

Van Arty Assoc and RUSI Van Members News April 8, 2014

Wednesday Lunches

The Mess has decreed that the dress requirements for Wednesday lunches has been downgraded to Business Casual. A number of people believe that this will help increase attendance in future. Business casual can best be described as our 'summer dress'. Minimum requirement is an open neck button up shirt with dress pants or slacks (no blue jeans, pls). Of course we never discourage the wearing of jackets and ties.

The floors have now been refinished and look great. The Mess looks like a gym at the moment so it will now have to acquire some area rugs to soften the look of so much hardwood. The contractor has declared the kitchen renovations complete and we have now obtained a good stove and 'cook and hold' oven to complete the project. They should be installed by the end of next week, if not sooner, much to the relief of Mrs Lum. Allan DeGenova, a good friend to the Regiment and the military, was instrumental in obtaining the stove and oven and a very good price. Many thanks Al.

Vimy Day Commemoration

The weather really cooperated for the parade on Sunday. Quite bright, but not too hot and no rain. About 200 Army Cadets paraded to the Cenotaph with about the same number of onlookers for a very moving ceremony and laying of wreaths. Representatives of all local unit Associations and RUSI Vancouver as well as 39CBG and other groups laid wreaths in remembrance of the casualties of the Vimy battles and WW1.



Some of the attendees at the parade: Col Howe Lee, Hon Col of the Svc Bn, George Chow, former WOII in 43rdMAA/15 Fd, Cam Cathcart, MC of the ceremony, Pak Hai Yeung, Maj (r) Al Woo former 15 Fd and Simon Wong.

Navy to Deploy Electromagnetic Railgun Aboard JHSV

4/7/2014 From Naval Sea Systems Command Office of Corporate Communication

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The US Navy plans to install and test a prototype electromagnetic railgun aboard a joint high speed vessel in fiscal year 2016, the service announced today. This test will mark the first time an electromagnetic railgun (EM railgun) has been demonstrated at sea, symbolizing a significant advance in naval combat. EM railgun technology uses an electromagnetic force - known as the Lorenz Force - to rapidly accelerate and launch a projectile between two conductive rails. This guided projectile is launched at such high velocities that it can achieve greater ranges than conventional guns. It maintains enough kinetic energy that it doesn't require any kind of high explosive payload when it reaches its target.



The second of two Office of Naval Research (ONR) Electromagnetic (EM) Railgun industry prototype launchers is being evaluated at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division. Both General Atomics and BAE Systems have designed next generation prototype EM Railguns capable of increased firing rates. The EM Railgun is a long-range weapon that launches projectiles using electricity instead of chemical propellants and is under development by the Department of the Navy for use aboard ships.

US Navy photo by John F. Williams

High-energy EM railguns are expected to be lethal and effective against multiple threats, including enemy warships, small boats, aircraft, missiles and land-based targets. "The electromagnetic railgun represents an incredible new offensive capability for the US Navy," said Rear Adm Bryant Fuller, the Navy's chief engineer. "This capability will allow us to effectively counter a wide-range of threats at a relatively low cost, while keeping our ships and sailors safer by removing the need to carry as many high-explosive weapons." EM railgun technology will complement current kinetic weapons currently onboard surface combatants and offer a few specific advantages. Against specific threats, the cost per engagement is orders of magnitude less expensive than comparable missile engagements. The projectile itself is being designed to be common with some current powder guns, enabling the conservation of expensive missiles for use against more complex threats. "Energetic weapons, such as EM railguns, are the future of naval combat," said Rear Adm Matt Klunder, the chief of naval research. "The US Navy is at the forefront of this game-changing technology."

This demonstration is the latest in a series of technical maturation efforts designed to provide an operational railgun to the fleet. Since 2005, the Navy and its partners in industry and academia have been testing railgun technology at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Dahlgren, Va., and

the Naval Research Lab where the service has a number of prototype systems. The final operational system will be capable of launching guided, multi-mission projectiles to a range of 110 nautical miles against a wide range of threats. The series of tests are designed to capture lessons for incorporation into a future tactical design and will allow the Navy to best understand needed ship modifications before fully integrating the technology.

The Navy is using JHSV as a vessel of opportunity because of its available cargo and topside space and schedule flexibility. Because JHSVs are non-combatants, there is no plan to permanently install a railgun on any ship of the class. A final decision has not been made on which ship classes will receive a fully operational railgun.

New Report Details American Dynasty Crash with HMCS Winnipeg

Mar 31, 2014 01:41 pm | David Pugliese

RICHMOND, BC, March 31, 2014 – The Transportation Safety Board of Canada (TSB) today released its investigation report (M13W0057) into the accident involving the American fishing vessel American Dynasty that struck the HMCS Winnipeg in Esquimalt, British Columbia. At 0818 Pacific Daylight Time on 23 April 2013, the American fishing vessel American Dynasty experienced a complete loss of electrical power (blackout) while approaching the graving dock in Esquimalt, British Columbia. The vessel was under the conduct of a docking pilot and was being assisted by 2 tugs at the time. Following the blackout, the American Dynasty gained speed to an estimated 5 knots, veered to starboard, and struck the port side of the HMCS Winnipeg, berthed at the Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt. There was extensive damage to both vessels and 6 shipyard workers on the HMCS Winnipeg sustained minor injuries.

The exact reason for the blackout and cause of the vessel’s turn to starboard could not be



determined. However, the investigation did determine that following the blackout, the emergency generator did not start automatically because the selector switch was set to the “OFF” position. The chief engineer’s attempts to restore electrical power were unsuccessful and the auxiliary generator engine shut down shortly after. Electrical power could not be restored in a timely manner. Furthermore, the bridge did not make contact with the engine room after the

blackout and, as a result, in the limited time available, the chief engineer was unaware of the need to take urgent action to avoid the striking.

The investigation found that, without procedures and comprehensive emergency drills, crews may not be proficient in taking mitigating action during an emergency. Effective management of safety requires individuals at all level of an organization to identify and manage risks. In this occurrence, there were indications that aspects of safety associated with emergency preparedness and crew familiarization were not managed effectively.

New Technology Brings New Capabilities to the Marine Corps

4/5/2014 By David Smalley, Office of Naval Research

Robocopter to be used for front line supply.

ARLINGTON, Va. (NNS) -- Autonomy options for the Marines have taken a major step forward, as officials at the Office of Naval Research (ONR) announced today two successful helicopter flight demonstrations with unmanned flight capability at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., part of the Autonomous Aerial Cargo/Utility System (AACUS) program. AACUS will enable the Marine Corps to rapidly resupply forces on the front lines using cutting-edge technology sponsored by ONR. The system consists of a sensor and software package that will be integrated into rotary wing aircraft to detect and avoid obstacles in unfavorable weather conditions, or to enable autonomous, unmanned flight. The capability will be a welcome alternative to dangerous convoys, manned aircraft or air drops in all weather conditions.

"This is a giant leap in autonomous capabilities for our Marines," said Chief of Naval Research Rear Adm Matthew Klunder. "Imagine a Marine unit needing more ammunition and water where a helicopter crew would be in peril trying to fly in, either from weather or enemy fire. "With AACUS, an unmanned helicopter takes the supplies from the base, picks out the optimal route and best landing site closest to the warfighters, lands, and returns to base once the resupply is complete-all with the single touch of a handheld tablet."

The need for this capability surfaced during Marine Corps operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, experts say. Cargo helicopters and resupply convoys of trucks bringing fuel, food, water, ammunition and medical supplies to the front lines frequently found themselves under fire from adversaries, or the target of roadside bombs and other improvised explosive devices. The AACUS technology is designed to be simple to use; an operator with minimal training can call up the supplies needed and order the flights using only a handheld tablet. In the demonstration tests at Quantico, a Marine with no prior experience with the technology was given a handheld device and 15 minutes of training. The Marine was able to quickly and easily program in the supplies needed and the destination, and the helicopters arrived quickly-even autonomously selecting an alternative landing site based on last-second no-fly-zone information added in from the Marine. "This technology truly opens up new unmanned operations capabilities," said Max Snell, the AACUS program manager. "In the most immediate sense, AACUS will enable safer resupply for the warfighter and save pilots' lives. Down the road, as the technology develops, it

could be used for casualty evacuation, bringing supplies to first responders in disaster areas, and more."

The technology enables the manned or unmanned rotary wing aircraft to detect and avoid obstacles like telephone wires, large objects on the ground and even a vehicle or other object that has appeared since the initial landing site was chosen by AACUS. Officials say the five-year effort represents a leap-ahead technology for the Marine Corps and Navy, moving autonomous flights far beyond the current standard which requires a specialized operator to select a landing site and manually control an unmanned aircraft via remote. "Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos has discussed using drones to deliver a customer's book order in 30 minutes," said Klunder. "We're talking the same concept here-the difference is, we're bringing our customer, the Marine, 5,000 pounds of ammo and water instead."

Repair and Refurbishment of our “Colours” at Juno Beach – 3 BAM.

3e Batterie d’artillerie de Montreal (3BAM) was hard at work last week, refurbishing our “Colours” at Juno Beach. Many say “Thank God the Guns!” I would add to that “Thank God the Gunners of 3 BAM!” and thanks to the donors of over \$10,000 that made this happen.



Members of 3BAM hard at work.

We have a 25 Pounder and a 40mm AA gun on display at Juno Beach. They belong to the Juno Beach Centre, acquired by or donated by us, the RCA. A condition for placing the 40mm gun at the Juno Beach Centre was that a particular unit would deploy a maintenance team every second year to keep the guns in good condition. Due to financial

constraints (public and non-public), such has not happened and I gather will not happen. So, that was Plan A. Plan B and C would respectively be: contract out (and someone pay it – Euro 8,000); or deploy a team from 3BAM to lead in the refurbishment.

We have opted for the latter – Plan C, 3 BAM led by the indomitable CWO (Ret) Gilles Aubé. The budget to do so would be about \$9,000 (max - for three people, paint, sand-blasting, tools, accommodations, meals, local transport, flights, etc). We have raised \$7,500 thanks to some very generous Gunner contributions. 3 BAM will be issuing tax receipts, and the Montreal Gunners are coordinating the financial effort. My only request of the RCA / RCAA / Heritage is that the RCA Fund be prepared back us with contingency money up to a maximum of \$2,000.

This is within the spending authority of the Regimental Colonel. So, Regimental Colonel, would you be prepared to support this initiative up to \$2,000 if it is indeed needed. However, I do not think that it will be needed.

Gents – I could not allow our guns, our Colours, to be in such run-down condition for the 70th Anniversary of D Day ceremonies. Thanks to 3 BAM, such will not be the case. I will look into a long term plan next year.

Arty Senate – we Gunner owe special thanks to Steve Gregory, Gilles Aubé and team, 3 BAM, the Montreal Gunners and those who have contributed to this cause.

UBIQUE

Ernie Beno

(Ernie is the Past Colonel Commandant of the Royal Canadian Artillery)

Exercise COLD RESPONSE Warms Up in Norway

March 11, 2014 – Ottawa

Approximately 350 Canadian Army soldiers from 5 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group (5 CMBG) took part in Exercise COLD RESPONSE (EX CR14) in Harstad, Norway, from March 10 to 22. This Norwegian-led international military exercise includes approximately 16 000 troops from 16 nations. EX CR 14 offers an extremely challenging cold-weather environment and a scenario that exercises the vitally important capability of operating in cold-weather conditions. As such, it improves the Canadian Army's ability to effectively fight and survive in an Arctic environment.

During the exercise, 5 CMBG is contributing an infantry component as well as senior staff officers for the headquarters. Lieutenant-Colonel Steve Jourdain, from the 3rd Battalion of the Royal 22e Régiment, is leading a Multinational Battalion Group consisting of Canadian and Norwegian Infantry troops. Major Bruno Turmel, also from the 3rd Battalion of the Royal 22e Régiment, is directing the current operations in the Multinational Brigade.

Sponsored by NATO, EX CR14 is a multi-national, joint exercise featuring land, air and sea elements. It provides an arena for participating forces to enhance war-fighting skills and to exercise all aspects of operations at the tactical level.

Marines Enjoy Special Cold-weather Meals

By Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Sullivan Laramie U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe and Africa

ELVEGAARDSMOEN, Norway, Mar. 20, 2014 - When Marines in the field are hungry, they turn to brown packages with snacks and dehydrated entrees inside. Meals, Ready to Eat have been staples of field life in the military since they replaced Meals, Combat Issue in 1981.

For service members in cold environments, however, regular MREs aren't enough. MREs can only withstand low temperatures to a certain point. After that, service members require something most have never seen: Meals, Cold Weather. Clad in white instead of the usual



Marines with 2nd Supply Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2nd Marine Logistics Group take Meals, Cold Weather during the drawdown of Cold Response 14 at Evenes, Norway, March 19, 2014. Cold Response 14 is a Norwegian-led multinational exercise above the Arctic Circle designed prepare for high-intensity cold-weather operations with nearly 16,000 troops from 16 different countries.

brown packaging, MCWs contain meals with more calories and additional drink mixes to encourage hydration in climates that require more energy per day, but where many people prefer not to drink. For men and women who fight in every clime and place, the frigid environment of the arctic weather during Cold Response 14, a Norwegian-led multinational exercise, is one such location. "[MCWs] are better than regular MREs, they just aren't as expedient," said Marine Corps Sgt Sean N Davis, a Bowling Green, Ohio, native and food service specialist with the battalion. "They last longer and they won't freeze in the cold, but you need to boil water."

The MCWs are similar in some respects to the field rations, or FRs, used by the Norwegian armed forces such as the high calorie count and the water requirement for rehydrating the entree in each meal. "FRs are pretty much the same as the [MCWs]," said Sgt Ole G Tinghaug, an Arendal, Norway, native and ambulance team leader

with Host Nation Support Battalion. "They come linked together with breakfast, lunch and dinner, though. It's the same concept, but with different food. MCWs are bigger, with more food in them, and I like those."

Cold Response 14 brought together nearly 16,000 service members from 16 different nations in northern Norway, above the Arctic Circle, from March 10-21 to build allied military capacity and interoperability in a high-intensity, cold-weather training environment.

Who is it?

Last Edition. APRIL FOOL!! We had a last minute winner. Way to go Doug.



HUMBLEY-PUDGE GALLIPOLI HEAVYISH BOMBER Lewis gun blazing, flour bags cascading down, the pachydermic Gallipoli terrorized practice target ranges across the empire from 1933 to 1939. Four Varley "Panjandrum" motors screwed her up to a cruising altitude several feet over the legal minimum of the day. Relatively few were built, but more than enough Gallipolis were delivered to the R.A.F., which handed them over to the Royal Indian Air Force, which handed them over to the Royal Malayan Air Force, which promptly found itself plagued by wholesale desertions of its flying personnel. The Gallipoli's moment of glory came and, lightninglike, vanished during the surprise Japanese invasion of Singapore in early 1942. Hordes of Nips swarmed toward the R.A.F. aerodrome; out went the call, "Warm up the Gallipolis!" And, indeed, 36 of the breed might have risen to meet the foe had not their special boarding ladders turned up missing. The sobriquet Sitting Duck has clung to the Gallipoli ever since—an unjust cut in view of this perfectly harmless old war horse's clearly worthwhile intentions. The last survivor serves today as a chicken house—albeit an impressive one—for the Maharani of Gunjipor. It crash-landed on her lawn in 1944, but the R.A.F., despite numerous reminders, simply keeps forgetting to come round and pick it up.

This Week's picture



This week's photo is of a parade in the car park of a Safeway store. Many of you will know which store it is but can you prove it from the photo?

From the use of the Union flag on the review stand, it would seem that the event was prior to 1965, and after the adoption of the 105 mm howitzer in the late 1950s.

Our questions are, what was the event, when was it, and who is there. Maybe you were there?

If so, I hope you stocked up on round roast, as it was only 39 cents a pound.

If anyone wants a larger version of the photo that can be blown up send an email to bob.mugford@shaw.ca

Answers can be sent to the editor, or to the columnist, John Redmond ([john.d. redmond@telus.net](mailto:john.d.redmond@telus.net)). Thanks for your support of our history.

From the 'Punitentary'

A statistics professor and a math professor wrote a cookbook on baking together. They called it Pi a la Mode.

Murphy's other Laws

The number of people watching you is directly proportional to the stupidity of your action.

Quotable Quotes

Take time to deliberate; but when the time for action arrives, stop thinking and go in.
- Andrew Jackson

BC ARMY GALA

The
British Columbia
Army Gala
2014


Celebrating
A LEGACY OF SERVICE
Dinner and Dance

Come and enjoy a distinctive evening of fun, friendship and tradition. The BC Army Gala is open to anyone who has served, is a friend of the military or who wants to have an enjoyable evening with a unique group of people!

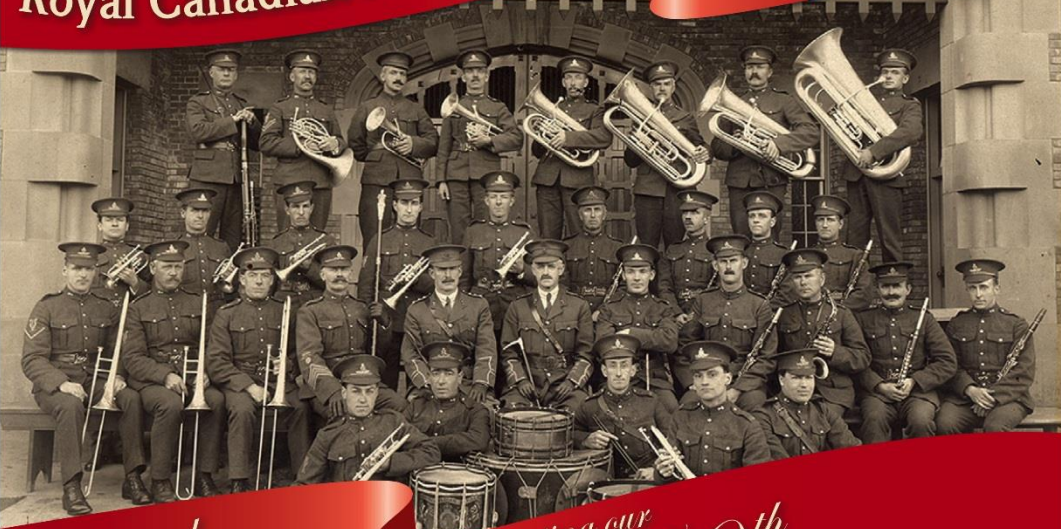
DO NOT DELAY. LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE!

Venue: Hyatt Regency Vancouver
Date: Saturday 10 May, 2014
Time: 7 p.m. 'till late
Dress: Mess Kit, Black Tie or equivalent

For all ticket information, including Early Bird Specials, please visit the BC Army Gala web site or phone (604) 225-2520 ext 2496.


www.bcarmygala.ca

Fifth (BC) Artillery Regiment (RCA) Foundation
 Presents the
5TH (BC) Field Regiment
Royal Canadian Artillery Band



Annual Spring Concert
 Celebrating our **150th Anniversary**
 Conductor
CWO Frank Eigler



**Alix Golden Performance Hall,
 Victoria Conservatory of Music
 900 Johnson Street • General admission by cash donation**

**Sunday April 13, 2014
 2:30pm**

Donated proceeds will go to the Fifth (BC) Artillery Regiment (RCA) Foundation



VICTORIA SYMPHONY



VANCOUVER WELSH
MEN'S CHOIR

*Songs from
Stage and Screen*

Friday, May 23rd, 7:30pm at
WEST VANCOUVER UNITED CHURCH
2062 Esquimalt Avenue, West Vancouver



\$25 **\$22** **\$10**
ADULT SENIOR STUDENT

Where to Buy Tickets:

By Phone 604-878-1190 or
Buy Online (no fees)
at vwmc.ca with credit card

Buy from any Welsh Men's
Choir member

Free Tickets for Children
under 12 with adult

Memorial Cross Curry Lunch



Hosted by:
*The British Columbia
Regiment
Officers' Mess*

Coordinated by:
*The BC Regiment
(DCO) Association*



- Date:** Thursday, April 24, 2014
- Time:** 11:45 am - 1:30 pm
(bar opens at 11:45am)
(lunch starts at 12:25pm)
- Location:** Officers' Mess - The BC Regiment
620 Beatty Street, Vancouver, BC
- Dress:** Business Attire (jacket & tie, ladies similar)
- Price:** \$30/person (\$5 discount for those that confirm attendance by April 18, 2014)
- RSVP:** For more information or to register, please contact Bill Diamond at Bill@DukeaBear.com or 604.618.3607 (Please advise of any dietary needs with your RSVP)

Payment by cheque or cash will be accepted at the door
Cheques are payable to: The BC Regiment (DCO) Association
No cancellations after April 18, 2014

NEXT PLANNED LUNCH: *Thursday, May 29, 2014*