



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

JUNE 2015

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President's Comment

This week, we saw the situation in Iraq deteriorate rapidly, with the terrorist group ISIS taking RAMADI, another major Iraqi city without any resistance from the Iraqi army, fleeing and leaving behind heavy weapon systems and vehicles. Many of these equipment was provided by the US government. So far, we have not heard any briefing about what part Canadian soldiers are involved in the latest development nor any report about their safety. In fact, Question Period in Parliament has been voided of discussions on the subject. In the April issue of the EUSI Newsletter, I have included the information about Iraqi Armed Forces will take delivery from the US government a number of state of the art F-18 fighter jets. The delivery was delayed from four years ago due to the fear that these fighter jets may fall into the wrong hands should security of the Iraqi air force base that houses these jets be compromised. Again, the Iraqi armed forces have proved that they lack the will to fight and abandoning their post, weapons, and vehicles appears to be the norm. Questions now should be asked if these fighter jets be delivered and what is they are used against Canadian jets and soldiers on the ground.



The Korean War –Some facts

June 25, 1950 - 135,000 soldiers from the communist North Korean People's Army (NKPA) cross the 38th parallel and invade Republic of Korea (ROK).

June 25, 1950 - The [U.N. Security Council](#) denounces

North Korea's actions and called for a cessation of hostilities and withdrawal of the NKPA to the 38th parallel.

June 30, 1950 - Truman orders ground troops into action.

July 5, 1950 - U.S. troops go into battle, at Osan, 30 miles south of Seoul. The first American casualty of the Korean War dies here, Private Kenneth Shadrack of West Virginia. In the first month of the war, U.S. soldiers kill significant numbers of Korean civilians under a bridge, near a village called No Gun Ri.

April 1952 - Truce talks are deadlocked over voluntary repatriation.

October 8, 1952 - Truce talks are adjourned.

April 26, 1953 - Truce talks are resumed and the Communists agree to voluntary repatriation.

July 27, 1953 - Democratic People's Republic of Korea (north), Chinese People's Volunteers and the UN sign an armistice agreement. The Republic of Korea refused to sign. However hostilities ceased within 12 hours.

July 27, 1953 - Terms of the armistice include creation of the demilitarized zone, [DMZ](#). Each side is 2,200 yards from a center point. The DMZ is patrolled by both sides at all times.

To this day, there has been no "official armistice" and hostilities periodically flare up between South and North Korea. Tunnels have been found boring from North Korea into South Korea.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Annual general meeting was held on Friday, May 22, 2015 at the Ramada Hotel in Kingsway in Edmonton. Minutes are as follows:

- 1. President's Report:** Alexander Tsang provided an overview of the activities that took place in the last 12 months
 - a. EUSI is now a full member of the Conference of Defence Association, giving EUSI a national presence and access to a much wider information base and net work. Direct access to the CDA Institute web was provided and all members can access the site.
 - b. The EUSI held a very successful Mess dinner and silent auction in September 2014. We raised close to \$100.00.00 for Project Heroes. The occasion was also commemorative of one of the fiercest battle fought in Afghanistan.
 - c. A symposium on the Threat to Canadian Sovereignty was held in October in 2014. In attendance were the Parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Defence, deputy Commander of Canadian Joint Operations Command and Commander of Northern Command. As well as three university professors and academics.
 - d. EUSI is now planning for the commemoration of the Battle of Britain 75th Anniversary with the unveiling of the Astra-Monument in Griesbach Village This celebration will take place on September 19 and 20, 2015. EUSI will also help celebrate the longest reign of any monarch in history. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will have reign over the Commonwealth and Canada for 75 years on September 5th, 2015.
 - e. The 2015 Symposium is on the planning stage. However, date and panel speakers will subject to the pending Federal election, likely being held mid October. The proposed topic will be the pros and cons of Bill

C-51. The Symposium hopefully will bring transparency, calmer heads and more understanding about this sensitive but reportedly much need legislation. More to follow on this.

f. **Treasures Report.** . Ian Taylor provided a detail financial statement and it was accepted as presented, subjecting to audit by Joe Zasada and Tara Ferris which was completed.

EUSI is a non profit charitable organization but we cannot issue any Tax Deduction Certificates. We exist entirely on donations and membership dues. Our books are balanced at present and with sufficient operational funds. EUSI hosts the annual symposium and the Remembrance Day Levee, as well as laying of the Remembrance Day wreath. As such, we appreciate donations from members and thank s to those who donated last year. For a copy of the Financial statement, contact the president as required.

g. Membership report John Pinsent presented the overview of the current membership. We have lost 12 members due to deaths and illnesses. but gained 7 new ones.

Our tribute to the following comrades and members of EUSI who left to join the maker: Thanks you for having served. Canada

F/O Lorne Anfonsen, RCAF WW II
LComd Earl Chadwick, RCN WW II
Col Lynch-Stanton, Army WW II (life member EUSI)
FO RN Francis Maskel, RCAF
Maj. William Murphy, RCEME, former President, EUSI
Lt Derek Munro, UK Army WWII
Rev Joshua Philpotts, St J. EUSI Resident Padre
Capt Peter Preston, RN WWII and CA medic
LCol Colin Richle, RCA and former EUSI President for 11 years
Mr. William Trofimuk (US Eng Corp, Alaska Hwy, WW II)
FO, Nick Wengreniuk. WWII RCAF.

There are a number of EUSI members have not paid their yearly dues. Membership, still \$25.00 per year, is from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Our new mailing address is **c/o EUSI , PO Box 50014 (RPO Clareview) Edmonton, Alberta.** Alternatively, you can also mail you membership renewal and **CHECK** to the president, EUSI, Payable to EUSI, at 11035 –n 163 Ave., Edm, AB T5X 2A2. Donations will be greatly appreciated.

Election of New Officers

The following are the new executives of EUSI, which will be in office for two years until the next election:

President – Maj (ret) Alexander Tsang CD
Vice President – LCol (Ret) Hans Brink CD
Treasurer Ms Tara Ferris
Membership Director/Newsletter – Capt (ret) John Pinsent, CD
Web development and maintenance director _F/F Joe Zasada
Military Liaison – LCol Darrel Paquette CD
Directors at Large _ HCol Ian Taylor, CD, Capt Robert White, CD, Lt.(ret) LeRoi LaFleche, Lt(ret) Gordon Smith, CD



Last Post

Captain (retired) Vernon A. GOWIN, CD passed away, 15 May 2015, in Edmonton. Capt Gowan is not a member of the EUSI, However, he has been a long serving member of the 20 Fd RCA. The following is provided by his former comrade, Capt George Kuhse.:

There will be no funeral or service in accordance with his wishes.

In 1956, Vernon Alison Gowin joined the Canadian Army Reserves, 20 Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery (RCA), at the Prince of Wales Armoury (POWA). Early on, and probably due to some Irish heritage, he and a score of other artillery members formed the 20 Field Regiment, RCA, Pipe Band. This was quite a prestigious group with new bagpipes and drums and Highland uniforms. All was obtained through the hard work of the members and their leaders, at no cost to the members.

At one special parade and gun salute at the Alberta Legislature, the 20 Field Regiment, along with their guns and the Artillery Pipe Band was in attendance for a ceremonial 21 Gun Artillery Salute, the attending Lieutenant Governor of Alberta presented the Artillery Band with the official Alberta Tartan, to wear as their kilt and tartan. They were, and are to this day, the only Alberta pipe band authorized to wear the Alberta tartan. Vern was proud of the fact and told the story as he often wore it to many special events, as the LAST piper in the Alberta tartan. The 21 Guns Salute at the Alberta Legislature has been a yearly event during Canada Day Cerebration.

Vern continued as a talented bagpiper with the band for many years until the band eventually dissolved in the early 1960's Vern continued to play bagpipes for many parades and military events well into his old age. He also joined the Edmonton Transit System (ETS) Pipe Band, Vern was the ETS Pipe Major for many years.

Master Warrant Officer (MWO) Gowin became proficient as an Artillery Non Commissioned Member (NCM). He went on to take training in leadership and special training in Logistics and Stores and for many years until his retirement, serving as the Regimental Quartermaster Storeman (RQMS) in POWA and as 61 Battery Sergeant Major (BSM) in Griesbach.

After almost 39 years, Vern retired from the Regiment, he had to fill all of his spare time so he was asked to take the leadership training and be commissioned as a Cadet officer, serving the 180 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps, as their Commanding Officer, parading in a chain of facilities in Edmonton and finally winding up in the Alberta Aviation Museum on Kingsway. for another 10 years, Vern was an officer and a gentleman. A Canadian. A raconteur with many friends. A role model for many. Always with a kind heart and a gentle helping hand. And he could really play those pipes!

He will be missed. "End of Mission, Good Shooting!"

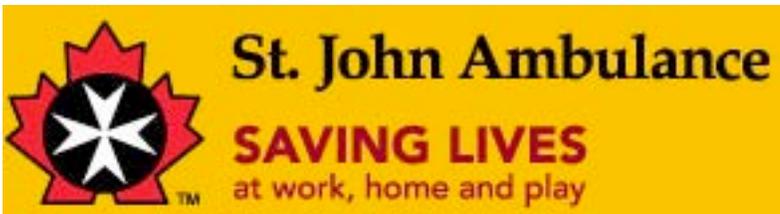


The CDA Institute Briefing, May 22, 2015

Remembrance and Reminders"

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Get trained!



In Loving Memory

On every soldier's tombstone should be a message of honor, respect and love:

"In loving memory of one who loved his country, who fought against evil to preserve what is right and true and good.

In loving memory of one who is a cut above the rest of us, who had the surpassing courage, the uncommon strength, to do whatever had to be done, persevering through hardship and pain.

In loving memory of one who was brave enough to give his life, his all, so that those he cared about would remain safe and free.

In loving memory of a unique and treasured soldier who will never be forgotten."



Runnymede Memorial



CANADIAN GEAR

HMCS IROQUOIS
area air defense destroyer (DDG)

Relentless in Chase

SHIP STATS: Displacement: 5,100 tonnes
Length: 130 m Beam: 15 m
Speed: 29+ knots

Aircraft: 1 CH124 Sea King
Complement: 300 sailors



HUMOUR

An airforce joke contributed by Maj(ret) Doug Mattila of Winnipeg.

The C-130 was lumbering along when a cocky F-16 flashed by. The jet jockey decided to show off. The fighter jock told the C-130 pilot, "Watch this!" and promptly went into a barrel roll followed by a steep climb. He then finished with a sonic boom as he broke the sound barrier. The F-16 pilot asked the C-130 pilot what he thought of that. The C-13- pilot said, "That was impressive but watch this!". The C-130 droned along for about five minutes and then the C-130 pilot came back on and said, "What did you think of that?" Puzzled, the F-16 pilot asked, "What did you do?" The C-130 pilot chuckled, "I stood up, stretched my legs, went to the bathroom, then got a cup of coffee and a cinnamon bun."

Okay. Don't blame me. This is an air force joke. You know they don't have a sense of humor like the army people.



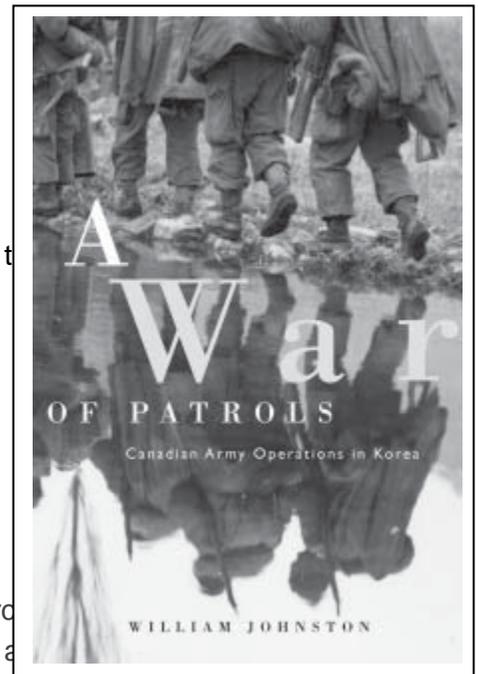
CANADIAN MILITARY READING

A War of Patrols - Canadian Army Operations in Korea

William Johnston

This comprehensive account of the Canadian campaign in Korea provides the training, leadership, operations, and tactics of the brigade under each of its three wartime commanders as well as its relationship with American and Commonwealth allies. An impeccably researched analytical history, the book examines the often uneven performance of the various Canadian units and argues that the soldiers of the "Special Force" initially sent to Korea were more thorough and professional in their operations than were the army's regular battalions, who eventually replaced them at the front.

Thank you very much for your ongoing interest in the Canadian Armed Forces and Defence. I hope you enjoy reading the May edition of *Defence Connexion*, a Department of National Defence Outreach offices across Canada. Please view the newsletter at:



Defence Connexion

<http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/news-defence-connexion/index.page>

This edition includes the following articles from the Prairies and North region:

Military vehicles on the move across Canada

Ready at a Moment's Notice Conference tackles emergency response

Royal Canadian Artillery Band visits Resolute

Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs speaks at Royal Military Institute of Manitoba

Upcoming Events

Loops for the Troops Fundraising Father's Day Run/Walk, June 21, Calgary

The Loops for the Troops Father's Day Run/Walk is a time to honour those who have made and continue to make the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom. Watch or challenge the troops and first responders to a 5 or 10 kilometre run/walk, or a 2 kilometre walk in North Glenmore Park. More information is available at <http://www.loopsforthetroops.ca/2014/12/03/calgary-loops-for-the-troops-june-21-2015/>.

Naval Association of Canada 2015 National Conference and Annual General Meeting, June 25-28, Calgary

The conference topic is "Canada's Third Ocean: Our Arctic Borders." Presenters include the Premier of the Northwest Territories, the Commander of Maritime Forces Atlantic, the Executive Director of the Arctic Institute of North America, and many others. Full details on the conference are at <http://navalassoc.ca/occasions/2015-annual-general-meeting-and-conference/>.

WestDef defence and security industry conference, July 5-7, Calgary

The theme of this year's conference is extending the life of mission-critical, expensive defence equipment through technology insertion. More information is available at www.westdef.com.



What's Out There?

RT-20 Rifle (Croatia)

The RT-20 was developed in the Croatia in the mid-1990s as a pure anti-materiel and anti-armor rifle. The RT-20 name means "Rucni Top, 20mm", that is "Hand Canon, 20mm". It is one of the most powerful anti-materiel rifles fielded by any army in the world today - the only others design roughly comparable to this monster in the terms of the caliber and effectiveness are the South-African NTW-20 rifle and the Finnish Helenius APH-20. The RT-20 had been successfully deployed during the war in the former Yugoslavia in the second half of the 1990s. It is manufacture by the Croatian company RH-Alan and is officially adopted by Croatian army.



SECURITAS



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