

## Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News – 5 Mar 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](mailto: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](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>

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

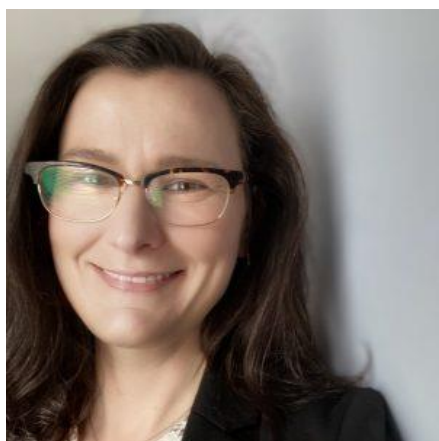
### Commemoration Cyprus 2024

### 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of Holland Battlefield Tour

- Mar 06 Zoom Lunch Meeting – 1200hrs
- Mar 13 **No Zoom Meeting – host will be at lunch**
- Mar 20 RUSI(NS) - Distinguished Speaker RAdm Carosielli, Cyber Force
- Mar 21 Left Coast Lancers Moreuil Wood Lunch
- Mar 30 Air Force Officers' Association RCAF Birthday Mess Dinner
- Apr 06 The Vancouver Vimy Day 2024 Remembrance Service
- Apr 20 The 2024 BC Military Gala

## Next Wednesday Lunch – 13 March 2024

### Dr Andrea Lane: - RCN Strategic Policy - Hybrid Warfare and Information Operations



Please join us on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> to welcome our guest speaker, Dr Andrea Lane from Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC). Professor Lane is a Defence Scientist with the Maritime Operational Research Team, providing operations research support to Maritime Forces Pacific in Esquimalt. She is part of a team of defence scientists who do deep dive research into defence topics of interest to commanders. She

will talk to us about hybrid warfare and information operations. Thanks to Captain Jamie Blois of the Regional Public Affairs Office for making this possible. Lunch starts at 1200hrs, and the presentation will take place in the lecture room at 1315hrs.

**Bio – see poster section.**

Cost is \$35 per person. Reservations and payment in advance are required. Those wishing to attend must RSVP HLCol Don Foster @ [dgfoster60@gmail.com](mailto:dgfoster60@gmail.com) Prepayment for lunch tickets required by 8 March. E-transfer may be made to: [15rca100th@gmail.com](mailto:15rca100th@gmail.com)

If you cannot make an e-transfer, please make payment arrangements with HLCol Don Foster. There will be no cash or credit card option available at the door. For further information, contact HLCol Don Foster at (604)809-6242 or [dgfoster60@gmail.com](mailto:dgfoster60@gmail.com) or Colonel (Retired) Keith Maxwell at (604) 865-0612 or [kdmaxwell@gmail.com](mailto:kdmaxwell@gmail.com)

Menu
Greek salad
Chicken souvlaki
lemon potatoes
Greek rice
pita bread & tzatziki
Dessert Squares
Coffee and Tea
<b>Reservations required by 8 March</b>
tofu/veggie skewers available for the vegetarians.

## **RUSI(NS) - Distinguished Speaker RAdm Carosielli, Cyber Force**

The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia extends an invitation to a presentation Wednesday, 20 March, by Rear-Admiral Luciano Carosielli, Chief of Staff Assistant Deputy Minister (Information Management). RAdm Carosielli will speak about the Canadian Armed Forces Cyber Force and digital/information management. The event will start at 1 pm Atlantic/Halifax time, Wednesday, 20 March, then be followed by Q&A and finish by 3 pm Atlantic time.

Registration is required. There is no fee to attend this event. To register, email [RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com](mailto:RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com) by close-of-business Sunday, 17 March. As the subject line for your registration email, put: RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker 20 March 2024 Registration. In addition to your name, please provide your organization (unit, agency/directorate, association or company). Participation is limited and later registrants may have to be put on a waiting list. If after registering your availability changes and you are no longer able to attend, please advise RUSI(NS) as soon as possible so your spot can be re-assigned.

The event will be done by Zoom. Instructions will be emailed to registrants by end Monday, 18 March. If you have not received them by end-of-day 18 March, please check your spam folder and, if necessary, email RUSI(NS).

RUSI(NS) events may be cancelled at short notice. Email RUSI(NS) if there is a question about an event occurring.

CAH Darlington, Commander, Royal Canadian Navy (retired)  
Vice-President, RUSI(NS) Web: <https://rusi-ns.ca>

## **15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, RCA Open House - April 20, 2024**

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

On April 20, 2024, 15<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, RCA will be hosting an open house at Bessborough Armoury! Armoury will be open to the public from 0900.

## **Air Force Officers' Association RCAF Birthday Mess Dinner**

Saturday, 30 Mar 24

Please see attached ([poster Section](#)) the Notice for the AFOA's annual RCAF Birthday Mess Dinner, to be held on Saturday, 30 Mar 24, at the Point Grey Golf and Country Club. April the First this year is a special Birthday Anniversary for the RCAF, which was officially formed on the First of April, 1924. We have a special speaker, AFOA Member Chris Weicht, who has written a new book for the RCAF Centennial, covering the RCAF defence of the B. C. coast and Alaska during World War II. The book is "The Defenders", and copies will be available at the dinner.

As usual, "the more the merrier" at these events, so please bring along your friends, especially other RCAF veterans. We are starting to have a problem with our attendance at events, as our active membership advances in age and declines in numbers and mobility, so it is often the friends, relatives and guests who make the difference between a successful event and one with insufficient numbers. As you will have noted, we had to cancel our Valentine's Lunch this year because we only had half the number of people sign up that attended last year. For those of you who have a dietary problem with their prime rib of beef, we have asked the club to come up with an alternate main course, probably steelhead salmon, but we need to know your preference in advance for the cook.

Jerry Vernon,  
Secretary, Air Force Officers' Association

## **Serco Gets To Work On RCN's Next Gen Offshore Patrol Vessel**

Vard Marine, a Fincantieri company, has named Serco as a preferred supplier to Team Vigilance for the Canadian Navy's next-generation offshore patrol vessel (OPV).

*Fatima Bahtić Naval Today February 28, 2024*

Vard launched VIGILANCE, as their solution to replace the Royal Canadian Navy's (RCN) Kingston-class maritime coastal defence vessels (MCDV) under Pillar Two of Canada's National Shipbuilding Strategy. In conjunction with Team Vigilance partner companies Ontario Shipyards, Thales Canada, SH Defense, and Fincantieri, VIGILANCE will provide the RCN with a capable, operationally flexible, and globally deployable multi-mission naval vessel. This collaboration ensures Team Vigilance can meet the needs of the Royal Canadian Navy's future fleet with a tailored naval solution, striking the optimum balance between capability and cost, while also maintaining the life-cycle cost advantages VARD's naval designs are known for. As a part of the ongoing effort, Team Vigilance continues to assemble a broad coalition of Canadian

companies that can offer important services and vital equipment to the program. Building a robust coalition is key to the core objective that VIGILANCE be designed in Canada, built in Canada, and equipped in Canada. To this end, Team Vigilance launched its Preferred Suppliers Program at DEFSEC 2023 in Halifax last October.

Serco offers a full lifecycle approach for maritime assets from concept and ship design all the way to modernization, sustainment and operations support. *“Adding Serco to Team Vigilance will ensure Canadian-based technical and engineering personnel are available to support every stage of design, from preliminary design through detailed design and 3D production modelling,*



*right here at home,”* according to Vard. *“Design and engineering is a critical element of the shipbuilding value chain, and a strategic domestic shipbuilding capability simply does not exist without it. We remain fully committed to the principle that VIGILANCE will be designed, built, and equipped in Canada. Bringing Serco onboard as a Preferred Supplier to Team Vigilance, with the bench strength they can provide in support of design and engineering activities, will ensure middle-class, Canadian-based and trained knowledge workers are provided the valuable experience they need to succeed and help build enduring positive impacts in the marine sector right here at home,”* **Derek Buxton**, Vice President Business Development, Vard Marine Inc., said. *“Serco is proud to be able to bring its design and engineering capabilities to Team Vigilance as a Preferred Supplier. Our extensive design experience and rigorous design process enables us to bring real value to our customers. Maintaining a domestic ship design capability is so critical to all aspects of NSS, and this partnership with Vard for the RCN’s Kingston Class replacement project, acknowledges Serco’s commitment to developing Canada’s shipbuilding industry, for the domestic and export market alike,”* **Russel Peters**, General Manager, Serco Canada Marine, said.

## **SOCOM Grants Contract for New Jammer Proof Blackwave Radio System**

The war in Ukraine has shown what the modern battlefield looks like, and the US military is taking notes. *Joshua Skovlund Tax & Purpose Feb 28, 2024*

PDW, a defense contracting company dedicated to drone technology, was awarded a \$6.9 million contract from the US Special Operations Forces Acquisitions, Technology, and Logistics office to deliver BlackWave, a next-generation radio system designed to function in congested and contested radio frequency environments. The war in Ukraine has shown what the modern battlefield looks like, and the US military is taking notes. Small unmanned drones have wreaked

havoc on entrenched battlefields, and radio wave jammers are causing technological failures in critical systems. According to PDW, BlackWave is a secure digital link that can function in jammed and congested radio frequency environments. It passed the testing and challenges of the Joint Vulnerability Assessment Branch, called the Cyber Vulnerability Assessment, which is required for the BlackWave to be fielded by American forces. “We believe BlackWave will be a game changer that contributes to a new era in radio development for American defense and small robotics,” said Trevor Smith, PDW’s CSO, in a statement provided to Task and Purpose.



*Special Tactics operators assigned to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Special Tactics Squadron at Joint Base Lewis-McChord communicate with each other via radio in order to manage a runway during a humanitarian aid and disaster relief scenario, Nov 30, 2021, at Moses Lake, Wash. (Tech. Sgt Carly Kavish/US Air Force).*

Small drones on kamikaze missions have been a major concern since Russia invaded Ukraine. That’s led to a race to combat that threat using drone guns that use focused radio waves that jam a wide array of frequencies. The tech is being used on both sides, often making the difference between life and death for troops on the ground. As the brutal war has trudged into its second year, Ukraine and Russia are both working toward solutions to make their drone warfare invincible to any sort of jamming. According to EurAsian Times, the Russians have acquired that capability. Though America isn’t involved in direct combat in Ukraine, the US military has been learning from the conflict and implementing training and now joins the jammer-proof drone and communications technology race.

## **Norinco in China Unveils Turreted Truck Mounted 155mm Howitzer**

Gordon Arthur Feb 2024

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand — China’s state-owned land systems manufacturer Norinco has revealed a new type of truck-mounted howitzer. The highly automated system, which is aimed at export markets, mates a 6x6 truck chassis with an unmanned turret containing a 155mm L/52 howitzer. The weapon was shown alongside existing artillery products in a Norinco promotional video clip circulated to coincide with Lunar New Year celebrations around Feb. 10. The video was highlighting a Chinese artillery marketing event attended by foreign delegations. The turret on the new artillery piece is identical to that used on the SH16 tracked self-propelled howitzer, a design that first appeared in Norinco’s catalog in 2022. There is no evidence the tracked SH16

exists in prototype form, but there are no such questions about the wheeled SH16 since the video showed it performing live firing.

*A screengrab from Norinco's recent promotional video shows the new truck-mounted howitzer firing its 155mm L/52 weapon. (Norinco)*



The new platform sees the same 14-tonne SH16 unmanned turret mounted onto a 6x6 truck chassis. Norinco lists a combat weight of 32 tonnes, or 70,000 pounds. An earth spade at the rear provides stability when firing, and it is operated by just two crewmen in an armored cab. Dennis Blasko — a former US defense attaché in Beijing and Hong Kong and a prominent expert on the PLA — told Defense News the gun appears to be the same as that on the PLC-181 truck-mounted howitzer in widespread PLA service. Blasko said the PLC-181 is fielded in more than half the artillery brigades assigned to the PLA's 13 group armies, and in Xinjiang and Tibet. The Military Balance 2023 report from the International Institute for Strategic Studies estimates 600 PLC-181s are in service. Blasko said this wheeled SH16 is aimed squarely at the export market. "In the past, I've seen Norinco show prototypes or models of a family of weapons and hope that foreign buyers would help finance further development of some of the variants," he said. "That might be the case with this turreted variant."

China recently completed development of an automated rotary magazine for artillery modular charges. It possesses at least seven magazine tubes, each of which can contain up to six propellant charges. This system, featured on a CCTV news clip, is presumably used on the SH16, but could be destined for the PLA's next generation 155mm artillery systems too. Discussing the trajectory of PLA artillery, Blasko said, "Over the past 15 years, as PLA modernization has hit its stride, artillery has been a major component for organization, equipment and doctrinal development. "Though there are still some legacy types of artillery in the inventory, the bulk of the force is new, produced since the 2000s," he added.

## **Marines Test Robotic Mule That Could Carry Weapons, Sensors**

*Todd South Marine Corps Times Feb 14, 2024*

Marines recently tested an unmanned ground vehicle that could transport gear provide mobile electrical charging and add firepower to small units. Generally, these types of platforms carry gear for troops much like pack animals used to. The Army's current program for the vehicle is

called the squad multipurpose equipment transport, or SMET. The Marines' program is called multi-utility tactical transport, or MUTT. The 3rd Littoral Logistics Battalion Marines at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, Hawaii, conducted a foreign comparative test over two weeks in December 2023, alongside US Army researchers, of the Hanwha Arion-SMET vehicle, according to a Marine press release. David Keeler, Marine Corps Systems Command project lead, said, "UGVs can supplement tactical vehicle operations since they are highly transportable, can be moved to points of need quickly and don't require licensed operators."



*Marines from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Littoral Logistics Battalion conducted a Foreign Comparative Test of a South Korean Unmanned Ground Vehicle, prototype in mid-December 2023 at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, Hawaii. (Marine Corps)*

Marines ran the vehicle on terrains such as a turf-covered sand beach course, soft sand, sand clay and bumpy, rutted roads, according to a press release from Hanwha, a South-Korean aerospace and green technology company. As part of the testing, Marines used the vehicle for heavy equipment transport, remote-controlled driving, waypoint navigation, physical tether following, soldier following and exploratory maneuvering. The Arion-SMET is a six-wheeled electric vehicle that can carry 1,200 pounds, travel up to 62 miles and reach a top speed of 27 miles per hour on paved roads and 14 miles per hour on unpaved roads, according to the company. General Dynamics builds the squad multipurpose equipment transport for the Army and was on track to deliver 675 platforms by October 2024 since winning the initial \$249 million production contract in 2020, Breaking Defense reported. The Marine Corps has not yet fielded an unmanned ground vehicle, said Morgan Blackstock, spokeswoman at Marine Corps Systems Command. "Requirements are being reviewed for applications of (Unmanned Ground Vehicles), but have not been established at this time," Blackstock wrote in an email response. "The data generated by the (Foreign Comparative Test) will assist the Marine Corps in defining requirements for (Unmanned Ground Vehicles).

The assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, told the outlet in October 2023 that increment II for the squad multipurpose equipment transport could include adding weapons or sensor packages. The squad multipurpose equipment transport can cover 60 miles in a 72-hour period while carrying up to 1,000 pounds, according to Army specifications. Hanwha's recent comparative testing is part of a second wave of unmanned ground vehicle development for both services. While the original effort sought to carry unit equipment and

provide mobile charging, the next steps could include weapons platforms. The need for mobile transport and weapons platforms has been highlighted by recent conflicts. Steve Duong, Systems Command's international affairs specialist, said, "If you look at the war between Russia and Ukraine, you see each side is going after each other's logistics support. That's contested logistics." "What you don't want is a big platform with a big signature transporting something like a tire or ammo back and forth because it can easily be identified by enemy sensors." Soldiers with the Airborne and Special Operations Test Directorate conducted simulated airdrop impact tests on the current squad multipurpose equipment transports in December 2023, according to an Army press release. In 2016, Marines tested a tracked version of the multi-utility tactical transport that carried 600 pounds on land and 300 pounds while running amphibious for about 15 miles before power ran down, Marine Corps Times previously reported.

## **Vancouver Gunners Website Update**

### **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/>

### **Gibraltar**

Made a day trip over to Gibraltar to check out our connection with 21 (Gibraltar) Regiment RA and to look for comparisons to Yorke Island. First off, of course it's a lot bigger and a lot older.

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/gibraltar-part-1>

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/gibraltar-part-2>

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/gibraltar-part-3>

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/gibraltar-part-4>

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/gibraltar-part-5>

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/gibraltar-part-6>

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/gibraltar-part-7>

### **Yorke Island**

The 85Vics are planning their annual weekend cleanup visit to Yorke Island in May 2024. Interested in joining them? Send me an email. [president.vcrgunners@gmail.com](mailto:president.vcrgunners@gmail.com)

### **68 Bty 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 a 10 vehicle allowance (50 person max) with the booking (additional fees for extra vehicles and day guests. <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2024.html>



## Photos

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

### Wednesday Lunch Zoom Meeting

No Zoom meeting as Bob's having lunch at the Officers' Mess.

**Remember – Stay healthy and stay safe!**

## Who (or What) Is It?

**Last Week:** The **Smith Gun** was an *ad hoc* anti-tank artillery piece used by the British Army and Home Guard during the Second World War. The weapon consisted of a 3-inch (76 mm) smooth-bore barrel approximately 54 inches (1,400 mm) long mounted on a carriage and capable of firing both modified 3-inch mortar anti-tank and anti-personnel rounds. Despite the promising-sounding nature of the weapon, which at trials in ideal conditions achieved a *maximum range* of 1,600 yards (1,500 m),<sup>[2]</sup> it was generally regarded as a short-range weapon with



an accepted effective range of between 100 and 300 yards (90–270 m). Furthermore, it was heavy and awkward to manhandle, not simply to move around but also to tip over onto the correct wheel on firm level ground so it lay in, and remained in, the correct firing configuration.

It was also alleged to have developed 'a terrifying reputation for killing its crew' when finally issued in 1942, following production difficulties. It was issued mainly to Home Guard units and those units in the regular Army tasked with point defence, such as guarding airfields - and ammunition shortages meant that on average these units only had six or seven modified mortar rounds per gun. Despite these limitations, many Home Guard units developed an attachment to the weapon, some later claiming it was 'one of the best pieces of equipment ever issued to the force'. It was featured in the British comedy show 'Dad's Army.'

See- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/We\\_Know\\_Our\\_Onions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/We_Know_Our_Onions)

*This item has appeared in the Quiz before and was put in this time to pay tribute to Ian Lavender, who played Pvt Pike. With his recent death there are now no living members of the famed TV show.*

**This Week:** For over one hundred years, there has been a debate between those who favour tracked vehicles, and those advocating the wheeled variety. For a brief period, from the 1920s to the 1940s, a compromise seemed to have been made with the use of half-tracks. However, the two nations that used them the most, the USA and Germany, abandoned such after 1945, the Americans due to a focus on fully tracked vehicle, and the Germans due to losing everything that moved to the Allied air and land forces. These days, wheeled thingies seem to be making quite a comeback. The recent adoption of the Archer SPG by the Royal Artillery is a sign of the times. And, of course, Canada has long used wheeled armoured vehicles, with the recently introduced

ACSV (Armoured Combat Support Vehicle) a good example. Mind you, those, and the LAV IIIs and IIs, etc. are actually descended from the Swiss Mowag Piranha of the 1970s, and, as such, they bring with them the same limitations as other wheeled vehicles, higher ground pressure than tracked ones, and the need to keep ones tires inflated and white-walls clean (at least, that's what old Soviet ones seem to have done for every parade).



So, there are those who are very much opposed to wheeled armoured vehicles, and here we can see that the British, Japanese, Americans, Chinese and Russians all use tracked infantry fighting vehicles, self-propelled guns, and tanks. Where does your author side? Well, being an assembler of plastic models, I favour

anything with wheels, because they are a good deal less fiddly than the tracks you get in modern kits, with each link being a separate moulding. Oh, for the days of simple rubber tracks! And, that tirade brings us to this week's photo. It is of a large, tracked vehicle of a vintage design, loaded with kit, but otherwise pristine. Given that there is a tow hook at one end, and what looks like a headlamp at the other, we are probably looking at it from the rear. Nonetheless, many of you are used to looking at rears, so should have no trouble identifying this week's model. As a bonus, we'd like to know what the Canadian connection is. Please send your answers to the editor, Bob Mugford ([bob.mugford@gmail.com](mailto:bob.mugford@gmail.com)), or the author, John Redmond ([johnd.\\_redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd._redmond@telus.net)). No tailgating! 527

### **From the 'Punitary'**

When does a person realize they are in the 'old age' category? When they realize they still have something on the ball but are just too tired to bounce it.

### **Murphy's Other Laws**

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

### **Quotable Quotes**

Don't let yesterday use up too much of today. *Will Rogers.*

## Wednesday Digital Video Lunch



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.

## Dr Andrea Lane

### Defence Scientist at Defence Research and Development Canada



Andrea is a Defence Scientist and strategic analyst with DND. Her personal research focusses on the intersection of national defence, politics, and society, examining the military as an institution, civil-military relations, personnel policy, and procurement. Her dissertation project investigated the role of gender in Canadian civil-military relations. Her work has been published in *International Journal*, *Canadian Foreign Policy Journal*, and the *Canadian Naval Review*, as chapters in several books, and in popular venues such as *Policy Options*. She is the co-editor, with Brian Bow, of *Canadian Foreign*

*Policy: Reflections on a Field in Transition*, published by UBC Press (2020). As a strategic analyst with DND, Andrea's work has been published in *International Journal*, *Canadian Foreign Policy Journal*, and the *Canadian Naval Review*, as chapters in several books, and in popular venues such as *Policy Options*. She is the co-editor, with Brian Bow, of *Canadian Foreign Policy: Reflections on a Field in Transition*, published by UBC Press (2020).

#### Employment

Defence Research and Development Canada Ottawa Research Centre (DRDC Ottawa)  
Defence Scientist, Maritime Operational Research Team. Jul 2021 - Present  
Esquimalt, British Columbia, Canada. Strategic analyst supporting the RCN

Assistant Professor Canadian Forces College Canadian Forces College  
Aug 2020 - Jul 2021 Lecturer

Deputy Director, Centre for the Study of Security. Jul 2019 - Aug 2020

Lecturer - Dalhousie University. Jan 2017 - Apr 2017

# Left Coast Lancers Moreuil Wood Lunch



## **Left Coast Lancers HQ**

### Warning Order

#### Situation

**The Battle of Moreuil Wood Luncheon is booked for 21 March 2024, 1130-1400 at the Sidney North Sannich Yacht Club.**

This lunch is also the Spring Gathering of ALL members of the LCL. We are inclusive and do not wish to offend the sensitivities of other fine regiments such as Garry's, Hussars and Dragoons various. We could go with St Georges Day on 23 April, Saint George is the Patron Saint of the RCAC and he is all about chivalry, charity and courage. We are supposed to give flowers out that day. Very popular amongst the more dashing Hussars so I am told. I will leave the Dragoons out of this for the moment as they are in Petawawa and would possibly be snow bound handing out pine cones and black flies.

The weather here is damp and on the Island we have survived plunging tempters in the minus 5 area which caused the earth to briefly cease rotation on it's axis, but we have Endured as is the wont of all Left Coast Lancers who are loath to having their golf and fishing activities interfered with.



Global events continue and we of the LCL are on standby to conduct additional lunches if ordered by the HRH King Charles III or members of the LCL.

### Command and Signals

Please ack, menu and pricing to follow. Estimate \$40.00 per person.  
If you know of others in the area please pass on.

### **Endurance**

David Scandrett

Left Coast Lancers Ops O and Maître de

[tango14@outlook.com](mailto:tango14@outlook.com)

778-245-2800

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:barrettjd007@gmail.com)  
604-916-1766

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

## **The 2024 BC Military Gala - 20 April 2024**



The Annual BC Military Gala is sponsored by the Commander of 39 Canadian Brigade Group and will be on **20 April 2024**. The Ball is open to all current and former members of the Canadian Armed Forces and their guests, both Regular and Reserve. In addition, the BC Military Ball welcomes the attendance of Officers and Senior NCM's from foreign armed forces, the diplomatic corps, the

police services and civilian ladies and gentlemen.

The Military Ball originated in 1946 as a victory celebration to mark the end of World War II and has continued, uninterrupted, since. It began as a brainchild of the officers of the Vancouver Garrison to relive the euphoria of the time and to celebrate the return to families and friends. Much had changed during the six year period that Canada had been to war and many returning military personnel had not seen their spouses and children during that time. Some discovered, much to their amazement, that their daughters, who were ten years old in September 1939, didn't resemble the young ladies who answered the door in 1945. The experience was profound, so much so that it was decided to include the daughters in the Military Ball as debutantes, not for the purpose of introducing them society as in the 19th century Victorian custom but actually to introduce them to their fathers. The presentation of debutantes ended with the 2006 Ball.

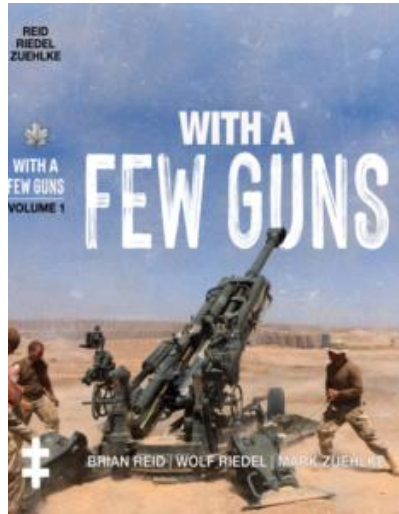
Entertainment ranges in style from light dinner music to a musical show featuring Regimental marches, the highland bagpipes and dancing into the wee hours. The history and traditions of the Military Gala exemplifies our allegiance to His Majesty and to Canada. We know you will enjoy the evening and leave with new friends and warm memories. See you at 6pm!

### **ORDER YOUR TICKETS:**

**<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2024-bc-military-gala-tickets-723109729667>**

**LOCATION : Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, 1088 Burrard Street Vancouver, BC V6Z 2R9**

## 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](mailto: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.



# 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of Holland Battlefield Tour



## **OP TAKE POST To Gunners and friends**



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

## **80<sup>th</sup> 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 after the victory in 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.foftours.com)**

For more information contact Merit Travel  
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call 866-341-1777 | Trina #6214 or Brianne #6902

# Commemoration Cyprus 2024



Commémoration 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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](#)

