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DEFENCE NEWS

Tax relief to Canadian Forces members on international missions



Ottawa Citizen

The Finance Department recently issued this: The Government of Canada provides tax relief to members of the Canadian Armed Forces and police officers deployed on international high- and moderate-risk operational missions. This tax relief recognizes the special contribution that CAF members and police officers make to international peace and stability while serving their country abroad. **READ MORE**

Head of military support unit Gerry Blais steps down amid major overhaul of unit



CBC News

The head of the Canadian Forces Joint Personnel Support Unit has stepped down in advance of a major overhaul of the unit. In a memo to JPSU staff, Colonel Gerry Blais says his resignation is effective immediately. "There is a great deal of change ahead and I do not feel that I am prepared to lead the unit into this new method of operation," Blais wrote. **READ MORE**

Persian Gulf War marked by Canadian veterans on 25th anniversary



CBC News

Lt-Cdr. John Williston remembers the daytime darkness after Iraqi troops began blowing up Kuwaiti oil wells during the Persian Gulf War 25 years ago. It was January 1991, and he was stationed at a prisoner camp on the border

of Saudia Arabia and Kuwait. [READ MORE](#)

'I can't take the pain': B.C. vet fights Veterans Affairs over PTSD, chronic pain treatment



Global News

Angel Kibble spent seven years with the Canadian Forces in Esquimalt on Vancouver Island. But during that time, she claims she suffered a knee injury in basic training and was harassed by her peers. She's been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and complex regional pain syndrome — a chronic pain condition affecting a limb usually after an injury. [READ MORE](#)

Canada to stay in program of F-35 jet buyers despite pledge to withdraw



Globe and Mail

The Canadian government intends to make a payment this spring to remain part of the consortium of F-35 Lightning fighter-jet buyers, despite a Liberal election promise to exclude the aircraft when selecting this country's next warplane. The move raises questions about whether the Liberal government is reconsidering its ban on purchasing the controversial F-35 jet. [READ MORE](#)

Retired paratrooper creating sanctuary for soldiers, vets



Nugget

Eric Coupal was in the Canadian Armed Forces for 20 years, serving seven tours of duty, badly injured in some. But Coupal found out five years ago, as some soldiers do, that the battle they have to fight when they return home is worse than any combatant on enemy lines. [READ MORE](#)

Toronto Zoo polar bear cub named Juno, adopted by Canadian Army



Inside Toronto

The Toronto Zoo's polar bear now cub has a name — Juno. Private Juno that is. The zoo's newest polar bear is also the newest member of the Canadian Army. The female bear's name was announced recently, along with the news she has been officially adopted by the Canadian Army, which she will represent as its mascot. [READ MORE](#)

RCAA NEWS AND UPDATES

Gunners talk about mental health



Captain Nicholas Kaempffer

On the 27th of January, Gunners from The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery School (RCAS) took part in a unit-level event as part of Bell 'Let's Talk' Day, a national conversation about mental health. Organized by Major Dennie Bourque and Master Warrant Officer Richard Henry, Battery Commander and Battery Sergeant Major of 67th Depot Battery, Officers and Non-Commissioned Members of the RCAS sat down as a unit family to have a constructive discussion to learn about mental illness, communicate facts, and most importantly — to talk and listen to each other. [READ MORE](#)

Thanks and update 7th book of remembrance project



Mike Walker

Some of you may recall a couple of years ago I asked your assistance in identifying two members of the RCA who did not have their names recorded in the 7th Book of Remembrance in the Peace Tower, and in the related Canada's Virtual War Memorial. (This book/database records the names of those killed in military training related accidents since the end of the Korean War). [READ MORE](#)

116 Independent Bty RCA — A small unit with a big territory



RCAA

Nestled in the rocky terrain and boreal forest surrounding the city of Kenora, Ontario sits the only Army Reserve unit between Thunder Bay, ON to the East, Winnipeg, MB to the West and the United States border to the South — making it one of the largest geographical areas covered by an army reserve unit within 38 Canadian Brigade

Group (CBG). **READ MORE**

THE LAST POST

MORRIS, Thomas Alfred, WWII, 26 Feb 2016

DOWNE, John Sgt (Ret'd), 16 Feb 2016

LIRETTE, Joseph Alfred, BDR(Ret'sd), 21 Feb 2016

SMITH, Col D. Ian OMM, CD, 10 Feb 2016

CARVER, Chester, 4 Feb 2016

LACHANCE James (Jim), 23 Jan 2016

BOOTH, Darrell Anthony, 12 Jan 2016

WOODS, Thomas Edward (Woody), Jan 17 2016

BECHTEL, Charles, Sgt, 9 Jan 2016

MACLEAN, Norman, Capt AOP, 8 Jan 2016

VAUTOUR, Joseph (joe) Eloi, 7 Jan 2016

WEBSTER, Ronald James, Col, 28 Dec 2015

DILLING, Frederick Ronald, 20 Dec 2015

MCKAY, Robert Neil, LCol, 19 Dec 2015

JAMES, Ronald Kenneth (Jesse), Col, 17 Dec 2015

TRENDING ARTICLES

Missed last week's issue? See which articles your colleagues read most.

- [Veterans challenge denial of disability benefits in latest court battle](#) (CTV News)
- [Ottawa Gunners AGM 2016](#) (Ottawa Gunners)
- [New Gunners Graduate Training](#) (Gunner Benjamin)

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