



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

JULY 2016

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President's Comment

Happy Canada Day to all. Or rather, I should say, Happy Dominion Day. Given what is happening in Britain and the implication for Canada, I suggest we all take a look at history and events that led to the formation of the Dominion of Canada. I do believe it is important we take note that it must not be taken for granted that Canada will remain an inclusive country. The world is changing and certainly Canada is much more tolerant and accepting of differences. We are legalizing marijuana, accepting unconventional sexual orientations, and various religious practices. Senior citizens need more time to adjust to changing values, myself included. However, we do have some great ideas and proven ability to make a better world. So, instead of labeling people who disagree with one phobic or another, remember, tolerance goes both ways.



July 27 is the Official Korean Veterans Day.

Bill S-213, which passed both the Senate and House of Commons unanimously, to make July 27 Korean War Veterans Day. The Korean War began June 25, 1950. By the time the Korea Armistice Agreement was signed on July 27, 1953, more than 26,000 Canadians had served in Korea and 516 Canadians had lost their lives in service.

Canada, plus 20 other countries, went to the aid of South Korea and turned back the scourge of communism. About 7,000 Canadians continued to serve in the tense theatre of operations between the signing of the Armistice and the end of 1955, with some Canadian troops remaining until 1957.

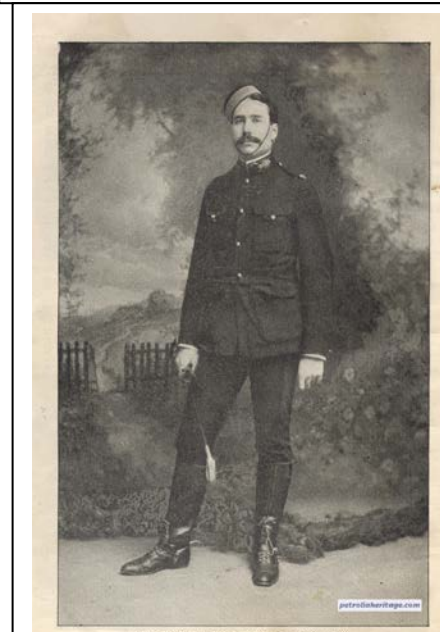
In 2013, the Government of Canada marks the 60th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice with events in both Korea and Canada on the newly established Korean War Veterans Day on July 27, in honour of all Canadians who served in the Korean War, and those who served on duties in Korea following the signing of the Military Armistice Agreement that ended the war, on July 27, 1953.

On Sunday, July 26, 2015, I was privileged to attend the Korean War Veterans Parade in front of the Alberta Provincial Legislative Building, as I have done several years before. I am sad to observe the number on parade was getting less each year. There are no more WWI veterans alive in Canada today and the number of WW2 veterans is limited. The date for the 2016 Korean Veteran parade has not been announced as yet. Good chance it will be on Sunday, July 24. Please make an effort to attend the parade and pay our respect.

“Gutting of our militia has no end” This is the headline on June 28, 2016 on Christie Blatchford’s comment in the National Post. Ms. Blatchford has been a strong critic of the Federal Government over their treatment or mistreatment of the military. However, her recent comment is shifting the attention to the bureaucracy of the regular (or full time) army itself”. The gutting of the Army Reserves includes lack of training courses, equipment, and chipping away paychecks allocated for part time soldiers. The latest announcement is the do without radios until July 2017, if they are available then. There appears to be unlimited amount of money to implement politically correct activities. Op Honour is the latest mission within the CAF to fight against harmful sexual behavior in the military. All soldiers are required to carry a miniature card or aide-de-memoir to remind them to honour the code of conduct regarding sexual behavior. Frankly, I do miss the days when General Rick Hillier was the CDS and who believes that the role of the CAF is to deliver to Canada the end product of providing readily trained soldiers for overseas operations and protection of our home and native land. The politically correct process to attain this goal should not be the preoccupation and allowed to take up resource intended for our reason for existence. To read Christie Blatchford’s comment, please go to cblatchford@postmedia.com.



TOMMY



I went into a public-'ouse to get a pint o' beer,
The publican 'e up an' sez, "We serve no red-coats here."
The girls be'ind the bar they laughed an' giggled fit to die,
I outs into the street again an' to myself sez I:
O it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Tommy, go away";
But it's "Thank you, Mister Atkins", when the band begins to play,
The band begins to play, my boys, the band begins to play,
O it's "Thank you, Mister Atkins", when the band begins to play.
I went into a theatre as sober as could be,
They gave a drunk civilian room, but
'adn't none for me;
They sent me to the gallery or round the music-'alls,
But when it comes to fightin', Lord! they'll shove me in the stalls!
For it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Tommy, wait outside";
But it's "Special train for Atkins" when the trooper's on the tide,
The troopship's on the tide, my boys, the troopship's on the tide,
O it's "Special train for Atkins" when the trooper's on the tide.
Yes, makin' mock o' uniforms that guard you while you sleep

Is cheaper than them uniforms, an' they're starvation cheap;
An' hustlin' drunken soldiers when they're goin' large a bit
Is five times better business than paradin' in full kit.
Then it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Tommy, 'ow's yer soul?"
But it's "Thin red line of 'eroes" when the drums begin to roll,
The drums begin to roll, my boys, the drums begin to roll,
O it's "Thin red line of 'eroes" when the drums begin to roll.
We aren't no thin red 'eroes, nor we aren't no blackguards too,
But single men in barricks, most remarkable like you;
An' if sometimes our conduct isn't all your fancy paints,
Why, single men in barricks don't grow into plaster saints;
While it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Tommy, fall be'ind",
But it's "Please to walk in front, sir", when there's trouble in the wind,
There's trouble in the wind, my boys, there's trouble in the wind,
O it's "Please to walk in front, sir", when there's trouble in the wind.
You talk o' better food for us, an' schools, an' fires, an' all:
We'll wait for extry rations if you treat us rational.
Don't mess about the cook-room slops, but prove it to our face
The Widow's Uniform is not the soldier-man's disgrace.
For it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Chuck him out, the brute!"
But it's "Saviour of 'is country" when the guns begin to shoot;
An' it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' anything you please;
An' Tommy ain't a bloomin' fool -- you bet that Tommy sees!



HUMOR

MODERN WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

"Daddy, I am coming home to get married, soon. Get out your check book. LOL I'm in love with a boy who is far away from me. I am in Australia , and he lives in Scotland . We met on a dating website, became friends on Facebook, had long chats on Whatsapp, he proposed to me on Skype, and now we've had two months of relationship through Viber. My beloved and favorite Dad, I need your blessing, good wishes, and a really big wedding! Lots of love and thanks, from your favorite daughter. Lilly"

Lilly's Dad's reply (also texting)... (Dad has it all together)

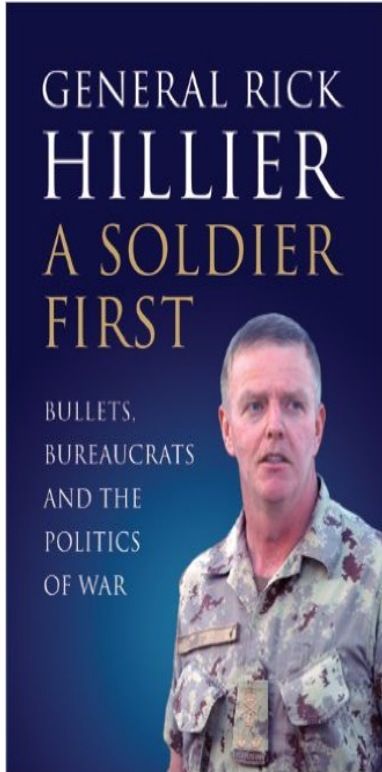
"My Dear Lilly, Like Wow! Really? Cool! Whatever! I suggest you two get married on Twitter, have fun on Tango, buy your kids on Amazon, and pay for it all through Paypal. And when you get fed up with this new husband, sell him on Ebay!

L.O.L. Daddy"!



CANADIAN MILITARY READING

Rick Hillier – *A Soldier First*, August 2010, Amazon.ca



General (retired) Rick Hillier wrote about his road from a Newfoundland lad to become Canada's Chief of Defence Staff. Hillier uses plain language and can truly relate to soldiers under his command. There are politicians and senior officers that he thinks were not doing their job. He was frustrated by the bureaucratic process within the Canadian system to get anything done, whether it is the recruiting process, buying a replacement part for equipments, or simply awarding a medal for a deserving soldier in theatre. Hillier suggests that compared to the military in the US, which by law must be 85% ready for deployment, that is fully equipped and trained, it would be a "miracle if Canadian military is 25% ready for deployment. Hillier spent two years as an exchange general with the US Army and was attached with the III Corp as the Deputy Commanding General at Fort Hood which has over 100,000 soldiers within the base.

I had the privilege of working under General Hillier in Bosnia Herzegovina when he was the Commander of the Multinational Division NW. He was a great commander and you will through his book, learn how to be a good leader.



CANADIAN GEAR

C7A1 ASSAULT RIFLE



The C7A1 assault rifle is an improved version of the basic C7 combat rifle, incorporating a low-mounted optical sight. It is a Canadian adaptation of a U.S. firearm known as the M16A1E1. The C7A1 eliminates the carrying handle of the C7 and substitutes an optical sight. The weapon is equipped with a 3.5x optical sight, which is mounted in place of the carrying handle.

C7A1 rounds are 5.56 x 45 NATO standard. The weapon has an effective range of 400 metres and a rate of fire of 700 to 940 rounds per minute. Along with the optical sight, optional attachments include the M203A1 40mm grenade launcher, the AN PAQ 4 Laser pointer and the Image Intensification Night Sight (Kite sight). It has been in service with the Army since 1986.



Get trained!



What's Out There?

Sukhoi PAK FA (Russia)

The Sukhoi PAK FA is the replacement of Mig-29 Fulcrum and Su-27 Flanker. It is designed to directly compete with F-22 Raptor and F-35 Lightning II. This stealth multi-role fighter with a length of 22 meters and with a maximum speed of 2.45 mach or 1,615 mph was put into service in 2013. One thousand units are projected to be built by 2020 and a unit will cost \$100 million. Its main weapon is a 30mm GSh-30-1 gun and 10 missiles.



Compared to Canada's F-18 and the proposed purchase of the Super Hornet, the Sukhoi-PAK FA will be like a Lamborghini to a Ford Focus



Annual Symposium

Our annual symposium will be held on **Saturday, September 2017** from 0830 hours to 1230 Hours, at the **Edmonton Ramada Hotel at Kingsway, 11834, Kingsway Avenue**, Edmonton. The theme of the symposium is “The role of the Canadian Armed Forces –Peace Keeping Vs Peace Making” We hope to engage in discussions on the evolution of the role of the CAF, the future role of the CAF, and resources required to attain the goal. Invited guest will include a designate from the Minister of National Defence, Honorary Colonel and former Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence, Laurie Hawn, Dr. Rob Hubert from University of Calgary, Mr. Joe Howard, military analyst, and Mr. Norman Leach, renounced and award winning author. Admission is free and breakfast will be provided. No reservation is required. Please let the message out and we hope to see as many people as possible.

Commemorative Mess Dinner

This year , the EUSI will commemorate the Battle of Medak Pocket, one of the fierce battle between Canadian and Croatian soldiers during the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. The mess dinner will take place on Saturday, 17 September, 2016, also at the Kingsway Ramada Hotel in Edmonton. Feature speakers are LCol Dan Drew and MWO Mike Spellen. Both were combatants at the Battle of Medak Pocket. The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Patron of EUSI, has been invited to attend. Cost is \$100 per person, which include all the “ Red Devil” you can safely and legally consume. A silent auction will take place with part of the proceeds go to the Last Post Fund. RSVP to Alexanderhtsang@hotmail.com as soon as you can. Please spread the words about this function, .

Securitas

Alexander Tsang CD

MAJOR (RETIRED)

PRESIDENT

EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

ALEXANDERHTSANG@HOTMAIL.COM

IT IS TOO LATE TO SHARPEN SWORDS, WHEN THE DRUMS OF WAR ARE BEATING



Invitation to the Battle of Medak Pocket Dinner and RSVP are attached below



Maj (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 Dinner

To be held at

Kingsway Ramada Hotel

11834 – Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta

6:30 P.M. for 7:00 P.M.

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**

RSVP

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: _____

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

Made 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

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

Rank/Title _____ Last name _____ Initial _____

Address _____

Telephone: _____

Email address: _____

(Only if you have not been receiving the EUSI monthly newsletter)