



**Vancouver Artillery  
Association News**



**RUSI News**  
Vancouver

## **Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News July 5, 2016**

**Newsletter on line.** This newsletter, and previous editions, are available on the Vancouver Artillery Association website at: [www.vancouvergunners.ca](http://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** The 15 Field Officers Mess serves a 5 course, 'homemade' meal for only \$15- you won't find a better meal - or a better deal, anywhere. If you are in the area on a Wednesday, drop in and join us for lunch. Jacket and tie required, equivalent for ladies. We are now pushing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed lunch each month as the Van Arty Association lunch and encouraging members to attend. Come meet some old friends and help with the Yearbook project.

## **Yorke Island Visit – Aug 2016**

The Regt and Association are planning a visit to Yorke Island in August. For details, visit the Association website at: <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yorke-island-2016>

We need to see how many are interested, so check the details and let me know ASAP

## **World War 2 - 1941**

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

**July 6<sup>th</sup>:** Romanian troops arrive in Chernovsy to an eager welcome from their erstwhile countrymen who have lived under Soviet rule for the last year. The Soviets claim to have launched some effective counterattacks in Latvia and Byelorussia. SS-Einsatzkommando 3 murders 2,514 Jews in Kovno – a heavy day's work for the Einsatzkommando, who usually manage about 40% of this total on a typical day as they follow Germany's Armies into the East.

**July 7<sup>th</sup>:** US Marines from the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade land in Iceland to take over garrison duties from the British and Canadians.

**July 8<sup>th</sup>:** A series of sharp fights begins inland from Sidon in Vichy Syria as the British invasion continues. The Germans and Italy formally carve up Yugoslavia; they ratify the quasi-independence of Croatia, annex territories and protectorates and expand Hungary slightly.

**July 9<sup>th</sup>:** 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army crosses the Dnepr and Dvina on the way to Smolensk. In the wake of the Panzers with Army Group Centre, pockets containing some 40 Soviet divisions are snuffed out yielding over 300,000 prisoners. In Syria, Damour and Homs fall to British troops and General Dentz (commanding the Vichy Forces here) asks for an Armistice. George Thomas Armstrong is hung as a traitor, after the British sailor is unmasked by an FBI investigation.

**July 10<sup>th</sup>:** The Soviets launch a counterattack at Korosten, but it is held despite some heavy fighting, no doubt the Germans are encouraged by the dispatch of four Italian divisions in Russia. Roosevelt asks Congress for over \$8 billion in appropriations for the Army and Navy.

**July 11<sup>th</sup>:** The Vichy forces in Syria lay down their arms and the campaign is over at a cost of 2,500 Allied casualties and 3,500 French losses. 1<sup>st</sup> Panzer Group comes within 25 km of Kiev. The Soviets create three new Fronts—Voroshilov gets the Northwest Front, Timoshenko gets the central West Front, and Budenny (Stalin's old drinking buddy) gets Southwest Front. Roosevelt gets William Donovan to head a new civilian intelligence agency – the progenitor to the OSS and then to the CIA.

**July 12<sup>th</sup>:** The Luftwaffe bombs Moscow for the first time. General Bastico replaces General Garibaldi as CinC of Italian (and notionally of the Germans too) Forces in North Africa. Britain and the USSR sign a mutual assistance pact that forbids either to make a separate peace with Germany.

## **Q-53 Radar Demonstrates Counter-UAS Capability**

Lockheed Martin-built radar shows multi-mission performance



*Mounted on a five-ton truck, the AN/TPQ-53 radar can be rapidly deployed, automatically leveled and remotely operated with a laptop computer or from the fully equipped climate-controlled command vehicle.*

*Photo courtesy Lockheed Martin.*

**SYRACUSE, NY, June 27, 2016** – The Lockheed Martin (NYSE: LMT) AN/TPQ-53 counterfire radar recently demonstrated its ability to identify and track unmanned aerial systems and pass that information to a command and control node, a key

capability as the battlespace rapidly becomes more crowded with emerging air threats. “The demonstration showed that the Q-53 radar can provide soldiers in combat real time awareness of air threats,” said Rick Herodes, Q-53 program director, Lockheed Martin. “The inherent flexibility of the Q-53’s active electronically scanned array (AESA) hardware architecture allows us to constantly evolve the Q-53’s software to deal with emerging threats. This

demonstration provided further verification that the Q-53 enables the warfighter to stay ahead of changing global threats.”

The demonstration was part of the U.S. Army’s Maneuver and Fires Integration Experiment (MFI) at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. The annual MFI exercise brings together military, industry and academia to assess solutions to future warfighting needs in a live environment. In the demonstration, the Q-53 radar showed it can be readily adapted to provide both air surveillance and counter fire target acquisition in one tactical sensor. The radar identified and tracked several unmanned aerial systems and provided data to Forward Area Air Defense Command and Control. Simultaneously, the Q-53 radar performed its original mission by providing accurate targeting data on rockets, artillery and mortars, providing a multimission radar (MMR) capability.

The solid-state phased array radar system detects, classifies, tracks and determines the location of enemy indirect fire in either 360- or 90-degree modes. Lockheed Martin is manufacturing multiple Q-53 radars per month. Since Lockheed Martin won the development contract for the Q-53 radar in 2007, the company has won five additional contracts for a total of more than 100 radars and delivered more than 60 systems to the U.S. Army. The Army is expected to award a full-rate production contract this year bringing the system total to more than 170. Work on the Q-53 radars is performed at Lockheed Martin facilities in Syracuse and Owego, New York, Moorestown, New Jersey, and Clearwater, Florida.

For additional information, visit our website: [www.lockheedmartin.com/us/products/tpq53.html](http://www.lockheedmartin.com/us/products/tpq53.html)

## **The Heaviest US Tank of WWII**

The T-28 SUPER Heavy tank!



The T28 Super Heavy Tank was an American heavily armored tank self-propelled gun designed for the United States Army during World War II. The 100-ton vehicle was initially designated a heavy tank, it was re-designated as the 105 mm Gun Motor Carriage T95 in 1945, and then renamed in 1946 as the Super Heavy Tank T28. The T28/T95 was designed to be used for attacking the heavy defenses expected of the German Siegfried Line. The gun

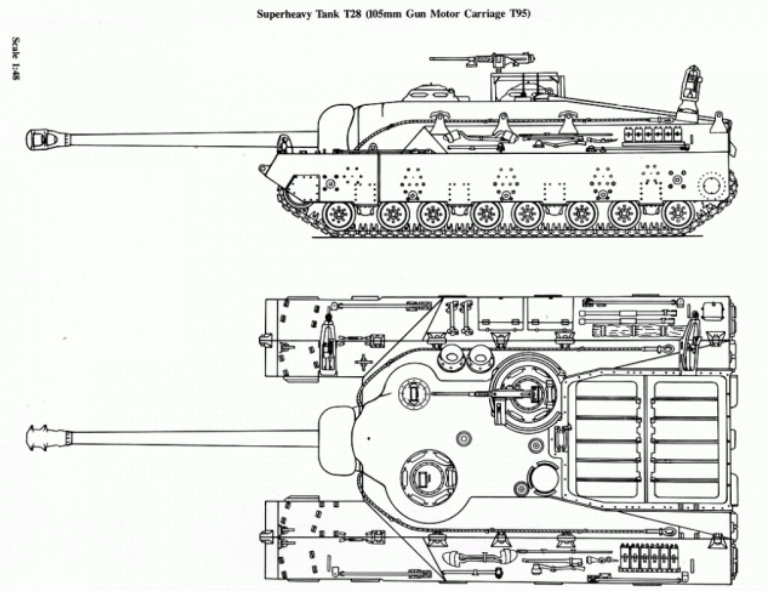
selected was known to have very good performance against concrete and “expected to be extremely effective at reducing heavy fortifications”

The need for an assault tank was first identified in 1943, Ordnance proposing that 25 vehicles could be ready for operations. A conference in March 1944 between Ordnance Department and



Army Ground Forces resulted in agreement to build five. The Pacific Car and Foundry Company were supplied with the design in March 1945, completed final design and had the first hull welded by August. By the time the first tank was completed and ready for combat, the war was over. The plan for five was reduced to two.

As it did not have a turret, but a fixed casemate mount for its main armament, and the 105 mm gun fitted could only elevate from 19.5° to -5° and traverse from 10° right to 11° left of the centerline, the T28/T95 more closely resembled a self-propelled gun, and was redesignated as “T95 Gun Motor Carriage” in 1945, but in June 1946, the vehicle was redesignated again as “Super Heavy Tank T28”.



Two prototypes of the T28 were built.

They underwent evaluation at the Aberdeen Proving Ground and Fort Knox facilities until 1947. In 1947 one of the T28s was heavily damaged by an engine fire during trials at Yuma Proving Ground and was broken up and sold for scrap.

The T28 never went into service, but was retained to test the “durability of components on such a heavy vehicle”. Work on it ended before completion as the War Department decided to stop the development of vehicles of that sort of weight and the T28 program terminated in October 1947. By that point the T29 and T30 turreted heavy tank designs had been built. The T29 mounted the same gun as the T28 in a conventional rotating turret. The T30 was developed with a larger-caliber gun and more powerful engine. The T29 program was used to test mechanical components for future tank designs.

In 1974 the last prototype was discovered abandoned in a back field at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. It is unknown where it spent the intervening 27 years. It is the sole remaining example of these tanks and was exhibited at the Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor in Kentucky. In 2011, it was shipped to its new home at Fort Benning, Georgia, where it is now on display.

## Specifications

Armor: 12 inches

Main armament: 105mm T5E1 gun, with 62 rounds

Secondary armament: .50cal (12.7 mm) Browning heavy machine gun, with 660 rounds

Engine Ford: GAF V-8 gasoline 500 hp (372 kW)

Power/weight: 5.8 hp/tonne

Operational range: 100 miles

Speed: 8 mph

# **A Look Inside Borden Military Bases Stunning New Mess Hall**

By KARON LIU Food Writer Wed., May 25, 2016

Army base undergoing massive makeover, starting with its dining hall



*The new Curtiss Dining Hall at the Borden military base is part of the master plan to transform the base into a more open, pedestrian-friendly setting reminiscent of a university campus.*

*(RENE JOHNSTON / TORONTO STAR)*

Located just west of Barrie, the CFB Borden army base is easier to get into than you'd think. No watchtowers covered in barbed wire in sight, no checkpoints with soldiers clutching automatics, I was imagining

something more out of *Call of Duty* than something resembling a university campus. Making the base more up to date, pedestrian-friendly and open is what the base is moving toward as part of a master plan to be rolled out over the next few years, replacing old buildings that date back to the Second World War and building new structures that are better suited not only to how soldiers train nowadays but also how they live. First step: a new mess hall to improve the way the troops fuel up.

Completed last October after nearly 30 months of construction, the \$23-million, 55,000-square-foot Curtiss Kitchen and Dining Hall — the name is an ode to a Second World War-era military aircraft manufacturer — is not what you'd imagine a mess hall would look like. There's floor-to-ceiling windows covering three sides of the one-storey building, giant decorative wooden arches evoking the surrounding forest and a small outdoor patio. A second, identical kitchen called Vickers Kitchen was also built nearby on the base.



*Giant kettles that can each hold up to 100 gallons of stew are required to serve up to 800 people at a time at the new Curtiss Dining Hall.* *(RENE JOHNSTON)*

“In our old kitchen we didn't have a lot of natural light, so some of our staff got really depressed,” says Warrant Officer Ben Sampson, comparing the old kitchen to a dark hangar that was sweltering in the summer, freezing in the winter and about a quarter of the new building's size. His cheery disposition is juxtaposed by his intimidating uniform of head-to-toe camo, beret and combat boots as he, along with Del Cordeiro, project

manager from ZAS Architects which designed the building with another Canadian firm, Fabriq, takes me on a tour of the facilities. They're giving me a rundown of the logistics when it comes to literally feeding an army and the importance of good building design to a good meal.



*Soldiers were happy to take in the new space and food. A look inside the new mess hall at the Borden military base. (RENE JOHNSTON)*

On one wall is a glass mural with colour-block squares inspired by the stripes and medals on a soldier's uniform, says Cordeiro. In the gleaming kitchen, cooks are preparing a dinner of Moroccan-spiced pork ragout, wild rice and potato cakes with roasted corn, and sides of apricot couscous and fried potatoes, part of a

revamped national standardized menu introduced last year. Three times a week, trucks unload skids of meat, bread and vegetables at the rear loading docks where they're taken into the walk-in fridges. To feed around 800 people at this mess hall, the army goes through some 50 loaves of bread at breakfast, 700 steaks and about 400 pounds of potatoes. In addition to the cafeteria food, 400 boxed lunches containing sandwiches, snacks and juice (totalling 3,000 calories) are packed daily for soldiers training in the field. The meals and recipes come from a database designed by dietitians working for the Canadian Armed Forces, so every army base across the country has the same menu that rotates every three weeks to prevent soldiers, who train at the base anywhere from a few weeks to two years, from getting tired of the meals.

"When people think of army food, they think of slop on a plate," says Sampson, recalling his early military days at the Cornwallis base in Nova Scotia in 1989, when he'd be served potatoes, stews and big trays of scrambled eggs that had turned green from oxidization. "But we've changed a lot since then with better transportation and access to food." He adds that it was at the new mess hall that he tried a Portobello burger for the first time. When it's time to eat, soldiers march in, hang up their coats and go to the washing station before entering. The dining area seats 750 at a time and the dress code is posted at the entrance declaring the following items verboten: Crocs, toe shoes, flip flops, muscle tees, overly distressed jeans and Speedo shorts. I'm sure restaurants would also love to enforce similar rules. "We wanted a space that's easy to clean and diners can flow in without crashing into each other or crowding. You want a facility with lots of natural light to put soldiers at ease because they have hectic schedules," says Sampson. "The military mindset has changed. We no longer want to be cramped. We want to be comfortable and see the outside ... Dinner is the morale. If you have bad food at a restaurant, it sets you in a bad mood for the rest of the night."

After eating, soldiers clean their trays and the waste is then funnelled through pipes into a back room containing a giant composter that holds 10,000 litres and is emptied twice a month. Designing for a military base has its challenges, says Cordeiro, and there were delays.



Construction crews found an old underground bunker prompting an unscheduled archeological dig; requiring federal approvals throughout the build meant lots of meetings; and security checks following November's terrorist attacks in Paris led to bottlenecked roads. Cordeiro added the company was conscious of not going over budget, as "this is federal money and not a blank cheque." Still, the architect felt accomplished when he sat down for a meal and saw troops light up, laugh and for a moment just be diners rather than soldiers. With a LEED silver certification, the Curtiss dining hall was shortlisted for a design award by the Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) in March. The awards eventually went to other buildings such as the Aga Khan Museum and the new library at the Scarborough Civic Centre, but the jury was still impressed by the contemporary look of what's traditionally perceived as a faceless fortress. "That was what the jury said when reviewing the submissions," says Toon Dreessen, president of the OAA. "This base humanizes the military dining experience. The space has an elegance that is respectful of the Canadian military service. And the people who sacrifice years of their lives for service deserve a well-designed space. "There's an old expression that the army marches on its stomach. If you don't have a decent kitchen, you won't have decent food and you won't have an army."

## **Free Baggage for Veterans**

Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members and veterans now benefit from an enhanced baggage allowance when they travel on a WestJet, Air Canada, Air Canada Rouge or Air Canada Express flight.

Through WestJet, all currently serving CAF members and veterans can check four pieces of luggage free of charge.

Through Air Canada, all currently serving CAF members and veterans can check three pieces of luggage, each weighing up to 32 kg (70 lb.), free of charge.

To have your baggage fee waived, see an airport agent after you check in and present your military identification. There are three acceptable forms of Canadian military identification:

- CAF or veteran CFOne Card (with photo identification)
- CAF Identification Card (NDI 20)
- Record of Service Card (NDI 75)

These offers apply to both duty and leisure travel.

Note that the CFOne card is now the official ID card for veterans, replacing the NDI75 card. To apply for a card, go to: <https://www.cfappreciation.ca/en/pages/login.aspx>

## **Who is it?**



### **Last Week:**

We didn't get any response on this photo other than a couple of off the cuff guesses. It's one of the 9.2" guns at Albert Head, photo taken in 1952.

**This Week:** We continue our musings on guns this week with a photo of something much smaller than that monster featured last week. Some of you, such as our esteemed editor, will remember the days when guns had to be loaded from the muzzle, and fired black powder charges. The results were both smoky, and slow, although the editor assures me that his lads could get off a good two rounds every five minutes, although he might be thinking of a catapult or trebuchet. The advent of smokeless propellant, and quick-firing, breech-loading technology, soon led to much quicker rates of fire, and it is one of these more modern types we feature.



This little gun, with its attractive curved shield and pert little muzzle, stands in a sylvan setting, overlooking placid waters, as a passenger-carrying vessel heaves into range. While not designed to counter ferries, this gun was used to counter water-borne craft of a certain type.

So, pert readers, can you identify this gun, and, as a bonus point, its lush location? Your prize, a silver-fish laden CAMT of your choice, awaits you in our

museum, should you be the winner. Your answers can be sent to the crusty old gunner editor, or the more youthful author, John Redmond ([johnd. redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd.redmond@telus.net)).

### **From the 'Punitentary'**

How do you make holy water? Boil the hell out of it!

### **Murphy's other Laws**

Trust only those who stand to lose as much as you when things go wrong.

### **Quotable Quotes**

Work consists of whatever a body is obliged to do. Play consists of whatever a body is not obliged to do. - *Mark Twain*

*"Photographs Required"*



1960 – To present

*"History of the Gunners of Canada Vol 3"* urgently needs relevant photographs about units, equipment, memorable events including ceremonial, and unusual tasks or activities. To date only 2 units 5eRALC and 6eRAC have provided material. Some individuals have also contributed. 1 RCHA can be covered by persons in contact but most are pre-1980.

Please submit up to 20 suitable photographs per unit or individual with detail of activity/event, location and date, description of equipment, source (who took the photograph). Pictures should be a minimum of .300 dpi where possible. We assume that all submissions may be used - no copyright limitations, etc.

The design of the book will be firmed up by September 2016. Material received after that might not be usable.

Please email submissions by 31 August 2016 to [dtomaso@rogers.com](mailto:dtomaso@rogers.com) or mail to:

Tom Tomaso  
1681 Boisbriand Cres,  
Orleans, ON K1C 4V6

Tom Tomaso  
Vol III Committee Member

# OKANAGAN



## MILITARY TATTOO

**KAL TIRE PLACE**  
Vernon, BC

**Saturday**  
July 23, 7pm

**Sunday**  
July 24, 2pm



**TICKETS & INFORMATION**  
**[www.okanagantattoo.ca](http://www.okanagantattoo.ca)**

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# **SAVE THE DATE**

15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment,  
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery  
Officers' Mess

**St Barbara's Day Special Guest Night**

Saturday 3 December 2016

1800hrs for 1900hrs





# Boundary Bay Airshow 2016



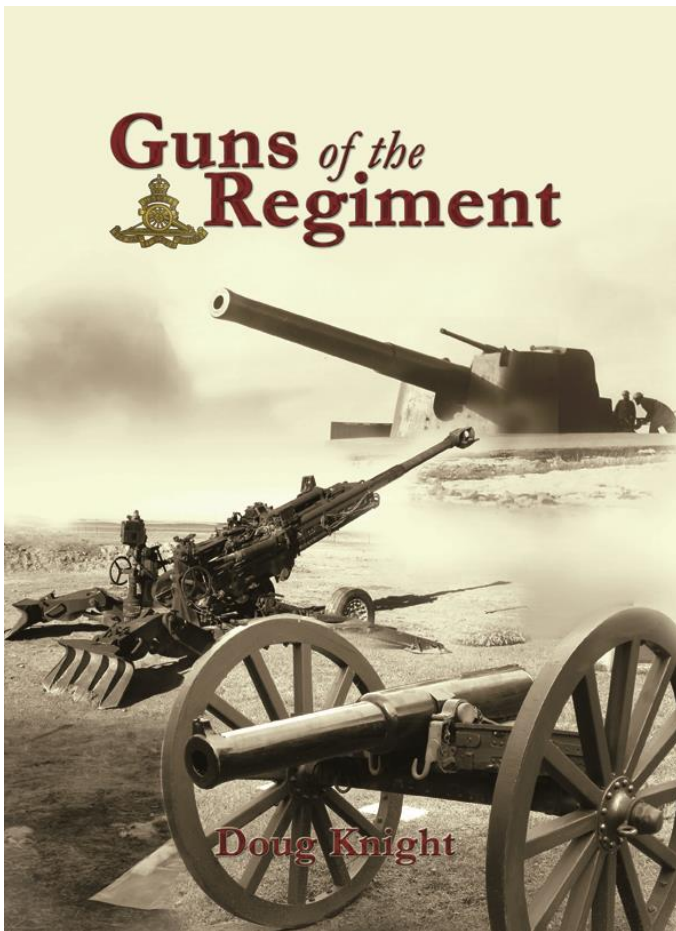
People of all ages have a fascination with flying. There is something about "taking to the skies" that challenges and excites. While we may never have the experience of flying our own planes, we can share in the thrill of seeing others do it. The Corporation of Delta and Alpha Aviation are proud to sponsor the Boundary Bay Airshow on Saturday, July 23, 2016.

As one of the few remaining free admission airshows, this event holds an appeal for people **of all ages**. **From children's activities and delicious food** options, to the non-stop excitement in the skies, there truly is something for everyone!

You are encouraged to bring your folding chair, sunglasses, sunscreen and hat. Remember, the Boundary Bay Airport is located next to the ocean and can be windy throughout the day. A windbreaker can be a great addition to your backpack.

We look forward to presenting you with a great experience that incorporates **our slogan of "flying, family and fun."**

## **"Guns of the Regiment"**



Doug Knight, a good friend of our Association and Museum, has produced a book on the guns of the Canadian Artillery. 425pp, illustrated throughout.

Since Confederation, the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery has used more than 130 types of gun, howitzer, mortar, and rocket. Each gun was purchased or manufactured to fill a role in the defence of Canada, or in support of Canadian foreign policy. It then served with the Regiment, and was modified, modernized, or upgraded as necessary. Finally, it was transferred into the reserves, and later, a few retired in museums or as monuments.

*"Guns of the Regiment"* will be an invaluable resource to anyone with an interest in the weapons used by the Canadian artillery. Each gun has its own section, detailing its development and its career in the Regiment at home and overseas. Special sections deal with

the manufacture of the guns, the organization and operation of the Regiment, and the mechanization of the artillery in the 1930s. Every gun is illustrated by at least one photograph, many of which have never been previously published. Retail price - CDN \$79.95

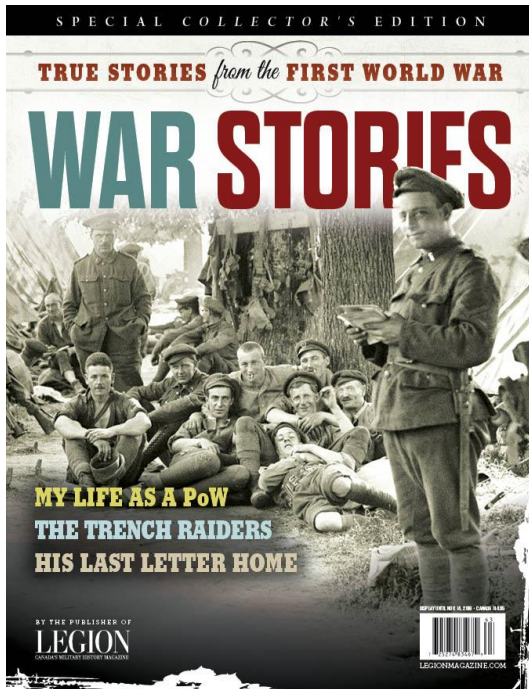
**Pre-Order - for shipping on 3 July go to: <http://www.servicepub.com/>**



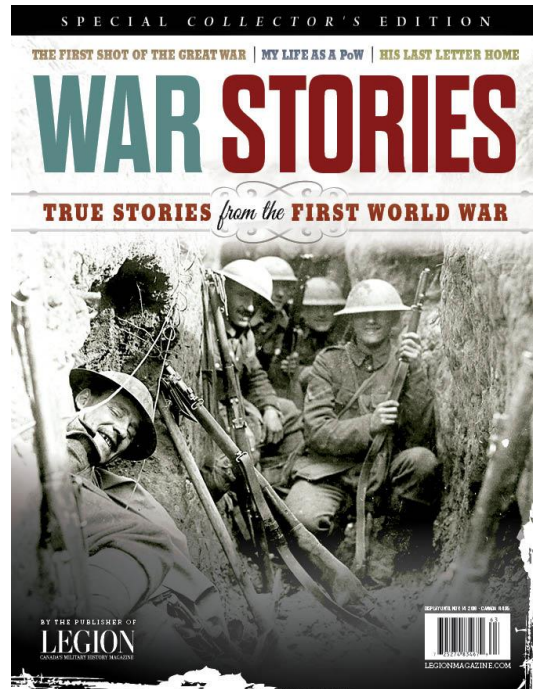
**Help pick our next special issue cover!**



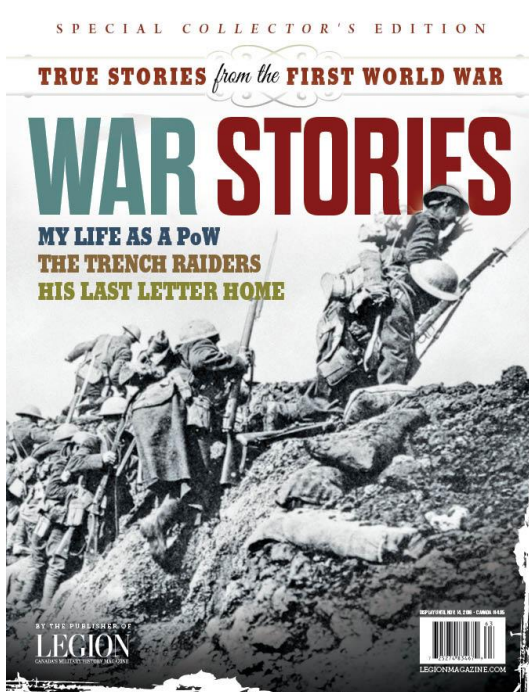
Our newest special issue hits newsstands in August 2016.  
Which cover do you prefer?



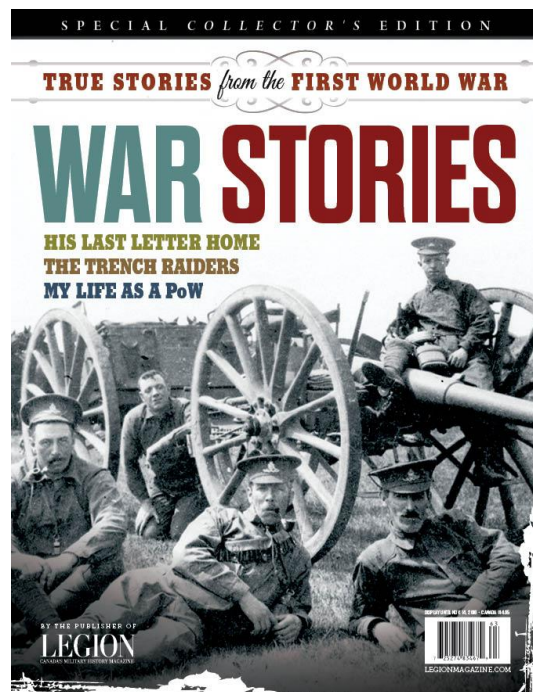
VERSION 1



VERSION 2

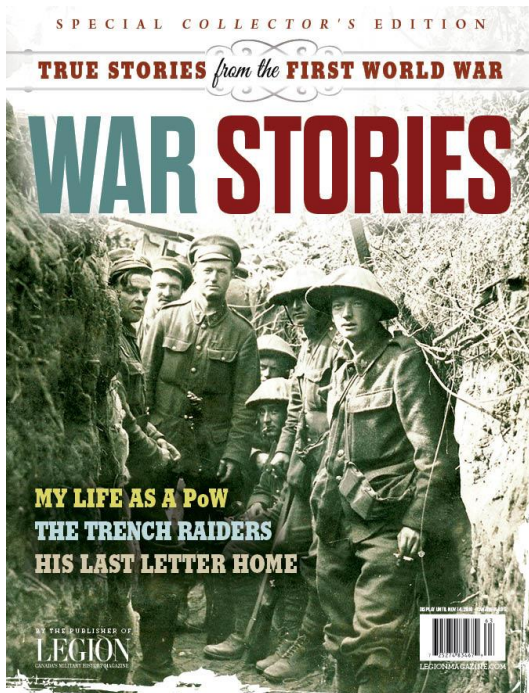


VERSION 3



VERSION 4





VERSION 5



[legionmagazine.com](http://legionmagazine.com)

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**Note: the Gunner page (version 4) is lagging behind the other selections so vote now and vote often**

## War Stories

The next special issue is **War Stories**, a selection of true stories from the front lines of the First World War, originally published in **Legion Magazine** and its predecessor, **The Legionary**.

Once the war bogged down in static trench warfare, life on the front was a series of daring trench raids, terrible losses in ill-conceived battles and constant torment from snipers, rats and lice. Yet throughout, the men could somehow find humour in it for themselves. As historian Jonathan F. Vance notes in his introduction,

**“There is a cliché that old soldiers never like to talk about their wartime experiences—unless it is to other old soldiers. These stories are just that—First World War veterans talking to each other.”**