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May 11, 2017



Royal Canadian Artillery Association News



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RCAA NEWS AND UPDATES

The RCA in the Defence



By LCol J. Geoffrey Hampton, CO 2 RCHA

Since 2002, when the Canadian Army first committed ground troops to Afghanistan (Op APOLLO), our training has been focused on offensive operations, and counter insurgency. Since the end of combat operations in Afghanistan in 2010, the Army has focused on fighting a "near peer" threat in a conventional conflict, but the bias towards offensive action persists. It has not always been thus, however. 4 CMBG, based in West Germany during the Cold War, was very focused on defensive operations, given that the Warsaw Pact were perceived as a threat to NATO. As the Canadian Army once again deploys to Europe in increasing numbers to address a resurgent Russian threat, it behooves us as Canadian military professionals to once again explore the necessity of fighting a successful defensive battle, in order to enable a return to the offense... and victory. **READ MORE**

The Quadrant / Le Quadrant



"The Quadrant" is no longer being published. Send us your articles at: exdir.rcaa.aarc@gmail.com.

"Le Quadrant" n'est plus publié. Envoyez-nous vos articles à: exdir.rcaa.aarc@gmail.com.

An appeal from the RCAA Executive Director: Connecting with Gunner Veterans



As part of our ongoing efforts to communicate to a wider audience across the Royal Regiment Family, one group whom I'd like to be able to reach are those former Gunners now living in retirement residences, nursing homes and veteran's homes across Canada.

For various reasons, they may have lost contact with the Gunner family and our weekly NewsBrief offers them the opportunity to re-connect.

To that end, and understanding that we have many active, regional Gunner associations across Canada, I would encourage you all to contact a member of the management of local retirement residences, nursing homes and

veteran's homes in your area. Send them a copy of our NewsBrief and encourage them to subscribe to the free newsletter on behalf of their residents, by clicking on the "Subscribe" tab at the top of each newsletter. Please also encourage such residences and homes to send us any news regarding their Gunner residents which we could publish in the NewsBrief.

Thank You,

P.J. (Peter) Williams, MSM, CD
Colonel (Retired)
Executive Director Royal Canadian Artillery Association

Un appel du directeur exécutif de l'AARC : se connecter avec les vétérans Artilleurs



Dans le cadre de nos efforts en cours pour communiquer à un public plus large à travers la famille du Régiment royal, un groupe auquel j'aimerais pouvoir rejoindre, ce sont ces anciens Artilleurs qui vivent maintenant dans des résidences de retraite, des maisons de soins infirmiers (CHSLD) et des maisons de vétérans à travers le Canada.

Pour diverses raisons, ils ont peut-être perdu le contact avec la famille de l'Artillerie et notre Bulletin de nouvelles hebdomadaire qui leur offre la possibilité de se relier.

À cette fin, et en comprenant que nous avons de nombreuses associations d'artillerie régionales actives au Canada, je vous encourage tous à communiquer avec un membre de la direction des résidences de retraite, des maisons de soins infirmiers (CHSLD) et des maisons de vétérans dans votre région. Envoyez-leur une copie de notre Bulletin de nouvelles et au nom de leurs résidents, encouragez-les à s'abonner au Bulletin de nouvelles gratuit, en cliquant sur l'onglet "S'abonner" au sommet de chaque bulletin. Veuillez également encourager ces résidences et maisons à nous envoyer des nouvelles concernant leurs résidents de l'artillerie, que nous pourrions publier dans Bulletin de nouvelles.

Je vous remercie,

P.J. (Peter) Williams, MSM, CD
Colonel (Retraité)
Directeur général Association royale d'artillerie canadienne / Directeur Exécutif de l'Association Artillerie Royale Canadienne

National Capital Region Gunners Artillery Day Celebrations — Friday 26 May 2017



The 26th of May 2017 marks the 301st Anniversary of the establishment of our Allied Regiment — the Royal Regiment of Artillery. In following with the spirit of the RCA Standing Orders at reference, the National Capital Region Gunners have planned a hockey game followed by lunch and an informal Mess function at the Army Officer's Mess. All Serving and Retired Gunners (Officer and Sr NCOs) and friends of The Royal Regiment are cordially invited to participate. **READ MORE**

Kingston Gunners Artillery Day Event, Friday 26 May



Kingston Gunners Association
Artillery Day
26th May 2017
RCHA Brigade Association
193 Ontario Street
Kingston, ON

K7L 2Y7 [READ MORE](#)

RCAA AGM and RCA Board



RCAA AGM and RCA Board is scheduled for 12-14 Oct. 17 at the Morrison Artillery Park, Ottawa. The meet and greet will be on the evening of Thursday 12 Oct., the RCA Board on Friday 13 Oct. with the dinner that evening and the RCAA AGM will be on Saturday 14 Oct.

L'AGA de l'AARC et le conseil de l'ARC



L'AGA de l'AARC et le conseil de l'ARC se tiendront du 12 au 14 octobre 2017 au Parc de l'Artillerie Morrison à Ottawa. La soirée de rencontre et bienvenue sera le soir du jeudi 12 octobre, le conseil de l'ARC le vendredi 13 octobre suivi du dîner en soirée et l'AGA de l'AARC sera le samedi 14 octobre.

The 30th Field Regiment Artillery Museum needs your help / Le musée du 30e régiment d'artillerie de campagne a besoin de votre aide



[Help Wanted: Gunner Artifacts and Volunteers for the Bytown Gunners Firepower Museum](#)

[Project 2014-01: Deuce Restoration](#)

[More information on Project 2014-01: Deuce Restoration](#)

[9 PDR Limber Restoration](#)

[Bytown Gunners Firepower Museum Project 2012-02: 9 PDR Limber Restoration](#)

The Puff Range



By LCol (Ret'd) Ted Creech

30 Fd has continually strived to improve the realism of its training. This is a short article about one piece of equipment 30 Fd utilized for the Forward Observation Post parties (OP) — the Puff Range.

Prior to 1965 the Regiment was accommodated in an old church hall, Ste Anne's Hall (528 Old St Patrick Street). Very tight for space, there was insufficient space for dedicated OP training equipment. In 1965, 30 Fd was ordered to move to the Dows Lake Barracks. In preparation for this move, the Commanding Officer, LCol George Andrews, initiated planning for the construction of an OP trainer. (1) Thus, shortly after the move, construction of a Puff Range was started in an empty room measuring about 30 by 30 feet. **READ MORE**

Ontario personalized RCA license plates



ServiceOntario is making all graphic licence plates, such as the RCA plates, available with a choice of English or French slogan (i.e. "Yours to Discover" or "Tant à découvrir"). If you are interested, please contact your ServiceOntario representative. **READ MORE**

Plaques d'immatriculation ARC personnalisées



ServiceOntario est tout juste en train de réaliser des graphiques pour les plaques d'immatriculation, dont entre autres la plaque ARC disponible avec un choix de slogan en anglais ou en français (ex. "Yours to Discover" ou bien "Tant à découvrir"). Si cela vous intéresse, veuillez contacter votre représentant de ServiceOntario. **LIRE PLUS**

Ottawa Artillery Cadet Visits Grave of Vimy Ridge Veteran Ancestor



My 14-year-old grandson, Aidan Kelly, of Ottawa is a member of the Army Artillery Cadets. He was fortunate to join the group of cadets that visited Vimy Ridge for the 100th commemorative ceremony. Aidan's great great uncle Aeneas Dowling was born in Nine Mile Creek, P.E.I., on June 27, 1899, eldest son of Patrick and Margaret (Egan) Dowling. Aeneas joined the Canadian Military on Oct. 25, 1915. He overstated his age by two years and he would have been only 15 years of age on Oct. 25. Aeneas was assigned to the 105th Prince Edward Island Highlanders. He trained in Charlottetown with the 105th Prince Edward Islanders Highlanders and then sent to Valcartier, QC, for further training. After training at Valcartier, the Battalion left for Halifax and embarked upon the H.M. Transport Empress of Britain and arrived in England on July 24, 1916.



Aeneas was assigned to the 26th New Brunswick Battalion and was killed on July 4, 1917 in Angres, France, one week after his 17th birthday. He is buried in the Loos British Cemetery 10 miles from Vimy Ridge. With the help of Veterans Affairs military information in hand, Aidan was able to search down and visit the grave site of his great great uncle. To the best of my knowledge, he is the only relative to ever visit the grave site. Aidan found it a sombre and reflective occasion.

Patricia (Dowling) Kelly
Nine Mile Creek, Prince Edward Island

Researcher Seeks Information on a Gunner Relative



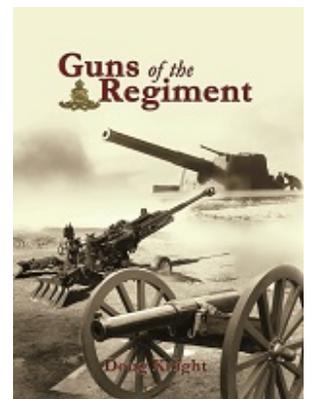
The grandson of LCol Earl Alexander Olmstead, WWII veteran and former National Secretary of the Army Benevolent Fund, is seeking comrades, friends and associates for information, documents and pictures particularly about the 3rd Cdn Inf Div HQ on D-Day and 13th Fd Regt throughout the campaign in NW Europe. Contact Geoff Osborne, 2010-30 Nelson St, Toronto, ON, M5V 0H5. Phone: 647-281-7200. Email: geoff.d.osborne@gmail.com

Book: Guns of the Regiment



Guns of the Regiment by Doug Knight, 425pp, illustrated throughout. Since Confederation, the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery has used more than 130 types of gun, howitzer, mortar, and rocket. Each gun was purchased or manufactured to fill a role in the defence of Canada, or in support of Canadian foreign policy. It then served with the Regiment, and was modified, modernized, or upgraded as necessary. Finally, it was transferred into the reserves, and later, a few retired in museums or as monuments.

"Guns of the Regiment" will be an invaluable resource to anyone with an interest in the weapons used by the Canadian artillery. Each gun has its own section, detailing its development and its career in the Regiment at home and overseas. Special sections deal with the manufacture of the guns, the organization and operation of the Regiment, and the mechanization of the artillery in the 1930s. Every gun is illustrated by at least one photograph, many of which have never been previously published. Available from Service Publications at: <http://www.servicepub.com/>



Retail price — CDN \$79.95

Vancouver Artillery Association and RUSI Vancouver Members News



— May 9, 2017

Check out the latest news and updates from the Vancouver Artillery Association and RUSI Vancouver. **READ MORE**

The 59th Newfoundland Heavy Regiment, Royal Artillery, in Normandy 1944



Paul W. Collins

Newfoundland is something of a unique case in Canadian history. For most of its existence it was either a fishing station or a crown colony of Britain, and much of its history is often considered to be British history. However, Newfoundland joined Canada in 1949, and when we became part of that country, so did our history.

Unfortunately, Canada seems to be selective in what Newfoundland history it wants to claim as its own. Canada, along with Newfoundland, celebrated the 500th anniversary of John Cabot's landing at Bonavista, the 1000th anniversary of the Viking settlement in L'Anse-aux-Meadows, and more recently, the sending of the first wireless transmission from Signal Hill in St. John's by Marconi. But a lot of Newfoundland history is overlooked within the Canadian context. **READ MORE**

61e régiment d'artillerie



Armée de Terre

Créé en 1910, le 61e régiment d'artillerie a pour première garnison Verdun. Il la quitte en 1914 et participe au prix de pertes sérieuses (515 hommes) à toutes les grandes batailles qui se sont déroulées sur le sol national de la mer du Nord à la Lorraine. Sa brillante conduite au feu durant la Grande Guerre lui vaut 9 citations : 6 à l'ordre de l'armée, 2 à l'ordre du corps d'armée, 1 à l'ordre de la division. Il obtient le droit au port de la fourragère aux couleurs du ruban de la Légion d'honneur. C'est le seul régiment d'artillerie à avoir cet honneur... d'où son nom de « Premier de la fourragère ». En 1914, les soldats allemands ont surnommé les artilleurs du 61 les « Diables Noirs » à cause de leur courage, de la couleur de leur uniforme et de la poudre à canon qui leur noircissait le visage. **LIRE PLUS**

History of the Royal Artillery Association



Royal Artillery Association

The Royal Artillery Association was started on 26 May 1920 by the RA War Commemoration Fund to create a "Gunner Friend" network organization in every part of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth; in essence to create and foster a bond of comradeship irrespective of rank, between all who are serving or who have ever served as artillerymen and to maintain and promote the proud traditions of "Ubique." It was also designed to watch and help those in need or distress and maintain contact with old comrades. It raised its money from annual and life subscriptions and after running costs funds were used to further the aims of the Association. Her Majesty The Queen is the Patron. **READ MORE**

DEFENCE NEWS

India contracts IAI for nearly \$2 billion of air and missile defence systems



Jane's 360

The Indian Ministry of Defence (MoD) has contracted Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) for air and missile defence systems for the army and navy, the company announced last month. The contract, which IAI values at between \$1.6 billion and \$2 billion, will see the Medium-Range Surface-to-Air Missile system delivered to the Indian Army, and additional Long-Range Surface-to-Air Missile systems delivered to the Indian Navy. **READ MORE**

'National Bird': The U.S. drone program and the toll it took on 3 people who were part of it



CBC News

National Bird follows three whistleblowers who are veterans of the U.S. military's controversial drone warfare program. The film had its broadcast premiere this week on PBS, and it's raising new questions about the ethics of drone strikes — not just in the countries where they wreak havoc, but in the lives of the soldiers who unleash them. **READ MORE**

And this little bad boy... An M72 Rocket Launcher



Soo Today

The Sault's 49th Field Artillery Regiment utilizes video-game like training technology that includes electronically-enhanced machine guns, a rocket launcher, computer generated imagery, and an indoor camouflaged artillery observation post. The regiment's indoor training facilities were on display recently at an open house of the Sault Ste. Marie Armoury. The armoury's two simulators — a Small Arms Trainer and an Indirect Fire Trainer — are video game-like tools that train the local reserve force on artillery firing and gun use. **READ MORE**

Turkey's Anka UAV undergoes weapons trials



Jane's 360

Turkey has conducted test firings of domestically manufactured weapons from its Anka unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), the Defence Industries Undersecretariat (SSM) announced recently. Images posted on both the SSM and Turkish defence ministry Twitter accounts showed the Turkish Aerospace Industries Anka UAV carrying a combination of Roketsan MAM-L precision-guided bombs, Cirit guided rockets, and UMTAS long-range anti-tank missiles. One image also showed the Anka to be equipped with the Aselsan electro-optic/infrared sensor. **READ MORE**

Australia selects NASAMS air-defence system



Defence Blog

Raytheon Australia has been selected to supply its National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System (NASAMS) for the Australian Army by granting First Pass Approval for the Land 19 Phase 7B project. The tender will be released to Raytheon Australia in the first half of 2017 to develop its highly successful National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System (NASAMS) for the ADF. Raytheon will be the Prime System Integrator (PSI) for Army's future GBAD capability. **READ MORE**

Pilot project aims to provide support for N.S. veterans facing incarceration



Global News

A pilot project is set to get underway in Nova Scotia to provide additional support to veterans who come in contact with the criminal justice system. The Veterans Justice Outreach Initiative was announced recently by federal Veterans Affairs Minister Kent Hehr. The initiative is a partnership between Veterans Affairs Canada and the Nova Scotia Mental Health Court. According to a news release, the goal is to "better identify, track and explore alternatives to incarceration." **READ MORE**

Tomahawk strike in Syria stokes debate about performance of Russian air defences



Jane's 360

The U.S. Navy's ability to hit Syria's Al-Shayrat Air Base with a large number of Raytheon RGM-109 Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles recently raised questions about the capabilities of Russia's air defence systems, specifically its current frontline long-range system: The Almaz-Antey S-400 Triumf. Russia deployed a S-400 battery to its air base in Syria's Latakia province in November 2015 after one of its Su-24 strike aircraft was shot down by a Turkish F-16 fighter close to the border. **READ MORE**

THE LAST POST

PLOURDE, Gunner Christian



An Artilleryman who was serving proudly with 1 RCHA, passed away peacefully shortly after noon on 5 May 2017. He was surrounded by his wonderful friends and family, and did so knowing that he parted with dignity, courage and grace in the face of tremendous adversity. The funeral will take place at 11:00 AM, Saturday 13 May at the Cathédrale Immaculée-Conception, Edmundston, NB. Further information is available at <http://www.jbcote.com/fr/avis-de-deces/plourde-christian.1047?page=1>.

Smith, Colonel (Retired) Arthur Harcourt Carington "Harky", MMM, SBStJ, CD, D.Sc.Mil



On Monday, April 24, 2017, Harky slipped away while holding hands with Mary Lee, his wife of 55 years. He was also with his son, Christopher and sister, Eve. In addition to Mary Lee (Lovee), he leaves his daughter in-law Wendy, son Christopher (Lydia Bugden), grandchildren Tyler, William, Sydney and Maggie and his sister Eve. A ceremony to celebrate Harky's life will be held on May 13, 2017 at 1100hrs at Christ Church Cathedral, 414 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario. If desired, donations in Harky's memory to the Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada or to Christ Church Cathedral are very much appreciated. The full obituary can be read at: <http://v1.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/Deaths.20170429.93387969/BDAStory/BDA/deaths>

TRENDING ARTICLES

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

- [Vol III, The Gunners of Canada 1967-2014 — Assistance to the Author](#)
- [Reminiscences of Gunner Harold S. Gamblin, 4th Canadian Siege Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, 1915-1918](#)
- [Old rifle range ignites quest for answers \(NS News\)](#)
- [Soldier's Bible reunited with Canadian family more than a century after found in trenches \(CBC News\)](#)
- [India's acquisition of 100 K9 SPHs approved \(Janes.com\)](#)

Don't be left behind. [Click here](#) to see what else you missed.

We'd like to hear from you! In an effort to enhance the overall content of the RCAA News Brief, we'd like to see some of your news in future editions. Please submit any suggested news articles, links, or upcoming events to the Executive Director RCAA, at: exdir.rcaa.aarc@gmail.com. Please ensure that the articles are timely and relevant, and include captioned photos. Submissions for the weekly RCAA eNewsletter should be received by Monday at 1600 EST, in order to be published in the Thursday edition. Comments/suggestions regarding the weekly RCAA Newsbrief should be sent to exdir.rcaa.aarc@gmail.com. The Royal Canadian Artillery Association reserves the right to accept or reject any submissions received. Articles will appear in adherence to our editorial deadlines.

Nous aimerions avoir de vos nouvelles! Dans le but d'améliorer le contenu global des « Nouvelles en bref de l'AARC », nous aimerions voir certaines de vos nouvelles dans les prochaines éditions. Veuillez soumettre des articles d'information, des liens ou des événements à venir au directeur exécutif de l'AARC, à l'adresse courriel suivante: exdir.rcaa.aarc@gmail.com. Assurez-vous que les articles sont opportuns et pertinents, et comprennent des photos sous-titrées. Les soumissions pour le « Bulletin électronique » hebdomadaire de l'AARC devraient être reçues au plus tard à 16 h HNE le lundi, afin d'être publiées dans l'édition de jeudi. Les commentaires / suggestions concernant les « Nouvelles en bref de l'AARC » publiées chaque semaine doivent être envoyés à exdir.rcaa.aarc@gmail.com. L'Association de l'artillerie royale canadienne se réserve le droit d'accepter ou de rejeter les soumissions reçues. Les articles apparaîtront selon nos délais de rédaction.

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Royal Canadian Artillery Association News

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