



Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News Dec 25, 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.

I will continue to publish a limited edition, mainly to keep advertising upcoming events and to keep the WW2 daily diary up to date. Next full edition on Jan 8.

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 -

First lunch of 2019 – Jan 9th

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

- Jan 01** New Years Levée – 1100hrs in the Officers and WO & Sgts Mess
- Jan 09** First lunch of 2019
- Jan 26** 78th Fraser Highlanders - Burns Dinner
- Feb 02** 15 Fd 99th Birthday Social

The **Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir** is holding a series of Christmas Concerts throughout the lower mainland over the next few weeks. See posters at the end of the newsletter.

Holiday Stand down - The Unit will stand down from Dec 9 - Jan 7.

RUSI Speaker Series for 2019

The RUSI Speaker Series will continue in the new year. The first series of lectures took place this past fall on Wednesday's from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. We thank the Commanding Officer of 15Fd RCA and the Officers' Mess for their cooperation. The next series will again be held in the Mess from February through April 2019. Timing will remain the same while dates, topics and speakers will be announced early in the new year. Check www.rusivancouver.ca for this

information and other events and activities that are being considered by RUSI Vancouver for 2019 for which members will be invited to be involved and encouraged to attend.

World War 2 – 1943

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

Dec 26th: Scharnhorst is sunk in a gun duel with HMS Duke of York and its escorts. Only 36 of her 2,000 crew survive. For the price of a USN destroyer, 1st Marine Division lands in three sites on New Britain near Cape Gloucester. Monte Sammucro and its surrounding features are finally cleared of the Germans.

Dec 27th: The US expands their beach-heads in Cape Gloucester, encountering far more problems from the weather and terrain than the Japanese. The Soviets send 98,139 Kalmyks to Central Asia – the splendid American lend-lease trucks meant for the Red Army are a considerable help in these deportations.

Dec 28th: The remaining Fallschirmjager pull out of Ortona, what is left of the ancient Italian town is liberated by the Canadians. Another bad day for the Kriegsmarine, in the Bay of Biscay a blockade runner and three other warships are sunk by rampaging British surface warships. Vatutin's troops of the 1st Ukrainian Front are nearing Zhitomir once more. Famed for her feats of flying and aerial navigation in the 1930s, Marina Raskova became a Hero of the Soviet Union in 1938. With the arrival of the war, she used such influence as she had to bring about the creation of three all-woman aviation regiments for wartime service, and accepted command of a bomber regiment (eventually to become the 125 Guards Bomber Aviation Regiment) flying Pe2 attack aircraft. Today, she dies in a forced landing in her Pe2.

Dec 29th: 1st Ukrainian Front is back in Korosten and Chernakov.

Dec 30th: 1st Marine Division captures the Japanese airfield at Cape Gloucester.

Dec 31st: A good day for the Soviets, they conclude a winning year as Zhitomir is retaken and Vitebsk is surrounded. In contrast to their situation two years earlier, the Soviets can outmass the Germans anywhere they care to mount an offensive and the qualitative gap of 1941 is getting much narrower. Hereafter, the main impediment on the rate of the Soviet advance will be logistics.

Essential Reading: Stalin retains a horrid fascination and it is seldom remembered that he is responsible for more deaths than Hitler ever managed (one hopes there is some special place in the hereafter).

1944: The Allies at Full Strength.

The crushing weight of Allied industrial superiority becomes more evident with every passing month, but the Axis militaries adapt. The Japanese are slowly learning that open engagements with Allied troops result in a heavy imbalance of casualties and so encase themselves in rock

and concrete where possible. At the same time, their airmen are coming to realize that the best use of their increasingly obsolescent aircraft and poorly-trained replacement pilots is to turn their aircraft into manned missiles. The Germans apply the same genius they used for offensive warfare earlier to their defensive tactics and extract the highest price they can. However, their strength on much of the Eastern Front is stretched too thin, too often, notwithstanding Hitler's frequent 'stand-fast' orders.

Faced with this imbalance, the Japanese and the Germans place an increasing premium on ideological and spiritual notions. They insist that the enemy's great material strength is necessary because they are weak, inferior and corrupt in comparison to the matchless warriors of Japan or the champions of National Socialism. The other slim hope is that they can put up such a ferocious defence that the ring enclosing them will not cinch tight. In the meantime, the insistence that willpower and heroic resolve will match Allied material advantages also extends to the home front where their people are being asked to do more with less every month.

Demanding sacrifice is even easier of slave labour. The Japanese use of POWs and conscripted Asian labourers is setting a killing pace of work on starvation rations. The Germans are combing occupied Europe for forced labour with their railroads straining at the seams although the mass murder of the continent's Jews remains the highest priority. Despite the thousands of tanks and aircraft and hundreds of ships, despite the vast river of munitions, rations and fuel flowing unceasingly towards the front; the Allied combatants make no pretence to be supermen in the service of some great new cause.

At the very front of this mighty effort are young men who have become very aware "of their mortality. They know what a well-sited machine gun or well-concealed landmine can do to their flesh; and the brutal damage a flurry of red hot razor sharp shell fragments can inflict on the fragile human frame. They have smelled what happens to tank crews when the fuel and ammunition ignites. Their radios have conveyed the voices of wingmen who can't bail out of burning planes. Yet somebody has to be the first to step into the too-quiet meadow, the first to rush across the defended street and the first to drive their tank over the crest of the hill or out of the tree-line. Somebody has to push the nose down and dive towards the hostile earth as the tracers arch up to meet them. They also know that their way home lies through Rome, Berlin, and Tokyo and so they come on.

January 1944: Anzio – where Wildcats Become Stranded Whales.

General: What a difference a year makes: Over the next three months, U-boats will only sink 54 Allied ships, while losing 60 submarines. Allied strategic bombers from the UK will drop 40,000 tons of bombs on Germany in January alone while tactical bombers work over the Pas de Calais region. Bombers in the Mediterranean will drop 11,000 tons in Italy this month.

Jan 1st: Admiral Sherman's carrier group (Task Force 50.2) hits a Japanese convoy off New Ireland.

New Badge for Royal United Services Institute – Vancouver Society



TO ALL TO WHOM these Presents shall come or whom the same may in any way concern, GREETING: BY Claire Boudreau, Chief Herald of Canada;

WHEREAS a request that heraldic emblems be granted has been received from the **ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE – VANCOUVER SOCIETY**, Burnaby, British Columbia, incorporated on the 16th day of November 2011 under the *Society Act* of the province of British Columbia;

NOW KNOW YOU that pursuant to the authority vested in Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.Q., C.D., Governor General of Canada, to exercise the armorial prerogative of Her Majesty The Queen of Canada, and to the terms of my Commission of Office, and noting well that Her Majesty did approve the depiction of the Royal Crown in the heraldic emblems herein described, I, the Chief Herald of Canada, do by these Presents grant and assign to the **ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE – VANCOUVER SOCIETY** the following Badge: A **tourteau charged with a vol Or surmounted by two swords in saltire Argent hilted Or between in chief a mural crown per pale Or and Azure and in base a fouled anchor Or its cord Argent, all environed by an annulus Azure edged and inscribed with the Motto in letters Or and ensigned by the Royal Crown proper**; And for a Motto: **LABORA PRO PACE BELLUM PARA**, meaning "Work for peace, prepare for war";

AS THE SAME are depicted in the painting herewith provided and entered in Volume VII, page 120 of the Public Register of Arms, Flags and Badges of Canada to be borne and used for ever hereafter by the **ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE – VANCOUVER SOCIETY**, all according to the Law of Arms of Canada;

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Canadian Heraldic Authority at Rideau Hall in the City of Ottawa this 20th day of September 2018.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF Assunta Di Lorenzo, Herald Chancellor, has witnessed this grant with her signature.

Chief Herald of Canada
Héraut d'armes du Canada

À TOUS CEUX QUI verront les présentes ou que les présentes concernent, SALUT : DE la part de Claire Boudreau, héraut d'armes du Canada;

CONSIDÉRANT QU'une demande de concession d'emblèmes héraldiques a été reçue du **ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE – VANCOUVER SOCIETY**, Burnaby, en Colombie-Britannique, constitué en personne morale le 16^e jour de novembre 2011 en vertu de la *Society Act* de la province de la Colombie-Britannique;

SACHEZ QUE conformément à l'autorité dont est investie Son Excellence la très honorable Julie Payette, C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.Q., C.D., gouverneure générale du Canada, d'exercer la prérogative en matière d'armoiries que Sa Majesté la reine du Canada lui a concédée et conformément aux dispositions de notre commission d'office, Nous, le Héraut d'armes du Canada, ayant bien noté que Sa Majesté a autorisé l'inclusion de la couronne royale dans les emblèmes héraldiques ici décrits, par les présentes, concédons et assignons au **ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE – VANCOUVER SOCIETY** l'insigne suivant : Un **tourteau de gueules chargé d'un vol d'or, à deux épées d'argent garnies d'or passées en sautoir brochantes, accompagné en chef d'une couronne murale partie d'or et d'azur et en pointe d'une ancre d'or sa gumène d'argent, le tout entouré d'un anneau d'azur liséré d'or inscrit de la devise en lettres du même et sommé de la couronne royale au naturel**; Et pour devise : **LABORA PRO PACE BELLUM PARA**, signifiant « Travailler pour la paix, se préparer pour la guerre »;

LESQUELS emblèmes sont figurés en annexe et consignés dans le volume VII, page 120 du Registre public des armoiries, drapeaux et insignes du Canada pour être portés et utilisés à perpétuité par le **ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE – VANCOUVER SOCIETY**, le tout conformément au droit héraldique du Canada;

DONNÉE sous notre seing et le sceau de l'Autorité héraldique du Canada à Rideau Hall dans la ville d'Ottawa, ce 20^e jour de septembre 2018.

EN FOI DE QUOI Assunta Di Lorenzo, chancelière d'armes, s'est portée témoin de cette concession en apposant sa signature.

Herald Chancellor
Chancelière d'armes

Letters Patent

Earlier this week, RUSI President Cam Cathart introduced the members to the new, long-awaited, Royal United Services Institute Vancouver Society badge recently approved by the Chief Herald of Canada.



The new design, shown above, is based on the previous RUSI emblem. It shows crossed swords representing the Army, the wings the RCAF, the anchor the RCN, the red background emblematic of the RCMP and the mural crown, emblematic of civic authority, representing Emergency Services personnel. Royal designation was given the Institute by Her Majesty the Queen in 1989.

The Latin phrase meaning “Work for peace, prepare for war” conveys RUSI’s mandate for research, education and advocacy on defence issues. The design concept originated with Christopher Mackie, a local Heraldry consultant and Bruce Patterson, the Deputy Chief Herald of Canada. The new badge will be available, along with a new lapel pin, early in the new year. Members will be advised on the cost and availability of the badge when supplies are received from the manufacturer.

Dues 2019

As of Jan 1, memberships dues are payable for 15 Fd Regt Officers Mess Associate Members, Vancouver Artillery Association and the Royal United Services Institute - Vancouver Society. Details below.

Dues for the **Vancouver Artillery Association** are \$25, payable to the Vancouver Artillery Association. Dues cheques can be hand delivered at Wednesday lunches or mailed to:

Treasurer, Vancouver Artillery Association
2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6J 2C7

Dues for **RUSI Vancouver** are \$50 (\$25 for students), payable to RUSI Vancouver. Send to:

Treasurer, RUSI Vancouver
2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6J 2C7

Dues for **15 Fd Officers' Mess Associate Members** are \$60, payable to 15 RCA Officers Mess. Send to:

Treasurer, 15 Fd Regt Officers Mess
2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6J 2C7





Fort Fraser Garrison



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

Garrison Burns Supper

to be held in

The Officers' Mess at Bessborough Armoury,
15th Field Regiment RCA
2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, BC

Saturday, 26 January 2019

1800hrs for 1900hrs

Dress: Scarlets, Highland Evening wear, Black Tie or Business Attire
Tariff: \$78 per Person

RSVP to jobarb@shaw.ca or 604-522-5766

ASAP! (before 19 January)

Places will be allocated on the sequence (date & time) of RSVP emails received
at jobarb@shaw.ca

Members have priority, but please RSVP soonest as this event is
usually oversubscribed.

Looking forward to seeing you there

James Barrett, Maj.
Officer Commanding

***15th Field Artillery Regiment,
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery***

*Cordially invite you
to their*

99th Birthday

***&
ALL RANKS FUND RAISING SOCIAL***

(ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS "BATTLE FIELD TOUR 2020")

Saturday, 2nd February 2019

Cocktails: 18:30 for 19:00 hrs

LIVE MUSIC and DJ

To be held at

**Bessborough Armoury
2025 West 11th Avenue
Vancouver, BC**

**RSVP required by 3 Jan 19
Capt Dempsey GM,
Email: george.dempsey@forces.gc.ca
Telephone: 604-666-4370**

**Dress: Casual
Tickets: \$10 single
\$15 couple**