

## Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News Mar 31, 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](mailto: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](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>

**Wednesday Lunches - Lunches suspended until further notice.**

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

**May 02** NOABC – Battle of Atlantic Dinner - **CANCELLED**

**Apr 05** Vimy Day Commemoration - **CANCELLED**

### World War 2 – 1945

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

#### **April 1945: Berlin Falls**

*"We will not capitulate - no, never! We may be destroyed, but if we are, we shall drag a world with us - a world in flames." - Adolf Hitler*

**General:** There is less of Germany to bomb every passing day, but Allied heavy bombers still shower 84,400 tons of bombs on it; but the B-17s and Lancasters also find themselves dropping food this month too. B-29s hit Tokyo six more times this month, as well as other cities, and continue mining the Sea of Japan. The U-Boat service is aggressive once more, but they lose 27 boats at sea in return for sinking 13 Allied ships.

**Apr 1<sup>st</sup>:** Four divisions of US soldiers and marines establish a 5x15km beachhead on Okinawa to a flurry of Kamikaze aircraft, but General Ushijima's 32<sup>nd</sup> Army are concealed to the south in an incredibly well prepared network of defences and the Americans are mystified by the light resistance they have encountered. 1<sup>st</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> US Armies link at Lippstadt, trapping Model and 325,000 German troops inside the Ruhr: Hamm and Paderborn fall into US hands today while the British cross the Mittelland Canal. The German pocket at Glogau on the Oder is taken by

Konev's Front. US Troops on Luzon start making headway against the Japanese to the south of Luzon. British Guards and Commandos attack over the Reno River in Italy.

**Apr 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Kamikaze attacks off Okinawa hit four US troop transports, causing many casualties; but progress ashore is good – though still largely unopposed. British 2<sup>nd</sup> Army takes Munster. Nagykanizsa in Hungary and Kremnica in Slovakia are taken by Soviet troops. US troops land on parts of the Sulu Archipelago. On Luzon, MSgt Charles L McGaha is with two platoons of infantry from the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division that suddenly encounter five Japanese tanks, ten machineguns and a platoon of riflemen. As his comrades take cover, he dashes into to open to drag a wounded man to safety, sustaining a serious injury as he does. When his platoon commander falls wounded, he rallies the platoon directing it to fall back in good order. He then goes into the open again to assist a stretcher party with a wounded man, and is wounded again as he does this, but saves one more life. Then as his force pulls back, he draws then enemy's fire to himself until they are safe. He collapses from his wounds when he rejoins them. He is awarded the Medal of Honor.

**Apr 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Kamikazes hit an escort carrier and other ships off Okinawa. Almost all of Hungary is now in Soviet hands. Captain Ian Oswald Liddel is commanding a company of the Coldstream Guards and is directed to capture a bridge over the River Ems near Lingen, Germany. A strongpoint with 150 men and five anti-aircraft guns guards the far end, and the bridge is wired for demolition with 250kg aircraft bombs. Captain Liddel tells his men to stay put, then charges alone onto the bridge and cuts the charges while under a torrent of fire – having to cut wires at both ends of it and underneath it. Once this is done, he waves his men forward to join him and successfully completes the capture of the bridge. He is later killed in combat making his award of the Victoria Cross a posthumous one.

**Apr 4<sup>th</sup>:** 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Army takes Osnabruck; 3<sup>rd</sup> US Army takes Kassel and the Free French take Karlsruhe. The Americans on Okinawa run into a line of Japanese resistance south of Kuba, they are still at a loss about the location of the main concentration of Japanese troops. Bratislava is taken by the Soviets. A flotilla of British submarines is ordered to Subic Bay in the Philippines to join the final offensive against Japan.

**Apr 5<sup>th</sup>:** US troops in 5<sup>th</sup> Army join the attack towards La Spezia, the last Axis naval port in the Mediterranean. The Weser River is crossed by the Western Allies at several points. General Koiso's government in Japan resigns, and Admiral Suzuki forms a new government with a larger civilian content. Allied Command is shuffled in the Pacific, with Nimitz in charge of all naval assets and MacArthur in charge of all Army assets for the invasion of Japan. The Soviets tell the Japanese that they do not intend to renew the 1941 Non-Aggression Pact.

**Apr 6<sup>th</sup>:** Land based P-51s begin escorting B-29s over Japan. US Army troops from the 96<sup>th</sup> Division butt up against the Shuri Line on Okinawa, and they don't like it at all, while Kamikazes hit 27 Allied ships, including two escort carriers. One of the more successful Kamikaze pilots is Chief Petty Officer Kazuo Tanka, who is posthumously awarded the Order of the Golden Kite. Japan's mighty battleship Yamato heads out towards Okinawa.

**Apr 7<sup>th</sup>:** The Me-109 has been Germany's front-line fighter plane since 1937 but its time is now past. Some 150 sortie after US bombers and only 15 come back. The battle of the Ruhr Pocket is going full spate. The mighty battleship Yamato is sunk by US carrier aircraft, with the loss of 5,000 men on it and its supporting vessels – but the USS Hancock and Maryland are badly damaged by Kamikazes today. Captain Tameichi Hara commands the cruiser Yahagi, which is one of the consorts sunk with Yamato. One of Japan's great naval heroes, he has been present for almost all of the significant battles fought between the US and Imperial Japanese navies, mostly as a destroyer captain. Captain Hara will be rescued and survives the war – later writing one of the most informative accounts of the war from his rare perspective.

*Essential Reading: Captain Tameichi Hara's memoirs of his time as a naval officer in the Pacific War caused a sensation in American naval readership when the English language edition of 'Destroyer Captain' was published in 1958. Captain Hara had been in the Japanese fleet at Pearl Harbour, Coral Sea, Midway, and in the Solomons as well as at Leyte and had commanded a cruiser escorting Yamato at her end. There were not many men left alive in 1945 that could have provided the inside views of the Japanese naval war that Hara offers, and his book remains essential reading on the war on the Pacific.*

## **General Vance Shares Way Forward in Letter**

*Mishall Rehman 27 Mar 2020*

Posting season, among other fundamental procedures of the Canadian Armed Forces, will see significant changes this year as the military continues to adjust to the growing COVID-19 pandemic. "It is not 'business as usual' in most areas and will not be so until the virus subsides and there is a vaccine in place to prevent re-emergence. This will take time, discipline and patience," said Gen Jonathan Vance, Chief of the Defence Staff in a letter released on Friday.

### **Posting Season**

"It is our intention to execute as many of the planned postings as responsible and reasonable to do," said Gen Vance. That being said, the CDS stated that this year's postings will be significantly reduced and must be vetted and approved by L1 Service Chiefs as "operationally essential," stated Gen Vance. Posting season will also be lengthened to Dec 31 and Change of Strength Dates will be later than normal to adjust to each family's needs. Additionally, new OUTCAN postings will most likely be delayed, and those returning from OUTCAN posting will need to be vetted by the VCDS. More information about posting season will be available in a CANFORGEN in the coming days, said Gen Vance in his letter.

### **Domestic Support**

The Canadian military may soon be called upon the support governments at all levels. "The health of the CAF will be critical in the days and weeks to come as we may be requested to support Federal, Provincial, Territorial and Municipal response to COVID 19 scenarios with specialized and general duty capabilities, and we must carry on with domestic and employed operations," stated the letter. As part of Operation LASER, the CAF is currently looking to identify forces required to support the government, including Primary Reserves and Canadian Rangers. These military members could be called on to support venerable populations, provide

logistical and general support to communities. Additionally, the CDS noted that Op LENTUS, the CAF's response to domestic emergencies, will go-forward if necessary and maybe coinciding with Operation LASER.

### **Release**

In light of the current situation, the CDS also noted that it is very likely that those looking to continue their release may face significant disruptions. Those releasing for medical reasons, however, could potentially remain in the military. The CAF is currently looking at ways to retain these personnel so that their transition is not "jeopardized" under current circumstances until they feel comfortable to release. Additionally, since there are no new recruits, those wishing to delay their retirement voluntarily will be allowed to and welcomed to continue. More information about posting season will be available in a CANFORGEN in the coming days, said Gen Vance in his letter.

### **Leave Compensation**

"Some of the disruption is just unlucky and there is little we can do about it. Where unlucky becomes unfair is where we will look to try to address any concerns," stated the CDS regarding the severe disruption to leave many members have seen in the last few weeks. Compensation could include buy-out, Compensatory Time Off and accumulation, or some combination thereof. More information about posting season will be available in a CANFORGEN in the coming days, said Gen Vance in his letter.

### **Health and well-being**

In his letter, Gen Vance addressed many of the concerns military members and their families have had in the last few weeks as the CAF saw a dramatic shift in its day-to-day operations. He acknowledged the situation while continuously stressing the importance of staying safe and healthy, at work, and at home. "I am counting on your self-discipline and your motivation to serve the welfare of Canada, the CAF and your families," said the CDS. He concluded the letter encouraging CAF personnel to look out for one another. "These are unique and stressful times, take care of yourselves and your families, both physically and mentally. Stay in contact with your colleagues and reach out to support one another," said Gen Vance

To read entire letter go to:- <https://canmnews.ca/2020/03/march-27-letter-from-chief-of-the-defence-staff-cds-regarding-covid-19/>

## **Canadian Armed Forces Prep Coronavirus Response Plan**

But no request for help yet. *Matthew Fisher Special to Global News March 20, 2020*



Plans are being developed by Gen Jon Vance and his Strategic Joint Staff so that, if asked by Ottawa, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) would be in a position to quickly render a wide range of assistance to civil authorities directing what has become a war against the lethal coronavirus pandemic. Among the options: sending troops to help isolated northern Indigenous communities, to protect critical infrastructure in the High Arctic and elsewhere, to build field hospitals or to act as backup to

police forces and Corrections Canada if police or prison guards fall ill from COVID-19. Senior officers familiar with the intense planning and co-ordination taking place at National Defence Headquarters, Canadian Joint Operations Command in Ottawa and regional command centres stressed the military has always developed internal plans to be ready for potential crises and that the options being developed are speculative. But a few of the possible options to employ the troops were included in a directive from Vance to troops on Thursday. No formal request for assistance has yet been received from the special federal cabinet committee responsible for dealing with the pandemic, which is led by Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland, or the lead ministry, Public Safety Canada, they said.

But requests of some sort are anticipated. Tasks might include providing hazmat suits and other medical equipment such as masks, respirators, ventilators and generators as well as tents. A major factor being discussed is how to co-ordinate and triage requests as they are filtered through cabinet and Public Safety Canada down to not only the Department of National Defence but other ministries, the officers said. Such clarity was essential because it would assist what they described as “a truly whole-of-government” response to the pandemic. While preparing to answer any government requests for help countering the new coronavirus, the officers emphasized that the Forces had to maintain core military capabilities and keep its 68,000 troops as healthy as possible so that they would be ready to deploy if called upon.

Essential core functions include having fighter jets ready to scramble to intercept Russian bombers and reconnaissance aircraft on Canada’s eastern, western and northern margins, as the Royal Canadian Air Force did again only last week; having search and rescue aircraft on standby across the country; sustaining important international missions in Latvia, Ukraine and Iraq; and continuing to counteract online disinformation campaigns by foreign governments and non-government actors. The Forces must also have troops set aside to deal with non-coronavirus-related domestic emergencies such as forest fires and flooding around, for example, Lake Ontario, which has particularly high waters this spring. The Canadian-led training mission in Iraq announced late Friday from Baghdad that it is repositioning troops from smaller to larger bases during the coronavirus pandemic. Because of the risk of infection to the training task force and Iraqis, all training with Iraqi Security Forces has been suspended. An as-yet-undetermined number of troops involved in training would be returning to their home countries from Iraq in the coming weeks, the Combined Joint Task Force announcement said.

The question of how the federal government intends to use the CAF to assist Ottawa with what has become a global health emergency arises because of questions from the Opposition about how the CAF will be involved. This follows plans announced by Italy, the US and Great Britain to use troops to assist civil authorities in the battle to control the pandemic. Italy has drafted tens of thousands of soldiers to provide a variety of critical functions for a medical community that has been under siege from the virus, with thousands of dead already. Because of overcrowding in cemeteries in northern Italy, the army began on Thursday to use convoys of military trucks to move the bodies of hundreds of COVID-19 victims to burial plots in neighbouring provinces. The Pentagon has put hundreds of military medical workers on alert, and the US Navy has activated two hospital ships. One, the USNS Comfort, with 1,000 beds and a dozen operating rooms, is to sail to New York, which has the highest number of COVID-

19 cases in the US. The San Diego-based USNS Mercy, with similar hospital facilities, is on alert to move though a destination on the West Coast has yet to be decided upon. (arrived in LA yesterday). State governors have already called upon National Guard units for a variety of tasks, including sealing off communities that have high infection rates. There is also growing pressure, particularly from New York Gov Andrew Cuomo, for the US Army Corps of Engineers to build new, temporary medical facilities or repurpose other buildings as temporary wards.

The new coronavirus has had an effect on current US military operations. Exercises in Alaska and Europe have been cancelled or cut short. About 50 American troops have tested positive for the virus. One of them is a sailor aboard the USS Boxer. This has resulted in the massive amphibious landing ship and its 1,000-member crew being placed under quarantine while at sea. British forces set up a COVID-19 response task force on Thursday. UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson has put 20,000 troops on alert to provide support to civil authorities, while another 10,000 have been moved to a high state of readiness. The forces there have also embedded planning experts from the army, navy and air force with government ministries. Some of the regular force troops and reserves on alert will drive oxygen tankers. Others will help police and emergency services, but according to multiple British media reports, there are no plans to use them to directly help police maintain public order in London, which is the epicentre of Britain's rapidly growing infection rate. The Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) which has a field hospital, has been discussed. But it is expensive to move and is geared towards helping with events such as earthquakes and tsunamis so DART may not be the first choice.

Despite the US move to involve hospital ships in assisting civil authorities, there are apparently no plans yet to involve the MV Asterix in virus relief efforts. The Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) logistics ship has been tied up in Halifax for five months, but it is ready to sail at short notice and has medical facilities. Asterix has a new, fully equipped surgery unit, a small intensive care unit, a pharmacy and a hospital ward capable of handling 100 patients. If required, it could care for several hundred more patients in its gymnasium, cargo areas and helicopter hangers. The vessel has a dental suite as well as X-ray and other diagnostic equipment, including respirators. It can accommodate as many as 100 medical staff and has a kitchen capable of feeding hundreds of people a day. Although not well suited to assist in caring for COVID-19 patients, Asterix could help hospitals by taking some of their other patients, freeing those hospitals to concentrate on treating those infected by the new coronavirus, as the US hospital ships will do.

Because the CAF has nothing like the number of doctors and nurses the US military has, if it uses Asterix or builds field hospitals, most of the medical staff would have to be civilians. To prepare for anticipated requests for assistance from Ottawa, LGen Wayne Eyre, the Canadian army commander, this week cancelled the country's biggest military exercise, Operation Maple Resolve, to free troops to be ready deploy on coronavirus-related or other tasks. All troops were ordered last week not to go on foreign travel for any reason and to stay within 250 kilometres of their duty stations at all times so that they can be in a position to deploy quickly. Many of the troops are in self-isolation at home, working from there by

computer or through video conference calls while awaiting orders. Meanwhile, two RCN patrol vessels on a humanitarian mission off the coast of West Africa are being recalled to Halifax. No change is anticipated in the missions of about 1,000 troops leading a NATO task force in Latvia and working as military trainers in Ukraine and Iraq.

## **Equipment Move from Wainwright to Petawawa Causes Buzz**

on social media      Mishall Rehman



Two trains carrying approximately 130 military vehicles will be pulling into Prescott, ON this week on their way back to Garrison Petawawa. The vehicles are returning due to the cancellation of Exercise MAPLE RESOLVE, an annual Canadian Army exercise in Wainwright, AB that brings together allies from different nations. The exercise was

cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The military is reassuring members of the public that this movement of vehicles should be “no cause for alarm.” In an interview with the Ottawa Sun army spokesman LCol Doug MacNair noted, “There is no cause for alarm (as) these movements by rail and the ensuing ground convoys from railheads to final destinations is how we normally move our vehicles over long distances for major exercises such as Ex Maple Resolve which as you know we recently decided to cancel.”

Due to the growing threat of COVID-19, some were beginning to point to the movement of the military vehicles as evidence that the government would soon call in the Canadian Armed Forces. “The risks and impacts of misinformation during this critical period are real and need close and careful monitoring,” Department of National Defence spokesman Dan Le Bouthillier stated to the Ottawa Sun. “While it is normal and expected that the public are, at this time, far more sensitive to the public environment, the viral propagation of inaccurate or decontextualized content could lead to confusion or impact efforts to flatten the curve

## **Judge Rules in Favour of Class Action Launched by Veteran**

Decision could mean bump in disability benefits for thousands of injured Canadian veterans

*Richard Cuthbertson · CBC News      Mar 25, 2020*



*Simon Logan received an involuntary medical release from the Canadian Forces in 2016 after a career that included serving in the infantry, air force and special operations.*

*(Submitted by Simon Logan)*

Thousands of injured Canadian military veterans who served under especially arduous conditions are entitled to higher disability payments after a judge ruled

Tuesday in favour of a former special operations soldier who challenged how the support is calculated. The lead plaintiff in the class-action lawsuit against the federal government is Simon Logan, who served in Afghanistan and was a warrant officer when he received an involuntary medical release from the Canadian Forces in 2016 following a 28-year career. The military calculates long-term disability at 75 per cent of a member's monthly pay, but the Department of National Defence had only used Logan's base salary to determine his payments, and did not include an allowance he earned as a "special operations assaulter." It meant Logan received only \$5,100 per month in disability payments, instead of nearly \$8,000.

The case was heard in Federal Court in Halifax in February. In a decision this week, Justice Richard Southcott ruled in favour of Logan and other former military members in similar situations, writing that monthly allowances should be used in disability calculations. "When you're in the military, you are kind of handcuffed in what you can say or do," Logan, 58, who lives in the Ottawa area, said in a phone interview Wednesday. "But when I became a civilian, I just wanted to take matters that I thought were unjust and try and fix it." He said the court's decision "means a lot for a lot of people" who earned allowances for working in particularly difficult environments but didn't see that recognized when they were injured while serving under those conditions. Logan said he wanted to keep private the nature of the injuries that led to his medical discharge and that he was not permitted to describe his role in special operations. The Canadian Forces says special operations assaulters include personnel trained to perform counterterrorism missions, hostage rescues, special operations patrols and special reconnaissance and surveillance.

Halifax lawyer Daniel Wallace, who helped launch the class action on behalf of Logan, said there are roughly 6,800 former Canadian military personnel who received monthly allowances on top of their salaries and were involuntarily medically released from the Forces. Allowances include payments to certain specialized groups like paratroopers, rescue specialists and divers, and for conditions like isolation, work on submarines or serving on a flight crew. There are also allowances covering things such as being posted to an area with a high cost of living. Wallace said he can't estimate how much disability money members of the class action would be owed but said it should be retroactive for members who were released after 1999, when the current policy was adopted. "We hope that now that the court has heard the arguments on both sides and decided in favour of the class, we hope that the federal government will accept that decision," he said in an interview. If there's no appeal, he said the next stage would involve sorting out interest and the timing of payments.

A spokesperson for the Department of National Defence said in statement the federal government is now reviewing the decision and will determine next steps in consultation with the Department of Justice. "The Department of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces are committed to ensuring that all Regular and Reserve Force military members receive their due benefits," the statement said. "Taking care of our members is our utmost priority and we will continue to take steps to improve services." At the time of his discharge, Logan was earning \$10,665 a month, of which \$3,730 was a "special operations assaulter allowance." He said he subsequently learned of other veterans who had earned allowances while serving but had received less than they thought they were owed in disability payments. "It's a dramatic



drop in pay from what I was making. My expenses didn't go down, my mortgage didn't change," he said. "I know I made good money when I was in the military, I'm not denying that. But to take such a drastic change in income — doesn't matter how much money you make, that's a big deal, dropping 40 per cent, 50 per cent."

## **Vancouver Artillery Association Yearbook Updates**

**VAA Virtual Lunch every Wednesday at Noon PDT - <https://zoom.us/j/710845848>**

No computer? No smartphone? Dial in to 778 907 2071 Canada Meeting ID: 710 845 848

**RCAA Virtual Coffee every Sunday at 1600 PDT - <https://zoom.us/j/710752062>**

No computer? No smartphone? Dial in to 778 907 2071 Canada Meeting ID: 710 752 062

Looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday. If you have any problems connecting, email me at [president.vcrgunners@gmail.com](mailto:president.vcrgunners@gmail.com)

We are now at 4,445 names on our nominal roll! We also discovered more newspaper articles about those that served before us. Is your information up-to-date? Would you like to assist in the search for more names? <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/nominal-roll.html>

A recent name that was added was Major George Cowan who was sadly killed in action at Cassino. You can read parts of his story in

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/the-fallen-update-major-george-cowan>

Colin Parkinson sent in a link to the Vancouver Archives photo of a mounted artillery officer from 1909. Can you help in identifying the who, what and where?

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-update-1909>

Quite the birthday party happening in 1939! 2,000 guests (and we thought we were crowded with 300 at our anniversary) <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1939.html>

A gun is a gun from 1982 message traffic

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-update-19821101484>

Major Perry's course certificate from 1926

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-update-1926>

Looking for assistance with Major David Ames background

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/nominal-roll-update2142617>

Where has the Ingledow Trophy gotten to? Has anyone seen it lately?

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-update-19596797827>

Updates on the career of former Bombardier Dan Wheeldon

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-updates7204259>

Group photo from 1939

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-update-19392342407>

Big changes in our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration schedule due to Covid-19

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yearbook-update-20201309739>

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

[president.vcrgunners@gmail.com](mailto:president.vcrgunners@gmail.com)

Would you like to be involved with our national organization, The Royal Canadian Artillery Association? We're looking for Gunners to join our executive. Contact me at

[president.rcaa.aarc@gmail.com](mailto:president.rcaa.aarc@gmail.com)

## Who (or What) Is It?



**Last Week:** The **Bachem Ba 349 Natter** (English: Colubrid, grass-snake) was a World War II German point-defence rocket-powered interceptor, which was to be used in a very similar way to a manned surface-to-air missile.

*American soldiers outside St. Leonhard, Austria, take Natters, including our quiz one, and rocket engine parts into custody in May 1945 for shipment to the United States. (National Archives)*

A vertical take-off eliminated the need for airfields. Under operational conditions, once the Natter had left the launcher, it would be guided to the proximity of the Allied bombers by an autopilot with the possibility of an added beam guidance similar to that used in some V-2 rocket launches.

*A replica of the Bachem Ba349 at the Deutsches Museum in Munich, Germany*



Only then would the pilot take control, aim and fire the armament, which was originally proposed to be a salvo of nineteen 55mm R4M rockets. Later, 28 R4Ms or several of the larger, 73mm Henschel Hs297 *Föhn* rockets were suggested with either variety of unguided rocket fired from the Natter's nose-mounted cellular launch tubes. The Natter was intended to fly up and over the bombers, by which time its Walter motor would probably be out of propellant. Following its one-time attack with its rockets, the pilot would dive his Natter, now effectively a glider, to an altitude of around 3,000 m (9,800 ft), flatten out, release the nose of the aircraft and a small braking parachute from the rear fuselage. The fuselage would decelerate, and the pilot would be ejected forwards by his own inertia. The pilot and the fuselage containing the rocket-motor would then land using separate parachutes, while the nose section was disposable. The first manned vertical take-off flight, on 1 March 1945, ended in the death of the test pilot, Lothar Sieber. The SS ordered 150 Natters, and the *Luftwaffe* ordered 50, but none were delivered by the end of the war.

**This Week:** For reasons that will swiftly become obvious to some of you who are keeping track to time, and not losing track of it due to being self-isolated in your hermetically-sealed closets, we are continuing with an air-minded theme this week. Aeroplanes these days are all pretty much the same. The shape of a Boeing 707 from 1960 is essentially the same as that of Boeing's latest product, or that of Airbus, for that matter. Similarly, the shape of the fighter jet (only one left) flown by the RCAF is almost identical to that flown in 1982, mainly because it is probably the exact same kite. Only the pilots change.

Such was not the case in the early days of aviation, and many interesting, and, quite frankly, wacky aircraft were thought up, often with spectacular results, some of which were fatal, some not. Who can forget the Blohm und Voss BV-141, with its asymmetrical design, or the Humbley-Page Gallipoli, with its massive fuselage, and tiny engines. This week's candidate certainly fits the category of "weird". It is one from a now-friendly nation, famed for sleek design, exotic autos, delicious cuisine, and Gina Lollobrigida.



So, enough clues (although the last one won't help anyone under the age of 70.....not that any of those kids read this). Can you identify this streamlined fighter? Do you recognize the insignia? Why was its design so unusual? If you know, please emerge from isolation and, by electronic mail, contact 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)). Grazie!

### **From the 'Punitentary'**

What do you call a Russian procrastinator? Putinoff.

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

All great discoveries are made by mistake.

### **Quotable Quotes**

Silent gratitude isn't very much to anyone. - *Gertrude Stein*



**Qualitative study of financial well-being of survivors who married or entered into a common-law relationship with a Veteran who was aged 60+**

**PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH AND LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD**

The purpose of this research is to characterize and begin to explain the social dimensions of the financial wellbeing of survivors of Veterans who entered marriage/common-law relationships with Veterans aged 60+. We anticipate that this study will form the basis for future work to evaluate existing family support strategies for survivors of Veterans, and to support the design of improved strategies. This study also aims to investigate the pattern of Veterans' second career paths following military service, and their financial well-being before and after retirement. We are anticipated to conduct around 30 in-depth semi-directed interviews which are designed to address specific questions while permitting the provision of additional unsolicited information and perspectives supplied by participants. If you are interested in sharing your experience and engaging in discussions about the social context of Canadian Veterans, please consider participating.

**You are eligible to participate if you meet the following criteria:**

- ✓ Participants must be survivors of Veterans who entered marriage/common-law relationships with Veterans aged 60+. The age limit only applies to the Veteran, the age of the participants could be below 60.
- ✓ Participants must have the capacity to understand the study procedure and consent form

**Participation and compensation:** You will take part in one interview, which will last approximately 1hour at the University of British Columbia – Okanagan campus, private rooms in community centres or library, or at participant’s office or home. Participants chose whether they would prefer an interview over the phone or a face-to-face interview. After the interviews each participant will receive a \$100 gift card to compensate for their time.

**Post comments:** If you or someone you know may be interested in participating, please send this poster through private message or email. Please do not post or share this poster in places that will affect your or someone else’s ability to remain anonymous.

**Research team:**

Principal Investigator: Dr. Eric Li, Associate Professor, Faculty of Management, UBC-Okanagan.

Co-Investigators:

Dilsora Komil-Burley, Ph.D. Candidate, Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies, UBC-Okanagan

Ariele Parker, Masters Student, Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies, UBC-Okanagan

Dr. Keith Culver, Professor, Faculty of Management

Mr. Patrick Gall, Research Network Facilitator, UBC STAR Survive & Thrive Applied Research

**For participation and/or more information please contact:**

Dilsora Komil-Burley

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Telephone: 2508996804

## 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

<https://zoom.us/j/710845848>



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Use the link above or dial in on your phone 778 907 2071 Meeting ID: 710 845 848  
Invite 2 friends! We have room for 100! See you on Wednesdays at noon.

Bring your own lunch and beverage of choice.