



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

JUNE 2014

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President's Comment

6th of June is D-Day Anniversary - A historical review to refresh your memory.

The **Normandy landings**, codenamed Operation *Neptune*, were the landing operations of the Allied invasion of

Normandy in Operation Overlord, during World War II. The landings commenced on Tuesday, 6 June 1944 (**D-Day**), beginning at 6:30 am British Double Summer Time (GMT+2). In planning, as for most Allied operations, the term *D-Day* was used for the day of the actual landing, which was dependent on final approval.

The landings were conducted in two phases: an airborne assault landing of 24,000 British, US and Canadian airborne troops shortly after midnight, and an amphibious landing of Allied infantry and armoured divisions on the coast of France starting at 6:30 am. Surprise was achieved thanks to inclement weather and a comprehensive deception plan implemented in the months before the landings, codenamed Operation Bodyguard, to distract German attention from the possibility of landings in Normandy. A key success was to convince Adolf Hitler that the landings would actually occur to the north at the Pas-de-Calais. There were also decoy operations taking place simultaneously with the landings under the codenames Operation Glimmer and Operation Taxable to distract German forces from the real landing areas.

Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces was General Dwight D. Eisenhower while overall command of ground forces (21st Army Group) was given to General Bernard Montgomery. The operation, planned by a team under Lieutenant-General Frederick Morgan, was the largest amphibious invasion in world history and was executed by land, sea and air elements under direct Anglo-American command with over 160,000 soldiers landing on 6 June 1944: 73,000 Americans, 61,715 British and 21,400 Canadians, 195,700 Allied naval and merchant navy personnel in over



5,000 ships were also involved. The invasion required the transport of soldiers and materiel from England by troop-laden aircraft and ships, the assault landings, air support, naval interdiction of the English Channel and naval gunfire support. The landings took place along a 50-mile (80 km) stretch of the Normandy coast divided into five sectors: Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword. The combined ally countries included United Kingdom, USA, Canada, Free France, Poland, Australia, New Zealand, Belgium, Greece, Netherland, and Czechoslovakia, against Germany. The Normandy landing paved the way for the recovery of Europe and the rest is history.



Air Canada Announces New Checked Baggage Policy for Veterans and serving soldiers

Canadian and US military personnel and veterans get up to three bags free - May 29, 2014

Effective immediately, members of the Canadian and US military will benefit from an enhanced baggage allowance whenever they travel on a flight operated by Air Canada, Air Canada Rouge or Air Canada Express. Eligible active and retired members of the Canadian and US military are entitled to up to three pieces of checked baggage, each weighing up to 32 kg (70 lb) each. Flights operated by other airlines on behalf of Air Canada are not eligible for this discount. After completing their check-in, eligible customers are invited to see an airport agent to have their baggage fee waived, upon presentation of military identification

Special Service Medal Bar Created

Governor General Announces Creation of the Expedition Bar to SSM

DAVID PUGLIESE Published on: June 2, 2014

OTTAWA—His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, announces the creation of the EXPEDITION bar to the Special Service Medal (SSM). The SSM and the new bar will be awarded to Canadian Armed Forces members for honourable service performed outside Canada, while participating in or providing direct support on a full-time basis to approved operations.

“Canadian Armed Forces members who proudly serve our country merit our recognition and gratitude,” said His Excellency. “I am pleased that the new EXPEDITION bar will provide formal recognition of the valued contributions of the women and men who offer critical support while deployed overseas, and who participate in the success of a number of missions.”

The SSM was created in 1984, and has always been issued with a bar that specifies the service being recognized; each bar has its own eligibility criteria. The EXPEDITION bar is being introduced to ensure an inclusive and consistent recognition for a broader spectrum of overseas service and was especially designed to fill a gap where certain missions were not eligible for recognition.



Thank you to EUSI - Letter of appreciation from Darrell Paquette on behalf of the students of S. Bruce Smith School of Edmonton

14 May 2014

Major (Ret) Alex Tsang
President

Edmonton United Services Institute

Dear Major Tsang,

On behalf of the staff and students of S. Bruce Smith School who participated in the Military Museum Field Trip to Calgary on 13 May 2014, I would like to express my gratitude to the Edmonton United Services Institute for their support in coordinating volunteers and funding for our museum visit. You were an instrumental piece to our trip being a great success.

This experience provided our staff and students with a rich experience to better promote our Canadian Armed Forces and its' rich and proud history. Without your coordination with the Minister of Education, we would not have had the resources available to transport our students to Calgary. Please pass on our gratitude to Minister Johnson for funding this opportunity through the EUSI.

I appreciate the work of the EUSI in promoting the interests of the Canadian Armed Forces. Thank you for your generous support.

Sincerely,

Darrell Paquette CD, BEd, BSc
Assistant Principal



Groesbeek Memorial



Unseen Fire

This is a damned unnatural sort of war;
The pilot sits among the clouds, quite sure
About the values he is fighting for;
He cannot hear beyond his veil of sound,
He cannot see the people on the ground;
he only knows that on the sloping map
Of sea-fringed town and country people creep
Like ants — and who cares if ants laugh or weep?

HUMOUR

Some of those simulated tactical situations that they gave us were so easy though. One instructor said, "You have two enemy craft of your tail closing at 400 knots. What's the very first thing you do?"

I mean, how simple can you get? The obvious answer to anyone should be: "do 450 knots".

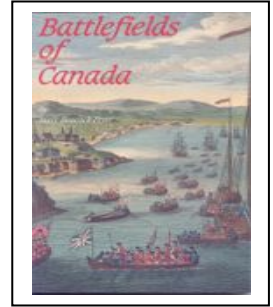


CANADIAN MILITARY READING

Battlefields of Canada

M. Beacock Fryer.

This volume covers nearly three hundred years of history and features the most significant as well as some of the most comic and bizarre Canadian battles.



Get trained!



CANADIAN GEAR HURCULES J



The first of Canada's new J model Hercules arrived June 4, 2010. The familiar CC-130 Hercules is a mainstay of the Canadian Forces' transport fleet. Renewing the tactical airlift fleet is a priority of the Government of Canada, as part of the [Canada First Defence Strategy](#), and its commitment to a modernized and strengthened Canadian Forces. The new aircraft will enable troops to conduct safer and more effective operations at home and abroad. The CC-130J Hercules is a four-engine, fixed-wing turboprop aircraft that can carry up to 92 combat troops or 128 non-combat passengers. It is used for a wide range of missions, including troop transport, tactical airlift (both palletized and vehicular cargo) and aircrew training. While on the outside the CC-130J looks almost identical to the older Hercules, internally the J model Hercules is essentially a completely new aircraft. The new "Hercs" fly faster, higher and farther, and they carry heavier loads while burning less fuel. They can use shorter landing and take-off fields and their climb time is reduced by up to 50 per cent compared to the older models. They deliver cutting edge technology to provide the Canadian Forces with a modern, cost-effective, operationally-proven tactical airlift capability. Not only is the new Hercules a

more capable aircraft, it also requires fewer crew members than the older Hercules; it flies with a minimum crew of three – two pilots and a loadmaster – compared to five on the older Hercules.



What's Out There?

M-93 Sniper Rifle (Yugoslavia)



The M-93 is a .50 caliber bolt action rifle, with action strongly resembling the famous Mauser rifle, stretched out accordingly for much bigger cartridge. The receiver features a scope rail and a back-up rear open sight; the folding front sight is mounted on the barrel. heavy free-floated fluted barrel is fitted with large and effective muzzle brake, which decreases the felt recoil down to acceptable level. Rifle is fitted with buttstock, which is adjustable for length of pull, and with the integral folding bipods at the front of the receiver. The folding carrying handle is mounted above the bipods. Standard scope is 8X32 fixed power. M-93 feeds ammunition from 5-round detachable box magazines.



Securitas

MAJOR (RET'D) ALEXANDER H. TSANG CD
PRESIDENT, EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE
ALEXANDERH@HOTMAIL.COM

[BATTLE OF PANJWAYI DINNER , INVITATION AND RSVP ATTACHED BELOW](#)

MAJOR (RET'D) ALEXANDER H. TSANG CD, PRESIDENT

AND THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF

THE EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

REQUESTS THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY WITH GUESTS AT

**A DINNER COMMEMORATING THE BATTLE OF PANJWAYI AND THE END OF
CANADIAN MILITARY DEPLOYMENT IN AFGHANISTAN**

TO BE HELD AT

THE RAMADA HOTEL

1 1834 – KINGSWAY, EDMONTON, EDMONTON, ALBERTA

5:30 P.M. FOR 6:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2014

DRESS: MESS KIT

BLACK TIE WITH MINIATURES

BUSINESS ATTIRE WITH MEDALS

TARIFF: \$ 80.00 PER PERSON, WITH \$5.00 GOES TO PROJECT HEROES.

**RSVP: WITH CHEQUE PAYABLE TO EUSI BY 5 SEPTEMBER 2014. MAIL TO: 1 1035 – 163
AVENUE NW, EDMONTON, ALBERTA T5X 2A2**

The Battle of Panjwayi, Afghanistan is possibly the last conventional large scale combat NATO forces conducted against the Talibans, with many casualties. Thereafter, the Talibans will not engage NATO forces in large scale combat. Instead, the Talibans converted to suicide bombers, IED's (improvised explosive devices) and other guerilla tactics. The Battle of Panjwayi commemorative dinner features Lieutenant Colonel Nick Grimshaw who was a company commander during the Battle.

Project Heroes is an Edmonton based project in which three artists paint the portraits of Soldiers who gave their live in Afghanistan, Accompanying each portrait is the soldier's personal history, family and aspirations. Project Heroes will have its grand opening on November 7, 2014 in Edmonton. Thereafter, the exhibition will travel across Canada, with most of the paintings donated to the appropriate museum.

Your generous support is appreciated.

RSVP

Name: _____ Rank/Title: _____ Organization _____

___ will attend ___ regret I cannot attend

THE 2014 BATTLE OF Panjawayi Dinner on 13 September 2014

My Guest/s are: _____

Regimental March: _____

Enclosed is my cheque for \$80.00 x ___ persons = \$ _____

Made payable to: EUSI.

Mail to : Major Alexander H. Tsang, 11035 – 163 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5X 2A2,

Phone : 780-456-3393

TO BE RECEIVED BY: 5 September 2012

For EUSI members:

PLEASE provide your current Email address in order to receive your electronic EUSI newsletter.

PLEASE also provide your current address and telephone number for slow mail newsletter

Rank/Title _____ Last name _____ Initial _____

Address _____

Telephone: _____

Email address: _____

Non members: Please provide your Email address or Mailing address if you would like to become a member.

Email address: _____ Mailing Address _____