

Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News – 2 April 2024

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 your copy.

Newsletter online. 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>

Upcoming events – Mark your calendars– see poster section for details.

Commemoration Cyprus 2024

80th Anniversary of the Liberation of Holland Battlefield Tour

- Apr 03** **No Zoom meeting on April 3rd – host will be at Armoury**
Apr 06 The Vancouver Vimy Day 2024 Remembrance Service
Apr 13 **78 FH Dinner - new location – see poster section**
Apr 20 The 2024 BC Military Gala
 15th Field Artillery Regiment, RCA Open House
Jun 06 Screenings of *Gino - A Child of War*

15th Field Artillery Regiment, RCA Open House - April 20, 2024

2025 W 11th Ave, Vancouver, BC, Canada, British Columbia V6J2C7

On April 20, 2024, 15th Field Regiment, RCA will be hosting an open house at Bessborough Armoury! Armoury will be open to the public from **1000 - 1400 hrs. Everyone welcome.** Displays of all things Arty - Command Post, FOO operations, etc. The Museum will be open for touring and will display their vehicle and weapons collection on the parade square and outside.

Screenings of Gino - A Child of War

GREATER VANCOUVER PREMIERE: Il Centro Italian Cultural Centre 'Screening of 'Gino: A Child of War 2:00 pm' FOR CADETS, CADET FAMILIES, SENIORS AND CIC/MILITARY MEMBERS on JUNE 2, 2024

This is a heartwarming, family friendly true story to please all audiences.

We have organized a special **AFTERNOON MATINEE** for a reduced price of **\$16.00 for Cadets, Cadet families, Seniors, and CIC/MILITARY Members**, I would very much hope that the Associations who support cadet corps would consider sponsoring some tickets for their local cadet corps, with tickets also available for interested families to attend as well.

* Partial Ticket proceeds in Support of the Army Cadet League of Canada and Canadian Youth!!

Tickets are limited so get them early, so you won't be disappointed. The Premiere's in other cities have been SOLD OUT well in advance of the screening so get yours today.

Gino: A Child of War 2 min trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCTi9C5jWvM>

FOR AFTERNOON SCREENING - cut and paste this link:-

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/gino-a-child-of-war-tickets-866984392657?aff=oddtcreator>

For more information and Tickets:

Cathy Bach

National President

Army Cadet League of Canada

778-995-2306

Evening Showing - An evening showing has also been arranged, an '**adult only**' showing including a reception after.

Doors open at 6:30 for 7:00 show. Tickets \$27.50. Dress - Business Casual.

* Partial Ticket proceeds in Support of the Army Cadet League of Canada and Canadian Youth!!

At Il Centro Italian Cultural Centre, 3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver, BC.

Gino: A Child of War 2 min trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCTi9C5jWvM>

FOR EVENING SCREENING - cut and paste this link:-

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/gino-a-child-of-war-tickets-866984392657?aff=oddtcreator>

Or contact Karen Storwick 403-478-0435

See news story: <https://globalnews.ca/video/10029175/calgary-made-film-tells-story-of-soldiers-who-rescued-orphan-in-second-world-war-in-italy>

See Poster in poster section.

Army Artillery Needs More Range, Mobility and Autonomy

Jen Judson Defense News Mar 27, 2024

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — The US Army's recently completed conventional fires study determined the service should focus on more autonomous artillery systems with greater range and improved mobility, the Army Futures Command chief said Wednesday. Speaking at the Association of the

US Army's Global Symposium here, Gen. James Rainey said the Army will achieve these improvements by incorporating robotics into systems, improving artillery rounds and pursuing readily available mobile howitzer options. The service began working last year on a conventional fires study intended to lead to a new strategy. Rainey said at the time the review would consider the existing capability and capacity and future Army needs. It was also going to assess new technology to enhance conventional fires on the battlefield, such as advances in propellant that make it possible for midrange cannons to shoot as far as longer-range systems. The study has already influenced one program. The Army, after also conducting a prototyping effort for an Extended Range Cannon Artillery system, concluded the platform was not the right approach.



The US Army canceled its Extended Range Cannon Artillery, or ERCA, in favor of munitions with improved range. Its greater artillery strategy will see more mobile and autonomous systems, the Army believes. (Photo by Edward Lopez/US Army)

The service plans to focus instead on extending the range of current artillery systems with innovative munitions still under development as part of the ERCA program, Rainey said. “We are in a resource constrained environment,” he added. “You can go after an exquisite system or you can take a more holistic approach.” The Army was able to conduct a variety of successful tests with ERCA prototypes, including hitting a target 70 kilometers, or 43 miles, away at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona, in December 2020 using an Excalibur extended-range guided artillery shell. The problems with the cannon were mostly related to the length of the gun tube and its ability to withstand a large number of projectiles without excessive wear. The Army is planning to deliver a better armored howitzer, Rainey said. “There are some great capabilities out there.” However, towed howitzers may not have a clear future with the Army, he said, adding “the future is not bright for towed artillery.” Rainey said he’s “very interested in autonomous and robotic cannon solutions” for joint forcible entry formations like the 82nd and 101st airborne divisions. The Army is pursuing mobile, indirect fires capabilities for light infantry and Stryker formations as well, he noted.

CADPAT MT Modernized Combat Uniform

At the end of February 2024, the Canadian Army issued an Information Article on CADPAT Multi-Terrain (MT) Modernized Combat Uniform (MCU). *Joint-Forces.com* 31 Mar 2024



*Members of Garrison Petawawa wearing four-colour CADPAT Prototype J, from which five-colour CADPAT (MT) is derived, while participating in Combat First Aid training on June 10, 2020
[Canadian DND: Aviator Melissa Gloude]*

~
Project number: 24-0016 – CADPAT (MT) MCU. The Modernized Combat Uniform (MCU) will see the new Canadian Disruptive Pattern Multi -Terrain, or CADPAT (MT), camouflage pattern used in production of updated Combat Uniforms. Issuing is beginning in February 2024, based on operational requirement, generally going to the highest readiness units first. Serving Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members who are entitled to wear the Operational Dress will be notified via their Chains of Command when they are slated to draw the CADPAT (MT) MCUs at their usual clothing stores. The selection of a new CADPAT (MT) pattern is a key step toward the Soldier Operationalization Clothing and Equipment Modernization initiative (SOCEM), which, for the past several years, has worked to advance the fit, form, and function of operational clothing and equipment. Information about further improvements to uniforms and personal equipment as part of the SOCEM initiative will be announced in the coming years.

*The new five-colour
.CADPAT (MT) alongside CADPAT (TW)
[Canadian DND photo]*

CADPAT Temperate Woodland (TW) and CADPAT Arid Region (AR) are among the most effective camouflage patterns worn by any army in the world. But technological advances in warfighting, namely the digitization and proliferation of surveillance and sensors, mean having soldiers less detectable to the enemy



mean having soldiers less detectable to the enemy

is increasingly important. CADPAT (MT) provides outstanding performance across the widest range of environments in which Canadian soldiers are likely to operate. The goal of camouflage is to delay detection by the enemy. The selection of the new Canadian Disruptive Pattern Multi-Terrain (CADPAT (MT)) colour scheme was a data-driven process, as this pattern reduces the likelihood of detection from a greater range of technologies and in the widest range possible of operational environments. Technological advances in warfighting, namely the digitization and proliferation of surveillance and sensors, mean having soldiers less detectable to the enemy is increasingly important. Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) developed specialized software, which takes the information from digital photographs of a wide range of operating environments, pixilates them, and then calculates the percentage of each colour and texture present in the environment to form the new Multi-Terrain or MT.



Four-colour CADPAT Prototype J during field testing in 2019
[Canadian DND photo]

The original CADPAT Prototype J trials pattern, first seen in photographs in 2019/2020, used a four-colour palette of Earth Brown, Forest Green and Black on a Light Khaki base. The CADPAT (MT) pattern selected for production is five-colour with a pinkish sand shade added to the other four colours, which appear to have been lightened slightly; however as at present we are commentating on photos of the patterns, rather than having viewed and compared actual swatches of fabric, these comments should only be regarded as a rough guide. CADPAT (MT) is a Canadian-owned design that has been tested and evaluated against several other National, allied, and commercial designs. CADPAT (MT) was found to be the most effective, in the global conditions in which Canadian soldiers are likely to operate. It is probably a safe bet that the first Canadian Army units to start receiving the newly issued CADPAT (MT) pattern will be those operationally deployed to Europe as part of the NATO defensive shield against further Russian expansionism; the JOINT-FORCES team will definitely be keeping eyes peeled for Canadian soldiers wearing this camo when covering future NATO exercises and deployments on this side of The Pond.

BAE Platform Gives US Army AMPVs Turret System Options

Jen Judson Defense News Mar 27, 2024

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — BAE Systems showed off a universal top plate that allows the Army's Armored Multipurpose Vehicle to easily swap turrets for different mission roles. The company brought an AMPV complete with a 30mm unmanned turret from Elbit Systems to the

Association of the US Army's Global Force Symposium being held this week in Huntsville, Alabama, to demonstrate the capability. BAE took the original top off the AMPV and put on its own internally funded and developed top plate to create the External Mission Equipment Package, or ExMEP. The design is based off of a study of turrets "of all kinds, all over the world," Megan Mitchell, BAE's business development director for Army combat systems, said in an interview at the event. The ExMEP "enables [the AMPV] to be able to accept over 30 different sized turrets," she added. "The idea behind this is it allows the Army to basically widen their scope of what they're able to do with the AMPV."



BAE Systems showcased its ExMEP capability, a flexible top plate design that allows a wide variety of turrets to be rapidly integrated onto the Armored Multipurpose Vehicle at the Association of the US Army's Global Force Symposium in Huntsville, Alabama, on March 26. The AMPV at the show featured an Elbit Systems 30mm unmanned turret.

(Photo courtesy of BAE Systems).

The Army's AMPV, designed to replace the M113 armored personnel carrier and which reached full-rate production in

2023, comes in five variants either being fielded or planned: General purpose; medical evacuation; medical treatment; mission command; and mortar carrier. "We're now in full-rate production with the first five variants and that allows us a little bit more latitude to be able to see what it can do next," Mitchell said. "This is an extremely versatile platform and it's already doing five very different mission roles, and to be able to expand that capability ... there's a lot more M113s out there than just what the five variants can do. "What we really wanted to look at is where is the Army's need and what could we possibly create that will allow us to work with the Army, to say, 'Oh, if you need a counter-UAS, we can integrate that. If you need this kind of turret, we can integrate that,'" she said.

The company last year demonstrated it could rapidly integrate a Moog-developed counter-unmanned aircraft system turret onto the AMPV and successfully tested the capability in a live-fire event in Arizona. BAE said it hit both ground and air targets in the November 2023 test just 15 months after beginning the ExMEP development effort. In cooperation with the Army, where both BAE and the Army funded a portion of the effort, the company integrated Patria's 120mm unmanned turreted mortar capability using its ExMEP, Mitchell said. BAE turned over the vehicle to the Army in January for testing that will take place at Yuma Proving Ground in Arizona in the spring and summer. More testing will continue into the fall. A flexible top plate enabling integration of a wide array of turrets is not just targeted toward the US Army, Mitchell noted, but creates options for potential foreign customers who might have specific requirements that go beyond the US Army's AMPV variants.

AI-Aided Virtual Conversations with WWII Vets are Latest Feature

at New Orleans museum.

Kevin McGill and Stephen Smith AP March 25, 2024



An interactive exhibit opening Wednesday at the National WWII Museum will use artificial intelligence to let visitors hold virtual conversations with images of veterans, including a Medal of Honor winner who died in 2022.

(AP Video: Stephen Smith)

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Olin Pickens sat in his wheelchair facing a life-sized image of himself on a screen, asking it questions about being taken prisoner by German soldiers during World War II. After a pause, his video-recorded twin recalled being given “sauerkraut soup” by his captors before a grueling march. “That was a Tuesday morning, February the 16th,” Pickens’ onscreen likeness answered. “And so we started marching. We’d walk four hours, then we’d rest 10 minutes.” Pickens is among 18 veterans of the war and its support effort featured in an interactive exhibit that opened Wednesday at the National WWII Museum. The exhibit uses artificial intelligence to let visitors hold virtual conversations with images of veterans. Pickens, of Nesbit, Mississippi, was captured in Tunisia in 1943 as US soldiers from the 805th Tank Destroyer Battalion were overrun by German forces. He returned home alive after spending the rest of the war in a prison camp. “I’m making history, to see myself telling the story of what happened to me over there,” said Pickens, who celebrated his 102nd birthday in December. “I’m so proud that I’m here, that people can see me.”

The *Voices from the Front* exhibit also enables visitors to the New Orleans Museum to ask questions of war-era home front heroes and supporters of the US war effort — including a military nurse who served in the Philippines, an aircraft factory worker, and Margaret Kerry, a dancer who performed at USO shows and, after the war, was a model for the Tinker Bell character in Disney productions. Four years in the making, the project incorporates video-recorded interviews with 18 veterans of the war or the support effort — each of them having sat for as many as a thousand questions about the war and their personal lives. Among the participants was Marine Corps veteran Hershel Woodrow “Woody” Williams, a Medal of Honor winner who fought at Iwo Jima, Japan. He died in June 2022 after recording his responses.

Visitors to the new exhibit will stand in front of a console and pick who they want to converse with. Then, a life-sized image of that person, sitting comfortably in a chair, will appear on a screen in front of them. “Any of us can ask a question,” said Peter Crean, a retired Army colonel and the museum’s vice president of education. “It will recognize the elements of that question. And

then using AI, it will match the elements of that question to the most appropriate of those thousand answers.” The exhibit bears similarities to interactive interviews with Holocaust survivors produced by the University of Southern California Shoah Foundation, founded by film director Stephen Spielberg. That project also uses life-sized projections of real people that appear to respond to questions in real time. They’ve been featured for several years at Holocaust museums across the US. Aging veterans have long played a part in personalizing the experience of visiting the New Orleans Museum, which opened in 2000 as the National D-Day Museum. Veterans often volunteered at the museum, manning a table near the entrance where visitors could talk to them about the war.

But that practice has diminished as the veterans age and die. The COVID-19 pandemic was especially hard on the WWII generation, Crean said. Theodore Britton Jr., who served during the war as one US Marine Corps’ first Black recruits, said he was thrilled to help the museum “do by mechanical devices what we’re not going to be around to do in the future.” The 98-year-old veteran, who later was appointed US ambassador to Barbados and Grenada by President Gerald Ford, got a chance Wednesday to question his virtual self, sitting onscreen wearing the Congressional Gold Medal that Britton was awarded in 2012. “There are fewer and fewer World War II veterans, and a lot of people who will never see one,” Britton said. “But they can come here and see and talk with them.” The technology isn’t perfect. For example, when Crean asked the image of veteran Bob Wolf whether he had a dog as a child, there followed an expansive answer about Wolf’s childhood — his favorite radio shows and breakfast cereal — before he noted that he had pet turtles.

But, said Crean, the AI mechanism can learn as more questions are asked of it and rephrased. A brief lag time after the asking of the question will diminish, and the recorded answers will be more responsive to the questions, he said. The *Voices from the Front* interactive station was unveiled Wednesday as part of the opening of the museum’s new Malcolm S Forbes Rare and Iconic Artifacts Gallery, named for an infantry machine gunner who fought on the front lines in Europe. Malcom S Forbes was a son of Bertie Charles Forbes, founder of Forbes magazine. Exhibits include his Bronze Star, Purple Heart and a blood-stained jacket he was wearing when wounded.

Vancouver Gunners Website Update

Quartermaster Stores 1

We’ve got a wooden 105mm HE round replica available for purchase. Actual dimensions. The base has been shortened from the original in order to allow it to be pinned into the wooden casing. No brasso polishing ever! It's a little pricey at \$270.00 Made to order.

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/wooden-105mm-he-projectile>

Quartermaster Stores 2

Know anyone that needs a non-standard tac vest? We’ve got one for sale!

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1089579745467119&set=a.639860710439027>

Yearbook Update – 2024 15th Field Gunners Hockey Team

The team hits the ice for the first time together! Here's to more 15Fd Hockey to come in the future!. <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/15th-field-gunners-hockey-club>

Yorke Island Excursion

The 85Vics are planning their annual weekend cleanup visit to Yorke Island on the first weekend of May 2024. Interested in joining them? Send me an email. president.vcrgunners@gmail.com

68 Battery 30'ish Year Campout Reunion

May 24 at 4 PM – May 26 at 12 PM - Harrison West - Camp Cove Campground

Anne Nikodem (former Bombardier Anne Edwards) and Terry Stratton (former Bombardier Terry Stratton) are organizing another 68 Battery camping reunion.

Same as last year, its a 10 vehicle allowance (50 person max) with the booking (additional fees for extra vehicles and day guests. <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2024.html>

OP Take Post 2025

Check out The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery website for the latest update on OP Take Post 2025 - an 80th Anniversary Liberation of Holland Commemorative Battlefield Tour from 2 to 11 May 2025. <https://rca-arc.org/the-rca-association/op-take-post/>

Photos

Have you got any photos of past regimental activities? Send them to president.vcrgunners@gmail.com and we'll post them to the website.

Wednesday Lunch Zoom Meeting

No Zoom meeting this week, Host will be at the Armoury.

Remember – Stay healthy and stay safe!

Who (or What) Is It?

Last Week: The G20_Gyroplane. A submarine launched helicopter from the 1930s. When

 Dorand G.20
Gyroplane

COVERT SHORES
www.hisutton.com



the French submarine *Surcouf* entered service in 1934 it was the first in the world with an aircraft capability designed in. It's compact MB.411 floatplane, which folded to fit inside the integral hangar, was a work of art. But French aviation designer René Dorand had an even more ingenious solution to deploying

aircraft from submarines: a helicopter! The concept of operations was incredibly clever, especially coming so soon after the introduction of aircraft to submarine operations. Launching *Surcouf's* float plane must have been a major evolution (process). First the hangar would have to be opened, and the aircraft wheeled back on rails along the aft deck. Then the fuselage would be

raised above the float. The wings would have to be brought out of the hangar and attached and extended, with the help of a crane. When complete, the aircraft would be transferred to the water by the crane, where it would take off. Landing and recovery would be the same in reverse. The helicopter, without a large float and with much lighter rotor blades would be much quicker to ready on the deck, and then it could take off and land on the deck without the need to be transferred to the water. While the MB.411 float plane was intended only for artillery spotting for *Surcouf*'s massive twin 203mm (8") guns, the G20 was intended as an anti-submarine aircraft, at least in its earliest conception.

In service Surcouf carried a single MB.411 floatplane in her hangar behind the conning tower

The project was ambitious, especially given that helicopters were in their infancy. The first practical French helicopter, the Breguet Gyroplane Laboratoire, first flew in 1933. Dorand was part of the design team and separated from Breguet in 1938 to form *Société Française du Gyroplane* (SFG) and began design of the G20

(also known as the G.II). The G20 was had a sleek all-metal fuselage with cloth covering only used on the control surfaces which were on a futuristic butterfly tail. The coaxial contra-rotating rotors were powered by two 240 hp engines. Although described as a 'gyroplane', which in modern parlance means autogiro, it was in fact a helicopter with powered rotors. Initially the design had three-person crew with a pilot in the nose, and two gunners behind him. The first gunner sat immediately behind and had a machine-gun firing behind and downwards, and the second stood in a cupola inside the rotor shaft, providing 360-degree arcs of fire above the aircraft. The practicality of this arrangement is open to question.



Specifications (projected, early armed design)

Rotor diameter: 15.4 meters (upper), 13.0 meters (lower)

Length: 11.08 meters

Height: 3.13 meters

Engine: 2 x 240 hp Renault 6Q

Weight: 1,400 kg (empty), 2500 kg (armed), 3,000 kg (max)

Crew: 3

Speed: 250 kph (max), 165 kph (cruise)

Ceiling: 5,000 meters

Range: 800 km

This Week: We begin a new series this week: Famous People Who Lost Their Hearing Because They Were Gunners. Or to be short: Famous Gunners. Naturally, we were going to feature the esteemed editor, but, as those who served with him well know, he is both modest and shy. So, even though he is the most famous gunner most of us know, we had to look further afield.

Of course, with the excellent Vancouver Gunners website, we didn't have far to go. Aside from lesser-known people, such as Andy McNaughton and people like him, we were able to find a few others who rose to fame, not as producers of loud bangs, but for other reasons later in life. And



being that the Royal Regiment is quite large, that amounts to a tonne of people. So, we start today with a well-turned out fellow, an officer, captured, not by the evil Hun, but by the wonders of photography, albeit in a quite small and fuzzy image. Nonetheless, that adds to the qualities of mystery and challenge we seek to imbue this column with weekly.

One thing to point out is that the gentleman is not one who has taken religious vows, as that is not a cleric's collar, just a massive ordinary one made tight with a spiffy of some sort (do you remember those?). He is a simple lay gunner, but one of great note later in life. So, dear reader, who might this man be? Do you recognize this youthful version of his latterly famous face? We will give you one small hint. He had a brother who was well known, too.

If you think you can solve our puzzle, let the modest editor, Bob Mugford (bob.mugford@gmail.com) know, or the shrinking violet author, John Redmond (johnd.redmond@telus.net). Keep on ploughing!

From the 'Punitary'

What does a mother do for a headache? She sends the kids outside to play.

Murphy's Other Laws

Those who hesitate under fire usually do not end up KIA or WIA.

Quotable Quotes

First get your facts straight, then ignore them. *Mark Twain*

Wednesday Digital Video Lunch

No Zoom meeting on April 3rd – host will be at Armoury.



No need to worry about COVID-19 when you go digital. Pop into our video lunch **at noon** on Wednesdays and say hi. All you need is a laptop, tablet or smartphone. These sessions are being hosted by the Vancouver Artillery Association and are **open to all** – especially those who attended our **Wednesday lunches**.

NOTE change in sign on address and password

Join us to check up on your old lunch buddies. Click on this link:-
(this link will take you **straight to the waiting room** – no password needed)

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72758359360?pwd=XE0y7bIBCNvTYsIFcFlZ6g1e1pfzMP.1>

or use Meeting ID 727 5835 9360 **and the secret passcode is pFPey6**

Invite some friends! We have room for 100! See you on Wednesdays at noon. Bring your own lunch and beverage of choice.

Attendance at this meeting is falling off. If you haven't been on for a while, we miss you so come back and join us.

The Vancouver Vimy Day 2024 Remembrance Service



The Vancouver Vimy Day Committee invites you to attend our remembrance service to be held on 6 April 2024. The Vancouver Vimy Day Remembrance Service will be held at the main veteran's burial site located at Vancouver's Mountainview Cemetery located on the South-West area by the Commonwealth Cenotaph

Arrive between 1020 – 1040 hrs – Parking available free on site.

Service starts at 1045 hrs.

Light refreshments for official attendees will be served following the service at the Mountainview Cemetery Hall of Remembrance where washrooms are also available. If your organisation wishes to place an order for an official wreath, please contact the vancouverpoppyfund@telus.net to place your order no later than 25 March 2024.

RVSP: LCol (Ret'd) James D Barrett, CD
Chair Vancouver Vimy Day Committee
barrettjd007@gmail.com
604-916-1766

Mountainview Cemetery
5455 Fraser Street
Vancouver, BC V5W 2Z3
Entrances off Fraser Street & 41st Avenue.

78 Fraser Highlanders Battle of Ste Foy Dinner 13 April 2024



Fort Fraser Garrison

I request the company of all Officers and Miladies and their guests at our

Battle of Ste. Foy (April 1760) Commemorative Dinner

“from April battles and Murray generals, good Lord deliver me!”

Saturday, 13 April, 2024

**in the Officers’ Mess, Bessborough Armoury
2025 West 11th Ave, Vancouver.**

1800 for 1900 hrs.

**Also known as “the second battle on the Plains of Abraham”,
the 78th suffered the highest casualties of the war here.**

**On this date we also mark the 278th anniversary of the 1746 defeat of the
Clan Army at Culloden Moor.**

Dress: Full uniform (scarlets), Highland Evening Wear, Black Tie, Business
Attire Ladies : Evening Attire

Tariff: \$80 per person

**Kindly RSVP to jobarb100@gmail.com or at 604-522-5766 before
Tuesday, 9 March, 2024**

Yours Aye,

James Barrett, Maj.

Officer Commanding

Screenings of Gino - A Child of War



IL CENTRO ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTRE
IS PROUD TO PRESENT

A ROBERT CURTIN FILM
GINO FARNETTI-BRAGAGLIA MARIANGELA RONDINELLI GIANNI BLASI & HARRY ANTHONY KOONAR

GINO

A CHILD OF WAR

A COMBINED FORCES PRODUCTION

TICKETS \$27.50 EVENING

A SPECIAL PRESENTATION

[i]ff Italian Contemporary Film Festival
VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA
Canadian Film Centre
United Film Festival Production Group Presents

Sunday June 2nd, 7:00pm Evening, doors open at 6:30

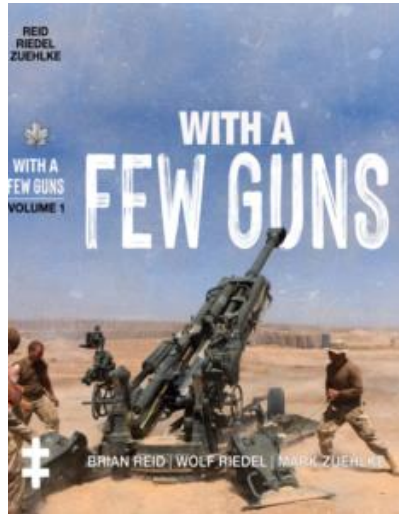


For Tickets scan the QR code or call Karen (403) 478-0435

IL CENTRO ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTRE, 3075 SLOCAN STREET, VANCOUVER, BC

"Gino: A Child of War" is an inspiring docu-drama, shedding light on an incredible story of hope and boundless kindness of the human spirit amid the chaos of war. The film narrates the story of Gino Farnetti-Bragaglia, a five-year-old boy discovered frightened, hungry, and wandering amidst the war-torn ruins of Torrice, Italy, in 1944, by compassionate Canadian soldiers. For the next ten months, Gino found shelter, nourishment, and care among his Canadian 'guardian angels'. A special bond formed between Gino, Lloyd 'Red' Oliver and other Canadian soldiers. This film portrays their remarkable relationship and the untold story that connects them to this day.

With a Few Guns



With A Few Guns – The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery in Afghanistan Volume I 2002-2006

Authored by Col (Retd) Wolf Riedel and Mark Zuehlke,
building on the work of LCol (Retd) Brian Reid

This two-volume set captures the experiences of Canadian Gunners and the Regimental family during the Afghanistan era.

- Volume 1 – 2002-2006, publication date **4 December 2023!**
The translation “Avec quelques canons” is expected for autumn 2024.
- Volume 2 – 2007 to 2014, targeted publication date 2024/2025

[READ SELECTED EXCERPTS FROM VOLUME 1](#)

<https://rca-arc.org/excerpts-from-with-a-few-guns/>

We can't complete Volume 2 without your help. Be part of this significant undertaking – tell your story, submit your photos. Even the smallest detail touches someone!

Contact mrgnrsmith@gmail.com and make sure *our* story is recorded for generations to come!

“With A Few Guns” is dedicated to the greater family of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery—from those who served with distinction in the face of danger in Afghanistan, to those who trained and supported them to become mission-ready, and especially to those who kept the rest of the family together at home. In memory of “Reid B.A of the RCA” (1939-2023) and his dedicated service to the Guns, his sage advice and his literary prowess in recording parts of the Canadian Army’s rich history.

80th Anniversary of the Liberation of Holland Battlefield Tour



**OP TAKE POST
To Gunners and
friends**



**Fields of Fire Tours
and Merit Travel Canada
presents**

80th Anniversary of Victory Tour 2-11 May 2025 Gunners in the Liberation of the Netherlands



An American in the back of a tank of the 101st Airborne Division in the 'Victory' town of the Netherlands.



- Attend the Canadian ceremony at Wageningen on Liberation Day.
- Visit important Canadian battlefields in the Netherlands
- Pay tribute to Canada's war dead of the Victory Campaign
- Visit the Dutch Army Artillery Museum
- Visit monuments, museums, and Commonwealth War Cemeteries
- Led by experienced military historians and veterans.

For more information contact Merit Travel
TZajkovski@MeritTravel.com or BTrudeauSt.Onge@MeritTravel.com, or
call 866-341-1777 | Trina #6214 or Brianne #6902

80th Anniversary of Victory Tour

Day 1 – 2 May ... Depart Canada for Amsterdam.

Day 2 – 3 May ... We arrive in Amsterdam, meet our bus and then drive to our hotel. In the afternoon we will visit the Airborne Museum in Arnhem to examine this epic battle. We will check into our hotel for the next eight nights:

Mercure Hotel Nijmegen

Day 3 – 4 May ... Today is the Dutch Remembrance Day and we will attend the Canadian memorial ceremony at Holten Canadian War Cemetery and the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery.

Day 4 – 5 May ... This is the big day for ceremonies: Liberation Day. We will join the crowds of people in Wageningen for the Canadian commemoration and parade. Some of our group will march in the parade.

Day 5 – 6 May ... We will hit the battlefields today when we look at the largest Canadian directed operation of the war: Op Veritable. We will end the day with a visit to Groesbeek Cemetery and the nearby Liberation Museum

Day 6 – 7 May ... Today we will visit the Dutch Artillery Museum in t'Harde. The day will wrap up with the Heroes March across the Oversteek Bridge in Nijmegen.

Day 7 – 8 May ... Today we will be back on the battlefields as we tour the sites of Operation Blockbuster, the Hochwald, and the capture of Xanten.

Day 8 – 9 May ... Our last day on the battlefield will see us visiting the crossing of the Rhine in Op Plunder and the battles for Emmerich. We will also see where the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion landed on Op Varsity.

Day 9 – 10 May ... Several options today, including a free day in the Nijmegen area, or a daytrip to Amsterdam by train or bus, where the resistance museum and the art galleries are highly recommended. Our last night in Nijmegen.

Day 10 – 11 May ... We will depart early to get our flights back to Canada from Amsterdam airport. Anyone staying on in Europe can make easy connections from the airport.

Tour Price (Land Only)

CAD \$3700 – (per person, Double occupancy)
(single supplement: **\$1150** – limited availability)

Airfare can be added, see with travel agent and will vary according to point of departure.

\$600 per person non-refundable deposit required by the 1st of April 2024
Balance of payment required 29 January 2025

Price includes:

- * all breakfasts and a bagged lunch daily
- * all travel by coach bus
- * accommodation as shown in the itinerary
- * opening reception and final dinner
- * services of historian/guides

Not Included:

- * return airfare from Canada to Amsterdam
- * travel insurance
- * train trip to Amsterdam on free day
- * Lunch & dinner on 11 May
- * items of a personal nature such as beverages

Note: limited single room availability – “first come, first served”

All terms and conditions available at www.foftours.com

For more information contact Merit Travel
TZajkovski@MeritTravel.com or BTrudeauSt.Onge@MeritTravel.com, or
call 866-341-1777 | Trina #6214 or Brianne #6902

Commemoration Cyprus 2024



Commemoration Chypre 2024



Commemoration Cyprus 2024



Mission

...commémorer la contribution du Canada à la mission de l'ONU à Chypre à l'occasion du 50e anniversaire de la guerre de 1974.

...commemorate Canada's contribution to the UN mission in Cyprus on the 50th anniversary of the 1974 war.



WHAT - Cyprus 2024 Pilgrimage.

GOAL - to capture the history and stories from those who served in Cyprus with emphasis on the actions that took place during the 1974 war, **A FORGOTTEN WAR.**

WHEN - November 2024.

WHO - All Cyprus and Canadian Airborne Regiment Veterans and family members.

WHERE - Nicosia Cyprus, lodged at the Hilton Hotel.

COST - Pay as you go trip with individual costs in the \$5000 to 6000 range. Costs covered will include airfare, hotel with breakfast and expenses such as transportation.

TRAVEL - Will be arranged by professional travel agents, with pre and post tour travel options available.

PROGRAM - Seven days: three days of battlefield tours, three days of excursions, and one day of Remembrance.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND UPDATES ARE AVAILABLE BY JOINING THE CYPRUS 2024 FACEBOOK GROUP [Cyprus2024 | Facebook](#)

QUOI - Pèlerinage à Chypre 2024.

OBJECTIF - capturer l'histoire et les récits de ceux qui ont servi à Chypre en mettant l'accent sur les actions qui ont eu lieu là pendant la guerre de 1974, **UNE GUERRE OUBLIÉE.**

QUAND - Novembre 2024.

QUI - Tous les vétérans de Chypre, du Régiment aéroporté canadien et les membres de leurs familles.

OÙ - Nicosie Chypre, logés à l'hôtel Hilton.

COÛT - Voyage à la carte avec des coûts individuels inclus, environ \$5000 et 6000. Les coûts comprendront le billet d'avion, l'hôtel avec petit-déjeuner et les dépenses telles que le transport.

VOYAGE - Sera organisé par des agents de voyage professionnels, avec options de voyage avant et après la réunion.

PROGRAMME - Sept jours: trois jours de visites du champ de bataille, trois jours d'excursions et une journée du Souvenir.

PLUS D'INFORMATIONS ET MISES À JOUR SONT DISPONIBLES EN REJOIGNANT LE GROUPE FACEBOOK CYPRUS 2024 [Cyprus2024 | Facebook](#)

