

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



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

## PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

JUNE 2019

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### President's Comment

For the younger readers, do you know what D in D-Days Stands for?

6<sup>th</sup> of June is D-Day Anniversary - A historical review to refresh your memory.



The **Normandy landings**, codenamed *Operation Neptune*, were the landing operations of the Allied invasion of Normandy in *Operation Overlord*, during World War II. The landings commenced on Tuesday, 6 June 1944 (**D-Day**), beginning at 6:30 am British Double Summer Time (GMT+2). In planning, as for most Allied operations, the term *D-Day* was used for the day of the actual landing, which was dependent on final approval.

The landings were conducted in two phases: an airborne assault landing of 24,000 British, US and Canadian airborne troops shortly after midnight, and an amphibious landing of Allied infantry and armoured divisions on the coast of France starting at 6:30 am. Surprise was achieved thanks to inclement weather and a comprehensive deception plan implemented in the months before the landings, codenamed *Operation Bodyguard*, to distract German attention from the possibility of landings in Normandy. A key success was to convince Adolf Hitler that the landings would actually occur to the north at the Pas-de-Calais. There were also decoy operations taking place simultaneously with the landings under the codenames *Operation Glimmer* and *Operation Taxable* to distract German forces from the real landing areas.

Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces was General Dwight D. Eisenhower while overall command of ground forces (21st Army Group) was given to General Bernard Montgomery. The operation, planned by a team under Lieutenant-General Frederick Morgan, was the largest amphibious invasion in world history and was executed by land, sea and air elements under direct Anglo-American command with over 160,000 soldiers landing on 6 June 1944: 73,000 Americans, 61,715 British and 21,400 Canadians, 195,700 Allied naval and merchant navy personnel in over 5,000 ships were also involved. The invasion required the transport of soldiers and materiel from England by troop-laden aircraft and ships, the assault landings, air support, naval interdiction of the English Channel and naval gunfire support. The landings took place along a 50-mile (80 km) stretch of the Normandy coast divided into five sectors: Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword. The combined ally countries included United Kingdom, USA, Canada, Free France, Poland, Australia, New Zealand, Belgium, Greece, Netherland, and Czechoslovakia, against Germany. The Normandy landing paved the way for the recovery of Europe and the rest is history.

## Change of Commands

On Wednesday, May 29, 2019, LGen J.M. Lanthier, CMM, MSC, MSM, CD officiated the Change of Command of 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Division from BGen Trevor Cadieu, OMM, MSC, MSM, CD to BGen Steve Lacroix, CD. The Change of Command Ceremony took place at the Officer's Mess, Edmonton Garrison Officer's Mess. On behalf of EUSI, the president attended the ceremony.

The 41 Canadian Brigade Group will have a Change of Command from Colonel Eppo van Weelderen, CD, to Colonel Mike Vernon, CD, on June 22, 2019. Also, the Brigade Sergeant-Major will also change from Chief Warrant Officer Brain Talty, MMM, CD to Chief Warrant Officer Scott Doyle, CD. The Change Command ceremony will take place at The Military Museum, 4520 Crowchild Trail SW, Calgary.

## Last Post

Lieutenant Colonel Quarton, John Henry "Harry" met his maker on April 8, 2019, aged 96. Harry was a long term member of EUSI, and maintained his membership even after he relocated to Summerland, BC, in 1988. Harry joined the South Alberta Regiment (29<sup>th</sup> Armoured Regiment) in 1940 at the age of 17 and went overseas as part of the 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Armoured Division. He became the youngest Sergeant Major in the Canadian Army at the age of 18. After serving in WWII, Harry returned home in 1946 and began employment with the Edmonton Journal, while continued to serve in the Militia, for a total of 46 years of combined regular and reserve services. Harry was the Senior Aide-de-Camp for five Lieutenant Governors in Alberta. Harry is survived by his wife of 43 years, May. RIP, Harry. Thank you for your services to Canada.



## Military Ombudsman

On behalf of EUSI and the Edmonton Salutes Committee, I attended an information session with the current Ombudsman for the Military and the RCMP, Mr. Craig Dalton, who is also a veteran. He has been in the job for a month and is trying to meet all stake holders from east to west to find out what are the concerns and what he can do to provide better services to veterans. Mr. Dalton stressed that he is NOT an advocate for veterans, His mandate is to determine if a veteran has been treated unfairly and how he can help to correct that unfairness. For example, if his investigation determines that a claim was unfairly rejected by the Veteran Appeal Board, he will try to address the unfairness. Mr. Dalton informed that his office will review all complaints brought to his office, however, there is a backlog and he is working to increase his staffing.



### **Groesbeek Memoria**



### **Unseen Fire**

This is a damned unnatural sort of war;  
The pilot sits among the clouds, quite sure  
About the values he is fighting for;  
He cannot hear beyond his veil of sound,  
He cannot see the people on the ground;  
he only knows that on the sloping map  
Of sea-fringed town and country people creep  
Like ants — and who cares if ants laugh or weep?



## HUMOUR

Our regular apolitical contributor, Sgt (ret'd) A.E. Bince, who may have been compromised by the Democrats, furnished the following

Donald Trump went to London and met with the Queen.

"Your Queenship," he asked her, "I am finding things way more difficult than I could have imagined. May I ask you - how do you run such an efficient government?

Are there any tips you can give me?"

"Well," replied Her Majesty, "the most important thing is to surround yourself with intelligent people."

Trump frowned. "But how do you know the people around you are really intelligent?" he asked.

"Oh, that's easy" the Queen replied, "You just ask them to answer an intelligent riddle."

She pushed a button on her intercom. "Please send Theresa May in here."

The Prime Minister walked into the room. "You called for me, Your Majesty?"

"Answer me this, if you would, Theresa," the Queen said. "Your mother and father have a child. It is not your brother and it is not your sister. Who is it?"

Without pausing for even a second, Theresa May answered, "That would be me."

"Yes! Very good," said the Queen.

Trump went back home, returned to the White House and the very next day called for Mike Pence to come and see him. Pence duly trotted in to the Oval Office.

"Mike, answer this for me," said the Donald. "Your mother and your father have a child. It's not your brother and it's not your sister. Who is it?"

"I'm not sure," said Pence. "Let me get back to you on that one."

Pence went panicking off to his advisers and asked everyone, but none of them could give him an answer.

The next night, as it happened, Pence ran in to Hillary Clinton in a restaurant. By now, desperate for an answer to give to his tyrannical boss, he approached her – much to her surprise.

"Hillary, I know we haven't always seen eye to eye but I would really appreciate it if you could answer this riddle for me."

"Sure, Mike," Hillary said. "I'm not one to hold a grudge. What is it?"

"Thanks," said Pence, "It's this. Your mother and father have a child and it's not your brother or your sister. Who is it?"

Hillary answered right back, "That's easy, it's me!"

Pence smiled, "Thanks!"

Pence then went back to speak with Trump. "Say, boss, I did some research and I have the answer to that riddle. It's Hillary Clinton."

Trump got up, stomped over to Pence, and angrily yelled at him. "No, you idiot! It's Theresa May!"

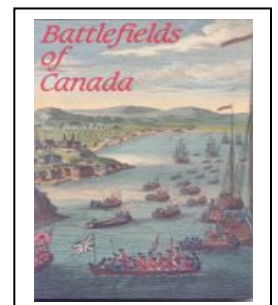


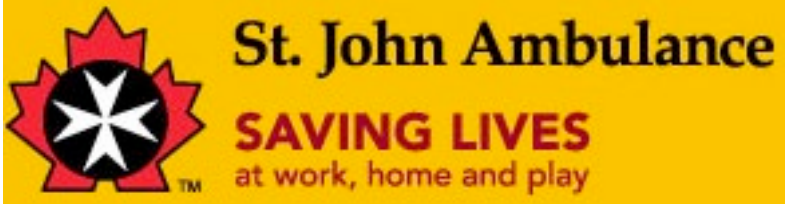
## CANADIAN MILITARY READING

### Battlefields of Canada

M. Beacock Fryer.

This volume covers nearly three hundred years of history and features the most significant as well as some of the most comic and bizarre Canadian battles.





Get trained!



## CANADIAN GEAR HURCULES J



The first of Canada's new J model Hercules arrived June 4, 2010. The familiar CC-130 Hercules is a mainstay of the Canadian Forces' transport fleet. Renewing the tactical airlift fleet is a priority of the Government of Canada, as part of the [Canada First Defence Strategy](#), and its commitment to a modernized and strengthened Canadian Forces. The new aircraft will enable troops to conduct safer and more effective operations at home and abroad. The CC-130J Hercules is a four-engine, fixed-wing turboprop aircraft that can carry up to 92 combat troops or 128 non-combat passengers. It is used for a wide range of missions, including troop transport, tactical airlift (both palletized and vehicular cargo) and aircrew training. While on the outside the CC-130J looks almost identical to the older Hercules, internally the J model Hercules is essentially a completely new aircraft. The new "Hercs" fly faster, higher and farther, and they carry heavier loads while burning less fuel. They can use shorter landing and take-off fields and their climb time is reduced by up to 50 per cent compared to the older models. They deliver cutting edge technology to provide the Canadian Forces with a modern, cost-effective, operationally-proven tactical airlift capability. Not only is the new Hercules a more capable aircraft, it also requires fewer crew members than the older Hercules; it flies with a minimum crew of three – two pilots and a loadmaster – compared to five on the older Hercules.



## What's Out There?

### M-93 Sniper Rifle (Yugoslavia)

The M-93 is a .50 caliber bolt action rifle, with action strongly resembling the famous Mauser rifle, stretched out accordingly for much bigger cartridge. The receiver features a scope rail and a back-up rear open sight; the folding front sight is mounted on the barrel. heavy free-floated fluted barrel is fitted with large and effective muzzle brake, which decreases the felt recoil down to acceptable level. Rifle is fitted with buttstock, which is adjustable for length of pull, and with the integral folding bipods at the front of the receiver. The folding carrying handle is mounted above the bipods. Standard scope is 8X32 fixed power. M-93 feeds ammunition from 5-round detachable box magazines.



Securitas

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