



The Glen

The Newsletter of the Calgary Highlanders Regimental Association



Editor's Page

Denis A. Mascardelli

As I write this it's hard to believe that summer is over and, despite the bright sunshine and brilliant blue skies of a beautiful fall day, winter will soon be upon us. For the Regi-

ment, fall marks the start of another training year, some of which will be ritual and remembrance, while another part will be developing and honing the skills necessary to become better infanteers.

On Wednesday 28 October the 71st anniversary of the Second World War battle for the Walcheren Causeway will be remembered with a parade at Mewata Armoury. More details may be found on page 3 of this issue of the Glen.

Two weeks later, Wednesday 11 November will mark the 97th year since an Armistice silenced the guns and brought the First World War, 'the war to end all wars', to a close. It will be a day to pause and honour those Canadians who have served our country from the South African war to Afghanistan. Details of the Remembrance ceremony will be sent out as soon as they're available.

The new year, now only a few months away, will bring the annual Robbie Burns Supper, organized by the WOs and Sgts Association. The 2016 event will be held on Friday 29 January at the Carriage House Inn; for information, see page 23.

Those of you following the Fighting Tenth's history will find an article recounting the Battalion's role at the historic Battle of Vimy Ridge. In addition there are articles concerning the on-going tragedy in the Middle East, photos, the Museums page, and much more.

Finally, a few words concerning several of the Regiment's Second World War veterans.

Ray Hoffman, who lives in Canmore, was recently injured as the result of a fall. Our best wishes for a full and speedy recovery to go out to him.

Wally Ona of Calgary recently celebrated his 99th birthday and so has begun his hundredth year, while Percy DeWolfe will celebrate his 100 birthday in Qualicum Beach this November. Congratulations and best wishes to both Wally and Percy.

Table of Contents

Message from the Command Team	2
The Tenth at Vimy Ridge	4
Unidentified Pipe Banners	10
Incident in Yugoslavia	11
Fallen Comrades	13
Regiment in Photos	14
QMSI Corner	19
Norman Field Invested into Legion of Honour	22
JLTV Unveiled	24
Unit Training Schedule	27
Middle East Politics	29
US Policy in Syria	31
Museum Update	33

A Message From the Command Team

LCol Kyle Clapperton and CWO Chris Tucker



Welcome back after a busy and productive summer! The Regiment continues to leave its mark across the country on career courses, tasks, and the annual summer training event. Notably, we congratulate Cpl Joey Green (A Company) for being the Top Candidate on the Primary Leadership Qualification- Infantry course, and MCpl Melanie Smith (Pipes and Drums) for coming in second place on the PLQ-Land course. These Calgary Highlanders have proven once again that our Regiment sets a high standard for the rest of the Army to follow. As well, several members of the Pipes and Drums, including PM Kevin Ponte, spent the summer on public duties with the Ceremonial Guard in Ottawa, while others augmented the Fortissimo military musical performances on Parliament Hill. I attended Fortissimo and observed first-hand the Ceremonial Guard's exceptional performance - but even better was to hear the high regard and respect placed on the Calgary Highlanders' soldier-musicians. Additionally, those who attended the summer training event in Wainwright, Ex GRIZZLY DEFENDER 15, know that this was an exercise not to be missed. Training resources, including the WES simulation system and hired actors to play CIBS (Civilians in the Battle Space), were made available to make this training some of the best we have experienced in several years. The Calgary Highlanders had a sizable presence at the exercise and were recognized for our excellent performance. We also benefited from working with and learning from our friends in the 1-161st Infantry Battalion, Washington Army National Guard, who sent over 70 soldiers to the exercise. Our intention is to continue to reinforce our friendship and interoperability with the 1-161 by attending their Annual Training in the summer of 2016.

RSM Tucker and I also extend a warm welcome to all the all new members of the Regiment. Over the course of the summer, Mr. Lauchlan Currie was appointed as our Honourary Lieutenant-Colonel. He is a strong supporter of the Army Reserve and his corporate experience and knowledge will have a significant positive impact on the Regiment. And, of course, there are the new infantry qualified soldiers who completed DP 1 Infantry training over the summer. They have become one of us and we take great pride in presenting the Tam-O-Shanter, cap badge and regimental coin to this new generation of Calgary Highlanders. This pride is rooted in our strong heritage, history and traditions, and as we prepare to commemorate the 71th Anniversary of the Battle of Walcheren Causeway, we also welcome our collaborative partnership with Valour Canada. This partnership has helped to further promote the Regiment in our community and we look forward to the premiere of the LCol Ross Ellis and Walcheren Causeway video, made in collaboration with Valour Canada, at this year's Walcheren commemoration.

This training year has begun at full speed with a focus on individual soldier fundamentals- marksmanship, pairs fire and movement, infantry weapon systems - and will continue with Close Quarter Combat Basic (CQCB) training before moving into a collective training phase with a focus on defensive operations. It will be a busy year with many challenges and opportunities. However, we will continue to maintain our high standard of excellence, since after all we are proudly Calgary's Infantry Regiment...

AIRAGHARDT!

... **AIRAGHARDT!**

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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.

Letters and articles are encouraged and, if published, may be edited for content and length.

The Calgary Highlanders

The Commanding Officer, LCol Kyle Clapperton, CD respectfully requests the pleasure of your company to attend a parade to commemorate the 71st Anniversary of the Battle of the Walcheren Causeway.

Wednesday, 28th of October 2015
1930 hrs

1930 – Performance by The Pipes & Drums
2000 hrs - Parade is formed
2045 hrs - Parade Dismissed; and,
2100 hrs – Reception in the Junior Ranks Mess

Please arrive prior to 1930 hours to allow for time to be seated and enjoy a performance by the Pipes and Drums of The Calgary Highlanders prior to the commencement of the formal parade. Reception in the Junior Ranks Mess to follow.

Location

Mewata Armoury

801-11 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta

“Airaghardt!”

RSVP: Not Required

Dress:

Military: Combats

Civilian: Business Casual

The 10th Battalion at Vimy Ridge

By Darryl Knight

The Canadian Corps' capture of Vimy Ridge in April 1917 is too complex and important to fit within the constraints of a single article in The Glen. Accordingly, a broad overview was presented in the previous issue (Vol. 4, Issue 3), while this article focuses on the 10th Battalion's role in this historic battle.

On the Monday morning of 9 April 1917, the four Divisions of the Canadian Corps climbed out of their trenches and, in a driving snow storm, did what other Allied armies had failed to do during the previous two years by seizing the heights known as Vimy Ridge from a heavily-fortified and well dug-in enemy.

The simplicity of that sentence offers almost nothing to properly convey the magnitude of the gargantuan effort that led up to that morning's initial assault, and the battle that raged on for days after.

Months of preparation, rehearsal and planning had gone into the operation; a full-scale "copy" of the objectives had been surveyed and taped off - miles from the front - with thousands of men run through their respective dress-rehearsals, section by section, and Battalion by Battalion. While the men trained, the Canadian Field Artillery had begun the bombardment, not only hitting the forward German defences but engaging in counter-battery targeting as well.

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. These craters were just a handful of dozens that had been blown on the Western Front, evidence of an underground war that had raged - on both sides of the line - throughout 1915 and 1916.

The 10th Battalion's Captain Stanley Kent, MC,



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.

had conducted extensive reconnaissance of "No Man's Land" on the Wednesday-Thursday night of 4-5 April, 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 an umbrella of 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.

On Saturday, 7 April, Lt. Colonel Ormond rotated the 10th Battalion's companies, A and B being placed in the forward trenches while C and D moved back to billets in Ecoivres.

Originally, the assault on Vimy Ridge was to have been launched on Easter Sunday (8 April, 1917), but owing to a litany of last-minute postponements, the attack was rescheduled for the following morning.

The 10th remained concerned that the enemy's wire obstacles to its front might still be largely intact, 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 0430 hours 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, and causing a maelstrom of mayhem in its wake.

The raid was deemed a success, but costly; 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. Shoemsmith, 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.

...the raiding force advanced some 150 yards into the enemy's defences, blowing dug-outs, killing and capturing resisting enemy, and causing a maelstrom of mayhem in its wake.

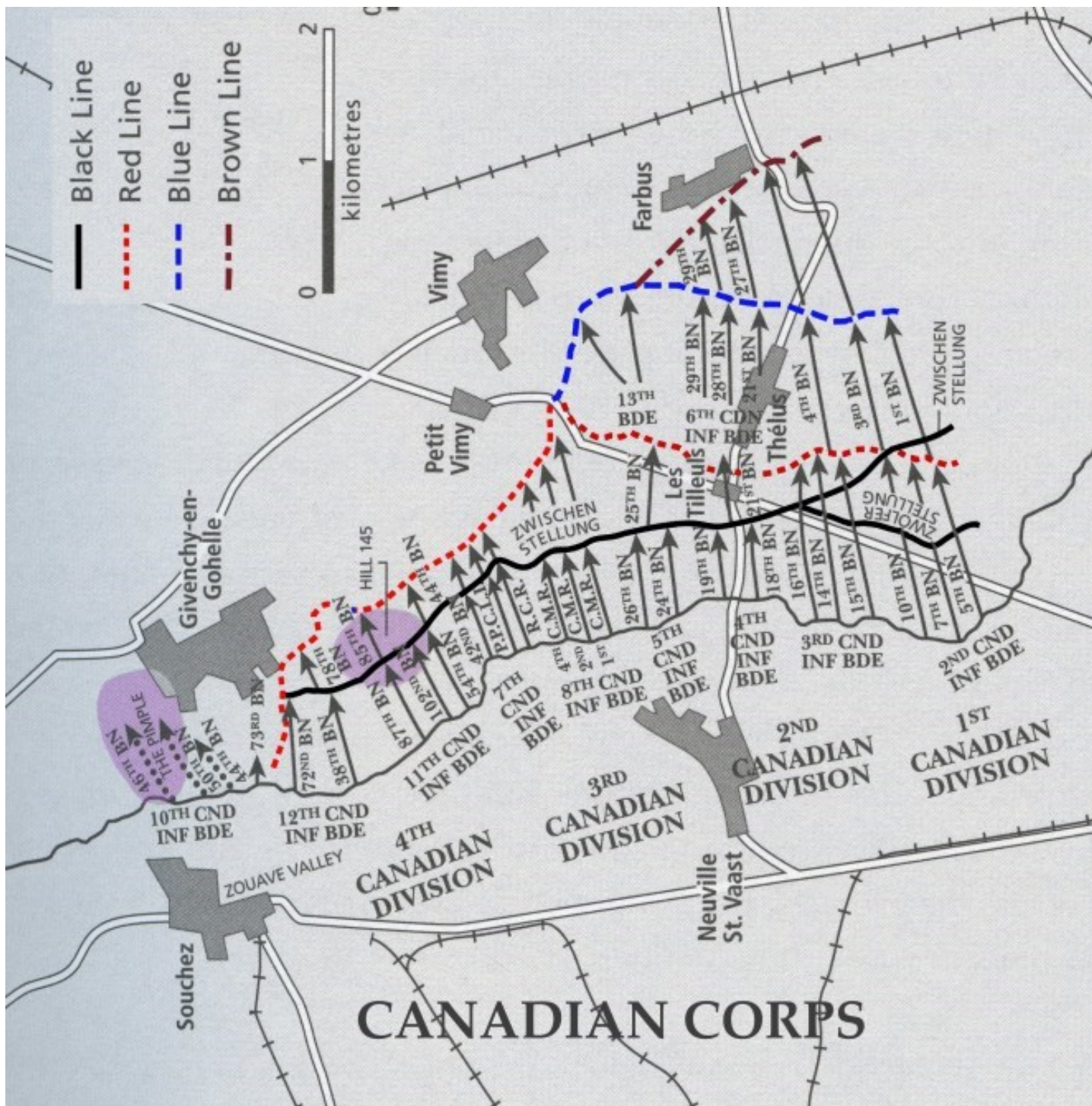
Later that Sunday afternoon, on General Currie's order, the Calgary men were temporarily withdrawn from their forward trenches, the ensuing Divisional barrage literally pulverizing the enemy wire and his forward positions.

With a hot meal served, daylight gave way to darkness. The men began forming up for the Monday morning attack. Utilizing old, unused trenches, shell-holes and those environs around the huge craters, the 10th Battalion occupied its jumping-off points by 0400 hours.

A single code word, "Kamloops", was sent up to Brigade HQ announcing that the Battalion was in position and ready to attack when "zero hour" arrived.

The "Fighting Tenth" - indeed the entire Canadian Corps - was as ready as could be expected. Allocations of equipment to the Battalion for the morning of the attack were staggering: 75,000 rounds of .303 and .455 ammunition, 2000 Mills bombs, 500 rifle grenades, rounds for Stokes mortars (three per box, each box weighing 55 pounds), Verey lights, ground flares, food, water, as well as 250 shovels, 100 picks, 10,000 sandbags, 100 sheets of corrugated iron, 50 coils of barbed wire with the necessary pickets and stakes and a large supply of nails. The impedimenta of a modern war, and all carried on the backs of the attacking force.

Separated by only 20 yards, the first wave encompassed A Company (right) and D Com-



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 and more gentle, but wider at the south in the sectors allocated to 1st and 2nd Divisions. Second Cdn Infantry Brigade attacked at the southernmost extension of the ridge. The 10, 7th and 5th Battalions' objectives were to push forward to the Red Line. After consolidating there, the 1st and 3rd Battalions were to move through and take the Blue and Brown Lines.

pany; C Company (Right) and B company followed 100 yards behind.

Four phase lines had been established along the ridge where the Canadians would pause in their attack to mop up any bypassed strong-

points and consolidate before pressing on: Black, Red, Blue and Brown, though the latter two only existed along the south half of the ridge - where it was less steep but broader - opposite 1st and 2nd Divisions.

The Tenth's 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 40-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.

Colonel Orman's orders stressed the need to keep moving to the artillery's schedule:

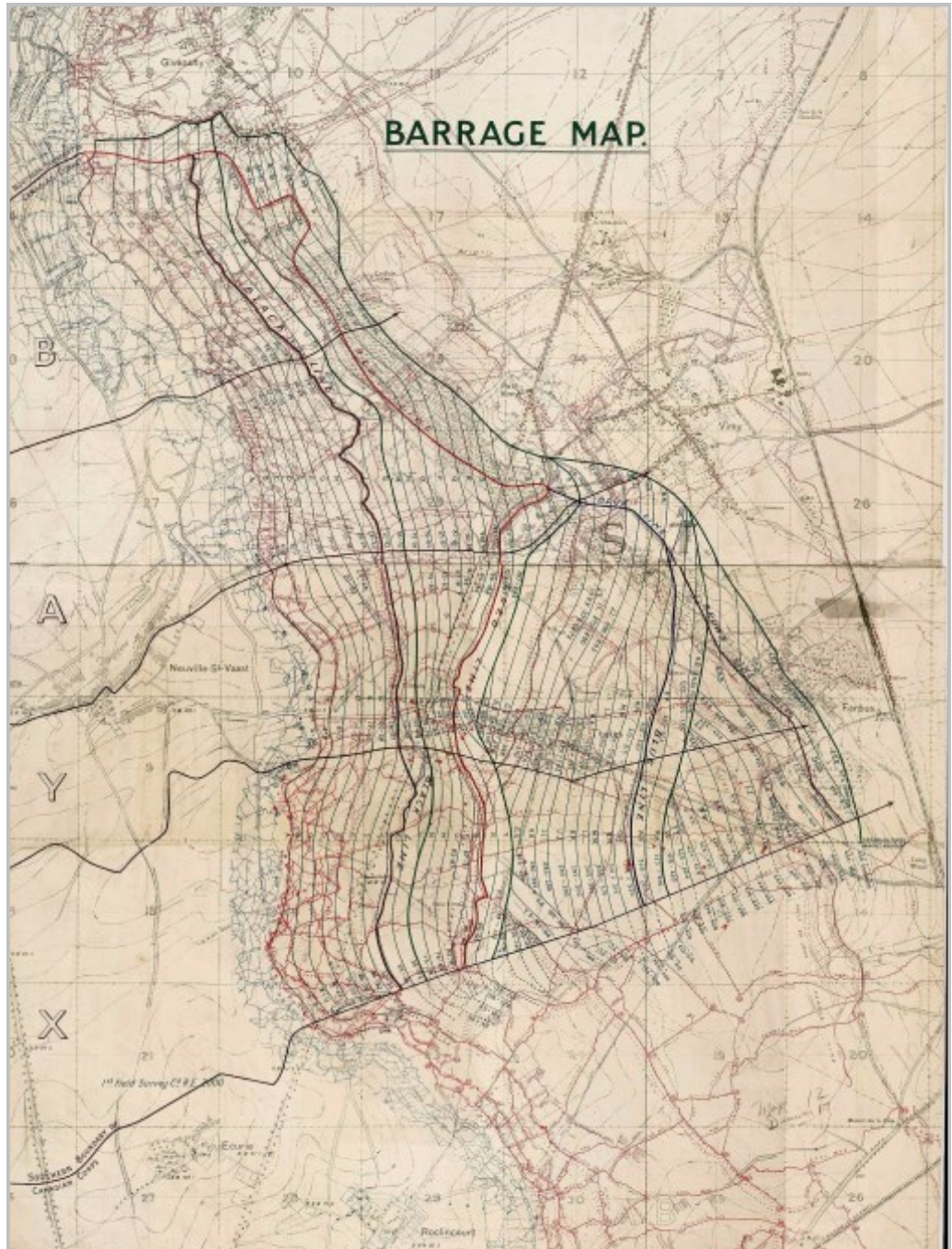
"Should the leading waves, at any stage of the attack, be faced with an obstacle such as wire or a 'hold up' by a machine gun, on no account are they or succeeding waves to mass on to it. Rather, the troops faced with the obstacle or 'hold up' will manoeuvre so as to overcome, or circumvent, the obstacle,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

As "zero hour" approached a driving snowstorm began, buffeting the serried Battalions, the men waiting in the cold for the day to dawn.

The attack on Vimy Ridge began at 0530 hours. And as soon as the men had

begun to advance behind a wall of artillery fire - the creeping barrage - casualties began to accumulate.

The Canadian advance was covered by one 18 pounder artillery piece for every 80 yards of frontage, with ammunition ranging from 150 to 700 shells per gun, those guns bolstered by



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). 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.

several 6-inch and other heavier guns added to the "mix", to cover each advancing unit. In all, 983 guns of all calibers opened fire that morning in support of the advancing Battalions of four Divisions.

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 0610 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 40 minutes. A company had been reduced to just 18 men, and D Company to 75.

At 0645 hours B and C Companies began their assault, taking the Red Line position at 0707 hours while sustaining only six 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. 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.

The price of victory though, had been high. The "Fighting Tenth" began the battle with 22 officers and 741 other ranks; 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 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 memorial

- Canada's largest and principal overseas war memorial - took eleven years to build and was unveiled on 26 July, 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. It is a sobering thought that a veritable mountain of German explosives - which the enemy had intended to detonate later in April 1917 to create a new crater system - remains buried beneath the ridge.

Vimy Ridge did not signal the end of the war, which continued for a full year and half afterwards. Nevertheless the battle has gained considerable significance in Canada. In taking the giant fortress the Canadians had succeeded against arguably the best army in Europe, and where previous Allied assaults had failed. Perhaps, then, it is not surprising that Vimy Ridge has come to symbolize Canada's coming of age as a nation.



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."



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 per cent.



Unidentified Pipe Banners

The Unit is currently in the process of updating its Regimental Book, which was last put together about 15 years ago. As can be imagined, so much has happened during this period that the updating has proven to be far more involved than a quick editing job.

Something that's come to light during this process is that four of the Regiment's pipe banners - reproduced below - cannot be identified, i.e. **who** presented them and **when**.

If any of our readers can help in identifying any of these banners, please send a note to calghighr.association@gmail.com



Incident in Yugoslavia

By Fabio Lacentra



Military Minds Inc.

Cpl Fabio Lacentra (second from left) helps load an injured farmer into a Canadian M113.

The photo above recently appeared on a military social media site. Former Calgary Highlander Fabio Lacentra posted some recollections about the incident that seem compelling enough to share here. A note on UNPROFOR: after the United Nations intervened to mediate between warring factions in Croatia, Canadian officers began to be deployed to the former Yugoslavia. The Vance agreement of 1992 provided the impetus for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) to be deployed. Their mandate was to "conduct security patrols, establish checkpoints, provide route maintenance, clear minefields and construct and maintain shelters in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina." The Canadian contribution to this force was called Operation HARMONY, and was deployed from 1992 to 1995. The forces involved in this Operation rotated on a regular basis, each Rotation ("Roto") involving new units, and new opportunities for reservists to participate. Several dozen Calgary Highlanders deployed to the former Yugoslavia as augmentees to Regular Force units in various capacities, the majority with Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. The photo above was taken during Fabio Lacentra's tour as a medic which took place during 1992-1993 during Op HARMONY's first rotation. He posted the following to social media in May 2015 as three posts, which have been edited for continuity and length.

I remember the day clearly. I was coming out of the mess hall after breakfast on a typical overcast and raining fall day, scheduled to go to the railhead and watch vehicles getting off-loaded from rail cars (because in Canada this is an activity that merits a stand-by ambulance). I came upon a soldier standing outside the mess hall looking out into the low clouds across the valley though he was not really looking but listening. We could hear cries from across the valley and tried to make out what was being said, but it was not in English and very muffled, though it sounded like someone calling out for assistance. I went back to the UAS (Unit Aid Station) and told my partner Rob Falkingham (one of the most dedicated medics I have ever served with) and we called the ops centre, satisfied they would look into it. Rob reminded me of my tasking and I hurried off to get my ambulance and go. As I pulled out of the parking spot I saw the QRF (Quick Reaction Force) assembling their vehicles and Rob and Trevor Stone (my ambulance partner) scrambling to put on their body armor and marshal their vehicle into the convoy.

I thought to myself, wait a minute, that's my ambulance they're taking (I had two vehicles signed out to me, another story) and Trevor was my ambulance partner, so if he was going on a call or to render aid to someone, I should be sitting next to him. As the convoy pulled past I fell in line as if I belonged there, disregarding my tasking but reasoning that we were in Croatia and there was a conflict going on, so silly little peacetime rules didn't apply.

In the end I was glad I did go and have never once regretted that decision, because after all was said and done, we saved a farmer who had been crushed under his tractor and his hand, which was crushed as flat as a pancake, was also saved.

Two other things come to mind when I contemplate the photo. As the drizzle began to soak our clothing and wash away the sweat from our faces I remember thinking I could feel the dampness through my uniform, and realized that in all the rush I hadn't put on my body armour since I was supposed to go to

the railhead tasking which didn't require it. Croatia was at that time one of the most land mine riddled countries in the world and farmers often placed mines in their fields to keep people out, and I wasn't wearing my armour. I also remember being reprimanded by my Sergeant for disregarding my tasking after transporting the casualty to our Unit Medical Station.

Years later I was wandering through the Military Museums in Calgary and there on the wall was a large B&W photo of a young Cpl Lacentra kneeling at the side of a Croatian farmer - who was poorly strapped to a spine board with an ill-fitting C-collar (because of his fractured jaw) - holding the farmer's crushed hand at the wrist while looking at Trevor Stone, his ambulance partner, and giving him ventilatory instructions (which he didn't need) as Trevor applied the O₂ mask to the old man's fractured face.

The only colour that stood out in the Museum photo was the pale blue of the hats and helmets and the emblem of the United Nations, which I was so proud to be part of. I thought that the photo

captured how individuals and countries can rise to the occasion during a time of need, with little regard for their own needs and safety. It made me proud to have served and be part of an honourable cause, larger than each of us, but made possible by all of us.



Calgary Highlanders

This was taken within minutes of the one seen by Cpl Lacentra (left in the photo) at the Military Museums.



Fallen Comrades



Jesse Alton McMurray

Since the last issue of The Glen (summer 2015) we've learned of the passing of Jesse Alton McMurray, a Calgary Highlander veteran of the Second World War.

Jesse was born on 10 February 1919 in Orton, Alberta and passed away in his sleep on 19 April 2015, during his 97th year, in Calgary at the Flanders Unit of the Colonel Belcher.

Jesse served with the Regiment in France where he was wounded. After his return to Canada he married Lillian and together they had four children. Although Lillian predeceased Jesse in 2000, he is survived not only by their children but by four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Hubert Charles Jepps



Hugh Jepps passed away peacefully on 1 October in Calgary at the age of 90.

Born in Redland, Alberta, Hugh was the eldest of six children and attended school in Rosebud. His nineteenth year found him in France, battling the Nazis as a Private with the Calgary Highlanders. On the 29th of August, 1944 he was wounded in the Forêt de la Londe, on the approaches to Rouen. When the Unit entered the forest it came under intense artillery and mortar fire, made even more deadly as the exploding shells created an additional shrapnel of tree fragments. If that were not enough, the enemy had left a strong rearguard of mostly SS troops who laid ambushes along the forested trails. The Forêt de la Londe cost the Highlanders six dead and thirty-four wounded, including Hugh.

In 1951 Hugh married and shortly afterward began a lengthy career with Mobil Oil Canada, retiring in 1984. He is survived by two daughters and three grandchildren.

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.association@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.



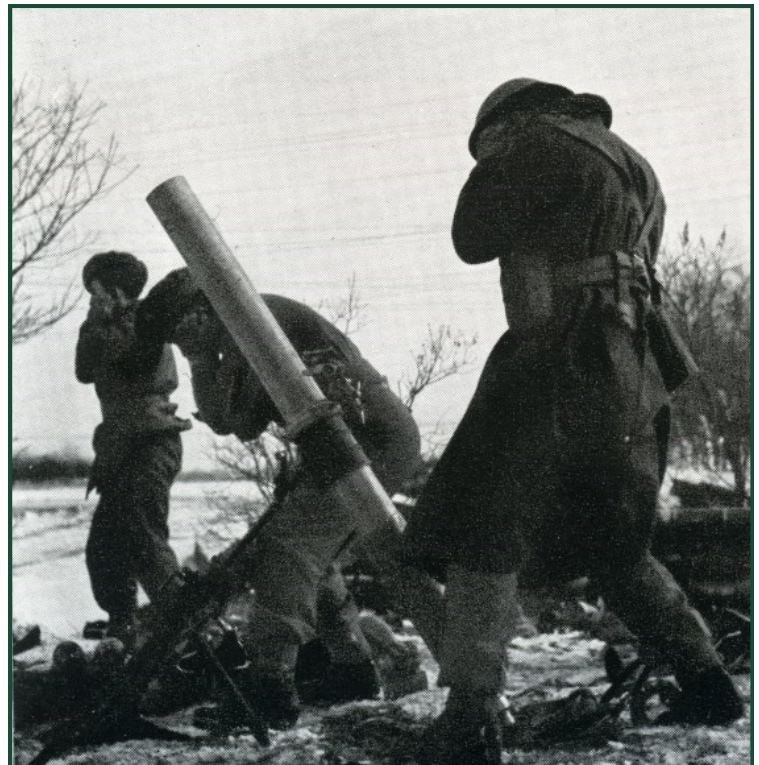
Calgary Highlanders

Sergeant David McAndie of the 10th Bn.

David joined the Army in April 1915 as a Private and rapidly rose through the ranks, promoted to Captain by the time of his death in August 1918. A highly decorated soldier, he was awarded the MC, DCM, and MM, and is the focus of this issue's 'Museum Update'.

Winter 1945

Members of mortar platoon fire a 3-inch (76 mm) mortar. The original photo appeared in LIFE with the caption, 'Canadian and British troops used mortars to slug it out with Nazis of the First Parachute Army. The Canadians' mission was to clear the coastal belt and protect the left flank of the Ruhr attack'.



LIFE



Mar 2004

Sgt Chris Tucker on Ex Mountain Grizzly, Fort Lewis, Washington

Cpl Shawn McDonald

10 Aug 2015

Cpl R. J. Green accepts the top candidate award during the Primary Leadership Qualification (Infantry) graduation parade at CFB Wainwright. Presenting the award is LCol Paul Ursich, CO of The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada.



MCpl Malcolm Byers

Exercise Grizzly Defender

Aug 2015

The Unit deployed soldiers to Ex Grizzly Defender 15, held at CFB Wainwright 15-23 Aug 2015. This 41 Bde exercise, the culmination of the 2014-2015 training year, also included participation by members of the 1st Bn, 161st Infantry Regiment of the Washington Army National Guard, with which the Calg Highrs have long had a relationship



41 Bde

Sgt Gaisford with I-161st Army National Guard soldier Alex Maldonado in the background.



41 Bde

L to R: Cpl Janzen, Pte O'Hallaran and Pte Baker.



41 Bde



41 Bde

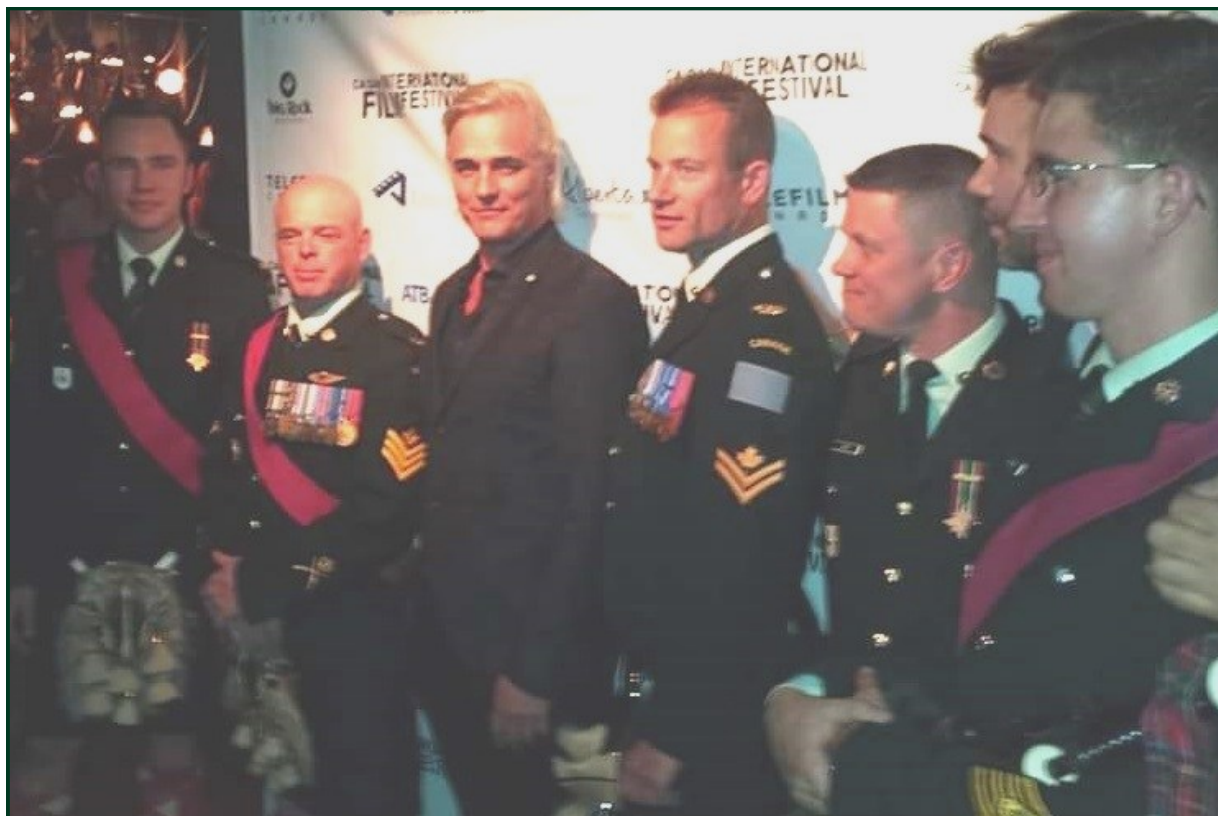
MCpl Van Zandt



16 Sep 2015

Fred Scott joined the Army in 1948 and retired from the Calg Highrs twenty years later having served as DCO. On Wednesday evening 16 Sep he visited the Kit Shop and then toured the Unit lines, and had a look at the current infantry weapons. Here he's shown receiving a briefing on the C7 rifle from Cpl Beck.

MCpl Shawn McDermott



24 Sep 2015

LCol Clapperton

Members of the Regiment were present at the Calgary premier of the Paul Gross movie *Hyena Road*, which deals with Canada's military involvement in Afghanistan. L to R: Sgt Sean Mihalcheon, Sgt. Steve Malenfant, Paul Gross, MCpl Rob Jackson, Sgt Jones (41 Bde), Rossif Sutherland (*Hyena Road* co-star), and Pipe Major Kevin Ponte.

QMSI Corner

Regimental Dress Instructions

By CWO Christopher Tucker

I have been asked how my summer was this year. My answer is, busy. My most labour intensive project was writing the Regiment's dress instructions. I have chaired numerous meetings with previous CWOs from the Regiment and other stakeholders to create a dress policy which will be sustainable, functional, and incorporates our customs and traditions while conforming to the CAF ceremonial dress regulations. And, lest we forget, flexible enough to incorporate the changes which are currently being made WRT Scottish dress across the Inf Corp. Needless to say it has been a daunting task.

Tables have been created for all the different orders of dress. In all we had to create, review, and approve 16 different tables to cover all the different modes of dress. In these tables we have detailed **when** a specific order of dress is appropriate, and **what** is worn by **whom**. The tables will be illustrated with photos, and a plan is underway to take the pictures necessary to cover all the tables.

Remembrance Day is around the corner and the table (with photo illustration) of our number 1A order of dress is attached. Read your column carefully and adhere to the dress instructions in the table. You may notice a few changes if you look carefully, such as the wearing of the 6 point hair sporran. All soldiers Pte-MCpl will be issued a 6 point hair sporran and we are currently in the process of ensuring that clothing stores has enough to outfit all our troops. We hope to trickle down this dress item to the Pte level NLT 2017. As you look at the photo you will see the error on the Pte on the left of the picture with regards

to the sporran.

Further, if you look across the Sgian Dubh line, you will see that only Sgts and above are authorized to wear a Sgian Dubh. This brings us in line with the other Scottish regiments across the country and will be enforced. Another project underway is to have a Regimental pattern Sgian Dubh which will be available through the Kit Shop.

Lastly, if you look at the sporran line again you will see we have codified which belt will be worn with the sporran. All Sgts and above take notice: white belts will be worn with the badger sporrans, not chains.

The tables will soon be made available to all ranks via the regimental web site. If you haven't been issued your DEU and Kilt, talk to your section 2IC and sort the appointment through regimental clothing. I look forward to seeing everyone on the Remembrance Day Parade.

Number 1A Ceremonial

Occasions: Formal and other significant occasions for which the wearing of complete ceremonial attire – No.1 or 1B orders – is not deemed necessary or appropriate; ie, no swords, ceremonial belts, bayonets, etc. Examples when Number 1A Ceremonial dress would be appropriate include:

- a. Investitures;
- b. Levees;
- c. Ceremonial parades;
- d. Ceremonial occasions, when attending as a spectator;
- e. On Remembrance Day in messes;
- f. Formal military weddings; and
- g. Other occasions as ordered.

Item	Off	WO	Sgt	MCpl	Cpl/Pte	Remarks
Headdress	Glengarry					Pipers: Piper glen
Jacket	DEU cutaway					Four button cut-away
Plaid w/brooch	No					
Rank	As per CF regulations					
Tie	Regimental			CF green		P&D: Regimental tie
Shirt	CF green, long sleeve					Rank on collars, epaulets, no ribbons or name tag
Collar badges	Silver			Bronze		P&D: Silver
Cross belt	No					
Waist belt	No					
Sash	No	Crimson silk/wool	Red wool/cotton	No		DM: Baldric (left shoulder) and offr sash (left shoulder)
Gloves	No					CF black leather in cold weather
Kilt	Government Tartan 1A					Centre vertical line on body
Kilt panel, Rosettes	Yes			No		DM, PM: rosettes and kilt panel
Sporran	Badger (white belt)			6-point Sporran (white belt)		Pipers: 3-point black tassels on brown horsehair Drummers: 6-point sporran PM, DM: 3-point black tassels on white horsehair
Hose	Red and white diced hose tops with black socks					Pipers: Rob Roy hose
Flashes	Red					Pipers: piper flashes
Spats	Yes					Nine button
Sgian Dubh	Yes			No		Regimental design Pipers and drummers: sgian dubh
Shoes	Brogues, laced		CF Oxfords			Offrs, CWO, MWO: brogues
Accoutrements Sidearms	No	Pace stick	Drill cane	No		DM: mace
Medals/Ribbons	Medals worn as per CF regulations					Worn above seam and centred on left breast pocket

Number 1A Ceremonial Dress



Pte. Norman Field, MM Appointed to Legion of Honour

By Denis Mascardelli



Peterborough Examiner

Norman Field holds photos of himself as a young soldier during the Second World War during which he won the Military Medal

Norman Field, a Second World War veteran of the Calgary Highlanders and recipient of the Military Medal (MM), was appointed as a "Knight of the Legion of Honour" last November. Unfortunately he wasn't well at the time and couldn't travel to Ottawa from his Peterborough, Ontario home to attend the ceremony and so received his medal through the mail. Fortunately the *Peterborough*

Examiner, a local newspaper, interviewed Norman and published the story so his achievement was recognized in his community.

The Legion of Honour is the highest honour conferred by the Government of France. It was created by Napoleon in 1802 to recognize extraordinary civil achievement in peace time or extraordinary military bravery and service in times of war. Since 2014 France has expressed its desire to pay special tribute to those Canadians who took part in military operations to liberate France from Nazi occupation by appointing them to the Legion.

Norman joined the reserves (The Prince of Wales Rangers) in 1942 when he was 17 before becoming a full-time soldier a short time later. After completing infantry training in Nova Scotia he headed overseas to England where he joined the Calgary Highlanders.

While fighting in France Norman was wounded by shrapnel in the arm and leg. Upon release from hospital he returned to the Regiment which by that time was in Holland, and was again wounded, this time by a land mine. After recovering from these wounds he served until the end of the war before becoming part of the occupation force in Germany, and finally returned home to Peterborough in 1946. There he returned to civilian life in a country at peace, married, and raised four children.

Norman's MM was awarded for an action on the outskirts of Dunkirk in early September 1944, very shortly before he was first wounded. At the time the Calgary Highlanders were holding a wide frontage when reports were received of suspicious activity at a farmhouse within the battalion's defensive perimeter. Author David Bercuson takes up the story in his book, *Battalion of Heroes*.

'From A Company Private Norman Field and acting Corporal John Macdonald volunteered to check out the report. Rifles at the ready, they set out towards the farmhouse at about 1230. At a distance of about 400 metres they saw a man in German uniform walking around the yard. Going to ground, Field and Macdonald decided to split up and get closer; Field moved around to the left, Macdonald to the right. They were within about twenty metres of the house when a German machine gunner spotted Macdonald and opened fire. Field shot him dead. Then a German rifleman began to fire at the two men from the farmhouse door. Macdonald snapped off a quick shot, killing the German, then rose from the field and rushed the house. Field gave him covering fire and Macdonald dashed into the house, finding eight German soldiers who quickly surrendered. In front of the house Field stumbled on fourteen other Germans, one with a light machine gun. They too gave up. The Germans were assembled in front of the house and Field covered them while Macdonald searched them. The two Highlanders began to shepherd the twenty-two German prisoners back to battalion HQ. On the way they were mortared but managed

to keep the Germans from escaping. At about 1330, their comrades were astonished to see them returning, "breathless and bathed in sweat", with their prisoners. Both men were later awarded the Military Medal.'

The Peterborough Examiner reports that receiving the MM many years ago and Legion of Honour more recently caught Norman off guard. "Both medals came as a surprise for me - you don't expect to get any recognition."



Peterborough Examiner

Norman's appointment to the Legion of Honour came seventy years after his Military Medal.

Americans Unveil the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle

By Denis Mascardelli

In late August the U.S. Department of Defence announced that Oshkosh Defence had been awarded a contract to build the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV), which will partly replace the well-known Humvee within the U.S. Army and Marine Corps. The contract - valued at \$6.75 billion U.S. - is for 16,901 vehicles, 5500 for the Marines and the remainder for the Army.

The Humvee was designed to operate in relatively safe areas 'behind the front lines'. However operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, where such permissive environments don't exist, soon saw soldiers attaching home-made armour to their Humvees, followed by better appliqué armour kits and factory-built armoured variants. These provide significant protection from small arms fire (and artillery air burst) but are less effective in protecting against IEDs. Moreover, the added weight of armour reduces payload and places additional strain on the power train, requiring more maintenance. And, experience in combat has revealed that the armoured doors sometimes jam shut after deformation from blast. A better solution was clearly necessary and this led to the JLTV program.

The program began ten years ago with a U.S. Government statement that, "the joint services have developed a requirement for a new tactical wheeled platform that will provide increased force protection, survivability, and improved capacity over the current Up-Armoured High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (Humvee) while balancing mobility and transportability requirements with total ownership costs."



Oshkosh Defence

In August 2015, Oshkosh Defence's entry was announced as the winner of the U.S. military's Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) program. It is powered by a GM Duramax V8 diesel engine of 6.6 litres displacement with an estimated 300 hp coupled to an Allison automatic transmission. The base vehicle will cost approximately \$250,000 U.S. per unit, but this will rise to approximately \$400,000 with communications and situational awareness electronics, smoke dischargers and B-kit armour.

As seems all too common with major Western military procurement projects, the JLTV program has progressed in fits and starts as budgets were altered and requirements were changed, and at one point the program was almost cancelled. It wasn't until August 2012 that three companies - Oshkosh, Lockheed Martin, and AM General - were selected to each build 22 prototypes for evaluation. Testing began during September 2013 and the Oshkosh vehicle selected almost two years later.

Oshkosh already builds a very capable small MRAP (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle for the American Army known as the M-ATV. However, at about \$500,000 U. S. a copy it is expensive, and with a curb weight of 27,500 pounds, too heavy to be transported as a sling load by the Army's CH-47F (Chinook) and Marine Corps' CH-53K (Sea Stallion) helicopters, a JLTV requirement

which limits vehicle weight to under 16,000 pounds. In simple terms what was required is a significantly lighter, somewhat less expensive vehicle that incorporates the M-ATV's level of protection. Simple to say, that is, but a significant design and engineering challenge.

Reportedly the Oshkosh engineers have managed to meet the program requirements with their winning JLTV entry. It is claimed that the vehicle has unprecedented levels of off-road mobility, in part due to 20 inches (508 mm) of wheel travel. In addition it boasts an armoured hull; blast-attenuating seating; central tire inflation and run-flat inserts which allow travel at least 30 miles at 30 mph if two tires lose all pressure; the ability to take a 7.62 mm round to its engine oil/coolant/hydraulic systems and continue to drive for at least one kilometre; an engine fire suppression system; up to four smoke dischargers; and a powerful cabin heating and cooling system to meet the requirement that it be mission capable from -40° to 52°C.

Armour protection is mainly provided by appliqué armour which is only fitted when required, reducing vehicle wear and tear and thus life-cycle costs. Armouring in difficult-to-access areas is done on the assembly line, while the bulk of the armour (the 'B-Kit') can be installed by two soldiers in five hours. An additional

RPG protection kit can be fitted in two hours.

Two variants of the JLTV are to be manufactured: a 'combat tactical vehicle' with four seats and a 3,500 lb (1,600 kg) payload; and a 'combat support vehicle' with two seats and a 5,100 lb (2,300 kg) payload. Both variants can also tow a trailer with an additional 3,500 lb payload and will be built in a variety of configurations to allow the JLTV to perform tasks such as general utility, weapons carrier, ambulance, command and control, and reconnaissance.

Originally the JLTV was intended as a replacement for the Humvee, but as military budgets have been reduced and circumstances have changed this is no longer the case. The Marines plan to operate a mixed fleet of 13,000 late model Humvees together with 5,500 JLTVs. The Army forecasts a need for 49,100 JLTVs, almost five times the number provided for by the initial contract, so both it and Oshkosh Defence are hoping that future budgets allow for further contracts. Even so, Army plans call for a mix of JLTVs, 5,600 existing M-ATVs, and an as-yet undesignated utility vehicle. In the meantime it will make do with a large fleet of existing Humvees. Thus, the Humvee seems destined to soldier on in large numbers with U.S. forces for quite some time yet.



Oshkosh Defence

This photo shows the two-seat variant of the JLTV known as the Combat Support Vehicle which can carry a 5,100 pound payload. A trailer with an additional 3,500 pound payload can be towed.



*The Calgary Highlanders
WO's & Sgt's Association*



Honourary Robbie Burns Supper

Friday, January 29, 2016



Where: Carriage House Inn
9030 Macleod Tr SE Calgary
403-253-1101
(Hotel Room Discounts Available)

Time: 1830 hrs Cocktails
1930 hrs Supper
2100 hrs Dance

Dress: Military: Mess Dress No 2 or 2b
Civilian: Business Formal

Tickets must be purchased before the 23rd of Jan 2016
To purchase your ticket contact:

a) RQMS Office #126 Mewata Armouries
Mon-Thurs 9-3 (403) 410-2320 ext# 3346

b) SGT Bruce Graham: bruce.graham@forces.gc.ca
evenings call 403-475-7075 / daytime call 587-888-4923

Tariff is \$95.00

no tickets will be sold at the door
Please state meal restrictions at time of ticket purchase

Calgary Highlanders 2015-2016 Training Calendar

July - 2015

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	Canada Day																													
3-17	Calgary Stampede 2014																													
15	Admin (Sect Comd and up)																													
29	Admin (Sect Comd and up)																													

August - 2015

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
3	August Long Weekend																													
12	Admin (Sect Comd and up)																													
15-23	Exercise Grizzly Defender 2015																													
26	Leadership AAG (Sgt and Up)																													

September - 2015

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
1	Admin (Sect Comd and up) Unit Run Course: BMQ IST/Start																													
2	AAG																													
5-6	161 Social Visit - MCpl and Up - In WA																													
7	Labour Day																													
25-27	Highland Marksman																													

October - 2015

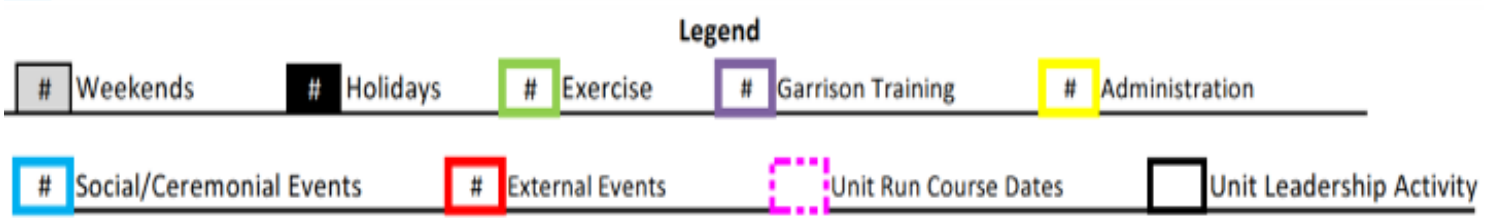
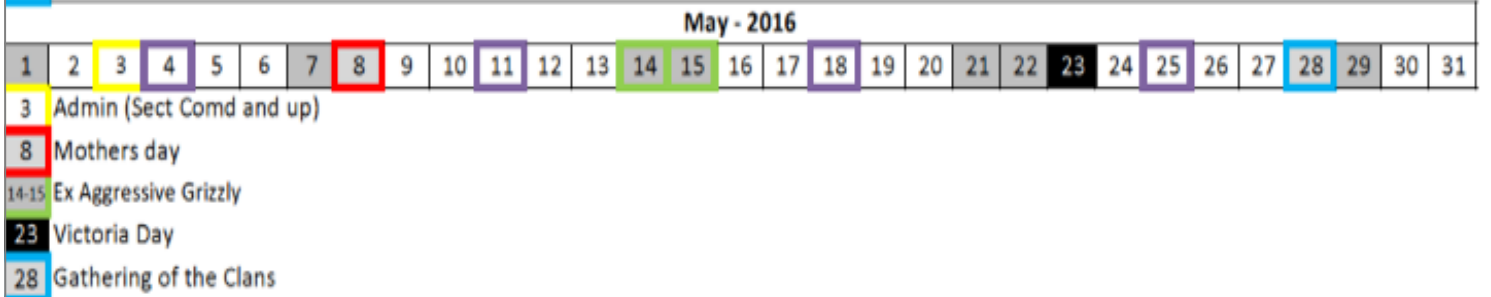
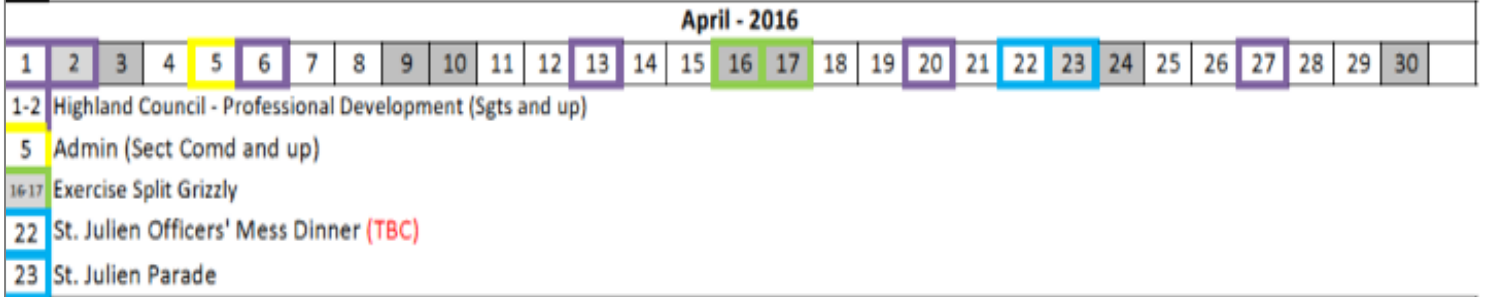
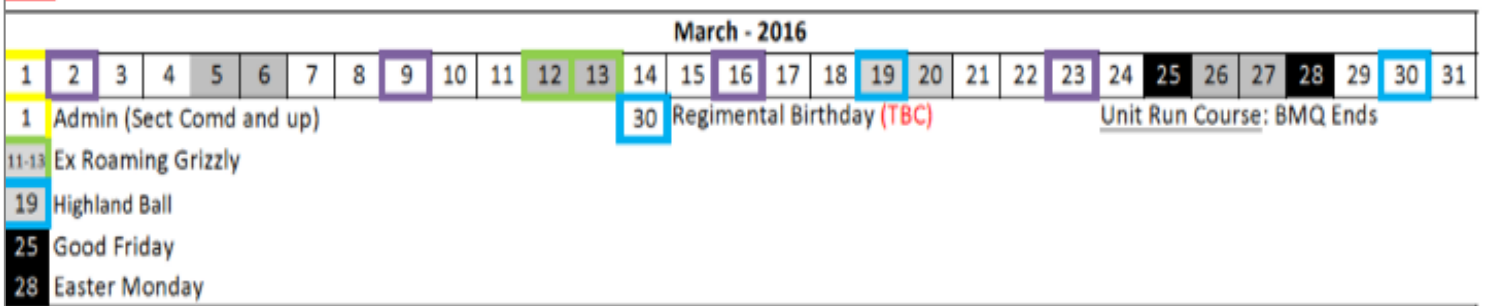
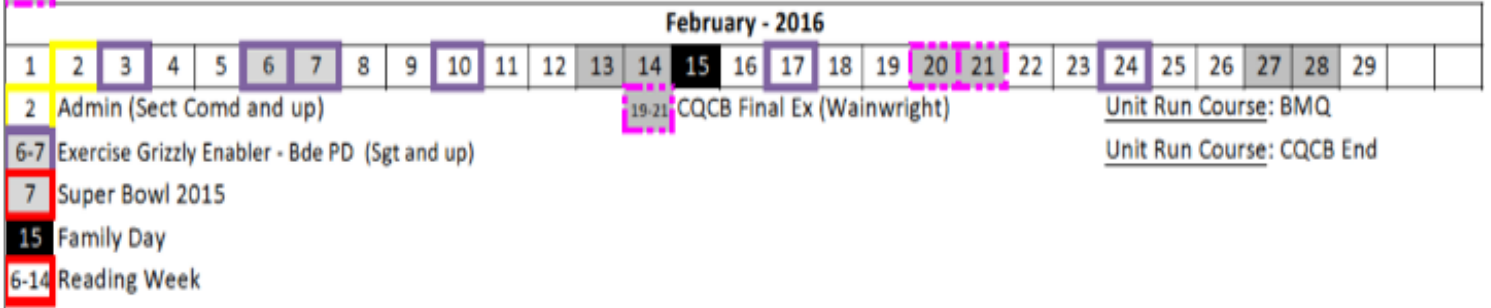
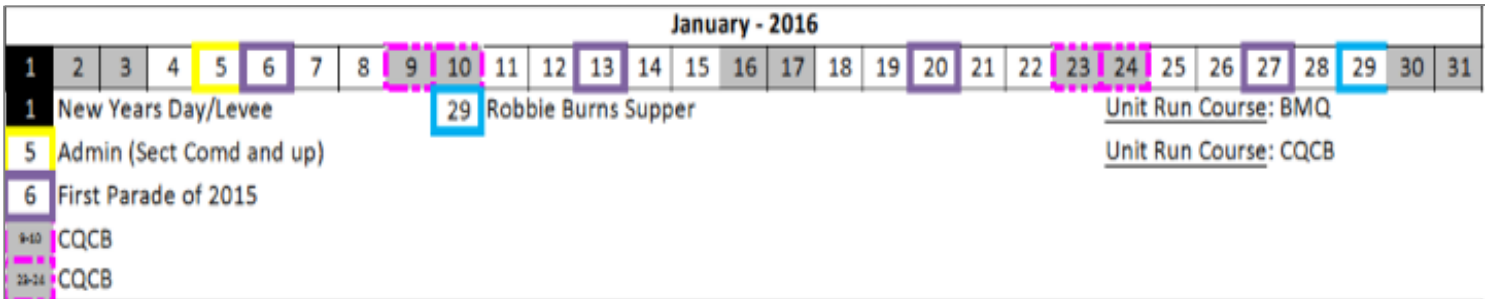
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
3	Local Training [IBTS, BFT](TBC)															30	Walcheren Officers' Mess Dinner (TBC)															Unit Run Course: BMQ
6	Admin (Sect Comd and up)															31-1	Local Training - Weapons Handling (M203, SRAAW (M), SRAAW (L), Claymore)															
12	Thanksgiving																															
17-18	Heavy Metal																															
14	Admin - Instr Prep																															
28	Walcheren Parade (TBC)																															
31	Halloween																															

November - 2015

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31-1	Local Training - Weapons Handling (M203, SRAAW (M), SRAAW (L), Claymore)																									29	102nd Grey Cup		Unit Run Course: BMQ	
2	Regimental Council Unit Run Course: CQCB IST																													
3	Admin (Sect Comd and up)																													
6	WOs' & Sgts' Mess Dinner (TBC)																													
11	Remembrance Day																													
20-22	Local Training - Weapons Handling (M203, SRAAW (M), SRAAW (L), Claymore)																													

December - 2015

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	Admin (Sect Comd and up)																									26	Boxing Day		Unit Run Course: BMQ	
5-6	CQCB Unit Run Course: CQCB Start																													
13	Kids' Christmas Party																													
18	Soldiers' Christmas Dinner																													
25	Christmas Day																													



Strange Coalitions of Middle East Politics

By Barry Cooper

Barry Cooper is a professor at the University of Calgary and Fellow with the University's Centre for Military and Strategic Studies. Dr. Cooper is the author, editor or translator of more than 30 books, and is a Fellow with the Canadian Global Affairs Institute (CGAI). This article appears courtesy of CGAI (www.cgai.ca)

The Middle East is the most politically unstable region in the world. Partly as a result, politics there are more complex than anywhere else. The many long-term structural divisions means the contribution of Israel to this particular mix is relatively minor.

The fundamental regional fault line persists in the historic ethnic divisions among Arabs, Turks and Persians, along with the often destabilizing presence of western powers in the region. To take just one example, the Arabs have not forgotten the Ottoman domination of their lands and neither side has forgotten the role played by Western powers in carving up the Ottoman Empire - arguably to the detriment of both Turks and Arabs.

Second in importance are sectarian divisions within Islam between Sunnis and Shiites, along with nominally secular regimes in Syria and Egypt, and from time to time in Turkey as well. Iran faces no challenge from any other Shiite state, but among Sunnis the aspirations of Saudi Arabia to leadership are limited both by their internal and external problems.

Internally, the transition to the third generation of modern Saudi kings has not yet been completed. Moreover, the ulema or clerical class has never been able to reconcile the non-political Salafism that has supported the House of Saud for generations with a more activist and militant jihadism directed outside the kingdom.

Beyond their borders the Saudis face opposition from the equally Salafist Muslim Brotherhood (MB), which aims to establish an Islamist republic. In one sense the ulema in the kingdom is a clerical version of the MB, which makes any rapprochement risky both for the Saudis and for regimes such as Turkey that have been influenced by the Brotherhood.

For the Saudis the greatest source of instability is the current American engagement with Iran. They see this change in US foreign policy,



U.S. Army photo by SPC Anderson Savoy, Wikimedia

Commons

A Kurdish sniper. Here the Kurds, supported by US airstrikes, defeated a four-month siege by the Islamic State which was finally lifted at the end of January this year, but not before 70% of the town was destroyed. In this article Dr. Cooper presents a primer on the complex politics of the region, the problems of which seem to grow larger and more intractable every month.

whatever the outcome regarding the Iranian nuclear issue, as the loss of an historical ally, patron, and protector. As a result they have been willing to undertake a price war with shale producers in the US (and oil sands pro-

ducers in Canada) as well as unilateral military initiatives, most recently the air campaign against the Iranian-backed Houthis in Yemen. Without the use of ground forces however, the Houthis are unlikely to be defeated. Thus the threat to the Saudis' southern border may exist indefinitely, especially since a negotiated settlement, which the Saudis oppose, would entrench Iranian interests there.

Then there is the complexity caused by the Islamic State (IS). The initial Sunni hopes that the Syrian civil war would diminish Iranian influence and the IS would be a militant Sunni counterforce to Iran have been disappointed. Indeed, the rise of the Islamic State has revitalized the projection of Iranian power that had diminished in 2012 with the consolidation of a relatively independent Iraqi government and the near collapse of the Assad regime.

In one sense the IS is just an extreme faction of the minority Sunni community in Iraq and Syria. But as the perpetrator of some spectacular killings, it helped galvanize Shiite opposition, thus enabling Iranian military advisors to regain influence in the Iraqi army. The Iranians have even cooperated with American (and Canadian) air power against the IS. If sectarian confrontation between the Sunnis and Iran over the IS increases, it opens up more opportunities for the IS, which no one wants. But if the IS is degraded, the chief beneficiary will be Iran. The current Saudi problem is that they cannot oppose the Shiites and Iran without first defeating the IS, and restoring their position as the leading Salafist regime and major supporter of militant Sunni jihadism.

This makes for some strange coalitions. The Saudis cooperate with Iran against Muslim Brotherhood-style Sunnis in Syria but oppose the Iranian proxies in Yemen. Similarly Saudi Arabia and Turkey cooperate against the IS and against the Assad regime, which, with Iranian support, prevents Turkey from projecting power south into the Arab world. But

the Saudis cannot defeat the IS without help from Turkey, which is unwilling to follow Saudi leadership anyhow, and has been muted in its criticism of Iran.

Western, mostly American, support of Iran in Syria against the IS, which helps Assad, coupled to opposition to Iran in Yemen looks like a classic balance-of-power strategy. This means that the fraught rhetoric from Washington regarding Iranian nuclear ambitions does not prevent cooperation when and where it is useful. That may be the only unambiguous element of politics in the region.

For the Saudis the greatest source of instability is the current American engagement with Iran...As a result they have been willing to undertake a price war with shale producers in the US (and oil sands producers in Canada)...



Time is Running Out For US Policy in Syria

By George Petrolekas

Colonel George Petrolekas is a fellow with the Canadian Global Affairs Institute (CGAI). He has served in Bosnia and Afghanistan with NATO, and has been an adviser to senior NATO commanders. This article appears courtesy of CGAI (www.cgai.ca).



Voice of America News: Scott Bobb, Wikimedia Commons.

This photo shows an American airstrike on Islamic State (IS) positions during the fighting for the Syrian-Kurdish town of Kobane. The effectiveness of the Kurds, once trained, equipped, and supported by coalition airpower, has been the one bright spot in the war against the IS.

The failure of American strategy in Iraq and Syria threatens faith in U.S. leadership. As the situation develops, allies need to exchange frank views without diplomatic niceties or political spin.

Rather than sustaining what appears to be a failing strategy a wiser course would be to recalibrate and alter course, much as the United States did in Bosnia 20 years ago. There are parallels, ranging from air support to moral support of the Bosnian Muslims. But the U.S. needs to take stock of its present strategy.

The air campaign against Islamic State, insufficiently resourced from the start, has had lim-

ited effect. The Iraqi Army shows no sign of life or effectiveness. Last year, the liberation of Mosul was promised, yet that seems nowhere in sight.

Recently, a U.S. Congressional report castigated the failure to stem the flow of foreign fighters to IS, including from the U.S. Like moths to a flame, the attraction remains and the financial wherewithal of IS rests untouched.

About \$500-million (U.S.) was spent to train 5,000 anti-IS fighters but instead produced just 60. Fifty-five of them disappeared, leading U.S. General Lloyd Austin to say "only five anti-IS fighters remain." At \$100-million per person, someone needs to be fired.

On Syria, the U.S. maintains a simplistic policy of "Assad must go" without any in-depth plan for what would follow. The presumption is that a rebel government would attain legitimacy. To sustain this fiction, the rebels are painted as moderate, when in fact they are anything but. We forget that the core of President Bashar-al Assad's support is the Shia/Alawite and Christian minorities in Syria – they will not survive retribution by rebel factions penetrated by extremists. Moderate Sunnis, upon whose support a viable new government might have been built, are now more likely to be found fleeing to Europe. The resulting depopulation of Syria ensures a perilous future.

The arrival of Russian forces has understandably upset the U.S., but its reaction has been petulant, with Russian actions simplistically painted in a Cold-War-like context. The reaction in U.S. media and by government so far seems to be, "Russia is acting from weakness, acting to distract attention from Ukraine, acting to preserve its naval base, and it's helping Assad and not striking the IS." The complaints against Russia are distractions at best; we need to move beyond rhetoric to realpolitik.

The painful idea that must be faced is that Mr. al-Assad will not be removed by force and opposition groups and neighbouring states must accept that reality. A transition plan that protects minority rights and disarms rebels like the Nusra Front is only possible with Russian co-operation.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said last week that it would be possible to end the civil war in Syria only with the help of Russia, and Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said that "perhaps Mr. al-Assad could be involved in a 'transition' to a new Syria."

The vacuum of power that Russia fears most would leave IS as best positioned to profit. For many, the unpalatable – a managed transition including Mr. al Assad – is better than the unthinkable: an IS victory.

But all is not lost. The U.S. could demonstrate remarkable course corrections, as it has many times in its past by turning a focused eye toward realistic objectives.

In 1995, as the Bosnian conflict raged, the U.S. altered course, promising to commit forc-

es in conjunction with diplomatic wherewithal to resolve the conflict. The United States realized then that if a deal was to be struck, it could not simply support the Bosnian Muslims at the expense of the Bosnian Serbs. The success of a political deal hinged on the credible threat of force against all parties, otherwise Russian-backed Serbs and U.S. backed Muslims would never bend.

Richard Holbrooke, then assistant U.S. secretary of state, negotiated with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic as a proxy for the Bosnian Serb leadership, with the Russians as partners not adversaries. As a result, the Dayton Accords were signed, demonstrating that resolving conflicts often entails negotiating with prior adversaries, as was the case for the U.K. with the IRA.

Dayton produced a power-sharing agreement and a formula for governance, but also a transition plan made possible by a NATO provided stabilization force which disarmed the belligerents, ensured adherence to the accords and ultimately led to the end of the civil war.

Unlike Bosnia, an Assad transition is only half of the problem. Inevitably, an international force will have to defeat IS on the ground: There is no other recourse, as the past year has demonstrated.

A change in U.S. policy requires an honest assessment, frank discussion between allies, less petulance and the courage to embrace changed circumstances.

If not, the U.S. will find itself walking in front, with no one following.

...the rebels are painted as moderate when in fact they are anything but



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

Captain David Ross McAndie MC, DCM, MM

Captain David McAndie was one of the most decorated members of the 10th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF). During almost three years with the Bn he was once Mentioned in Despatches and awarded three decorations for gallantry.

David McAndie was born in Tarbet or Portmahomack, Scotland on the 17th of May, 1887. He joined the Seaforth Highlanders in Scotland at the age of 17 and served with that regiment for three years. David emigrated to Canada with his brother Hugh soon after his discharge from the Army, and they eventually settled into adjoining homesteads in Shamrock, Saskatchewan.

At the outbreak of the First World War, David enlisted with the 46th Battalion, CEF in Moose Jaw during April of 1915, leaving his homestead in his brother's care. (Interestingly, Sergeant Arthur Knight, one of the 10th Battalion's Victoria Cross winners, also came from the 46th Battalion.) Leaving Montreal on the 5th of July 1915 David arrived in

Plymouth, England on the 19th. He immediately moved to Shorncliffe Camp where he undertook further training prior to being assigned to the 10th Battalion and sailing to France on the 28th of August.

David's past military experience allowed him to move up in rank quickly, and by the Fall of 1916 Sergeant McAndie was fighting on the Somme with the Fighting 10th. Here he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for "*displaying great courage and coolness on several occasions under heavy fire*". At Vimy in April of 1917, he was awarded a Mentioned in Despatch for "*gallant and distinguished services in the Field*" and two weeks later, at the battle of Arleux, he was awarded a Military Medal when "*the Officers of his Company having become casualties, he took charge and displayed the greatest initiative and resourcefulness in carrying the attack through the village and on to the objective*". By the sum-



Calg Highrs

A photo of Lieutenant David McAndie after his having been commissioned from the ranks. He was later promoted to the rank of Captain and served as OCA Company.

mer of 1918, David had been commissioned and was serving as a Company Commander during the great breakout that started the *last hundred days*. His Military Cross citation for his actions on the 8th of August states "*For conspicuous gallantry during an attack. He led his company splendidly capturing and consolidating the position. He then rapidly pushed his men forward and filled an important gap in the line. Later he captured and held a very strongly garrisoned position considerably in front of the final objective. He did very fine work.*"

Tragically, only one week later and with less than three months left in the war, Captain David McAndie was one of seven members of the Fighting Tenth killed (a further fifty-three were wounded) when random enemy shellfire hit the Battalion's billets in Beaufort Village, three miles behind the front lines. He was initially buried in Beaufort British Cemetery but in 1925 was

moved to Cerisy-Gailly Military Cemetery.

The family of Captain David McAndie is in contact with the Regimental Museum and Archives and is working to tell the story of this *Gallant Canadian* in an upcoming exhibit at the Museum.



Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Canadian gravestones at Cerisy-Gailly Military Cemetery. Originally Capt. McAndie was buried at the Beaufort British Cemetery with 55 other Canadian and two British soldiers who had been killed nearby. However, in 1925 the small Beaufort Cemetery was closed and all remains moved to the larger Cerisy-Bailly Cemetery which contains 745 Commonwealth burials and commemorations.



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 2016 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 2016 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

2016 dues are \$15.00 and, of course donations are much appreciated.

A tax receipt will be issued for donations of more than \$10.00; 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 (2016)

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 'Ret'd' 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