



**Vancouver Artillery
Association News**



RUSI News
Vancouver

Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News June 9, 2015

Wednesday Lunches

The 15 Field Officers Mess holds weekly lunches, serving a 5 course, 'homemade' meal for only \$15- you won't find a better meal - or a better deal, anywhere. If you are in the area on a Wednesday, drop in and join us for lunch.

The dress for Wednesday lunches is suit/blazer/sports jacket and tie. Dress for ladies is the equivalent. Your guests are always welcome but don't forget to tell them about dress requirements BEFORE they come.

World War 2 - June 1941

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

June 2nd: The shrinking Dunkirk perimeter is now manned entirely by French, and the last British units are among the 26,300 men taken off today, but many French and stragglers remain.

June 3rd: French officers have about 30,000 men standing to arms inside the rapidly shrinking perimeter at Dunkirk, and accordingly 26,175 are shipped out this night – whereupon 40,000 stragglers appear from sundry hiding places in the final hours and are left behind.

June 4th: Evacuations at Dunkirk stop at 0340 hours, and some 40,000 men are left for the Germans to pick up but 338,226 men have been removed from Dunkirk, including 112,000 Frenchmen. Initially, planners thought they might only get about 50,000 out. As Britain takes stock of Dunkirk, they have lost about 80 pilots (the Luftwaffe have lost about 100 aircraft), about 80 ships, including nine destroyers and a number of others have to line up for space in the repair slips alongside the three capital ships and eight cruisers being repaired from other battles. Churchill delivers his "We shall fight on the beaches" speech, forecasting the fall of France and promising eternal defiance. The evacuation of 24,500 British, French and Polish troops begins from Norway.

June 5th: The attack named Fall Rot begins, as the Germans attack south over the Somme into France; the French have made some preparations and are fighting with more skill and determination; heavy fighting occurs where Hoth's Panzer Corps is driving south between Amiens and the Sea. The French shuffle their cabinet again, as Daladier is dropped and De-Gaulle (a newly promoted general) is made under-secretary for defence.

June 6th: Hoth's Panzer Corps slowly chews through the French defences between Amiens and the Channel, with Rommel's 7th Panzer leading the pack. Kleist's panzers are still being held up between Amiens and Peronne, while Guderian's troops are bridging the Aisne.

June 7th: The Germans capture Montdidier, Noyon, and Forges-les Eaux. The King of Norway and his government leave Tromso for Britain on HMS Devonshire. Berlin is bombed for the first time during the war, as one lone French Farman F223 heavy bomber makes it to the city in a night raid.

June 8th: The British and French complete their evacuation from Norway, but not before Germany's battlecruisers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau find and sink HMS Glorious and the carrier's two escorting destroyers – but the British ship's defence deters the pair from seeking out other convoys. Heroism often results from just being stubborn enough – as Major Ludwig Stautner of the 3rd Mountain Division learns today. The Allied siege of Narvik has whittled his battalion down to a handful of men, even when augmented by Kriegsmarine sailors whose destroyers were sunk; but he has fearlessly led his men in the crucial sector of the defences for weeks. Yesterday, as the defence perimeter continued to shrink, Stautner was contemplating laying down his arms this day; but instead the dawn shows the Norwegians have vanished and Stautner goes on to receive the Knights Cross.

June 9th: The remaining elements of the Norwegian Army are ordered by their king to cease fire at midnight. The Germans take Rouen, Dieppe and Compiègne, but while Hoth's Panzer Corps (led by Rommel's 7th Panzer Division) are through the French defences, elsewhere the French are still holding off other German attacks.

Exciting Discoveries at Juno Beach



The Juno Beach Centre, Canada's only museum and education centre on the D-Day landing beaches in Normandy, announced an exciting discovery made on the site last week by Canadian production company, Northern Sky for the television series *War Junk* (History Television Canada/Shaw Media). *War Junk* tells the story of war through artefacts found on battlefields, in this case a German Tobruk machine gun emplacement, long buried in the shifting sands of Juno Beach.

Series Host/Producer Wayne Abbott is thrilled by the discovery: "We were given the opportunity to search the area near the Juno Beach Centre for buried and lost remnants from the battle on D-Day. We had a number of targets we wanted to find but we had no idea if we would locate them. When we uncovered the German Tobruk in pristine condition, the way it looked nearly 70 years ago, it was an incredible moment. Finally uncovering it after so many years buried under the sand gives a

haunting reminder of what Canadian troops faced when they landed here. It's a very significant remnant that truly tells the story of D-Day.'

Historian David O'Keefe noted that this Tobruk is an important historical discovery: "We know that a pillbox like this would have been devastating for the Canadians when they landed. Because of the way it was built it could fire in a 360 degree angle it meant that it could cover all areas of the beach. This pillbox made this part of the Juno Beach sector absolutely treacherous for the Canadians on D-Day."

Nathalie Worthington, the Director of the Juno Beach Centre, added: "This is fantastic. We live here and we have history under our feet but we don't necessarily know where. Uncovering this emplacement adds to the story. It adds to the experience of visitors from Canada and from all over the world when they come to Juno Beach. We are going to bring more information because this has its own story."

The Juno Beach Centre, a privately run museum and a registered charity in Canada, is thrilled by this discovery and hopes to further develop the site to open it to the public in future, pending funding. The Juno episode of *War Junk* premieres in Canada on History Television in November 2015. See more at the Juno Beach Centre Website at:

<http://www.junobeach.org/exciting-discoveries-in-juno-park/>

Sentry Breaks Cover

ROBIN HUGHES 27 May 2015



Toronto-based INKAS Armoured Vehicle Manufacturing has unveiled the latest in its family of multipurpose armoured personnel carriers: Sentry, a new 4x4 armoured personnel carrier (APC) designed for service with military and SWAT-type forces, and other law enforcement agencies.

Featuring a six-speed automatic transmission and 151-litre fuel capacity,

Sentry is powered by a 6.7-litre V8 turbocharged diesel engine delivering 362hp at 4,750rpm, and can accommodate up to eight passengers and crew. Built on a heavy-duty truck chassis, the new APC has a high level of off-road performance and manoeuvrability, and is designed to operate in diverse climatic conditions. Sentry is constructed with dual protective layers, ensuring the safety of its occupants from ballistic as well as blast attacks. Advanced armouring materials provide protection against 7.62x51 SC ammunition, 7.62x51 M80 NATO Ball ammunition and meet NIJ-STD-0108.01 Level III as well as CEN Level BR7 ballistic standards.

The vehicle features perimeter armouring of the passenger compartment and engine bay as well as important mechanical components. The vehicle is equipped with multilayer ballistic glass and INKAS' proprietary overlap system to protect against bullets being shot between the seams of doors. Additional security features include an escape hatch, siren/PA system, emergency lights package and electronic military system, as well as external view cameras providing a 360° field of view. The vehicle can also be customised to serve as a mobile command centre or a medical evacuation vehicle. Sentry has been fully designed, engineered and built at the INKAS manufacturing facility in Toronto, Canada. In 2014, INKAS relocated its production capacities from the UAE to Canada in order to centralise its operations for both the military and civil markets.

Choppers Bought for Parts May Live to Fly another Day

Former White House aircraft poised to join search-and-rescue fleet



A VH-71 Kestrel Helicopter

Lost hikers or stranded fishermen could find themselves being rescued by helicopters once designed to transport US presidents. The Department of National Defence had been insistent that the presidential helicopters, purchased in 2011 for spare parts for Canada's current search-and-rescue choppers, would never

be used as actual aircraft. But in an about-face, the military and DND now acknowledge they are looking at doing just that. Defence sources say senior officers inside the Royal Canadian Air Force have successfully argued that since the \$3-billion helicopters, known as the VH-71, were airworthy, it didn't make sense to strip them down for parts. They are pushing for the aircraft to be added to the RCAF flight line.

When Barack Obama came to the presidency, he balked at the high cost of the VH-71 helicopter program, which had been started under former president George W Bush. Around \$3 billion had already been spent and the program was expected to more than double in price. As a result, the U.S. government shut down the program. The VH-71s are similar to the search-and-rescue Cormorant helicopters currently used by the RCAF. The nine new helicopters, as well as more than 800,000 spare parts, were purchased by DND for about \$164 million. Seven of the choppers are airworthy. Defence sources say the RCAF is considering using the helicopters to bolster the search-and-rescue fleet in the coming years since it will have to remove some Cormorants from service as they go through what is known as a midlife upgrade. "Analysis has shown that a VH-71 could be converted for SAR (search and rescue) operations, and it is part of the option analysis of the Cormorant mid-life upgrade," said RCAF spokesman Capt. Alexandre

Munoz. “When complete, this analysis will help determine the most effective mechanism to improve fleet capacity if deemed necessary.”

Parts haven’t been removed from the presidential helicopters and they are still airworthy, sources say. Spare parts taken from the stockpile purchased by Canada from the U.S., however, have been used for the Cormorants. Jeremy Tracy, a spokesman for Agusta-Westland, which builds the Cormorant, said the firm has always been supportive of converting the presidential helicopters to a search-and-rescue variant. “The conversion of the aircraft would give DND a significant boost to its search-and-rescue capability and a more robust fleet,” he said. A fleet of 21 helicopters would allow for better coverage, particularly in the Arctic, Tracy added. Converting the helicopters would include installing a side door as well as upgrading the cockpits so they’re similar to the Cormorants, he noted.

Tracy said that if the Conservative government decided to proceed, most of the conversion work would be done in Canada at IMP in Nova Scotia. All sensitive U.S. equipment has already been removed from the helicopters, he said. Canada embarked on the presidential helicopter deal with the aim of trying to cut down on the excessive time the Cormorants spent on the ground because of a lack of parts. The plan worked, according to military documents obtained by the Citizen using the Access to Information law. The chopper parts, combined with a decision to order more spare parts from the original helicopter manufacturer, cut down on the number of sidelined Cormorants. Canada originally bought 15 Cormorants, but one crashed in 2006.

The Hunt for Our Other Diefenbunker

ANDREW KING _ May 31, 2015

It was a top-secret military installation during the Cold War, built as part of Prime Minister John Diefenbaker’s plan to protect various members of government in the event of a nuclear attack. But the well-known Carp Diefenbunker, as it would be nicknamed, is just one of dozens reportedly built across Canada under a project code named “Project EASE” (Experimental Army Signals Establishment), a diversionary title used to disguise the actual intent of these structures as Canadian Emergency Government Headquarters. And there is another one of these bunkers nearby — sealed with concrete in a desolate field west of Ottawa. Officially called “CFS Carp Richardson Detachment,” this two-storey underground military facility housed military personnel who operated radio transmitters. Like its better-known brother in Carp, it contained its own power generation, a mess hall, barracks, administrative offices and a fallout decontamination unit. It was connected to Carp over a distance of 50 kilometres by a buried landline, and constructed in the same manner but at half the size. It was operational from 1962 until 1994. Curious to learn more about this second Diefenbunker, I contacted Dr. Andrew Burtch, the Canadian War Museum’s post-1945 historian and a specialist on Cold War civil defence. Burtch explained that other protected facilities were built outside of Ottawa and away from the Carp facility “to avoid the destruction of a direct hit on Ottawa, and, as with relocation sites such as the one in Kemptville or Smiths Falls, it would have been upwind of the likely fallout resulting from a strike against Ottawa.” Burtch said this second bunker

couldn't have operated as a backup site for the Diefenbunker. "It's too small, for one — I believe that facilities on the Canadian army base at Petawawa would have been the backup site, because that was where the exercises for federal survival took place while the Diefenbunker was under construction."



After a two-kilometre hike, Andrew King found the site of the second bunker. Andrew King / Ottawa Citizen

Concrete was only one part of the survival plan. Much depended on the government's ability to dispense emergency information. This would have relied on buried cables, and as Burtch explains, "Through these buried underground cables linking facilities, as well as by radio, which was the primary media . . . the government would have (told) Canadians that an attack was underway and the locations and intensity of fallout after an attack."

A communication signal would also have been given that was the "all-clear" informing Canadians they could emerge from shelter. "But the facility at Richardson likely had a telephone and a teletype connection, depending on the equipment inside," Burtch says. I set out to find what remained of the site. Studying current satellite images of remote areas west of Ottawa and comparing them to research notes on a possible location, I spotted an unusual feature: an angled and perfectly square shape surrounded by an assortment of dots and other odd details. Being in a remote area, and centred in an empty field about two kilometres from the nearest road, it seemed a feasible site for our second bunker. Unlike Carp's Diefenbunker, which was situated within a small town, this site was completely remote and would require a substantial drive into the facility from the road. Packing some gear, I headed to the target location.

Heading along the nearest road to the site, a stretch of rusted barbed-wire fencing became visible, followed by a rusted metal gate and an illegible weathered plywood sign marking an entrance to something down an overgrown asphalt road. After a two-kilometre hike down this crumbling, overgrown road, I came across an old parking lot. Passing a variety of odd ruins that included transmitter cables, anchor pads and other electronic equipment strewn about, I saw what I needed to conclude this was the site of the second bunker: A mound of earth approximately 100 feet square and 15 feet high with sealed hatch ports, concrete entrance walls and old ventilation shafts. Climbing to the top of the mound, the former hatches and vent ports, all of which have been filled and sealed with concrete, are clearly visible. A concrete side entrance, similar to what's at the Carp bunker, is also visible but it, too, has been filled in with earth and only its top portion remains exposed.

Wiped clean by the military once it was decommissioned, some traces of its past remain, such as the large transmitter-tower installation pads and building-foundation ruins. Hatch lids, anchor

braces, and even cables lie undisturbed in this remote field that for more than 30 years was a secret operational underground military facility. An unusual length of piled earth led to what looked to be a containment reservoir for water, with its irrigation and pumping equipment rusting away. Sealed up and silent, this remote second bunker ground continues to be shrouded in secrecy. Its adversary is no longer the blast of a nuclear bomb, but the encroaching elements of nature that will one day consume this relic from our Cold War past.

15 Field Artillery Regiment RCA Yearbook

A new on-line project has recently been started by retired Colonel Leon Jensen, OMM, CD. The project is a compilation of yearbooks spanning the history of the regiment from its start in 1920 to the present day. Each individual yearbook is currently in a digital format and new material is being added almost daily. It is hoped that the yearbooks will eventually allow a person to access a particular year and find the names of the members that were enrolled that year, their rank, their position and any awards that they earned. In addition, any deployments overseas and the continued notable exploits that individuals have achieved after leaving the Regiment. While much of the information is brought in from the public domain, members that are currently serving and those that have retired are encouraged to email Col Jensen at LeonJ1@hotmail.com authorizing the use of their name and image in the project should they be provided from private sources. Any high resolution photographs with dates and stories would be most welcome. In addition, personal bios of dates enrolled, promoted, on course, etc are extremely valuable to the project.

The website <http://15rcayearbook.weebly.com/> is up and running and we would encourage you to view the material that has already been included (who has been the recipient of the most proficient member of the Sergeants' Mess all those years?) Take a look at who has already signed on and dig out some of your old photographs! Future plans include editorial meetings where we will bring a scanner along to record those photos.

Who is it? **Last Week:** This photo was taken on Ex Black Bear at CFB Shilo in 1982.



The soldier in the middle is MBdr Jim Jacobson, who went on to become RSM. The soldier at the panoramic telescope sight is Bdr Dominic daAssuncao, who later became a Sgt. Both retired in the mid 90s.

Ex Black Bear was fired in support of the German Army Training Establishment in Shilo. Cdn Artillery units supported the German Battle runs, which happened every 6 weeks (usually) from Apr-Sept. They supplied the ammo, Canada supplied a firing Battery (reserve batteries took over firing in the late 70s). At this timeframe, it was usually a fire plan on Sat morning and another one Sun morning from a fixed position off Ant-Tank road (about 5 km east from the MSR. Note that the 2 ½ ton is still on position, the bottom shield is still up, stores not unloaded, but axel locks are the firing position and sight is mounted. It appears the detachment is doing a “Prepare for Action” at an RV before moving to a firing point.

This Week: This week's photo comes from the same group as last week's, so we know where and when it was taken: CFB Shilo, Exercise Black Bear, 1982. As some of you noted last week, the regiment helped give fire support to Wehrmacht units training there (who have now moved to where they originally wanted to be: Poland, that country being temporarily unavailable from 1945 until 1989).



Those of us who grew up on plastic models (and probably suffered irreparable brain damage, thanks to sniffing all that glue) will know that the wartime Wehrmacht had no end (well, there was an end by May 1945) of really neat, cool, and killer (literally) armoured fighting vehicles. Just about every kid I knew back in Cardinal Heights outside Ottawa in the 1950s had a "Panther" tank, which was usually stuffed with firecrackers on Victoria Day, and sent to its just reward. Well, they only cost our parents 98 cents, plus the explosives. What is less well-known, with the exception of the excellent Leopard tank with which we are now equipped, is that Germany also produced a plethora of cool kit post-War, too. This week's photo is of one, manned by jolly German soldaten. Our question (the answer to which we already have, but are keen to humiliate you) is this: what AFV is it? Do you remember working alongside these partying panzertruppen, and do you have stories you can share with us?

Your intelligent responses can be sent to the author, John Redmond ([johnd. redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd.redmond@telus.net)), or to the esteemed editor. All answers, however incorrect and risible, are treated with the utmost respect.

From the 'Punitary'

What do you say to impatient jockeys? Hold your horses!

Murphy's other Laws

Anything can be made to work if you fiddle with it long enough.

Quotable Quotes

Vision without action is a daydream. Action without vision is a nightmare. - *Japanese proverb*



Fort Fraser Garrison

Greetings,

I request the company of my Officers, Miladies and Guests at our



Battle of Waterloo 200th Anniversary Dinner

Saturday, 13 June, 2015

The Officers' Mess, Bessborough Armoury
2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, BC

1830hrs for 1930hrs

guest speaker: 2Lt. Shawn Wade, 15th FD RCA Cadets

tariff: \$50 pp (inc. wine with dinner and a unique "Waterloo Punch")

A portion of proceeds go to support the **KidSafe Vancouver Project**, a 78th Frasers charity.

dress: Summer Dress (short sleeve order, or 3B for military guests, Short Sleeve or Military Golf Shirts with Dress pants for other guests).

78th Frasers 3B: Bonnet, Tan shirt with Gold Lanyard, name tags and medal ribbons, Lovat green hose & red flashes and brogues.

RSVP: before Monday, 08 June - to jennmack@shaw.ca - only

yours aye,

Jim Barrett CD, Major

Officer Commanding the Garrison



Churchill Society of British Columbia

PATRON: RANDOLPH CHURCHILL

PRESENTS A SEMINAR:

“China: The Paradox of the Western Pacific and the Rise of the Military”

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Please join us on Thursday, June 25, 2015 to welcome our guest speakers Lew House and James Boutilier. This event will be in a different format from our Evenings With Churchill. The Seminar will commence at 5:00 p.m., include a light dinner and conclude by 8:00 p.m. The Seminar will focus on China’s activities and capabilities including its aggression in the South China Sea, its ballistic missile program and the reaction of the ASEAN countries. The initial presentation will be made by Lew House of Louisville, Colorado.



Lew House holds a Master of Physics (Nuclear) from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York, a Ph.D. in Astro-Geophysics from the University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado and an M.A. in Military Studies from American University in Manassas, Virginia. Lew worked as a physicist at the Hanford Atomic Product Operations in Richland, Washington. His research, based on Admiral Rickover’s project for the first nuclear submarine reactor, served as a Master’s thesis for Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Mr. House, as Senior Scientist, served as NASA Principal Investigator in developing and managing the telescope on the NASA Solar Maximum Mission Satellite studying solar mass ejections. He served as NASA Principal Investigator on the Solar Maximum Repair Mission that performed the first in-space repair mission.

Mr. House has taught graduate courses in astrophysics and quantum physics. He has conducted joint research modeling the “Behavioral Power’ of nation states. Mr. House is the President of the Rocky Mountain Churchillians and lectures on a variety of topics on Winston Churchill. He is a member of the Society for Military History and the U.S. Naval Institute. Lew maintains his interest in geopolitics, military affairs, history, climate change, wargaming, flight simulation and builds his own high performance PC’s.

Commentary, particularly from the Canadian point of view, will be given by James Boutilier, Asia-Pacific Policy Advisor, Maritime Forces Pacific Headquarters.



Dr. James Boutilier is the Special Advisor (Policy) at Canada’s Maritime Forces Pacific Headquarters in Esquimalt, British Columbia. He is responsible for advising the Commander of Maritime Forces Pacific on matters of defence and foreign policy and maritime security in the Asia-Pacific region. Prior to his appointment at MARPAC, Dr. Boutilier spent twenty-four years on staff at the Royal Roads Military College in Victoria as Head of the History Department and then as Dean of Arts. During his time at RRMCC, he was instrumental in establishing the military and strategic studies degree program at the college and taught courses on naval history, contemporary Asia, the history of the Pacific, and strategic issues. He is also an adjunct professor of Pacific and Asian Studies at the University of Victoria and the President of the Maritime Awards Society of Canada.



Dr. Boutilier was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and attended Dalhousie University (BA History: 1960), McMaster University (MA History: 1962), and the University of London (PhD History: 1969). Dr. Boutilier served in the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve from 1956 to 1964 as a navigating officer and in the same capacity in the Royal Navy Reserve from 1964 to 1969. After completing his time with the RN, Dr. Boutilier taught at the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji, from 1969 to 1971. Dr. Boutilier's field of expertise is Asia-Pacific defence and security, particularly with regard to maritime issues. He has published widely on international defence and security issues, including RCN in Retrospect (1982), and articles in professional monographs as well as the Asia-Pacific Defence Reporter and Canadian Institute of International Affairs journals. Some of his recent lectures have focused on the Canadian Navy's role in the Asia-Pacific, the new Asian security architecture, Northeast Asian security issues, and the new naval order in Asia.

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2015

Location: UBC Room, The Vancouver Club, 915 Hastings Street West, Vancouver, B.C.

Time: Wine and Cheese starts at 4:30 p.m., Program from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Light Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$50 each for a Member of the Society, spouse, partner or an immediate family member;
\$65 each for a non-Member

The ticket cost includes a light dinner and one beverage ticket per attendee for 1 glass of wine or beer, or for 2 soft drinks. Additional drinks can be purchased from the bar.

Please inform our Administrator, April Accola, of your attendance by email at aprilaccola@hotmail.com, by mailing the attached form, by registering by phone at 778-321-3550 or online at www.winstonchurchillbc.org.

I look forward to seeing you on June 25. Please feel free to send this notice to any interested parties.

Ian E. Marshall, Secretary
Churchill Society of British Columbia