

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



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

APRIL 2018

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President's Comments

9 April is Vimy Ridge Day

30 April is the deadline for filing your income tax. Every year for the last four years. I have reminded our readers who are federal pensioners who subscribe to the Public Health Service Plan that their annual premium is tax deductible.

Recently, the Department of Veteran Affairs held a discussion group in Edmonton at the Delta Hotel to explore what concerns our veterans, in particular, lump sum payment versus a monthly compensation, and any other concerns. My personal opinion is that for majority of the EUSI readers, the matter of lump sum payment/monthly allowance does not affect them as most are older and the subject matter mostly affects younger or recent veterans who participate in combat in Afghanistan.

However, the matter of clawing back the military pension once the individual receives CPP continues to be a concern for military and RCMP veterans. Many of us have lost income for many years because of this unfair policy. For some serving members who are nearing their retirement age, this is also a concern and affecting their decision to retire or hang on for a few more years. There were some actions to petition the parliament to address this unfair policy. However, in the last few years, little has been done and conveniently omitted by the government to address this matter while attention has been focused on lump sum payments or not. Well, it is about time grey power flexes its muscle and gets organized. Many organizations or groups are getting apologies and monetary compensations for the past injustice done against them. I am just saying.

The official spring season has arrived but the recent snow fall means it will be a while before the tulips show their colors. This last winter has been especially harsh for Calgary. Pity the tree hugger who mention to the Calgarian about climate warming.

The EUSI remains an active organization and our web site and Facebook continue to get many hits and views. Please go to EUSI.CA for announcements and upcoming events. Many invitations and RSVPs for special events to friends and members of EUSI are published in the website.

The EUSI is only one of a handful of likeminded organizations out there. Most of the other Organizations receive government funding. THE EUSI relies sole on membership dues and private donations. Please send in your membership due to Captain John Pinsent at PO BOX 51058 (RPO Highlands), Edmonton AB. T5W 5G5. It is still \$25.00 per year. If your are unsure you are paid up, send in your check for \$25.00 and John will update your due date accordingly.



2018 Symposium

The 2018 Symposium will be held on a Saturday sometime between end of September and beginning of October. The exact date will be determined by availability of invited panelist and decided upon by the board of directors. A board of directors meeting will be scheduled as soon as the financial report becomes available. The theme of the 2018 symposium will be on Canada's defence policy against a nuclear attack and damage control to address environmental contamination and destruction of infra structures. I bring to your attention that five years after their nuclear reactor accident, Japan continues to have problems with nuclear contamination. A recent government report suggests that the West Coast of British Columbia does not indicate any radial contamination. However, countries such as China, Australia and Hong Kong still have restrictions on Japanese import in sea foods and some agricultural products. I would like a symposium panel to explore such concerns as land and marine contamination. What happens when financial transactions are stopped due to destruction of financial infrastructure? Does Canada even have policies to address these issues? I saw the panic in Hawaii when a false alarm was raised, despite an alarm system in place for years for nuclear attack. It is the aim of the symposium to stimulate discussions and dialogues in an area that is so critical to the well being of our national security. If you have a suggestion of a speaker in any of the aforementioned field of expertise, please contact the president of EUSI.



The Soldier by Rupert Brooke

If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave once her flowers to love, her ways to roam;
A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.
And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;
Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;
And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven

Forestburg Cenotaph



HUMOR

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?" The son replied, "I do know!" "Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?" "That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"

There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign... "Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust."



Get trained!



What's Out There

In response to the recent British accusation of political assassination, a spokesperson with the Russian Foreign Ministry, through its state operated media, announced that no one threatens the most powerful nuclear country with an ultimatum. So, what does Russia has in Nuclear weapons that makes the Siberian Bear think she is invincible?

RUSSIA has just completed a major nuclear exercise, testing its land, sea and air weapons from all four corners of the continent-spanning nation.

But one test stood out.

The missile rocketed out from Russia's Plestek Cosmodrome, passing above the atmosphere before plummeting back to earth some 5800km away — striking targets in the Kura test range.

It was reportedly a Topol SS-25 ICBM (code named Sickle). The 1980s vintage weapon is capable of carrying a single 550 kiloton warhead.

Rumours that it was Russia's next-generation Satan II missile, believed capable of carrying a dozen warheads, have been debunked.

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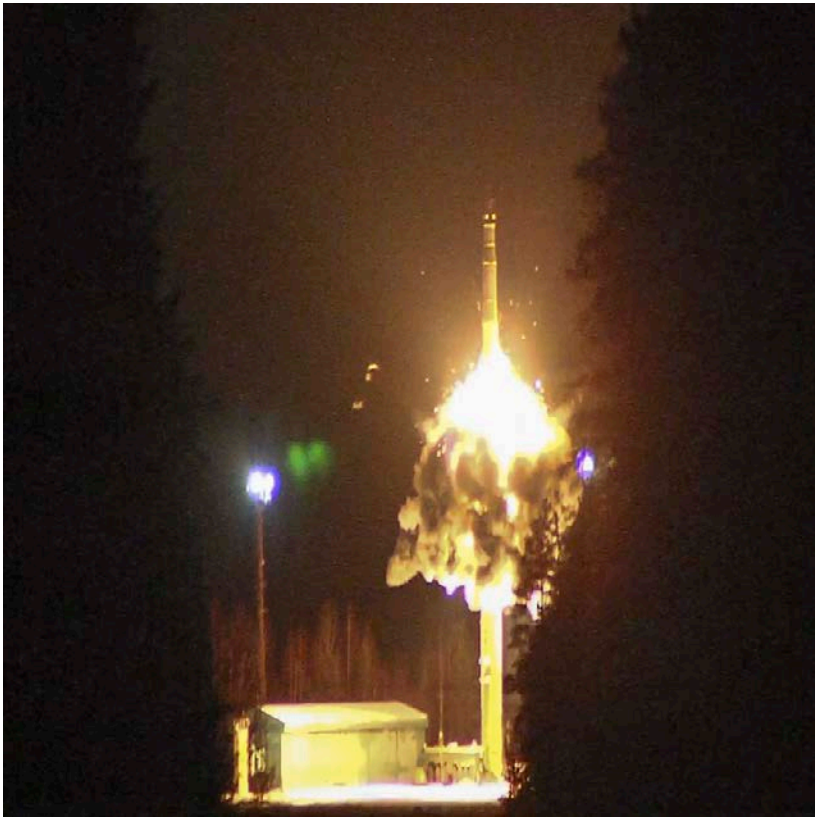
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The Ministry of Defence said it had "carried out an exercise to manage its strategic forces ...

All objectives of the training have been successfully completed."

"A squad of the Strategic Missile Force fired a Topol intercontinental ballistic missile from Plesetsk towards the Kura test range in Kamchatka," the Russian Defense Ministry is quoted in **the state-owned TASS News Agency**.

The statement also said Russian President Vladimir Putin was directly involved in the multifaceted exercise, and personally controlled the launch of all four of the missiles.



A big concern for the world today is that there does not appear to be any consequences for the bad guys who continuously threaten good order and peace. The government of Syria and its chemical weapon against civilians, Iran bank-rolling Islamic terrorists and human right violations, North Korea's build up of nuclear weapons despite sanctions, building up of military power in China, and Russia's annexing of Crimea, Eastern Ukraine, and threatening the Baltic states. The western world is too busy implementing social justice programs and cannot see the threat. Or they see the threat but opt not to take any actions for fear of aggravating the bad guys. Sound familiar?



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