

Honorary Patron of EUSI – Her Honor, Lois Mitchell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

MAY 2019

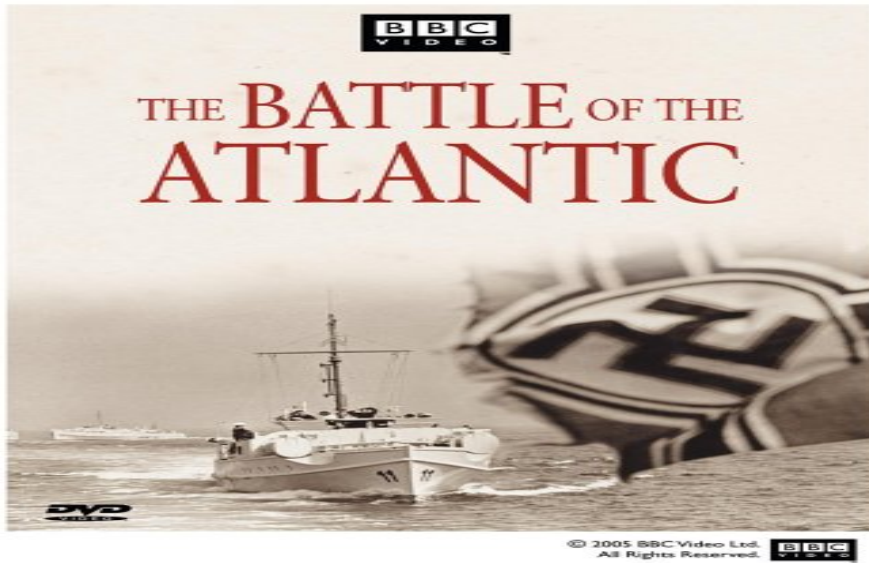
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President's Comment

On behalf of EUSI and Edmonton Salutes Committee, between 23-25 April, I visited the Crews of HMCS Edmonton in Esquimalt to maintain connections with our namesake Kingston class minesweeper. Among the entourage were Her Honour, Lois Mitchell, the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, and members of the Edmonton Salutes Committee. In addition to observing a simulated air and naval rescue and surveillance operation, HMCS Edmonton also conducted some combat maneuvers. HMCS Edmonton was part of an operation off the coast of South America last winter that captured almost a billion dollars in illegal drug seizures. Most of the crew manning the ship are naval reservists.



Battle of the Atlantic will be celebrated on May 5, 2019



Each year on the first Sunday in May, Canada and its naval community commemorate those lost at sea during the Battle of the Atlantic, the longest, largest, and arguably the most complex campaign of the Second World War. The national ceremony was held at Parliament Hill and included members of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) and Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF), alongside members of the Merchant Navy. Ceremonies were held across Canada including Halifax, Esquimalt, and the 24 Naval Reserve Divisions to remember and commemorate these gallant sailors and airmen.

The Battle of the Atlantic was the fight for supremacy in the North Atlantic and lasted 2,075 days. It pitted Allied naval and air forces against German and Italian submarines, ships and aircraft whose primary targets were the convoys of merchant ships carrying vital life-sustaining cargo from North America to Europe. Much of the burden of fighting the Battle of the Atlantic fell to the RCN which, at the outbreak of the war, was comprised of only six destroyers and a handful of smaller vessels. By the end of the war, Canada's navy had grown to become the fourth largest navy in the world. During the Battle of the Atlantic, the RCN and RCAF, alone or in consort with other ships or aircraft, sank 73 U-Boats and enemy surface craft. In turn, it suffered 2,210 fatalities, including six women, and lost 33 vessels.

The Battle of the Atlantic officially ended on Victory-Europe Day on May 8, 1945.

A Parade will take place on Sunday, May 5th, 2019 at HMCS NONSUCH in Kingsway, Edmonton at 1030 hrs. Invitation is extended to members and family of EUSI.

Invitation, Sir Winston Churchill Society of Edmonton Banquet May 25, 2019, Faculty Club

The Sir Winston Spencer Churchill Society is pleased to announce that our 55th annual Memorial Banquet will take place May 25, 2019 at the University of Alberta Faculty Club. The much-anticipated guest speaker this year will be Professor Andrew Roberts. Tickets can be purchased at: <https://www.churchillsocietyofedmonton.com>

Prof. Roberts is an accomplished writer, speaker and broadcaster, based in London, England. He has spent nearly thirty years researching, writing and broadcasting extensively about both Churchill and the Second World War. He has written or edited 19 books. His newly published biography of Winston Churchill has been very well received. The New York Times has called *Churchill, Walking with Destiny* “the best single volume biography of Churchill ever written”.

He has spoken at Oxford, Cambridge, Sandhurst, Princeton, and other major universities. He delivered the White House Lecture in 2007. Roberts has appeared on television and radio with British, U.S. and Canadian networks. From the late 1990s on he has been a commentator in broadcast coverage of British royal weddings, funerals, and jubilees. He reviews history books and biographies for The Sunday Telegraph, the Spectator, Literary Review, the Atlantic, Wall Street Journal, and the Economist.

Roberts serves as director or officer in several public policy groups and advisory councils. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, and a Trustee of the Margaret Thatcher Archive Trust.

Andrew Roberts earned a first class honours degree in Modern History at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where he is now an honorary senior scholar and a Ph.D. He is a Visiting Professor at the War Studies Department, King's College, London. He has won the Wolfson Prize for History, is the Lehrman Institute Distinguished Lecturer at the New-York Historical Society, and the Roger and Martha Mertz Visiting Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.

Andrew Roberts' website was the source of information for this article. A more complete introduction can be found there, at: www.andrew-roberts.net

Veteran's Service Card

Veterans released between February 2016 and September 2018 can now request their Veteran's Service Card, with the downloadable, mail-in application form available below. The form lists the information you will need to provide for verification of previous military service.

Here's the link to the site:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/benefits-military/transition/service-card.html>



Two Sides of War

"All wars are planned by older men
In council rooms apart,
Who call for greater armament
And map the battle chart.

But out along the shattered field
Where golden dreams turn gray,
How very young the faces were
Where all the dead men lay.

Portly and solemn in their pride,
The elders cast their vote
For this or that, or something else,
That sounds the martial note.

But where their sightless eyes stare out
Beyond life's vanished toys,
I've noticed nearly all the dead
Were hardly more than boys."



Canadian Uniforms



A Bit of History of Unsung Heroes – The Polish Lady Plumber

During WWII, Irena, got permission to work in the Warsaw ghetto, as a Plumbing/Sewer specialist. She had an ulterior motive. Irena smuggled Jewish infants out in the bottom of the tool box she carried. She also carried a burlap sack in the back of her truck, for larger kids. Irena kept a dog in the back that she trained to bark when the Nazi soldiers let her in and out of the ghetto. The soldiers, of course, wanted nothing to do with the dog and the barking covered the kids/infants noises.

During her time of doing this, she managed to smuggle out and save 2500 kids/infants. Ultimately, she was caught, however, and the Nazis broke both of her legs and arms and beat her severely. Irena kept a record of the names of all the kids she had smuggled out in a glass jar that she buried under a tree in her back yard. After the war, she tried to locate any parents that may have survived and tried to reunite the family. Most had been gassed. Those kids she helped got placed into foster family homes or adopted.

In 2007 Irena was up for the Nobel Peace Prize.

She was not selected. Al Gore won, for a slide show on Global Warming. Later another politician, Barack Obama, won for SIMPLY BEING THE FIRST BLACK PRESIDENT.

Irena Sender

Died: May 12, 2008 (aged 98) Warsaw, Poland



Get trained!



CANADIAN MILITARY READING

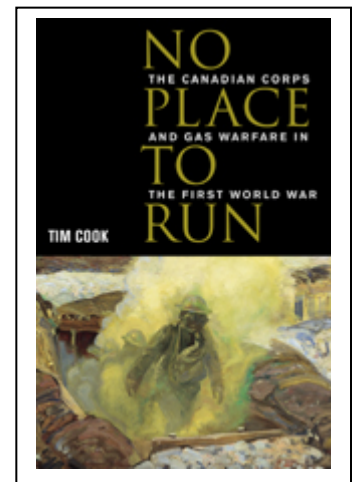
No Place to Run

- The Canadian Corps and Gas Warfare in the First World War

Tim Cook

Historians of the First World War have often dismissed the important role of poison gas in the battles of the Western Front. In *No Place to Run*, however, Tim Cook shows that the serious threat of gas did not disappear

with the introduction of gas masks. By 1918, gas shells were used by all armies to deluge the battlefield, and those not instructed with a sound anti-gas doctrine left themselves exposed to this new chemical plague.





CANADIAN GEAR

C3A1 SNIPER RIFLE - 7.62 MM



The C3A1 sniper rifle provides Canadian Army snipers with a weapon that can deliver highly accurate fire against point targets at ranges up to 800 meters during the day and 300 meters at night. It is rugged and performs well under extreme climactic conditions. The C3A1 is a bolt action, single shot, shoulder controlled, magazine fed weapon.

The rifle incorporates a Mauser Type 85 action. It is a very strong, reliable action with a rotating extractor. The C3A1 also comes equipped with a free-floating barrel. The synthetic stock is a near straight-line design and incorporates a built in pistol grip, forestock and cheek piece. The butt can be adjusted from 300mm to 348mm by the insertion of butt increments. These butt increments, commonly referred to as "shims", are available as 12mm or 7mm spacers.

The stock of the C3A1 is fitted with a steel-mounting bracket to mount the moulded nylon handstop. The handstop position on the stock is adjustable. The handstop incorporates a steel bipod spigot to facilitate the mounting of an all-steel, adjustable bipod.



What's Out There?

AK-74M (Russia)

The latest variation of the AK-74 family was introduced circa 1991 and replaced in production both AK-74 and AKS-74. It was the AK-74M rifle, which is still in production and currently is a standard issue rifle of the Russian army.

The AK-74M externally differs from the AK-74 of late 1980s production by having the side-folding, solid black plastic buttstock and the scope rail, mounted on the left receiver as a standard. Some minor improvements also were made in the production process and external finish of the new rifle. AK-74M retained almost all advantages and disadvantages of the earlier Kalashnikov designs,



including reliability, simplicity of operations and maintenance, and less than ideal "human engineering" and ergonomics. At the present time the AK-74M, along with earlier AK-74/AKS-74 is the standard shoulder arm of the Russian Army



Securitas

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IT IS TOO LATE TO SHARPEN SWORDS, WHEN THE DRUMS OF WAR ARE BEATING