

Honourary Patron, The Honourable Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Salma Lakhani



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE
PRESIDENT'S CORNER
SEPTEMBER 2024

The information in this newsletter is for informational purposes only. The Edmonton United Services assumes no liability for any inaccurate, delayed or incomplete information, nor for any actions taken in reliance thereon.

President's Comment

With our AGM expected to be held in the fall, one topic will be up for discussion. That is the theme of our Annual symposium, expected to take place in the Spring of 2025. EUSI members and readers are asked to be prepared to think of a suitable and concerning topic to be considered for the next symposium. In the past, our symposium topics have covered matters that were not in the center of attention but should have been. Matters concerning our northern marine and air security, weaponized drones, and impact on the role of Canadian Armed Forces from natural disasters. The CAF is often asked to help with the aftermath of natural disasters under a defined role of "Aids to Civil Power. As natural disasters are occurring more and more often, the CAF are needed more often, thereby diverting resources from the primary role of the CAF, which is armed protection of Canada and to participate upholding peace and order internationally. The EUSI symposiums have tried to bring these issues forefront and to the attention of our citizens and government. Hence, I believe the focus of our symposiums should remain on this path and be the canary of the wellbeing of this nation.

So ladies and gentlemen, bring your ideas and put them forward in our planning meeting for the next symposium after the **AGM.(Scheduled for Saturday, October 5th 2024, 1100 hrs to 1400 hrs, at the Edmonton Inn and Convention Centre. With buffet lunch. More info to follow).**

The EUSI is a prominent member of the Edmonton Salutes Committee. For those who are not aware of The Edmonton Salutes Committee, it is a standing committee funded by the City of Edmonton, with representatives from neighbouring municipalities. The Federal Government is represented by our local MP, Ziad Aboutiff, and the Provincial Government is represented by a member of the Legislature, CFB Edmonton, the naval communities and veteran communities such as the Legion are also represented. Town councils from most of the neighbouring townships are represented as well. The Edmonton Salutes Committee was there to welcome home our soldiers from Afghanistan and we also saw them off. The Edmonton Salutes Committee has been involved in many projects to boost the morale of our soldiers and is currently planning a number of activities, including a Christmas concert for our soldiers and their family. EUSI was one of the architects in designing and funding the Mayor's Chain of Office, which now is valued in thousands of dollars.

700 Wing Edmonton Dinner Theatre, September 14 is cancelled. Tickets holders will be refunded.

Corrections – In the August issue of the ENews, there were two errors that needed to be corrected. The first one being the amount of cash donation to the Banff Monument dedication was \$500.00 (five hundred

dollars) and not \$5000.00 as reported. The \$5000.00 was the cost of hosting Korean veterans and their guest for the two day event, hotel, mileage and meals. The second correction refers to the Ambassador's Peace Medal awarded to the president of EUSI. It was incorrectly reported this medal was bestowed by the government of Korea, while in fact it was a United Nations medal that bears the same name. I apology for the incorrect information and the inconvenience caused.



Vitai Lampada

The Royal Canadian Horse Artillery Memorial



THERE'S a breathless hush in the Close to-night
Ten to make and the match to win
A bumping pitch and a blinding light,
An hour to play and the last man in.
And it's not for the sake of a ribboned coat,
Or the selfish hope of a season's fame,
But his Captain's hand on his shoulder smote
"Play up! play up! and play the game!"
The sand of the desert is sodden red,
Red with the wreck of a square that broke;
The Gatling's jammed and the colonel dead,
And the regiment blind with dust and smoke.
The river of death has brimmed his banks,
And England's far, and Honour a name,
But the voice of schoolboy rallies the ranks,
"Play up! play up! and play the game!"
This is the word that year by year

While in her place the School is set
Every one of her sons must hear,
And none that hears it dare forget.
This they all with a joyful mind
Bear through life like a torch in flame,
And falling fling to the host behind -
"Play up! play up! and play the game!"



Israel/Gaza Conflict

With the anniversary of the most recent war in the middle east coming in a month, just a reminder the current Israel Gaza war began when Hamas-led militant groups launched a surprise attack on Israel on 7 October, 2023, which involved a rocket barrage and a few thousand militants breaching the Gaza-Israel barrier and attacking Israeli civilian communities and military bases

Historical Perspective of the Conflict

On November 29, 1947, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 181 (also known as the [Partition Resolution](#)) that would divide Great Britain's former Palestinian mandate into Jewish and Arab states in May 1948. Under the resolution, the area of religious significance surrounding Jerusalem would remain under international control administered by the United Nations. The Palestinian Arabs refused to recognize this arrangement, which they regarded as favorable to the Jews and unfair to the Arab population that would remain in Jewish territory under the partition. The United States sought a middle way by supporting the United Nations resolution, but also encouraging negotiations between Arabs and Jews in the Middle East.

The United Nations resolution sparked conflict between Jewish and Arab groups within Palestine. Fighting began with attacks by irregular bands of Palestinian Arabs attached to local units of the Arab Liberation Army composed of volunteers from Palestine and neighboring Arab countries. These groups launched their attacks against Jewish cities, settlements, and armed forces. The Jewish forces were composed of the Haganah, the underground militia of the Jewish community in Palestine, and two small irregular groups, the Irgun, and LEHI. The goal of the Arabs was initially to block the Partition Resolution and to prevent the establishment of the Jewish state. The Jews, on the other hand, hoped to gain control over the territory allotted to them under the Partition Plan.

After Israel declared its independence on May 14, 1948, the fighting intensified with other Arab forces joining the Palestinian Arabs in attacking territory in the former Palestinian mandate. On the eve of May 14, the Arabs launched an air attack on Tel Aviv, which the Israelis resisted. This action was followed by the invasion of the former Palestinian mandate by Arab armies from Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, and Egypt. Saudi Arabia sent a formation that fought under the Egyptian command. British trained forces from Transjordan eventually intervened in the conflict, but only in areas that had been designated as part of the Arab state under the United Nations Partition Plan and the corpus separatum of Jerusalem. After tense early fighting, Israeli forces, now under joint command, were able to gain the offensive.

Though the United Nations brokered two cease-fires during the conflict, fighting continued into 1949. Israel and the Arab states did not reach any formal armistice agreements until February. Under separate agreements between Israel and the neighboring states of Egypt, Lebanon, Transjordan, and Syria, these bordering nations agreed to formal armistice lines. Israel gained some territory formerly granted to Palestinian Arabs under the United Nations resolution in 1947. Egypt and Jordan retained control over the Gaza Strip and the West Bank respectively. These armistice lines held until [1967](#). The United States did not become directly involved with the armistice negotiations, but hoped that instability in the Middle East would not interfere with the international balance of power between the Soviet Union and the United States.

What do the Palestinian want in Gaza

According to Middle East experts David Pollock and Catherine Cleveland, as of 2021, the majority of Palestinians said they wanted to reclaim all of historic Palestine, including pre-1967 Israel. A one-state solution with equal rights for Arabs and Jews was ranked second.

Was Palestine a country before the war?

While the State of Israel was established on 15 May 1948 and admitted to the United Nations, **a Palestinian State was not established**. The remaining territories of pre-1948 Palestine, the West Bank - including East Jerusalem- and Gaza Strip, were administered from 1948 till 1967 by Jordan and Egypt, respectively.

Which country support Palestine

Among the G20, nine countries (Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and Turkey, as well as permanent invitee Spain) have recognized Palestine as a state, while ten countries (Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, South Korea, the United Kingdom, and the United States) have not.

Now that we have some understanding of the geo-political, historical and religious background of the middle-east conflict, we are also aware all previous attempts to resolve the conflict through battles have not worked. Truce and lay down arms have been just short lapses. The conflict in the Middle east were largely due to political negotiations among large nations for self serving reasons. In order to resolve the conflict today, I believe the world, in particular those strong nations, will need to help negotiate/broker a permanent solution.



HUMOUR

I was thinking that women should put pictures of missing husbands on beer cans!

Employment application blanks always ask who is to be notified in case of an emergency. I think you should write, 'A Good Doctor'!

I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a whole lot more as they get older. Then, it dawned on me. They were cramming for their finals.

As for me, I'm just hoping God grades on the curve.

A penny saved is a government oversight.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.

If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble.

Did you ever notice: When you put the 2 words 'The' and 'IRS' together it spells 'Theirs...'

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to your youth, think of Algebra.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young. Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

Lord, Keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth... AMEN





Get trained!

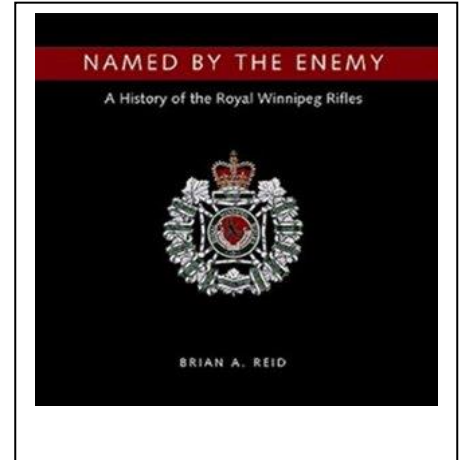


CANADIAN MILITARY READING

Named by the Enemy: A History of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles

Brian A. Reid

Named by the Enemy: A History of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles by Brian A. Reid covers the story of the Little Black Devils on their 125th anniversary in 2010. The unit received its moniker during the Northwest Rebellion from captured Métis soldiers, who distinguished its members for their dark green uniforms, which contrasted with the NWMP's red coats.



CANADIAN GEAR

C9A1 LIGHT MACHINE-GUN



Night C9A1 is a C9 Light machine-gun with an optical sight attached. The Minimi (a contraction of Mini-Mitrailleuse, or mini machine-gun) is fully automatic, gas operated and belt or magazine fed. It has an effective range of 600 metres. Within the rifle section, the C9A1 is used to provide covering fire for the manoeuvre of assault troops in the offence and to cover enemy approaches in the defence.

The C9A1 fires 700 rounds per minute and up to 1000 rounds per minute with the adverse setting. The calibre is 5.56 x 45 mm NATO. The C9A1 can be fitted with an optical sight and the Image Intensification Sight (Kite sight). The Army has used the C9A1 at home and abroad since 1986.



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