



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

OCTOBER 2018

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President's Comments

It was on October 3, 2006 that I landed in Oslo, Norway to meet with the Norwegian Ambassador to African Union (AU) to plea for continuous Support for the AU operation for implementing the Peace Accord in Darfur, Sudan. As the Deputy Commander for Task Force Addis Ababa, a Canadian Contingence tasked to support the AU operation, it was my duty to ensure logistic support is available. On Halloween day, the AU peacekeepers were running out of clean water and fuel. Soldiers were eating uncooked food for lack of cooking fuel. Bills were unpaid and private contractors were cutting off logistic supports. When I landed in Oslo, it was dark, windy and cold. I had on summer clothes for African weather. Fortunately, I got the commitment I needed.

Battle of Queenston Heights



When I completed my AU deployment eight months later, I had lost 30 pounds of my body weight, having to fight against bouts of Amoebic Dysentery and other forms of viral infection. Meanwhile, the Treasury Board has sent a team to re-assess the level of danger pay awarded to soldiers in the theatre. The team decided the risk and danger level is to be scaled down significantly and it is to be retroactive to June 2006. This meant the soldiers were overpaid and must repay the Crown. This was effected during December, just before Christmas. In addition to engaging combatants and fighting environmental hazards that soldiers took upon themselves as a part of the job on behalf of Canada, we often have to battle the government bureaucracy and those who have little appreciation of the sacrifices soldiers made, hence comments such as "Canada has no moral obligation", or veteran funds being diverted to pay for counseling services for cop killers.

So, on the eves of Remembrance Day and the 100th anniversary of the armistice, I ask you all to thank our serving soldiers and veterans for the sacrifices they made in order to preserve our Canadian values and promote democracy all over the world. And most of all, thank them with "real" appreciations and not empty words by telling our government to treat our wounded veterans and their family with dignity and endorse the compensation they deserve.

Cancellation of Remembrance Day Levee Due to the planned 100th Armistice cerebation to be held on November 11, 2018 at the Alberta Legislature at 1200 hrs, the usual EUSI Remembrance Day Levee, which is usually held at HMCS NONSUCH, will be cancelled this year to lend all attention to the Armistice cerebation.

Symposium and Mess Dinner

The 2018 Symposium and mess dinner held on September 22 at HMCS NONSUCH was a success. The symposium counted 85 attendees and the dinner had 42 guests. We had expected a higher number, however, the snow storm that blanketed most of Alberta had made it difficult to travel. The panel of speakers delivered a high level of wisdom that is rarely seen west of Ottawa. To review the various speeches, refer to youtube or EUSI.ca. The dinner also saw the usual excellent performance by the LER band and the always popular drum line. Thank you LER Band. Also, thank you to the crew members and especially the EXO of HMCS NONSUCH for the support and excellent lunch cooked and served at the gully.



UNITED NATIONS DAY

In 1947, the United Nations General Assembly declared 24 October, the anniversary of the of the United Nations, as which "shall be making known to the peoples of the world the and achievements of the United nations and to gaining their support for" its work



"The Loyalist Hymn"

God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!

Today our thankful praise we bring for all our forebears true,
Who kept their word to God and King and fled to frontiers new.

O

Their shelter, hope and help you were; be ours, in years to come,
Till kingdoms rise and wane no more and all in you are one.

Till then bless this, the land they found and bless its crowned head.
Unite us all; let love abound in years that lie ahead.



Get trained!

HUMOUR

(Editor's note) The following is submitted by Sgt(ret'd) AE Bince, who is a 90 year old Korean veteran.

At a wine merchant's warehouse the regular taster died, and the director started looking for a new one to hire. He posted a sign at the entrance to the building... EXPERIENCED WINE TASTER NEEDED -- POSITION STARTS IMMEDIATELY.

A retired Marine sergeant named Gunny (of course), drunk and with a ragged dirty look and smelling of last night's rounds, strolled by the building and saw the sign. He went into the building to apply for the position.

Aghast at his appearance, the director wondered how to send him away but, to be fair, he gave him a glass of wine to taste. The old "jarhead" held the glass up to his left eye, tilted his head toward incoming sunlight and studied the contents looking through the glass. He then took a sip and said, "It's a Southern California Muscat, three years old, grown on a north slope, matured in steel containers. Somewhat low-grade but acceptable."

"That's correct," said the boss. Glancing at his assistant he said..."Another one, please."

The old Marine took the goblet, full of a deep red liquid, stuck his nose into the glass, sniffed deeply and took a long slow sip....rolling his eyeballs in a circle, he then looked at the director and said... "It's a Cabernet Sauvignon, eight years old, south-western slope, oak barrels, matured at eight degrees. Requires three more years for the finest results."

"Absolutely correct. A third glass." said the director.

Receiving another glass, again, the Marine eyed the crystal, took in a little bit of the aroma and sipped very softly.... "It's a pinot blanc champagne, very high grade and exclusive," said the drunk calmly.

The director was astonished and winked at his assistant to suggest something. She left the room and came back in with a wine glass half-full of urine.

The old Sergeant eyed it suspiciously...a color he could not quite recall.

He took a sip, swishing it over his tongue and across his teeth, musing upward all the while.

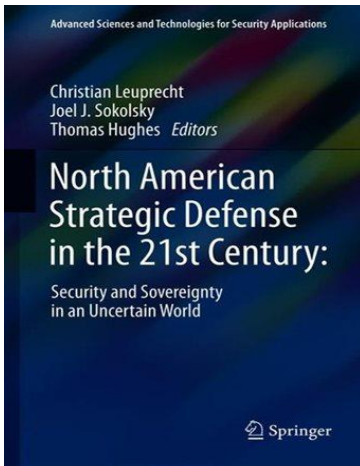
"It's a blonde, 26 years old, three months pregnant, and if I don't get the job, I'll name the father."

Editor's Note: The Moral of this story: absolutely none.



CANADIAN MILITARY READING

North American Strategic Defense in the 21st Century: Security and Sovereignty in an Uncertain World. Springer International Publishing, Cham, Switzerland



The North American Strategic Defense in the 21 Century is a compilation of published articles by internationally prominent defense and security scholars/researchers, edited by Christian Leuprecht, Joel Sokolsky and Thomas Hughes. Both Dr. Christian Leuprecht and one of the essayist, Dr. Rob Huebert were panel speakers at the September 2018 EUSI symposium. Without spoiling your fun reading this insightful book, the common theme is that nuclear capable countries have changed the way how to avert nuclear conflict. The capability of the continental ballistic missile allows belligerents to think in terms how not to be detected rather than to think twice before engaging nuclear weapons because retaliatory destructions. The article by Dr. Huebert, The Arctic and the Strategic Defence of North America: Resumption of the “ Long Polar Watch” has a Canadian mention and should bring some scare.



Securitas

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



WAR ARE BEATING