



**Vancouver Artillery  
Association News**



**RUSI News**  
Vancouver

## **Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News Sept 6, 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. **Roast Beef is served on the first Wednesday of each month.**

**Mess Bar Price Increase.** Mess drink prices have remained the same for several years so it is no surprise that the Mess has announced new prices for drinks at the bar. The new price list is posted on the bar and will take effect on Sept 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **World War 2 - 1941**

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

**Sept 8<sup>th</sup>:** Force H sets out from Gibraltar to carry 69 more Hurricanes on HMS Ark Royal and HMS Furious to Malta. Finnish troops cut the railway line south from Murmansk at Lodenoye Pole. The Soviets start working on a new railway track to Murmansk, rushing construction as only they can do.

**Sept 9<sup>th</sup>:** The Spanish Blue Division (volunteers from Franco's Spain) arrives in the USSR to join in on the siege of Leningrad.

**Sept 10<sup>th</sup>:** Guderian's Panzer group reaches Konotop and Kleist's Panzer group crosses the Dnieper near Kremenchug.

**Sept 11<sup>th</sup>:** Roosevelt issues 'shoot on sight' orders for U-Boats to US naval ships in the western Atlantic.

**Sept 12<sup>th</sup>:** Guderian and Kleist link-up east of Kiev, sealing 600,000 Soviets in the Kiev pocket. Elsewhere on the Russian Front, Chernigov is evacuated. Quisling bans the Boy Scouts and other youth organizations, directing all Norwegian boys to join the Youth Sections of the Nasjonal Samling Party. Some 1,180 European Jews have paid hundreds of dollars apiece to

board the SS Navemar, a tiny Spanish freighter with 28 passenger berths, they reach New York and safety today after a 37 day crossing.

**Sept 13<sup>th</sup>:** Stalin's drinking buddy and old comrade in arms or no, Marshal Semyon Budyonny has been unequal to the task of fending off the Panzers and is pulled off of active assignments.

## **Canadian Army to Acquire New Drones**

System to be based out of CFB Gagetown

David Pugliese, Ottawa Citizen August 26, 2016



*An RQ-21A Blackjack Unmanned Aerial System launches from the Small Tactical Unmanned Aerial System Launching equipment during training for Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron (VMU) 1 aboard Cannon Air Defense Complex in Yuma, Ariz, Aug 16. VMU-1 received their new Blackjack's in June and conducted training to increase their proficiency with the new aircraft before they deploy with the 15<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit next year. The new aircraft is runway independent and leaves a significantly smaller footprint than their previous UAS. (US Marine Corps photo by Pfc Jake MT McClung)*

The Canadian government announced Friday it is buying an existing unmanned aerial surveillance system, through a government-to-government contractual arrangement. The deal is being handled through the US Foreign Military Sales program. The contract is valued at US \$14.2 million and includes initial training. The RQ-21A Blackjack is a small unmanned aircraft that will provide the Canadian Army with persistent, real-time intelligence through aerial surveillance and reconnaissance, the government noted in a statement. "It is a critical component of the Land Force Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance program," the government added.

Canada is the first foreign military to acquire the system from the US Navy, according to Canadian officials. The system includes five unmanned aircraft, two ground control stations and one launch and recovery system. Each aircraft is capable of providing surveillance coverage of over 100 km for over 12 hours. The Blackjack is produced by Boeing Insitu, based in Bingen, Washington. Once delivered to the Canadian Army in 2017, the system will be based out of Canadian Forces Base Gagetown and operated by the 4<sup>th</sup> Artillery Regiment (General Support), the Canadian government noted.

# **Gimli's Historic Plane Monument Grounded for Repairs**

T-33 fighter jet example of the many training aircraft once based in town. CBC News Aug 26, 2016



Gimli's fighter jet monument had to be removed for repairs after a construction worker clipped one of its fuel tanks, Mayor Randy Woroniuk said. (Google Maps)

A famous landmark in Gimli, Man. was temporarily taken down. The town's retired T-33 fighter jet was removed from

its mount on First Avenue Thursday after one of the plane's fuel tanks was accidentally clipped by a construction vehicle working nearby. The plane is now sitting in storage while the town figures out how to go about fixing the decades-old aircraft, said Gimli Mayor Randy Woroniuk. "It's a piece of our aeronautical history here".

*Workers removed the plane earlier on Thursday.  
(courtesy Corinne Larsen)*

The jet is one example of the many aircraft that used to fly out of Gimli when the Royal Canadian Air Force had a base in the small Manitoba town. "We trained many Commonwealth pilots who fought in World War II," said Woroniuk. "It was quite a force in this town." The recent ding is hardly the first time the plane has needed body work. Woroniuk said in 1969, a pilot had to ditch it mid-air after encountering an electrical problem. The fighter jet veered down, just missed a 37,800-litre fuel container and crashed into a garden shed at the old North American Lumber yard.



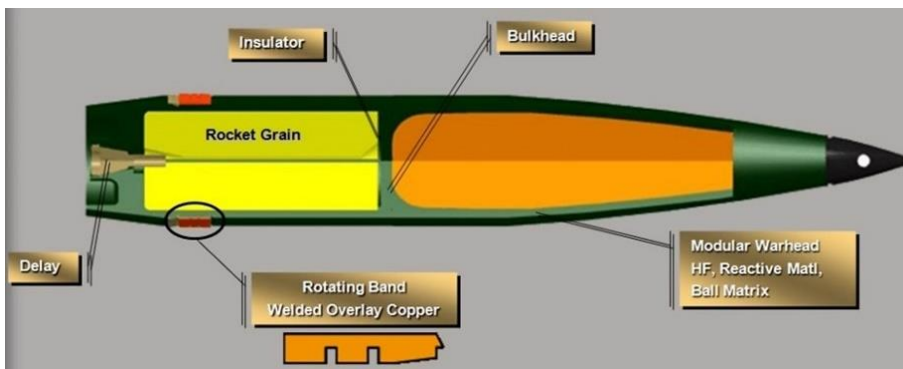
The T-33 jet was placed on a pedestal to honour the town's military past when the air force base closed in 1971. Other than being moved once, the small Jet has pointed to the sky for decades, said Woroniuk. "People want to see it back. It's something that's part of our history. It's part of our community," he said. Woroniuk said he hopes he can find a local tinsmith who can repair the fuel tank, but if it must be replaced he's willing to go to the airplane graveyard in the Mojave Desert, where the Gimli Glider was stored, to track down the part. "We're going to endeavour to try and get it back as soon as we can."



## A New 155mm Projectile for the US Military Being Developed

A longer-range, safer, 'smart' artillery round for the US military is in development that could make its operational debut during the early 2020s. Paul Fiddian Copybook 30.08.2016

Named the XM1113 RAP, it's set to extend US ground forces' strike range by almost 50 per cent compared to current rounds and also promises to deliver safety benefits. 'RAP' (Rocket Assisted Projectile) describes just one of this very exciting new munition's key features, of which much more below. Firstly, who's evolving this hot new military technology? The XM1113 RAP 155mm artillery round development programme involves two organisations: ARDEC (the Armament, Research, Development and Engineering Center) along with PEO (Program Executive Office) Ammunition. Formally called the XM1113 Insensitive Munition High Explosive Rocket Assisted Projectile, it will take over from the M549A1 design, production of which got underway during the 1970s.



*The XM1113 consists of a high fragmentation steel body with a streamlined ogive, the curved portion of a projectile between the fuze well and the bourrelet, and a high performance rocket motor. The projectile body is filled with insensitive munition high explosive and a supplementary charge. On gun launch, propellant gases initiate a*

*delay device that will ignite the rocket motor, boosting velocity at an optimal time in the trajectory to maximize range.*

The M549A1 is a development of the original M549 HERA (High-Explosive Rocket Assisted) round. Still capable but now becoming increasingly obsolete, the M549A1 has a maximum range of 30 kilometres: just one performance area in which the XM1113 RAP stands to be operationally superior. The XM1113 RAP's range will be some 40 kilometres, giving US armed forces personnel a 10-plus kilometre gain over the M549A1's maximum and a potentially battle-winning advantage. Like the M549A1, the XM1113 RAP is compatible with the M777A2 and the M1156 PGK (Precision Guidance Kit). Manufactured by Alliant Techsystems, the M1156 PGK provides a 'near-precision strike capability' that US Army troops first got to use in October 2012. The technology transforms standard artillery rounds into smart munitions that can strike with much higher degrees of accuracy. So, that's a feature that'll be carried from the M549 into the XM1113 RAP but, in other aspects, the new round is very different.

The XM1113's extended range results from increased thrust and a remodeled shell profile. Featuring a high performance rocket motor, the new round actually has nearly TRIPLE its predecessor's power, while its new shape decreases drag. The current generation artillery contains approximately 15 pounds of TNT but the XM1113 RAP replaces this content with Insensitive Munition Explosive. Not as volatile as TNT, Insensitive Munition Explosive is also less reactive in certain situations. So if, for example, this artillery is being transported by

convoy which enemy forces target, it's much less likely to accidentally detonate. This greater resistance to rocket-propelled grenades, IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices) and other external stimuli should make soldiers feel much safer in the event of an attack. "The XM1113 provides the user with cannon-launched munitions to engage targets out beyond the current 30 kilometre capability", Ductri Nguyen, XM1113 Integrated Product Team lead, says in PEO Ammunition's late August 2016 news release. He continues: "The XM1113 uses a large high-performance rocket motor that delivers nearly three times the amount of thrust when compared to the legacy M549A1. Its exterior profile shape has also been streamlined for lower drag to achieve the 40-plus kilometres when fired from the existing fielded 39-calibre 155mm weapon systems."

Beyond its M777A2 compatibility, Nguyen et al are also working to ensure the XM1113 RAP can be used with next-generation long-range weapon systems. Initial low-level production is scheduled to get underway in the early 2020s. Both ARDEC and PEO Ammunition have their headquarters at the Picatinny Arsenal located in Morris County, New Jersey. Operational since 1977, ARDEC will be 40 years old in 2017. As the US Army's frontline armament and munitions research and development division, ARTEC's mission is to 'Lead research, development and engineering of systems solutions to arm those who defend the nation against all current and future threats, both at home and abroad.'

## **Here is the Badass Truck Replacing the US Military's Aging Humvees**

*By Chris Ziegler The Verge August 26, 2015*



*(Oshkosh)*

The High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle — the HMMWV, or Humvee — is a stalwart of the battleground. If you asked someone to draw a military truck, they'd almost certainly draw this classic machine, which is almost older than a millennial (1984!) and gained such a pop culture following at one point that civilians started buying

them. Arnold Schwarzenegger, in particular, is famous for his undying love of the "Hummer." But seriously, they're old. The US military has been keen on retiring Humvees for some time, and it has finally awarded the \$6.7 billion contract to replace them to Wisconsin-based truck maker Oshkosh, which expects to make about 17,000 Joint Light Tactical Vehicles (JLTVs) over the course of the deal. The JLTVs, which will come in multiple two- and four-seat configurations, aren't just better armored and generally more capable trucks than the ones they're replacing — they also look extraordinarily mean. (I've seen them in person, and I can attest that the meanness is real.)

The big selling point for the JLTV is what Oshkosh calls the "Core1080 Crew Protection System," which includes mine resistance, IED detection, and a lot of bolt-on armor. It's not just about defense, though: optional turret and missile launch units put bite behind the bark. A suspension that can be raised and lowered electronically makes it easier to transport JLTVs to wherever they're needed, but out in the field, it's got 20 inches of wheel travel for insane off-road capability. Oh, and Oshkosh claims it's *70 percent faster* than the best tactical wheeled vehicle (TWV) in the market currently. The Humvee was tame enough to make it to dealerships, but this thing? I'm skeptical we'll ever see a red JLTV cruising down the highway, unless Arnold wants to prove me wrong.

## **DND's New Facility Falls Short on Security**

*Robert Fife - Ottawa Bureau Chief   The Globe and Mail   Sep 02, 2016*



The new \$1-billion headquarters of the Department of National Defence is not secure enough to house top secret intelligence work and sensitive military operations because the facility at the old Nortel campus does not meet the exacting security standards of Canada's international intelligence allies. After years of delay, the first wave of 3,400 military and civilian employees will begin the move

into the 10-building complex in an Ottawa suburb in November. DND will eventually transfer 8,500 employees to the 148-hectare site by 2020. Despite extensive work on the complex, including clearing it of listening devices planted by corporate spies in its Nortel days, the new headquarters falls short of the rigorous security requirements of Canada's Five Eyes intelligence partners: United States, Britain, Australia and New Zealand. "The bottom line is that we made a decision that we are not going to spend the money to replicate the physical infrastructure and the information systems and all the other technologies that are required to support intelligence and operations," Vice Admiral Mark Norman, the vice chief of the defence staff in charge of overseeing the relocation, told The Globe and Mail.

For that reason, ultra secret military intelligence operations, as well as Canadian Special Operations Forces and Canadian Joint Operations Command, which oversees military operations in Iraq, will stay in their current locations. It is enormously expensive to meet Five Eyes' top security requirements. Canada's cyber spy agency, the Communications Security Establishment, met those standards when it recently moved into a new \$1.2-billion headquarters in Ottawa. Every piece of material going into the construction of the CSE headquarters was inspected for possible bugs. All the construction workers were security cleared and the glass exterior of the buildings has special features to prevent spying. "We had people even go to the concrete plant as it was prepared. When the concrete was poured into every rebar it was checked and videotaped," said one senior official involved in the construction of the CSE building. The official said the new DND headquarters would need to be torn down and rebuilt from the ground up to meet the Five Eyes standards. Vice Adm Norman said the new

headquarters will provide “secure facilities ... that will allow us to conduct routine day-to-day business. ... We can do all the business we need to do at a reasonable security level but we can’t do the high security stuff.”

Before Nortel filed for bankruptcy protection in 2009, it had been the target of industrial espionage for nearly a decade, mainly from suspected Chinese spies. Many of the campus buildings had also been left vacant for years before DND renovation work began, posing the risk that other spying devices may have been planted in the walls. “The whole facility was swept when we went through in preparation for our moving in,” Vice Adm Norman said. “Anything that was there was legacy to what I would characterize as industrial activity and we are completely satisfied now that this is a site we are able to move into and it meets all of our security requirements. I am assured anything that was there is no longer there. ... It was all legacy, old-school stuff associated with the previous occupant.” A security shield will need to be installed in the dome of the complex’s main building that will house the offices of the defence minister, chief of the defence staff, deputy minister and senior generals. These top officials are scheduled to move into the campus in 2020.

National Defence staff was supposed move into the new location in 2014 but it was delayed as a result of extensive renovations, including new windows, security measures and information technology. Construction crews had to tear the walls down to the bare concrete to ensure there were no bugs. The government purchased the Nortel complex at a bargain price of \$208-million in 2010 and allocated another \$790-million for renovations. The move will eventually reduce the number of rented and leased DND locations in the National Capital Region from 35 to four. It is expected to save taxpayers \$750-million over the next 25 years. The move will allow DND employees to collaborate and work together at one location while making use of the latest technology, said Lieutenant Commander Diane Grover, who is in charge of communications for the headquarters move. “It is very difficult to conduct business effectively when you are literally spread out across a long distance in the National Capital Region. So it just makes a whole lot more sense to have everyone located together,” she said. “We can use technology to much greater extent by putting in WiFi, video conferencing and use of tablets so we have mobility.”

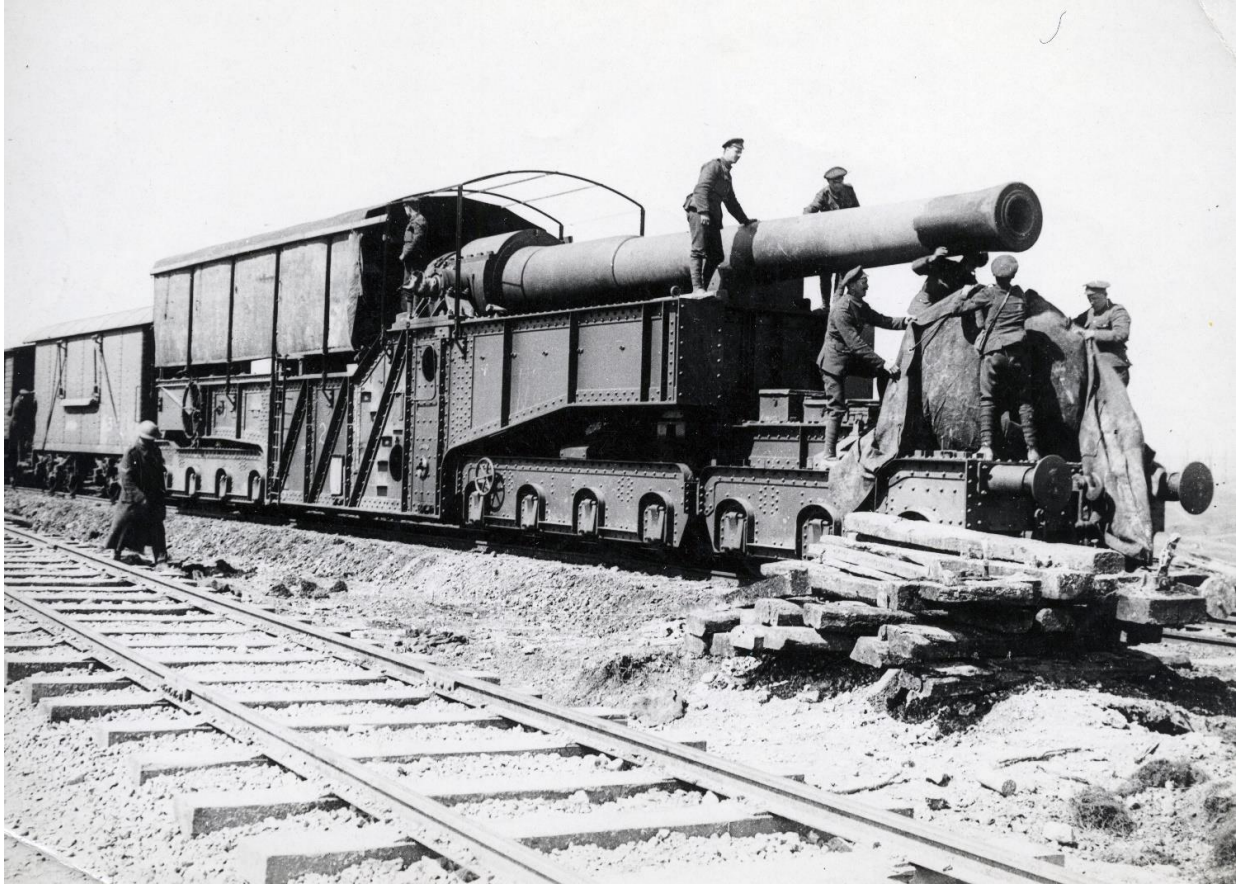
## **Who is it?**

**Last Week:** We got a few responses on this quiz, but didn’t hear a peep from any of our ‘Naval’ readers. After some research and discussion, we believe this is a picture of the light cruiser *Leipzig* taken shortly after the end of the war. She was in very poor condition, following a collision with the heavy cruiser *Prinz Eugen* late in the war, and the German Navy just patched the hull and use her as a barracks ship for the remainder of the war. The ship has a ‘dead’ look. No flags flying, no smoke from the funnel and the ship’s aircraft is missing from its position amidships. After the war, she continued as a barracks ship, in a Netherlands harbour, for the North Sea Mine Removal project, before being scuttled in 1946.





**This Week:** This week's photo comes again from the archives of the Museum of the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, and does not feature in Doug Knight's excellent book, most likely because it is too big and expensive to have been used by the RCA. As can be seen, it is either a railway gun, or an unsuccessful attempt at propelling rolling stock faster than with conventional steam or diesel-electric locomotives. To say that it dwarfs our current C-3 105mm howitzer is a bit of an understatement. However, we don't know the calibre, or anything about this impressive piece of ordnance. The photo simply exists in our files, without any provenance or identification.



So, sleuths of Saint Barbara, and you identify this gun? Is it one of our stalwart British pieces, or one captured from the dastardly Hun? If the former, we hope it caused the Boche to run and hide, and, if the latter, let's hope the cowards never got a shot off before our plucky Tommies took it. Your investigative results may be sent to either the long-suffering editor, or to the author, John Redmond ([johnd.\\_redmond@telus.net](mailto:johnd._redmond@telus.net)).

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

What does Mozart do now that he is dead? He decomposes.

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

Good judgement comes from experience. Experience comes from bad judgement.

### **Quotable Quotes**

Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even where there is no river.

*~Nikita Khrushchev*



# **A Taste of India Curry Lunch**



**Hosted by:**  
*The British Columbia  
Regiment  
Officers' Mess*

**Coordinated by:**  
*The BC Regiment  
(DCO) Association*



- Date:** Thursday, September 29, 2016
- Time:** 11:45 am – 1:30 pm  
(bar opens at 11:45am)  
(lunch starts at 12:25pm)
- Location:** Officers' Mess – The BC Regiment  
620 Beatty Street, Vancouver, BC
- Dress:** Business Attire (jacket & tie, ladies similar)
- Price:** \$30/person (\$5 discount for those that confirm attendance by September 19, 2016)
- RSVP:** For more information or to register, please e-mail Charlotte Yen at [corporate@hplaw.ca](mailto:corporate@hplaw.ca)  
(Please advise of any dietary needs with your RSVP)

Payment by cheque or cash will be accepted at the door  
Cheques are payable to: The BC Regiment (DCO) Association  
No cancellations after September 19, 2016

***NEXT PLANNED LUNCH: Thursday, October 27, 2016***

## **BCR 133<sup>rd</sup> Regimental Birthday**

# **133<sup>rd</sup> Regimental Birthday All Ranks & Guests Gala**



***Hosted by:***  
  
*All Messes  
of  
The British Columbia  
Regiment  
(Duke of Connaught's Own)*



***All friends of the Regiment are welcome and invited to attend!***

- Date:** Saturday, October 15, 2016
- Time:** Reception from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Buffet Dinner at 7:00 p.m.  
DJ and Dancing immediately after dinner
- Location:** The Drill Hall - 620 Beatty Street, Vancouver, BC
- Dress:** Black Tie/ Mess Kit
- Price:** \$70/person
- RSVP:** via email to Maj Adam McLeod (PMC Officers' Mess)  
[adammcLeod@gmail.com](mailto:adammcLeod@gmail.com)  
(please advise of any dietary restrictions)
- Payment:** Cheque payable to: "BCR Officers' Mess"  
Attn: PMC Officers' Mess  
620 Beatty St  
Vancouver, BC V6B 2L9

**\*\*No cancellations after September 24, 2016\*\***

**This event is open to all and you may bring a guest.**



The Royal Heraldry Society of Canada  
Vancouver Branch

# Third Annual Black Tie Dinner

**Saturday, October 22nd, 2016**

Cash Bar at 6:00 pm ▲ Dinner at 7:00 pm



**The Royal Vancouver Yacht Club**  
3811 Point Grey Road, Vancouver, BC  
Tel: 604-224-1344

**\$100 per person**

*Includes two glasses of red or white wine*

*Dress is black tie, highland dress or mess kit. Miniatures & decorations.  
Evening dress for ladies.*

For further information contact Carl Larsen  
604-817-0563 ▲ [heraldryvancouver@gmail.com](mailto:heraldryvancouver@gmail.com)

