



The Glen

The Regimental Newsletter of the Calgary Highlanders

Editor's Page

Denis A. Mascardelli



The Canadian Corps launched its assault on Vimy Ridge in the early morning hours of 9 April 1917 and, by the battle's end on the 12th, the ridge - which the enemy had transformed into a gigantic fortress that had

withstood three previous Allied assaults - was in Canadian hands. In fact most of it had been captured by day's end on the 9th, and the stunning victory went a long way towards establishing the Canadian Corps' reputation as a deadly professional force. But the victory came at an enormous cost and 9 April 1917 stands as the bloodiest day in Canadian military history.

This April will mark the 100th anniversary of the battle for Vimy Ridge and events to commemorate it will no doubt be held across our land. In Calgary a major parade involving all units of the Calgary garrison is being planned for Saturday 8 April. This issue of The Glen remembers Vimy with a lengthy, though it is hoped, informative article which begins on page 5.

Fast forwarding almost a century, this issue's other major article is a description of the Canadian Patrol Concentration (CPC), held during November 2016. Participating units from Canada and the UK fielded 8-man teams which were graded on all aspects of their performance over a grueling 48 hour recce patrol. At one time Reserve units would have found it

almost impossible to field teams with the skills necessary to seriously compete in such an event. In contrast, the 2016 CPC saw a number of Reserve Force teams participate, including a Calgary Highlanders team which won a silver medal. Our coverage of the Calgary Highlanders Team's work-up training and the actual patrol is written by two of the Unit's team members.

This Glen also includes firsthand accounts of a world class obstacle course, deployments on major exercises, the Pipes & Drums on Parliament Hill, a poem on infantry, and much more besides.

I hope you enjoy it.

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Message from the Command Team | 2 |
| Upcoming Events | 3 |
| Vimy Ridge | 5 |
| Highlanders Compete in Tough Mudder | 15 |
| On the Nobility of Fighting on Foot | 18 |
| Ex GOLDEN COYOTE | 23 |
| Regiment in Photos | 25 |
| Regimental Pipes & Drums at Fortissimo | 30 |
| Op DISTINCTION | 32 |
| Canadian Patrol Concentration | 34 |
| Fallen Comrades | 44 |
| Individual Battle Task Standards | 46 |
| The Regimental Family | 48 |
| Robbie Burns | 50 |
| Museum Page | 51 |

A Message From the Command Team

LCol Kyle Clapperton and CWO Chris Tucker



Greetings! The unit training schedule has been busy - focusing on individual training, running a Weapons Detachment Member course, a Basic Winter Warfare course and training new soldiers on the Basic Military Qualification course. Several soldiers participated in Ex PATRICIA ARIES with 1 PPCLI, training up to combat team live fire. Congratulations to those who completed career courses and for the resulting promotions- WO Moore completed Urban Operations Instructor, Sgt Cornell completed Advanced Small Arms and MCpl Ho completed PLQ Infantry and was awarded the peer leadership trophy!

The Unit's Canadian Patrol Concentration team, capably led by Sgt Oliver, earned a silver medal and placed 2nd amongst Reserve teams, edged out by the 33 CBG team but out-performing many Regular force teams. Their performance on this challenging competition - described in an article beginning on page 34, reflects the quality of infantry soldier skills within our junior ranks.

In support of international operations, one SNCO has been proudly representing the regiment in Poland with 1 PPCLI on Op REASSURANCE and is expected home soon, while a JNCO will deploy on the next rotation. One officer is confirmed to deploy to Latvia, and we are constantly looking for more deployment opportunities for our soldiers as 1 CMBG remains in the High Readiness cycle through the summer of 2017.

Regimentally, the upcoming calendar is equally busy with the 68th Annual Grand Highland Military Ball on Saturday, 25 February. All are welcome to attend and support the regiment as we host our largest community engagement event of the year. The Honourable Lois Mitchell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, is our guest of honour and the Highland Ball will once again be an outstanding evening of great food, music, dance and military pageantry. Tickets are still available at www.calgaryhighlandersball.com/.

The Unit will be parading in the Calgary Garrison Vimy 100th commemoration from Mewata to the Calgary Soldiers Memorial and return on Saturday, 8 April. This is a community event, open for all to commemorate the centennial of this important victory in our nation's history. The St. Julien commemoration will occur on Saturday, 22 April, with a parade at Mewata and the annual Regimental Association Reunion Dinner that evening- we strongly encourage all former serving members of the regiment to mark your calendars and attend!

RSM Tucker and I will soon be handing over to a new Command Team (Maj Simon Cox and MWO Glenn Fedoruk). The joint change of command and change of appointment parade will occur on Saturday, 3 June and the intent is to 'Gather the Clan' to celebrate closing one chapter in our proud history and opening a new one. This will be a regimental family event that we hope all of you will attend, and celebrate the achievements of the Regiment over the last several years.

Concluding, it is an exciting time to be in the Army Reserve and the Calgary Highlanders! Since the Commander Canadian Army issued his directive on Strengthening the Army Reserve, we have seen some great opportunities. There has been increased priority given to recruiting and more integration with the Regular Force for training opportunities. The unit is growing and continuing to demonstrate its ability to provide outstanding soldiers and capability to the Canadian Army. We couldn't be more proud of our soldiers and all those who serve in the regimental family.

The Glen is the Regimental newsletter of The Calgary Highlanders published under the auspices of Regimental HQ. Opinions expressed are those of the Glen staff or contributors and should not be construed as those of the Government of Canada or the Department of National Defence. The Glen is available free of charge in its electronic version and recipients are encouraged to forward copies to friends of the Regiment. To be added to the subscription list, send your name and email address to calghighr.glen@gmail.com.

Photos from all eras of the Unit's history are welcome and may be sent to our email address (above) or in the case of prints, to The Calgary Highlanders Regimental Association, Mewata Armoury, 801-11th St SW, Calgary AB, T2P 2C4. Prints will be scanned and returned upon request. Photos should be accompanied by a note explaining who or what the image captures and when and where it was taken.

EVENTS CALENDAR

February - June 2017

There are a large number of events scheduled for the February-June period, many of which are open to everyone. Planning for all but the first are 'works in progress' and additional information will be released when it is available.



Grand Highland Military Ball - Saturday 25 February

The Military Ball, one of Calgary's premier social events, will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, located at 7th Avenue and Centre St. SW. Tickets are \$150 per person and this year's guest of honour is Her Honour, the Honourable Lois E. Mitchell CM, AOE, LLD, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta. For more information and to purchase tickets, use this link, <http://www.calgaryhighlandersball.com/>

Regimental Birthday - Wednesday 29 March

The Calgary Highlanders will celebrate the Regiment's 107th birthday. For serving soldiers and Association members, details to be announced (TBA).

Vimy Mess Dinner - Friday 7 April

By invitation. Detail TBA

Vimy Commemoration - Saturday 8 April

A parade to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Corp's successful battle to seize Vimy Ridge, a position thought by some to be impregnable. The parade and commemoration will involve all Calgary's military units and representation from the British Army Training Unit Suffield (BATUS). This event will be open to all; details TBA.

St Julien Officers Mess Dinner - Thursdays 20 April

By invitation. Details TBA.

EVENTS CALENDAR cont'd

February - June 2017



St Julien Commemoration - Saturday 22 April

The commemoration will include three activities: a parade, the Regimental Association's Annual General Meeting, and the Reunion Dinner. The parade will take place at Mewata Armoury since Calgary's Old City Hall building, the traditional site of the wreath-laying, is closed for extensive repairs. The AGM and Reunion Dinner will also be held at the Armoury following the parade. The parade is open to all; the AGM and Reunion Dinner are for those who serve, or have previously served with the Unit. Details TBA.

LCol Boyle Lecture - April

This year's lecture, for military and political science enthusiasts, is tentatively scheduled for Monday, 17 April. More information to follow.

Cadet Annual Ceremonial Review - Sunday 28 May

The ACR involves all four cadet units associated with the Calgary Highlanders: 2137 Calgary, 3016 Airdrie, 3125 Chestermere, and 2383 Turner Valley. This event is open to all who wish to show support for our Army Cadets. Details TBA.

Change of Command Mess Dinner - Friday 2 June

A mess dinner will be held the evening prior to the Calgary Highlanders Change of Command. By invitation.

Change of Command - Saturday 3 June

This parade at Mewata Armoury will see the current Commanding Officer, LCol Kyle Clapperton, and RSM, CWO Christopher Tucker, relinquish their appointments to Maj Simon Cox and MWO Glen Fedoruk. Open to all and, as usual, details TBA.

Vimy Ridge

A Canadian Milestone

By Denis Mascardelli and Darryl Knight

April 2017 will mark the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Corps's now almost legendary capture of Vimy Ridge. The 10th Battalion, which is perpetuated by The Calgary Highlanders, was in the thick of the fighting as one of the four infantry battalions of the Second Brigade, 1st Canadian Division.

Introduction

On Monday morning the 9th of April 1917, the four divisions of the Canadian Corps climbed out of their trenches and did what other Allied armies had failed to do by seizing the heights known as Vimy Ridge from a heavily-fortified, well trained and equipped, and resolute enemy.

Many, if not most, Canadians know this and may even be familiar with the quote from Brigadier-General A. E. Ross, "...in those few minutes I witnessed the birth of a nation". Less well known are the events which led to the Canadian attack and the factors which played significant roles in its success.

Background

By the end of 1916 the war on the Western Front had raged for more than two years, and both sides were locked into a deadly stalemate which had produced few gains, but horrific casualties. That year had been particularly deadly with the battles of Verdun and the Somme inflicting two million casualties on both sides and temporarily exhausting their armies.

However, the Allies hadn't give up the goal of achieving a major breakthrough of the German defences that would restore mobility to warfare and quickly lead to a decisive victory. The Somme campaign had originally been intended to achieve this, but was frustrated when the Germans attacked first at Verdun, forcing the French to withdraw much of their forces allocated to the Somme and redirect them to that battle.

Even before the end of 1916 the new French commander-in-chief, General Nivelle, conceived a massive French assault involving 54 divisions supported by 5,300 guns intended to smash through the German defences in the Aisne sec-

tor. In January 1917 he persuaded David Lloyd George - the new British Prime Minister since the resignation of H. H. Asquith in December 1916 - that if the British launched a huge diversionary assault farther to the north to draw German soldiers away from the Aisne region, then the war-winning French offensive must succeed. It was agreed that the French assault would begin in mid-April and the British would make their diversionary attack in the Arras sector, approximately 70 kms to the north, a week earlier. The objective of the Canadian Corps, as set by the commanders of the British Expeditionary Force, was to capture Vimy Ridge - the German-held high ground along an escarpment at the northern end of the Arras offensive.



canadiansoldiers.com

The ridge lies 8 kms (5 miles) northeast of Arras on the western edge of the Douai Plain. It rises gradually on its west side - the side which faced the Canadian Corps - and drops more quickly on the east side. It is approximately 7 kms (4 miles) in length and rises to 60m (200 feet) above the plain. It had been captured by the Germans soon

after the war's outbreak in August of 1914, and they had successfully turned it into a gigantic fortress by taking advantage of its soft chalky bedrock which was ideal for excavating. Its defenders had defeated three previous Allied attempts to capture it while inflicting perhaps as many as 150,000 casualties on the attackers. General Neville considered it impregnable and advised the British to exclude it as part of the Arras offensive, but did not press the matter.

Vimy's chalky bedrock also lent itself to tunneling and 'mining', where tunnels were dug beneath enemy positions, packed with explosives and detonated. This practice had been aggressively pursued by the Germans against the French and, after the British took over the sector in February 1916, by both sides. The under-



Allposters.com

Lt Gen Sir Julian Byng, the British commander of the Canadian Corps, June 1916-June 1917. Well liked by his troops, he played a pivotal role in the development of the Corps into a deadly fighting force. He served as Governor General of Canada 1921-1926 and the NHL's Lady Byng Trophy is a gift from his wife, an ardent hockey fan.

ground war of mining and counter-mining meant that by 1917 no fewer than 19 distinct crater groups existed along the Vimy front. Because of their size, depth and steep sides, these craters were serious obstacles and any soldier who entered one would find escape difficult.

A myth has developed that Vimy was completely a Canadian operation. It is often overlooked that the Canadian Corps was, at that time, ably commanded by Lieutenant General Sir Julian Byng, a British officer, and that the British High Command recognized the enormity of the task given to the Canadians and allocated resources accordingly. These included dedicated aerial reconnaissance squadrons and observation balloon units, engineer, labour and infantry units, and a great deal of additional artillery so that the Corps could deploy almost a thousand tubes ranging from 18

pounder field guns to giant siege artillery. To feed the guns, 1.6 million rounds of artillery and mortar ammunition were allocated to the attack, including the new instantaneous 106 fuse which, though in limited availability, was very effective in demolishing barbed wire entanglements.

Unlike the Somme, when infantry battalions were usually down to 600 or 700 men even before an attack, the battalions of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions now averaged about 1,100 men and those of the 4th Division about 1,000. Each division also had an extra (thirteenth) battalion. The total strength of the Canadian Corps was 97,184, of whom 56,494 were front line infantry, supplemented by another 11,554 infantry from the British 5th Division. The logistical skill and effort required to keep this force in the field was staggering, particularly in an era when motorized transport was in its infancy and much of the material had to be moved by horse-drawn wagons.

Perhaps of even greater importance than the resources available to the Corps was the war-fighting transformation the Canadian soldiers had undergone since the Somme. Throughout the winter of 1916-1917, one of the coldest in decades, they took advantage of the relative quiet to examine every aspect of their war fighting - their battle procedure, training, organization, tactics, equipment, and communications - trying to determine what worked and what didn't and what best practices could be borrowed from their British and French allies. Senior leadership was not exempt and General Byng extended this examination to the Corp's senior officers, replacing 15 of the 58 battalion commanders and two of the twelve brigade commanders.

As a result, in the Canadian Corps that faced Vimy Ridge the artillery was now versed in scientific principles and had introduced the creeping barrage and effective counter-battery measures; while in the infantry, junior officers and senior NCOs were given more responsibility and initiative and the platoon - now recognized as the most important tactical unit in an infantry battalion - had been reorganized to increase its combat power.

The Assault Plan

Vimy Ridge, while a formidable fortress held by elements of three German Divisions (though these divisions were smaller than their Canadian counterparts) was narrow and

could not be defended in depth. The Germans were confident - based on experience - that it could be held for days against any conceivable assault, long enough to bring several divisions of counter-attacking forces forward from their rest positions more than 20 kms to the rear. In order to counter this the Canadian plans called for an extremely violent assault - what today would be called 'shock and awe' - that would overwhelm the defenders before counter-attacking forces could arrive in large numbers.

The overall plan for the attack was relatively straightforward in concept though not in execution. The ridge would be subjected to a massive and lengthy bombardment designed to force the Germans down into their deep 'bomb proof' shelters, smash their defensive works, cut their wire, and silence much of their artillery. The assault, to be carried out simultaneously by all four Canadian Divisions (the only time this occurred during the war), would be supported by an elaborate fire plan in which the advancing infantry would hug their creeping barrage which would advance at the rate of 100 yards every three minutes. While the field artillery laid down the creeping barrage, the heavier guns would direct their fire on strong points farther ahead.

To help ensure the assault's success British tunnelers laid 13 large explosive charges (mines) under the enemy positions, some to be detonated during the preliminary bombardment and others at the beginning of the assault.

If all went to plan the ridge would be taken in a matter of hours. Once it was firmly in Canadian hands the heavily-fortified 'Pimple', located at the ridge's extreme north end, would be seized. The Corp's four divisions were to be arrayed opposite the ridge in numerical order on a 7 km front with the veteran 1st Division - including the 10th Battalion - at the south end and 4th Division at the north.

The ridge is narrowest but steepest in the areas allocated to the 3rd and 4th Divisions and included Hill 145 (the highest point on the ridge) and 'The Pimple'. In contrast it is broader and less steep in front of the objectives given the 1st and 2nd Divisions. The result was that the 1st Division would have to cross 4,000 m to reach its objective at Farbus Wood while the 4th

Division, farthest to the north, would have to cross less than a kilometre but was faced with the most difficult terrain.

Four phase lines were established where the Canadians would pause in their attack to mop up any bypassed strongpoints and consolidate before pressing on: Black, Red, Blue and Brown, though the latter two only existed along the south half of the ridge opposite the 1st and 2nd Divisions.

The Black Line was to be captured thirty-five minutes after a 5:30 am zero hour. A pause of forty-five minutes was then planned to allow the leading wave to consolidate on the objective and fresh units to pass through. The Red Line was to fall twenty minutes later. The assault would then again pause, this time for two hours

and thirty minutes, before beginning again at 9:35am on the 1st and 2nd Divisions' fronts. The Blue Line was to be in Canadian hands seventy-five minutes later. Then, after a pause of ninety-six minutes, the final attack would begin at 12:26pm and the Brown Line would fall at 1:18pm, seven hours and forty-eight minutes after zero hour. Strong enemy

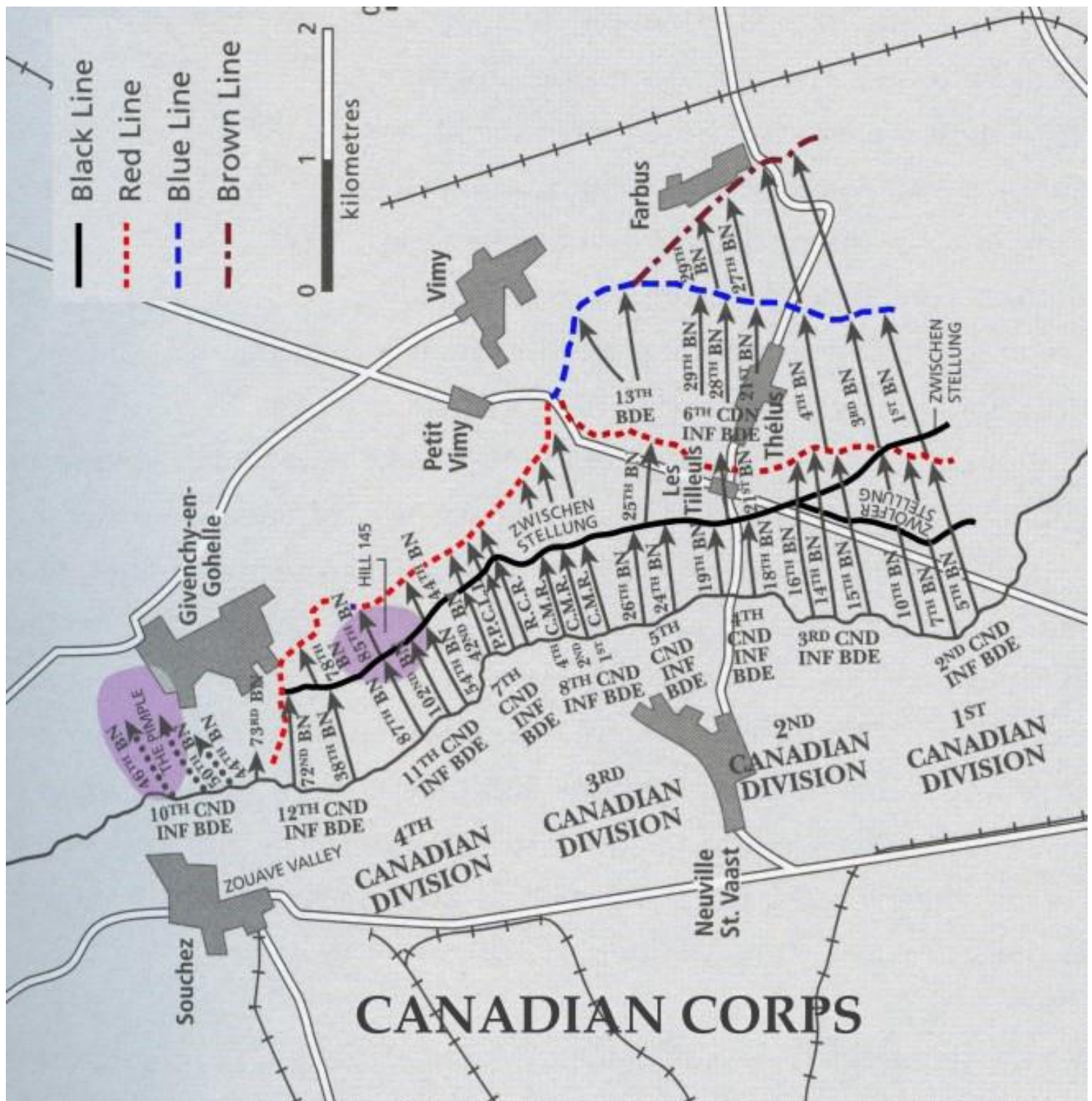
counter-attacks were expected, but they would have to be made up the ridge's steep eastern side in the teeth of a huge volume of artillery defensive fire and would find the Canadian infantry ready in newly-prepared positions.

Canadian Preparations

The complexity of the attack depended upon strict adherence to set timings since once the fire plan began it could not be altered, as commanders could not communicate in a timely manner with either the gun batteries or the infantry. The entire operation would have to run like clockwork, and for this to occur the infantry had to be put through meticulous rehearsals, which in turn required detailed knowledge of the enemy's fighting positions. For the artillery it meant determining the location of the German guns which were located in reverse slope positions.

Although patrols and raids had a role to play, the majority of the information needed for the Arras offensive, including Vimy Ridge, had to

...the Canadian plans called for an extremely violent assault - what today would be called 'shock and awe'...



Tim Cook, Shock Troops

This map illustrates the Canadian attack on Vimy Ridge, 9-12 April 1917, including the four phase lines, Black, Red, Blue and Brown. The ridge is steepest and narrowest at the north, in the 4th Division's sector and more gentle, but wider at the south. The Corps Commander, Sir Julian Byng, did not believe that he had sufficient infantry to seize all objectives at once; 'The Pimple', at the extreme north end, was therefore not assaulted until the rest of the ridge had been captured.

come from aerial reconnaissance, which precipitated an air battle which raged over the entire Arras front. The German flyers, including Baron Manfred von Richthofen (The Red Baron) and his Flying Circus, took a terrible toll on recon-

naissance aircraft and April 1917 saw the life expectancy of a RFC pilot dip to eleven days. Despite this, the outnumbered Germans could not achieve air dominance and enough reconnaissance aircraft got through that very de-



Starduststudios.com

This painting by Troy White shows Baron Manfred von Richthofen and two wingmen from *Jasta 11* in their brightly painted Albatross fighters above the Aras sector in the spring of 1917.

tailed mapping of the enemy's positions was made possible. Of course, German aerial reconnaissance was also active and the massive preparations for the offensive could not be hidden. The enemy was fully aware that their fortress at Vimy would soon be assaulted.

The infantry would be the key to victory and they rehearsed again and again using models and courses built from aerial photographs to simulate the battlefield. General Currie of the 1st Division went so far as having a full size practice course constructed in which every known enemy position was represented. 40,000 maps were printed and distributed - an innovation without precedent - and every soldier understood what and where his objective was and the route to it. The practice sessions included the removal of key officers as 'casualties' so that junior leaders had to take over. Tim Cook

comments in his book, *Shock Troops*, that, 'In short, into each man was drilled the dictum, "should your officers be knocked out, it is up to you to improvise and fight forward"'.

The Artillery Opens the Battle

A preliminary bombardment, never using more than half the available batteries at a time, began on March 20. For thirteen days the guns hammered the ridge with almost 350,000 shells, forcing the enemy down into his dugouts while on the surface fortifications and wire entanglements were destroyed. Then, a week before the April 9 assault, the intensity dramatically increased: all batteries were now involved, firing 2,500 tons of ammunition every day. The bombardment's tempo was deliberately varied, sometimes even stopping. Every time this happened the defenders were forced to rush out of their dugouts and man what remained of their fighting positions in case this signalled the beginning of an assault. Instead, the bombardment would suddenly begin again at a frantic intensity. The Germans referred to these seven days as 'the week of suffering'.



George Metcalf Archival Collection, Canadian War Museum

In this striking nighttime photograph, a British 6-inch gun fires during the pre-assault bombardment. Almost 1,000 Allied guns and mortars pounded the ridge for three weeks prior to the assault.

The 10th Battalion Prepares for Zero Hour

For the 'Fighting Tenth', the anticipated ground to be won was beyond a frontage of only 480 yards. Owing to the existence of several craters (Victoire and Argyll group 1, 2 and 3), however, the actual 'passable terrain' was less than 125 yards in breadth.

Captain Stanley Kent, MC, had conducted extensive reconnaissance of No Man's Land on the Wednesday-Thursday night of April 4-5, noting actual distances between the craters, extent of wire obstacles and the condition of the ground to be travelled over. By the time the men returned to the front line from specialized assault training on the Friday - beneath heavy rain - the Tenth's planners were worried about the vulnerabilities of the attack routes, particularly with respect to the state of the enemy's wire obstacles, despite assurances from the artillery that the weight of gunfire devoted to them must surely have resulted in their destruction. General Currie (the divisional commander) was aware of the concerns, and tasked the Battalion with raiding the enemy line at 4:30 am on Sunday morning in order to establish a clearer picture of what lay before the men.

In pre-dawn murk, three parties totaling 85 men advanced, overall command falling upon Captain Kent, the officers including Majors MacDonald and Motherwell (both supernumeraries), and Lieutenant Gibaut, all from A and D Companies. A box-barrage was simultaneously fired on the flanks and rear of the target area as the raiding force advanced.

Unfortunately the Germans detected the raiding parties while they were still assembling and, with the element of surprise lost, Major MacDonald was killed long before reaching the German wire; Corporal R. Coates took command of the remaining A Company effectives and the party carried on into the German line. The two parties under Kent's command also suffered through withering enemy rifle fire while advancing over the rim areas of the Argyll craters. Nevertheless, the raiding force advanced some 150 yards into the enemy's defences, blowing dug-outs, killing and capturing resisting enemy,



ww1westernfront.gov.au

No fewer than 19 distinct crater groups existed along the Vimy front, the result of a subterranean battle within the chalky bedrock which had raged since 1915. Because of their size, depth and steep sides, these craters were impassable obstacles which soldiers had to go around. Although the Tenth was allocated a frontage of 480 yards, the initial assault troops were canalized into a mere 125 yards frontage owing to the existence of several huge craters.

and causing a maelstrom of mayhem in its wake.

The raid was deemed a costly success; the bulk of the raiding force returned to its lines in less than one hour, having sustained 5 dead and 13 wounded, some of whom were only brought back through the heroic actions of a rescue party organized by L/Sgt. F. Shoesmith, DCM. Five decorations were awarded to the 'Fighting Tenth' for the morning's action, including a bar to Captain Kent's MC.

The intelligence gleaned from the raid was vital; the barrage of the past several weeks had not had a serious impact on the enemy's wire which, if left intact, would have disastrous consequences for next day's attack.

Later that Sunday afternoon, on General Currie's order, the Tenth's men were temporarily withdrawn from their forward trenches, the ensuing Divisional barrage literally pulverizing the enemy wire and his forward positions.

Zero Hour

During the late hours of April 8 (Easter Sunday) the Canadian infantry - 21 battalions of the first wave - began moving into their assembly areas. As they did so, the weather, already cold and damp, continued to worsen. The men, expected

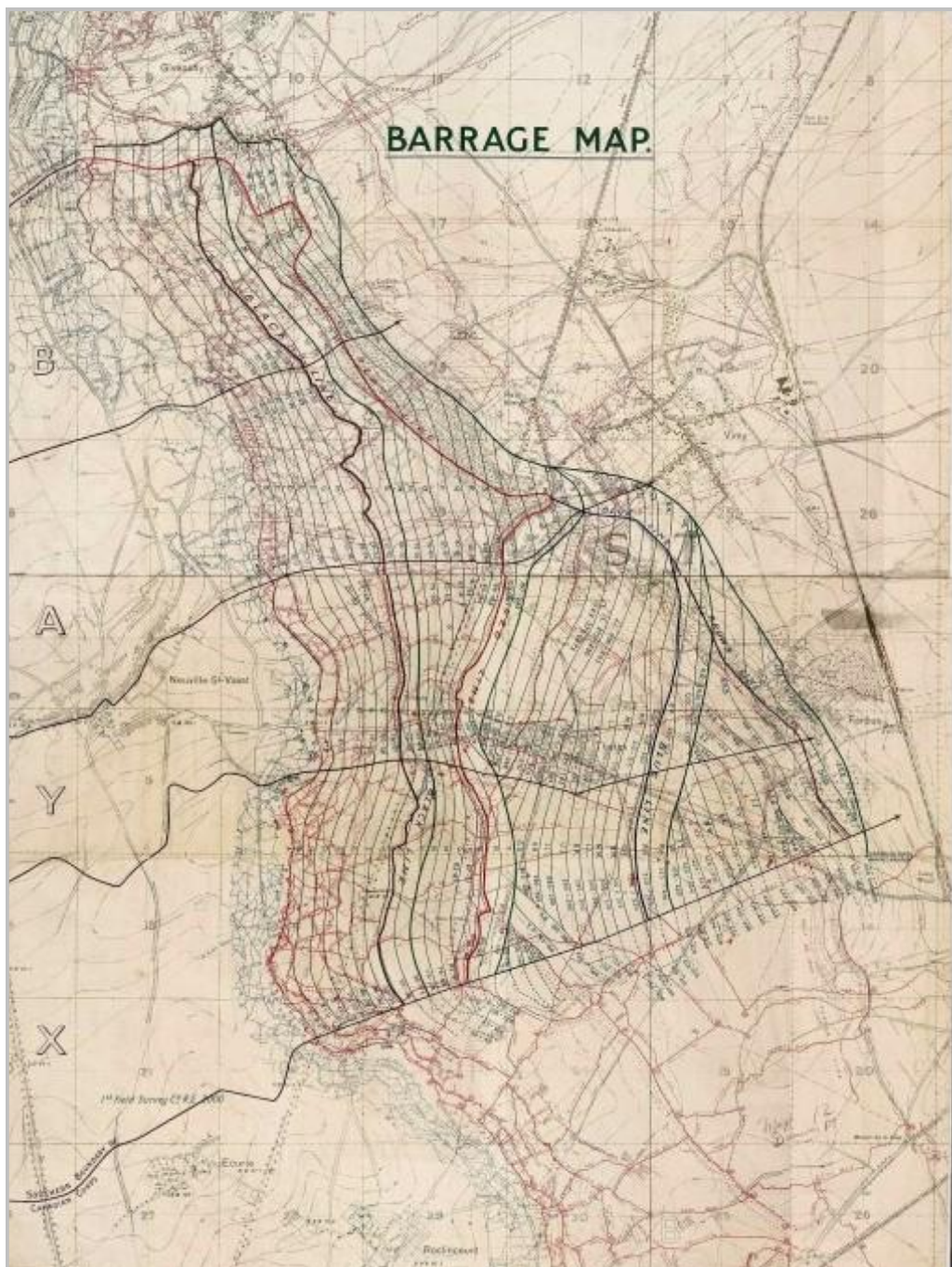
to assault uphill through the mud and craters created by the lengthy barrage, were burdened with large loads of ammunition and the engineering material they'd need to consolidate on the captured objectives. In the 10th Battalion each rifleman carried sixty-five pounds of equipment, bombers and rifle grenadiers carried seventy pounds, and Lewis gunners laboured under almost ninety pounds.

As the April 9 zero hour approached the gunners slowly reduced fire until the artillery fell silent. Then, precisely at 5:30 am all 983 guns and mortars began firing, the 18-pounder field artillery laying down the creeping barrage while the other guns fired on strong-points and attempted to silence the identified German guns. At the same time 150 heavy machine guns opened up in an indirect fire role, laying down a hail of bullets 400 metres beyond the creeping barrage. Seconds later engineers detonated three huge mines and two smaller charges beneath no man's land and the enemy's forward positions, and the infantry began to advance. Along the Tenth's frontage the first assaulters were A Company (right) and D Company, the two infantry companies only separated by 20 yards. C Company (right) and B Company followed 100 yards behind.

Their first objective was the Black Line, the enemy's forward defensive zone, a triple line of trenches some 750 yards from the Canadian front line; 35 minutes were allocated for the capture of this position, to be followed by a 45-minute pause for the men to regroup. The Red Line - the enemy's intermediate defences situated below the crest of the ridge - was the

next objective, to be taken 20 minutes later.

Since the artillery fire plan was fixed - the creeping barrage would move at a rate of 100 yards every three minutes - the 10th's soldiers couldn't stop until the planned 40 minute pause at the Black Line. Then the creeping barrage would begin again until pausing once more to allow consolidation along the Red Line.



Wikipedia

Artillery barrage map for the April 9, 1917 Canadian attack on Vimy Ridge. Note the complexity of the scheduled lifts as the timed creeping barrage raked over the battlefield from west to east (left to right). A careful examination will reveal the four phase lines, Black, Red, Blue, and Brown.

Colonel Orman, the Tenth's Commanding Officer, had issued orders stressing the need to keep moving to the artillery's schedule:

"Should the leading waves, at any stage of the attack, be faced with an obstacle such as wire or a 'hold up' by a machine gun, on no account are they or succeeding waves to mass on to it. Rather, the troops faced with the obstacle or 'hold up' will manoeuvre so as to overcome, or circumvent, the obstacle, exercising to the fullest possible extent the tactical resources and weapons at their command."

Many of the enemy had been killed or wounded during the three week barrage and all were short of food and water and exhausted from lack of sleep. Many were trapped in their dug-

outs as the Canadian infantry were upon them as soon as the creeping barrage lifted and moved on. But as the Americans were to discover in the Pacific War some twenty-five years later, no amount of artillery fire could destroy every fortification or break the will of the most determined defend-

ers, and some artillery batteries survive even the most thorough counter-battery campaign.

Everywhere along the front entrenched pockets of resistance erupted, often fighting to the last man, and only overcome in the most savage hand-to-hand fighting. The German machine guns and snipers took a terrible toll amongst the advancing Canadian infantry who had to fight their way across a blasted landscape through deep gelatinous mud without cover.

Sustaining heavy casualties including the loss of most of its officers in the leading wave, the 'Fighting Tenth' fought its way forward towards the Black Line. One platoon arrived on its objective led by a Lance Corporal, another

by a Private - John Dunbar - who killed nine Germans with his bayonet before he too was killed.

By 6:10 am the men of the 10th had taken their section of the Black Line and consolidated while the barrage raised 200 yards and provided a curtain of detonating steel through the following 45 minutes. A Company had been reduced to just 18 men, and D Company to 75. B and C Companies had also taken heavy casualties moving forward to the Black Line

At 6:45 am the now depleted B and C Companies began their assault, taking the Red Line position at 7:07 am while sustaining only six additional casualties. Aggressive action by all members in the brief onslaught had won the

day, aided by the wind which was now blowing sleet directly into the faces of the enemy. At this point the Tenth had taken its objectives and other units passed through to assault the Blue and Brown lines.

The other Canadian battalions faced similar challenges and casualties but the well planned and executed attack proved irresistible and, de-

spite the casualties, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Canadian Divisions took all their objectives by the day's end on the 9th. Those members of the Tenth who climbed to the top of the ridge - after other units had secured their respective objectives - could see the defeated German army retreating eastward across the Douai Plain.

Unfortunately victory did not come as swiftly for the 4th Division. It had the shortest but steepest objectives, dominated by Hill 145, where the enemy had constructed four defensive lines to ring the top of the hill, and deep dugouts had been built into the reverse side of the ridge. It has been described as 'the citadel atop fortress Vimy', and was supported by enfilade fire from the Pimple. Ideally Hill



George Metcalf Archival Collection, Canadian War Museum

A German machine-gun emplacement of reinforced concrete on the crest of Vimy Ridge, and the Canadians who seized it.

145 and the Pimple should have been attacked simultaneously, but Sir Julian Byng, the Canadian Corps Commander, didn't believe that he had sufficient troops to do so, and so the Pimple was screened with smoke and poison gas. The 4th's initial attacks failed and it was the evening of the 10th before most of Hill 145 was captured in a seemingly suicidal bayonet charge, though even then parts of the eastern slope remained in German hands. It wasn't until the following afternoon that these positions were taken and the 4th Division could turn its attention to the heavily fortified Pimple, which the Germans had reinforced during the previous several days of combat; it fell to a co-ordinated, though costly, artillery and infantry attack on April 12, bringing the Battle of Vimy Ridge to a close.

an attack, they had been held more than 20 kms to the rear where they could be more easily billeted and were safe from long-range artillery fire. Although these divisions would take some time to organize themselves and get to the ridge if needed, the German commander, General Ludwig von Falkenhausen, was not overly concerned, believing that the forces on the ridge could hold their powerful fortress for days, time enough to move the counter-attacking forces forward. The speed with which the attack unfolded - most of the ridge was in Canadian hands by evening of the first day - completely defeated this strategy. It also brought von Falkenhausen's military career to an end; his failure to move his reserves farther forward prior to the attack

saw him removed as commander of the Sixth Army and given the position of Governor of occupied Belgium.

Vimy Ridge had been a triumph for the Canadian Corps and marked the moment when it was recognized as no longer an organization of brave amateurs but a deadly professional force. The Canadians had succeeded against arguably the best Army in Europe and the world, and where previous Allied assaults had failed. Not surprisingly, the victory at Vimy Ridge soon came to symbolize Canada's coming of age as a nation.

The price of victory though, had been high. The 'Fighting Tenth' committed 22 officers and 741 other ranks to the assault; in roughly an hour and half of intense fighting it had suffered 101 men killed, 252 wounded and 21 missing, a casualty rate of almost 50 percent. Other units also suffered and by the time the entire ridge was in Canadian hands, 3,598 members of the Canadian Corps had been killed and another 7,004 wounded during the four

days of battle. 7,707 of these casualties had been taken on the battle's first day and April 9, 1917 stands as the bloodiest day in all Canadian military history.

In 1922 a grateful France granted Canada perpetual use of 100 hectares of land at Vimy Ridge for a battlefield memorial. The



Canadian War Museum

Canadian soldiers look eastward across the Douai plain from the top of Vimy Ridge. A few members of the Fighting Tenth climbed to the crest after it was taken and one recounted, "You could look right down for miles, into a beautiful, fertile plain ahead of you - the Douai plain - and that's where we saw all the German army just moving out. It was the most magnificent sight you ever saw: horses rushing in, hooking up to the guns, tearing off across the fields to get out of there."

Aftermath

The Canadian plan had anticipated enemy counter-attacks and while there were several, they were localized and relatively small. The German Sixth Army did in fact have several divisions available for counter-attack but, despite clear indications of an imminent Canadi-

memorial - Canada's largest and principal overseas war memorial - took eleven years to build and was unveiled on July 26, 1936 by King Edward VIII before a crowd estimated at up to 100,000. It is located on Hill 145, the highest point along the ridge, and commemorates not only the battle but all Canadian soldiers killed during the First World War.

Unfortunately, while the Battle of Vimy Ridge was an undoubted success, the same cannot be said of the overall Allied offensive of which it was a part.

South of Vimy, the Battle of Arras began well and significant gains were made during the first two days before the German defences stiffened and the battle became another stalemate. However the Arras operation was successful in drawing German troops away from the Aisne sector where the massive and war-winning French breakthrough was to take place, though this must be weighed against the almost 150,000 British casualties (not including the Canadian losses at

Vimy) sustained between 9 April and 16 May. The real failure of the Allied effort was the inability of the Nivelle offensive to achieve the decisive breakthrough promised in the Aisne sector. Although gains were made, the German defences held and the French suffered as

many as 187,000 casualties. The French soldiers had had enough of being used as cannon fodder and many units mutinied during May. Nivelle, who had promised so much and delivered so little, was replaced by Marshall Pétain, whose first order of business was to restore order and rebuild his Army. He did this through both reforms which improved the

welfare of French soldiers and by executing somewhere between 40 and 62 of the mutiny's ring-leaders. He also decided that the French Army would not launch any 'decisive' offensives for a year. This would give the French the time they needed to rebuild while giving the Americans, who had finally declared war on Germany on April 6, the time they needed to raise, train and equip, and transport an army to France. In the meanwhile the Canadian Corps would have little rest as Field Marshall Sir Douglas Haig, Commander of the

British Expeditionary Force, believed that his armies would have to go on the offensive so that the Germans could not take advantage of the situation. A long and bloody road lay ahead for the victors of Vimy. 🍁



dponticelli.wordpress.com

A close-up of the Canadian memorial at Vimy Ridge showing Mother Canada mourning her lost sons. April 9, 1917, the bloodiest day in Canadian military history, saw the Canadian Corps suffer 7,707 casualties. The Fighting Tenth's casualty rate was just under 50 percent.

Highlanders Complete Tough Mudder Alberta

By Pte Aaron Lauritsen

The sixth of August 2016 was an overcast day in Drumheller, but already hot when we arrived at the registration table at 1000 hrs. After the short walk from the parking lot, we could already feel sweat trickling down our backs where it soon pooled at the waist of our kilts.

Once through the gates we gaggled for a quick pep talk from Capt Andrew Pittet, although we were distracted by the thousands of eccentrics dressed in elaborate get-ups including hero costumes with capes and even masks. We smirked collectively at a culture we knew little of, except that they are 'groupie like' veterans of this race who call themselves 'Legionnaires'.

"Game day", someone in the Highlander clan says to make light of the spectacle, but we know the sights, sounds and heat greeting us now will certainly foreshadow the gruelling test of endurance ahead, an eighteen kilometer obstacle course known as 'Tough Mudder' that cuts through the lunar landscape of Alberta's iconic Badlands.

Led forward by Capt Pittet, our eleven member team tucked itself in behind a huge crowd warming up at the start line. It was an hour earlier than our scheduled start time, but the move was covert enough to get us past course staff and secured us an early spot to depart. None of us complained as we wanted to avoid the intensifying heat of



Tough Mudder

The Tough Mudder team setting a course record on the Shock Therapy obstacle. From left to right: Cpl Thomas Hyung, Cpl Erik Burow, Cpl Jeremy Mazerolle, Cpl Jaspreet Brar, Cpl Euan Clark, Capt Andrew Pittet, Cpl Roman Raidugin, Pte Aaron Lauritsen, Cpl Lucy Wang, Cpl Andrew Hardiment, Cpl Drew Janzen.

midday.

The Drumheller course, notorious on the international 'Mudder' circuit because of its steep slopes and slippery descents, began appropriately with an uphill jaunt of close to a thousand metres. The ground on this short leg was an uneven dirt path, but dry, until the first obstacle appeared hidden over a small ridge. There in defilade was a deep mud pool called 'Six Feet Under' that we had to jump into from a ledge, then wade across. Soaking wet, with sand in our teeth and covered from head to toe in muck, we all laughed that there was now no turning back.

Pushing forward, we did a 'Hero Carry' through earth soft enough to rip our shoes off, then descended into the canyon below via a long rappel down a cliff. From there we cruised for another kilometer or so until we were greeted by the 'Devil's Beard', a heavy fishing net that we had to crawl under for 20 metres (60ft) through pebbled ruts. We emerged on the other side out of breath, our knees and elbows bloodied, but we advanced undeterred to the next stumbling block.

Like military obstacle courses, each challenge pushed the limits of physical endurance and mental stamina in order to build the confidence participants needed to move forward. Some though, like the 'Arctic Enema', were too much for even seasoned Legionnaires, and as we arrived at its base we were held up by a group who had climbed to the top of the ladder, then after seeing what awaited them, climbed back down to walk around it.

What had stopped them dead in their tracks was a pool of murky water with 20,000 lbs of ice floating in it. But it wasn't the risk of hypothermia that had them waffling, it was that to get through the pool you had to careen down a slide, then pull your weight blindly under a cage while fully submerged. Once on the other side of the cage, participants had to climb over a wall and swim to the end of the pool to climb out. The

confined space presented by the cage had evoked claustrophobia in the group ahead of us and the fear of the unknown was enough to force them off the platform. To rub salt in their wounds, the Highlander team plunged right in without hesitation.

Emerging from the chop, our limbs were numb and frozen, but our bodies were clean again, if only for the moment. We picked up the pace with rejuvenated vigour on order to warm up, and passed a number of teams who were beginning to gas around mid-point of the course. Down one hill and back up the next became the leg burning norm and after a log carry, the 'Mud Mile 2.0' and a quicksand stand called 'Quagmire', we soon stumbled onto the upper body obstacles.

These were broken up by a few kilometers of track to allow some recuperation, but

included the 'Blockness Monster', which was three rotating blocks where competitors had to hold on as they were dragged from water, over the obstacle, then back into the mud head first. Following it were the monkey bars which were long, sloped up and included a slide portion where body momentum had to be used to reach another set of bars. If you weren't fast enough and missed them, you simply fell several metres into the mudpit below. And just when we thought our arms were burnt

out, we came to 'Balls to the Wall', a rope climb over a 6 metre (20ft) high wall.

The final leg of the course saw another rope challenge, but this time up a cliff, followed by a winding trail along a ridge where we encountered and conquered 'Everest 2.0' and the 'Pyramid Scheme'. The Pyramid was challenging because it demanded teamwork, requiring us to stack our bodies against a near vertical structure two stories high to form a human ladder so each member could get to the top. But the organizers saved the best for last, a stand they called 'Electro Shock Therapy'. This obstacle was comprised of a series of electric cables hanging above an open pit of muddy water, and each cable carried a painful punch of 10,000 volts. Most racers do everything possible to avoid being zapped, but The Calgary Highlanders team

We emerged on the other
side out of breath, our
knees and elbows
bloodied, but we advanced
undeterred to the next
stumbling block

would have none of it.

To get this far we had worked hard to successfully overcome every obstacle the course designers had put in front of us, and proved that dread of heights and claustrophobia can be overcome. And, despite an elevation gain of nearly to 610 metres (2000 ft) over the eighteen kilometer trek, we had passed countless other teams, moving from nearly last in our heat into the top third of our pack. Now after all that, and with bodies that were battered, beaten, bruised and blistered, we knew we had to finish in epic style by setting a course record.

Preparing to enter the Shock Therapy pit, we locked arms and formed a daisy chain. The act to finish together was a symbolic one, but it came at a painful cost. It meant that every time one member was struck with 10,000 volts, all members were struck with 10,000 volts. Aware of the fact, we pushed ahead. Two feet in and the first shock rippled across our ranks, feeling like a baseball bat to the chest, and strong enough to drop many of us to our knees. Although the daisy chain was tested, it never broke and as we edged forward into a melee of non-stop zaps and cracks by pulling one another ahead, the crowd, seeing our distress and our resolve, began to roar and cheer us on.

By the time we got to the finish line the announcer, who was perhaps more excited than anyone else, declared we had set a new Alberta Mudder record for the longest daisy chain to endure Electro Shock Therapy. As we gathered around the camp flag to capture the moment with a photo, the record set was the icing on the cake for us as newly minted Legionaries, and was a great segue into beers

and laughs at the pub after a quick shower. There were a lot of people involved in getting this team organized, but a special thanks goes to Cpl Drew Janzen for taking on a leadership role to ensure all members were informed and prepared to run the course. In the Army we usually do our business hidden behind the boundaries of training areas or abroad, so it's a rare occasion when we can actually get out and show the calibre of our members as we did in Drumheller that day. In hindsight 'Tough Mudder' was a grueling test of endurance, but rewarded us by allowing us to project our service values of fitness,



The Calgary Highlanders team at the finish line after successfully completing the gruelling 18 kilometre super obstacle course known as Tough Mudder Alberta 2016.

competition, teamwork and soldierly grit. More than that though, it was an exercise in esprit de corps and everyone who took part agrees it was a good go and a highlight of the summer.

Oh, and just a side note in case the RSM is having a heart attack right now: Sir, we DID NOT RUN IN YOUR KILTS! 🍁

Airaghardt!!!

On the Nobility of Fighting on Foot

By G. W. Stone

A poem humbly given to the Calgary Highlanders to mark the high regard owed to the infantry soldier and to encourage consideration, on the part of any who might read it, of the infantry's long history on the stage of human civilization.



<http://prints.national-army-museum.ac.uk>

This 1881 painting, 'The Thin Red Line', by Robert Gibb depicts the 93rd (Sutherland Highlanders) Regiment of Foot at the Battle of Balaclava on 25 October 1854, during the Crimean War. Facing a Russian Cavalry charge after the desertion of his Turkish allies, the Commander of the 93rd, Sir Colin Campbell, drew his Highlanders into two ranks instead of forming a square. Afterward he commented, "No, I did not think it worthwhile to form them even four deep. The ordinary British line, two deep, was quite sufficient to repel the attack of the Muscovite cavaliers".

We'd marched all the morning, with battle ahead,
I whistling, cheerily, to strike sleeping dread,
When a jostle near bid me take the ground for a bed,
And I turned with a fury, fix't my glen 'pon my head.
A column was bustling, up from the rear,
Up through the centre of my infantry career,
"Make way!" called a captain, "This horse for the van."
My sergeant caught my eye, shook his head at the man.
"Foote aside," says this captain, "Let the cavalry through,
Let the foote move aside, and the horse to its due.



Pipe down the pipes, by no angel born,
Gabriel - God's trumpeter; the cavalry - God's horn."
My sergeant sought a nod to give the order, give way,
Our fight was for the field, not the road on this day,
Yes my sergeant sought a nod, but I was cheery, recall,
What cause had this captain? I'd a mind to stop all.

He, mounted high, behind a destrier's withers,
His corselet bright, though his chivalry thither,
And I 'pon the ground, God's floor for a mount,
Kilted and kitted, not a cockade to flaunt,
Nearly gave him way, aye, but stopped in this was,
By the pride in my heart and a jointure of cause,
Which if not given breath, choke me it might;
For I'm not trained to give way, but to find ways and fight.
"I say, countryman, walk we not the same way?
To a field, close by now, our troops to array?
May we not share the path, aye and march we together,
Crossing field through the thistles, to the sweet smelling heather?"
No reply did he make, but a heel to his courser,
I picked me a pace and I matched my provoker.
Perhaps, thought I, gracious, heard he not for the blare,
Of trumpets, pipes, and harness - war's rarified air,
And so took me the head when I stopped myself sudden,
And so halted his mount, unafraid to be trodden.

"Your spurs keep you quiet, sir. To the rowel, give no meal,
Keep from horseflesh the turn of encouraging wheel.
For brothers be we, though I think you don't know it,
And noble is the man who on the turf walks and goes it."
Proud and level was my gaze, though I stood beneath;
He astride his horse, and I on the heath.
"You bear spurs, as I say, a knight's holy symbol,
I bear the same, aye, we have sat the same vigil,
And though mine be in mud, it's the heart put them there:
The same service employs them, the same trials and care."

Now I ask you," I said, my hand to his bridle,
His horse now stilled, though the rider less idle,
"Was not swift-footed Achilles born by his own feet?
To victory in sand, in sun and in heat?
And when he fell, what was it the gods sought to strike?



But his heel, unarmoured, though the soul of his might.
And Sparta, what armies with tears sent she forth?
Afoot and undaunted, inspired and wroth?
To hold back the Persian with such valour, they say,
The gods trembled to take them, at Thermopylae.
Or Rome, Rome! Built with infantry squares,
Men marching in step, and what feats did they dare?
Was an empire grander? 'Gainst her who'd stand?
No remark can be made, but by an infantryman.
For thousands of years - let King Harry account,
Victory depends upon the order 'dismount;'
When on Agincourt's fields, the French proud arrayed,
Met stalwart English foot and were duly dismayed.
No great soul has been, who thought it no thing,
To take up the musket, or trail pike for a king,
Or at a queen's call, set to pace out her will,
To take and to give her city, vale or high hill.
Aye in Bess's time, stout pikes stood in great stands,
Ashen shafts were gripped tight by the noblest of hands,
As Scots and English volunteered for the Dutch,
To liberate the Lowlands from the Spanish King's clutch.
Later Marlborough, aye, his redcoats well known,
Forced the French from the field, with the infantry's bones.
At Blenheim, know you well, how the infantry played,
Staunch as a fortress, as our history relays.
Later Wellesley? 'Twas his squares like rocks broke the waves,
Of Napoleon's cuirassier in Europe's dark days.
No question, my friend, the Greys were there too -
An eagle they took, as plucked from skies blue.
But to point, fellow soldier, fellow knight of gold spurs,
Infantry is old as victory, where and when it occurs.
For when trained and inspired their motto be Clyde's,
'Here where you stand, is where you must die,'
When Russian horse rushed, he drew across the land,
The Sutherland lads - a red line in sand.
Crimson courage, two men deep, refusing defeat,
Three volleys they gave, but not a man to retreat.
And therein be the pledge of the infantry man:
Weather all challenge, each hardship withstand;
Take the ground or defend it; tread on foot, never break;
Present arms 'til God whispers, 'tis time you awake.'
Aye in labour such as this, I find there's a will,
In those who will do it, to refuse to be still."



“Why give earth to the foot, watch it stride and be bold,
Cover ground, town to town, by no obstacle slowed;
Or with earth, watch him dig, palisades to erect,
To turn shell, shot and charge into grudging respect.
Not a city has been taken, nor one kept, I am sure,
But by men before the walls, or atop them secure.
And generals, should they meet to discuss them their terms,
To make the guns quiet, they must tread ‘pon the worms.
All man has made, and with cracked hands has built,
The distances traveled, the ages wrought guilt,
Peace, brick by brick, through the ruins of war,
The achievements of learning, this liberty paid for,
Have been bought: Oh the price! Oh the loss and the glory,
By a good pair of boots, and the foot soldier’s story.
And I fear, good my kinsmen, that story’s not done.
I smell rain in the air, dark the distant horizon.
And if not today, though this ground we now rake,
Our children will witness when new storm will break.
And what has a man, but the body God gave him?
His arms the state lends, but his own legs must save him.
If you fall, my brother, from your horse at a blast
I will lift you to the level, I needn’t be asked,
Nor need I ask you, would you fight on with me?
You shall, aye, I know it; we’re all born infantry.”

And with this, stepped he down, and doffed he his helmet,
He shook me my hand, and firmly he held it.
Our eyes they locked then, unflinching both sides,
But he lowered his first, dropped his hand and he sighed.
And a signal he made, to the column at his back,
His troop, they dismounted their coursers and hacks.
His gaze rose once more, then these words he spake,
“I’ve done thee discredit, let it not be your take,
For I dishonour myself, my men and our mounts,
As you have so spoken, and as history pronounce.
We be brothers in arms, and now thus I greet you,
The weight of your heritage, acknowledged, agreed to.
Eye to eye, hand to hand, is how brothers ought meet,
And arm in arm, side by side, our challenges greet.
I’ll turn in my courser if I might march by your side,
For a while, at least, ere the field be arrived,



Where, once we've viewed it and our battle lines formed,
Let my horse and I keep safe your flank, I implore.
And you and your soldiers will hold the line as you've done,
Across oceans of time, 'neath blue moon and red sun.
For trumpets and pipes are on all fields known,
For the valour of soldiers, neither out-blown.
The horse be my tool, as your boots be to you,
We will use them together - one weapon, well hewn.
Not a one should doubt it, not a soul contradict,
The sword is noblest when a man's walking stick.
And the halls of Valhalla, they resound with the tramp,
Of the infantryman - his foot, seal and stamp,
'Pon the writ of mankind and of civilization,
'Pon the charge God has given for civilized nations."

"If a soldier I be, let me celebrate soldiers,
For whom in heaven a hearth place smolders,
To welcome weary wights, to comfort and warm,
To wick from their scarlets, the stains of the storm.
And a chair there sits closest, see it I can.
It is reserved for thee, noble infantry man.
For when our day dawns with dusk at its end,
And to earth the body drives, and to air the soul sends,
Have I the honour, I will sit with you there,
We will toast those we loved, raise our cups to lost cares,
We'll sing many a tune, some happily, some sadly,
But none shall swell so grandly as that of *Hielan' Laddie*,
For if, on that eve, you will share me your table,
Infantry will I be, my horse in the stable.
But not yet, as you say, for we've marching to do.
No, not yet, and humbly I now ask of you,
May I share your path - for we go it together,
Crossing field,
Through the thistles,
To the sweet smelling heather."

EX Golden Coyote 2016

By Cpl Wally Fong

Some 240 Canadian Army Reservists from 41 Canadian Brigade Group (41 CBG), including a contingent of Calgary Highlanders, participated in Ex GOLDEN COYOTE 2016 in South Dakota from 11 to 23 June 2016.

GOLDEN COYOTE, hosted by the South Dakota National Guard in cooperation with the U.S. National Forest Service and Custer State Park, is one of the largest and longest-running National Guard exercises in the United States. The 2016 exercise involved 4,000 military personnel from Canada, Denmark, Singapore, Suriname, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Stepping off the charter flight at Ellsworth Air Force Base just outside of Rapid City, South Dakota we were met with a blast of hot air, the same feeling you get when you open up your oven to pull out a tray of freshly baked cookies. This is how I would sum up the whole training exercise in South Dakota.

I was the only infanteer on the first flight to South Dakota so I spent the day as a GIB (guy in back) and hatch gunner on a G-Wagon with the KOCR. I quickly realized that picking infantry as a career in the CF was definitely the way to go. The following day our two sections of infantry were shaken out with Sgt. Michelcheon as the designated platoon commander, an LER (Loyal Edmonton Reg't) Sgt. as the platoon warrant, and MCpl Fabian-Waddell and myself tasked as section commanders. We were given the call sign *Rocky 6-1* by the Americans.

For the next several days we practised the advance to contact and patrolling basics at the section and platoon level, and built defensive positions in FOB (forward operating base) CUSTER. We also scouted locations for OPs (observation posts) and possible routes of attack into the FOB. We were also tasked by the American Command Sergeant Major to be the QRF (quick reaction force) for threats against the FOB, which had approximately 500 people

occupying it.

In the days to follow we had the opportunity to cross train with other units in the CF and the American Army, as well as the Danish Military. The Danes were so impressed with how the Canadian infantry ran their dismounted patrol lanes and CQB (close quarter battle) kill house scenarios that we were invited back a total of three times to run the kill house scenarios with the KOCR, as well as Reserve and Regular Force Engineers (we also had personnel from CF Signals and U.S. Air Force attached to our platoon). Our platoon even adopted the 'Danish T' approach when advancing to our objectives in one scenario.



Canadian soldiers deplane at Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota

Cpl Wally Fong



Calgary Highlanders

Some of the Canadian members of the composite platoon (Calgary Highlanders unless otherwise noted): back row L to R: Cpl Fong, Cpl Matheson, Cpl McFarlane, Cpl Thorsen, Cpls Wigglesworth and Riehl of the LER, and Cpl Janzen; front L to R: Cpl Hardiment, Cpl Robinson, and Cpl Solis (Medic).

As the exercise progressed we conducted presence and recce patrols, acted as OpFor (the enemy or opposing force), and continued to be QRF for the duration of the exercise, even employing PsyOps elements in one of our kill house scenarios. Between a tornado touch down 5 miles away from the FOB, point blank lightning strikes, heat, and eating American MREs, there wasn't a dull day during the exercise. I personally learned a lot as a first time Section Commander and got excellent coaching from the senior NCOs.

The training was interesting and challenging, definitely not something I could have experienced anywhere else but with the Calgary Highlanders and the CF. Like the first blast of hot air walking off the plane at Ellsworth AFB or that blast of heat from the opening oven door, the closing of GOLDEN COYOTE as whole felt like the cookies

cooling on the proverbial baking tray, fresh and delicious. 🍁



Members of Rocky 6-1 receive orders.

Calgary Highlanders

The Regiment in Photos

Readers are encouraged to send in photos from all eras of the Unit's history in order that the archive may be expanded. Digital images can be sent to calghighr.glen@gmail.com. Prints should be mailed to The Calgary Highlanders Regimental Association, Mewata Armoury, 801-11th St SW, Calgary, AB, T2P 2C4. Prints will be scanned and returned upon request. When sending photos, don't forget to include information on who/what, when and where.



Oldford Family

1916

Leslie Adolphus Oldford was born on 24 June 1887 in Musgrovetown, Newfoundland and moved to Alberta with other family members in 1904 at the age of 17. He homesteaded briefly near Hardisty but later moved to the Penhold area where he farmed in partnership with his younger brother. He enlisted on 8 July 1915, left Canada on 22 April 1916 and arrived in England on 5 May. One month later, on 9 June, he arrived in France and joined the 10th Battalion on 17 June. He was killed in action only three months later on 26 September 1916 during the fighting for Thiepval Ridge, a 36-hour action during the Battle of the Somme that cost the Tenth 241 casualties. His body was never found, and Private Oldford's name is one of 11,000 inscribed on the Vimy Memorial for those Canadian servicemen killed during the Great War who have no known grave.

30 October 1944

Privates M. Voske and H. Browne examining a captured German remote-controlled 'tank', in the town of Goes, Netherlands.

Although known as the 'beetle tank' to the Allies, it was actually a tracked mine which carried 60 or 100 kgs of explosives, depending upon the model.

Library and Archives Canada, Ken Bell Photographer





Calgary Highlanders

22 June 2016

Current and former members of the Calgary Flames, the city's NHL hockey team, visited the Unit for a BBQ and floor hockey. The visitors gathered in the conference room with the CO and DCO - the two not wearing red jerseys emblazoned with large flaming 'C's - prior to the game.



Calgary Highlanders

21 September 2016

Corporal A. Hardiment was presented a Calgary Highlanders Command Team Coin in recognition of his high level of dedication, shown by attending both Exercise GOLDEN COYOTE and Exercise COUGAR CONQUEROR over the summer and filling leadership roles within his platoon.



Canadian Forces

8 November 2016

Congratulations to CWO Christopher Tucker, CD, who was appointed a Member of the Order of Military Merit (MMM) by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnson, Governor General of Canada, in a ceremony held at Rideau Hall.

Created in 1972, the Order of Military Merit recognizes meritorious service and devotion to duty by members of the Canadian Armed Forces, according to three levels of membership: Commander (CMM), Officer (OMM) and Member (MMM).

10 November

LCol (Retd) Lee Villager addresses students at Sir John A Macdonald Junior High School as part of a Remembrance Day Commemoration organized by Ken Clements.



Ken Clements

11 November 2016

The Hon LCol and
'old guard' gather
at the
Remembrance Day
Ceremony.



Ken Clements



Calgary Highlanders

19 November 2016

The CO and RSM presented
Cpl Janzen with a Command
Team Coin in recognition of
his leadership in organizing
the Unit's Tough Mudder
team (see story p. 15), and
for the high standard of
professionalism
demonstrated during
collective training over the
summer of 2016.

16 December 2016

The Unit closed out the calendar year with the traditional Soldiers Christmas Dinner, held on the Mewata Armoury floor. Once again the RSM and Cpl Fong exchanged jackets, and once again the RSM's incredible hulk impression left Cpl Fong's tunic in tatters. Perhaps this is message to Cpl Fong to go on course, get promoted, and thereby prevent further damage to his kit.



Denis Mascardelli



Ken Clements

16 December 2016

Two foreign guests at the Soldiers Christmas Dinner were Lt Alexander Euler (Luftwaffe) and Lt Tim Barthelmeh (Deutsches Heer). They are shown with (L to R) Sgt Nussbauer, Reg Spratley (Ass'n President), Denis Mascardelli, and Ken Clements (Kit Shop Manager).

Regimental Pipes & Drums At Fortissimo

By Glenn Millage and Brian Woodward

Fortissimo is a military and musical 'spectacular' created for the lawns of Parliament Hill featuring massed bands, pipes and drums, guest performances and the soldiers of the Ceremonial Guard. Since it began in 1997, thousands of visitors to the Nation's Capital have enjoyed its music and pageantry.



Canadian Forces

Fortissimo Massed Pipe Bands with the Calgary Highlanders in their distinctive white tunics.

The Regimental Pipes and Drums had, as usual, a set of demanding summer taskings during the month of July. The usual Canada Day parades in Canmore and Banff were followed a week later by the Calgary Stampede Parade which saw the band side-by-side with the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy; with two bands on the march together, continuous music was provided for the crowd which thronged the parade route.

For many band members, the highlight of the summer of 2016 was the opportunity to join

with the Ceremonial Guard and other CF pipe bands in Ottawa for the annual "Fortissimo", a musical tattoo spectacular held on Parliament Hill during the last week of July. The P&Ds had only a short while to work up the additional music required for the event before spending four days of morning practices and grueling afternoon rehearsals, all necessary in order to be ready for the three two-hour evening performances held before large crowds. Once on the ground in Ottawa we

needed to constantly adapt to both changing musical demands and refinement of performance maneuvers in order to meet the CF standards for a performance 'On the Hill'.

Due to the heat and humidity of the Ottawa summer, Pipe Major Kevin Ponte received permission for the band to wear our lighter white tunics. The result was that, in the midst of military pipe band finery, our Calgary Highlanders stood proud and dazzling. Our bass drummer was honoured to dress in the black bearskin of the Unit and carry the Regiment's battle honors, and to thus be capable of, in the words of Drum Sergeant Melanie Smith, being "seen from orbit".

Ceremony' that incorporates elements of Canadian military tradition in a manner that is entertaining to the general public.

The Pipes and Drums took advantage of its time spent with members of other CF pipe bands to exchange views on band roles, music, and musical style. Ideas were exchanged, and we took advantage of the uncommon opportunity to compare our practices with those of other units' bands.

Fortissimo was a valuable training tool for developing musicians. It was an intensive experience that required preparation, quick adaptation, physical stamina, and attention to musical detail. Teamwork, as well as a



Canadian Forces

Massed pipes and drums on parade before dismissing the field.

As is tradition, the massed pipe bands opened and closed each performance with the playing of 'Lights Out' on the bugle and then 'Donald Blue' on the bagpipes. The show consisted of a variety of musical performances by CF marching bands along with a drill team from Germany on tour in Canada, musketry, highland dancing and artillery volleys. Fortissimo is designed as an elaborate 'Sunset

commitment to creating a performance worthy of pride was every participant's goal.

The after action report from the Pipe Major of the Ceremonial Guard praised our work ethic, turnout and commitment, and the Pipes and Drums have been invited to return for Fortissimo in 2017 to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday. 🍁

Operation Distinction 16

By Cpl Hardiment

Operation Distinction is the Canadian Armed Forces contribution to the Federal Government's commemorative program that began in 2012. During the summer of 2016 the Battle of the Somme was commemorated with a ceremony held on 1 July at the site of the memorial to the Royal Newfoundland Regiment.

The Somme offensive began on 1 July 1916 though the Canadian Corps wasn't committed until September, by which time the promised decisive breakthrough had become a horrific campaign of attrition. By the battle's end in mid-November the Canadians had suffered 24,029 casualties. The Royal Newfoundland Regiment wasn't part of the Canadian Corps, since that province hadn't yet joined Confederation. Instead it took part in the infamous 'first day of the Somme' when it was almost completely destroyed.



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HRH Prince Charles, The Prince of Wales, and HRH Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, receive the salute of the Canadian guard as part of the commemoration of the Battle of the Somme.

On 23 June 2016, 145 soldiers from all across Canada - members of the Army, Navy and Air Force - arrived at the nation's capital. The next day we awoke at 0600 for breakfast, and then formed up in the hotel parking lot for an inspection by the sergeant major who quickly realised a glaring problem: what is the dress standard for highland kit? With 15 highland units on parade we quickly reoriented into our own sub parade and started going over each individual unit's kit layout. Sporrans were ex-

amined in detail and spats in even greater detail. Once the command team was happy with the turn out of the different units' dress uniforms it was off to the drill square for parade practice.

For the first time for many of the highland units we were taught to respond to rifle drill in French and then foot drill in English. After overcoming a few difficulties (the drill com-

mands coming from a Royal Newfoundland Regiment officer, hard enough to understand in English let alone

French) we pressed onto quickly molding ourselves into a single cohesive unit. A command sergeant major looking on from the sideline asked how long we had been drilling together, and was shocked to find out that the different units had only been working together for a few hours. This suggested that we looked as if we had been working together all summer long. With parade practice over and everyone having a good grasp of the parade format, we were dismissed to visit Ottawa

with many of us choosing to see the Parliament buildings and the National War Museum. The parade broke into two chinks and early in the morning of the 28th of June we set out for Lilles, France, boarding a military charter flight. After what seemed an agonisingly long time we finally landed and passed through French security and customs. From there it was just a matter of loading all the military personnel and kit onto three busses and taking the quick trip to Mons, Belgium where we had been shockingly set up in a 5 star hotel. After a quick ground and security briefing we were let loose into the town itself and were able to explore the spectacular architecture and try the local cuisine.

Early in the morning of July 1st, under a grey rainy sky, we dressed in full uniform and then stepped off to the battlefield of Beaumont-Hamel. As we marshalled in the rear of what had been the front line we were all aware that we were quite literally standing and moving along the same route the men of the Newfoundland Regiment had done 100 years ago to the day. As we marched up the main causeway to the massive caribou monument the clouds parted and the sun broke through, bathing the parade and monument in warm light. A procession of dignitaries arrived and the men and women of the parade stood in resolute silence waiting for HRH Prince Charles, The Prince of Wales, and HRH Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall. After they received their royal salute it was time for the procession of speakers and presentations by local school children, culminating with a video message from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and a speech from Prince Charles. Following a quick tour of the monument the Prince and other dignitaries led a procession off the battlefield.

After marching off the parade and turning in our rifles we were all awestruck

by how surreal the whole event had been. During the next two days we were treated to guided tours of Courcellette and Beaumont-Hamel, and an extensive tour of the trenches, tunnels and the monument at Vimy Ridge. It left us in awe of the achievements of our forebears, the dogged determination and courage shown by the men who stormed the heights of Vimy, and the superhuman discipline and tenacity of the failed assault of Beaumont-Hamel. We all left with our own precious memories of the parades and the tours, supremely motivated to maintain our position as members with good attendance and excellent kit turn out, so that we can reunite in one year's time for the 100th commemoration of the battle of Vimy Ridge. 🍁



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On the infamous 'first day of the Battle of the Somme', the Royal Newfoundland Regiment was almost completely destroyed. Of the 801 men who pushed forward towards their objective at Beaumont-Hamel that morning, only 68 answered the roll the next day. In 1921 Newfoundland purchased the ground over which the Regiment had made its attack. The focal point is a bronze caribou which rises 50 feet (15 metres) above ground level.

Canadian Patrol Concentration

Part 1: Workup Training

November 2016 saw the 4th annual Canadian Patrol Concentration held at CFB Wainwright in NE Alberta, involving 26 eight-man teams, including two from the U.K. Open to both Regular and Reserve units, the concentration is a grueling test of participants' ability to conduct a patrol behind enemy lines for up to 48 hours - all the while being hunted by fellow soldiers playing the role of enemy force.

Teams are scored on their ability to conduct battle procedure, issue orders, how they carry out their insertion into 'enemy territory', and how they overcome challenging tests placed along their patrol route. GPS navigational aids are not allowed.

The Calgary Highlanders fielded a team for the 2016 concentration which not only completed their patrol but was awarded a silver medal. This is their story, presented in two parts. The first article, by Cpl Ardell, covers the lengthy workup training necessary to prepare for the patrol while the second, by Cpl Lauritson, describes the patrol.

By Cpl Ardell

The Canadian Patrol Concentration is a test of a soldier's ability to conduct reconnaissance over long distances while testing the fortitude and patrolling spirit of all who tackle the event. Conducted in CFB Wainwright in November each year, it has become one of the Army's premier events, attracting Regular and Reserve force teams from across Canada and around the world. Early in 2016, the Calgary Highlanders made the decision to form a team and took up the challenge offered by the Canadian Manoeuvre Training Centre (CMTTC).

Training for the concentration began with a selection event consisting of a timed ruck march and an anaerobic-endurance test. The selection was necessary to ensure that potential team members possessed adequate base levels of fitness to embark on the training that would be necessary to prepare for the competition. Those who placed well were invited to form the CPC training team and the work then commenced in earnest.

The initial training block focused on reinforcing and improving basic skills such as navigation and standard patrol movement. The team conducted navigational training at the

Canmore Nordic Centre, utilizing pre-established orienteering courses. For additional training, several team members participated in civilian orienteering events to further hone their navigational abilities. The navigation phase cumulated in a weekend navigation exercise around the Rocky Mountain Cadet Camp in the Waiparous area - the end of which was cut short by an overactive bear in the area. The first phase came to a close with field training in advanced camouflage and concealment. Team members proved their skills through the completion of several 'stalks' in which patrolmen were required to move undetected to within 50m of the intended target, identify numbers and/or letters held up by staff members at the target site, and then exfiltrate the area unseen.

The second block of training focused on developing the individual and team skill sets necessary to succeed in the concentration 'stands' (stations along the patrol route that would test the team's soldier skills). Each stand would replicate a situation that could be encountered in a patrol environment - assessing skills in tactical combat casualty care (TCCC), link-ups with partisan groups, actions on minefields and IED's, identification and classification of various NATO and non-

NATO vehicles and weapons, detainee searches and handling, and finally enemy contact drills and section attacks. In addition to constant practice on the required infantry tactics and skills, support and training from fellow 41 Brigade units was instrumental in developing the high competencies required for all arms call for fire, combat casualty care, and explosives recognition and mitigation. This support was critical in the success of our CPC team as stands throughout the competition called upon these skills.

The third and final phase of training was a fine-tuning and practice period for the skills learned in Phase Two, while adding a few scenario specific competencies to the skillset. SOPs for obstacle crossings, helicopter insertion and extraction and rappel training were practiced and battle procedure was rehearsed.

Lastly, the final Patrol Concentration team was selected from the training group and before anyone knew it, months of training had flown by and the team was en route to Wainwright AB, confident and prepared. The competition went well with the team persevering to win a silver medal, a true testament to the training efforts put forth by all involved. The Calgary Highlanders CPC 2016 team would like to extend sincere thanks to all members of the Unit and the Brigade who sacrificed many hours to assist in our team's training, as well as the support from all levels of leadership who made this training possible. The experience was a life changing one for the patrol members and the training knowledge acquired by the team will be disseminated throughout the Unit, providing benefit to all Calgary Highlanders in the future. 🍁



MCpl Malcolm Byers, Cdn Army

Accurate navigation and route selection are critical to success at the Patrol Concentration and were an important part of the team's initial training block (GPS is not allowed). This photo shows the 2 PPCLI team at the concentration conducting a map recce and building a model of the terrain their patrol would operate within.

Canadian Patrol Concentration

Part 2: The Patrol

By Cpl Lauritson

'Make no mistake, the Canadian Patrol Concentration is hard. It is a true test of the foundational soldier-skills required to be successful in contemporary operations. Being selected to participate in the Canadian Patrol Concentration is a privilege: a privilege from which these soldiers will carry lessons—learned through hardship and teamwork—for the rest of their careers.'

CWO Rene Kiens, RSM, Canadian Manoeuvre Training Centre

It was late November, and although it was cold in Wainwright, hovering around -10° Celsius on the ground, it felt more like -35° on the windy perch of the doorless Griffon helicopter we were contour flying in. Deep in enemy territory now, I could see that we were closing fast on our LZ (landing zone), code named 'Dark Knight'.

Caught off guard by a sudden jerk as the pilot manoeuvred his chopper with one last hair raising turn on the approach, I grasped the chicken strap draped loosely across my lap to reassure myself I couldn't fall out, then smiled nervously at my fire team partner, Cpl Steve Ardell, and thought, "eight months of hard training, and the Calgary Highlander CPC team of 2016 is finally here."

The CPC, or the Canadian Patrolling Concentration, is an international Reconnaissance Patrolling competition hosted annually by the Canadian Manoeuvre Training Centre (CMTTC). Scenario driven and with a point based system to award medals for high scoring teams, the Patrol has in a relatively short period of time gained notoriety as a physically grueling, professionally challenging and prestigious event.

For our eight-man team, the last twenty four hours before liftoff had been a sleepless whirlwind of activity that included orders, a live fire section attack and withdrawal, and textbook perfect battle procedure. But that seemed light compared with how packed the previous eight months had been. They started in the spring

with a team selection run by the Patrol Commander, Sgt Steven Oliver. He tested us with timed trials of our fitness and basic soldiering skills, which narrowed the candidate pool significantly. Then once he established a roster of a dozen guys, he sat us down for a quick chat to set the tone.

He made clear that the opportunity we had as Reservists to train, compete and shine in a world class event like the CPC was rare, and so he demanded just one thing: our full dedication. Then to close the meeting he finished by saying, "We're gonna be competing against professional soldiers of the Regular Army and with guys from around the globe. And not only are we gonna turn heads by finishing the patrol, we're gonna outscore them; we're gonna come home with a medal; and we're gonna do it on a Reserve schedule".

The challenge with being a Reservist in an event like this is that we don't have nearly as much time to train, nor do we have the same resources readily available as do the Reg Force guys. For example, when we learned how to use assault boats it wasn't in inflatable zodiac rubber crafts, or even on water, it was on gymnastic mats piled on the concrete floor of Mewata Armoury. And because we all have full time careers or school commitments outside of the Army, it meant much of the initiative to prepare was on ourselves.

For me, lonely rucksack marches along the Bow River Valley in Cochrane before or after work

became the norm, while studying aide-mémoires filled my work breaks. On Wednesday nights I looked forward to collective training, and we would pack a week's worth of lessons into a four hour cram session.

Those training nights always began with short but intense PT sessions designed by Sgt Oliver, which usually involved sandbag sprints, push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups, squats and burpees to build endurance before moving on to formal lessons. Lectures were extensive, and to share the workload each one of us was tasked with giving



MCpl Malcolm Byers, Cdn Army

A CH-146 Griffon Helicopter lifts off with the 1PPCLI team during Canadian Patrol Concentration 2016. The Calg Highr team used two Griffons to insert their 8-man team.

some of them. Some of the subjects covered were navigation, cam and concealment, mine awareness, AFV (armoured fighting vehicles), foreign weapons, combat first aid, survival, partisan link ups, rappelling, actions-on, field craft, the full spectrum of IBTS (individual battle task standards) and countless complex scenarios, followed by countless more after action reports in order to nail down our SOP's. Weekend exercises validated that we were absorbing the material.

Now sitting on the edge of a chopper and ready to test our mettle, we brace again as one more quick drop in elevation brings the machine just

a few feet above the ground, while at the same time a slap on the shoulder from the flight engineer confirms he wants us off his bird. This was a 'helo low hover' insertion, meaning the helicopter doesn't actually land. Instead it hovers while troops leap off, and then just as quickly as it approached, it vanishes into thin air. The advantage is that the enemy may have heard us coming, but it makes it more difficult to detect the LZ's location.

Leaning forward with the weight of our rucksacks on, both Steve and I managed to find our footing on the skid and leapt down to take a knee just as the helicopter began to lift off. It took two Griffons to carry all eight men of our patrol, and looking over my shoulder I could see that all but one of us had made a smooth exit. Cpl Pat Burt earned the nickname 'Birdie' that day for the less than graceful swan dive he did on the exit, just before landing on his face. After a quick chuckle at his expense, we moved in single file into the nearest treeline for cover. There we assumed a defensive posture while Sgt Oliver radioed in the code word 'Batman' to let higher, C/S (call sign) 0, know

the insertion was complete and the recce was underway.

This exercise was realistic, well planned and complex enough to include warring factions with distinct uniforms fighting over a fictional territory called Nafttalan. Nafttalan was of course just a topographical map of the Wainwright Training Area, but with all the names of built up areas and prominent features changed to reflect the scenario.

Our Patrol was C/S 68 Delta and we fell under C/S 3. The mission for C/S 3 was to secure Battalion lines of communication and disrupt enemy forces in SW Nafttalan. There were several

enemy factions that posed a threat to us there, but we were most concerned with one called 'SAPA' because we were told to expect hostile section sized patrols from them in the areas where we would be operating. It was from C/S 3 that we were tasked with the long range rec-

About five clicks into our route to Marvel we linked up with a partisan who we had been told in orders would assist us in crossing the river. Alpha team, which was Sgt Oliver and Pte Ben Strachan, went ahead to complete the link.



Sgt Oliver

The Calgary Highlanders Patrol Team in the Wainwright Training area.

ce patrol. Our mission was to define the area in front of the Forward Line of Troops, or 'FLOT'. The entire recce was complex and included a number of tasks and had to be completed NLT 0100 hrs on 28 NOV 16, which gave us about forty eight hours from the time orders were issued.

First we had to move nearly 20 kilometres SW from where we had been inserted at Dark Knight and conduct a point recce of objective 'Marvel', a small frontier-like town on the map called 'Shahriyar'. As with actual deployments, timings were tight and we had to have our ORV (objective rendezvous) established NLT 0400 hrs. We had left the LZ around 1700 hrs, which meant we had roughly twelve hours to get there, not a lot of time considering it was a tactical move using only map and compass and we knew we still had to cross the obstacle of the Battle River.

Then once the area was deemed safe our 2IC, Cpl Eric Robinson, brought the rest of us forward.

During training we had rehearsed every kind of water crossing that we might encounter on the patrol. What awaited us though wasn't nearly as high speed as we thought it would be. After being led to the bank, what we found bobbing in a narrow slit of an otherwise frozen river was a flat bottomed aluminum drift boat. It was like a tiny dingy that wobbled when the wind blew and could only accommodate two men at a time. Ardell and I used a rigged up rope pulley system to cross the river, then sent the dingy back and maintained security while the others did the same. Once the entire section had joined us, Sgt Oliver radioed C/S 0 to report that the crossing was complete. We did another nav check, then carried on with the mission.

The terrain in the river valley was dominated by

dense forest and steep hills which would have been time consuming to bush bash through. We still had about 13 kilometres to go to get to Marvel, and with the clock ticking we decided the best way forward was to move east up the ridge where we could exploit black tracks on the high ground. But there was risk involved with the plan. Using that route meant we would come dangerously close to the SAPA stronghold of Ashigli. The town was surrounded by minefields and roving patrols, and at one point we knew we would come within a kilometer of its boundaries. But with the weather deteriorating and snow and fog beginning to blanket the landscape, we figured that the reduced visibility would work to our advantage.

Not long after we stepped off towards the high ground we had a close call with the enemy. I was on point and thought I had heard a slight 'hummm' coming from somewhere, so I raised my hand up to signal a halt and to let Sgt Oliver know. For a few minutes we listened, but determined it was probably nothing more than the sound of a generator being carried on the night air.

Just as we began to walk again, I saw what looked like two beady little eyes bouncing down the black track towards us. They were maybe thirty metres to my front, and as soon as I saw them I knew exactly what the humming sound was. Toggling my radio as I bolted for cover, I whispered, "vehicle, blackout drive". The alert sent the entire team diving for cover.

Seconds later a SAPA pickup rumbled by. I could see that the passenger was using NVGs (night vision goggles) and his head was pivoting back and forth as he looked for us. As taught, we simply froze in place until the danger passed. When we finally did start moving again, it was in a daring dash to cross an open field that was 500 metres wide. The pressure was

still on as now there were two trucks with lights on looking for us, plus a man with a flashlight not far behind. To avoid detection and increase the time distance gap from our pursuers, we temporarily abandoned our route plan. Instead of moving left through a saddle I had set my sights on, we moved right towards the closest treeline.

The evasive move meant that though we were out of danger we would have to locate our position on the map again. But this was a small price to pay to avoid being compromised. Our mission was to gather intelligence, not show a presence, and although recce patrols can fight, we do everything in our power not to. Despite the fog, Ardell was able to shoot a bearing off a cell tower and apply the resection to our map.

And as luck would have it, we had emerged from the wood line less than a hundred metres from where we wanted to be and were able to carry on no worse off.

After navigating a complex network of black tracks that weren't on the map, we arrived at a mandatory administrative check point about a half hour early. There we were to be able to top up our water bottles before carrying on to the ORV, which was still about a

thousand metres to the west. For the first time on the patrol we had a CMTC NCO accompany our movement. We had linked up with her at the admin point and she was now shadowing us to evaluate our recce.

Once the ORV was set, Alpha and Delta teams moved forward to recce the position leaving the remainder of us hunkered down in cover to count vehicles passing on the MSR (main supply route). Though we tried to go down to fifty per cent for rest, sleep was out of the question. We were soaked with sweat and it was just too cold a night to lie in one position. It was the curse of this patrol that every time we stopped to do

Toggling my radio as I bolted for cover, I whispered, "vehicle, blackout drive". The alert sent the entire team diving for cover.

even a quick nav check our extremities would begin to freeze and our bodies would shiver violently. Within minutes of being in the ORV we were all showing signs of hypothermia. It was a long, painful, three hour wait until Alpha and Delta returned.

At around 0745, and with only 15 minutes to spare before we had to be off the Objective, the recce team returned. They had big grins on their faces because they had

gotten in and out without being detected, so a job well done. One of our guys, Cpl Matt 'Mace' Daley, who by day moonlights as a constable with the Calgary Police Service, even went so far as to enter a building with people sleeping inside. Telling the story to us as we hurriedly collapsed the ORV, he joked that if it hadn't risked being compromised, he would've locked the door from the outside when he left so they couldn't get out.

Our next task required us to move about eight kilometres to a location code named 'Peter Parker', and it would have to be a mad dash if we were going to make our timing. Peter Parker was the site of a Key Leader Engagement, or KLE, where we were to meet with an anti-SAPA local. Our intent was to extract as much information as possible from him about any and all enemy activity in the area.

The route we used to get to Peter Parker was a serpentine one. We were still moving tactically and using contours and black tracks where possible, but the lingering fog allowed us to also cross open ground with reduced concern about being detected. For the most part we saw no



MCpl Kurt Visser, Cdn Army

WO Dwayne MacDougall of the CMTC tracks the progress of patrols during the 2014 Concentration.

vehicle or foot traffic, though at one point we did see a group of individuals milling about in the distance.

They didn't see us, so we stopped to note the time, their particulars and their location on the map. We observed that they weren't in mixed uniforms like the rag tags of the SAPA force but instead were dressed like us, and so we soon deduced they were no threat. It was another recce patrol, and we suspected they were lost. To avoid detection of any kind, and to make our timing, we didn't stay long, but rather kept a wide berth and continued on. However their misfortune gave us a boost of confidence, and it was strange comfort to know we were passing teams that had started the patrol before us.

We arrived at the intersection of Blue and Grey routes early enough that we had time to study the approach to Peter Parker. The road leading to our partisan's property was hard packed gravel, but not on the map, so we added it as a correction to our trace. Then because the remaining distance was through a narrow strip of ground that made us vulnerable, we fanned out

west of the road into extended line and advanced cautiously. Once we were close enough to observe the exact link up location, we climbed a steep slope, set up an informal fire base out of view, and then with eyes on, sent Cpl Janzen of Charlie team forward to give the signal we were in the area, which was to tie a twelve inch piece of mine tape onto a ram's skull at the edge of the road. The partisan arrived minutes later.

He was a heavy set guy who moved fast when he walked, and we knew from orders he had a quick temper. He seemed cordial though, and after a quick exchange of greetings he instructed the entire patrol to follow him up the road to his home. As soon as we entered his farming compound the section began to fan out. Each fire team moved into defensive positions on the outskirts of the compound while Sgt Oliver, Cpl Jansen and Pte Strachan talked to the owner. We were aware that we could be walking straight into an ambush, so it was a balancing act to ensure that our posture was assertive enough for force protection, but not aggressive enough to end the dialogue we needed to have with him.

What we were expecting from the meeting at the very least was that the partisan would give us direction on where the patrol might move to next. But we also wanted more intimate details. We needed to know who he was, where he was from, his age, his family ties, and his thoughts on the various forces operating in his area, including how the locals viewed our presence.

To gather that kind of information a team needs a good communicator, and fortunately we had one of the best talkers in the Army. Sgt Oliver had served with the psychological operations branch while deployed in Afghanistan, interacting with locals and extracting information from them. We had the information we sought within

minutes and were on our way.

Our next task seemed to be too good to be true. It was simple really, we had seven hours to move 15 kilometres back towards the FLOT. Once there we were to rendezvous with a Canadian Operational Mentor and Liaison Team. The OMLT would then take us through friendly lines and to our debrief.

After leaving Parker, we took a break to fuel up, do a nav check and inform higher of our progress with a SITREP. To this point the pace had been hectic and we had only eaten once since orders. So the break was well deserved, but unfortunately, it was also short lived. I wasn't even into the main meal of my ration pack when I heard the radio chatter something to the effect

of, "68 Delta, You Will Move Your Patrol To The Area Of Grid 027 - 336 To Conduct An All Arms Call For Fire, Over".

"Lovely", I thought as Ardell passed over the map and showed me where he thought we had to move to. The grid was farther south, and the new mission added several kilometres to our patrol, which in itself wasn't a problem, but the catch was that we still had to

make our timing for 0100 hrs with the OMLT.

This was a test and we knew it. To make our timing now seemed nearly impossible. Recce patrolmen are expected to be more flexible and resilient than most though, so with the Patrolling Spirit compelling us forward, we stuffed our meals away and stepped off without delay.

Moving east for three clicks across a snow swept plateau, we crossed the Polkadot Trail, then cut south for a five kilometer stretch until we got to the grid location we'd been given. There we set up an ORV again and Sgt Oliver, along with Mace and Ardell, moved forward to get eyes on for the Arty mission. They weren't gone long, and as soon as they returned we carried on.

We now had just over two hours to negotiate

This was a test and we knew it. To make our timing now seemed nearly impossible.

the final eight kilometres if we wanted to make our timing for extraction. To get to where we needed to go, the intersection of Horse Shoe Road and Yellow Route, we began to move as expeditiously as we could, first along the MSR for about 1500 metres, then onto a cut line that paralleled it. The plan was to move roughly 3000 metres total until we found a black track at a T-junction that would take us right to the OMLT.

As we moved forward I paced our distance, but was bewildered while looking for the track in the fog. What confused me was that there were a number of black tracks on the ground that weren't on the map. This I knew was by design, that the CMTC staff were testing participants to see if we would add the missing tracks to our maps as corrections to be reported in the debrief.

By the time I had paced out 4000 metres I was convinced we had passed the junction we needed to find. Painfully, after a consult with Ardell and Sgt Oliver, we turned back and began to carefully check each track. By the time we found the one we were looking for we had an hour left to make our timing with the OMLT, but still had about five kilometres to walk.

Missing the track was a frustrating turn of events and I felt as though I had let the patrol down after so much hard work. By this point we were all dirty, hungry, dehydrated and hallucinating from lack of sleep. Every inch of our bodies, from the soles of our feet to our shoulders, hurt from the burden of humping fighting order and a 45 pound rucksack over a 55 kilometre trace. But we've all been in the Army long enough to know that when things go wrong, and they often do, we don't dwell

on it. Instead we buck up, drive the body, shoot the foot and soldier on to get the job done. That's exactly what we did.

Digging deep, we began to move again, and did so at a pace that would put the BFT to shame. On the last stretch we covered four kilometres in forty minutes in the dark on a track that was slippery, rutted, winding and hilly. The grit and determination shown by our team in that moment is the very definition of 'Patrolling Spirit'. Despite our efforts though, we were still going to fall short. Sgt Oliver, realizing it, pulled a card the rest of us didn't know we had.

He got on the radio and informed higher we had missed our junction because of the fog. He then explained that a resection would be

impossible in zero visibility and ended the transmission with, "further to my last, we request an extension for our rendezvous for that reason...over".

We all sat on pins and needles waiting for a response from zero to crackle back, and it seemed like forever before we heard, "68 Delta, Roger, Understood, The Fog Has Made Nav Difficult, We Will Push Your NLT Timing to 0300 Hrs And Inform The OMLT...

Out."

We all had a good laugh because not one of us had thought to pull the weather card. But because the old dog, who was full of infantry tricks did, we made our timing with the OMLT. Then after one last test, which involved treating a mine blast victim as we were being escorted to safety, we were picked up and transported back to Wainwright for our debrief.

In Wainwright we were surprised to be greeted by our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel K. Clapperton, who had traveled through the night from Calgary to be there. He

shook our hands and congratulated us on finishing, then attended the ceremony with us where our humble team of citizen soldiers were presented with silver medals in an international soldiering completion. It was an emotional moment.

Broadly speaking, our success was a result of many factors. Although we didn't have the huge candidate pool or resources that teams from Regular Force formations had, Sgt Oliver ensured we were well led and well prepared for the CPC. Paramount also was the support we received from the entire Regiment. Members of every rank, and employed in every position, from Transport to Operations, from CQ Stores to the RSM, and from the OC to the CO, all took a vested interest in ensuring we had the tools and time we needed to succeed. That support paid dividends.

My highest accolades however, go to my peers. The guys who ground out eight hectic months in order to represent our Regiment, The Calgary Highlanders, on the international

stage. Throughout the concentration they demonstrated resiliency, tenacity, and an overwhelming willingness to complete the mission. To that end perhaps our greatest asset was that as Reservists with full time civilian careers, we were able to apply an incredibly diverse skill set. Our members were all veteran soldiers or service people with a wealth of experience. Some had operational deployments, while others had specialty military courses that were invaluable in the field. We had trades people who are used to problem solving on the fly, academics who are also engineers, and university students who were like sponges when it came to learning new things.

CPC 2016 was a good go and I am immensely proud of our team for doing so well. The concentration was a challenging and unique opportunity, and I learned a great deal from the experience. The patrol, and working with this team, will certainly be a highlight of my career. **AIRAGHARDT!** 🍁



Sgt Oliver

Patrol team after the awards presentation. Back row (L to R): Cpl Daley, Cpl Robinson, Cpl Lauritsen, Cpl Ardell. Front Row (L to R) Cpl Burt, Cpl Strachan, Sgt Oliver, Cpl Janzen.

Fallen Comrades

William Green

Mr. William 'Bill' George Green, a member of the Regiment during the Second World War, passed away at the Colonel Belcher Care Centre in Calgary on 20 June 2016 at the age of 94. Bill, born on 19 October 1921 as the youngest of seven children, was 'born and bred' in Saskatchewan, but his wartime combat was as a private in the Calgary Highlanders. He was wounded on 26 August 1944 near the town of Bourgtheroulde, France as the Canadian Army pushed its way to the Seine River in the face of determined and skillful German resistance.



In 1952 Bill married Elsie Bates and they remained together until her death in 2011. Bill is survived by five children, 14 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Bill's life was held in High River on 29 June where the Regiment was represented by a contingent from the Regimental Association.



2LT Fraser/Sgt Nussbaumer

20 October 2015

The Calgary Highlanders presented Bill Green with a glengarry to replace the one he'd lost many years earlier. With Bill were Sgt Nussbaumer (L) and 2Lt Fraser.

Walter Edward Roebuck



We regret to announce the passing of Walter Edward Roebuck on 28 December 2016 in Calgary at the age of 83 years. A native of Vulcan, Alberta, Walter served with the Calgary Highlanders during the 1950s when the Unit had a rifle company in that town. Walter was the father of Grant and Tony Roebuck, who both soldiered with the Calgary Highlanders during the late 1970s and 1980s.

Walter was predeceased by his wife, Ira May, and son Grant. He is survived by his son Michael ('Tony'), three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Lloyd Allan Swick



On 14 January retired Major Lloyd Allan Swick passed away in Ottawa at the age of 94. Born and raised in Winnipeg, Lloyd soldiered with the Calgary Highlanders during the Second World War, serving as a platoon commander as the Unit fought through France and the Netherlands. After the war he attended the University of Manitoba where he earned a BSc before rejoining the Army, this time with Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He qualified as a paratrooper with the PPCLI and commanded a company in Korea, and later served in India, Pakistan and Haiti. When his military career ended Lloyd entered the Federal public service until his retirement, after which he remained active in a variety of activities, perhaps most notably those to do with veterans.

Lloyd was predeceased by Doris, his wife of 67 years. He is survived by five daughters, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held in Ottawa on 4 February where the Calgary Highlanders were represented by JAG officer Captain Angie Clarke, formerly Cpl Clark of our Unit.

Peter Schamber



The Regiment suffered another loss on 30 January 2017 with the death of Peter Schamber. Peter, a Second World War Calgary Highlander, passed away in Milk River, Alberta at the age of 100 years.

Born and raised in Saskatchewan, Peter was one of the thousands of Canadians who 'rode the rails' during the dirty thirties, looking for work. He joined the Army during World War II and served as a mechanic and driver with the Calgary Highlanders. After the war he farmed in Milk River for many years, where he also served as Town Councilman.

Peter is survived by his wife of 64 years, Helen; a daughter, three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Milk River on 4 February.

Individual Battle Task Standards

By Maj Andrew Beauchamp

Over the weekend of 14-16 October 2016, The Calgary Highlanders visited 20th Independent Field Battery, RCA at Vimy Armoury in Lethbridge. The Unit trained cooperatively with the gunners to review the soldier skills required to call for artillery support, operate in chemical, radioactive, biological, or nuclear environments, and conduct some hands-on weapons training. After a full day of training all soldiers toured the Lethbridge Military Museum (www.lethbridgemilitarymuseum.org) followed by an evening visiting with our hosts in their respective messes.

After a fun filled night all soldiers completed the Gas Hut at Kipp Range on Sunday, 16 October to confirm some of the skills practiced over the weekend.

A special thanks to 20th Independent Field Battery RCA for their hospitality!



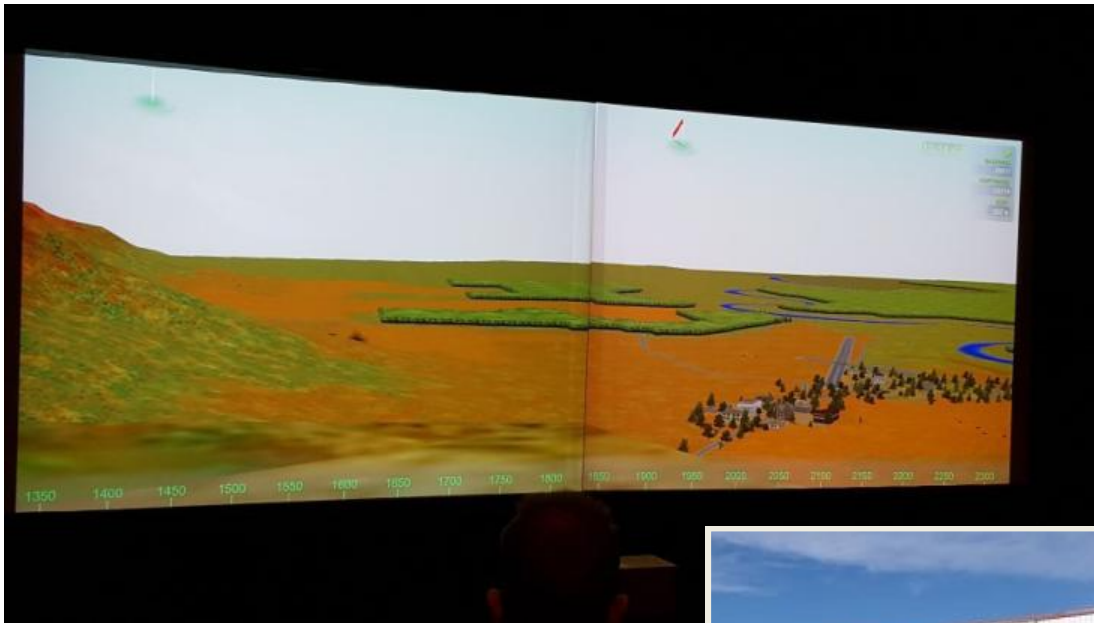
Maj Beauchamp

On Saturday 15 October at Vimy Armoury Lethbridge, CSM A Coy reviews the drills for donning protective equipment to allow soldiers to operate in chemical, radioactive, biological, and nuclear environments.

Throughout the Saturday Calgary Highlanders cycled through the Indirect Fire Trainer at Vimy Armoury to conduct All Arms Call for Fire training, led by the Forward Observation Party from 20th Independent Field Battery.

LCol Clapperton





LCol Clapperton

A view of the Indirect Fire Trainer used to simulate calling for artillery support.

Soldiers from The Calgary Highlanders and the 20th Independent Field Battery review weapons handling drills on Saturday 15 October.

Maj Beauchamp



Maj Beauchamp

GAS! GAS! GAS! Soldiers from both units participated in the always enjoyable Gas Hut drills at Kipp Range on Sunday 16 Oct.

The Regimental Family of The Calgary Highlanders

By LCol (Retd) F. Lee Villager

The proud history of The Calgary Highlanders begins in 1910 with the 103rd Calgary Rifles. A new battalion structure was created during WW1 and the 'Fighting 10th' was filled with men from Calgary, Southern Alberta and Western Canada. The fame of the 10th Battalion and their magnificent role in Canadian history was won on the battlefields of St. Julien, Hill 70 and Vimy, just to name a few of the twenty battle honours awarded. But what about the other aspects of support for Regimental Life – those behind the scenes?

Any regiment in Canada has stories of great challenges overcome and incredible acts of valour. But supporting these fighting men and women are the families, the veterans, and decent Canadians who simply want to help out. This article presents the dedicated people behind the scenes of our Battalion – The Regimental Family.

Kudos go to the unsung heroes of 2016 -2017. One can't fail to mention the secret Santa who for many years has sent a cheque for \$1000 to support the CH Children's Christmas Party; and of course, Santa himself (Wayne Stretch) who doubles as volunteer salesman with others in the Regimental Kit Shop run by Cpl (Retd) Ken Clements. And how about volunteers Mr. Bill Emslie and Warrant Officer Darlene Deguzman –Tucker who spend numerous hours running the Calgary Highlanders Family Association, including Christmas shopping and wrapping presents for over 40 children in the Regimental Family. The

dedication of Reginald Spratley as the new Association President and his quest to connect with our veterans; and Capt (Retd) Denis Mascardelli and his wife Dianne, who shape and produce our remarkable Regimental Newsletter 'The Glen'. I can



Calgary Highlanders

WO Darlene Deguzman-Tucker and Mr. Bill Emslie at the Unit's 2016 Children's Christmas Party.

enthusiastically add Bravo Zulu to MCpl Ryan van Zandt and the spirited 'Oakleaves' hockey team. In addition, the quiet but phenomenal work of our civilian CH website administered by Cpl Michael Dorosh!

How about the support of over 20 civilian musicians who participate with the CH Pipes and Drums – not to mention the additional time put in by Pipe Major Ponte and Drum Major Forest. These and other talented musicians put in long hours practising and



WW1.canada.com

Major Peter Boyle, curator of the Calgary Highlanders Regimental Museum.

needed 'Soldier and Veteran Advocacy' office. He realized the need to connect serving soldiers and veterans to important resources and agencies that can help in any manner. And let's not forget the other committees that shape our family – the Regimental Senate chaired by Col (Retd) Sam Blakely, the Highland Ball chaired by Dr. Greg Stone, and of course, our two Honourary Colonels who chair the Funds Foundation (HCol Michael Shaw and HLCol Lauchlan Currie) and spend their valuable time raising funds, linking to the community, showing the flag, and helping to support all the organizations of the Regimental Family.

To all of the unsung heroes of the Regiment – thank you. I truly believe the 10th Battalion is proud of you. 🍁

Airaghardt

often playing gratis, and then spend additional evenings instructing new Cadet musicians. Of course I can't fail to mention the four Cadet Corps of the Calgary Highlanders – RCACC 2137 at Mewata (Major Miroslav Novak), 2383 at High River (Capt Arlen Petersen), 3016 at Airdrie (Capt Chris Taylor), and 3125 at Chestermere (Capt Ada Fong); and their Parent Associations and volunteer leaders. Simply amazing! At our CH Regimental Museum at the TMM there are 8 volunteers led by Sgt (Retd) Denny Russell and Major Peter Boyle. Their time and effort makes us look professional to researchers and educators, and to shine before the general public.

In closing, I send a shout-out to Cpl (Retd) Dave McKay who has recently established the much



Calgary Highlanders

Members of the 2137 Cadet Corps collected three large bags of toys as part of the Toy Mountain campaign, an initiative of three Calgary radio stations to benefit the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter.

Burns Supper

The Warrant Officers and Sergeants Association held their annual Robbie Burns Supper at the Carriage House Inn on Friday, 27 January 2017. An excellent meal - which was enlivened by several enjoyable performances by the Pipes & Drums, including their talented dancers - was followed by a dance that continued into the very early hours of the morning. The Burns Supper is always a well organized and enjoyable evening and if you've never attended, plan to join us next year.



LCol Clapperton



Denis Mascardelli

Above: Col Eppo van Weelderren, Commander of 41 Canadian Brigade Group and LCol Kyle Clapperton, Unit CO, hiding out in the bar area in an attempt to avoid the dance floor.

Below: The Pipes & Drums and dancers performed several sets. Their talent and professionalism set the WOs and Sgts Burns Supper apart from the many other Burns events held throughout Calgary.



LCol Clapperton



Museum Update

Connecting the Regimental Family with its Heritage

*Major Peter J Boyle CD, AdeC
Calgary Highlanders Museum and Archives*

As we approach the centenary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge, the Museum and Archives would like to share the stories of Gallant Canadians who fought during this historic battle.

During the battle, there were three Distinguished Service Orders (DSO), four Military Crosses (MC), five Distinguished Conduct Medals (DCM) and at least twenty Military Medals (MM), awarded.

The citations of some of these gallantry awards are almost unfathomable to imagine. On the shell torn battlefield, Officers, NCO's and Soldiers carried out their duty through incredibly difficult circumstances. A few are highlighted below.

Distinguished Service Order: Major Hugh Ferguson joined the 10th Battalion in late 1915 and by Vimy had already been wounded twice. Major Ferguson recovered from his wounds at Vimy and fought for the remainder of the war. His citation reads:



For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When leading his company to the attack he was wounded, but continued on, handling his men with great skill and determination. He was wounded a second time, but carried on until the objective was captured. He remained with his company until the third and fourth waves had passed through the position.

Military Cross: Lieutenant Wallace Duncan joined the 10th in late 1916. The wounds he received at Vimy saw him hospitalized and returned to Canada. His citation reads:



For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On the attack on the first objective, although wounded in the first 100 yards, he continued on his hands and knees encouraging and directing his men.

Distinguished Conduct Medal: Acting Regimental Sergeant Major James Watchman took over a Company at Vimy after all of the Officers were made casualties. He was killed later in 1917 at the Battle of Passchendaele. His citation reads:



For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He assumed command and reorganized the company. He led the men in the attack at the appointed time and carried on until an officer arrived and assumed command. He set a splendid example throughout and greatly encouraged his men.

Distinguished Conduct Medal: Private J. Henry. We do not know much about Private Henry, however he distinguished himself while conducting a trench raid the day before the attack at Vimy Ridge. His citation reads:



For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During a raid on the enemy lines he, with one other man, attacked nine of the enemy, killing four and capturing two unwounded. He displayed great courage and determination throughout.

There are many more acts of gallantry and bravery that can be read in the Honours and Awards section of the Regimental website: calgaryhighlanders.com/honours/honours.htm



thecanadasite.com

The Canadian memorial at Vimy Ridge, located at Hill 145, the ridge's highest point. It was unveiled in 1936, ironically only four years before the German Army would once again seize and occupy much of France.



The Calgary Highlanders Regimental Association Dues, Gifts and Membership

If you are an existing member of the Association, either Ordinary or Associate, all you have to do to renew your membership for 2017 is to send us your annual dues of \$15.00 (Box A)

If you are not an existing member and wish to become one, please complete the application form (Box B) and attach the 2017 annual dues of \$15.00.

All serving soldiers are automatically Ordinary Members upon receipt of the annual dues and need not apply for membership.

If you are unsure of your status, complete Box B.

BOX A: DUES/GIFTS

2017 dues are \$15.00 and, of course donations are much appreciated.

A tax receipt will be issued for donations of more than \$25.00; annual dues are not tax-deductible. Cheques should be made out to 'The Calgary Highlanders Regimental Association' and mailed to:

The Calgary Highlanders Regt Assn
Mewata Armoury
801-11th Street SW
Calgary AB T2P 2C4

☐

Enclosed are my annual dues of \$15.00 (2017)

☐

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

Please complete if this information is not on your cheque or has changed.

BOX B: MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐

I am a former Calgary Highlander (applying as an *Ordinary Member*)

☐

I am NOT a former Calgary Highlander (applying as an *Associate Member*)

PLEASE PRINT:

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Rank (indicate 'Retd' when applicable if providing rank) _____

Given Name(s) _____

Surname _____

Decorations/Post Nominals _____

Military Service (if applicable)

Unit _____ Dates Served _____

Unit _____ Dates Served _____

Street Address: _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

EMAIL: _____

OR

☐

I do not have an email address

Former Calgary Highlanders become Ordinary Members upon receipt of the annual dues (\$15.00). The Board of Directors may grant conditional memberships to any applicant for Associate Membership, but such memberships must be confirmed at the Association's Annual General Meeting.

Mail to:

The Calgary Highlanders Regt Assn
Mewata Armoury
801-11th Street SW
Calgary AB T2P 2C4