developed to assess whether recruits are capable of achieving the standards of their potential occupation, said Marine Corps Lt Gen Robert E.

Milstead Jr, deputy commandant for manpower and reserve affairs. Standards ultimately will become gender-neutral, Bromberg said, though training for those standards may be different for men and women. Occupational training in the Marine Corps is gender-mixed, Milstead told the panel, but in recognition of the need to train men and women differently, the transformation from recruit to Marine is gender-segregated. "Our boot camp is about the transformation of individuals -- men and women -- from being a civilian to being a United States Marine. ... They just need different steps as they go," he said. "They end up in the same place -- they're United States Marines."

The decision to rescind the 1994 rule excluding women from direct ground combat and combat occupations was announced earlier this year. Then-Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and Army Gen Martin E Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, directed the military services and SOCOM to implement the change by Jan. 1, 2016, Beyler said. By September 2015, each service and SOCOM must review and validate all occupational standards to ensure that they are occupationally and operationally relevant and applied gender-neutrally, she added. "We have always maintained that our [special operations forces] standards are occupationally specific, operationally relevant and gender-neutral. They are just the standards," said Army Maj Gen Bennet Sacolick, director of force management and development for SOCOM. "Our review will be a good opportunity to verify this assumption."

Plans for managing the integration of women into previously closed units and occupations already have been submitted and reviewed by Dempsey and Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and were released last month, Beyler said. Each plan manages positions in two general categories: currently open occupations that previously were restricted by the unit of assignment, and currently closed occupations, such as infantry or armor specialties.

"And each has identified decision points by which they will make final determinations to open occupations and positions or request an exception to policy to keep the position or occupation closed," Beyler said. For SOCOM, the focus is on whether small units, operating near or behind enemy lines, can achieve full integration while maintaining unit readiness, cohesion and morale, Sacolick said. "Women have been attached to our combat units for several years, part of our cultural support teams, civil affairs, military information support teams, intelligence support and a host of other occupational specialties," he said. "And they have performed magnificently." The Air Force already has more than 99 percent of its positions open to both men and women, said Brig Gen Gina M. Grosso, director of force management policy and deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. The remaining 4,600 positions are in seven career fields affiliated with special operations and long-range reconnaissance ground combat units. The Air Force is working to open these positions as well, Grosso added. "[The] Navy expects to have no closed occupations, a very limited number of closed positions, and equal professional opportunity for females in every officer designator and enlisted rating by 2016," said Navy Rear Adm Barbara Sweredoski, reserve deputy for military personnel plans and policy.

Exceptions must be personally approved by both the defense secretary and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Beyler said. Opening combat occupations to women will enhance the readiness and combat effectiveness of forces, she added. "Implementation through 2016 will be an evolutionary process," she said. "We are committed to opening positions and occupations when and how it makes sense while preserving unit readiness, cohesion and the quality of the all-volunteer force. "Standards will be uncompromising, established for the task of defending our nation and rooted in carefully analyzed requirements," she added.

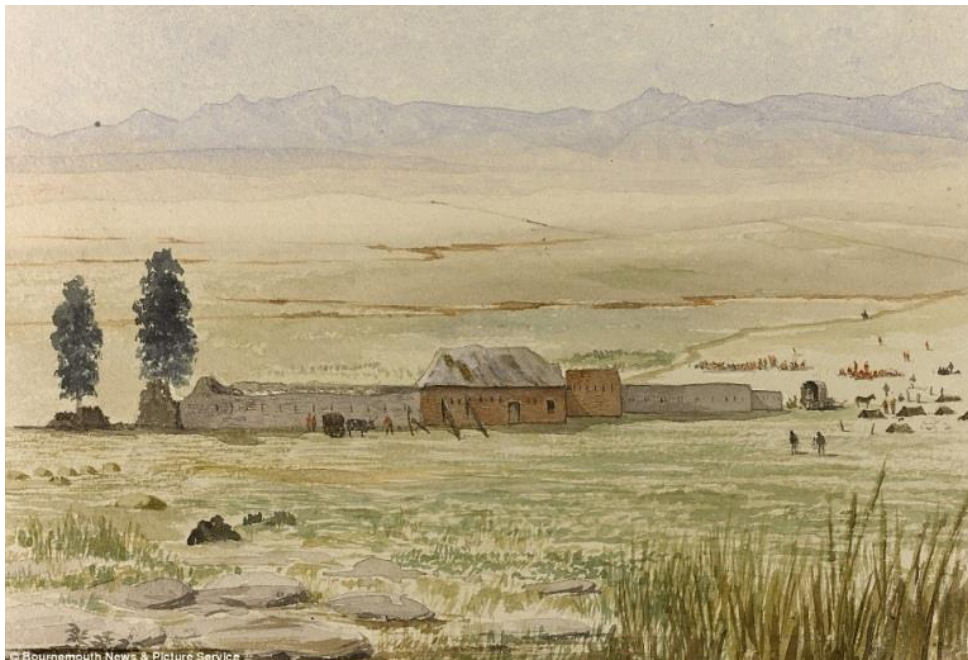
Bromberg said the Army is taking that approach. "We will not sacrifice warfighting capability, the trust of Congress or that of the American people as we seek to enhance force readiness and capability," he said. "We will select the best-qualified soldiers, regardless of gender, for each job within the Army profession, ensuring our future force capability and readiness."

Beyler told the House panel that the Defense Department is committed to doing it right. "We recognize there will be challenges, but we will learn much from each step," she said. "By addressing issues head-on, capitalizing on lessons learned and through open communication with Congress, we will institutionalize these important changes integrating women into occupations and units in a climate where they can succeed and flourish."

Sketches of Rorke's Drift and Zulu war emerge 133 years later.

By [TOM GARDNER](#) PUBLISHED: 18:16 GMT, 29 June 2012 | UPDATED: 18:20 GMT, 29 June 2012

It has gone down in British military history as one of the most astonishing triumphs - achieved against almost impossible odds. The heroic defence of the isolated British outpost of Rorke's Drift fewer than 150 colonial soldiers against the onslaught of up to 4,000 Zulu warriors resulted in 11 Victoria Crosses awarded for only a few hours of fierce fighting. And now, more than 130 years after the crucial battle, which was immortalised in the Michael Caine film *Zulu*, a new eyewitness account of the battle's bloody aftermath has emerged.

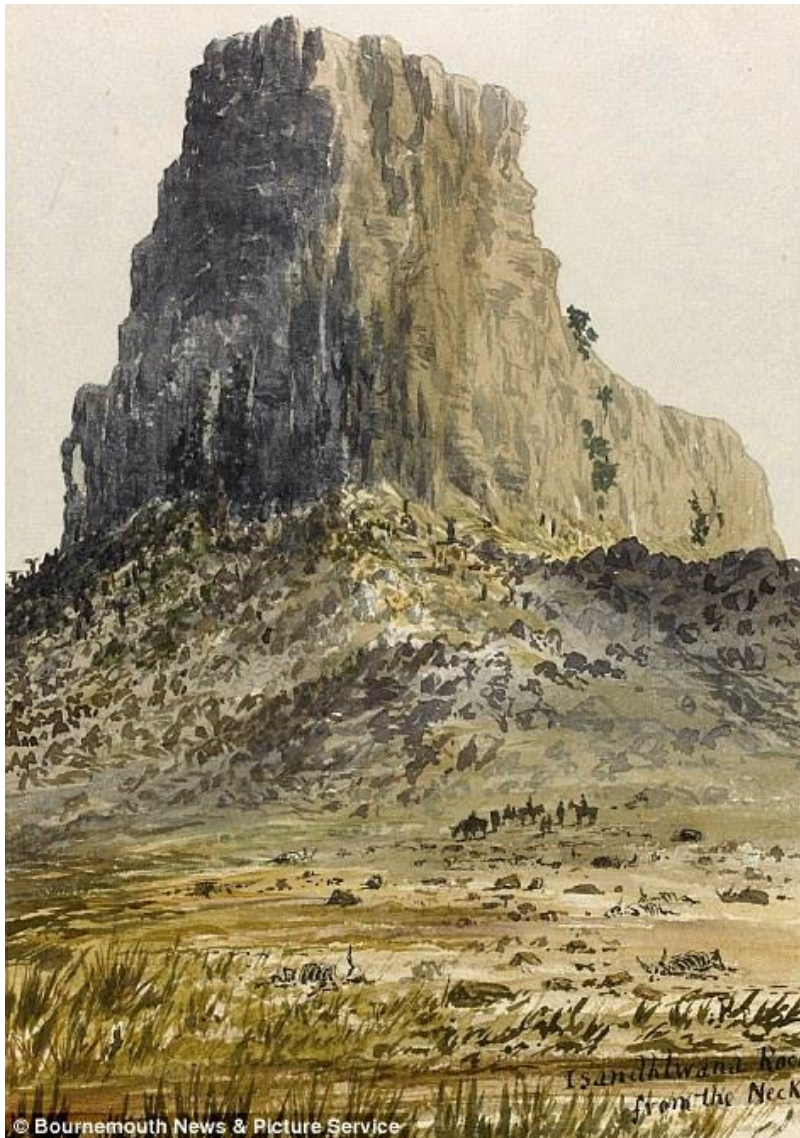


The famous defence of Rorke's Drift house, pictured shortly after the heroic battle to defend the British outpost from the onslaught of up to 6,000 Zulus, resulted in 11 Victoria Crosses being awarded for valour

An astonishing collection of around 100 watercolour and ink drawings created by a soldier fighting in the Anglo-Zulu war - part of a series of military campaigns aimed at subduing a number of African Kingdoms and bringing them under the control of the British Empire - are about to go up for auction. Among the extraordinary sketches is one of Rorke's Drift house, the venue for the famous pitched battle in a war by native Zulus to which turned the Anglo-Zulu war in the British Empire's favour.

William Whitelock Lloyd went to war in South Africa in 1879 with a sketchbook and watercolours stashed in his kit bag. The accuracy of his paintings is remarkable and he recorded the entire conflict from his perspective with the 1st Battalion, 24th Regiment of Foot. The sketches show troop movements and studies of the British soldiers and the Zulu warriors they were fighting. His battalion was part of the second invasion of Zululand in May 1879, travelling with Lord Chelmsford into the heart of Zulu territory. Second Lieutenant Lloyd

sketched their progress, from the temporary cavalry camp in Dundee (Natal) and the troops crossing the Blood River into Zululand.



A group of British soldiers are pictured on reconnaissance duties in Zulu territory, in this picture which forms part of an amazing collection of drawings by William Whitelock Lloyd chronicling the Anglo-Zulu war

He depicted the troops advancing to Ulundi - Zulu King Cetshwayo's capital - and the battle there where 1,500 tribesmen were killed. He recorded the early skirmishes of the battle, the Zulus' advance, the burning of Ulundi, the retreat of the Zulus and some of the prisoners after battle. He also drew

paintings showing the British defeat at Isandlwana where almost 1,300 British soldiers were killed by a Zulu force of 20,000 determined to expel the invaders from their homeland on January 22, 1879. On the same day in history, British forces also pulled off a stunning rearguard victory at the battle of Rorke's Drift, where 110 men defended a hospital post against

3000 - 4000 Zulus. The clash took place near a drift, or ford, on the Buffalo River, which at the time formed the border between the British colony of Natal and the Zulu kingdom, in modern-day South Africa. He arrived shortly after the battle, which was made famous in the film 'Zulu' starring Michael Caine who played Lieutenant Gonville Bromhead - who was in joint command of the British outpost.

With the Zulus posing a threat to the stability of the region and standing in the way of a confederation of the various colonies, war was deemed necessary by the British Government. Between January and July the British won victory and ended the life of an independent Zulu nation. The British had 1,727 soldiers killed while the Zulus lost upwards of 6,000. The archive is being sold at auction by its private owner and is expected to fetch £60,000. Gabriel Heaton from Sotheby's, which is selling the collection in London, said: 'There are 100 watercolour paintings and some done in pen and ink. 'One gets the impression that Lloyd was far more interested in art than in war and as far as we know he was not an official artist and just took his paints with him. 'He had gone to Oxford with Oscar Wilde but failed his exams and joined the army and went to South Africa. 'He was at Rorke's Drift shortly after the defence and recorded what he saw in the immediate aftermath. 'The astonishing thing is how accurate his paintings were. The historian David Rattray studied the locations and confirmed their accuracy. Mr Heaton added: 'He (Rattray) was a farmer who lived on the site of the battle and was later murdered at his home in KwaZulu-Natal.



William Whitelock Lloyd captured this image of British troops keep watch in their Lager as the sun goes down during the Anglo-Zulu war

'Lloyd's paintings are good quality watercolours and some show how he had gone off to get good views of the troops and their movements. 'Whether he had permission or just went off we're not sure, but watercolour is a good medium for doing things quickly. 'As well as the views of the battlefields and topography and lines of troops, there are others of the soldiers.

'One shows daybreak at Helpmekaar where the battalion stayed and you can see the men and the mealy bags they used for defence.' The ones of Rorke's Drift house were done shortly afterwards and they show men sitting around outside. 'The archive will be of interest to collectors as well as institutions.'



The defence of the British outpost of Rorke's Drift, in modern day South Africa, proved a turning point in the Anglo-Zulu war

The historian David Rattray wrote of the paintings after he discovered them in 2000: 'From the moment I laid eyes on the copies of Lloyd's paintings, I realised that his artwork was accurate to an extraordinary degree. 'The more famous landmarks were, of course, instantly recognisable, but I was fairly confident that we would find the locations of all his paintings.' He identified all the locations and photographed them and later published his results in a book.

"Who Is That?"



Thanks to all who sent back emails for last week's photo. We believe that this photo was taken between 52 and 55. In the centre of the picture is Bob Lamb, on the right, smoking a pipe, is Merv Gordon and just behind Gordon's head, you can see Graham Blyth's head just making it into the picture. We still have no positive ID on the two on the left.

``Here is our latest (No. 6) photo quiz. Thanks to all those who have participated. This one is a bit of a mystery to we who were in shorts and cuddling teddy bears in the 1950s. It is again from the collection of LCol Vic Stevenson, and is dated, on the slide, 1956. The location is easy: Stanley Park, just east of HMCS Discovery. The time of the year is likely the summer, due to the green foliage.



So, is it a Dominion Day salute, or when? Most importantly, what regiment is it? The guns are 6 pdr Anti-tank guns, never employed by any units in the lower mainland. Can anyone shed any light on this situation? As usual, answers can be sent to John Redmond (johnd._redmond@telus.net)."

From the 'Punitary'

The comedian had more routines than you could shake a shtick at.

Murphy's Rules of Combat Operations.

The further you fly into the mountains, the louder the strange engine noises become.

Quotable Quotes

To do anything in this world worth doing, we must not stand back shivering and thinking of the cold and danger, but jump in, and scramble through as well as we can. - *Sydney Smith*