

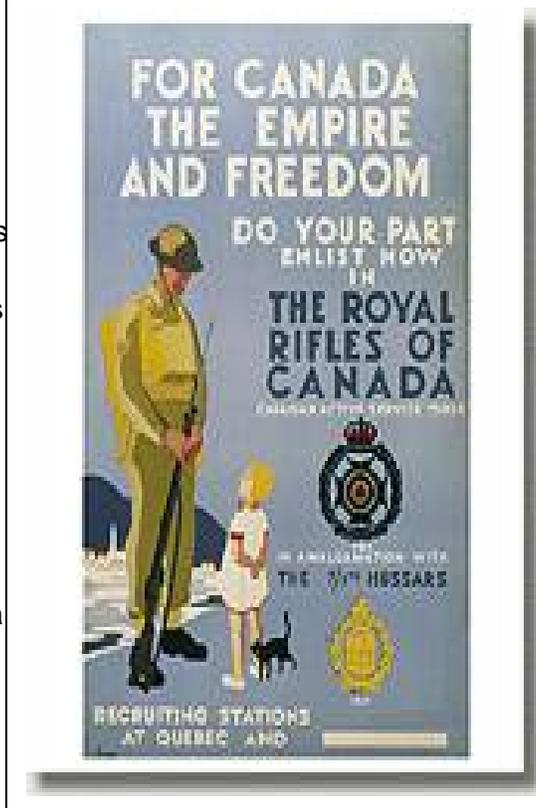


The information in this newsletter is for informational purposes only. The Edmonton United Services Institute assumes no liability for any inaccurate, delayed or incomplete information, nor for any actions taken in reliance thereon.

President's Comment

In the last few days, there has been a lot of news and criticism from the Oppositions in Parliament about Canadian soldiers involved in combat in Iraq. Many of these criticisms came from politicians who obviously know very little about military operations. The criticism appears to stem from trying to score political brownie points rather than a concern for the safety of our soldiers in Iraq. These politicians failed to recognize that having soldiers in the ground will better pinpoint military targets and thereby diminish collateral damage to civilians. In addition, to return fire while under enemy attack is not the same as "to advance and engage and destroy the enemy" as combat is usually defined.

While the Opposition zeroes in on the so called combat Operations, little is said about the brave soldiers who left Canada on January 28 for Sierra Leone to help fight the Ebola epidemic. They will relieve the soldiers already there. The Ebola virus reportedly has mutated into a more dangerous form and the soldiers will always be exposed to this epidemical uncertainty. Let us all pray for the safe return of all our men and women in uniform as well as all the medical volunteers who risk personal safety to help the less fortunate in the world. To me, that is the Canadian spirit underlying our military deployment abroad.



February 15, 2015 is the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Maple Leaf Flag.



February 15 was declared National Flag of Canada Day in 1996. It marks the day in 1965 when our red and white maple leaf flag was first raised over Parliament Hill in Ottawa. Red and white were designated as Canada's official colours in 1921 by His Majesty King George V.

February 19 is Chinese New Year. It is the Year of the Goat. Traditionally, on New Year's Eve, all shops will close for a feast and workers will receive a New Years Bonus, equal to an additional month of salary. On New Years day, family and friends will say Gung Hai Fat Choy, to each other, which mean wishing you a prosperous year. Parents and married people traditionally hands out lucky money put inside a little red envelope. It is considered bad manner to try to feel whether the envelop contained paper money or just a coin. I am sure misers will get their share of curse behind their backs

The Royal Common Wealth Day Dinner and Levee, March 7 and March 9, 2015

March 9 is cerebrated throughout the British Commonwealth as the **Commonwealth Day**. The Royal Commonwealth Society of Canada, Edmonton Brach will hold its annual cerebration dinner on Saturday, 7th March, 2015 at the Ramada Hotel Kingsway and a Levee on Monday, March 9th, 2015, also at the Ramada Hotel. An invitation to Attend both functions are enclosed with this newsletter.

The 75th Battle of Britain Anniversary will be cerebrated on **Saturday September 19 and Sunday, September 20**. This event will be co-hosted by the EUSI, the 700 Wing (Edmonton) and the Griesbach RCAF Commemorative Park Committee. The cerebration will start with a Mess Dinner at the Chateau Louis Hotel on September 19, followed by a parade on Sunday, September 20, to be held by the Edmonton Kipness Centre. There is a good possibility there will be a fly pass with at least one Hercules, 4 Griffins helicopters and an F-18. During this ceremony, we will also unveil the **Ad-Astra Monument**. This monument is 10 meters tall with a CRAF thyme and cost \$250.000.00, all from donations, thanks to the efforts of the Griesbach RCAF Commemorative Park Committee with membership that include HCol Bart West, BGen (ret) Bill Buckham. Invited guests will include family of soldiers whose name is named for streets in the Griesbach Village. More information will be published as we are closer to the event. As very limited seats are available for the dinner and the parade, once the invitation letter is sent, early RSVP will better guarantee a seat. We hope to send invitations out by June 2015.



What's Out There?

T-90 (Russia)

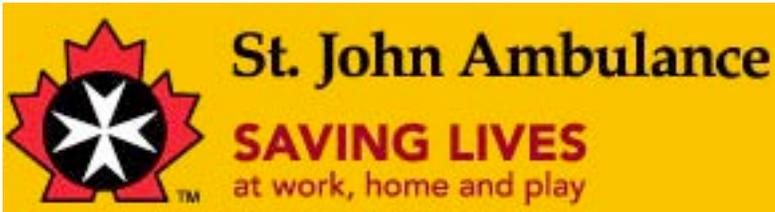
The T-90S represents one of the most advanced Russian tanks from the T-series. It features an improved firepower, mobility and protection. The tank is developed for a crew of 3 people, its combat weight is 46.5 tons and it features a 4-stroke V-84ms diesel engine with 849hp. The fuel capacity of this battle machine is 1,600l. The range is 650km on paved roads and 500km on unpaved. The tank reaches a speed of 65 km/h.





The God of War

Mars has again descended from his throne
To ravage earth with bloody human strife;
To break away the bonds of peace and love
And send one nation warring with another,
As sparrows combat o'er a trifling crumb;
To wash the verdant earth with sickening blood
And herald death into a million homes.
The fields are strewn with reeking, dying men
Filled with the thoughts and hopes of worlds gone mad
The future? Famine! Poverty! And Strife!
Wars are made by men who seek to line
Their itchy pockets with dishonoured loot.
God sighs. Life goes on.



Get trained!

An EUSI Member, Dr. Ibolja Cernak, MD, PhD, ME, MHS, Professor & Chair, Canadian Military and Veterans' Clinical Rehabilitation, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, would like to share the following information concerning brain blast injuries:

“Please see attached the beautifully narrated and stunningly illustrated article on blast injuries just recently published in the National Geographic.

It took the author, Caroline Alexander, almost two years, to complete her story: to ensure the scientific information is correct, grasp the complexity of the injuries, and gain trust of soldiers so that they are willing to share their experiences.

Besides the text and photos, the links below will take you to the article's web site where you can also hear some of the personal testimonies of soldiers with blast injuries. I hope you will appreciate this article and find it interesting.”

Part 1 <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/healing-soldiers/index.html>

Part 2 <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/healing-soldiers/blast-force.html>

HUMOUR

JOKE # 1

After the North American Beer Festival, all the brewery presidents decided to go out for a beer. The guy from Corona sits down and says, 'Hey Senor, I would like the world's best beer, a Corona .' The bartender dusts off a bottle from the shelf and gives it to him.

The guy from Budweiser says, 'I'd like the best beer in the world, give me 'The King Of Beers', a Budweiser.' The bartender gives him one..

The guy from Coors says, 'I'd like the only beer made with Rocky Mountain spring water, give me a Coors.' He gets it.

The guy from Molson Canadian sits down and says, 'Give me a Coke.' The bartender is a little taken aback, but gives him what he ordered.

The other brewery presidents look over at him and ask, 'Why aren't you drinking a Molson's?'

The Molson Canadian president replies, 'Well, I figured if you guys aren't drinking beer, neither would I.'

CANADIAN JOKE #2

A Canadian is walking down the street with a case of beer under his arm.. His friend Doug stops him and asks, 'Hey Bob! Whacha get the case of beer for?'

'I got it for my wife, eh.' answers Bob.. 'Oh!' exclaims Doug, 'Good trade.'

CANADIAN JOKE #3

An Ontarian wanted to become a Newfie. He went to the neurosurgeon and asked, 'Is there anything you can do to me that would make me into a Newfie?'

'Sure it's easy.' replied the neurosurgeon. 'All I have to do is cut out 1/3 of your brain, and you'll be a Newfie..'

He was very pleased, and immediately underwent the operation. However, the neurosurgeon's knife slipped, and instead of cutting 1/3 of the patient's brain, the surgeon accidentally cut out 2/3 of the patient's brain.

He was terribly remorseful, and waited impatiently beside the patient's bed as the patient recovered from the anesthetic. As soon as the patient was conscious, the neurosurgeon said to him 'I'm terribly sorry, but there was a ghastly accident. Instead of cutting out 1/3 of your brain, I accidentally cut out 2/3 of your brain.'

The patient replied 'Qu'est-ce que vous avez dit, monsieur?'

CANADIAN JOKE #4

Did you hear about the war between Newfoundland and Nova Scotia ?

The Newfies were lobbing hand grenades; the Nova Scotians were pulling the pins and throwing them back.

CANADIAN JOKE #5

A Quebecer, staying in a hotel in Edmonton phoned room service for some pepper.

'Black pepper, or white pepper?' asked the concierge.

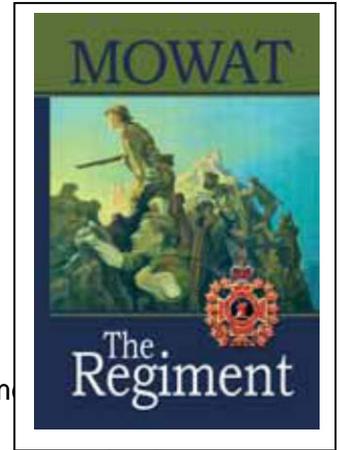
'Toilette pepper!' yelled the Quebecer.



CANADIAN MILITARY READING ---THE REGIMENT

Farley Mowat

On 2 September 1939 the Hastings & Prince Edward Regiment was Mobilized and began training for war. For the next six years its members lived the heartbreak, the horror, and the glory of a bitter conflict on foreign soil. This is the heart-and-soul story of the Hasty P's and their part in the Second World War, told by their most eloquent spokesman. First printed over fifty years ago and out of print since 1982, *The Regiment* has lost none of its immediacy or emotional power. In 1957 The Regiment was awarded 31 Battle Honours for its actions in the war, the most awarded to any Canadian regiment.



CANADIAN GEAR

CF-188 Hornet



A versatile, world-class fighter aircraft, the supersonic CF-188 Hornet (or CF-18 as it is popularly known) can engage both ground and aerial targets. Its twin engines generate enough thrust to lift 24 full-size pick-up trucks off the ground. As the Canadian Air Force's frontline multi-role fighter, the CF-188 is used for air defence, air superiority, tactical support, training, aerobatic demonstration, and aerospace testing and evaluation. The aircraft is equipped with a sophisticated radar system that can track targets in all weather and from great distances. A Sniper Advanced Targeting pod, which contains an infra-red (heat-sensitive) camera and TV camera, allows pilots to see targets at night and in low visibility conditions. The pod also has a laser designator to guide precision bombing, and a laser spot tracker. The newly acquired Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System (JHMCS) allows the pilot to effectively designate targets anywhere around the aircraft.



SECURITAS



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The Chair and the Directors of the
Royal Commonwealth Society of Edmonton
request the pleasure of your company at the
Commonwealth Dinner and Symposium
to be held at

The Ramada Edmonton Hotel
& Conference Centre
11834 - Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton
on Saturday, March 7 2015
at six o'clock

Please RSVP by Friday, February 27th, 2014

Formal Evening Attire
or Dark Lounge Suit
with Miniatures

Tickets \$75

Call 780-982-5630

Email edmonton@rcs.ca

The Chair and the Directors of the
Royal Commonwealth Society of Edmonton
request the pleasure of your company at the
Commonwealth Day Levée
to be held at

The Ramada Kingsway
11834 - Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton
on Monday, March 9 2015
at five o'clock

Dress Uniform, Morning Attire,
or Business Suit with Medals

Call 780-982-5630

Email edmonton@rcs.ca



RSVP Royal Commonwealth Society Dinner, March 7, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

Name: _____ Rank/Title: _____ Organization _____

___ will attend ___ regret I cannot attend

THE 2015 Royal Commonwealth Society Dinner

My Guest/s are: _____

Enclosed is my cheque for \$75.00 x _____ persons = \$ _____

Made payable to: RCSC Edmonton

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

TO BE RECEIVED NO LATER THEN: 27 February 2015

Ph: 780.456-3392