

The Torch

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MUSÉE CANADIEN
DE LA GUERRE
CANADIAN
WAR MUSEUM

Friends of The Canadian War Museum
Les amis du Musée canadien de la guerre



The M1917 Six-Ton Tank by Ed Storey

The Renault FT, frequently referred to in post-Great War literature as the "FT-17" or "FT17" was a French light tank; and is regarded as being among the most revolutionary and influential tank designs in history. The FT17 was the first operational tank with an armament in a fully rotating turret, and its configuration with the turret on top, engine in the back and the driver in front became the conventional one, repeated in most tanks until today.

Designed in 1916 by the famous car producer Louis Renault, the project was not well received by the French Army but Renault was able to proceed with the design. The prototype was refined during 1917 and by the end of the year only 84 had been produced with a total of 2,697 being delivered before the November 1918 Armistice. In French service the FT17 could be armed with either a 7.92mm Hotchkiss machine gun or a 37mm Puteaux SA 18 Gun.

The M1917 Six Ton Tank was America's first important mass produced tank. The M1917 was a license built copy of the French Renault FT17, and was accepted by the army in October 1918. The US Army ordered approximately 4,440 Six Ton M1917 Tanks between 1918 and 1919, receiving about 950 tanks before cancelling the contract. Although 64 had been built prior to the end of the war, no US manufactured tank reached Europe in time to participate in The Great War.

The FT17 was manufactured under licence by several nations such as Japan and Italy and Russia. This vehicle saw combat service during the Second World War and examples are occasionally still being discovered in foreign locations such as Afghanistan in 2005.

In the early stages of the Second World War, the Canadian Armoured Corps lacked sufficient tanks of any type in which to train. During the period between the Great War and the Second World War, the Canadian Army had employed a small number of British manufactured light tanks in which to train and become familiar with armoured vehicles. In order to supplement the tanks already in use and to provide an armoured vehicle in which to train the newly formed armoured regiments, General Worthington purchased 236 M1917 tanks from the United States which were shipped to Camp Borden, Ontario in September 1940. (Continued on p.3)



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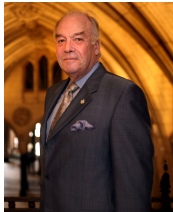
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*Ce Bulletin est aussi disponible en-
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President's Message Douglas Rowland



On your behalf, I wish to extend a word of welcome to the newly-elected members of our Board as well as to those who have demonstrated their willingness to undertake a further term in office.

I am pleased to note that this is the second recent edition of *The Torch* to be made available in both French and English and to state that it is the Board's firm intention to make this standard practice into the future. Our next step is to remedy the inadequacy of the French presence on our website which will undergo extensive revisions in form and content as well as language in the coming year.

At 10:00 am on August 13th, the restored 1917 Tank will be presented to the public. This is the second major project undertaken by the Friends to reach fruition this year.

Your Board of Directors has committed the Friends to several other noteworthy projects. Assistance will be given to the Museum to mount travelling exhibits which will offer opportunities for Canadians outside the National Capital Region to view elements of the Museum's collection. The Friends will participate in the Museum's efforts to properly mark Canada's participation in the United Nations in-

tervention in Korea. We will fund the conservation, cataloguing and creation of a finding aid for the Barney Danson Collection and we will provide funding assistance to the digitizing of the War Museum's archival collection of oral history audio tapes. At the same time we will continue such ongoing endeavours as the adopt-a-book program and the history award program for high school students..

With the 100th Anniversary of the First World War coming up, the marking of the 200th Anniversary of the 1812-14 War well underway, the 150th Anniversary of Confederation just around the corner and, as already mentioned, commemoration of Canada's efforts in Korea being undertaken, the next months will make heavy demands on the Friends' time and resources. By the same token, it is an unparalleled opportunity to contribute to Canadians' understanding of this country's history. We are limited only by our ability to commit funding and volunteer time.

Finally, be sure to see the Museum's Exhibit on the War of 1812-14 here in Ottawa or when it travels to a place near you in one of its forms. It is brilliantly conceived and masterfully executed. A triumph!

The M1917 Six-Ton Tank (Continued from p.1)

At the time, the United States was still a neutral nation and the US M1917 tanks were purchased by the Canadian government as scrap, at \$20 a ton plus a 100% mark-up which resulted in each tank being sold for \$240 (\$3,800 in 2012 dollars).

For nearly two years the M1917 proved to be a useful training vehicle. They were known to break down often, catch fire, and gave a bone jarring ride due to the lack of a suspension, but the soldiers learned maintenance and endurance. Since there was no onboard radio, the soldiers

learned hand and flag signals and became proficient dealing with poor communications while still maintaining and executing formations.

An M1917 Tank has been restored with funding provided by the Friends of the Canadian War Museum and represents a vehicle at Camp Borden in 1941. The M1917 Six Ton Tank is an important piece of Canadian history as it is this vehicle that formed the basis of the modern Canadian Armoured Corps. It is this Corps that served throughout the Second World War, the Korean War, numerous UN mis-

sions and well as recent NATO combat operations in Afghanistan.

Completion of the CWM M1917 tank restoration was officially recognised on 13 August 2012.



2012 Annual General Meeting by Megan Seto

On 6 June, the Friends held their 25th Annual General Meeting at the War Museum. The meeting ushered in a new and exciting period of transition and renewal.

Newly elected President, Douglas Rowland, emphasized the recent changes to the Board of Directors, including the gradual replacement of vacant Director positions and key roles. The President thanked members for their patience during this transition period. Special thanks were extended to David Parr for his assistance to the new Treasurer.

At the AGM, we voted 5 new Directors onto the Board. Acting Treasurer, Muge Lynch, and Acting Secretary, Megan Seto, were officially elected to their positions. The Friends are also pleased to announce the election of Terry Christopher, Linda Colwell and Walt Conrad.

The by-laws were amended to allow vacancies to be filled by election at the Board of Directors. The President assured members that this change will not affect the importance of electing Directors at the AGM.

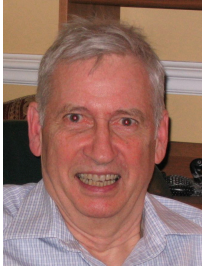
Don Allen was awarded with the "Volunteer of the Year" Award for his work as a Volunteer Interpreter. Congratulations Don!

Tony Glen, the Director of Collections at the Canadian War Museum, gave an insightful presentation on the upcoming War of 1812 exhibits at the Museum.

Jim Muckle closed the meeting on the theme of change, including an update of our website and automation of our membership renewal process.

Volunteer Profiles

Neil Johnstone was born in Boston, MA in 1937. He moved to Canada in 1946 and after several years of moving about Ontario, his family settled in Ottawa. Neil graduated from the Royal Military College in 1960, followed by a year at Queen's University where he obtained a BSc in Chemical Engineering. It was while at Queen's that he met his wife Jocelyn (Joy) Smith.



Neil served 32 years in the Canadian Army, initially in the artillery and later in the Land Ordnance Engineering Branch. Besides postings in Canada he had tours in the United States, England, Germany, Vietnam with an International Commission, and in the Middle East with the United Nations. In 1986 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. He retired from the Forces in 1988. He then served for 9 years as a civil servant with the Department of National Defence. On retirement from DND, he was for several years an independent consultant in engineering and data management.

In the Fall of 2001, Neil was approached by the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Association to see if he was interested in participating in the restoration of a 25-Pounder, a Second World War field gun. Thus began his involvement as a volunteer at the Canadian War Museum and as a member of the Friends. The restoration of the 25-Pounder was completed in time for the opening of the new War Museum in 2005. He is still an active restoration volunteer and can be found most Fridays in the War Museum's Tank Shop where he continues to help in the restoration of guns, tanks and vehicles.

In the Fall of 2005, Neil also became a volunteer in the Military History Research Centre of the CWM. He is also a volunteer at the Canada Aviation and Space Museum where he works in the library.

Neil and his wife spend their summer months at their cottage on Newboro Lake on the Rideau system. Both are active members of their church and members of the church's handbell choir. They have two sons and four grandchildren.

Literary Friends

In our continuing search to recognise Friends who have put pen to paper and been published, Brian Pascas wrote to remind us that his novel, "Mud, Blood and Rum", a portrayal of a typical Canadian Infantry Battalion's experiences in the Great War, was published in 2009. A review was included in the February 2010 edition of the Torch.

Fact Sheets/Research Papers

Please check out our library of Fact Sheets and Research papers on the FCWM Web Site under Publications. They cover a broad spectrum of topics. Comments and/or suggestions for additional topics are welcomed. They are used as background material for our volunteer interpreters and for anyone else seeking material on topics pertinent to the CWM.

Friends Helping Friends

Mr. Don Sawyer came to the Friends' office at the Canadian War Museum last spring. He was conducting research into the military service of his father, Col W. Reg Sawyer. In 1945 Col Sawyer wrote, "Report on Smoke Screen Operations carried out by the First Canadian Army in North-west Europe 1944-1945". Don wanted to obtain a copy .

Because the report was referenced in an article written in 1999 by former FCWM volunteer, Col (Ret'd) James C. Bond, MC, CD, Don turned to the Canadian War Museum and the Friends for help in contacting Col. Bond, but was saddened to learn that he

had passed away in 2007.

Don, with considerable help from his sister, now has one hundred war letters sent home in the period 1942 to 1945 from his father's postings in the CMHQ in London and the battlefields in Holland and Germany. This has inspired him to try and locate where his father was prior to, and during, the liberation of Holland and the surrender of Germany. In spite of the military censorship of the letters from the field, Don intends to use the aforementioned report, the war letters, and partial copies of the remains of a February 1945 map of Cleve (Germany) and eastern Holland as his guide.

Don is hoping that his project will culminate in a vacation in Holland focusing on Arnhem, Nijmegen and Cleve, and his dad's experiences in the region as expressed in his war letters.

FCWM Membership Committee Chair Mike Bedford introduced Don to Ms. Carol Reid, of the CWM's Military History Research Centre. To Don's delight Carol located Col Sawyer's report on the library shelves – an original with his father's signature on the cover.

Don has since become a Friend of the Canadian War Museum.

1812 at the Canadian War Museum

1812, the latest exhibition to open at the War Museum, explores the War of 1812 from the contrasting perspectives of the four main participants: Canadians (including Canadian First Peoples), Americans, the British and Native Americans.

Over 120 artifacts are on display from the Canadian War Museum and other Canadian, American and British institutions, including Library and Archives Canada, the Smithsonian, the Library of Congress, the British Museum and the Royal Armouries.

As a complement to **1812**, the Canadian War Museum is also proud to present **Faces of 1812** and **Faces of 1812** will be on display until January 6, 2013. Library and Archives Canada that highlights the human side of the War of 1812.

A companion publication for the exhibition, entitled *Four Wars of 1812*, written by distinguished Canadian War Museum Pre-Confederation historian Peter MacLeod is also available. Virtual and travelling versions of War Museum's **1812** exhibition will also bring the perspectives and history of

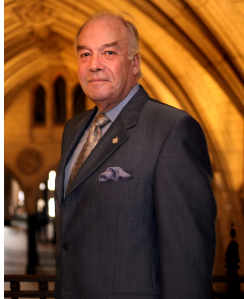
the War to Canadians.



The Battle of Queenston Heights, 13 October 1812
Print by John David Kelly, 1896
Library and Archives Canada, 1954-153-1

Douglas Rowland – From Parliament to the Presidency

Douglas Rowland became President of the FCWM when Bill Leach accepted his appointment



to the Board of the CMCC. Doug was elected to a new, full term at the recent AGM. The following is a brief biography of our new president.

Doug Rowland has extensive experience as a board member in the not-for-profit sector as well as on management committees in the government

and the private sector. He was the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians for five years and is now Immediate Past Chair and a member of the Editorial Board. He is also President Emeritus of the International Election Monitors Institute.

Doug was an NDP Member of Parliament for the constituency of Selkirk, Man. from 1970 to 1974, serving as the NDP Defence Critic.

Prior to his election, he was Chief of Staff to Manitoba provincial leader A. R. (Russ)

Paulley, and Principal Secretary to federal NDP leaders T. C. Douglas and David Lewis.

He has also been active in governance and democracy work internationally. Doug has had assignments in Morocco, Mexico, Yugoslavia and Indonesia. In January 2006, he headed a six-person international mission for the Iraqi Elections' Assessment Team, which was sent to Baghdad to analyze the December 2005 Iraqi election results.

The Torch joins in wishing Doug well in this demanding position.

The National Air Force Museum of Canada – Trenton, Ontario by Barb Neri, Museum Public Affairs Officer

It is the mission of the National Air Force Museum of Canada *“to collect, preserve and display historical artifacts and archival material that tell the complete story of Canada’s Air Force, from its founding in*



1914 until the present day.”

There are great stories in every section of the museum just waiting for you to discover them. For example, what do you think Al-

exander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone, has to do with the Air Force? Bell was one of a group which funded the building of the *Silver Dart*, the first aircraft to fly in the British Empire. Come visit our full-scale replica and learn more about this historic event.

Stop in on a Friday morning and chat with Jim, one of our volunteer tour guides. He will tell you about parachuting from a Halifax over Belgium during the Second World War, being rescued and eventually helping

with the resistance movement.

Speaking of the Halifax, the word, “Wow!” is the reaction of most visitors when they enter our Main Exhibition Hall and see the Halifax. This aircraft was recovered in 1995 by the Halifax Aircraft Association, where it had lain undisturbed in 750 feet of water in Lake Mjøsa, just north of Oslo.

The initial Restoration Team consisted mainly of Air Force veterans. Retired aircraft technicians, tool makers, metal

The National Air Force Museum of Canada – Trenton, Ontario (cont.)

specialists, machinists and woodworkers offered to help. So too did dentists, professional engineers, opticians, police officers, carpenters and even two former Halifax pilots.

Enthusiasts in Scotland, Holland and England also assisted in finding the bits and pieces necessary to rebuild this Halifax. DND organizations and aircraft factories donated vintage machines that were originally involved in the construction of this aircraft.

The Halifax Restoration Team contributed 350,000 man-hours and over ten years to restore Halifax NA337. Currently under the loving care of the “boys in the back” are an Avro Anson and a Lockheed Hudson.

Great exhibits are not just contained within the walls of the National Air Force Museum of Canada. Step outside

and into a whole different world with the Air Park, one of the largest collections of aircraft in the country.

The Air Park is home to airplanes and helicopters from various eras of aviation history – from the Hawker Hurricane from the Second World War, to the F-86 Sabre painted in RCAF Golden Hawks colours, to the CC-130 Hercules still flown by the RCAF. Soon, the Air Park will be home to a Boeing 720, flown by Pratt and Whitney Canada as a test bed for eight families of engines.

Walk the paths lined with stones from the Ad Astra program, recognizing past and current members of the Air Force family.

Not too long ago, a good friend of mine gave me one of his new business cards. On the back of the card was the

following quote:

*“When once you have tasted flight,
You will forever walk the earth
with your eyes turned skyward,
For there you have been and
there you will always long to return”*

Leonardo da Vinci

At the National Air Force Museum of Canada, we invite you not only to taste flight, but to discover the stories of flight and aviation and of the people that have been and continue to be the Royal Canadian Air Force.



Ed Storey Receives CEFCOM Commendation

On 11 June 2012, Warrant Officer Ed Storey received the Commander, Canadian Expeditionary Force Command Commendation for his work in Afghanistan on Op KEEP-SAKE.

The Commendation read in part, “Since the initiation of Op

Keepsake in 2010, Warrant Officer has contributed to the preservation of countless historical artifacts from the combat mission in Afghanistan. ... Warrant Officer Storey’s sustained efforts and advocacy have been critical to maintaining an important part of Can-

ada’s military heritage.”

The Commendation was signed by LGen S.A. Beare, Commander, CEFCOM.

Warrant Officer Storey is a member of the FCWM Board of Directors and the Chair of the Special Events Committee.

Donations: The FCWM thank all of the following who generously donated to the Friends between 1 Apr. - 30 Jun. 2012

Walker Wood Foundation	Maj. (Ret'd) Peter E. Cooke	Mr. Leslie Paul Jarrett
United Way Ottawa	Mr. and Mrs. Fred de Jong	Col. Murray C. Johnston
Col. (Ret'd) Ian D. Barnes	Ms. Honor de Pencier	Mr. Michael Koch
Mr. George F. Barry	Maj. (Ret'd) Thomas Dent	Mr. Peter Mace
Mrs. Lorna E. Bethell	Miss Nola A. Ferguson	Mr. Francis R. Matthews
Mr. Gerald R. Bowen	Mr. John Friedlander	Mr. Peter A.S. Milliken
Mr. L.A. Robert Brosseau	Mr. Edmund Gigg	Mr. Peter Perry
Lt. (N) Pamela N. Brunt	Mrs. Catherine W. Graham	Col. C.S. Read
Mr. Sean Campbell	Dr. J. L. Granatstein	Mr. Joseph A. A. Rivet
Mr. Alan S. Canavan	Mr. and Mrs. R. Frank Hare	Mr. George R. Skinner
BGen. (Ret'd) Linda J. Colwell	Capt. (N) S.E. Hopkins	Mr. William B. Watson

In-Memoriam and Special Donations (1 Apr. – 30 Jun. 2012)

Mr. Gary Boudreau in memory of Arthur Boudreau, RCNVR, 1939-45	Spitfire pilots	Maj. (Ret'd) William H. Smith in memory of Mariette Smith
Ms. Mai-Yu Chan in memory of Mariette Smith	Mrs. Alleyne M. Huggard in memory of Maj C.O. Huggard, CD (PPCLC)	Maj. Howard A. Stutt in memory of Mr. Bruno Friesen
Col. Harry Hole in memory of F/O John Mallandaing and F/O George Aitken, both RCAF	LCol. A.J.K. Rasmussen in memory of Mrs. Mariette Smith	Maj. Howard A. Stutt in memory of LCdr. H. Irwin Stutt
	Mr. W. Donald Sawyer in memory of Col W. Reg Sawyer	

New Friends: The FCWM welcome the following who joined between 1 Apr. —30 Jun. 2012

The Polish Combatants' Association of Canada (Ottawa)	Mr. Terry Christopher	Mr. Doug Miller
The Polish Combatants' Association of Canada (Toronto)	BGen. (Ret'd) Linda J. Colwell	Mr. W. Donald Sawyer
Mr. George F. Barry	WO Daniel Ferland	Mr. Robert Thompson
Mr. L.A. Robert Brosseau	Mr. Donald Hind	Mr. Edgar Watts
Mr. Sean Campbell	Mrs. Phyllis Kiss	Ms. Marilyn Wright
	Miss. Barbara J. Matthews	
	Mr. John S. Millar	

Nijmegen Send-Off

At the recent departure parade for the Nijmegen Canadian Military Marchers, the Friends and the Museum jointly presented them with a wreath to be placed at the Canadian Military Cemetery at Groesbeek, Netherlands.