



Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News May 22, 2018

Newsletters normally are emailed on Monday evenings. If you don't get a future newsletter on time, check the websites below to see if there is a notice about the current newsletter or to see if the current edition is posted there. If the newsletter is posted, please contact me at bob.mugford@gmail.com 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. Guests are always welcome, and we encourage members to bring their significant others. Dress - Jacket and tie, equivalent for Ladies. **Note: NO** lunches on June 20 and 27. Mrs Lum is on vacation.

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

May 23	15 Fd Regt change of RSMs parade
May 26	VAA Artillery Day Artillery Demonstration
	Fort Macaulay Historic Interpretation Event
	47 RCSCC Captain Vancouver 100 th Anniversary Dinner
June 02	15 Fd Regt Cadet Corps Annual Review and Dinner
	39 CER Change of Command
June 03	Walk for Veterans
June 20	No lunch
June 27	No lunch

World War 2 – 1943

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

Essential Reading: By the end of the war, Canada has the World's third largest navy (with over 260 warships in commission and many lesser craft) and is the only Western nation besides the US and Britain to command an Allied Theatre of War (the Northwest Atlantic). One good official account of the Canadian Navy's operations is Far Distant Ships by Joseph Schull, it is a decent history with many useful reference materials incorporated within it.

May 24th: Josef Mengele arrives at Auschwitz with permission to undertake experiments on live subjects among the Camp inmates.

May 26th: Meat rationing is introduced to Canada (the other horrors of war have been conspicuously absent in the country – save in tens of thousands of private homes when unexpected telegrams arrive.). In an assault amid the rocks and snow on the crest of the Holtz-Chichagof Pass on Attu, Private Joe P Martinez of the 7th US Infantry Division takes the lead when his battalion stalls in the face of Japanese resistance. Using his BAR and grenades, he clears several trenches of the enemy on the steepest part of the ascent but is killed engaging the last trench. His example rallies the battalion and the assault succeeds. He is posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

May 27th: The Japanese are driven off Fish Hook Ridge on Attu and work begins on an airfield on the island. Churchill and Marshall fly to North Africa to confer with Eisenhower over Italy. Another Soviet spearhead gets blunted in the Kuban. The Comite National de la Resistance meets in Paris, thanks to the organizing work of Jean Moulin, De-Gaulle's lieutenant among the Resistance groups. Tito's partisans are surrounded and in trouble, perfect time for the SOE to drop in some liaison officers. Gurkhas are bad news for anyone who opposes them: Cheerfully brave, tough in adversity and as directly deadly as an angry Mamba ... so imagine what a Gurkha officer is like. Haldivar Gaje Ghale of the 5th Gurkha Rifles demonstrates their high standard over four days of fighting in the Chin Hills during the withdrawal from Arakan. The Japanese are trying to cut off the retreat and have to be held back; Ghale led assault after assault and never budged from any Japanese counter-attacks. He did, however, neglect to report the wounds he took and refused to go to the Regimental Aid Post until ordered to do so. Otherwise, his performance in battle results in an award of the Victoria Cross.

May 29th: American troops reach the Chicagof, and the Japanese muster their surviving members of the Attu garrison for the usual end-of-the-road banzai attack.

Minister of Defence Officially Opens Colonel Karen Ritchie Building

Base Borden welcomed a special visitor for a dedication ceremony to honour the late Colonel Karen Ritchie today. Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan was among the dignitaries at the ceremony *Shawn Gibson May 15, 2018*

Base Borden welcomed a special visitor for a dedication ceremony to honour the late Colonel Karen Ritchie today. Defence Minister Harjit S Sajjan was on-hand for the official opening of the new Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RCEME) School. The 14,000-metre squared building is the home of state-of-the-art training facilities that will keep its students well trained for many years on the latest technology. While the building was completed in March 2017, today it was renamed the Colonel Karen Ritchie Building and Sajjan explained why this needed to happen. "The women and men of RCEME always keep the ground forces running and their specialized knowledge cannot be found anywhere else," said Sajjan. "Our soldiers use their equipment in some of the most challenging conditions and they depend on

every piece of their equipment to get the job done. It is fitting that we gather together today, exactly 74 years after the RCEME was born. It is fitting that we are naming this building after a woman who dedicated her life to the same principals as the RCEME; leadership, knowledge and innovation. Colonel Karen Ritchie dedicated 28 years to the Canadian Armed Forces and she was tragically taken away from us, but not before she knocked down barriers and inspired a generation of soldiers to be the best that they could be."



Col Ritchie died in a car accident on Thanksgiving Day in 2008 and was the first woman to serve as a RCEME Colonel. The 45year-old soldier was a trailblazer for women and was a former Commander of 5 Area Support Group in Ouebec (now known as

2nd Canadian Division Support Group) and deputy chair of the Committee on Women in NATO Forces. The new building is valued at \$81.7 million, brought in 150 jobs to the region during its construction will house an average of 450 students annually and produces 1,800 course graduates per year. As part of the new Canadian defence policy, Strong, Secure and Engaged, the building will help with the greening policy and meet the federal government's new emission reduction target by 2050.

The Ritchie Building will be the home of not only students and staff but was also built to accommodate modern military vehicles and specialized training equipment. Ritchie's sister Angela said a few words and described not only what it was like to have a big sister in the military but also how the armed forces have now become close to Karen's family. "I remember when Karen joined the army," said Angela. "She was 16 turning 17, my middle sister was 14 and I was 11. To get Karen in shape for basic training my parents in all their wisdom decided that as a family we should all get up and jog every morning at 6am. We didn't have many friends who had sisters who were joining the army, in fact we didn't have any, but we did think it was really cool. Our whole family is so honoured today and we thank you so much; over the last ten years since Karen passed the RCEME Corps has become our family and we are so honoured to have this building named after Karen and she would be too."

Potentially Hazardous Mould Detected in Esquimalt-Based Warship

The Canadian Press May 11, 2018



Canada's navy warship HMCS Winnipeg sits dockside in Vancouver on June 10, 2014. The Defence Department says inadequate ventilation, poor maintenance and old equipment has led to the buildup of potentially hazardous airborne mould aboard Canada's most advanced warships THE CANADIAN PRESS/Jimmy Jeong

HALIFAX — Inadequate ventilation, poor maintenance and old equipment are being

blamed for causing a buildup of potentially hazardous airborne mould aboard Canada's most advanced warships, newly released Defence Department documents show. The department's Directorate of Force Health Protection says an air quality assessment aboard CFB Esquimaltbased HMCS Winnipeg found higher-than-normal levels of mould spores in three compartments while the frigate was sailing from Tokyo to Hawaii in July 2017. The navy first learned of mould problems in its frigates in 2011 as the ships were being prepared for a thorough modernization process that concluded in 2016. A report from March 2015 prepared by the engineering firm Bronswerk and released this week — found the frigates' ventilation and air conditioning systems had "significantly degraded" over the years because of a lack of maintenance, leaving the equipment "old and unsupportable." The findings are important because some sailors have long complained of health problems they say could be related to mould exposure while serving aboard Canada's 12 Halifax-class frigates. "It's proof the navy was pretty much lying about keeping track and looking after the mould," said Alan Doucette, a retired navy lieutenant who served aboard two destroyers in the early 2000s before he was medically released in 2012. "It's vindication. It's proof that they let the whole system deteriorate while people were serving on-board ... I lost my career over it."

Doucette has filed a lawsuit against the federal government, alleging his health was ruined by exposure to mould while serving on ships that had the same heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems as the frigates. "It just shows that the brass at the top has no regard for the people doing the job at sea," he said in an interview Friday. He said he knows of many sailors who are afraid to come forward to reveal their ongoing health problems for fear of being medically released. "Those living in fear can't do anything and continue to silently suffer and deteriorate," he said. The military officer in charge of naval engineering says the warships' mould problems have been fixed, and he insisted the health of sailors remains the navy's top

priority. "Every single system that we have on-board has a maintenance routine associated with it (and) the HVAC system is no exception," Commodore Simon Page said in an interview Friday. "Knowing the state of affairs now, the engineering changes we have put in place, and the review done for maintenance procedures over the last few years, I'm extremely comfortable that the proper actions are being taken for our ships remain in good standing for our crew ... and their living conditions. "

In all, 20 of Winnipeg's compartments showed some accumulation of dust or mould. Airborne mould concentrations were found to be above background levels in an air conditioning plant, the ship's solid-waste handling plant and an equipment room near the helicopter landing pad. High levels of humidity were also recorded in all three locations. Page, the navy's director general of maritime equipment, said the mould problem aboard Winnipeg was minor. "We had a very small amount of mould in four compartments," he said. "I would not qualify this as a mould problem. And three of these four compartments are not manned." When asked about the potential for the air conditioning system to spread mould throughout the ship, Page said there was a quick fix for that. "For that problem, we were very aggressive with the issue," he said, adding that all 12 ships have been modified to prevent water buildup in the air conditioning system. "It was one of those engineering changes that was effected promptly." A recent assessment of HMCS Calgary showed even better results, Page said. While there are no standard exposure limits for airborne concentrations of mould or mould spores, the December 2017 air quality assessment of HMCS Winnipeg says mould is hazardous for people with compromised immune systems or mould allergies. The Royal Canadian Navy should improve the ships' ventilation and require more frequent cleaning and inspections of ducts and filters, the report says.

The US Army Is Looking for a 'Stealth' Uniform for Combat Troops

Michael Peck, The National Interest May 14, 2018



First, there were stealth fighters that didn't show up on radar. Now the Army wants uniforms that allow ground troops to escape the notice of electromagnetic eyes. Radar has become an integral part of ground warfare, which makes it that much harder for soldiers to hide on the battlefield. Thus, the Army wants uniforms woven out of a material that

will absorb rather than reflect radar waves. "Radar absorbing and shielding technology has attracted a growing interest due to the recent advances in enemy electronic warfare and detection capabilities, leaving U.S. forces, especially infantry forces, vulnerable to detection across the electromagnetic spectrum," according to a new_Army research solicitation. "Advanced battlefield and ground surveillance radar (BSR/GSR) are readily available in military markets that are highly effective, portable, and automated for large area monitoring."

Stealth materials already exist but have been unavailable to the lowly foot soldier. "While there exists a wide variety of radar absorbing material (RAM) composites for shelters and vehicles, there are currently no effective and lightweight wearable options to mitigate GSR detection of a dismounted soldier," the Army notes. In particular, the Army wants a fabric that will absorb radar waves in the Ku- and X-frequency bands. "Prototypes must demonstrate lab- and field-based capabilities within the X and Ku frequency bands at distances up to 12 kilometers [7.5 miles]," says the Army. Whatever material is devised, the grunts wearing it will be reassured to know that the fabric must be flexible, durable and breathable. It must accommodate temperatures from -30 degrees to 125 degrees Fahrenheit and withstand wet and humid climates.

The Army's radar-proof uniform project comes at a time when scientists have developed "invisibility" cloaks, using material that doesn't interact with radar waves. Meanwhile, Russia says it has already developed radar-invisible uniforms. Better yet, according to Moscow, Russia is working on uniforms that won't only make soldiers invisible, but also germ-free.

Scientists Get Closer to Creating Real-Life Invisibility Cloak

Jacqueline Howard, CNN July 20, 2016



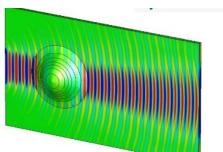
"Fantastic Four" – Actress Kate Mara as Sue Storm, also known as the Invisible Woman, in "Fantastic Four." The character can render herself and others invisible Photos: Invisibility in pop culture

(CNN)The world doesn't have a "Harry Potter"-like invisibility cloak quite yet, but various research teams around

the world have been making progress in figuring out how to build one. Creating a cloak that can render a person invisible has been the ongoing dream of materials scientists and Harry Potter fans alike. In the beloved J K Rowling storybooks, the young wizard Harry inherited a magical cloak that could make anyone who put it on instantly invisible. Now, scientists in the United Kingdom have moved a step forward in the real-world quest for invisibility. Their research, published in the journal Scientific Reports last week, demonstrates how a so-called "surface wave cloak" can make curved surfaces appear flat when they come in contact with electromagnetic waves. In other words, the study suggests a way to make such surfaces invisible. How's that for magic? "The underlying theory can be applied to other wave phenomenon including acoustic and heat waves," said Yang Hao, professor of antennas and electromagnetics at Queen Mary University of London, who led the study.

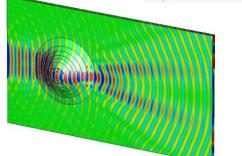
For the study, Hao and his colleagues coated a curved metal plate surface, about the size of a tennis ball, with their cloak. The cloak was made out of a gradient-index material with seven super thin layers that each had different electric properties. The researchers found that these layers can hide whatever object they cloak from interacting with electromagnetic waves.

Otherwise, the electromagnetic waves would bump into the object and scatter in different directions.



Here, the "surface wave cloak" has been applied to the object and there is no interaction between the electromagnetic wave and the object. The cloak hides the object that would ordinarily have caused the electromagnetic wave to be scattered.

When the cloak is not being used, the object along the path of the traveling electromagnetic wave causes the wave to scatter.



The cloak could reduce the scattering of waves used for radio and aerospace communications, said Luigi La Spada, a postdoctoral research assistant at the Queen Mary University of London and first author of the study. "We believe that our cloaking structure can improve existing technologies and enables future technological innovation," he said. "At the moment, the main interest in surface waves is to develop solutions for reducing and mitigating important telecommunications issues." In theory, the surface wave cloak also could be used on human bodies, Hao said. "In this case, wireless sensors are placed on the body," he said. "There have been many attempts to make a real-life cloak but there still exist theoretical barriers."

Scientists have long explored how manipulating light waves might be at the root of building an invisibility cloak. In 2006, theoretical physicist John Pendry was one of the first scientists to propose using lenses to bend light to make an object appear invisible. Then, in 2013, researchers at the University of Texas at Austin developed a method to make objects appear invisible within a limited range of light waves using an ultrathin cloak. In 2014, researchers at the University of Rochester developed a cloaking device with four lenses that can make any three-dimensional object viewed through it appear invisible. Additionally, just last year, scientists at the Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Lab and the University of California, Berkeley, devised a microscopic cloak that can conform to the shape of an object and conceal it from visible light. Most studies on invisibility cloaks use metamaterials and optics to achieve cloaking. But some experts, including optical physicist Joseph Choi, suggest that may be the wrong approach. Thinking digitally, they argue, could lead to a real-life invisibility cloak more quickly. Choi, who was a member of the research team at the University of Rochester that created the invisibility lens, said they now have created a digital cloak. The cloak basically measures space as pixels and, by doing so, it collects and emits light in a way to make whatever it is cloaking appear invisible to the human eye. "We think our digital cloaks can become widespread in 10 years or so," Choi said. "It will likely be an 'active' cloak that requires power to run it, rather than 'passive' cloaks that do not require power. This would allow someone inside the cloak to see the outside while not being seen from the outside. "I suppose this might be why 'magic' was needed in Harry Potter's cloak, too?"

Vancouver Artillery Association Yearbook Updates

Here's the latest updates:

Band Recording 2018 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/cd-recording.html

Ramp construction 1990 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1990.html

Point Grey clean up 1990 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/point-grey-1990.html

Point Grey 1989 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1989.html

Winter Exercise 1989 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/winter-1989.html

Shilo 1983 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/black-bear-1983.html

Shilo 1982 - http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/shilo-1982.html

St Barbara's 1982 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/officers-mess-1982.html

Local training 1978 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1978.html

Chilliwack 1977 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/chilliwack-1977.html

Ferguson Point 1966 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1966.html

Wainwright 1966 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/wainwright-1966.html

Ft Lewis 1957 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/ft-lewis-1957.html

BC Hussars 1939 – check out those MGs http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1939.html

Camp Hughes 1932 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/camp-hughes-1932.html

Camp Sarcee 1923 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1923.html

North Russia 1919 http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/68-bty-1919.html

Keep those stories, calendar events and pictures coming! Contact Leon Jensen at president.vcrgunners@gmail.com

Who Is It Last Week:



Orlik traveling the Trans-Siberian Railroad near Irkutsk, 1919.

This armoured train started life as "Zaamurets" of the Imperial Russian Army, became "Orlik Vuz Cis" of the Czech Legion under Admiral Kolchak, then entered service with the Fengtian Army of Marshal

Zhang Zuolin, as "Armoured Train 105", until it was captured by the Japanese in 1932, and given to the Manchurian Army, where it disappears from history. It was most likely either destroyed or captured by the Soviets in 1945. It might still be in a shed somewhere, on a forgotten siding in Siberia. Read more at:- https://medium.com/war-is-boring/a-remarkable-armored-train-fought-its-way-across-eurasia-db3e3180b50c

This Week: In the annals of Canadian military history, few have been so controversial as Sir Samuel Hughes, KCB (the King Calls Back), PC (Politically Correct). It was he, as Minister of Militia and Defence, who decided to scrap the mobilization plans of the army in favour of his own battalion-based system for service in the Great War. One result of this was the raising of over 250 battalions, most of the latter 200 of which were broken up to reinforce the original

ones. He also supported a number of other causes, including trying to get himself awarded the Victoria Cross for actions in the Second South African War (Boer War).

His deeply held beliefs as an Orangeman also didn't help endear him to Franco-Canadians and Catholics. However, he did sincerely believe in himself and in his martial and political skills.



One result was his championing of the object shown in this week's photo. By 'object', we are not referring to the officer standing, who is the gentleman (?) himself, but to another thing being used by the prone Sergeant Hawkins.

So, history buffs, do you know what it is? Have you one in your garden shed? If so, would you like to donate it to our museum? Contact the editor, bob.mugford@outlook.com or the author, John Redmond (johnd._redmond@telus.net). Thank you.

From the 'Punitentary'

Why couldn't the computer expert escape the Apple store. Because there were no Windows.

Murphy's Other Laws

Technology is dominated by those who manage what they do not understand.

Quotable Quotes

Happiness is good health and a bad memory. - Ingrid Bergman

Artillery Day 2018



Artillery Day 2018 Saturday, 26 May 2018 1000 hrs to 1500 hrs

The schedule is somewhat nebulous as the city searches for the artillery approval department!

We are currently awaiting word on receiving permission to use Ferguson Point and Wallace Field as our venues.

Plan B (more like Plan H)

Display outside Bessborough Armoury
to evaluate the Arbutus Greenway
Deploy the FAT for driver training and visibility
Burgers in the compound at Noon!
Drop on by and say hi – see our new/old 9 pounder
Buy a Vancouver Gunner t-shirt!



Fort Macaulay Historic Interpretation Event

Where: Macaulay Point Park

When: May 26, 2018 - 10:00AM to 2:00PM



The Fifth Annual Fort Macaulay Historic Interpretation Event will take place on Saturday May 26 at Macaulay Point Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Guided tours will take place at 10:30

a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and will be led by local historian Jack Bates, from the Organization for Preservation of Canadian Military Heritage. New interpretive signage was installed at the site during 2017 Canada 150 celebrations, and pamphlets featuring a map of the area and historical background were also printed.

The buildings and gun emplacements at the historic site will all be numbered and indexed to a handout. The event will also feature members of the Victoria-Esquimalt Military Re-enactors Association with their encampment, the Esquimalt Archives, and Toad Hollow Photography. The Esquimalt Lions will provide a cash only BBQ, serving up their famous hamburgers and hot dogs with proceeds going back into the community.



The Naval Officers' Association of British Columbia Founded 1919

MONTHLY LUNCH PROGRAM

Wednesday May 30th 2018

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

> 1130 am bar open 1200 noon lunch 1 pm speaker 4 course hot lunch \$20 per person

Dress – Business attire, blazers tie etc

Speaker
Dr Joost Schokkenbroek
Director
Vancouver Maritime Museum

RSVP for lunch numbers please to dreese@telus.net or phone or text
778-227-8203 by 1600 hrs
Sunday May 27th 2018



The Commanding Officer, Officers and Cadets Of

2472 15th Field Artillery Regiment
Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps
Cordially invite you to the

65th Annual Ceremonial Review Saturday, 2nd June, 2018

ACR Dress: DEU/Business attire

Mess Dinner Dress: Mess kit/Business attire

Parade Timings: 1430 for 1500 Hours Mess Dinner: 1730 for 1800

Mess dinner tariff: \$60.00



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Please book your free tickets for the review, and purchase mess dinner places, at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/65th-annual-ceremonial-review-and-3rd-annual-mess-dinner-tickets-45007287007

Change of Command – 39 CER



39 Combat Engineer Regiment

invites you and your guest to a ceremony where

Colonel D.R.A. Awalt, CD

Commander 39 Canadian Brigade Group will mark the

Change of Command

Lieutenant Colonel Cameron McLean, CD, PChem,

Lieutenant Colonel James Julien, CD

And

Change of Appointment

Chief Warrant Officer Terrance Haley, CD

Master Warrant Officer Charles Rochlow, CD

At 13:00, 2 June 2018, to be held at Lieutenant Colonel James Pemberton Fell Armoury, North Vancouver, BC

All guests are invited to a short reception following the ceremony

The LCol J.P. Fell Armoury is located at 1513 Forbes Ave, North Vancouver, BC. Dress: DEU 1A, business attire for civilians

RSVP to Captain Grant Greaves by 15 May 2018 at (604) 858 1011 ext 1403 or via e-mail at grant.greaves@forces.gc.ca

Please be seated by 12:45

The DDay dinner is being held later that evening. For tickets please email DDayDinner2018@gmail.com

First Annual Walk for Veterans – June 3



When you walk in the Canadian Walk For Veterans you lend your voice to a collective declaration by Canadians across this country who pay tribute to the men and women who have served in Canada's military and sacrificed to provide us all with a safe and secure homeland. This is an opportunity to get to know veterans in a fun, informal way and walk shoulder to shoulder with those that stand on guard for thee. We are all pioneers on this inaugural Canadian Walk For Veterans and we unite to create a legacy of justice, fairness, and equity for Canada's military veterans for generations to come.

Donations raised will go toward funding the Equitas class action lawsuit and advocacy that significantly influences the policies, benefits, and actions that shape a veteran's destiny. Our long-term goal for the Canadian Walk for Veterans is to make it an annual event that takes place in every major city across the country and to raise the financing necessary to create a new veterans organization that will build trust and inspire the veteran community to come together and speak with one voice.

Please invite your family, friends, and co-workers and all military and veterans. Register at:

http://www.equitassociety.ca/walk-for-veterans/

3 June 2018 0845hrs Lafarge Park, Coquitlam Check in at Wingrove Way near the Amphitheatre