



Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News Aug 15, 2017

Newsletters normally are emailed on Monday evenings. If you don't get a 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 to let me know you didn't get a copy.

Newsletter on line. This newsletter, and previous editions, are available on the Vancouver Artillery Association website at: 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 - We serve a great 5 course buffet meal for only \$20. Hope to see you all there. Attendance has been down recently. Most of our regular attendees, who are retired, are slowly fading away and the next generation seems, by and large, to be too busy to attend. Guests are always welcome and we encourage members to bring their significant others. Dress - Jacket and tie, equivalent for Ladies

Renovations in the Officers Mess have started and are expected to take all summer (if not longer). During renovations, lunches will be held in the WO & Sgts Mess.

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

- Sept 03** - Point Atkinson Tour
- Sept 09** - WO & Sgts Mess Dinner

World War 2 - 1942

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

Aug 16th: The Japanese land more troops at Buna and send them up the Kokoda Trail.

Aug 17th: US Marine raiders hit Makin Island in the Gilberts; killing the small Japanese garrison and destroying a seaplane base – this raid”. “prompts the Japanese to heavily reinforce many small islands. The Caucasian towns (and hydro-electric dams) of Pyatigorsk and Yessentuki are captured by the Germans. The first all-American bomber raid out of the UK hits Rouen with 12 B-17s. U507, having sunk five ships off Brazil in 24 hours doesn't suspect that they have just sent an outraged Brazil towards the ranks of the Allies. Among the Marine raiders on Makin Island is Sergeant Clyde A Thomason, whose courage, skill and leadership were exemplary even in an elite unit like the Marine Raiders. After many hours of combat, in which he repeatedly distinguished himself, he falls leading yet one more assault. He is posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

Aug 18th: Hitler gives more authority to behave even more outrageously to SS anti-Partisan units, directing them to act even more harshly. The Japanese land 1,000 reinforcements (the Ichiki Detachment) on Guadalcanal to deal with what they believe is a minor incursion.

Aug 19th: The Dieppe Raid: 6,000 Allied troops (mostly Canadians from the 2nd Division) raid the French port, and only 2,400 come off the beaches (the Germans lose about 600); and the air battle is a defeat too with 106 Allied aircraft downed for 50 Luftwaffe losses. However, valuable lessons are learned from the debacle. The Soviets launch a new offensive towards Schlusselberg to relieve the siege of Leningrad; it will be called off after six weeks of heavy casualties without significant result. The 7th Australian Division splashes ashore at Port Moresby. At Dieppe, Rev. John Weir Foote, the padre of Canada's Royal Hamilton Light Infantry, carries many wounded off the beach to safety and then again to landing craft as the evacuation is ordered while under constant heavy fire. He then forgoes his own chance to evacuate off the beach and instead voluntarily returns to stay with those members of the regiment who are now entering German captivity. He is awarded the Victoria Cross.

Aug 20th: Henderson field on Guadalcanal receives 19 fighters and 12 dive bombers shuttled from the USS Long Island; this is the beginning of the Cactus Air Force and many legendary deeds will be ascribed to these aviators.

Aug 21st: Frenzied Japanese attacks across Tenaru River in Guadalcanal by the Ichiki detachment result in the complete destruction of the attacking force. Army Group A noses into Novorossiysk while Army Group B crosses the Don River near Kletskaya. Marshal Petain praises the Germans for their victory at Dieppe.

Aug 22nd: Brazil declares war on Germany and Italy after complaints about U-Boat activity in the South Atlantic. In contrast to virtually all Latin American nations that declare war on the Axis, Brazil actually commits to the struggle –actively participating in the battle against the U-Boats and sending a division sized expeditionary force and fighter wing to fight in Italy.

The War Diary of C31 L/Sgt Charles D Phelan, A Battery, RCHA 1939 - 1945

Edited by BGen (ret'd) Robert P (Bob) Beaudry CD

Chapter 17. The Tiger Scheme

19 May – 1 Jun 1942. We began to pack up for a huge scheme. The whole Canadian Army was concentrated in Sussex and the 12th British Army in Kent, which were assumed to be hostile countries, with an adjoining neutral country, Surrey. As most of 2 Cdn Div (as we learned much later), was training for the Dieppe raid, 3 Br Div replaced them in the Canadian Army. Later information proclaimed this as the largest exercise in Britain in 1942, and it was a great success. The Cdn Corps was commanded by Gen Crerar, and he tested the toughness of his troops in many ways.

We moved off at night to a rendezvous in Arundel Park, and stayed there for a day. For the next few days we moved at night, put the guns into action, put up the camouflage and erected the 30' by 30' tarps for cover. We always put out guards, and had a "Stand To" every morning. On the

second day we were given three fish-paste sandwiches, and were told they were to last us indefinitely. The food was often late and not very good, but we were able to find local stores. One time Cliff Baker and I went to buy several cans of soup. We took what we thought was a short-cut to get back, but we ended up in the RCR encampment. Finally, we got a ride in one of their water trucks, and soon found our way back to our position. Another time Jack Kearney and I walked about half a mile to a store in the village. Here we bought sauce to kill the taste of our unpalatable meals, and wonder of wonders, a couple of eggs.

In the afternoon of 23 May, a 1st Looie from the Anti-Tank Regiment showed up and tried to get us to move our gun. Sid Benstead chased him off, but he returned after a while with Lt Parker-Davis, who gave the orders to pack up. It began to rain, and by the time we had moved a couple of miles and put the gun into action we were soaked to the skin. We hung all our wet clothes in the quad, put our two petrol stoves into the quad and got them going full blast to dry out our clothes. One of the quad drivers preferred to sleep under the tarp, so I slept in his quad. The tarp partly collapsed during the night, so I was the driest of the lot when morning came.

On the 24th we were issuedhardtack and canned stew to be cooked by us whenever we could. We moved again during the night to a regimental concentration area. Due to mire caused by the heavy rains we had to use the truck winches to pull the guns and limbers to the road. Then A6, the ammunition quad in which I was riding, had to return to the area to pull one of the gun quads out of a marsh. Early the next morning, as we were halted by the roadside, we were machine-gunned and bombed by low flying Spitfires. If they had been actual enemy planes we would have been badly shot up. The next day we fired one or two small tasks, including one shoot when we blasted the end out of our muzzle cover with a blank round.

The scheme continued with frequent moves and with a lot of rain. We did a crash action during one move. On May 28th, despite rumors that the scheme was over, we moved to a position near Orelstone, farther into Kent and farther from our billets. On the 30th we did a night move to a position near Ramsden. We had a "Rum Issue" the next morning – about a thimbleful per man. That evening I went to a church in Burwash and listened to the old caretaker reminisce about WW1. The village was filled with troops celebrating the end of the scheme. Convoy after convoy of troops passed through. We were told we would not move until June 1st. At 0800 hrs on the 1st, the Regiment began to move off, and we travelled at such good speed that we passed by the CRA, who was at the roadside looking us over, without spotting him. Just at the edge of Storrington, the motor of A6, in which I was riding, began to knock and rattle. We pulled up and waited for the LAD (Light Aid Det). When they arrived, they diagnosed our trouble as a broken transmission, and began to tow us in. They really moved! At one time we were hitting better than 50 mph. We finally reached Avisford House about 1430 hrs, less than an hour behind the rest.

A couple of days later a letter from Gen Crerar was posted on the Notice Board, congratulating all ranks of the Cdn Corps on the manner in which everyone had stood very searching tests of our ability to take it and give it during the exercise. He said we could face the future with great confidence. Mulling over the scheme, it was quite obvious that we had won the war, as we drove the Kent Army miles out of Sussex, and followed them almost to the farthest extremes of

Kent. I know only a few points the Staff learned from the big scheme. They decided that artillery should have an escort of mounted infantry. They reached that bright conclusion after 3 Fd Regt and part of 2 Fd Regt had been captured. A few points I would like to tell them about are the benefits of a field kitchen travelling with each troop. This would save a lot of time and inconvenience to say nothing of the rations. It could be carried in a 15cwt truck. Food was one of the biggest faults the troops found with the scheme. Another point would be to give us more small arms and especially machine guns. We don't carry enough LMGs to give us a half decent break. An important item is morale. If a scheme brings out so much of a man's hidden side, what will action do? A few days of constant association, eating, sleeping, and working side by side made some men irritable and hard to get along with, while others were always cheerful and full of fun, wet or dry, with or without rations, and early or late in the day. Personally, I enjoyed the scheme, despite the weather.

Chapter 18. 2 1/2 Years, Command Post, Schemes, Dominion Day, Battle Firing Practice

6 Jun 1942. Today marks two and a half years of overseas duty for me. Written out, it seems like a long time – yet the time has actually flown by. On the whole, I'm glad that I'm here, and that I joined up and came when I did. In later years, I'd hate to have it said that I waited till I was dragged in. I think now, as I did on 6 Sept 1939, that there is a job to be done. I don't want no Fuehrer or Duce telling me what I can or cannot do. We are determined to prevent such vile beings from spreading their tentacles over my home and country. To prevent this, we can all see that they must be entirely eliminated. They must be ruthlessly crushed! I for one am ready to do my best to help in the crushing. Maybe I'll be one of those who will be numbered in the thousands, who will have to give up their lives in the struggle. If I am, I'll die knowing that I have tried and done my best.

Let's see just what kind of a soldier they have made of me. Naturally, I've had my share of drill and ordinary training. I'm a pretty fair shot with a rifle, Lewis or Bren gun. I've passed tests for LMGs, driving, gun-laying, and water purification. I've passed several Specialist courses. I can handle any vehicle from a motorbike to quad or Bren Carrier. I can also operate a radio set, though I'm keeping that under my hat as I have no wish to be a signaller. In short, I figure that I'm pretty well equipped to go into action.

7 Jun I was transferred to Bty HQ and became a CPOA, a job which I've been trying to wangle for some time. I'll be at the "nerve centre" of the Battery when we go into action. As I always like to know what is going on, that suits me fine. From the 7th to the 15th, I worked every day in the Battery Command Post (Bty CP).

18 Jun. We went out on a small Battery scheme. We only occupied two positions and there was little for the CP staff do to. My work consisted of following 20 miles of the route on a map, plotting one point on the arty board, and recording one target.

20 Jun. On Saturday, we had a Regimental Sports Day. I entered a few events, though I've never claimed to be an athlete. I finished third in the 100-yard dash, was eliminated in the

running broad jump and in the running high jump, and finished second in the 220 yard dash. I had a bit of fun, but was dead tired. An athlete's life isn't for me!

24 Jun. I left with the Bty Recce Party for the Alfriston Ranges. We picked out the troop positions, set up the CP, passed line to the troops, and started supper. The cooks had made a mistake and we had drawn a lot of rations. We soon had supper cooked up. The guns arrived about 2300 hrs and were put on line. We erected a tarp between two trucks and moved our arty boards inside. The guns fired at intervals until the "Cease Fire" at 1500 hrs.

28 Jun. At 0730 we started out on another Bty scheme, and moved into a hide near Storcharby-Sea with some infantry. Our issue dinner was two sandwiches of canned meat. However, one of the fellows had scrounged some onions and that added a bit of spice to them. In the afternoon we moved forward, set up the arty boards, and got ready to fire. The guns began to range, using blanks, on various targets. At 1515 hrs the attack began, and all hell broke loose. Our guns fired a concentration, the infantry Bren guns and rifles chattered, their mortars spouted live bombs, and the infantry charged to their objective. The attack lasted two hours, after which the objective had been taken and we received the "Cease Fire".

1 Jul. Dominion Day was a holiday and we had no PT. At noon, we left for the 1 Cdn Div Sports Meet near Brighton. I was snagged for guard duty from 1300 to 1500 hrs. Theoretically, we were to hang around the trucks all that time. Actually, we faded away after an hour and went into Brighton for something to eat. At the Stadium the usual races were going on. Inside one of the grandstands there were free movies, and in the other one canteens with free tea, lemonade, and Canadian cookies. After the Sports Meet, we were turned loose in Brighton and the Canucks took over the cafes, cinemas, pubs, and dance halls. I went to an open-air dance in the park. During the evening a beauty contest was held. I didn't envy the judges, as there was a huge crowd of girls, all pretty good lookers. At 2300 hrs we moved off. Some of the slightly inebriated boys started a sing-song and soon everyone was roaring out the words to all the songs they could remember. All in all, it wasn't too bad a holiday.

6 Jul. We were informed that we would be going out on a Div Arty scheme and that we would be doing Battle Firing practice, that is we were to fire live ammo over the infantry. After an early dinner, we picked up Lt Hulme, the CPO, and then joined the regimental recce party. We stopped for a lunch of lettuce and tomato sandwiches and fruit at the YMCA in Brighton, and reached the bivouac area in Old Park Wood at 1400hrs. We picked out the battery and troop areas, and awaited the arrival of the guns. When they arrived, we directed them to their areas, and after a supper of canned beans tea, bread and jam, settled down for the night.

7 Jul. We left on recce around 1000 hrs, and we carefully picked out troop positions. We put the guns almost in a straight line and at right angles to the line of fire, thus making our calculations relatively simple. We set up our CP in a cement blockhouse which was camouflaged as a stack of hay. During the evening, we received information about three targets upon which the fire of all the guns of the Division was to be directed. We worked out Meteors (corrections to range and line caused by meteorological conditions), concentrations, and other data until 2300 hrs. Herb Eaton and I worked out the line and range for the guns on the arty

boards, while Lt Hulme worked the data out by calculation. In the end, all our results were within a couple of yards in range or a couple of minutes in line. We turned in, in good spirits.

8 Jul. Early in the morning we started by registering our targets with a round of gunfire. Our very first round, fired at a range of about 5000 yards, landed only four yards from the target. Some shooting! At 0930 hrs we started to engage our targets as the infantry advanced. Harold Casselman, who was with the FOO accompanying the infantry, described the scene like this: "Our target was the top of a small hill. The infantry commander was explaining to his men that the artillery wasn't expected to put on much of a show as we were only going to fire two rounds per gun on this target to save ammo. As he was still speaking they heard a noise like a freight train, as the shells of the whole div artillery rushed through the air. Then they landed, - and the hill disappeared! The infantry attacked immediately, firing trench mortars, rifles, and LMGs". When Maj Baird, the Bty Commander, came down from the OP, he congratulated Lt Hulme and the rest of us on the fine work. Everyone came in for a bit of praise. For the rest of the day it was quiet, except that we worked out Meteors as they came in, and adjusted the gun data. That night I slept in the back of Y, the recce truck.

9 Jul. After dinner, we received the data for our final shoot. At 1530 hrs 2 Fd Regt put down a smoke screen and the attack began. As the tanks and infantry neared their objectives the rest of the regiments put down a heavy concentration and the attack swept over the objective. Almost immediately we got the Cease Fire and in short order we were rolling back to our billets. I think this was a very valuable experience. There is a certain amount of danger from the use of live ammo, but the infantry get a chance to see just what support they can expect from the artillery. It is a lot better than just telling them what to expect.

19 Jul. We went out on another Battle Firing, this time with 2 Bde. We went to the same location as before, and we worked out the data for the targets and for a smoke screen. The attack went in at 0930 hrs. At 1010 we received word that a round had fallen short and killed 4 and injured 2 of the PPCLI. Fortunately for us, we were not firing at the time, and later it was more or less established that 3 Fd Regt had fired the short round, when part of a charge was found in one of their used cartridge cases. There was no more firing for the day. The next afternoon we fired the last concentration, received the order to "Cease Fire", and we were back in our billets for a late supper. It took us a couple of hours preparing reports of the firing for RHQ.

Why France Didn't Want Canadian Trees Planted at Vimy Ridge

Tom Spears, Ottawa Citizen August 2, 2017

Canadians who hoped to plant oak trees at Vimy Ridge this year to mark the 100th anniversary of the historic battle there had the saplings ready and Canadian politicians onside — until the French government uprooted their plans. A Canadian soldier, Leslie Miller, scooped up acorns from Vimy Ridge after the battle in 1917. He would survive the war and plant the acorns on his farm, Vimy Oaks Farm, in what is now suburban Toronto. The Vimy Foundation charity decided to send back some saplings from Miller's old home — descendants of those original

trees — to plant on the ridge, commemorating the wartime link between Canada and France — a little like the tulips that the Netherlands sends to Ottawa each year. But they got the bad news from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, which regulates imports and exports of plants: “Export denied.”

The CFIA was only passing on the ruling from France, which was worried about inadvertently importing Canadian plant diseases. And as a result, the Vimy Foundation, whose mandate is to “promote Canada’s First World War legacy,” and a smaller group called Vimy Oaks Legacy, agreed to send only acorns, not trees, to France, hoping they can be planted there and produce tiny seedlings in time for the 100th anniversary of the war’s end. Internal documents at CFIA, obtained by Ottawa researcher Ken Rubin, reveal the behind-the-scenes story of how Canada failed in repeated efforts to send a gift of trees. The foundation called its plan “a living memorial, planted in France for the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.” Then it got the rejection from CFIA: “I unfortunately must inform you that it will not be possible for the CFIA to certify the oak trees for export to France,” the federal agency wrote last fall.

“As explained in our email correspondence over the past months, the EU has strict phytosanitary import requirements for oak trees to prevent the introduction of several regulated quarantine plant pests, especially *Cronartium* spp., *Cryphonectria parasitica*, *Bemisia tabaci* and *Xylella fastidiosa*. These pests are all known to be present in Canada.”

Since Canada doesn’t conduct surveys to find the pests in question, the EU believes they could, potentially, be anywhere in Canada. And certifying a nursery here as disease-free would take years. But there’s no rule demanding that acorns be certified as pest-free. So, acorns it is.

“I understand the concern that acorns in the ground will not be as appealing as trees for the 2017 ceremonies at Vimy, but the CFIA has reviewed all the information available and this is the only feasible option,” the CFIA wrote to the Vimy Foundation. Inside the CFIA, someone worried that the issue might become “visible and political.” An email notes: “FYI — they might not be happy and go to Minister or media.” A scientist added that expensive testing to confirm whether the bacterium’s DNA is present would be “très fastidieux. OMG I’m so funny.”

As a footnote, a CFIA staffer added: “France did a detailed phytosanitary analysis and came back with a decisive no, because *Xylella* is just too high-risk.” The note adds that a group, whose name is blanked out (possibly the Vimy Foundation), is “resigned” to using acorns as a backup plan. A letter in late 2016 from the Vimy Oaks Legacy Corp. tells how one of its members travelled to France with 600 acorns in a suitcase and arranged for a nursery to plant them. “We hope to have some trees large enough to be planted on the ridge by April 2018, and a complete planting by November 2018” — the 100th anniversary of the armistice — the letter says.

Weeks later a CFIA email notes: “export of oak trees from Canada to France denied by France, Acorns already in France and contracted to germinate. So this particular issue is resolved. (sic)” In a twist, one CFIA staffer notes that the *Xylella* bug does in fact exist in Europe, but it is in only a few places and there’s a major EU campaign to wipe it out before it spreads. France has reason, historically at least, to be nervous. In the mid-1800s, the French wine industry was

almost wiped out by an invasive insect called phylloxera. Jeremy Diamond, executive director of the Vimy Foundation, said their plan was delayed “but at the end of the day, descendants from those acorns that were collected by that soldier will be planted in the park.”

US Officially Launches Competition for a New 7.62mm Combat Rifle

Matthew Moss August 7, 2017



A US Army soldier provides supporting fire during a squad live fire exercise in Kirkush Military Training Base, Diyala province, Iraq, June 10, 2010.

DoD photo

On Friday, the US Army published a solicitation for a new 7.62mm Interim Combat Service Rifle, or ICSR, for infantry units that can penetrate body armor. “The Army has identified a potential gap in the capability of ground forces and infantry to penetrate body armor using existing ammunition,” the solicitation reads. The program’s ultimate objective “is to acquire and field a 7.62mm ICSR that will increase soldier lethality.” The call for a new 7.62mm rifle emerged from a requirement direct by Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Daniel Allyn in April, Military.com reported. The new rifle must be chambered in 7.62x51mm, not the standard 5.56x45mm used by the Army and that Congress has been pushing the Marine Corps to adopt. It must be capable of both semi and fully automatic fire and be able to attach a suppressor, according to the solicitation, and be capable of accurate fire out to 600 meters and weigh under 12 pounds unloaded.

The Army is looking to downselect eight rifles for testing and evaluation from small-arms industry bidders. The solicitation notice states that up to 50,000 rifles may be purchased for the ICSR program, but this number is not set and may decrease or increase. The ICSR program comes after Army Gen. Mark Milley, Army Chief of Staff, admitted to Congress that the Army’s M855A1 Enhanced Performance Round cannot penetrate armor plates that may be used by future enemies. The Army also continues to be concerned about overmatch (the out-ranging of soldiers on the battlefield by enemy small arms — a problem discovered in Afghanistan) and the need to penetrate increasingly prolific cheap ballistic body armor. The new rifle will chamber the Army’s new M80A1 round and perhaps even the new XM1158 Advanced Armor Penetrating round currently in testing.

Companies looking to submit a rifle must have a full proposal, a safety assessment, and a sample weapon (along with a manual, cleaning kit and magazines) along with a suppressor ready by Sept 6. Successful applicants will later have to provide a further seven rifles for testing. According to request for information released in May, the new rifle will need either a 16-inch or 20-inch barrel, a collapsible buttstock and a rail system capable of mounting optics

and other accessories. The ICSR will also need a 30-round magazine as it seems the Army is unwilling to sacrifice its current 210-round standard loadout. It should be noted, however, that retaining this loadout would greatly increase the weight the average infantryman is carrying as one of the key attributes of 5.56 is its weight ratio.

It also called for a “Commercial Off The Shelf” (COTS) system readily available for purchase today. Modified or customized systems are not being considered.” It appears that the new solicitation is maintaining this requirement. The Army is looking for weapons that are fully developed, currently available, and suitable for their needs. While there are many rifles made for the civilian market which are chambered in .308/7.62x51mm, none of them are capable of fully auto fire. The FN SCAR Heavy and Heckler & Koch’s 417 are the two most prominent 7.62x51mm rifles designed for full auto fire while others, like the Knight’s Armament M110, H&K M110A1 and Lewis Machine and Tool LM308MWS, are all optimized as designated marksmen rifles and fire semi-auto only. In addition to the ICSR program, it is likely that there will be accompanying suppressor and optic trials programs to select suitable accessories for the new rifles. It is worth noting that the new rifle has been designated an “interim” weapon, suggesting that the revision back to 7.62x51mm will not be a permanent one. A number of ammunition programs are currently underway such as US SOCOM’s evaluation of 6.5mm ammunition and the Army’s Lightweight Small Arms Technologies program.

Vancouver Artillery Association Yearbook Updates

The war diaries updates from 100 years ago continue on our What's New page
<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new>

A couple of photos moving the 25 pounder out to the Abbotsford Air Show.
<http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2017.html>

Keep those stories and pictures coming! Contact Leon Jensen at LeonJ1@hotmail.com

Who Is It

Last Week: (from two weeks ago) Didn't get any replies on this one but it is a part of the Regiment's Cadet Corps on parade. This appears to be a tri-service parade of some sort and the location looks like Brockton Oval in Stanley Park. The Cadet out front is John Hannon and the Cadet at the head of the left file is Mark Eastwood. We couldn't positively ID any others. The picture was taken in the early 1980s.



This Week: All kidding aside, our museum is not very large, but it does still hold some surprises. This week's photo is one of those. Whilst re-organizing the storage containers in our basement room (the old puff range), your loyal, hard-working staff found a box of unaccessioned (not registered) items. In amongst the unissued WWII condoms and passes to

the Maple Leaf Club, was a box of slides. This week's shot is one of those transparencies. We love slides, because it is fairly easy to date them, especially as most of the Kodak ones have

everything stamped on the holder, unlike negatives, and, worst of all, prints. We also love them because of their quality (with the exception of those left exposed to heat, dust, light, dogs, cigarettes, beer, and other elements, and those labelled "Anscochrome" or "GAF").



This slide, however, in spite of being from the famed, and now bankrupt, Kodak firm, has no date. So, we are hoping you eagle-eyed sleuths can help us identify the well-equipped unit, and the date and location. Are you up to it? If so, please contact the editor, bob.mugford@outlook.com or the author, John Redmond (johnd_redmond@telus.net).

By the way, do you have photos of Canadian or Commonwealth military history? If you do, we might be able to help you digitize them, or advise you what to do with them in order to preserve them for the future. We are especially keen on film or video of parades or exercises by 15th Field Regiment, RCA in the distant past. Yes, we can do VHS (but not Beta)! However, we have a relationship with a firm that can do everything (well, maybe not Phillips 2000 or 9.5mm, but LAC can).

From the 'Punitetary'

What tea do hockey players drink? Penaltea!

Murphy's Other Laws

Whenever you set out to do something, you find that something else must be done first.

Quotable Quotes

Have no fear of perfection -- you'll never reach it. *Salvador Dali*



The Vancouver Artillery Association
Will be providing an update on the
15th Field Artillery Regiment History Project

A project leading up to the Regimental Centennial in 2020

Bessborough Armoury

Wednesday 16 August 2017

13:00 hours

Join us for lunch at 12:00 - Visit the Regimental Museum at 10:00

RSVP – leonj1@Hotmail.com



Wednesday Lunches

Have you been down to Bessborough Armoury lately?

When was the last time you were at the

15th Field Artillery Regiment Officers' Mess?

**Did you know that the Mess continues to offer a fine lunch
every Wednesday at 12:00?**

**For \$20.00 you get a 5 course meal and the opportunity to reconnect
with your Gunner friends and other guests.
Business attire expected.**

The Regimental Museum opens at 10:00 every Wednesday.



TOUR DATES

Sunday May 14

Sunday June 18

Sunday July 23

Sunday August 13

Sunday Sept. 3

TOUR TIMES

1:00 pm & 3:00 pm

**Registration required
Limit 20 per tour**

CANADA 150 TOUR of POINT ATKINSON LIGHT STATION

Lighthouse Park Preservation Society and West Vancouver Historical Society invite you to join a free guided tour of the light station grounds. Learn about the link between the lighthouse and Canada's confederation. Climb the steps to the base of the lighthouse (the tower will not be open). Enter the Fog Alarm museum to learn about its inner workings and the role of the lighthouse keeper. Sit inside the Power House to view a short slide show on the presence of the military during WWII.

**For more information about the tour and to register
please email pointatkinsonpals@gmail.com**



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all for community. ensemble pour tous.



Canada

Fifth (BC) Artillery Regiment RCA

Foundation



2nd

Veterans' Week Fundraising Luncheon Supporting the "Vimy 2017 Project"

And other fundraising projects in support of the Regiment and its Cadet Corps

Friday, November 4, 2016

Opens at 11:30, Lunch at Noon

Presentation after meal

Sir Arthur Currie Room

Bay Street Armoury

715 Bay Street, Victoria

For more information please contact:

Scott Wisdahl

(250) 794-7495

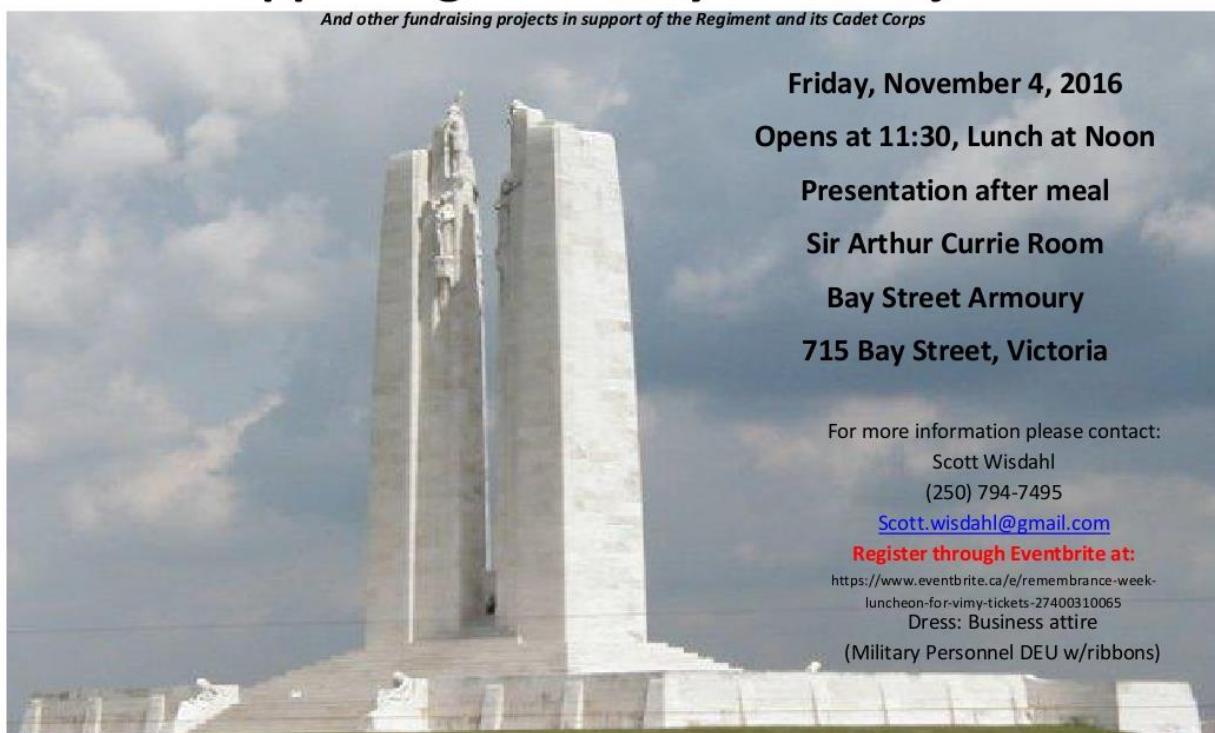
Scott.wisdahl@gmail.com

Register through Eventbrite at:

[https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/remembrance-week-](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/remembrance-week-luncheon-for-vimy-tickets-27400310065)

Dress: Business attire

(Military Personnel DEU w/ribbons)



Remembering the Fallen - Canada's War Memorials

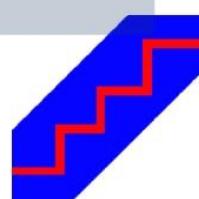
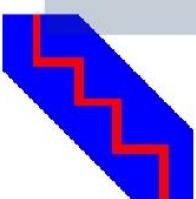
Presented by:
Alan McLeod

Admission: \$75

(Includes a \$50 charitable tax receipt)

Corporate rate \$350 (5 spots plus sponsor one soldier)

Canadian Charity Number 88894 5664



WO & Sgts ANNUAL MESS DINER

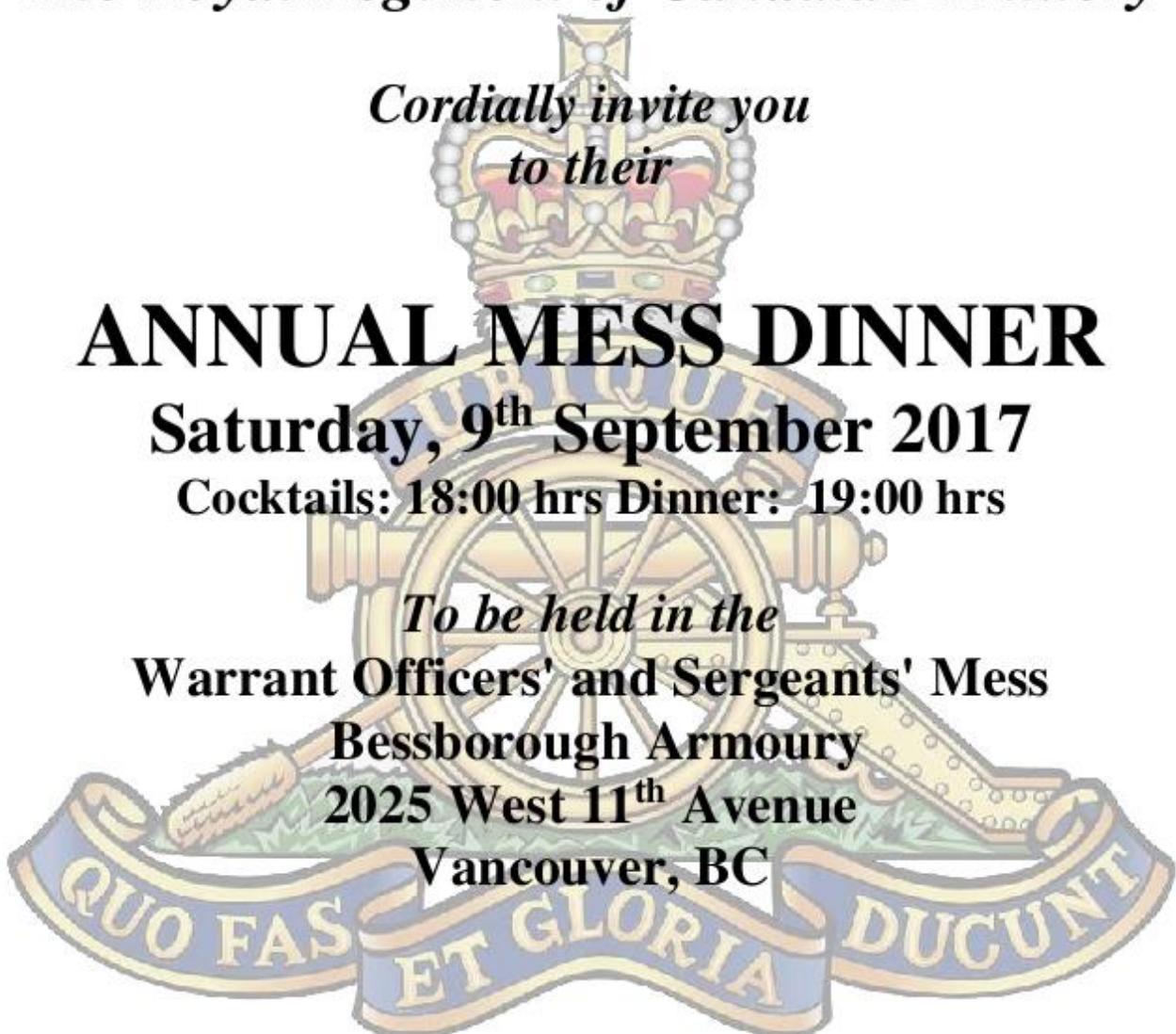
**The Regimental Sergeant-Major
Warrant Officers and Sergeants
of the 15th Field Artillery Regiment,
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery**

*Cordially invite you
to their*

ANNUAL MESS DINNER

Saturday, 9th September 2017

Cocktails: 18:00 hrs Dinner: 19:00 hrs



RSVP required by 30th August 2017
to the Mess Treasurer, (*Sgt Cooley*)
2025 West 11th Ave,
Vancouver BC V6J 2C7
Email: james.cooley@forces.gc.ca
Telephone: 604-666-4331

Dress Mess Kit/Formal
Ticket price: \$60.00
Cheque payable to *15th Field Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' mess.* Pay at the door or mail in payment