



Honorary Patron of EUSI – Her Honor, Lois Mitchell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta

EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

President's Enews August 2016

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Fantastic weather so far. Could not ask for better for the Klondike day parade and the Korea Cease Fire 63rd Anniversary Parade. I am optimistic this great weather will hold for the rest of the Klondike Days and the upcoming Heritage Days Festival, both are being held in Edmonton. Alberta has had a terrible year, from flooding to uncontrollable fire at Fort McMurray, and continuing sliding of crude oil price. All have had a devastating effect on the economy of Alberta, and rubs off on the rest of Canada. The Calgary Stampede had the lowest attendance this year due to poor weather and poor economy. For my fellow Canadians and your family members who have lose jobs form the down turn of economy, keep your head high and do not lost hope on humanity, Canada is still the best country to live in, comparing to most of Europe, USA, the Middle-east, Asia and Africa. Let us hope August will be a turning point.

2016 EUSI Symposium and Commemorative Dinner

The theme of this year's symposium is the role of the Canadian Armed Forces. We have booked a bunch of dynamic panel speakers and breakfast is free. It will be held on **September 17, 2016** Saturday at **the Ramada Hotel at 11834, Kingsway, Edmonton**. Symposium will commence at 0800 hrs and ends about 1300 hrs. How dynamic? You will have to attend and find out. There are all kinds of activities happening with the CAF. All Canadians should know what is happening with their soldiers. Your participation is most welcome. **Admission is free** and open to the public. Bring a friend, a student and a family member.

Most Canadian does not know Canada was engaged in fierce combat against the Croatian soldiers during the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. The Battle of Medak Pocket will be commemorated on September 17, 2016, Saturday commencing at 1830 hrs at the Ramada Hotel in Kingsway, Edmonton. LCol Dan Drew and MWO Mike Spellen, both fought in this battle, will be guest speakers. We are also featuring a silent auction with proceeds going to the Last Post Fund, a program

established to ensure veterans unable to afford will have a dignified burial service. The cost for the dinner is \$100. Per person, with all the vintage wine you can consume. See RSVP attached below..

For the history buffs,

19 August, 1942, the Dieppe Raid, also known as the Battle of Dieppe, Operation Rutter and, later, Operation Jubilee, was an Allied attack on the German-occupied port of Dieppe during the Second World War. The raid took place on the northern coast of France on 19 August 1942. The assault began at 5:00 a.m. and by 10:50 a.m. the Allied commanders were forced to call a retreat. Over 6,000 infantrymen, predominantly Canadian, were supported by The Calgary Regiment of the 1st Canadian Tank Brigade and a strong force of Royal Navy and smaller Royal Air Force landing contingents. It involved 5,000 Canadians, 1,000 British troops, and 50 United States Army Rangers.

Objectives included seizing and holding a major port for a short period, both to prove that it was possible and to gather intelligence. Upon retreat, the Allies also wanted to destroy coastal defences, port structures and all strategic buildings.

However, none of these objectives were met. Allied fire support was grossly inadequate and the raiding force was largely trapped on the beach by obstacles and German fire. Less than 10 hours after the first landings, the last Allied troops had all been either killed, evacuated, or left behind to be captured by the Germans.

A total of 3,367 of the 6,086 men (almost 60%) who made it ashore were either killed, wounded, or captured. The Royal Air Force failed to lure the Luftwaffe into open battle, and lost 106 aircraft (at least 32 to flak or accidents), compared to 48 lost by the Luftwaffe. The Royal Navy lost 33 landing craft and one destroyer. The events at Dieppe influenced preparations for the North African (Operation Torch) and Normandy landings (Operation Overlord).

casualties and losses	
Ground forces	
Canada:	
907 killed,	
586 wounded,	
1,946	
captured ^[3]	
United Kingdom:	
275	
commandos	
Royal Navy	
1 destroyer	
33 landing craft	
550 dead and wounded	
	Ground forces
	Germany:
	311 killed,
	280 wounded
	Luftwaffe
	23 <u>Fw 190</u>
	25 <u>Dornier Do</u>
	<u>217</u>



**Royal Air
Force**
64 Supermarine
Spitfire fighters
20 Hawker
Hurricane
fighters
6 Douglas
Boston
bombers
10 North
American
Mustang Mk 1
fighters
62 killed, 30
wounded, 17
captured



Dieppe Raid 1942 Plaque for No.4 Commando at Saint-Marguerite-Sur-Mer



Dieppe War Cemetery

Allied dead were initially buried in a mass grave, but the bodies were subsequently disinterred and reburied at Vertus Wood on the edge of the town.^[59] The present Dieppe Canadian War Cemetery headstones have been placed back-to-back in double rows, the norm for a German war cemetery, but unusual for Commonwealth War Graves Commission sites. When the Allies liberated Dieppe as part of Operation *Fusilade* in 1944, the grave markers were replaced but the layout was left unchanged to avoid disturbing the remains.

Honours and awards

Three Victoria Crosses were awarded for the operation: to Captain Patrick Porteous, No. 4 Commando; the Reverend John Weir Foote, padre to Royal Hamilton Light Infantry; and Lieutenant Colonel Charles Merritt of the South Saskatchewan Regiment. Porteous was severely wounded; both Foote and Merritt became prisoners of war. Despite the failure of the operation, Major General Roberts was awarded the Distinguished Service Order.



What's Out There?

While Canada is making plans to expand its expedition forces to Eastern Europe as a NATO commitment, we must be reminded that Eastern Europe is a prime terrain for tank operations. The USSR has many tanks. The T-72 is one of the main battle tanks for the USSR. There are 1900 in active service and another 7000 in reserve.



Around 1,300 are T-72B/BA models and 600 have been upgraded to T-72B3 standard thus far. Additional T-72s are brought back into service as T-80s are being withdrawn



Get trained!



Canadian Gear

How many of you soldiers or ex soldiers know what **TOW** stands for? May be you gunners know. But anyway TOW is short for Tube-launched Optically-tracked Wire-guided Missile. Now you know.

Ottawa Citizen, July 13, 2016: As tensions increase with Russia, the Canadian military is pulling anti-tank missiles out of storage and will start distributing them to troops next year.

The Canadian Army had sold off most of its tube launched optically sighted wire guided (TOW) missiles and mothballed a few of the anti-tank weapons, assuming they would not be needed in the future. But with Canada now stationing troops on Russia's borders, soldiers will require the weapons to counter the Kremlin's robust armoured forces, military sources say. Brig.-Gen. Derek Macaulay, chief of staff for army strategy, confirmed the service is re-introducing the tripod-mounted missile system to all regular force infantry battalions. "Each battalion will receive its complement of systems with all systems being fielded and deployable by summer 2017," Macaulay said in a statement to the Ottawa Citizen. "We are not purchasing new systems at this time, but rather re-introducing what we had placed into preservation."

The TOW missiles are designed to destroy armoured vehicles. Although the army has other weapons to deal with such targets, the TOW system is considered among the most effective. Its missile has a range of about 3,700 metres.



OPEN INVITATION TO THE ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

On behalf of the members of The Edmonton United Services Institute (EUSI), you are cordially invited to attend the EUSI Annual Symposium to be held on Saturday, September 17, 2016 at the Edmonton Ramada Hotel, 11834 –Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton, commencing at 0800 hours. The theme of the symposium is “Role of Canada’s Military, Peace Keeping and/or Peace Making”. Under this broad theme, it is hope discussion will lead to more focused topics such as resources/manpower required to achieve the aims.

Panel guests are: the Minister of National Defence (or designate), Mr. Laurie Hawn, former Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence, former member of the Privy Council, the Treasury Board, and Honorary Colonel of 401 Squadron, Mr. Joe Howard, LLM, Military analyst, Dr. Rob Hubert, University of Calgary, Lieutenant Colonel Nick Grimshaw, Mr. Norman Leach, award winning author.

Admission is free with breakfast and coffee/tea/juice served.

For further information, go to EUSI.CA or Facebook, Edmonton United Services Institute

Major (ret) 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

Battle of Medak Pocket Commemorative Dinner

To be held at

Ramada Hotel

11834 – Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta

6:30 P.M. for 7:00 P.M., on Saturday, 17 September, 2016

With the Honorary Patron of EUSI, Her Honour, The Honourable Lois Mitchell, The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta in attendance/

DRESS: Mess Kit

Black Tie with Miniatures

Business attire with Medal

TARIFF: \$100.00 PER PERSON

**RSVP: with check payable to EUSI by 6 September 2016. Mail to:
11035 – 163 Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta T5X 2A2**

Guest Speakers are: LCol (ret'd) Dan Drew and MWO (ret'd) Mike Spellen. Both were combatants at the Battle of Medak Pocket, one of the fiercest battles fought between Canadian and Croatian Armies during the conflict in the former Yugoslavia.

RSVP Medak Pocket Commemorative Dinner

Name: _____ Rank/Title: _____ Organization _____

___ will attend ___ regret I cannot attend

THE BATTLE OF Medak Pocket DINNER on 17 September 2016

My Guest/s are: _____

Regimental March: _____

Dietary Restriction: _____

Enclosed is my check for \$100.00 x _____ persons = \$ _____

Payable to: EUSI.

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

TO BE RECEIVED BY: 8 September 2016 Ph: 780.456-3392

Payment is also accepted through Paypal. Go to EUSI.CA for link.

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