



Van Arty Assoc and RUSI Van Members News Dec 10, 2013

Wednesday Lunches

Note: Christmas stand down for local units has been set and the Armoury will be closed through that period. Last lunch (*see note below*), which is always a Ladies' lunch, will be **Dec 11th** and the first lunch of 2014 will be **Jan 8th**.

Guests and visitors are always welcome. People these days, especially civilians, don't think about dress much and, if not pre-warned, will show up in very casual dress so, to avoid embarrassment, please make them aware of the dress requirements (suit/blazer and tie, equivalent for ladies) before they come.

Upcoming events at 15 Field Regiment

CO's Christmas Tea- The annual Tea will take place on Sunday, Dec 15th at 1400hrs. Always a great event - cost **\$20pp** , Mrs Lum's fantastic hors d'oeuvres are featured and the Band is sending the Quay Winds to give the event some class. This event is Semi-formal so Suit/Blazer and tie required for the men, cocktail dresses for the ladies.

NOTE: *Mrs Lum needs a good idea on numbers attending the last lunch and the Tea so we have put a sign-up sheet at the bar and ask that anyone planning to attend these events put down their name and the number in their party. If you won't be in to sign up before the event, please email me the details and I will put you on the list*

New Year's Day Levée Messes open to receive visitors at 1100hrs. A light lunch will be served starting around noon. Many of our retirees drop by to say hello – a good day to renew contact with old comrades.

A Purse for Mrs Lum

Every year in December, we collect from lunch attendees to create a 'purse' for Mrs Lum. This is traditionally presented on the last lunch of the year. She has worked extra hard this year because she has had to prepare all the meals at home and bring them in to serve. A lot of extra work – and expense – to maintain her high standards. Anybody wishing to contribute can see me in the Mess and sign a Christmas card, to be presented to her with the purse.

Note: **I am unable to attend the 'last lunch' so we will have to present Mrs Lum with her 'purse' on Jan 8th .**

Burns Dinner - 2014

Wed, January 29, 2014 at the London Aviation Centre, 4580 Cowley Crescent, Richmond, BC. Details TBA

Military Begins Its Annual Program To Control Avalanches

November 28, 2013. Section: Defence Watch Posted by: David Pugliese

REVELSTOKE, B.C. – Today, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) commenced Operation PALACI, its annual support to Parks Canada Agency's (PCA) avalanche control program, which is expected to continue until April 2014.

Since 1961, the CAF has provided artillery support to PCA's avalanche control program in Glacier National Park, specifically in the Rogers Pass region of British Columbia. Working with avalanche control professionals, avalanches are triggered by artillery fire before they become a threat to the Trans-Canada Highway and Canadian Pacific (CP) rail transportation corridors. Operation PALACI is carried out by Joint Task Force Pacific (JTFP), headquartered in Esquimalt, B.C.

“Working closely with Parks Canada Agency helps ensure the safety of all Canadians and visitors travelling through Rogers Pass during the winter months,” said Rear-Admiral Bill Truelove, Commander of Joint Task Force Pacific. “This stretch of highway is also the gateway between Vancouver and the rest of Canada. The impact on our economy would be significant if it were closed for an extended period of time because of avalanche hazards.”

This year, members from 5e Régiment d'artillerie légère du Canada based in Valcartier, Quebec, have been tasked to support the world's largest mobile avalanche control program and will operate and fire the C3 105-mm Howitzer field artillery gun into predetermined high-risk areas to cause controlled avalanches before they become a threat to motorists on the highway.

“Parks Canada is proud of the strong partnership it has with the Canadian Armed Forces and their crucial involvement in our avalanche control program,” said Brenda DeMone, Acting Superintendent for Mount Revelstoke and Glacier national parks. “For over fifty years we have worked together to keep the Trans-Canada and CP rail transportation corridors open and safe.”

Joint Task Force Pacific (JTFP) is one of six regional joint task forces located across Canada to conduct continental operations by the CAF, and is responsible for all CAF operations in the province of British Columbia and its western air and maritime approaches.

Launch Propels Southcom-sponsored Nanosatellite into Space

By Donna Miles American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6, 2013 - An Atlas V rocket launched last night from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., carried a U.S. Southern Command-sponsored nanosatellite into space -- and with it, the potential for more reliable and less expensive communications for troops around the world. The nanosatellite, about the size of a loaf of bread and weighing just 11 pounds, piggybacked during the launch on a payload for the National Reconnaissance Office headquartered in Chantilly, Va., Southcom officials said. That small package carries big hopes for Southcom, which spearheaded the demonstration project to help overcome communications challenges in the vast mountainous and densely forested terrain within Latin America, Juan Hurtado, Southcom's science and technology advisor, told American Forces Press Service during an interview from Vandenberg Air Force Base. As envisioned, troops on the ground will be able to tap the new technology directly from their field radios. And when the satellite moves

beyond the part of the globe beyond Southcom's area of responsibility, it could provide that same capability to other combatant commands as well, Hurtado said.

"This is a major milestone," he said. "This first space project for U.S. Southern Command represents a big step ahead. I feel like we are about ready to offer a transformational capability to support troops in the field, not just within Southern Command, but throughout the Department of Defense." "This is just an evaluation, but we think this space capability could help improve communication during various operations," said Marine Corps Gen. John F. Kelly, Southcom's commander. If the initial phase of the demonstration goes as hoped, two additional nanosatellites will launch next December, Hurtado reported. All three will be set to a low-earth orbit, operating as one component of a communications suite to include a ground station, ground sensors and tactical radios, he explained. Collectively, they will support information-sharing and tactical communications over wide geographic expanses. The development and deployment of the nanosatellites represent the strength of partnerships at several levels, Hurtado said.

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command oversaw its development, and the Defense Department funded it through its Joint Capability Technology Demonstration effort. Cadre and students at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School will help Southcom assess the technology's operational value. In addition, Southcom's counterparts in Brazil and Peru will help evaluate its performance. Hurtado is headed to both countries next week to discuss details about how the three countries will work together during the demonstration. Kelly called the investment in nanosatellites "an opportunity for us to collaborate from the ground up with partner nations who are looking to develop this capability for a variety of security and commercial uses." The initial concept for the nanosatellite originated through close collaboration among the Secretary of Defense's Rapid Fielding Directorate, Army Space and Missile Defense Command and Southcom's science, technology and experimentation office.

Since it was stood up in 2002, the Southcom office has helped to identify technical capabilities to support the command's mission, and lacking them, helped to develop new ones, Hurtado said. Its staff takes gaps and requirements as identified by US forces and partner nations in the theater, converts them into technical requirements, then looks initially to the DOD technical technology community for solutions. The original objective -- "to find ways to do things better or do things cheaper" -- is even more pressing in today's fiscal environment, Hurtado noted. The new nanosatellite offers promise on both counts. It cost \$500,000 to build, far less than larger satellites, and its small size makes launching it into space relatively inexpensive. Both factors could make it feasible to deploy several nanosatellites as needed to expand communication coverage to ground forces in support of an array of mission requirements, including humanitarian assistance and disaster response operations, Hurtado said. He emphasized however, that last night's launch is just the start of a long evaluation process ahead. The first of two evaluations, planned for May, will take three months to complete. A final evaluation scheduled for February 2015 will span five months using all three satellites. "Recognizing that, I feel extremely proud of this effort and the potential capability it stands to offer for our forces," Hurtado said. "This will make communications not only less expensive, but more readily available."

Caretaker crashes vintage battle tank twice near Gold Beach

By Stuart Tomlinson | the Oregonian Dec 5, 2013



This 1969 Chieftain Battle Tank after its wild ride through two guardrails last week. (Oregon State Police)

If you're going to drive a 50-ton battle tank, remember that you may need more than the owner's manual to make it work. A 58-year-old Curry County man learned that lesson the hard way last week, said Lt. Gregg Hastings of the Oregon State Police.

On Nov. 27, a truck driver transporting a 1969 Chieftain Battle tank found that he

was unable to climb a steep grade near Gold Beach. So he unloaded the tank, which was the United Kingdom's main tank back in the 1960s, at the Myers Creek Wayside along U.S. 101. The tank was purchased by a local resident. Although he had no experience driving a tank, Jeffrey Glossop of Pistol River, who works as a caretaker for the man who bought the tank,



figured he could get it up the hill. "He had the manual, so he thought he could do it," Hastings said.

If you look closely you can see the tank, to the right of the white van, after it crashed through a guardrail near the Myers Creek Wayside on U.S. 101 last week. Oregon State Police

Glossop got the tank out of the wayside and proceeded up nearby Myers Creek Road toward the property. But as he ascended, the tank

slipped out of gear and rolled back down, traveling out-of-control across a busy U.S. 101; several cars had to stop to avoid the clanking behemoth, which then crashed through a guardrail. Undeterred, Glossop drove the tank back through the damaged guardrail, across Highway 101 and back up Myers Creek Road. It did not go well. As the tank again ascended, it again slipped out of gear while rounding a curve and rolled backwards through another guardrail and down an embankment, coming to rest in a stand of trees. The damage to the guardrails, according to the Oregon Department of Transportation, came in at \$1,500. Glossop was cited for reckless driving and first-degree criminal mischief.

It took a few days to recover the tank, which escaped unscathed, Hastings said. It's a tank after all.

Who is it?

Last Week. Well, we had no bites on this one. We know the Officer Cadet is a Gunner and he is at a Mess Dinner but we can't pin down names or the location. It is not at Bessborough as the wall behind is concrete block and there was no concrete block walls here back when this picture was taken.



This Week's picture

This week's photo is in line with the festive season in which we are now immersed. This jolly group of lads, dressed in pre-battledress style, aka 'service tunic', both winter serge and summer cotton, and sporting pre-war forage caps, are obviously in sync with the spirit of Saint Nicholas. This is attested to by the fine Christmas tree around which they have gathered in comradely warmth, soon to be aided by a bottle of spirits happily clutched by the gentleman in the rear of the group, his smile indicating his eager anticipation of a visit by Father Christmas.



Well, Saint Nick is certainly sure to attempt to visit these stalwart defenders of the Dominion, but he might have a bit of trouble finding them, as they are not in the warm and friendly Bessborough Armoury, a place Santa knows well, but are, rather, in a remote part of the Regiment's (or should I say 'Brigade's', as it was then) realm.

Now, dear reader, do not worry, as Santa was able to find these nice lads and reward their service, filling their puttees with corned beef and hard tack. However, can you guess where Santa found them, and in what year he did so? The clues are: *early* and *remote*.

Answers and ideas can be sent to the editor or to John Redmond, john_d._redmond@telus.net, the author of this little column."

From the 'Punitary'

What does a spy do when he gets cold? Goes undercover!!

Murphy's other Laws

One cannot make an omelette without breaking eggs but it is amazing how many eggs one can break without making a decent omelette.

Quotable Quotes

To acquire knowledge, one must study; but to acquire wisdom, one must observe.
- Marilyn Vos Savant



THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION

You are invited to the

2013 Annual Christmas Fundraiser

When: Thursday, December 12, 2013

Time: 11:30 AM – Doors Open

Lunch: **Served from 12:15 to 12:30 PM**,
followed by Silent Auction and Raffle

Where: The Drill Hall
Home of The British Columbia Regiment (DCO)
620 Beatty Street,
Vancouver, BC

Tickets: \$35.00 if confirmed by Dec 5, 2013
\$40.00 if confirmed Dec 5- 12, 2011
Please note, cancellations after December 5 will be invoiced

Menu: Turkey - With all the trimmings!

- Silent Auction!
- The usual valuable lucky prize draws!
- If you can't attend, a donation is welcomed.*
- Funds raised help us to fund Association Bursaries, Commemorative events and numerous other projects of The BC Regiment (DCO) Association Charitable Trust.
- Enjoy great company, good food & have fun while helping a worthy cause.



RSVP by Thursday, December 5th, 2013 to: Gayle Hawthorne 604-421-1521 or e-mail to: ghawthorne@shaw.ca. * Please send any cheques to: The BC Regiment (DCO) Association Charitable Trust, c/o #208, 1899 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, B. C. V5C 5T1

NADEN BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERTS 2013
In support of The Salvation Army Toy Drive
- PLEASE BRING AN UNWRAPPED TOY -



Join in the fun and excitement as 35 professional musicians take to the stage to entertain and get you into the holiday spirit. The Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy, Canada's West Coast Navy Band, presents its 35th annual Christmas concert series in Victoria, and the 12th in Vancouver, as a community fundraiser for The Salvation Army Toy Drive. The musical program - a potpourri of festive music - will include original works and holiday favourites for the entire family. Audience members are asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy on the night of the performance.

VANCOUVER

12 December – 7:30PM

Vogue Theatre
918 Granville St, Vancouver, BC

Tickets available 12 November
at the Vogue Theatre Box Office

Phone: 604-569-1144

Toll-free: 1-855-551-9747

Tickets are \$10

Tickets can be purchased in person, by
phone, or online at
www.voguetheatre.com

VICTORIA

16,17,18 December – 7:30PM

Royal Theatre
805 Broughton St, Victoria, BC

Tickets available 12 November
at the Royal or McPherson Box Offices

Phone: 250-386-6121

Toll-free: 1-888-717-6121

Tickets are \$10

Tickets can be purchased in person, by
phone, or online at
www.rmts.bc.ca



VANCOUVER WELSH MEN'S CHOIR

2013 Christmas Concerts

Fri, Nov 29th, 7:30pm *White Rock*

with *Johnston Heights Secondary Senior Choir*
White Rock Baptist Church
1657 - 140th Street, Surrey

Sun, Dec 1st, 2:00pm *New Westminster*
with *Winter Harp**

Massey Theatre
735 - 8th Avenue, New Westminster

Thur, Dec 5th, 7:30pm *Downtown Vancouver*
with *Collingwood School Senior Choir*

Christ Church Cathedral
690 Burrard St at Georgia, Vancouver

Fri, Dec 6th, 7:30pm *Shaughnessy*
with *Magee Secondary Chamber Choir*
Shaughnessy Heights United Church
1550 West 33rd Avenue, Vancouver

Fri, Dec 13th, 7:30pm *North Vancouver*
with *Argyle School Choir*

Centennial Theatre
2300 Lonsdale Ave, North Vancouver

O Holy Night



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

\$3 per ticket quantity discount on blocks of 10 or more tickets to any concert, except December 1st at Massey Theatre* where prices are \$30, \$25, \$22 for assigned seating.

Free Tickets: For Children under 12, if accompanied by an adult, except December 1st at Massey Theatre*

Where to Buy Tickets:

Online: vwmc.ca (no surcharges or handling fees)

In person: from any choir member

By phone: 604-878-1190 or

E-mail: tickets@vwmc.ca

Order by mail: VWMC, P.O. Box 2978,
Stn. Main, Vancouver, BC V6B 3X4

