



Founded 1927

Newsletter of the Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island

RUSI

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See the RUSI Calendar of Events on page 8.

HMCS Fredericton renders assistance to container ship off the Somali coast

At 1:13 p.m. local time (5:13 a.m. EST), HMCS *Fredericton* received information that the ransom for the MV KOTA WAJAR had been paid to the pirates onboard the ship and that it would be soon released from captivity. HMCS *Fredericton*, as the closest NATO or Coalition warship to the MV, was ordered to close the vessels position and render what medical and technical assistance she could to help the crew commence their journey away from their captors.

“It was very fortunate that we were in close proximity to the KOTA WAJAR and able to act as fast as we could to provide them assistance as they cleared Somali waters” said Commander Steve Waddell, Commanding Officer of HMCS *Fredericton*. “As my team prepared for the mission, it helped to understand the plight that this crew just endured and that we could offer just a little bit of humanity to them”.

Once the Motor Vessel’s Captain requested assistance, *Fredericton*’s Naval Boarding Party assembled their experts, including a medical

specialist, and headed towards the vessel. “We didn’t know what to expect, whether there were remaining pirates onboard, what condition the crew was or how we would be perceived” indicated the Naval Boarding Party Officer. But we are trained for these scenarios and take every precaution to ensure the team’s and the Motor Vessel’s crew’s safety.”

Once onboard, the Naval Boarding Party conducted a security sweep and verified that all the pirates had left. The medical specialist then assessed all 21 crew members onboard and declared them in good health. With the vessel physically and technically able to sail to a safe port of call, the Naval Boarding Party provided the crew with fresh food and bottled water and departed the vessel.

Said Cmdr Waddell “If anyone ever needed a reason to understand why *Fredericton* is here, it was made clear today with this vessel - no law abiding sailor should ever have to endure what these men have endured.”

Source: CF News Release - December

Senator Pamela Wallin is newest Air Force Honorary Colonel

Senator Pamela Wallin, now Honorary Colonel Wallin, entered Ottawa's RCAF officer's mess November 16 for her investiture with a pride that was palpable.

"I feel a very strong connection to [Air Force] blue today, and a particular pride," HCol Wallin said, referring to the seven members of her immediate family who have served in the Air Force over the years. Those family members include her father, Sergeant (Ret) Bill Wallin, who served as a Second World War tail gunner and who attended his daughter's investiture.

Fresh from her recent visit to Afghanistan for Remembrance Day with Defence Minister Peter MacKay, HCol Wallin praised members of the Air Force for the work they are doing in the war-torn country and the hope they are bringing to the people of Afghanistan.

"We travelled to Kandahar and four forward operating bases, up to the Dahla Dam," she said, "and we did it all in Canadian Chinooks piloted by Canadian crews with air cover by Canadians in the Griffons.

"And walking out onto the airfield on our last morning at KAF [Kandahar Airfield], it did my heart good. It was a moment of great pride that we are now seeing our troops properly equipped and able to do their work. You are saving lives."

In his remarks after her investiture, Chief of the Air Staff Lieutenant-General André Deschamps thanked HCol Wallin for accepting the invitation

to become the first Air Force honorary colonel and explained why she was perfectly suited to the position. "Your military family background," he said, "your intimate understanding of the military and of Canadian culture and public issues, your business acumen, your diplomatic work, your contribution to the Manley Report, your service in the Senate and on various committees, and, of course, your tireless work in educating Canadians about their military, all make you a most welcome addition to the honorary colonel extended family."

The investiture ceremony was the formalization of her three-year term as honorary colonel for the Air Staff, located at NDHQ. By extension, she is also honorary colonel of the entire Air Force. Hers is the first appointment to this new post.

Source: The Maple Leaf – 9 December 2009 - by Holly Bridges

RCMP Commissioner's Statement on the death of Ottawa Police Service Constable Eric

It was with profound sadness that I learned that Ottawa Police Constable Ireneusz 'Eric' Czapnik was killed while on duty in Ottawa early this morning.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the RCMP, I would like to express our deepest condolences to Constable Ireneusz 'Eric' Czapnik's family and to all of the employees of the Ottawa Police Service.

I was also shocked to learn that the individual who has been arrested and charged with Constable Ireneusz 'Eric' Czapnik's murder is a member of the RCMP, Constable Kevin Gregson of "F" Division (Saskatchewan) who was suspended

in 2006 with pay and recently suspended without pay. He has been ordered to resign from the Force or be dismissed. His dismissal has been appealed.

I have spoken to Ottawa Police Chief Vern White to offer our sympathy and support. We will continue to keep Constable Ireneusz 'Eric' Czapnik and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

William J.S. Elliott

Source: RCMP News Release – 29 December 2009

Afghan MPs reject Most Karzi Cabinet Ministers

Parliament rejected 17 of President Karzai's 24 nominees for cabinet including those for Justice, Anti-Narcotics, and the sole woman nominee, though Defence Minister Abdul Rahim Wardak and Interior Minister Hanif Atmar were reappointed without difficulty. Karzai ordered Parliament's six-week winter recess to be suspended until the cabinet issue is resolved, and will present a new list of candidates for vetting in a few

Although Parliament's rejection of Karzai's nominees demonstrated the former's independence, the matter is shaping up to become a power struggle between Karzai and parliamentarians, delaying much-needed reforms to address widespread corruption days. Although Parliament's rejection of Karzai's nominees demonstrated the former's independence, the matter is shaping up to become a power struggle between Karzai and parliamentarians, delaying much-needed reforms to address widespread corruption.

*Source: MARPAC's Indo-Pacific Media Brief: 4 January 2010
BBC News, 2 January 2010 & Washington Post, 4 January 2010*

Army Commander rolls out new Army ethics guide

Chief of the Land Staff Lieutenant-General Andrew Leslie launched *Duty with Discernment: CLS Guidance on Ethics in Operations* in late November.

The booklet provides guidance on the ethical conduct that the Army commander expects from all Army personnel in the new global operating environment. *Duty with Discernment* establishes that the foundation of “ethical certainty” rests on an uncompromising adherence to “respecting the dignity of all persons”.

“*Duty with Discernment* ... provides a clear statement that we aspire to earn and maintain the public trust of a Canadian society that will never accept a Canadian soldier acting on their behalf in an unethical or inhumane manner,” LGen Leslie said in a message to all soldiers. “By that, I mean that we must know, without a doubt, what ethical warriors will do in the service of Canada, and what ... they unequivocally will not do.”

LGen Leslie emphasized that the Army is a learning organization. Current operations have taught the Army that “our people—both at home and abroad—are our most valuable resource.” In addition, he indicated that the Canadian Army command personnel and the leadership and training personnel are committed to the force-generation of an ethical warrior.

These warriors are empowered to know what right looks like. They must also have the moral courage to act ethically and legally when

faced with breaches of the CF Code of Conduct, the Law of Armed Conflict or international and humanitarian law.

During the Army Council meeting in November, the Army commander presented a copy of the booklet to the commanders of Land Force Western Area, Land Force Central Area, Land Force Atlantic Area and Land Force Doctrine and Training System.

In giving the commanders their copies, LGen Leslie initiated the “cascade effect” through an Army-wide “pass-by-hand” distribution of personal copies of *Duty with Discernment*. OP CASCADE 2009 will ensure that about 300 units and their associated commanding officers will receive their copies over a period of 60 days.

“*Duty with Discernment* will ultimately succeed,” LGen Leslie said, “when all Canadian soldiers adopt a warrior’s ethos that reflects our obligations of service, our values and our commitment to the expectations of Canadian society.”

Duty with Discernment is part of the Army Ethics Programme, which applies to all Regular Force and Primary Reserve personnel, and civilian employees. The booklet raises awareness of their ethical obligation to demonstrate integrity, loyalty, courage, honesty, fairness and individual responsibility.

For more information concerning the Army Ethics Programme, please visit

www.aep-peat.forces.gc.ca.

To watch LGen Leslie’s video message, please visit

www.army.gc.ca.

Source: The Maple Leaf – 9 December 2009

Naval Centennial Flag Raised

On the first of January 2010, HMC ships and shore establishments marked the beginning of the Canadian Navy’s centennial year by raising a flag adorned with the centennial identifier. Naval establishments are authorized to fly the flag from January 1 through the Navy’s Centennial Year.

The flag stands as a symbol of respect that reflects the desire to honour the past, celebrate Canadian Navy achievements and recognize the navy’s obligation to Canada.

On 4 May 2010, the Canadian Navy will celebrate its 100th anniversary. The centennial will be a momentous milestone in both the navy’s and Canada’s history.

Events and activities to celebrate the navy’s centennial will take place across the country throughout the year.

Source: CF News Release - 29 December 2009



Afghanistan
(With apologies To Kipling)
by an anonymous British soldier

CC 130 Hercules
vs
CF 18 Hornet

When you're lying alone in your Afghani bivvy,
And your life it depends on some MOD civvie
When the body armour's shared (one set between three),
And the firefight's not like it is on TV,
Then you'll look to your oppo, your gun and your God,
As you follow that path all Tommies have trod.

When the gimpy has jammed and you're down to one round,
And the faith that you'd lost is suddenly found.
When the Taliban horde is close up to the fort,
And you pray that the arty don't drop a round short.
Stick to your sergeant like a good squaddie should,
And fight them like Satan or one of his brood

Your pay it won't cover your needs or your wants,
So just stand there and take all the Taliban's taunts
Not generals nor civvies can do aught to amend it,
Except make sure you're kept in a place you can't spend it.
Three fifty an hour in your Afghani cage,
Not nearly as much as the minimum wage.

Your missus at home in a foul married quarter
With damp on the walls and a roof leaking water
Your kids miss their mate, their hero, their dad;
They're missing the childhood that they should have had
One day it will be different, one day by and by,
As you all stand there and watch, to see the pigs fly

Just like your forebears in mud, dust and ditch
You'll march and you'll fight, and you'll drink and you'll
bitch
Whether Froggy or Zulu, or Jerry, or Boer
The Brits will fight on 'til the battle is over.
You may treat him like dirt, but nowt will unnerve him
But I wonder sometimes, if the country deserves him

A Herc was lumbering
along when a Hornet
flashed by. The jet jockey
decided to show off.

The fighter jock told the
Herc driver, 'watch this!'
and promptly went into a
barrel roll followed by a
steep climb. He then fin-
ished with a sonic boom as
he broke the sound barrier.
The Hornet pilot asked the
Herc pilot what he thought
of the maneuver.

The Herc pilot said, 'That
was impressive, but watch
this!' The Herc droned
along for about 5 minutes
and then its pilot radioed:
'What did you think of
that?'

Puzzled, the Hornet pilot
asked, 'What the heck did
you do?'

The Herc pilot chuckled. 'I
stood up, stretched my legs,
walked to the back, took a
leak, then got a cup of cof-
fee and a cinnamon roll.'

RUSI VI – 2010 Membership Dues

This is a reminder that annual dues - \$ 30.00 for an individual and \$ 40.00 for a family – can be paid at the monthly luncheon or sent to the RUSI Office (address on Page 1). If you are unsure when you last paid, please ask your telephone caller or enquire at the luncheon.

Upon payment, new membership cards can be picked up at the next luncheon or, if not convenient, will be mailed to you.

Members are reminded that changes of address, e-mails or telephone numbers can be communicated to any RUSI Director.

2009 MILITARY ORAL HISTORY COURSE

At the 14 October luncheon, RUSI members welcomed Dr. Jim Wood, a new member to RUSI and the new teacher of this year's Military Oral History course at the University of Victoria.

Also attending were the students enrolled in this year's course: Jon Blencoe, Caroline Duncan, Andrew Pye, Tyson Rosberg, Liz Williams and Jehan Zouak. Ryan Hill was unable to attend.

Thanks are extended to our four Service Coordinators for their assistance on this project: -Wilf Lund (Navy); Charles Goodman and Barry Phillips (Army); and Lorne Holland (Air).

The veterans who have kindly volunteered to be interviewed on their personal experiences in the students' selected subject areas include Fred Ashbaugh; Nigel Brodeur; John Edmondson; Albert Fowler; Chic Goodman; William Hughes; Jim Kempling; Don Lee; Derek Norman; Barry Phillips; Herb Pitts; Alex Reid; Fred Sproule; Wilf Sutherland; Terry Swan; Bob Welland; Billy Willbond; George Wilkinson; and Bob Yanow.

Valour and Bravery Decorations Since October 2009

Star of Military Valour
WO David George Shultz

Medal of Military Bravery
MCpl Michael CJ Bursey
Sgt Martin Joseph Jean Côté
WO John Crane
Cpl Mark Ejdrygiewicz
Sgt Russell JR Gregoire
Sgt Jason William Kapitaniuk
Cpl Jordan K Kochan
MCpl Paul Raychynski
Cpl Anthony Rotondi
WO Dale Milton Verge

Five Feet Tall is Very Tall Indeed

At an investiture at Buckingham Palace in November 2009, Able Seaman Kate Nesbitt 21, became the first woman in the Royal Navy to receive the Military Cross. While under fire from Taliban forces, Nesbitt administered emergency medical treatment which saved the life of Lance Corporal John List, a 22-year-old soldier of 1st Battalion, The Rifles.



New US Air Traveler Screen- ing Focuses on 14

The Transportation Security Administration has announced new screening procedures following critiques that intelligence officials failed to prevent the botched Christmas Day terrorist attack on a Detroit-bound Northwest Airlines plane by a Nigerian man that US officials believe was trained in Yemen by al-Qaeda; fellow passengers subdued him after he attempted to blow up the plane.

In addition to random security searches on inbound flights, air travelers coming from or passing through 14 nations will undergo full-body pat-downs before boarding, have carry-on baggage searched, and possibly undergo advanced explosive detection and imaging scans. The nations included are Afghanistan, Algeria, Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen, nearly all of which are Muslim countries.

Although the full impact of the new measures cannot be assessed until more time has passed, it is very probable that at the very least widespread time delays will be incurred, and resentment against the US will likely grow in these countries.

Source: MARPAC's Indo-Pacific Media Brief – 4 January 2010, Reuters Canada - 3 January 2010

Dr. Trevor Greene

Captain (Ret) Trevor Greene of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada was awarded the degree Doctor of Civil Law (Honoris Causa) by his Alma Mater, The University of King's College in Nova Scotia. Capt. Greene followed his education at the University of King's College with several years as a journalist and advocate for the homeless, and later joined the Canadian military. In March 2004, during a community meeting with villagers in Kandahar, Afghanistan, a young man struck Capt. Greene from behind with an axe to the head. Since the attack, he has pushed through a tough recovery, but in the face of his own difficulties, the soldier has sought to reach out to others and share his very personal message of hope.

The same core values that lead him to working with such volunteer initiatives as Ethiopia Airlift in his early adulthood, to providing a voice to the unheard with his book on the missing prostitutes of Vancouver and another on homelessness in Japan, and to becoming a CIMIC officer, are now leading him to inspire others with his story of courage and strength. Through filmmaker Sue Ridout's documentary *Peace Warrior*, his own forthcoming book on his journey during and after the tragic events in Kandahar, and a sheer willingness to tell his story, Capt. Greene has continued to make an impact on those in need, providing a real taste of hope.

The Last Post Afghanistan

-Pte Garrett William Chidley, 21, of Cambridge ON, 31 December 2009

-Ms Michelle Lang, 34, of Calgary AB, 31 December 2009*

-Sgt George Miok, 28, of Edmonton AB, 31 December 2009

-Cpl Zachery McCormack, 21, of Edmonton AB, 31 December 2009

-Lt Andrew Richard Nuttall, 30, of Victoria BC, 23 December 2009.

-Sgt Kirk Taylor, 28, of Yarmouth NS, 31 December 2009

*Ms Lang was the first Canadian Journalist to die with the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan and her remains began their repatriation journey with those of her military colleagues in a Kandahar Ramp Ceremony.

The Last Post

Adm (Ret) Robert Falls, 6 November 2009.

Adm Falls was the first navy officer to hold the position of Chief of the Defence Staff. He was 85.

The President's Notes

A few years ago RUSI VI, as an organization, was at death's door. Energetic members saved the day and RUSI VI was resuscitated and today we are on firm ground.

Presently our membership hovers around 175 and the facilities we now use at the Armories could support a membership of 200. We have tried various methods to grow our membership, all without noticeable success. Each month I have the privilege of introducing new members but what I fail to do is also announce a similar number of members who have, for various reasons, chosen to withdraw from RUSI VI.

I believe RUSI VI, for the time being, has reached a steady state but membership will, I fear, eventually start to steadily decline.

The proposed change to the RUSI VI Constitution is one that will allow us to slowly grow our membership by taking what is now an organization with a membership based primarily on military officers and to offer it to others who share our interest in the aim and purpose of RUSI VI.

There are two primary advantages to this prospective change:

- 1) Since Ordinary and Associate Members have the same rights and privileges, maintaining two categories of membership has become an administrative task without purpose.
- 2) A single category of membership would allow RUSI VI to offer an Ordinary Membership to professionals and executives who have an interest in the military and the aims of RUSI and are approved by your Board of Directors.

The question remains:

Do we want RUSI VI to become an organization that continues to grow with a membership based on officers and others who share a common interest in national security and the Canadian Forces?

Or:

Will RUSI VI remain an organization with a membership based primarily on retired officers who each year grow a little older, become a little slower and eventually won't be capable of providing the heart-beat that RUSI VI needs to remain viable and, like other such organizations, eventually become a footnote in the history of Vancouver Island?

Only the membership can answer these questions. Please be present when these questions are placed before the membership at the RUSI VI Annual General Meeting in March 2010.

Gene Lake
President RUSI VI

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday, 13 January 2010

- ⇒ **SPEAKER:** BGen David Millar, OMM, CD, Commander, Joint Task Force North
- ⇒ **TOPIC:** 'Canada's Interests in the North'
- ⇒ **PLACE:** 5th (BC) Field Regt RCA Officers' Mess, Room 312, Bay Street Armoury
- ⇒ **TIME:** 1130 FOR 1200 Hrs Luncheon
- ⇒ **COST:** \$20.00 (pay at the door)
- ⇒ BGen David Millar served in a series of Aircraft Engineering positions with tactical fighter squadrons and in staff positions at 1 Canadian Air Division HQ. BGen Millar was promoted to Colonel in January 2003. In December 2005, BGen Millar was posted to the Strategic Joint Staff in NDHQ, Ottawa as the Director of Support Operations. BGen Millar was promoted on 6 Jun 2008 to his current rank to assume command of Joint Task Force (North).

Wednesday, 27 January 2010 – Special Luncheon at Union Club

- ⇒ **SPEAKER:** Col Greg Burt, OMM, CD
- ⇒ **TOPIC:** Securing Afghanistan – Canada's Exit Strategy
- ⇒ \$25 for RUSI and UC Members, \$29 for non-member guests
- ⇒ **TIME:** 1115 hrs for 1145 hrs
- ⇒ **Reservations required:** 250 384 1151 or reservations@unionclub.com

Wednesday, 10 February 2010

- ⇒ **SPEAKER:** RAdm (Ret) Ken Summers, OMM, MSC, CD
- ⇒ **TOPIC:** Reflections on Afghanistan
- ⇒ **PLACE:** 5th (BC) Field Regt RCA Officers' Mess, Room 312, Bay Street Armoury
- ⇒ **TIME:** 1130 FOR 1200 Hrs Luncheon
- ⇒ **COST:** \$20.00 (pay at the door)

Wednesday, 10 March 2010

- ⇒ RUSI VI Annual General Meeting
- ⇒ Speaker to be announced

2010 Heads-up!

Don Macnamara advises that LGen Marcel Duval, NORAD's Deputy Commander and BGen John Vance, commander of the Canadian mission in Afghanistan will likely speak with us in 2010 – but that we may have to arrange special dates for them.