The Nineteen Eighties



Joe Clark was the Prime Minister followed by Pierre Elliot Trudeau until 1984. John Turner, briefly until Brian Mulroney swept to power in 1984.

Quebec votes against separation in the 1980 Quebec referendum.

Canadian ambassador to Iran, Ken Taylor, organized the escape of six American citizens in January 1980. Mount St. Helens erupts on 18 May 1980 for the first time since 1857, devastating an area of 400 sq kms. Former Beatle John Lennon was shot and killed in New York on 8 December 1980.

Canada joins the boycott of the 1980 Summer Olympics due to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

The Ocean Ranger drill rig capsizes and sinks on 15 February 1982 in a storm off the coast of Newfoundland; all 84 crew members are lost. Air India Flight 182, which departed Toronto, crashed into the Atlantic off the coast of Ireland on 23 June 1985 killing all 329 on board.

Nuclear meltdown occurs in Chernobyl, Ukraine on 26 April 26 1986.

Fourteen women are killed at Montreal's Ecole Polytechnique on 6 December 1989.

East Germany starts to tear down the Berlin Wall on 11 November 1989; it fell entirely by the end of 1990.

Terry Fox begins his Marathon of Hope in St. John's, NL on 12 April 1980 to raise money for cancer research.

Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms comes into effect on 17 April 1982, guaranteeing all Canadians fundamental political and civil rights. O Canada becomes the official national anthem on 1 July 1980.

The Exxon Valdez hits a reef off the coast of Alaska on 24 March 1989 contaminating 1100 miles of Pacific coastline.

Rick Hansen leaves Vancouver on 20 March 1985 on his around the world Man in Motion tour to raise money for spinal cord research.

Hockey player Gordie Howe retires in 1980.

Expo '86 opens in Vancouver on 2 May 1986.

Winter Olympics are held in Calgary, AB in 1988.

1981 census records the population of Canada as 21,963,000.

Distinctive environmental uniforms for the Canadian Forces are introduced in 1985. Mobile Command receives tan brown summer uniforms. Canadian Air-Sea Transportable Brigade Group (CAST) deploys to Norway in 1986 as part of NATO exercise.

Defence Minister, Perrin Beatty, brings in a white paper, Challenge and Commitment, in 1987 proposing a major increase in the military budget with the Army to field three divisions, two for NATO in central Europe, and another for the defence of Canada as well as a dozen nuclear submarines for the defence of Arctic sovereignty.

Canadian Land Forces begin emphasizing the concept of "Total Force" in 1987 featuring greater integration between Regular and Reserve Force. 10/90 battalions, intended to be ten percent Regular Force and ninety percent reserve force were introduced.



15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA - The 80s

Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart McDonald was the Commanding Officer followed by Lieutenant-Colonel John MacGregor in 1981. Lieutenant-Colonel Barrie Hamilton took command in 1983 followed by Lieutenant-Colonel John Jessop in 1986 until Lieutenant-Colonel John Carter was appointed in 1988.

Chief Warrant Officer Donald Friedsam was the Regimental Sergeant Major effective January 1980 until 1981 when Chief Warrant Officer Eric Tyldesley-Gore returned from his appointment as Vancouver Militia District Sergeant Major. Chief Warrant Officer Bill Amos was appointed in 1983 until Chief Warrant Officer Leon Jensen was appointed in 1986 who was followed by Master Warrant Officer Dave Levien in 1988.

James Griffiths was the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel with Graham Blyth the Honorary Colonel. Theodore DuMoulin was appointed in 1983 with Griffiths stepping up to Honorary Colonel. Ron Webster was appointed in 1988 with Dumoulin stepping up to Honorary Colonel.

The Canadian Forces Decoration was presented to Master Warrant Officer Richard Van Slyke (1980), Major Bob Mugford (1982), Master Warrant Officer Leon Jensen, Master Bombardier Keith Laing (1983), Bombardier Ernie Kovacs, CD (1986)

Chief Warrant Officer Leon Jensen CD awarded Force Mobile Command Commendation Award.

The following members joined the unit David Anderson, David Antolinos, Lysandre Aquino, Robyn Arbuckle (1980), John Brownlee-Baker, Barry Chafe, Geoff Wilkie, James Christensen, Ron Paterson (1981), Jessica Askola, Donato Calogero, A. Loy, Nick Parrotta, Kent Wickens, Dan Szabo, Niall Fraser, Bill Bragg, Stuart Haggerty, Parks, Garnet Durham, Russell Merrifield, Jonathan Gregory, Navruz Engineer, Vince Hands, Jay McCallum, Barry Chafe(1982), William Abbott, Robin Anderson, Martin Andreone, Ian Atherton, George Dempsey, Ian Smith (1983), Faiyas Ali, Richard Alp, Ivan F Andrews, Alfred Arnold (1985), Bradley Arkles, Ken Chui, Oliver Young, John Meszaros (1986), Scott Anderson, Vimaljeet Bachana, Robert Wishnicki (1987) Jonathan Denney, Frederick Driscoll, Susan Elwood, Evangelos Kaounas, Yazdi Khoshkhessal, Rick Tennant (1988)

Steven Darragh and Bombardier Graeme Mutton were deployed with UNDOF

MILCONs in Yakima and Wainwright, Ex Black Bear in Shilo, live fire exercises in Fort Lewis, road move exercise through Pemberton.

Student Youth Employment Program was held at the Armoury.

Master Bombardiers Noel Dykes and Paul Stewart qualified basic parachutist.

Salutes fired for USS Peleliu, USS Tripol, Italian Navy D550 Ardito and F564 Lupo, Royal Yacht Britannia, Prince and Princess of Wales, Colonel Commandant visited.

Work Dress uniform was issued.

Two classrooms added to Bessborough Armoury . Officers' Mess upgraded.

The Officers conducted a visit to Yorke Island in 1981 aboard Ian Newby's boat. The Regimental Museum acquired (and lost) a Centurion tank. The 60th Anniversary party was held in 1980 as well as the annual New Year's Day levees and St Barbara's Day Dinner. There was a Subalterns' Dinner at the Seaforth Armoury, Senior NCO's Coronation Ball.

The Gunners - '47 to 67' Reunion - Artillery Sr. N.C.O.s & Officers



Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' Mess Annual Levee 1980



Sgt Surges, Sgt Gordie Wright, Mike Meehan, John Wright, WO Brian Hill, Darlene Willing, Sgt Clifton John, Sgt Stuart Mont, Sgt Gamage, Sgt Surges, MWO Richard Van Slyke, MWO Bill Amos, CWO Eric Tyldeseley-Gore, RSM CWO Don Friedsam, WO Clive Walton



Chief Warrant Officer Donald Stuart Friedsam CD



Regimental Sergeant Major 1980 – 1981
Taken on strength as a Gunner in 15th
Field Artillery Regiment RCA on 18 Jan
1968, qualified General Military Training
on 10 Dec 1968, qualified 0021
Artilleryman (M) on 16 Mar 1969,
qualified Junior NCO on 5 Apr 1970,
promoted Bombardier on 1 May 1970,
completed Senior NCO part I on 7 Feb
1971, qualified Senior NCO on 27 Mar
1972, promoted Sergeant on 1 Apr 1972,

promoted Warrant Officer on 1 Oct 1974, qualified TQ2 Artillery Driver Wheeled on 23 Sep 1976, qualified TQ2 Basic Artillery Technician on 2 Sep 1976, qualified Safety Officer on 30 Oct 1977, qualified Master Warrant Officer on 27 Jul 1978, promoted Master Warrant Officer on 1 Sep 1978, promoted Chief Warrant Officer and appointed Regimental Sergeant Major on 19 Jan 1980, commissioned Acting Captain on 5 Nov 1981, released on 26 Jan 1985, deceased 27 January 1988

Fort Lewis - May 1980

Another Fall exercise in Fort Lewis.







MWO Mark Jackson at the Command Post

Grouse Mountain

Members of the Regiment signed out winter stores and spent a weekend camping out on Grouse Mountain. Snowshoeing and tobogganing were the favoured events.



Chilliwack Rifle Ex

A weekend exercise turned a bit wet and snowy.





Presentation of Canadian Forces Decoration



Capt Richard Van Slyke CD

Most Proficient Bombardier of the Year Award

The Most Proficient Bombardier of the Year Award is presented by the Regimental Sergeant Major at the Sergeant's Mess Annual Dinner.



Bdr Barry Cotter, CWO Don Friedsam

Community Event

The unit 3 Ton military vehicle loaded with the Regimental Band dressed up as Tyrolean yodellers drive through the streets of Vancouver with a Regimental flag on the back.



Recruiting in Gastown Vancouver

The Regiment joined other Vancouver units in a large recruiting display downtown.



Cpl Elizabeth Reid, MWO Bill Amos, Capt Leo Kung, Bdr Paul Stewart,



Birthday Party 1 July 1980 - 60th Anniversary

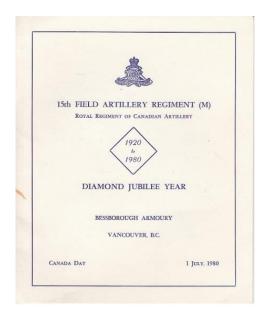
The 60th Anniversary of the Regiment was celebrated by a parade at the Armoury and, of course, every birthday must have a cake! The Honorary Colonel Graham F Blyth, CD, the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel JC Griffiths, CD and the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Stuart T McDonald, CD were all on hand to supervise Lieutenant-Colonel (ret) Cyril Gainsborough Beeston ED (Commanding Officer 1934-1938) in the cutting of the cake.

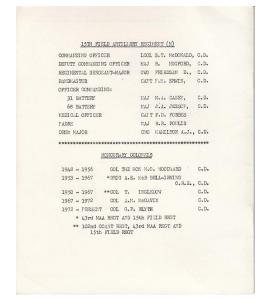


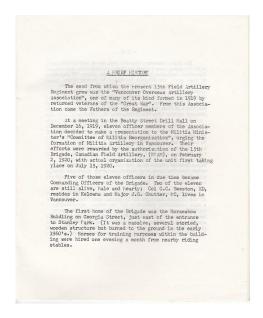
The Band on parade



HonCol Graham Blyth, Lt-Col Cyril Gainsborough Beeston, LCol Stuart McDonald, HLCol Griffiths







Soldiers' Christmas Dinner

The Commanding Officer serves during the annual Christmas Dinner at the Bessborough Armoury.



LCol Stuart McDonald, Sgt Brad Shorey

Subalterns Dinner

The Subalterns Dinner at the Seaforth Officers' Mess in 1980.



Capts John Carter, Leo Kung, Charles Young, Peter Moogk, Peter Erwin, Lt Russ Ford, Capt Ian Newby, special guest and an unknown navy fellow.

Sergeants' Mess Annual Dinner

The District Sergeant Major is presented a keepsake on behalf of the Junior Ranks of the Regiment.



CWO Eric Tyldesley-Gore, Bdr Noel Dykes

Remembrance Day 1981

A wet and dreary day firing from Hallelujah Point in Stanley Park.





15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA - The 80s

Ex Black Bear, Shilo Manitoba

The German Army Training Establishment Shilo (GATES) had a requirement for artillery in support of their battle run at the end of their training cycle. This became a task available for the Reserve artillery units in Canada and 15th Field Artillery Regiment gamely volunteered: the rationale being the firing of someone else's ammunition allocation; additional class A pay added to the budget; a great commute to work via Herc - leave Friday night, back home by Sunday night; FOO parties equipped with M113 APCs; joining an Armoured Battlegroup assault with Leopard 1s and Marders!; and last...but most certainly not least, just wait for that Monday morning coffee break at work or school when the question comes up - How was your weekend?



Sgt Leon Jensen, Sgt Noel Dykes, Bdr Dave Levien



Capt Charles (CIY) Young



Maj lan Newby





15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA - The 80s

Operational Evaluation, Fort Lewis

Fort Lewis, spring time Ex Shellburst Valley, the annual evaluation/competition for all Reserve artillery units in Canada. Rating is based on manning levels and competency of each detachment.



American Safety Officer

Most Proficient Bombardier of the Year Award

The Most Proficient Bombardier of the Year award for 1980 is presented by the Regimental Sergeant Major at the Annual Sergeants' Mess Dinner.



CWO Don Friedsam, MBdr Paul Stewart, CWO Eric Tyldesley-Gore, Sgt Dave Gamage

Yorke Island 1981

A contingent of Officers went "Yorkey" on 12 August 1981. Under the maritime guidance of Captain Ian Newby the gang set out in his trusty vessel to meet up with the bus group at Kelsey Bay. How does that tune go? "A three hour cruise".







Officers' Mess dinner

I'm not sure what the dress code for the dinner was (your choice of attire?) but we can see quite the selection around the table.



Capt Bob Mugford, Capt Peter Faliszewski, Maj John Jessop, Capt Peter Moogk, Capt Ted Hoskinson



Change of Command Parade 1981

The outgoing Commanding Officer Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart T. McDonald, CD signs over the Regiment to the Vancouver District Commander, Colonel Les Deane who provides the incoming Commanding Officer Lieutenant-Colonel John G MacGregor, CD with the task of commanding the Regiment.



LCol Stuart McDonald, Col Deane, LCol McGregor



Maj John Jessop, HonLCol Griffiths, HonCol Blyth, Col Deane Sgt John McClelland, Pte Dave Chrristensen, Bdr Layne Yoshimaru



LCol Stuart McDonald, LCol McGregor, Capt Leo Kung, Capt Dave Anderson



Col Deane, LCol McGregor

Lieutenant-Colonel John G. MacGregor CD



Commanding Officer 1981 - 1983

Captain 3rd Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery as at 1 November 1965, 2nd Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery Air OP Troop as at 1 November 1966 to January 1967, 1st Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery Air OP Troop as at January 1967 to 1969, 403 Squadron as at 1970, taken on strength in 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA as a Major from Supplementary List 9

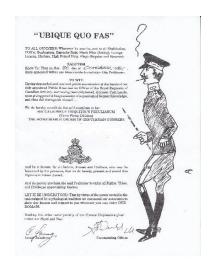
February 1980, promoted Lieutenant-Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA 1 November 1981, transferred to Supplementary List 18 December 1983.

St. Barbara's Dining In 1981

The Senior Subaltern inducts a new member into the Honourable Order of Gentleman Gunners.



Capt Charles Young, Capt Ian Newby



Annual Mess Dinner

The Senior NCO's gather for their traditional group photo.



Sgt Dave Gamage, Sgt Janet Drinnan, Sgt Mike Hennessy, Sgt Doug Johnston, Sgt Clive Walton, Sgt Beaumont, Sgt Clifton John, WO John Wright, WO Mike Meehan, WO Brian Hill, Sgt Stuart Mont, WO Darlene Amos.

Second Row – MWO Larry New, CD, Master WO Mark J Jackson, Sgt Scotty McGinley, RSM CWO Don S. Friedsam, MWO Bill Amos, CD, WO Gordie Wright.

Front Row – MWO George Wood, WO Dave Levien

UN Disengagement Observation Force (UNDOF)



Established in June 1974 to supervise the cease-fire between Israel and Syria; to supervise the disengagement (redeployment) of Syrian and Israeli forces; and, to establish a buffer zone, as provided in the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian Forces of 31 May 1974. Gunner Steven Darragh and Bombardier Graeme Mutton were deployed with UNDOF during 1982.



Student Youth Employment Plan - Summer 82

The program continued to provide opportunities for young people to sign up for the military during summer.



Dan Szabo, Niall Fraser, 3, Bill Bragg,5,6,7,8,9 10,11, Stuart Haggerty, Parks, Kent Wickens, Garnet Durham, 16,17, Russell Merrifield, Jonathan Gregory, 20, Navruz Engineer, Vince Hands, 23,24,25,26, Jay McCallum, Barry Chafe

Shilo Live Fire Ex

The down side to the Shilo weekend exercise was the massive amount of cleaning that was required prior to turning the equipment back over to the Regular Force.



Shilo Live Fire Ex

There appears to be considerable activity involving a derelict ferret and illumination parachutes. The Regimental MO is conducting triage on the engine block?



Capt John Carter, Capt Charles Young, Cpl Robert Sutherland, Maj Ian Newby, Capt Francis Forbes

Yakima Gun Exercise

Our cousins from 20th Independent Battery, RCA from Lethbridge, AB flew in via Air Command Hercules to find out how BC Gunners conduct training in the desert. Fortunately, there was time for some team building exercises – blind driving?



MWO Ron Paterson, 2, MWO Mark Jackson, MWO Bill Amos, Cpl Laura Ritchie, Cpl Tami May, Cpl Jennifer Ritchie



15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA – The 80s

Fort Lewis Exercise

The detachment commander leads his gun onto the platform.



Easy Rider - 14/16 January 1983

A challenging exercise from Vancouver to Hope and Princeton to practice radio communication and winter driving skills. The wrecker comes in handy as the deuce and halves show their age.



Chilliwack Rifle range exercise

The unit watches the final relay compete for the annual bragging rights



Maj John Jessop, 2, Maj Bob Mugford, LCol John McGregor

Annual Inspection - January 30 1983

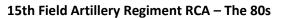
The District Commander conducts his annual inspection of the Regiment.

Maj Bob Mugford, HCol James Griffiths, District Commander



Pte Darren Kostinuk, Pte Eric Goodwill







It's great when 408 Squadron shows up and offers free introductory rides.





Ex Limber Gunner - Shellburst Valley - April 1983

The Battery lines up for the requisite head count as part of the unit evaluation. The band were not part of the tactical scenario.



CWO Richard Van Slyke, Clive Walton







MBdr Colin Parkinson

Salute fired on the arrival of Royal Yacht Britannia

On 9 March 1983, the Vancouver hosted Queen Elizabeth II on her second day of a four-day visit to British Columbia.



Change of Regimental Sergeants Major

Honorary Colonel greets the outgoing Regimental Sergeant Major as the Commanding Officer presents the RSM's sword to the incoming.



HonCol Jim Griffiths, CWO Eric Tyldesley-Gore



LCol John McGregor, CWO EricTyldesley-Gore, CWO Bill Amos

Chief Warrant Officer William (Bill) J. Amos CD Regimental Sergeant Major 1983 - 1986



Taken on strength as a Cook Royal Canadian Service Corps allocated to 15 Field Artillery Regiment RCA on 19 March 1968, remustered from Cook to Artilleryman on 18 April 1969, qualified Junior Non-Commissioned Officer on 5 April 1970, promoted Bombardier on 1 May 1970, promoted Sergeant on 1 September 1971, promoted Warrant Officer on 1 October 1974, promoted Master Warrant Officer 1 January 1976,

qualified Artillery Driver Wheeled on 23 September 1976, awarded the Dumoulin Trophy for 1980, promoted Chief Warrant Officer and appointed Regimental Sergeant Major 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA on 15 June 1983, commissioned Captain on 25 July 1986, released on 31 January 1994, deceased 19 June 2016

15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA - The 80s

Stand Down - Master Warrant Officer Ron Paterson

Ron returns to Toronto and rejoins the 7th Toronto Regiment RCA MWO Ron Paterson, CWO Bill Amos



Bessborough Armoury Renovations

Plans are provided for the addition of two new classrooms above the Qaurtermaster stores.



Remembrance Day 1983



Most Proficient Bombardier of the Year Award

The Most Proficient Bombardier of the Year award is presented by the Regimental Sergeant Major



MWO Ron Paterson, Bdr Dave Warner, CWO Bill Amos

The Gunners - '47 to 67' Reunion - Artillery Sr. N.C.O.s & Officers.

A reunion was held for all the Officers and Senior NCOs that were members of the Regiment from 1947 to 1967. The Band played, displays were manned, vehicle restorations displayed and a buffet dinner served.



Back row - Maj Ian Newby, 2,3,4,5, Windy Wadden, Maj Bob Mugford, 8,9, Captain (ret) Bill Chilton, 11,

Third Row - Norm Kincaid, 13,14, 15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22, 23,24,25, 26, 27, 28,29,30,31,32,33,34, 35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42, 43,44,45,46,47,5tu Maitland, WO (ret) Gord E Wright,,50, 51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58, WO (ret) Dag Gruban, 60, 61,62, 63, 64, 65,66, Peter Erwin,

Second Row - 68, Capt (ret) Snowy Thrussell, 70, Norm Eckford, Ted Edmonds,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,Captain (ret) Tom Clark, 85,86,87,88, Lieutenant (ret) Ian Seymour, 90,91,92,93,94,95,96,

Front Row - 97 98,99,100,101, LCol (ret) Gary Bailey, LCol (ret) Doug Elsdon, LCol (ret) Bud Garrett, WO II (ret) Al Sweet, Brigadier General (ret) Bill Wickett, LCol John McGregor, LCol (ret) Graham Blyth, CWO (ret) Dave Penman, 110, CWO (ret) Brian Cormier, 112, Maj (ret) Ron Abbott, 114,115, Maj (ret) Vic Stevenson, Maj (ret) Julian Kostiuk, 118, Pastor Wynne Robinson, 120, 121, Maj (ret) Emerson Short, 123, CWO (ret) Jim Hamilton





Richard Van Slyke, Gordie Wright



Gnr Darren Kostinik



15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA - The 80s

MLVW - Medium Logistics Vehicle Wheeled



The MLVW was manufactured by Bombardier and entered service in 1982. It has a hard-top cab and is classified as a general utility truck that can be used to transport troops, equipment and tow artillery.

The MLVW is powered by a Detroit Diesel 8.2-liter diesel engine. It is fitted with large all-terrain tyres. All of our artillery tractors were equipped with self-recovery winches.

Subsequent modifications included the addition of roof racks over the cab, ammunition storage under the bed and kit boxes with padded seats in the rear. A heater and water boiler added to the crew comfort.



Lieutenant-Colonel V.W. Barrie Hamilton CD Commanding Officer 1983 - 1985



Taken on strength 15th Field Regiment RCA on 21 June 1956, struck off strength on transfer to Western Command Contingent COTC as Officer Cadet on 30 July 1956, taken on strength on transfer Western Command Contingent COTC on 1 September 1957, promoted Second Lieutenant on 1 September 1957, promoted Lieutenant on 8

September 1959, promoted Captain on 1 December 1962, promoted Major on 1 February 1969, transferred to Supplementary list on 15 June 1979, attached from Supplementary List on 21 August 1980, promoted Lieutenant-Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer 18 December 1983, released 31 July 1985, Deceased 26 February 2005.

Change of Command Parade 1984

The incoming Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Barry Hamilton, CD signs for the Regiment from the outgoing Commanding Officer Lieutenant-Colonel John G MacGregor, CD with the Vancouver District Commander as witness. Gifts are provided to the outgoing CO and the new CO proudly marches the Regiment past the re, who provides with the task of commanding the Regiment.



LCol Barry Hamilton, District Commander, LCol John McGregor



Capt Peter Faliszewski, LCol Barry Hamilton, LCol John McGregor, Mrs McGregor



Capt Peter Faliszewski, LCol Barry Hamilton, HCol Griffiths, LCol John McGregor



Bdr Kent Wickens, MWO Leon Jensen, OCdt Paul Lee, Sgt Paul Roberts, CWO Bill Amos

Soldiers' Christmas Dinner - 1984

The Commanding Officer cuts the first turkey while the Officers wait to serve and the soldiers wait for what will probably be their first turkey dinner of the season.



Pte Ken Francis, LCol Barry Hamilton, Lt Graeme Stewart, Capt Francis Forbes, Lt Bill Martyn



OCdt Paul Lee, ?, 2Lt Graeme Stewart, 2Lt Bill Martyn, Capt John Brownlee-Baker Lt Peter Faliszewski, Capt Bill McMillan, Major John Jessop, Capt Francis Forbes



MWO Vic Yano, Lt Peter Faliszewski, Sgt John McClelland, MBdr Mike Imada



Cpl Nancy Jolin, Cpl Donna Shier, Pte Morris Plows, Lt Michelle Del Motte Bdr Michael Lavoie, Gnr Ramnik Lal



Ex Limber Gunner 1984

The intent of the exercise was a combined one with 31 Battery as callsign 4 with 1st Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery. Ten flights of CC130 Hercules for all the battery equipment. No Regiment but lots of ammunition. Oh, and there was that issue with MLVW dust boots.



MILCON 84

It's back to Shilo for a week long exercise on the dry prairies.



Bdr Stuart Haggerty



Maj John Carter

Yakima Training Centre

For all the dustiness of Shilo, there is nothing that measures up to Yakima for sheer desolation.



Of course that morning wash feels great!





Remembrance Day 1984

This year's photos are of the cleaning that takes place after every salute.





Regimental Museum

The Museum was busy in the acquisition department with a Centurion tank rolling off the rail car. Not quite artillery related and it was not long before it was sent elsewhere.



Remembrance Day 1985

A rather crisp day in Stanley Park as the Regiment fires the annual 21 Gun salute.



MILCON 85

A long road move brough the unit to Wainwright for a week with the other units from Pacific Militia Area. Orders!





Lieutenant-Colonel John Allen Jessop CD

Commanding Officer 1985 - 1988



Taken on strength as an Officer Cadet in 2nd Field Artillery Regiment RCA on 26 April 1971, completed Lieutenant Qualifying course on 27 August 1971, promoted Second Lieutenant on 1 September 1971, completed Captain Qualifying Course Part I on 24 March 1974, completed Basic Parachutist Course on 25 November 1974, completed Captain Qualifying Part II Course on 12 August 1975, promoted

Captain on 1 January 1976, completed Major Qualifying Course on 21 July 1977, transferred to 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA on 11 September 1977, promoted Major on 1 September 1979, completed Militia Command and Staff Course on 24 July 1982, promoted Lieutenant-Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer on 1 August 1985, transferred to Headquarters Pacific Militia Area on 11 September 1988

Fort Lewis 1985

The detachment commander indicates GAP 1 to the BSM.



Gnr Arnold, Gnr Campbell, MWO Leon Jensen, Sgt Paul Roberts

Officers' Mess

The Officers' Mess prior to the 1985 renovation.



Civilian CareersThe Regiment has a large demographic that work with BC Hydro in various capacities.



Bdr Barry Macleod, Maj Robert Mugford, Maj John Carter, CO LCol John Jessop,Col (ret'd) Graham Blythe, WO Clive Walton



Remembrance Day 1985

The guns move through Stanley Park on their way back to Bessborough Armoury.



Canadian Forces' Decoration (CD)

The Canadian Forces' Decoration is awarded to officers and Non-Commissioned Members of the Canadian Forces who have completed twelve years of service. The decoration is awarded to all ranks, who have a good record of conduct. The decoration is awarded to the regular forces, reserve forces, officers of the Cadet Instructors Cadre (CIC), Canadian Rangers and holders of honorary appointments in the CF. Bombardier Ernie Kovacs, CD is presented the Canadian Forces Decoration

BC Centennial Celebrations

The Regiment fires a 21 gun salute at the Train Station to greet the Governor General followed by a salute in the evening at Stanley Park in commemoration of the historic day.

Yakima Firing Centre October 1986

The desolation of the ranges can be scene in the background behind the Command Post



RSM CWO Leon Jensen, Capt Steve Burridge, BSM MWO Mark Jackson, WO Brian Hill, Sgt Nona Shorey, Lt Grayson McCready, Lt Kent Wickens





Student Youth Employment Plan (SYEP) 1986

A special day for the unit SYEP troop as they were selected to try out the newest laser tag system (sometimes known as MILES - multiple integrated laser engagement system).



Pte Ken Chiu, Sgt Amnon Lichtmann

Chief Warrant Officer Leon Jensen CD



Regimental Sergeant Major 1986 - 1988
Taken on strength 15th Field Artillery
Regiment RCA 12 November 1970, qualified
General Military Training 1 June 1971,
qualified TQ1 Artilleryman 25 March 1972,
qualified Junior NCO Course 25 August 1972,
promoted Bombardier 1 October 1972,
participated EX REFORGER 1973; qualified
Senior NCO Part I 24 November 1973,
qualified Senior NCO Part 2 March 1974,
promoted Sergeant 1 April 1974, promoted

Warrant Officer 1 November 1976, qualified TQ2 Artillery Communicator 2 September 1976, qualified TQ2 Artillery Driver Wheeled 23 September 1976, transferred Supplementary List 22 April 1978, attach posted from Supplementary List 1 June 1979, transferred 20th Field Artillery Regiment RCA 1982, promoted Master Warrant Officer, transferred 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA 9 August 1983, promoted Chief Warrant Officer appointed Regimental Sergeant Major 1 April 1986, awarded FMC Achievement Award 1 June 1987. transferred Headquarters Pacific Militia Area 15 September 1988, commissioned Captain 24 September 1988, transferred 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA 1 March 1989, qualified Artillery ICT 24 August 1990, qualified Artillery ACT 24 June 1992, qualified Militia Officer Staff Course 5 February 1993, promoted Major 13 October 1993, Operational tour UNPROFOR 1995, Operational tour IFOR 1996, G1 BC Militia District 1996, promoted Lieutenant-Colonel appointed Commanding Officer 24 October 1998, qualified Senior Officer Harassment Investigator 29 June 2000, appointed Project Director Land Force Reserve Restructure 2004, promoted Colonel (WSE) 2004 and 2011; struck off strength 2013, elected President Royal Canadian Artillery Association October 2018/2019, Employed in warehouse equipment industry as operations manager, sales representative and branch manager, Liberal candidate 2015/2019 federal election.

Winter Exercise in Pemberton, BC.

The toboggans were left behind for a winter deployment with our guns in winter conditions. The kitchen trailer was great for that nice hot breakfast in the morning.



Sgt Dave Warner, BGen Peter Kilby, Gnr Nick Watts

Visit of Colonel Commandant 1987

The Colonel Commandant inspects the Quarter Guard.



Lt Kent Wickens, BGen HR Wheatley, Gnr Malkit Kalsi, Bdr Barry Macleod, Gnr Rob Wishnicki

MILCON 87

Direct Action shoot with Regular Force members firing off their last rounds prior to retirement.



MBdr Bob Healey, WO Klaus Stockhorst, Capt John Brownlee-Baker

Soldiers' Christmas Dinner 1987

The Commanding Officer exchanges tunics with the newest member of the regiment.





Commanding Officer's Parade

The Commanding Officer leads the march past with the Second in Command and Regimental Sergeant Major.



CO LCol John Jessop, Maj Alfred Woo, RSM CWO Leon Jensen, Maj John Brownlee-Baker, Gnr Rob Wishnicki, Lt Kent Wickens, MWO James Jacobson

Lillooet 1988

The Second in Command organizes a weekend exercise with a field-expedient range to improve the marksmanship of the shooting team.



MBdr Dominic DaAssuncao, Gnr Raymond Yee, Bdr Barry Chafe Gnr Rob Wishnicki, Bdr Glenn Campbell, Sgt Donato Calogero

UN Forces in Cyprus (UNIFICYP)

In the interest of international peace and security, the Mission was established in March 1964 to use its best efforts to prevent the recurrence of fighting between the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots and, as necessary, to contribute to the maintenance and restoration of law and order and a return to normal conditions. Since the hostilities of 1974, the mandate has included supervising the cease-fire and maintaining a buffer zone between the lines of the Cyprus National Guard and of the Turkish and Turkish Cypriot forces. Master Corporal Kenneth W. Francis presented his UNIFICYP medal while on September 1989 Corporal Grayham C. Partridge deploys.

Winter Refresher Exercise 1989

Snowshoe races and football (or is it rugby?) on the lake.



Lt Kent Wickens, MWO Dave Levien

Lieutenant-Colonel John Thomas Carter CD



Commanding Officer 1988 - 1991
Taken on strength in 15th Field Artillery
Regiment RCA with previous Service from
21 June 1961 to 21 June 1964, completed
Second Lieutenant Block 1 on 18 July 1975,
completed Second Lieutenant Block 2 on 8
Aug 1975, qualified Basic Parachutist on 30
January 1976, promoted Lieutenant on 1
September 1976, completed Captain
qualiying Course on 15 July 1977,
completed Tactics Block 10 course on 27

July 1979, completed Artillery Captain Block 9 course on 10 Aug 1979, promoted Captain on 1 September 1979, qualified MITCP Basic Officer Training Block 3 on 1 September 1982, qualified Artillery Major Block 12 course on 16 July 1983, promoted Major on 19 January 1985, qualified MITCP Block 11 on 15 July 1982, qualified MITCP Block 13 on 18 Apr 1986, completed Militia Command and Staff Course Block 14 on 26 July 1986, promoted Lieutenant-Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer on 10 September 1988, transferred to Supplementary Ready Reserve on 7 March 1992.

Master Warrant Officer David Kenneth Levien CD



Regimental Sergeant Major 1988 - 1991
Taken on strength as a Gunner in 15th Field
Artillery Regiment RCA on 3 February 1970,
qualified General Military Training on 1 June
1970, qualified Musician R871C on 5
September 1972, promoted Bombardier on 1
April 1973, qualified Senior NCO Course on
17 August 1974, qualified Musician E1 on 24
April 1975, qualified Combat Leaders Course
on 3 Nov 1974, promoted Sergeant on 1 May
1975, awarded Dumoulin Trophy for 1979,

promoted Warrant Officer on 1 Jan 1981, qualified TQ2 Artillery Technician on 5 May 1981, qualified QL6B Musician on 1 Jan 1981, Change occupation to R021 Artillery on 1 July 1984, awarded Dumoulin Trophy for 1986, qualified Master Warrant Officer on 8 July 1988, promoted Master Warrant Officer on 10 September 1988, appointed Regimental Sergeant Major on 10 September 1988, released 13 June 1996.



Wainwright - Summer 1989

15th Field Regiment and 5th (BC) Field Battery combine to form a Field Battery in Wainwright, Alberta. With the Prairies there were a total of 3 batteries with 18 guns in the Militia Regiment.



Bdr Dawne Larsen



Exercise Gunner Barrage 1989

An October weekend in Fort Lewis. Good food from the field kitchen.



Bdr Darren Kostinuk, Bdr Ken Chiu, Sgt John McClelland Sgt Donato Calogero, Bdr Dawne Larsen

There's also time for some beer that night and a bit of a competition called, "Who can throw the ammo box the furthest?"



Maj John Brownlee-Baker



Blair Cup Small Arms Competition

The units of BC Militia District gather in Chilliwack for the annual Blair Cup competition. Each unit has established their own gathering spot with a suitable flag flying in the wind.



WO Klaus Stockhorst, Al McDonnell, Dominic DaAssuncao, HCol Theodore Dumoulin LCol John Carter, Lt Grayson McCready Sgt Amnon Lichtmann, Gnr Rob Wishnicki, Randy Phillips, Gnr Richard Govier

Visit of Lady Soames, D.B.E.

Sir Winston Churchill's daughter arrives for an afternoon tea with the officers and wives in May 1989.



Bdr Rob Wishnicki, Gnr Paul Kim Sgt Amnon Lichtmann, Pte Maurice King, Bdr Robert DePieri, Bdr Oliver Young, Bdr Randy Phillips, Bdr Ric Bowes

St Barbara's Day 1989

A new souvenir is retained by the Officers' Mess.







Point Grey Fort - 1989

The construction of the Museum of Anthropology overshadows the gun emplacements.



