



RUSI

Newsletter of the Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island

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Suggestions are encouraged.

RUSI-VI Office

The RUSI-VI office is located at:
Bay Street Armoury
715 Bay Street, Room 414
Victoria, BC V8T 1R1

Telephone: call any director

Email: usiviccda@yahoo.ca

Web site: <http://rusiviccda.org>

Webmaster: Capt DA Booker

**The RUSI Calendar of
Events is on page 8.**

The Fate of FMUSIC

By LCol (Ret) J.C. Berezowski

The future of the Federation of Military and United Services Institutes of Canada will be the topic at our next RUSI VI Luncheon meeting on Wed., 10 January 2007.

It is the Board's intent that all members have their views heard on this vital issue before replying to the interim National Chairman, RAdm (Ret) Jamie Fraser at the FMUSIC National Office in Kingston.

As reported in our RUSI Newsletter EXTRA edition, the FMUSIC interim National Chairman has challenged our 25 member Institutes to confront our funding problem. While individual Institutes are in varying states from thriving to declining, our Federation of Military and United Services Institutes and its national effort has stalled. There has not been a demonstration of output by FMUSIC in recent years to justify reinstating our previous DND grants according to the Defence Staff.

Without additional revenue, it seems unlikely that a national effort is sustainable. While the National Chairman intends to approach the Minister again, other options come to mind. To continue the national program on behalf of the Federation, funding may well be a combination of Institute "dues", DND support and private/business fundraising. Regardless, the message is clear – the national level of FMUSIC must justify itself through its output or perish.

The lack of an Ottawa prominence is

offset by our greatest strength: our Institutes in 25 different communities across Canada. Thus, this could possibly lead to a strengthening of the existing association with the Conference of Defence Associations Institute.

CDAI, on behalf of CDA, has developed a mature program of donations, DND grants and fees, focusing their high-profile events at the decision-makers in Ottawa. To wit: the 23rd Annual Conference of Defence Associations Institute (CDAI) Seminar and the 70th Conference of Defence Associations Annual General Meeting on 14-16 Feb. 2007 at the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa. (The Prime Minister is invited and the Minister of National Defence has already confirmed.)

The waters are being further roiled with the recent disclosure by Dr Jack Granatstein that he is organizing a new advocacy group. A professional, well-financed, civilian-directed advocacy and communications group is envisioned. It is reaching out to new groups in the population to build a membership base—women, youth, visible minorities, franco-phones—that none of the existing organizations can. He knows this won't be easy, but says they are putting together a fine list of sponsors and will be out soon raising funds. The decision was made to be independent and non-partisan—so no \$\$ from defence industries and every effort to bring in people from all parties and all across the country.

He has discussed this concept in advance with CDAI, FMUSIC, CDFAI, and

just about every defence group.

Whither our Institutes?

Our United Services Institutes have functioned throughout the country under a variety of names since the 1890s. Order in Council PC 19/1298 of 11 June 38 defined the purpose for which annual grants may be paid to Institutes. One of the earliest grants authorized by the Minister of National Defence was the annual library grant to each Institute that established a military library for its members. To qualify, each Institute was required to render an annual report through its respective Military District commander, to the Minister of National Defence.

The earliest Institutes were formed in garrison towns and often in proximity to the geographic Military District Headquarters created after Confederation. Both retired and serving officers had the opportunity to meet socially and provide a forum for explanation, discussion and review of military affairs and of national and world affairs. And, the annual military ball was always the social event of the season.

Our “United Services Institute of Vancouver Island” was founded in Victoria in 1927 and recognized as a military service group by the Dept. of National Defence. The first president in 1927 was General Sir Percy Lake, KCB, KCMG. The aims and objects were (a) to encourage and promote naval, military and aeronautical arts, sciences and literature; (b) to provide a forum for explanation, discussion and review of naval, military and aeronautical affairs and of national and world affairs; (c) afford members the opportunity... to renew acquaintances; (d) provide support and encouragement to all active and reserve units...and their cadet corps.

On Dec. 21, 1972 the Institute name was changed by Royal consent.

FMUSIC

The Federation of Military and

United Services Institutes of Canada (FMUSIC) was founded in October 1973 to bring together the various autonomous and independent United Services and Military Institutes in Canada recognized by the Dept. of National Defence. The decision to federate was made at the founding meeting by 19 Institutes represented at Winnipeg in October 1973.

The aims and objectives of the FMUSIC are:

- a) to encourage the enhancement and maintenance of (1) effective Canadian national security and national defence policies; and (2) capable armed forces and other agencies jointly responsible for national security by encouraging and supporting the study, research, development, promulgation, submission and/or presentation of briefs, position papers and policy proposals to Government and appropriate Government bodies.
- b) to further aims of individual Institutes in a collective manner while not interfering with their autonomy, and
- c) to act as a link between the Canadian Forces and related security agencies and the general public to enhance better understanding of their roles and requirements.

From the outset, the strength of FMUSIC lay in its solid base of senior officers, including several former chiefs of the general staff. The first national chairman was LCol FJ Picking from Victoria and the National Office remained in Victoria until 1993. Volunteers from RUSI VI filled all the executive spots such as secretary, editor of the FMUSIC quarterly newsletter and vice national chairman. The key spot was the chairman of the Na-

tional Defence Committee, LGen Reg Lane who became the national chairman in 1978 and served until 1993, when he retired because of health.

Through the years, FMUSIC first of all achieved a new CFAO 210-42 through amicable deliberations between Reg Lane and the Chief of Defence Staff. This provided for FMUSIC to act as the clearing house for all Institute annual reports and for the distribution of annual grants through FMUSIC to the Institutes.

During the dark days of defence in Canada in the ‘80s and ‘90s, a number of briefs were prepared and briefed to Parliamentary defence committees and/or NDHQ. These were: 1991 – What Should Canada’s Defence policy be through the 1990s? A national Strategic Appraisal (briefed by LGen Lane and LCol Berezowski); 1993 – Canada’s Defence Dilemma: A Shrinking Defence Capability (briefed by LCol Berezowski [LGen Lane sick]); 1994 – Canada’s Defence Dilemma: Back to the Future. A brief to Special Joint Committee on Canada’s Defence Policy (Briefed by LCol Berezowski in Victoria and later by MGen Clive Milner in Ottawa); 2001 – Canada’s Strategic Security XXI – A National Strategic Appraisal into the 21st Century (Team leader and lead author LCol Berezowski – briefed in Ottawa by MGen Clive Addy).

Aside from the above, FMUSIC’s greatest strengths remain its Institutes with their great body of knowledge, diversity of membership, availability of volunteer time, supportive DND members within group, prominence of members in society and dedication to advocacy, education and maintenance of the aim.

The greatest weakness today is the declining membership from serving CF and RCMP members.



PRESIDENTS NOTES RE: FUTURE: If FMUSIC is dissolved then RUSI VI can gallop along doing its own thing for as long as we have the stamina. The name RUSI VI is ours - it does not belong to FMUSIC. We have our own constitution from which we could edit out the content associated with FMUSIC. The Lieutenant Governor can remain our Patron -- that position is not associated with FMUSIC. We can continue having our luncheons at the Canadian Scottish mess as long as the Regiment will let us, regardless of the fate of the CFAO. We don't need FMUSIC to deliver "good food, good newsletter, good speakers, good fellowship; the while continuing our outreach program, and military oral history initiative with UVic. That being said, FMUSIC can still "get it done" — given we have good leadership.

Formation of a nationally based advocacy group: As noted earlier by Cec Berezowski, Dr. Jack Granatstein is arguing for a new Advocacy Group (AG), which could approach FMUSIC for support. I initially supported this idea; however, I was reminded by several of us that there could be considerable duplication of effort should a new Advocacy Group be formed with the aim to ".... build a strong degree of support across Canada in every region and every federal riding to put a human face on the complex issues that it will defend and promote. Its aim must be to create a strong and enduring national network that can reach out, advocate, and educate." Three nuggets were derived from discussions within the RUSI VI Executive in this regard; these are; **One;** Forming a new advocacy group which is supposed to be complimentary to CDA/CDAI could develop into direct rivalry & competition for scarce resources. A business plan for the advocacy group could identify possible irritants/conflicts to avoid these. **Two:** The stated intent is to form the AG from the public and industry (but not defence industries), but it is tough to think that this new group can get from "here to there" without the support and infrastructure from outfits like CDA/CDAI/FMUSIC and so on. However, the fact is that RUSI VI (and likely all USI's) don't have the resources, human or other-wise, to embark on new ventures. **Three;** There is a need to express, over and over again, the view to the Canadian public that a robust, well equipped and capable CF is critical to safeguard our way of life. Another voice (preferably with no deep or extensive military connection) speaking to this message can't hurt, but if this new voice (however well meant) smothers the voices now in place then the volume of the whole choir will be muted.



A Week in Afghanistan - A Snapshot

By BGen (Ret) Don Macnamara and RAdm (Ret) Ken Summers

Introduction

Invited by the Chief of Defence Staff, the authors visited Afghanistan 26 Oct. to 5 Nov., 2006 along with four other defence analysts, all retired senior officers. The visit provided an opportunity to understand and appreciate the 'ground truth' concerning Canadian opera-

tions in Afghanistan. They also attended the command change of NATO/ISAF Regional Command South and the Canadian Task Force Kandahar command to BGen Tim Grant.

Stops in Kabul included the Canadian Embassy and the Afghan National Training Centre. Kandahar stops included the Task Force Kandahar HQ and various Canadian units within the US operated base at Kandahar Airport and Camp Nathan Smith, site of the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Kandahar city.

Background

Geography - Afghanistan is a land-locked country the

size of Manitoba with a population of 31 million. Mainly a rocky, mountainous desert, there are many river valleys where an agricultural economy and many villages exist. The 34 provinces variously border Pakistan, Iran, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan – with the Vakhan corridor of the Hindu Kush range in the northeast to China.

People - A multi-tribal, multicultural country composed of the Pashtun in the south (42%), the Tajik (27%) in the central and north, the Hazara (9%), Uzbek (9%) and lesser others. Although Dari, spoken by about half of the population, and Pashtu, about 35%, are official languages, there are over 30 minor tribal languages. The literacy rate is about 36% but disproportionately in favour of males, about 50%, while females are at 21%.

History - With a troubled history dating back to Alexander the Great, Afghanistan is an historic trading crossroads – dating from Genghis Khan and Marco Polo with various unsuccessful attempts for control by Persians, Arabs, Russians and the British. The communist coup that preceded the Soviet Union invasion of December 1979 ended a form of democratic constitutional monarchy and introduced a 27-year period of conflict, chaos and destruction. Following the ouster of the Soviet Union in 1989, a civil war ensued that ended in the rule of the ultra conservative Islamist Taliban and a haven for the Al Qaeda training camps that spawned the 9/11 attack on New York.

Following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, US, Allied, and Northern Alliance military action (Operation Enduring Freedom) toppled the Taliban for sheltering Osama Bin Laden. Then, in late 2001, an international conference in Bonn, Germany established the process for political reconstruction. On 7 Dec. 2004, Hamid Karzai became the first democratically elected president of Afghanistan and a National Assembly was inaugurated on 19 Dec. 2005.

Early in 2006, the London Compact reaffirmed international support and development funding (\$10 billion) for the Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS) aimed at governance, security and development.

In sum, Afghanistan is a complex country with a complex history. The situations regarding governance, security and development are varied in different provinces and different regions.

Ravaged by war and conflict for almost 30 years, Afghanistan's infrastructure was virtually totally destroyed along with the few fledgling institutions. It was a failed state and now a struggling democracy with a record of two successive and successful elections – one for a President, the other for a bicameral National Assembly. Its indigenous economy is agricultural hugely distorted by the poppy / opium crop that accounts for about 40% of GDP. Although local markets are develop-

ing across the country, it is largely a service-sector base, bolstered by the donor aid supported construction activity. It is among the poorest countries in the world.

Canadians in Afghanistan

Following 9/11, Canada committed the 3 PPCLI Battle Group, Special Operations Force (SOF) and ships to Op Apollo / Op Enduring Freedom against the Taliban and Al Qaeda in Afghanistan in early 2002.

The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was originally authorized by the UN on December 20, 2001 to assist the Afghan Transitional Authority. NATO took command and co-ordination of ISAF in August 2003. ISAF is NATO's first mission outside the Euro-Atlantic area and operates in Afghanistan under a UN mandate. ISAF's mission was initially limited to Kabul but on 13 Oct. 2003 expanded to a wider role beyond Kabul and reaffirmed on Feb. 15, 2006.

Now, it also commands the military components of nine Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

Command of ISAF Southern Region went to Netherlands' MGen Ton Van Loon on 01 Nov., 2006 and the command of Canadian Task Force Kandahar was assumed by BGen Tim Grant.

Canada's goal in Afghanistan parallels that of NATO and ISAF. Canada's approach is through three elements: a) stabilizing the country; b) strengthening government; c) reducing poverty.

The ANDS itself, similarly focuses on three essential elements – Governance, Security and Development – all three areas involving Canadian 'whole of government' activity, which we had the opportunity to observe and discuss.

Governance

At the Canadian Embassy in Kabul, an afternoon was spent in a round-table with a unique Canadian contribution – the **Strategic Advisory Team - Afghanistan**, or **SAT-A**.

Since September 2005 the Canadian Forces has bilaterally provided a team of strategic military planners to support the Government of Afghanistan in developing key national strategies and mechanisms for the effective implementation of those strategies.

The Strategic Advisory Team, in consultation with the Canadian Ambassador, the Head of Aid and with a senior representative of the Afghan government, provides direct planning support to government ministries and working groups in the development and governance realms. The teams are embedded in their partner Afghan Government ministries and agencies and work under Afghan leadership. The planning team members bring a very wide range of training, education, experience, and military strategic planning skills to bear on the resolution of complex civil problems.

There are 14 military officers and two civilians (5-Army, 4- Navy, 5- Air Force, 1- Defence Scientist, and 1-CIDA rep). All have a minimum of a BA or BSc, many with MA, MSc, or MBA. Disciplines range through political science, international relations, business administration and engineering. They are gunners, tankers, MPs, air navigators, aeronautical engineers, lawyers, MARS, MARE, public affairs, but all are experts and experienced at the strategic planning level.

The SAT has five 'D' objectives: direct, develop, delegate, decision-making, discipline. And, military members bring a disciplined approach to advising on personal, cognitive, and doctrinal levels. SAT operates at the ministerial level in reconstruction and development, public service, interior among others. The Canadian SAT is the only one of its kind.

Policy Action Group (PAG)

Canada is also involved in another 'governance' activity - the Policy Action Group. The PAG is an advisory body with which President Karzai regularly discusses the situation in the south with the most directly involved Afghan ministers, the UN, the ISAF and Operation Enduring Freedom commanders, and the ambassadors of the four countries with large troop contingents in the South (the UK, Canada, the US and the Netherlands). The Policy Action Group devises strategies to improve security, reconstruction and communication with the people of southern Afghanistan.

Security

The Afghan National Training Centre, near Kabul, trains both Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police recruits. Canada has a 15-member training team there: seven officers, seven NCOs and one medic – who work alongside US, UK, French and New Zealand instructors to develop an effective Afghan Army and Police capability.

The 16-week course for soldiers 'off the street' consists of seven weeks basic and six weeks advanced individual training conducted by US, UK and French instructors to a NATO standard syllabus, followed by two weeks 'collective' training under Canadian leadership, designed to take the soldiers to platoon and company levels. This undertaking is aimed at 'training the trainers', so CF instructors are using a mentoring approach with Afghan Army officers and NCOs who do the actual instructing. Some officers now serving as company commanders may have served as Colonels in the former Afghan Army. The CF team was held up as 'the gold standard' in terms of their effectiveness.

Task Force Kandahar

The core of Canadian operations is Task Force Kandahar, under command of BGen Tim Grant. About 2,500 CF personnel and some 200 contract civilians, including

staff for Tim Horton's and other recreational facilities are located in the US-operated base at Kandahar airport.

The Battle Group of approximately 1,000 troops currently from 1RCR, Petawawa, is deployed into forward operating bases. Frequent contact with Taliban forces occurs. The addition of some 17 Leopard tanks (LdSH) is expected to improve their defensive fire support in these base areas.

There are an additional 150 R22°R personnel assigned as a protection force for the Provincial Reconstruction Team at Camp Nathan Smith in Kandahar City.

The support elements include about 70 staff from 1 Field Ambulance and other Health Service facilities across Canada serving the Multinational Medical Unit-Role 3, now under Canadian command at Kandahar Airport. The Combat Service Support Company carries a particularly heavy load running convoys through areas of constant threat from ambushes, roadside bombs (IED) and even suicide bombers.

The convoy crews, for example, had driven up to 55 supply convoys in just two months, experienced as many as 30 ambushes and three have experienced many ambushes as well as roadside bombs-IEDs, and one multiple ambushes, two IEDs and one suicide bomber.

Many are reservists and doing their jobs alongside their regular force colleagues. Men and women, regular and reserve are demonstrating the effectiveness of the total force concept – indeed a unified force. The Canadian soldiers – and supporting sailors, airmen and airwomen – are well-educated, well-trained, well-equipped and well led, committed and dedicated to their tasks - the cream of Canada's crop. We can only describe them in superlatives – but insufficiently to make Canadians recognize what a wonderful job these men and women are doing.

Operation Medusa

Operation Medusa was the Canadian-led two-week operation in Panjwayi district commencing 2 Sept. It involved all southern region ISAF forces against substantial Taliban force – well-led and with sophisticated arms and tactics. It was NATO's first out-of-area combat operation and was a significant Canadian / ISAF victory – at a cost of 12 Canadian fatal casualties. It is widely hailed by the ISAF Commander and new Regional Commander as 'setting the standard'. The area remains dangerous.

Detachments continuously deployed in forward operating bases aim at pursuing the 'inkblot' strategy. With support from ISAF troops, the Afghan army creates safe areas where local government can exercise its authority to begin reconstruction. The strategy is to ensure rapid, visible improvements by restoring basic infrastructure, bridges, schools, mosques, drinking water facilities and health care. This model can spread like an 'inkblot' to

more remote areas.

Development

Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) -Camp

Nathan Smith, Kandahar City.

Since August 2005, a Canadian PRT has operated in Kandahar, and expects to remain until February 2009. The PRT combines elements from the CF, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and civilian police led by the RCMP in an integrated Canadian effort reflecting the “All of Government” approach.

Some 350 persons are at this PRT site at Camp Nathan Smith.

The PRT reinforces the authority of the Afghan government in Kandahar Province, assisting in stabilization and development of the region. It monitors security, promotes Afghan policies and priorities with local authorities and facilitates security sector reforms.

PRT accomplishments to 01 Nov. include 150 km of roads, 100 km irrigation canals, 1000 wells dug, 427 Community Development Councils elected at local level and they are currently directing 17 main projects, including repair of battle damage and daily engagement with Afghans to assist in capacity building.

Issues, Concerns and Conclusions

This visit was exceptionally revealing, informative and reinforced our impression that the whole story of

Canada’s activities in Afghanistan in general and Kandahar Province in particular, are under-reported in Canadian media.

The magnitude of the problems reflects the history and state of a nation after nearly 30 years of war. Security remains precarious in the South, but is much better elsewhere. However, there does appear to be a lack of coordination in all efforts across all participants in all parts of the country.

It is quite feasible that the insurgency will continue, even increase, as Taliban militants, drug criminals and other corrupt elements see their own futures threatened. Furthermore, corruption will continue as poverty and disparities remain as great as they are, and will only be reduced with time, development and the rule of law.

Canada must make a very long-term commitment if we mean what we say in our 'goal'. It may take 20 years or more - moving from military-assured security to military, governance and development together to development and governance as Afghans are able to assume responsibility for their own security - both military and police.

Canadians, especially governments and bureaucracy, must understand the real nature of the undertaking and the commitment - and consequences of either failure or withdrawal for Canada, Canadians and especially the Afghan people. ☸

Afghanistan Medical Care

By Col (Ret) Peter Green, MD

A recent edition of “The Maple Leaf” included a full page review of the medical services provided to our soldiers in Afghanistan, especially the Role 1 (immediate front line life and limb saving care) and Role 3 (first definitive surgery and preparation for strategic evacuation).

The early 1990s saw the Canadian Forces medical services under severe strain, as the “peace dividend” was used to argue a need to reduce health care expenditures. After a marked contraction and modest re-growth, the present day medical services are facing difficult circumstances half a world away. Operating in a deprived part of the world always produces its own health

problems, but when the stresses and casualties of combat are added in, a large, resourceful and well-equipped team is required to meet the need.

The Role 1 unit provides the front-line services to the battle group. At 71 personnel strong they are a considerably bigger team than many would remember from the days of a Unit Medical Station and attached Field Ambulance Platoon. Now, this is the number required to escort convoys, live in forward bases and provide the intimate support needed by troops under fire or threat of fire. This part of the medical team also provides health care, when they can, to local civilian populations.

It has always been a characteristic of the medical services to be closely involved with the troops in contact with the enemy. Historically the attrition rate for “medics” has

always been far higher than other combat service support units, and in fact can be higher than casualty rates seen in some of the combat arms. Unfortunately, this high casualty rate is being seen in Afghanistan, but the soldiers in the field must know and trust that they will get medical aid from competent and caring providers. This requires close-in medical support.

Role 3 units are what we have classically considered Field Hospitals. Time and developments in medical science have changed their size, and to some extent function, but they still play an essential part in managing the care of casualties from the battlefield. The Role 3 unit in Kandahar is a NATO unit, although more than 50 percent of the staff come from Canada. Casualties from the field, after initial stabilization and triage are brought to the Role 3 unit, usually by heli-

copter, although armoured ambulances may also be used if circumstances allow. In the hospital the critical life and limb saving surgery is initiated, together with the other aspects of care such as drug induced coma and blood transfusion.

One of the reasons smaller hospitals are required than in the past is that transfer to a Role 4 facility is quicker and safer than ever before. In the case of Kandahar, casualties are moved first (by the USAF) to Landstuhl, Germany before recovery to Canada when they are fit for the trans-Atlantic crossing.

One of the aspects that surprised and pleased me when I was with the Intervention Force in Bosnia was the common high standard of health care achieved within NATO. Although a Canadian soldier might not have enjoyed the food in a Turkish Field Hospital (or an American one come to that), the treatment received would have been of acceptable levels throughout. Before NATO left Bosnia, this blending of medical units had advanced and composite multinational units were a regular event. Canada was always a welcome member in these units as our standards are high and our people well trained.

In Afghanistan the Canadian Forces medical teams are once again leading and providing services to all of the NATO troops fighting in the southern part of the country. We can be proud of what they are doing. However, the military in Canada are now taking civilian medical staff to Kandahar, after a short training period - reason - they have run out of uniformed specialists.

The explanation for the shortage of specialists (mainly nurses and MOs) is the turmoil created by the reorganization initiatives 10 years ago. It takes a long time to train a surgeon. ☉

16th Bn Bagpipes

By MCpl Trevor Reid

Twenty-year-old Piper James Richardson of the 16th Infantry Battalion (The Canadian Scottish), last played his pipes in France on October 9, 1916, the day on which he is presumed to have died.

In the early hours of October 8, 1916, the leading company of the 16th Battalion was yards short of its objective: Regina Trench. With much of the company's leadership dead or wounded, Piper Richardson recognized he had to get the highlanders out of the kill zone. He struck up the tunes Reel of Tulloch and The Devil in the Kitchen and paced along the wire. Seeing the young piper from Chilliwack, British Columbia play without regard for the bullets and shrapnel exploding around him, the men of the 16th rose from the shell holes taking Regina Trench.

Later in the day, Piper Richardson was ordered to take a wounded comrade and some German prisoners back to Canadian lines. But he had only gone a short distance when he realized his pipes were still at the front. He ran back into the smoke and fog of the Somme battlefield never to be seen again.

For his actions at Regina Trench, north of Courcellette, Pte Jimmy Richardson was awarded the Victoria Cross on October 22, 1918.

Richardson's pipes were deemed to have been forever lost in the mud of the Somme until the 21st century, when Pipe Major Roger McGuire of The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) responded to an Internet posting. A private school in Scotland had posted a query asking for someone to identify the unique tartan on a set of bagpipes from the First World War.

"I had the good fortune of going to Scotland and identifying them positively as pipes from the 16th

Battalion," stated Pipe Major McGuire. The Lennox tartan on the pipes was distinctive of the 16th Battalion pipers, and the place they had been discovered, Courcellette, meant they almost certainly belonged to Richardson.

As it turned out, a British Army Chaplain discovered the pipes in 1917 and brought them back to the school in Scotland where he was a teacher. For the next several decades, they sat as a broken, mud-caked and bloodstained reminder of an unknown piper from the Great War.

On November 8, 2006, Richardson's bagpipes, whose inspiring music had not been heard in more than 90 years, were brought back to British Columbia where they were put on display in the British Columbia Legislature as a reminder of a generation's valour.

Cadet Sergeant Joshua MacDonald, Pipe Major of 2136 Canadian Scottish Cadet Corps carried the pipes to the Legislature. "They've been on a battlefield and shot. There's even a bullet hole in the chanter," revealed MacDonald. Fittingly, the Pipes and Drums of The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's), the unit that perpetuates the 16th Infantry Battalion, was at the head of the parade bringing the pipes to the Legislature.

The tune they played as they marched was reminiscent of the song that men of the 16th Infantry Battalion might have heard as they lay pinned down by enemy machine guns along unbroken barbed wire 90 years earlier.

Piper Jimmy Richardson was only the third piper within the imperial forces to be awarded the Victoria Cross since it was instituted in 1856 and one of four members of the 16th Infantry Battalion to receive this decoration. He is buried in Adanac Military Cemetery, Miraumont, France. ☉

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

10 JANUARY MEETING

- ⇒ **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING AND OPEN FORUM**
- ⇒ **TOPIC: The Future of FMUSIC**
- ⇒ **PLACE:** The Canadian Scottish Officers' Mess, Room 314, Bay Street Armoury
- ⇒ **TIME:** 1130 FOR 1200 Hrs Luncheon
- ⇒ **COST:** \$18.00 (pay at the door)

The President, Col John Eggenberger, will convene the meeting and invite any and all members present to enter the discussion and offer suggested courses of action with respect to the fate and future of the Federation of Military and United Services Institutes of Canada.

14 FEBRUARY MEETING

- ⇒ **SPEAKER: Brigadier General W.D. Macnamara, OMM, CD, (Ret)**
- ⇒ **TOPIC: National or Notional Security?**
- ⇒ **PLACE:** The Canadian Scottish Officers' Mess, Room 314, Bay Street Armoury
- ⇒ **TIME:** 1130 FOR 1200 Hrs Luncheon
- ⇒ **COST:** \$18.00 (pay at the door)

BGen Don Macnamara had a 37 year career in the Canadian Forces retiring in 1988. A specialist in national and international security affairs and strategic analysis, he had staff and academic tours in these areas during the last 15 years of his service. He is past president of the Canadian Institute of Strategic Studies and immediate past president of the Conference of Defence Assns. Initially an air traffic control officer, he spent 18 years as a biosciences officer in operations research including flight safety, accident analysis, weapons effects and protective equipment research. He holds a BA (UWestern Ont.), MA (UofT) and DScMil (honoris causa) from RMC. He attended CF Staff College and National Defence College. He was with Queen's School of Business from 1988 until 2002.

14 MARCH MEETING

- ⇒ **SPEAKER: Mark Stefanson, Executive Director Public Affairs, BC Ferries**
- ⇒ **TOPIC: Building a better BC Ferries**
- ⇒ **PLACE:** The Canadian Scottish Officers' Mess, Room 314, Bay Street Armoury
- ⇒ **TIME:** 1130 FOR 1200 Hrs Luncheon
- ⇒ **COST:** \$18.00 (pay at the door)

Mark Stefanson joined BC Ferries in May 1999. He has over 25 years experience in communications, issues management, media relations, and public consultation. He is responsible for media relations and government relations at BC Ferries. Prior to joining BC Ferries, Mr. Stefanson held a number of senior communications positions in both the British Columbia and Manitoba governments.

Another Presidents Message:

- ⇒ As noted earlier in this newsletter by Cec Berezowski, our January luncheon will provide opportunity for members to speak to two issues; the first was presented in our EXTRA newsletter - i.e., re-energizing FMUSIC and perhaps as a result of our improved posture then link up with CDA/CDAI; or, dissolving FMUSIC, leaving each USI to decide their own fate.
 - ⇒ The second issue for members to comment upon is the value of a National Defence Advocacy Group as proposed by Jack Granatstein.
 - ⇒ I will take a few minutes to set the stage for both issues, then invite comment/test the mood. Cheers John
- ⇒ **REMINDER 2007 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL is now due...**

\$30 for members and \$40 for families. Make cheque payable to **RUSI of VI** and mail to the office or deliver it at the next meeting.