



Founded 1927

# RUSI

Newsletter of the Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island

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## RUSI Newsletter

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Suggestions are encouraged.

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

## Rededication at Vimy Ridge

VIMY, France – April 9, 2007. In a ceremony celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge when 100,000 Canadians began their legendary World War I assault on Vimy, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II rededicated the restored Canadian National Vimy Memorial, saying:

*“In any national story there are moments and places, sometimes far from home, which in retrospect can be seen as fixed points about which the course of history turns – moments which distinguish that nation forever. Those who seek the foundations of Canada’s distinction would do well to begin here at Vimy.”*

## From the President about FMUSIC

Your Board of Directors has discussed a proposal by the National Chairman of the Federation of Military and United Service Institutes of Canada (FMUSIC) to disband the organization post haste.

It was the opinion of your Board of Directors that on such an important issue the opinion of the membership at large was needed. To this end FMUSIC was informed that the membership of RUSI -VI would be consulted during the September meeting and their decision passed onto FMUSIC without delay.

In the meantime if a decision was taken by a majority of other member Military Institutes to disband FMUSIC, then funds accruing to RUSI -VI should be returned to the Treasurer of RUSI -VI. This information was passed to FMUSIC in early June 07. To date, no response has been received.

The reasons leading to the demise of FMUSIC are given as a declining membership in many Military Institutes and a lack of interest by Member Institutes in the work of FMUSIC. Additionally, since the withdrawal of public support for FMUSIC, the funding issue plays in the background.

Assuming that FMUSIC ceases to exist, we should consider the following question: “Is there a role for a national organization based on a collective of Military Institutes and if the answer is yes what form should the collective take?”

Our recent discussions with United Services Institute Nanaimo and the Royal United

Services Vancouver indicate that these organizations are strong, active, growing and interested in having a national voice. As a start, these three organizations could come together to form an organization called the Royal United Services Institutes of Canada with a National President, Secretary and Treasurer with the past President joining the Executive in due course. This organization could develop a relationship with CDA, speak for member Institutes and provide a focus for any collective projects. Funding for this organization would come from Member Institutes annually. To maintain independence, public funding would not be solicited.

These are some ideas that need your consideration. On September 12th, I will seek your views and propose a way ahead. I am confident we will come to a wise conclusion that will benefit all members and have a positive effect on the future of our venerable organization RUSI -VI.

**Col (Ret) J.G. Lake, OMM, CD** June 2007 ☺

## SUBS ANYONE????

*Seattle Post Intelligencer, 08 May 2007*

Britain unveiled its new Astute-class nuclear submarine this week. The sub will be able to circumnavigate the globe without ever surfacing and will never need to have its nuclear reactor refueled. *HMS Astute* is to be launched next month and will be followed by two more Astute class vessels, the *HMS Ambush* and *HMS Arful*. The total cost the project is estimated at USD \$7.2 billion, roughly USD \$2 billion over budget. The project has also faced several delays. (Why are we not surprised?) ☺

FROM: James D. Fraser  
Rear Admiral (Retired)  
Chairman FMUSIC

TO: All Institutes

As you are aware, since I took over as Interim Chairman of our Federation, I have been concerned about the future of the Federation at the national level. As a result, I initiated a survey in 2006, through the Regional Vice-Chairmen, about the future of FMUSIC. My conclusions were that:

- ⇒ We are going bankrupt,
- ⇒ Membership is dropping quite rapidly across the country. While I do not have verifiable figures, my best appreciation is that we have dropped by 50% over the last 10-12 years,
- ⇒ As the memberships age, Institutes are becoming increasingly inwardly focused and less active in the outreach aspects,
- ⇒ I have consulted a variety of my predecessors in FMUSIC. Their reply has been unanimous in stating that "it is time to stop the bleeding" and terminate FMUSIC, and
- ⇒ Finally, the environment has changed. The attention given by the country to the military is very much increased. The issues are being presented in the media. Defence is actually an election issue.

In all, the survey showed a general malaise and indifference about the need for a National Office since funding has been eliminated by DND. Thus, while one region was of the opinion that FMUSIC should be retained, conversely one of the larger Institutes has unilaterally withdrawn from membership. As a result of the survey, I personally concluded that FMUSIC should be closed down but that at the same time national representation be sought through another organization, so long as such representation would not interfere with the independence of Member Institutes.

My examination of the options revealed that the Conference of Defence Associates (CDA) has almost the same aims and objectives as FMUSIC, but is funded by DND and has a full-time staff. I believe that membership in this Association would be in the best Interests of the Member Institutes of FMUSIC. I discussed the possibility of our Institutes becoming members of CDA with its Chairman, LGen Rick Evraire, and he would be most happy to take us under his wing. I have, therefore, concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CDA that is attached, with supporting documentation, for your consideration. The only factor that I am aware of that would preclude us from taking these actions is the fact that our Constitution calls for a vote on dissolution of FMUSIC to take place at a Biennial Conference. However, since organizing such a conference with the sole aim of dissolution would be prohibitively expensive (estimated cost of \$10,000) I propose we bypass this procedure and instead use the enclosed Certificate of Acceptance/Refusal. Concurrently, I have put under suspension the planning for the next Biennial Conference scheduled for October this year.

Do note that this is a two-step process we are proposing – termination of FMUSIC at the national level and then agreement to the terms CDA is offering for membership. Agreement to dissolution of the FMUSIC national level does not obligate Institutes to join CDA. We propose that 65% acceptance would carry the two parts but even if you agree with the MOU (with such points as the dispersal of FMUSIC funds), actually joining CDA is a solely independent decision for each Institute. I do believe, however, that Institutes would benefit from joining CDA and that the terms offered are very favourable.

I ask you to return the enclosed Certificate of Acceptance/Refusal signed with your decision by the end of June 2007 to the Executive Vice-Chairman LCol (Ret'd) Al Cooper so that further action can be taken. ☺

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## **MOU Uniting Member Institutes of FMUSIC with CDA**

### **SITUATION**

(RAdm (Ret) J. D. Fraser, Interim Chairman, Federation of Military and United Services Institutes and LGen (Ret) R.J. Evraire, Chairman CDA, authored this Memorandum of Understanding terminating the Federation of Military and United Services Institutes of Canada (FMUSIC). It provides for its autonomous member Institutes to join the Conference of Defence Associations (CDA), if so desired. (The

MOU terms are summarized for brevity hereunder along with editorial clarifications in parenthesis.)

1. FMUSIC was formed in 1973 bringing into a cohesive whole the 19 Institutes in Canada recognized by DND, (at the founding meeting in Winnipeg in 1973 with the first two National Chairmen and the national office located in Victoria, BC. until 1993 when moved to Kingston.)

2. FMUSIC original funding was a modest DND grant in lieu of library grants to individual Institutes and Institutes annual dues. DND terminated grant in

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2003 and now refuses to restore it. This loss combined with limited National Office and distance from Ottawa has resulted in reduction of national activity (and, due to diminished national leadership over time.)

3. Current finances and lack of national activity has led some to question value of FMUSIC. The Interim National Chairman asked Regional Vice Chairmen how they could be better served by the National Office. Several institutes responded that they would be or are actually withdrawing unilaterally from FMUSIC.

4. The National Office investigated several options concluding that the best option was to close out FMUSIC as a national organization and offer each Institute the opportunity to join the CDA as an Associate Member.

(FMUSIC became an Associate Member of CDA in the early 1990s at the urging of CDA thus swelling the total membership of a CDA submission to DND.)

5. The aim of this MOU confirms the responsibilities of both FMUSIC and CDA on disbandment of the FMUSIC National Office and integration of Institutes into CDA.

#### **DISCUSSION**

6. The aims and objectives of both FMUSIC and CDA are similar. FMUSIC has encouraged enhancement and maintenance of:

- (1) Effective national security and national defence policies; and
- (2) Capable armed forces...by encouraging and supporting the study, research, development, promulgation and submission and/or presentation of briefs, policy proposals to Government and appropriate Government bodies.

Also, to further the aims of individual Institutes collectively without interfering with autonomy, and, to act as a link between the Canadian Forces and the public.

7. The CDA was created in 1932 (made up of services, branch, corps and regimental associations already existing.) It claims to be a non-partisan, independent, non-profit organization whose mandate represents the views of 31 member Associations for the purpose of influencing government policy on matters affecting Canada's security and defence and the Canadian Forces.

8. The objectives of CDA are multi-faceted and include coordination of member Associations, making recommendations to Government through the Minister of National Defence and Parliamentary committees.

9. The CDA fulfills its mandate through direct contact with elected and public officials, the electronic and print media and to the general public and its member associations.

10. Former FMUSIC member Institutes, without prejudice, could hold caucus meetings prior to the annual general meeting of CDA in order to present problems related to the Institutes.

11. The Conference of Defence Associations Institute (CDAI) is a separate arm of CDA and is a charitable, non-partisan organization with Letters Patent. It provides

staff and research support to the CDA and promotes informed public debate on national security issues. The CDAI fulfills its mandate through the following activities:

- a. Vimy Award dinner annually (in Ottawa) recognizing an outstanding Canadian for meaningful contribution to defence and security in Canada;
- b. Annual Seminar – Canada's acclaimed session on defence issues held in Ottawa in February;
- c. Annual Graduate Student Symposium;
- d. Publication of ON TRACK, a leading defence quarterly, and other papers; and
- e. Roundtables and speaking engagements on defence and security issues.

12. In the past, FMUSIC received DND support under CFAO 210-42 – both financial and non-financial. CDA was also provided financial support under this same CFAO. However, this support to CDA is now provided under a signed MOU with DND (a \$100,000 annual grant for next five years). Under the financial MOU, these public funds cannot be "distributed" to member associations. However, FMUSIC and its member Institutes continue to receive in kind support from DND under CFAO 210-42. It is essential this support continue and the Interim National Chairman FMUSIC will pursue this matter with the Vice Chief of Defence Staff's office to ensure this support continues at no cost to the Institutes.

#### **FINANCIAL**

13. CDA associate membership cost has been \$100 per year. However, for some Institutes with fewer than 50 members, the cost of CDA will be a slight increase over FMUSIC dues. In such case CDA agrees to accept a lower rate of \$2 per Institute member.

14. Secondly, FMUSIC agrees to pay the annual CDA associate membership for its Institutes for two years from its general fund, in order to allow its member Institutes time to reflect on membership in CDA.

15. Thirdly, annual dues paid to FMUSIC for 2007 will be refunded pro rata upon membership in 2006.

16. Finally, after the above actions, any remaining funds held by FMUSIC will be dispersed back to Institutes pro rata based on 2006 membership.

#### **ACCEPTANCE**

17. This MOU will come into effect on approval of the Chairmen of both FMUSIC and CDA, along with 65%, that is, 16 member FMUSIC Institutes. ☼

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## **CDA/MND Grant Agreement**

As reported elsewhere, several FMUSIC Institutes, including one of the largest, have declared that they are withdrawing from the Federation of Military and United Services Institutes of Canada. There is also a reluctance to associate directly with the Conference of Defence Associations, probably due to the contractual arrangements in the DND Grant Agreement between CDA/CDAI and the Minister of National Defence.

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The lengthy, legal document imposes a number of stringent conditions in providing a grant of \$100,000 annually for the next five years. For administrative purposes, the Minister's representative is the Director Public Policy from the deputy minister's office.

The Agreement outlines the purpose and expected results from CDA to receive this funding along with the support of its charitable wing, the Conference of Defence Associations Institute (CDAI). Some of the key objectives are: to support the Government efforts in placing problems of National Defence before the public; coordinate recommendations to the government through the MND; coordinate activities of the service associations in matters of common interest to all branches of the Canadian Forces; and in support is the Conference of Defence Associations Institute to provide research and promote informed public debate.

The Agreement specifies that the CDA and CDAI will provide tangible input legislative and policy work; secure a minimum of 24 invitations to CDA staff to participate in meetings and briefings; maintain a minimum of 17 associate member associations; maintain an overall minimum of at least 100,000 members; Attain a minimum of 200 requests by media for radio/television interviews; publish at least 15 opinion pieces nationally and regionally; publish at least four issues of ON TRACK magazine distributing at least 1500 copies, and so on.

**Application and reporting.** The CDA must submit complete annual reports demonstrating compliance. Budgets must disclose total revenues and total expenditures. Revenues must list any sources of non-Department of National Defence funding and indicate how many other non-DND sources were pursued from other federal, provincial and municipal governments. (Where total exceeds 100 percent of eligible expenses, DND can deduct this amount from funding in the next fiscal year.)

CDA shall, to the fullest extend possible, seek funding from all other possible sources. The Conference of Defence Associations must make every effort to raise annually an amount equal to the DND grant. The CDA shall place the Directorate of Public Policy on its distribution list for all upcoming events, conferences and receive this information at the same time as members. Government sources of funding to the CDA cannot comprise more than 75% of total budget. The Directorate of Public Policy will review financial statements and budgets to ensure compliance with eligible and non-eligible expenditures before CDA becomes eligible for the next year's budget.

The Agreement goes on to list eligible and non-eligible expenditures and stacking limits of total government assistance (federal, provincial and municipal assistance) for the same eligible expenditures. The Director Public Policy is responsible to the Deputy Minister, through the chain of command, for all aspects of this program and its monitoring including the annual performance of CDA.

Payments may be cancelled in the event that funding levels are changed by Parliament.

Other sections deal with changes of termination of the grant agreement; limitations of responsibilities; consequences of failure; release/indemnification; acquisition/disposition of any assets acquired through the grant; debts owing to the crown; lobbying on behalf of CDA; official languages; and, using National Defence Wordmark.

Undoubtedly, all component members of CDA/CDAI, members and associate members, will become liable to this administrative process to some degree. This was not the case of the autonomous member institutes of FMUSIC. ☹

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## FMUSIC PACIFIC REGION MEETS

The FMUSIC Pacific Region vice chairman, Col (Ret) John Eggenberger met in Nanaimo with Institute directors from Nanaimo, Vancouver and Victoria on May 18 about the fate of FMUSIC. Participating were Col (Ret) Bill Weston for the president of Royal United Services Institute Vancouver Island, LCol (Ret) Jim Stanton, president Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver and LCol (Ret) Doug Slowski, president United Services Institute of Nanaimo and North Island.

Also in attendance from USI Nanaimo were Col (Ret) Bill McCullough, chair Military Committee and Cdr (Ret) Neil Sorsdahl, Vice President.

Discussion centered on the numbered topics as indicated by the bullets.

**1. FMUSIC alignment with CDA/CDAI?** **a.** FMUSIC already an associate member of CDA but cannot be part of CDAI. **b.** CDAI is supported by individual donations. **c.** FMUSIC precluded from donating to CDAI.

**2. Current structure of FMUSIC?** **a.** Organization has atrophied. **b.** National Office is ineffective communicating with member Institutes. **c.** National Office seems ineffective at making FMUSIC Constitution happen. **d.** Question arose over what "value added" component delivered by FMUSIC? **e.** Pacific Region Institutes quite happily continuing "doing their own thing." **f.** Pacific Region Institutes do not need FMUSIC or National Office in local activities. **g.** Should FMUSIC survive, Pacific Region USIs would remain members.

**3. Need for a more flat organizational structure?** **a.** Whether "flat" or not, does not matter. **b.** If FMUSIC intends to be effective, it must first decide upon its core business, then develop a business plan, and get on with it. **c.** Otherwise, shut down the headquarters.

**4. Do we need Regional Vice Chairmen?** **a.** So far yes – Pacific Region is content to have a regional vice chairman. **b.** Role as yet unclear.

**5. How about the regional name?** (At this time it remains unclear.)

**6. Relationship with NDHQ.** **a.** Concern expressed that FMUSIC National Office is not adequately presenting to

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NDHQ the efforts of individual Institutes to “connect with Canadians” as desired by Gen Hillier, Chief of the Defence Staff. **a.** “Connecting with Canadians” does not oblige parroting a “party line” but the intent is to help educate Canadians as to the value of Canadian Armed Forces to the nation. **b.** The VCDS wants to know what we are doing to “help the cause” – which begs the question: what is it he wants done? **c.** In any event, there is no wish whatever for Pacific Region Institutes to become subservient to NDHQ – or any other entity. From our perspective, Chairman FMUSIC should articulate this principle to all and sundry.

**7.** Ways and Means to increase “interconnections” between Institutes. **a. Communicating** was seen as critical to any rebirth of a coherent FMUSIC. **b.** Expand the existing common website node enabling visitors to link with all Institute websites. (Vice Chairman is to ask node webmaster what additional capability would be necessary, to accommodate these improvements.)

**c.** Add a feature to the common website that would enable Institutes to report on current activities and accomplishments.

**8.** Is (are) there projects that can be shared and/or help each other complete? **a.** Each Institute reported projects “on the go” but there was little seen at this time for such direct cooperation or help. **b.** What was deemed important was being able to keep each other informed on activities and sharing ideas in general so Institutes could profit from the ongoing initiatives.

**9.** Membership. **a.** Seen by all as the great problem to address. **b.** Recognized by all were the ways and means to increase membership, and each were working on plans so to do.

**10.** Outreach programs. **a.** Reaching out to a variety of opinion leaders in the community was seen as a core reason for Institutes to exist. **b.** Not only have we a responsibility to set the stage for communication about Canadian Forces matters to our membership, we have a responsibility to do so with our broader local “non-military” community. ☸

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## Changes of Command at the Top Minister of National Defence

**The Honourable Peter MacKay’s** appointment as Minister of National Defence is welcomed by the community of Canadians who have an abiding interest in the defence and security concerns of this country. As well, his appointment is testimony to his dedication in fostering the betterment of the Canadian Forces.

The Minister will be facing challenges to the development of national security and defence as well as continuing the mission of the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan, the defence requirements for Canada’s Arctic, the transformation of the Canadian Forces and their ongoing res-

toration.

He succeeds The Honourable Mr. Gordon O’Connor who becomes Minister of National Revenue. ☸

### Air Force Commander

On July 26, **Lieutenant-General Angus Watt** assumed the highest position in the Air Force as Chief of the Air Staff and commander Air Command. He succeeds LGen Steve Lucas who retires following a distinguished 38-year career with the CF.

LGen Watt moves up from being Assistant Chief of the Air Staff. He is well versed in the host of dynamic developments underway within the Air Force, all leading to a more combat-capable expeditionary Air Force. Underway is a new 20-year CF Aerospace Doctrine, consolidation of several squadrons, standing up the CF Aerospace Warfare Centre, procurement of the C-17 Globemaster III strategic air lifter, the C-130J Hercules transport and the CH-47 Chinook medium-to-heavy-lift helicopter. Modernization and upgrades to the rest of the Air Force such as the CF-18 modernization continue to be pushed through. ☸

### Maritime Forces Pacific

On July 28, **Rear-Admiral Tyrone Pile** took command of Maritime Forces Pacific and Joint Task Force Pacific – a job that effectively gives him control over the navy’s ships, aircraft and sailors in the Pacific. He takes command from RAdm Roger Girouard, who is retiring early from a 34-year naval career.

RAdm Pile has spent 32 years in the navy including service in Haiti, the former Yugoslavia and the Arabian Gulf. He was most recently commander of Military Personnel at Defence headquarters in Ottawa. He pledged to continue easing the navy into the Canada Command structure, the unified chain of command from regional to federal, thus bringing military resources from across Canada to bear on a crisis or threat. He holds a masters degree in history from University of Victoria. ☸

### 1 Canadian Air Division

On July 17, Winnipeg’s highest ranking military officer changed and **Major-General J.M. Duval** became the new Commander 1 Canadian Air Division/ NORAD Region (CANR). MG Duval replaced LGen Charlie Bouchard who will assume the duties of Deputy Commander, North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado. ☸

### Royal Canadian Mounted Police

**Mr. William Elliott** accepted the “tipstaff” on August 11, symbolic of taking command as the new Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He is the first civilian, an Assistant Deputy Minister in the Public Safety ministry, to head the force. He succeeds former Commissioner Giuliano Zaccardelli who resigned last December. ☸

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## Last Post

*It is with deep regret that we mark the passing  
of the following members of RUSI of VI*

2007 – March:

**LCdr(Ret) THORPE, A.R. (Rolly)**

– May:

**Maj(Ret) MacKENDRICK, J.H. (James)**

**Col( Ret) HOLMES, PDP (Pip)**

**Capt (N) (Ret) DZIOBA, L. (Larry)**

**Capt (N) (Ret) HEATER, G.W. (Gordon)**

## Annual Air Force Memorial Service

The annual Air Forces Remembrance Service will be held at Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria Sunday, Sept.16. A brief military church parade will commence at 1:30 pm on Rockland Avenue, between the Cathedral and Pioneer Square, followed by a service in the Cathedral at 2:00 pm.

Col W.F. Veenhof, OMM, CD, senior serving Air Force officer in Victoria, is the reviewing officer. Participating will be flights of veterans, 89, 848 and 676 Air Cadet Squadrons and serving members from Maritime Command Pacific and 443 Squadron.

Sponsor is the Air Force Officers' Working Group of the Royal United Services Institute Vancouver Island, led by Col (Ret) John Eggenberger. It succeeds the previous annual Battle of Britain parade from Christ Church Cathedral to the Cenotaph at the BC Legislature for the laying of wreaths, then led by the now disbanded Air Force Officers' Association of Vancouver Island.

Unlike the former event honouring veterans of the Battle of Britain, the parade will remember not only those who fought in the Battle of Britain, but all Canadian flyers, whatever their rank and wherever they served for Canada in the Second World War, Korea, NORAD, 1 Air Division NATO, and current operations the world over.

This ceremony is rooted in over 60 years of remembrance to those who fought and fell during the Battle of Britain. This year the ceremony will include a broad constituency from the air force, navy and army air elements, remembering all those who fell as serving airmen and air women.

The Air Forces memorial mess dinner will be held at the University Club (UVic) on the following Tues., 18 Sep at 1830 for 1900 hrs. ☼

## The geodetic Survey of Northern Canada

By Flt/Lt (Ret) R.K. Acton and

LCol (Ret) G.M. Baker

After World War II with the rapid increase in aviation in Canada's north, the existing maps for that vast region were totally inadequate. Islands and coastlines had been charted a

century before and large lakes and rivers were shown on maps but intervening areas were often blank spaces. RCAF navigators would routinely draw details in these spaces as they flew along.

The Department of Mines and Technical Services was responsible for producing maps but there was a problem. Only a narrow fringe north of the American border had been accurately surveyed. Before the North could be accurately mapped, millions of square miles had to be surveyed.

The usual method of surveying by theodolite and chain was obviously unsuitable in this vast and often rugged terrain. Astro was used originally but since its maximum error was about 300 feet, it lacked accuracy for surveying. The problem was to find a survey method more accurate and much faster than using visual triangulation. The solution was a radar device developed near the end of WWII.

This was Shoran, a variation of the Loran navigation aid, but using radar frequencies. Shoran was developed to aid blind bombing and was extremely accurate. National Research Council engineers converted this equipment into a precision survey instrument with an error of about one foot in 10 miles.

With plan and equipment in place, the Geodetic Branch called upon the RCAF to carry out the surveying operations. Initial surveys were by 413 and 414 Squadrons beginning in 1948. In 1949, 408 Photo Squadron was reactivated for this task flying the Lancaster bomber, converted for shoran and photo ops with the Norseman, Otter, Canso and Dakota for support.

They conducted aerial photo and Shoran operations across the north, every summer until 1957 when the last northern Arctic islands were covered.

To begin Shoran surveying, the geodetic surveyors were flown to selected sites about 300 miles apart, determined by a series of astro shots. Lines between these sites formed interconnecting triangles covering the sector selected for that summer. The support aircraft then flew in three technicians with about one ton of equipment and supplies, to each site where ground Shoran transmitter and communications equipment were installed. The technicians then readied themselves for the aircraft to fly transits at the mid point of a line between each pair of stations.

The life led by these airmen was demanding. Isolated for weeks at a time, living in tents beset by black flies and mosquitoes, camped on snow and ice in the Arctic, theirs was no easy job. There were cases of tents being torn open by bears while the men slept. They were issued with shotguns which some used to hunt down pilfering wolves. Nonetheless, many returned each summer despite the lack of Northern pay allowance.

Briefly, the Shoran system measured the time for a radar pulse transmitted from the aircraft to reach two adjacent ground stations. Half the time for the pulse to travel from the aircraft to the station and return provided an accurate measure of the distance between stations. These readings were recorded on camera and used by Geodetic to measure the exact distance between stations to build a lattice work of accurately known positions radiating from a main navigation point that was geodetically fixed each summer. This Shoran surveying, combined with aerial photos taken from the photo equipped Lancaster, produced today's detailed topographical maps of northern Canada.

In the summers of 1949 to 1953 the area from the settled part of Canada to the 60th parallel was covered. In 1954, Northern Quebec and Labrador were covered from a detachment at Goose Bay. In 1955, these authors joined the squadron and flew from detachments at Whitehorse and Norman Wells, covering the

Yukon and NWT up to the Arctic coast including Banks and Victoria Island. As a point of interest, while attempting transits in the Yukon Mountains, we had to climb to 29 thousand feet to pick up signals from the ground stations. This was quite a feat for the old "Lanc" and also the crew, considering we had no pressurization, only old oxygen masks.

The support crews also did not have an easy time. The ground station had to be located on the highest point of land in the vicinity. In the Yukon, they had to pack the equipment up mountains. They were however, issued books of Hudson's Bay Company script, good for purchasing at the local HB post. So with this script they could hire helpers from local Indian settlements.

In 1956 we flew out of Churchill and from an ice strip at Cambridge Bay, covering eastern NWT and the lower Arctic Islands. This operation was carried out in late spring before break up so the ground stations could be supplied by ski equipped Dakotas. Also at this time we watched the USAF flying in bulldozers and other heavy equipment to build air strips for the DEW line. We also noticed the Eskimo who were still living in their winter Igloos, standing there and seeing civilization descending upon them!

The final summer of 1957 had the squadron detached to Resolute Bay and the SAC Base at Thule, Greenland to finish coverage of the northern Arctic Islands. This time Esquimos' were hired with their dog teams to move equipment for the ground stations. The dogs made short work of hauling supplies but were prone to airsickness when flying and would regurgitate half digested fish all over the aircraft! A string of clear weather helped complete this formidable task in good time.

So, after nine summers and many thousands of flying hours through some very trying weather conditions, the operation was complete and all of Canada finally had maps and charts. ☸

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## MORE SUBMARINES.

### "USS Michigan returns as a guided-missile sub"

The US Navy has completed the USD \$1 billion refit of the USS Michigan. Previously a Trident missile submarine, the Ohio-class sub has been reconfigured to launch Tomahawk cruise missiles and support special operations forces. Three other subs, the USS Ohio, the USS Florida, and the USS Georgia are all in various phases of similar refits. The most notable changes to the subs include the ability to carry up to 154 Tomahawk cruise missiles and the conversion of Trident missile tubes into airlock chambers for Special Forces soldiers to exit in scuba gear.

-- *Seattle Post-Intelligencer, 12 June 2007* ☸

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## Ex PRECISE RESPONSE

NATO soldiers convened in Canada July 9-20 on the annual joint training Exercise PRECISE RESPONSE. It covered the military capabilities required to deter and manage the use of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) weapons and devices.

"This exercise helped standardize the training we provide first responders in Canada and in other NATO countries to ensure the Alliance can effectively respond to

potential threats posed by chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive weapons," said Lt-Col Chris Corry, director of Counter Terrorism Technology Centre (CTTC) at Defence R&D Canada (DRDC) facilities in Suffield, Alberta.

Canada's role was to organize and provide the facilities for the 180 participants from Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Norway, the UK and the US along with observers from Germany, Italy and Spain to test their skills and improve multinational interoperability in a realistic CBRN environment.

"Many lessons were learned and ideas exchanged through observing how the different nations operate," said LCol Corry. "The opportunity to share experiences and expertise among the visiting nations is invaluable to reaching the overall objective, which is an improved state of preparedness to respond to CBRN incidents."

Since 2003, Canada has been organizing and hosting live agent training on behalf of NATO at DRDC Suffield. The CTTC offers large-scale training with live chemical agents and biological simulates to domestic first responders and military personnel responding to CBRN incidents.

Canada's contribution to the exercise is a result of its commitment to the CBRN defence initiatives endorsed at the 2002 Summit in Prague, Czech Republic, to enhance NATO's defence capabilities against the threat of CBRN weapons and devices.

Canada has previously supported the 'Prague Defence Initiatives' in other key areas. In 2003, it provided support and scientific advice on CBRN, which contributed to the successful implementation of the NATO Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Joint Assessment Team (NBC-JAT), Analytical Laboratory and CBRN Defence battalion.

Through a variety of operations including reconnaissance, detection, monitoring and decontamination, the CBRN Defence Battalion provides the capability to respond to and defence against the use of such weapons and devices within and beyond NATO's pursuit of transforming for the future, enhancing important partnerships, and maintaining global stability.

– By Jae Malana in THE MAPLE LEAF, August 8, 2007 ☸

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### "Canada Details Frigate Upgrade Program"

Further details concerning the CAD \$3.1 billion refit of Canada's twelve *Halifax*-class destroyers have been released. The *Halifax*-Class Modernization (HCM)/Frigate Life Extension (FELEX) program includes a new command-and-control system, new radar suites, and missile upgrades. The refits are scheduled to begin in 2010, and are projected to be complete by 2017.

– *Defense-aerospace, 12 July 2007* ☸

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## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

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### **Wednesday 12 SEPTEMBER MEETING**

- ⇒ **SPEAKER: In Lieu: EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**
- ⇒ **TOPIC: Disbanding Federation of Military and United Services Institutes of Canada (FMUSIC) and future status of our RUSI of VI.**
- ⇒ **Discussion and vote on acceptance of revised RUSI VI constitution.**
- ⇒ **PLACE: The Canadian Scottish Officers' Mess, Room 314, Bay Street Armoury**
- ⇒ **TIME: 1130 FOR 1200 Hrs Luncheon**
- ⇒ **COST: \$18.00 (pay at the door)**

### **Wednesday 10 OCTOBER MEETING**

- ⇒ **SPEAKER: Surgeon Lieutenant-Commander Peter Clifford, recently returned from Afghanistan.**
- ⇒ **TOPIC: Military Doctor in Afghanistan.**
- ⇒ **PLACE: The Canadian Scottish Officers' Mess, Room 314, Bay Street Armoury**
- ⇒ **TIME: 1130 FOR 1200 Hrs Luncheon**
- ⇒ **COST: \$18.00 (pay at the door)**

### **Wednesday 14 NOVEMBER MEETING**

- ⇒ **SPEAKER: Dr. Kalam Shahed, Senior Analyst Research, Public Safety Canada**
- ⇒ **TOPIC: Perspectives on Southwest Asia**
- ⇒ **PLACE: The Canadian Scottish Officers' Mess, Room 314, Bay Street Armoury**
- ⇒ **TIME: 1130 FOR 1200 Hrs Luncheon**
- ⇒ **COST: \$18.00 (pay at the door)**

Dr Kalam Shahed is a PhD from Queen's University in political science with a dissertation on "Regional and Ethno-National Movements in Southwest Asia." He returned to Bangladesh serving in the Bangladesh Army including regional command, appointments in the National Defence College and as Military Secretary, voluntarily retiring in 1991 as a Brigadier General. He has extensive experience in Third World counter-insurgency and has taught security and strategic policy at Dhaka, Carleton and Queen's Universities and is a leading international authority in these areas.

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**CIIA Invitation:** "On Wednesday, 26 September, **David Mulrone**y, Associate DM Foreign Affairs now with special responsibility for coordination of multi-department activities in Afghanistan, will be speaking at the Union Club at 1200 under the auspices of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs. Members of RUSI VI are welcome to attend, subject to space availability, by reservation on a first come/first-served basis. The cost is \$25 per person. Reservations may be made by contacting Boudewyn van Oort at 250-479-9985 or [nancybou@telus.net](mailto:nancybou@telus.net).

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## **Dr. Anne Irwin in Afghanistan**

The June 6 guest speaker at our RUSI VI luncheon was Dr. Anne Irwin from the University of Calgary. She chairs Civil-Military Relations at their Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute. She came on short notice when the original speaker, Dr. Kalam Shahed, a senior analyst with Public Safety Canada was sent abroad on duty. (He is re-scheduled to speak to us on 14 Nov. (see calendar).

A social anthropologist, Dr. Irwin has researched and studied the infantry battalion as a social group. She spoke about her research while with First Bn PPCLI in Afghanistan last year from May until August when she returned home with the battalion. Throughout its operations, she remained embedded with 8 Platoon, Charlie Company, mostly with platoon headquarters. She spoke about her research on how their experiences in combat differed from the interactions observed previously in Edmonton. ☸

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