



Vancouver Artillery Association News



RUSI News Vancouver

Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News Oct 9, 2018

Newsletters normally are emailed on Monday evenings. If you don't get a future newsletter on time, check the websites below to see if there is a notice about the current newsletter or to see if the current edition is posted there. If the newsletter is posted, please contact me at bob.mugford@gmail.com to let me know you didn't get a copy.

Newsletter on line. This newsletter, and previous editions, are available on the Vancouver Artillery Association website at: www.vancouvergunners.ca and the RUSI Vancouver website at: <http://www.rusivancouver.ca/newsletter.html> . Both groups are also on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=vancouver%20artillery%20association> and <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=rusi%20vancouver>

Wednesday Lunches - We serve a great 5 course buffet meal for only \$20. Hope to see you all there. Guests are always welcome, and we encourage members to bring their significant others. Dress - Jacket and tie, equivalent for Ladies. For serving personnel, uniform of the day is always acceptable at lunch.

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

- Oct 10** RUSI Speaker Series - Joseph Spears - Canada's Arctic
- Oct 13** 6 FES Museum Fundraiser – Oktoberfest 2018
- Oct 27** 15th Fd WO & Sgts Mess Annual Dinner
- Nov 10** With Glowing Hearts Concert – Delta
- Nov 11** Remembrance Day
With Glowing Hearts Concert – New Westminster
- Dec 01** St Barbara's Day Dinner

World War 2 – 1943

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

Oct 10th: The Soviets capture Dobrush, just to the east of Gomel. American troops take Portelandolfo on the western coast of Italy.

Oct 11th: Colonel Neel E Kearby, like most good Air Force officers, would rather be flying combat missions than a desk. As commander of the 348th Fighter Group, he is out in his P-47 for a reconnaissance with four other fighters of the Japanese airfields at Wewak New Guinea. They have accomplished this task when Kearby spots first one and then another 48 Japanese aircraft aloft. He leads the fighters into an attack, and then out again when the Japanese start to react efficiently to the surprise assault. All his fighters return home safely, but Kearby's guns

alone have downed six Japanese aircraft. He is awarded the Medal of Honor, but is shot down in March 1944, before he receives the medal.

Essential Reading: Edward Jablonski earned a Silver Star as an artilleryman during war but became known after it for his histories of the air war. His magnum opus was Airwar, originally envisioned as four books and fused into one by Doubleday in 1979. Well illustrated (there is an exceptional collection of photos in the book), but also highly commendable for his review of campaigns that usually get neglected – though, alas, the details of Soviet experiences were not generally available to Western historians when he did the bulk of his research. Altogether, it is a useful history but not as complete as it should be.

Oct 12th: 5th Air Force makes a surprise sortie to Rabaul with 349 aircraft – causing much damage to the shipping in the harbour. 5th Army attacks the Volturno line with mixed results, but the 3rd, 34th and 45th Divisions of General Lucas' VI Corps make good progress in the teeth of the spirited German defence.

Essential Reading: A 1995 conference at the University of Edinburgh must have been one of the finest gatherings of “military historians ever assembled – the proceedings contain many top notch papers. Published as Time to Kill: The Soldier’s Experience of War in the West, the book reviews a wide range of subjects from the war in Europe. It includes material on the mind set of African troops in British service, the performance of women in combat in the Red Army, and much else besides. Edited by Paul Addison and Angus Calder, the book comes with the highest “recommendation for any library of substance.

Oct 13th: Italy declares war on Germany. Portugal quietly grants the Allies basing rights on the Azores and makes a loud public noise about the Allied ‘violation’ of its neutrality -- although Allied sympathy runs strongly in both its people and government, and the British had quietly asked for basing rights earlier. Captain Arlo L. Olson of the 3rd US Infantry Division is leading his company across the Volturno River. He is chest-deep when fired on by a machinegun post, which he then grenades. Twice on the far side, he advances at a slow walk towards German positions that are firing on him and knocks them out. This sets the standard for his conduct in action over the next 13 days until he dies of wounds. He is posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

Oct 14th: A foul day for the Eighth Air Force over Schweinfurt – 291 bombers go after the ball-bearing plants, but 60 are lost and 140 come home damaged. The raid yields no long-term results except for a decision to discontinue un-escorted daylight attacks over Germany. The Canadians liberate Campobasso and British 56th Division crosses the Volturno alongside the hard-fighting US V Corps. The Soviet Army enters Zaporozhye.

Oct 15th: A major Japanese air raid in New Guinea (at Oro Bay) is repulsed with heavy casualties. Mountbatten, as the new Supreme Allied Commander in South East Asia Receives General Pownall as his chief of staff and General Wedemeyer (US Army) as deputy COS.

Manshuk Zhiyengaleyevna Mametova is a 21-year-old woman who volunteered for service and has gained some fame as a machine gunner with the 21st Guards Rifle Division of the 3rd Shock Army. Today she is killed in the fighting over Nevel. When German mortar fire kills her gun crew, she continues alone, fighting on even after being badly wounded. Eventually, her position is overrun, and she is killed. She is made a Hero of the Soviet Union.

Oct 16th: General Brereton takes command of the 9th USAAF, based in the Mediterranean. The Germans in Italy retreat from the Volturno Line to the Barbara Line (another temporary holding line before the Allies encounter the Gustav Line). The round-up of Jews in Rome begins, but only 1,015 are found (of whom only 16 will survive), 5,715 have been stashed in the Vatican, sundry monasteries and churches or have been given false documents by various embassies (including those of Hungary and Romania).

RUSI Vancouver Speaker Series

[Mark Your Calendar](#) All Welcome

Wednesday, October 10, 2018 – 5 to 7 pm. TOMORROW!

Topic: “Canada’s Arctic: Opportunities & Emerging Threats”



Guest Speaker: Joseph Spears

The RUSI Speaker Series continues on **October 10th** with “*Canada’s Arctic: Opportunities & Emerging Threats*” when Joseph Spears tackles the topic. It is estimated that by 2020 and beyond there will be less ice in the Arctic during summer months, opening the Canadian route to increased shipping and cruise ships. These are opportunities, but how will it impact the environment, the people, and Canadian sovereignty? How prepared is Canada’s navy and coast guard to deal with this future scenario?

Joseph Spears has closely followed the Arctic since 1980, consulted for the federal government on marine and search and rescue issues and assisted in developing strategy for the Arctic Council. Mr Spears is a graduate of Dalhousie University in biology, economics and law and a graduate of the London School of Economics.

The **October 10th** presentation is the second in the 2018 RUSI Speaker Series of stimulating and informative presentations on current affairs and military history. On November 14, the final topic in the 2018 series will be “*Canada & The Great War: Unity and Discord*” presented by Cam Cathcart.

Join us at **5:00 pm on Wednesday, October 10**, in the Officers Mess at Bessborough Armoury, 2015 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver. The presentation will be followed by a question and answer session. A no-host bar will open, and light snacks will be available. The event will conclude at 6:50 pm.

The US Navy is Planning a Major Show of Force in the South China Sea

Ryan Pickrell Business Insider T&P on Facebook October 4, 2018



The guided missile destroyer USS Porter (DDG 78), right, participates in a pass in review formation during divisional tactics training along with the guided missile destroyers USS McFaul (DDG 74), USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51) and USS Cole (DDG 67), and the guided missile cruisers USS Cape St. George (CG 71) and USS Anzio (CG 68). US Navy/Lt jg Caleb Swigart

The US military is reportedly planning to put on a serious show of force in contested waters from the South China Sea to the Taiwan Strait as a warning to China and a reminder of America's ability to rapidly confront and counter any potential adversaries. The US Pacific Fleet has proposed a series of exercises for November that would see American warships and aircraft demonstrating US military might in disputed waterways in a message to Beijing, CNN reported Wednesday afternoon, citing several defense officials. While one official reportedly characterized the plans as "just an idea," others indicated that the proposal, which already has an operational name, is being circulated at various levels of the military. Assuming the plan is approved, the operations would be carried out over the course of a week. The plan, derived from the National Defense Strategy and assertions that the US is once again in an age of great power competition with Russia and China, is still under consideration and will require input from the intelligence community on possible reactions from Beijing and other international actors. News of this plan comes on the heels of serious incidents in the East and South China Seas. Last week, the US twice sent US Air Force B-52H Stratofortress heavy long-range bombers tearing through the South China Sea. Those flights were immediately followed by a joint

military exercise in which a B-52 bomber joined forces with Japanese fighter jets over the East China Sea and Sea of Japan.

China called the flights “provocative,” warning the US that it will take “necessary measures” to defend Chinese national interests. Several days later, the Chinese military conducted “live-fire shooting drills” in the South China Sea. On Sunday, the US Navy Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer conducted a freedom-of-navigation operation near the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea. During the routine operation, the Chinese Type 052C Luyang II-class guided-missile destroyer Lanzhou confronted the US Navy warship. The Chinese vessel, according to Pacific Fleet, engaged in “increasingly aggressive” behavior. The Chinese ship nearly collided with the US destroyer during the exchange, which was described as “unsafe and unprofessional.” These incidents came amid other deteriorations in the US-China bilateral relationship, specifically issues pertaining to sanctions, trade, and Taiwan. In the past two weeks, the US and China have canceled several high-level military-to-military meetings intended to defuse tensions. While some observers have expressed concern, noting that the situation is escalating to dangerous levels, Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis says the US and China simply need to learn to sort out their differences. “We’re just going to have to learn how to manage this relationship,” he said Tuesday, adding, “We’ll do that. We’ll sort this out.”

China Snuck Tiny Microchip Inside Servers Used by The DoD and CIA

Jared Keller T&P on Facebook October 4, 2018



*Soldiers from the People's Liberation Army of China preparing for a military parade on Sunday to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the founding of the army in 2017
China Daily*

The Chinese military surreptitiously inserted tiny microchips no larger than single grains of rice into servers on local assembly lines in order to gain access to data networks run by US government agencies ranging from the Department of Defense to the Central Intelligence Agency, according to an explosive investigation from Bloomberg. A three-year investigation by US government officials found that servers assembled for startup Elemental Technologies by San Jose-based company Supermicro reportedly contained tiny microchips “inserted at factories run by manufacturing subcontractors in China,” Bloomberg reported. The chips, independently discovered by engineers at Amazon and Apple in 2015, purportedly allowed hackers to “create

a stealth doorway into any network that included the altered machines,” per Bloomberg, a Trojan horse that gave hackers a direct line into any sensitive network. Elemental servers assembled by Supermicro are “found in Department of Defense data centers, the CIA’s drone operations, and the onboard networks of Navy warships,” per Bloomberg, and the revelation prompted DoD officials at the time to request a small group of technologists “to think about creating commercial products that could detect hardware implants.” “Public documents, including the company’s own promotional materials, show that the servers have been used inside Department of Defense data centers to process drone and surveillance-camera footage, on Navy warships to transmit feeds of airborne missions, and inside government buildings to enable secure videoconferencing,” Bloomberg reports. “NASA, both houses of Congress, and the Department of Homeland Security have also been customers.”

News of the years-long infiltration of secure networks through the lowest levels of the global industrial supply chain — China still manufactures the majority of the raw tech behind the world’s mobile phones and personal computers — reflects not just a coup for the Chinese intelligence community, but an alarming vulnerability of the US industrial base. Technologist Joe Grand put it best in an interview with Bloomberg: “Having a well-done, nation-state-level hardware implant surface would be like witnessing a unicorn jumping over a rainbow ... Hardware is just so far off the radar, it’s almost treated like black magic.” August Cole, a coauthor of the novel “Ghost Fleet” — which features an eerily similar scenario involving Chinese chips hidden inside an F-35 that ruin its stealth capabilities, wrote on Twitter, “Hey Siri, what is my #ghostfleet moment of the day?” You can read the full report at: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2018-10-04/the-big-hack-how-china-used-a-tiny-chip-to-infiltrate-america-s-top-companies>

Sea King Disposal Underway

The 55-year reign of the Canadian Sea King is coming to a close.
Lisa Gordon October 3, 2018

In December, a crew from 443 Maritime Helicopter Squadron in Patricia Bay, BC, will fly the CH-124 Sea King on its last flight for the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). Earlier this year, their counterparts at 423 Maritime Helicopter Squadron in Shearwater, NS, marked the aircraft’s final East Coast mission on Jan 26, 2018. While five helicopters are still operational until the end of the year in BC, Canada’s remaining 23 Sea Kings have been retired and are currently making their way through the fleet disposal process. Administered by the Department of National Defence (DND) and Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC), this process aims to repurpose, sell or otherwise dispose of the old helicopters in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. While final arrangements for the aircraft are subject to change, DND told Skies on Oct 2 that eight of the 28 remaining aircraft will be publicly displayed by the Canadian Armed Forces at various military bases and museums across the country. Another airframe will be retained by the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) as a training aid, and one will be displayed at the Canada Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa. Three aircraft were demilitarized and scrapped due to their poor condition, with components being recycled where

possible. The remaining 15 Sea Kings and their associated parts — 12 are currently located at 12 Wing Shearwater and three are at Patricia Bay — are now for sale, a process that is being administered by PSPC.



On Jan. 26, 2018, a trio of RCAF CH-124 Sea Kings conducted a flypast over Halifax, N.S., to commemorate the last operational Sea King flight by 12 Wing Shearwater's 423 Maritime Helicopter Squadron.

Cpl Felicia Oggunniya Photo

Fifteen CH-124 Sea King helicopters are now for sale. The process is being administered by Public Services and Procurement Canada, with bids expected shortly. The helicopters are being sold in “as is,

where is” condition. “Essentially, we have a website that is used to source interest for controlled and sensitive assets that are for sale,” explained Josée Doucet, manager of the GCMil group at PSPC, which deals with the disposal of surplus Canadian military goods.

“In this case, we put the Sea Kings up for sale. Once we had expressions of interest, we held a bidders’ conference on Sept. 26 in Shearwater, to showcase those aircraft. It gave bidders the chance to look at them, ask questions regarding the assets, and gave them an idea of what they are bidding on.” Doucet said she was very pleased by the number of potential bidders who attended the Shearwater event. “Now, the interested parties will receive a package from my office and be invited to submit a bid. There will be a timeline as to when we will start reviewing offers.” While Doucet said that timeline has not yet been finalized with DND, she indicated the goal would be to have a purchase agreement in place by the time the Sea Kings cease flying on Dec 31. “It’s a very aggressive timeline, so the offer to purchase dates will respect that.” Before the Sea Kings went on the market, controlled goods and military equipment were removed from the airframes wherever possible.

Doucet said all Canadian bidders must be registered in the Controlled Goods Program. Interested foreign purchasers must be enrolled in their nation’s equivalent program, which allows them to view military assets. “We have a number of processes. We only deal with registered Canadian companies, pre-approved foreign governments or authorized representatives of original equipment manufacturers. Only then would they be allowed to bid.” While Doucet declined to estimate the Sea Kings’ worth, she said a myriad of factors are considered when selecting the winning bid. These include single-asset or full-lot bids, depreciation, condition of the fleet, and the costs to DND to maintain the helicopters as they await sale. “We also look to see if a bidder has an approved clear end use for the helicopters. What is the likelihood of obtaining export approval, as well as third-party approval from the

country of acquisition — in this case the United States. We look at all that, because we don't want to exert efforts in an area that would not be fruitful.”

Ultimately, she said fleet value will be driven by market demand. “I would have to say that from a commercial application perspective, the Sea King fleet has a lot of life left in it. Whether the fleet will be used as a gap measure, or to refurbish and resell, or to convert to commercial applications, the value will be subject to its intended end use.” Canada accepted its first CH-124 Sea King at the Sikorsky plant in Connecticut on May 24, 1963. Since then, the maritime helicopter has earned its legendary status in the Canadian Armed Forces, serving with distinction on Her Majesty's Canadian Ship Bonaventure (the country's last aircraft carrier, retired in 1970), as well as on St. Laurent-class destroyer escorts, Iroquois-class destroyers, auxiliary oiler replenishment ships, and Halifax-class frigates. No other aircraft in Canadian service has ever commanded such a lasting multi-generational legacy. While 15 Sea Kings are destined for new homes, nine will remain on public display to ensure its story will never be forgotten. It's a fitting tribute to a King that ruled the waves for more than half a century.

Vancouver Artillery Association Yearbook Updates

Weekly updates for www.vancouvergunners.ca

HCol Bell-Irving Funeral 1966 <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1966.html>

Officers' Christmas Tea 1968 <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1968.html>

50th Anniversary Parade <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1970.html>

HCol James Stewart funeral 1970 <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1970.html>

Milcon 76 <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1976.html>

HCol Allan McGavin Funeral 1982 <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/1982.html>

Regimental Open House 2018 <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/open-house.html>

Band Open Rehearsal 2018 <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/band-open-rehearsal.html>

LUSAR writing Board 2018 <http://www.vancouvergunners.ca/2018.html>

Keep those stories, calendar events and pictures coming! Contact Leon Jensen at president.vcrgunners@gmail.com

Who Is It

Last Week: This is a Martin B-10, with US Army Airforce markings. Export versions of it were used by the Netherlands Indies Airforce against the Japanese in the defence of Singapore and the Dutch East Indies (see page linked below). The chaps under the wing are members of the BC Hussars who visited with their MGs, for the parade on the 4th of July, 1939, *after* they were converted to 1 Searchlight Regt, RCA. We don't know what airfield this was taken at. Probably a local Seattle airfield or maybe Boeing Field?



This Week: This week we take a bit of a turn towards something a bit civilian, but not entirely. We know there are many automobile aficionados amongst you; a quick glance at the street outside our armoury on a Wednesday lunch shows rows of Aston-Martins, Rolls-Royces (former RSMs and COs respectively), Borgwards, Trabants, Studebakers, and Lagondas. Such is the wealth of veterans residing in this part of Canada. However, none are of the mark shown below.



So, we ask you a number of probing questions this week, cleverly designed to keep your old grey cells working well into your 50s. First, and easiest is, “What make is this fine vehicle?” A year would be a bonus. Next, “Whose car is it?” And, as you can see from the

photograph, there is a strong hint. Finally, “What event is commemorated by this photo?” A bonus point, or several, will be granted to anyone who was actually there, but we think those are few and far between (however, we know of a least one who receives this newsletter).

Send your erudite responses to the editor, the long-suffering Bob Mugford, (bob.mugford@outlook.com) or to the author, John Redmond (johnd._redmond@telus.net). Happy motoring!

From the ‘Punitary’

Why can't you take a turkey to church? They use FOWL language.

Murphy's Other Laws

The lion and the turkey shall lie down together, but the turkey won't get much sleep.

Quotable Quotes

I am grateful for what I am and have. My thanksgiving is perpetual. *Henry David Thoreau*



JOIN US

RUSI VANCOUVER SPEAKER

SERIES

10 October 2018 - From 5:00 to 7:00 pm
Officers Mess – Bessborough Armoury



Subject: “Canada’s Arctic: Opportunities & Emerging Threats”
Speaker: Joe Spears, Arctic Marine Consultant

Upcoming Topics & Speakers

14 November 2018- “Canada & The Great War: Unity and Discord”
Speaker: Cam Cathcart, President, RUSI Vancouver

RSVP NOT REQUIRED

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Hosted by RUSI Vancouver in cooperation with LCol Pierre Lajoie, Commanding Officer, and the President and Members of the Officers Mess.

Royal United Services Institute - Vancouver Society
2025 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 2C7

**The Regimental Sergeant-Major
Warrant Officers and Sergeants
of the 15th Field Artillery Regiment,
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery**

*Cordially invite you
to their*

ANNUAL MESS DINNER

Saturday, 27th October 2018

Cocktails: 18:00 hrs Dinner: 19:00 hrs

To be held in the
**Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess
Bessborough Armoury
2025 West 11th Avenue
Vancouver, BC**

RSVP required by **12th October 2018**
to the Unit Chief Clerk (Sgt Woods),
2025 West 11th Ave,
Vancouver BC V6J 2C7
Email: brenda.woods@forces.gc.ca
Telephone: 604-666-4876

Dress Mess Kit/Formal
Ticket price: \$60.00
Cheque payable to *15th Field
Warrant Officers' and
Sergeants' mess*. Pay at the
door or mail in payment

6 FES Museum Fundraiser

6 Field Engineer Squadron Museum Fundraiser

October 13, 2018

7 pm - 11 pm

Tickets \$20.00



Tickets include :

**Flight of 3 craft Beer
& Appies**

CASH Bar 50/50 DRAW

Silent AUCTION

Pay by Cash, Cheque or
E-Transfer

Lt. Col. J.P. Fell Armoury

1513 Forbes Avenue, North
Vancouver

Advanced Tickets

via email, E-Transfer:
6esOktoberfest2018@gmail.com

Details at WWW.6es.ca

With Glowing Hearts – Music & Songs of Remembrance

**The Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir &
The Band of the 15th Field Regiment**

With Glowing Hearts

Music & Songs of Remembrance

Saturday, November 10th, 2:30 pm

South Delta Baptist Church

1988 56 Street, Delta, BC

Tickets for Saturday

go to vwmc.ca

Or bpt.me.3600992

Or Call 1-800-838-3006

Or from any Choir Member

Sunday, November 11th, 2:30 pm

Massey Theatre

735 8th Ave. New Westminster

Tickets for Sunday

go to vwmc.ca

Or masseytheatre.com

Or call 604-521-5050

Excludes Service charge by theatre *

Tickets Adult \$30* Senior \$28* Student \$15*



Share the emotion and the joy. Join us to remember.