



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE
PRESIDENT'S ENEWS
JANUARY 2014

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President's Comments

Happy New Year to you all and may the new year bring you good health and fortune.

2013 has been a relatively successful year for EUSI. We have seen an increased membership and improved communications through the EUSI website. Our visibility in the community at large has also been increased through our activities, which helps to bring to view defence and security concerns.

For the coming year, I hope to continue to recruit new members and have a closer relationship with other United Services Institutes in Calgary and Vancouver. As a member of EUSI, please do what you can to recruit at least one new member for this year.



Kung Hai Fat Choy is the Chinese equivalent of Happy New Year but means wishing you the fortune of unexpected wealth. The Chinese New Years Day falls on January 31, 2014.

Last Post

Just before Christmas, a former EUSI member of long standing, Major (retired) Michael John Pinkney, CD, passed away unexpectedly after a short stay in the hospital. I had the privilege of visiting Mike and his wife, Ruth (deceased in September last year) in Whiterock, BC, twice last year and shared a vintage Scotch together. Thank you, Mike, for having served Canada with honor.

More Sad News

With great difficulty and with Lt.Col Colin Richele's permission, I would like to share with you Colin's recent medical condition. Just before Christmas, while working in Toronto, Our former president of EUSI, felt ill and upon further medical investigations, was found to have terminal lung and liver cancer, which at this point has spread to his spine. Colin started chemo therapy on January 8, Wednesday. Let us all pray for Colin's recovery. Colin advised me that he is not up to personal visits at this point but an Email or two sure would lift his spirit some what. I will keep you posted for further information.



Canadian Uniforms



ATTACK

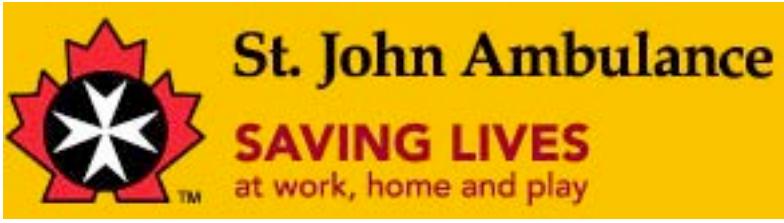
A dawn the ridge emerges massed and dun
In the wild purple of the glow'ring sun,
Smouldering through spouts of drifting smoke that
shroud

The menacing scarred slope; and, one by one,
Tanks creep and topple forward to the wire.
The barrage roars and lifts. Then, clumsily bowed
With bombs and guns and shovels and battle-gear,
Men jostle and climb to meet the bristling fire.
Lines of grey, muttering faces, masked with fear,
They leave their trenches, going over the top,
While time ticks blank and busy on their wrists,
And hope, with furtive eyes and grappling fists,
Flounders in mud. O Jesus, make it stop!



HUMOUR

"What happened to 'ee, lad?" asked a country-man of a bewildered airman who crashed on a lonely moor in the Southwest of England. "I got into air pocket," replied the airman. "'Ee doan't say!" exclaimed the countryman. "And war there a 'ole in it?"



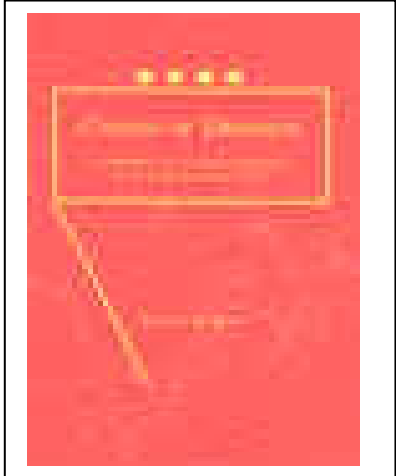
Get trained!



CANADIAN MILITARY READING

Chiefs of Defence: Government and the Unified Command of the Canadian Armed Forces Douglas Bland

This study covers the first 30 years of the office of the Chief of the Defence Staff, 1964-1994. If anything characterizes the history of the office of the CDS, it is conceptual confusion. It is a story of the confusion surrounding the purpose of the institution and the conflicts, misunderstandings, and rivalries, both personal and organizational, which arose from it. Civil-military relations confront society with many questions, but the first question is whose policies prevail? In Canada no one argues that during the last thirty years Parliament's policies have always prevailed over those of allies and special interests in the defence establishment. That fact and its causes and cures ought to concern Canadians.



CANADIAN GEAR

LONG RANGE SNIPER WEAPON (LRSW)



The Long-Range Sniper Weapon provides snipers with a rifle that can deliver highly accurate fire against hard targets at ranges of up to 1800 meters. It is rugged and performs well under extreme

climactic conditions. The rifle is a heavy-barrel, bolt action detachable box magazine-fed weapon with a five-shot capacity. The weapon was introduced in the fall of 2000.



What's Out There?

PLL05 120mm Self-Propelled Mortar-Howitzer (China)

The PLL05 (or Type 05) is the self-propelled mortar-howitzer system based on a WZ551 6X6 wheeled chassis. The system combines features of the conventional mortar and the howitzer, firing projectiles at both short-range, high-arching ballistic trajectories and longer-range, less steep ballistic trajectories for indirect fire. A track-based version of the system is currently in development.



New U.S. Army Rifle! The MXT135 Counter Defilade Target Engagement System has a range of roughly 7,800 feet - and is to be deployed in Afghanistan soon. I would call it the "Equalizer." Some call it the "Punisher". The rifle's gun sight uses a laser range finder to determine the exact distance to the obstruction, after which the soldier can add or subtract up to 10 meters from that distance to enable the bullets to clear the barrier and explode above or beside the target. Soldiers will be able to use them to target snipers hidden in trenches rather than calling in air strikes. The 35-millimeter round contains a chip that receives a radio signal from the gun sight as to the precise distance to the target. Lt. Col. Christopher Lehner, project manager for the system, described the weapon as a 'game-changer' that other nations will try and copy. The Army plans to buy 42,500 of the MXT135 rifles this year, enough for every member of the infantry and special forces, at a cost of \$11,900.00 each. Lehner told Fox News: "With this weapon system, we take away cover from [enemy targets] forever. Tactics are going to have to be rewritten. The only thing we can see [enemies] being able to do is run away." Experts say the rifle means that enemy troops will no longer be safe if they take cover. The MXT135 appears to be the perfect weapon for street-to-street fighting that troops in Afghanistan have to engage in, with enemy fighters hiding behind walls and only breaking cover to fire occasionally. The weapon's laser finder would work out how far away the enemy was and then the U.S. Soldier would add one meter using a button near the trigger. When fired, the explosive round would carry exactly one meter past the wall and explode with the force of a hand grenade above the Taliban fighter. The army's project manager for new weapons, Douglas Tamilio, said: "This is the first leap-ahead technology for troops that we've been able to develop and deploy." A patent granted to the bullet's maker, Alliant Tech systems, reveals that the chip can determine how far it has traveled. Mr. Tamilio said: "You could shoot a Javelin missile, and it would cost about \$69,000. These rounds will end up costing \$45.00 apiece." They're relatively cheap. Lehner added: "This is a game-changer. The enemy has learned to get cover, for hundreds if not thousands of years. Well, they can't do that anymore. We're taking that cover from them and there's only two outcomes: We're going to get you behind that cover or force you to flee." The rifle will initially use high-explosive rounds, but its makers say that it might later use versions with smaller explosive charges that aim to stun rather than kill. What one of the revolutionary bullets looks like that can be pre-programmed to explode to hit troops that are hiding.



Securitas

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