# FALL 2023



Photographing Your Collection Page 2724



Stories from the 2023 CSSMI Annual Show! Pages 2694



### 2023 MILITARIA SHOW & SALE

Friday, June 20, 2024 Saturday, June 21, 2024 11:00 AM to 4:30 PM 9:15 AM to 3:00 PM

# Burlington Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Centre

3063 South Service Road Burlington, Ontario, Canada

Buy - Sell - Trade Show Militaria-themed Displays Annual General Meeting Special Hotel Rates Free Parking

Admission: \$10.00 Children (under 16): Free when accompanied by an adult





Featuring 80 tables of vendors & displays with Canadian and foreign militaria, medals, badges, insignia, books and other historical items

Visit www.csmmi.com or contact show organiser Mike McLean (226) 203-2504 email: skyharbour12@gmail.com



# CSMMI

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The Journal is published by The Canadian Society of Military Medals and Insignia in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. Change of address notices, undeliverable copies and orders for Membership/Subscriptions are to be sent to: Ken Keegan, Membership/Journal, P.O. Box 63075, University Plaza, Dundas, Ontario, Canada, L9H 6Y3. Change of address should be given four weeks in advance to avoid misdirection of correspondence and of the Journal. © CSMMI 2023

# **List of Advertisers**

### The CSMMI thanks these Fall Journal 2023 Advertisers

Advertiser	Location
CSMMI Meetings & Shows	Inside Front Cover
eMedals	. Inside Back Cover
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Hamwic House	2709
Marway Militaria Inc	Outside Back Cover
Military Antiques Toronto	2693
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# **President's Message**

Juan José Besteiro, President CSMMI, #1859

Dear Members,

It is with great honour and enthusiasm that I address you as the newly elected President of the Canadian Society of Military Medals & Insignia. First and foremost, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Bryan Patterson for his exceptional leadership over the past 13 years. Under his guidance, our Society has flourished, growing to nearly 250 members, and achieved remarkable stability both financially and operationally. I am truly humbled to follow in his footsteps.



I am delighted to share that our 2023 Annual Show and Annual General Meeting was a resounding success. The event witnessed an overwhelming response with all vendor tables sold out and every display table taken. We were fortunate to have the Ontario Military Vehicle Association join us, bringing several impressive vehicles to display. This added an extra dimension to our show.

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the winners of this year's display competition. Bob Rutledge's remarkable collection of *The Military Button - A Miniature Masterpiece* earned the bronze medal, while Scott Duncan's impressive showcase on *The Canadian Militia Line Infantry Uniform 1855 to 1900* claimed the silver medal. The coveted gold medal was awarded to Robert Land for his exceptional display, *Relics of the Medical Services*. These remarkable exhibits not only captivated our attention, but also showcased the dedication and commitment our members possess towards preserving and honouring our military heritage.

It is my privilege to recognize and commend the unwavering dedication of three of our esteemed members who have achieved significant milestones in their service to the Society. John McKinnon, with an incredible 57 years of service, was awarded the Silver Medal for his enduring commitment. Similarly, Ian

Continued on page 2689

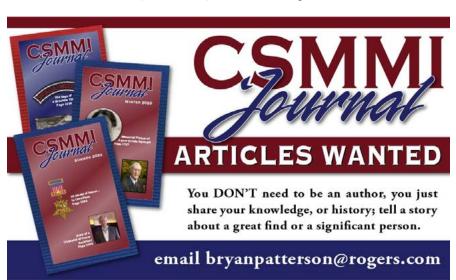
Edwards, who has served for 51 years, received the Silver Medal in recognition of his steadfast loyalty. And Fred Hayman, a member for 51 years, was bestowed with the honour of Life Member. Their longstanding contributions and loyalty are truly exemplary, and I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of them.

As we embark on this new chapter, I am excited about the future of our Society. I believe that together, we can continue to expand our membership, enhance our events, and strengthen our bonds as passionate collectors and preservers of history. One of my primary objectives as President will be to actively drive the expansion of our membership base and bolster attendance at our shows.

I encourage each member to actively engage in the Society's activities, participate in our upcoming shows, and share your expertise and insights with fellow enthusiasts by contributing to our Journal.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the dedicated volunteers, sponsors, and vendors who have contributed to the success of our Society. Your support is invaluable, and I look forward to working closely with all of you in the coming year.

Thank you for entrusting me with the honour of serving as your President. Together, let us chart a course of continued growth, innovation, and passion for the Canadian Society of Military Medals & Insignia.



# **Meet the President**

Juan José Besteiro, #1859

y name is Juan José Besteiro. I am honoured to have been elected President of the Canadian Society of Military Medals & Insignia at the 2023 Annual General Meeting for the 2023-24 term. I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the membership and share a bit about my background and passion for history.



I was born in Peru and my fascination with history has been a lifelong pursuit. From a young age, I found myself captivated by the stories and significance behind historical events, in particular, military history. During my childhood, when I was just seven years old, I received my very first piece of militaria, given to me by my next-door neighbour who was in the Peruvian Army. He gifted me his jump wings. From that moment I began collecting military items.

Two people who played an important role in guiding me on my journey through military history have been my lifelong friend and dentist, Dr. Andres Traverse, a long-time member of our Society and executive member, together with Richard Whitelaw CSMMI member and owner of Academy Militaria. He sold me my very first pieces of militaria while teaching me valuable lessons about collecting.

Growing up in Burlington, Ontario, I had the pleasure of belonging to the local Air Cadet Squadron and representing the Burlington Centaurs on the rugby field. As my fascination with the military deepened, I decided to join the reserves when I turned eighteen. From 2002 to 2009, I proudly served in the Canadian Armed Forces, attaining the rank of Corporal. During my tenure, I had the privilege of being a member of both the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Regiment and later the Lake Superior Scottish Regiment.

I studied history at Lakehead University where my academic journey expanded my understanding of historical events, providing a solid foundation for my collecting interests. While my focus within militaria revolves around Canadian, French, German, and Latin American items, I have also developed a keen interest in ancient artifacts.

Joining the CSMMI in 2018 marked a significant milestone in my journey as a collector. Since then, I have actively participated in various display competitions and have contributed an article, embracing the opportunity to showcase my

Continued on page 2691

collection and share my knowledge with fellow enthusiasts. Last year, I was honoured to receive the Silver Medal for my French Militaria display at the 2022 CSMMI annual show, a recognition that further motivated me to deepen my involvement within the Society.

Throughout the past year, I had the privilege of serving as the 2nd Vice President of our Society. This role allowed me to gain insights into the inner workings of our organization and provided me with the opportunity to connect with many of our dedicated members. It has been a tremendous learning experience, and I am grateful for the trust and support bestowed upon me.

# **CSMMI SHOW RULES**

The CSMMI Executive has approved the following show rules.

### **MONTHLY SHOWS:**

- 1. No entrance to anyone except vendors before 8:00 AM
- Vendors will staff their tables until the close of the show (advertised as 12:00 PM) unless otherwise given permission by the organizer to leave early.
- 3. Limit of one helper per vendor.
- 4. Bourse tables rented out to any person (vendor) must be used as a sales venue area, and must be staffed until the end of the show unless otherwise given permission by the CSMMI organizer to leave early.
- 5. Failure to comply with any of the above rules could result in suspension of privileges to attend future shows.

### **ANNUAL SHOW:**

- 1. No entrance to the bourse area to ANYONE except vendors, helpers, persons putting up displays, and CSMMI organizing personnel before 11:00 AM on the first day of the event.
- 2. Limit of two (2) helpers per vendor.
- 3. Vendors will staff their tables until the advertised close of the show for each day of the two-day event.
- 4. Failure to comply with the CSMMI rules and regulations could result in suspension of privileges to attend future CSMMI events.

Effective: January 10, 2023

# **CSMMI Executive - 2023-2024**

### **OFFICERS**

President	Juan José Besteiro
Past President	Bryan Patterson
1st Vice President	Mike McLean
2nd Vice President	Dave Hiorth
Secretary	Bill Alexander
Treasurer	Bryan Patterson

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

<b>Advertising</b> Terr	y Wallace
Annual Show Convenors Brya	n Patterson
Mik	e McLean
Director	y Traverse
Membership Secretary Ken	Keegan
Monthly Bourse Convenor Brya	n Patterson
Webmaster Law	rence Stasiuk

# JOURNAL EDITORIAL TEAM . . . . . . Bryan Patterson . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Bill Alexander

Journal Production . . . . . . . Irene Romagnoli



Your CSMMI Executive 2023-24...

Lawrence Stasiuk, Bill Alexander, Bryan Patterson, Andy Traverse, Mike McLean, Juan José Besteiro, Terry Wallace, Dave Hiorth, Ken Keegan.



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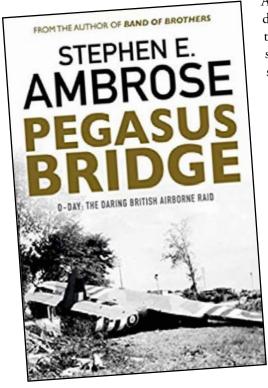
EST 1995

# **BOOK REVIEW**

By Bryan Patterson, HM #953

PEGASUS BRIDGE: D-Day: The Daring British Airborne Raid

By Stephen E. Ambrose, first published in 2003 by Simon & Schuster UK Ltd. (Still in print.)



At 0016 on June 6, 1944, a small detachment of British Airborne troops were the first Allied soldiers to land on French soil via gliders, and the first allied soldiers to engage with the enemy on D-Day. Their job was to capture, INTACT, two bridges crossing over the Orne River and Caen Canal at the village of Bénouville, France, approximately 10 km inland from the coast. The mission was so critical that, had it been unsuccessful, the Normandy invasion might have failed!

> The book describes the two years of planning and preparations from before the invasion, to minute by minute details of the

battle action. First person accounts of the event from both German and British soldiers involved in the engagement enhance the narrative. Today, the bridge over the Caen Canal is called Pegasus Bridge commemorating the British airborne forces that captured it on D-Day. Many excellent reconnaissance photos of the bridges and battle area are included. A good read.

# **2023 CSMMI ANNUAL SHOW**

By Lawrence Stasiuk #1685

Once again, the CSMMI Annual Show was held at the Burlington Holiday Inn and Convention Centre, Burlington, Ontario on Friday, June 16 and Saturday, June 17, 2023. This year's event was deemed a success by show organisers Bryan Patterson and Mike McLean. All 76 vendor tables were rented out to 35 vendors earlier in the spring proving the popularity of this event. Seven tables were used for members displays and two tables featured an exhibit by the Juno Beach Centre Association who operate the Juno Beach Centre in Normandy, France.



Jamie Cline (left) and Lou Grimshaw get ready for the show



Alex Fitzgerald-Black (right) returned with his merchandise to support the Juno Beach Centre.

Vendors reported good sales and trades, and attendees were happy to find many items to enhance their collections. Vendors came from as far away as Winnipeg MB in the west, North Bay, ON in the north, Saint-Roch-des-Aulnaies, QC in the east to St. Petersburg, FL in the south.



Renald Poulin & Francine Thibault travelled from Quebec to be at the show



The show room enjoyed brisk activity both days

A new collaboration with the Ontario Military Vehicles Association (OMVA) saw members from the OMVA set up and display several military vehicles and a BSA motorcycle in the parking lot.



Ontario Military Vehicles Association had a display of vehicles both days in the parking lot



Terry Witiuk (left) of the OMVA is thanked by Lawrence Stasiuk for participating at our show.

The visible presence or these restored and preserved military vehicles attracted interested parties who were passing by and many of them chose to attend our show. It was a good beginning for CSMMI and OMVA members to share their interests in military history.

The Annual Show included the Annual General Meeting, the well attended Saturday morning breakfast and members' fun auction. This year's auction featured items donated by Fred Tripp from his collection, which yielded over \$1000 to support CSMMI programs and events.



Andy Traverse (centre) was the auctioneer at the fun auction while Bryan Patterson (l) and Tim Burt (r) moved the merchandise.



Great to see younger visitors taking an interest in military history.

A highlight of the annual show was the displays set up by members. This year, there were five excellent displays on various subjects. The judges were Clint Lovell, Lt. Col. Bernard Nehring and Lawrence Stasiuk.

1st Place - The G.E. Switzer Prize - Best in Show Award and Gold Medal to Robert Land, for *Relics of the Medical Services* 

**2nd Place – Silver Medal** to Scott Duncan for *The Canadian Militia Line Infantry Uniform 1855 - 1900* 

**3rd Place – Bronze Medal** to Bob Rutledge for *The Military Button - A Miniature Masterpiece* 

Continued on page 2697



Relics of the Medical Services by Robert Land was the 2023 Best in Show display



The Military Button - A Miniature Masterpiece display by Bob Rutledge earned a bronze medal



Detail of Relics of the Medical Services



The Canadian Militia Line Infantry Uniform Pattern 1896



The Canadian Militia Line Infantry Uniform 1855 - 1900 by Scott Duncan was awarded the silver medal



Judges of the displays, (l-r) Clint Lovell, Lt. Col. Bernard Nehring and Lawrence Stasiuk

In addition to Bryan Patterson and Mike McLean, the organising team included Terry Wallace on advertising, Ken Keegan with memberships and email announcements, Andy Traverse on finances and Lawrence Stasiuk with graphics and event signage. The CSMMI has announced the 2024 Annual Two-Day Show will return to the Holiday Inn in Burlington, Ontario on Friday June 20 and Saturday June 21, 2024. Visit the website at www.csmmi.com for more information on the annual show.

Photographs courtesy of Lawrence Stasiuk



The Military Button - A Miniature Masterpiece display by Bob Rutledge earned a bronze medal



Chris Buchanan (left) and Fraser Cooke at their tables.



Peter Rydahl (right) at his table explains one of his items.



Parachute wings of the British forces.



Mike McLean (left) and Steve Gusterson



David Irvine (left) and Tim Shand





Brent Walker

Fall 2023 2698

# The Canadian Soldier Militaria



www.thecanadiansoldier.com

Mailing address:
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RPO South Centre
Calgary, AB. T2J 7C5

tcsmilitaria@gmail.com 403-554-1653

Weekly Website Updates We Buy Single Pieces And Collections

# **Vendors Wanted**

The CSMMI invites vendors to our monthly shows. In 2023, the CSMMI will run 8 shows.

January 15 · February 19 · March 19 · April 16 May 21 · September 17 · October 15 · November 19

Tables are available for rent by members at \$25.00 per table per show and non-members at \$35.00 per table per show. Vendors shall align with the core aims and mission of the Society.

Members are allowed 1 table per year for free to sell or trade. Here's an excellent opportunity to change up your collection.

Want to set up a display? No charge for a table.



For show and table enquiries contact Mike at 226-203-2504 email: skyharbour12@gmail.com

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# 2023 Annual General Meeting

By Lawrence Stasiuk #1685

The CSMMI 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Friday, June 16, 2023 in the Harvester Hall of the Burlington Holiday Inn and Convention Centre, Burlington, Ontario. Presiding officers included Bryan Patterson, President, Andy Traverse, Treasurer and Bill Alexander, Secretary. Thirty-seven members and guests were in attendance, including all of the Executive Committee. Call to order was made at 5:00pm.





The minutes of the June 17, 2022 AGM were reviewed and approved.

### **REPORTS**

The Treasurer, Andy Traverse, gave his report and distributed a handout showing the financial summaries for year ending December 31, 2022 along with summaries for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021. The financial statements are included in this article. He reported the Society is in a financially healthy position. The current balance of the Society's accounts as of March 31, 2023 are: \$31,198.09 CDN plus \$1.00 USD.

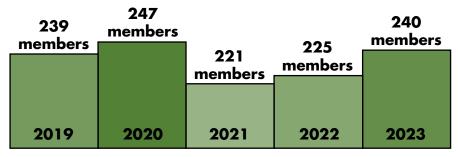
Ken Keegan, Membership Secretary, provided a handout showing the membership as of June 2023 is 240 members, up from 225 in 2022. The membership numbers are relatively steady despite the loss of a few older members through retirement or passing. The CSMMI website and Facebook site were cited as contributing to attracting at least 6 new members this past year. The breakdown of membership is as follows:

Current membership, as of June 2023: 240

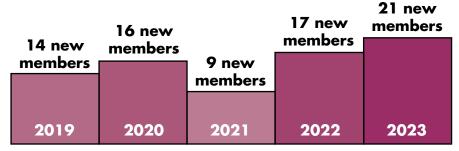
Country		Category	
Canada	219	Life Members	8 *
United States	16	Complimentary	3*
United Kingdom	2	Honorary	2*
C		Junior	4*

\* = included in national totals

### **MEMBERSHIP COMPARISON NUMBERS:**



### **NEW MEMBERS:**



The website report was presented by Lawrence Stasiuk, Webmaster, who highlighted that the site added a new section called Resources. This section will allow members access to significant articles and reference materials to assist with their collecting and research interests. New articles were filed under the Managing Your Collection subsection. There were 14,991 visits to the website from June 2022 to June 2023, for an average of 41 visits per day. This is a decrease of 13.8% from previous years. It may be attributed to the movement towards social



media as the Facebook site has experienced a considerable increase in members and activity. The website continues to provide a valuable service by archiving materials for use by the members and to listing coming events.

The Facebook page report was given by Bill Alexander, administrator, who reported an increase in Facebook membership of 25% to 1982, compared to 1581 in the 2022 report. It is an active site with regular postings by collectors and dealers to furthering their hobby and businesses. It complements the Society's website, promotes the CSMMI and generates new members.

Continued on page 2703



In his President's Report, Bryan Patterson announced after 13 years, he was stepping down as President and looks forward to serving the CSMMI as Past President. He thanked the executive officers and the executive committee for their efforts during the past few years. He highlighted the initiatives to reach out and begin collaboration with other militaria organisations, including the Ontario Military Vehicles Association (OMVA), the Central Ontario Branch of the Western Front Association

(COBWFA), Legion magazine, and the Juno Beach Centre Association.

This year, the President led the efforts to initiate the CSMMI Long Service medal.

This medal will be awarded this year to all members in good standing, who have achieved 20 years of continuous membership with the CSMMI. A bar, that may be attached to the ribbon, will be issued for each additional 10 years. The medal is expected to arrive this summer and will be distributed to all 95 eligible recipients. Bryan acknowledged the longest serving member is Bud Migory, a founding member in 1965, who has been a member for 58 years. A photo of the medal was circulated to the members.



The President publicly thanked Fred Tripp who donated the remainder of his collection to the CSMMI to be used as a fund raiser for the Society. Many of his items were sold during the fun auction at the breakfast the next day.

Finally, in conclusion, the President expressed his appreciation for the organisation and the turn out at this year's annual show. He has initiated plans to secure the rooms at the Burlington Holiday Inn for the 2024 show. Details will be announced when confirmed.

A copy of AGM minutes and other reports may be viewed and downloaded from the Society website at www.csmmi.com.

### ANNUAL SHOW DISPLAY AWARDS

The following awards were announced at the AGM and the awards were presented the next day in the main show room.

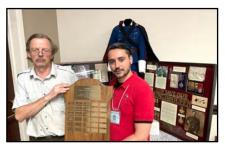
1st Place – The G.E. Switzer Prize - Best in Show Award and Gold Medal to Robert Land, for *Relics of the Medical Services* 

**2nd Place – Silver Medal** to Scott Duncan for *The Canadian Militia Line Infantry Uniform 1855 - 1900* 

**3rd Place – Bronze Medal** to Bob Rutledge for *The Military Button - A Miniature Masterpiece* 



Annual display awards - gold, silver and bronze medals.



Robert Land receives the G.E. Switzer Prize - Best in Show Award from Juan José Besteiro for his excellent 1st place display.



Juan José Besteiro presents the silver medal to Scott Duncan for his display.



Bob Rutledge receives the bronze medal from Juan José Besteiro for his display.

### INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

CSMMI Life Member designation was bestowed upon Fred Hayman #273 – 51 years as member

Silver Service Medal awarded to John McKinnon #163 – 57 years of service Silver Service Medal awarded to Ian Edwards #276 – 51 years of service



Fred Hayman became a CSMMI Life Member from President Bryan Patterson.



Bryan Patterson presents a CSMMI Silver Service Medal to John McKinnon

### **ELECTIONS**

Elections were held for a new slate of officers. Juan José Besteiro was elected as the new President. The new officers for the term of 2023-24 are as follows:

President Juan José Besteiro	Past President Bryan Patterson
1st Vice President Mike McLean	2nd Vice President Dave Hiorth
Secretary Bill Alexander	Treasurer Bryan Patterson

Following the elections, Bryan formally passed the gavel to Juan José. Juan thanked the members for this honour. He expressed thanks to the event organisers and he outlined his desire to increase membership and attendance at the CSMMI shows as two of his goals.



Newly elected President Juan José Besteiro receives the gavel from out-going President Bryan Patterson in a peaceful transfer of power.



Newly elected President Juan José Besteiro addresses the assembly at the AGM



2023-24 Executive Officers: Bill Alexander, Bryan Patterson, Mike McLean, Juan José Besteiro and Dave Hiorth

The AGM concluded with the new President thanking the Past President for his years of service to the CSMMI and the acknowledging the many successes he had as President for 13 years. Bryan joked that his rest would be short lived as he was elected the new Treasurer. The Executive Committee presented Bryan with a gift as a thank-you for all he has done. The meeting adjourned at 6:05pm.

\*\*Continued on page 2706\*\*

### Treasurer's Financial Report as presented at the AGM on June 16, 2023

### **CANADIAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY MEDALS AND INSIGNIA**

### STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022

INCOME	2019	2020	2021	2022
Membership Dues	\$4,085.69	\$5,702.00	\$7,755.55	\$9,131.00
Annual Convention	\$10,440.57	\$410.00		\$10,232.95
Monthly Bourse Rentals	\$3,260.00	\$1,400.00		\$4,030.00
Monthly Door Receipts	\$1,647.00	\$249.00		\$2,110.00
Monthly Sales & Donations	\$29.95	\$15.25		\$35.00
Journal Advertising	\$777.00	\$470.00	\$1,575.00	\$572.00
Total	\$20,240.21	\$8,246.25	\$9,330.55	\$26,110.95
TOtal	320,240.21	\$6,240.25	\$9,550.55	\$20,110.95
Expenses				
Advertising	\$1,188.66	\$269.28		\$626.47
Bank Charges	\$238.34	\$48.80	\$48.00	\$49.60
Annual Show Expenses	\$8,839.91			\$7,761.06
Seniors Hall Rental	\$2,820.48		\$889.02	\$2,749.38
Insurance	\$1,480.68	\$1,613.52	\$702.00	\$826.20
Website	\$216.45	\$631.57	\$1,139.85	\$253.57
Mailbox		\$195.49	\$195.49	
Journal	\$6,055.57	\$6,667.53	\$2,938.12	\$4,616.96
Sponsorship	\$600.00			
Refunds		\$910.00		
Supplies	\$139.00			
Miscellaneous	\$134.18		\$230.31	
Total	\$21,713.27	\$10,336.19	\$6,142.79	\$16,883.24
Profit/Loss	-\$1,473.06	-\$2,089.94	\$3,187.76	\$9,227.71

Statement compiled by Andy Traverse and reviewed by Bryan Patterson March 31, 2023



Ken Keegan, Membership Secretary

Photo courtesy of Lt. Col. (ret.) B.L. Nehring, CD

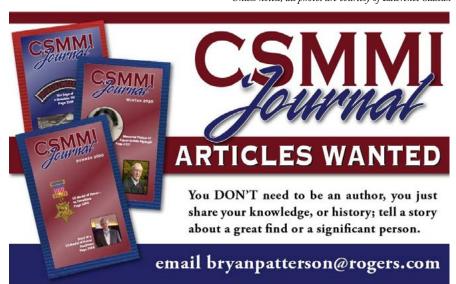
Treasurer's Balance Sheet as presented at the AGM on June 16, 2023

### CANADIAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY MEDALS AND INSIGNIA

<b>Balance Sheet</b>	2019	2020	2021	2022
Opening Balance January 1	\$22,194.84	\$20,776.56	\$18,682.62	\$21,870.38
Closing Balance December31	\$20,776.56	\$18,686.62	\$21,870.38	\$31,098.09
Profit/Loss	\$1,418.28	\$2,089.94	\$3,187.76	\$9,227.71
Liabilities (uncashed cheques)	\$54.78			
Total Loss	\$1,473.06	\$2,089.94		
Income	\$20,240.21	\$8,246.25	\$9,330.55	\$26,110.95
Expenses	\$21,713.27	\$10,336.19	\$6,142.79	\$16,883.24
Profit/Loss	\$1,473.06	\$2,089.94	\$3,187.76	\$9,227.71
ASSETS	31-Dec-19	31-Dec-20		
Bank of Montreal Account	\$20,776.56	\$18,686.62	\$21,870.38	\$31,098.09
US Bank Account	\$127.33	\$609.77	\$2.93	\$1.00
Petty Cash	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00

Statement compiled by Andy Traverse and reviewed by Bryan Patterson March 31, 2023

Unless noted, all photos are courtesy of Lawrence Stasiuk



# **IN MEMORIUM**



The CSMMI regrets to announce the passing of one of our members, Fred Moore #1698. While Fred was only a member for 9 years, he was a regular to our shows for 30+ years. He is remembered as a true gentleman who always greeted you with a smile. Fred loved his family and he loved military history. His acumen and knowledge in the military collecting field and his stewardship of historic artefacts will be missed.

One of our members spoke of Fred as one of the nicest, and caring persons in our hobby. He said he will miss his phone

calls, emails of the latest pursuits, and getting together with him either at the shows or at his home, just to talk about our hobby and life in general. His laugh was infectious, and his trademark. We will miss him.

### His obituary follows:

Fred Moore passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, June 18, 2023 at the Mississauga Hospital, at the age of 79. He is dearly missed by his children Alicia (Chris) and Tara (Brendan), and grandchildren Catriona, Andrew, Teagan, and Evan.

Fred is predeceased by Norma, his loving wife of 52 years, and their young daughter Cheryl. Fred also leaves behind his brother Frank (Bobbi), who provided him with a lifetime of love, support, and friendly rivalry, as only an identical twin brother can.

Fred loved traveling the world with Norma, enjoying the beauty and history of places such as Scotland, Italy, and Hawaii. He was a loyal husband, ensuring that Norma was able to live her dream of twice visiting Jerusalem, and supporting her throughout her long illness. Together Fred and Norma also enjoyed the companionship of their affectionate and pampered standard poodles.

Fred was deeply interested in military history and found community as an avid gentleman collector and member of various military associations in Canada, the U.S.A. and the United Kingdom. He was also grateful for his supportive community of neighbours, established over 42 years at his Sawmill Valley area home.

Fred was a man who lived his life with honour, always respecting the dignity of others in both his personal and his professional relationships. We will remember Fred for his kindness, humour, dedication to family and friends and passion for military history. He will be dearly missed by all those who had the privilege to know him.

A celebration of life took place on Thursday July 6, 2023 at Glen Oaks Funeral Home in Oakville, ON. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to a charity of your choice. You are invited to read and sign the online guestbook.

# **SOCIETY AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

The Canadian Society of Military Medals and Insignia (CSMMI) was founded on March 21, 1965 for the purpose of advancing the study of military orders, decorations, medals, insignia, accourrements, documents and all related militaria. The Society seeks to encourage popular interest and to gather and publish information in all matters related thereto, along educational and historical lines. It also seeks to foster the preservation of such honours, awards, insignia and items of military interest for future generations.

# **Hamwic House**

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# FROM ISOLATION TO INTERVENTION:

# CANADIAN ARMY FORMATION PATCHES 1946 -1968 PART 2

by Bill Alexander #721

Editor's note: Part 1 of this article was published in the CSMMI Journal Summer 2023 issue. The footnotes begin at 1.

International events continued to shape Canadian foreign and military policy. In 1956, the Suez Crisis boiled over into a regional war. After Egypt nationalized the Suez Canal, Great Britain, France, and Israel attempted to regain control over the important transportation link through military intervention. An international crisis ensued. Under the auspices of the United Nations, led by an initiative from the Canadian External Affairs Minister, Lester B. Pearson, a peacekeeping force was proposed to separate the warring parties and facilitate withdrawal of the combatants. The military contingents provided by several nations, including Canada, would need to be identified as peace keepers of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF). Distinctive United Nations' headdress and insignia was proposed for the deployment. United Nations cap badges would be worn on pale blue headdress and United Nations patches on the uniform sleeves.

The formation sign adopted for wear by personnel committed to the United Nations deployment consisted of a circular patch, 2½ to 2¾ inches diameter, in United Nations' pale blue, embroidered with a representation of the globe, showing the continents from a north polar projection. This is imposed on longitude and latitude lines which form the globe and is flanked by branches of olive leaves either side, symbolic of peace, with "UNITED NATIONS" embroidered in English above the globe, in white thread. The entire design was enclosed by a white embroidered border. Each contributing nation was responsible for procurement of their contingent's insignia, but all were to be of the same design. The first Canadian issue was embroidered on melton material with a cut edge. Being deployed to a tropical climate, the UN patches were typically sewn on OD 7 armlets or purpose made tropical armlets, to be worn on the right sleeve. On the left side, the Canadian contingent wore the 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade patch, which had been repurposed as the "Canadian

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Army Overseas Flash" (sic). These badges were worn by all Canadian rotations to the UNEF.





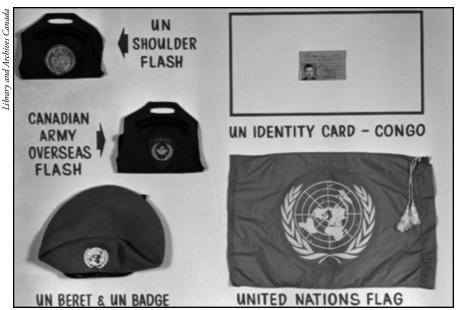
The United Nations cap badge and shoulder patch as authorized for the first contingent of the UNEF. The repurposed 25th Canadian Brigade patch was re-designated the Canadian United Nations patch. On deployments, it was worn on the left side and the UN patch on the right side.



A major and sergeant of the 8th Canadian Hussars deployed to the UNEF circa 1964 wear the blue UN cap with the second pattern cap badge and the repurposed 25th Bde patch.

Again, a Canadian contingent was deployed to *Opération des Nations Unies au Congo*, abbreviated to ONUC, and would wear the blue patch, but a significant change was made to the embroidered designation. The working language for the deployment was French. The patch was altered to read ONU (Organization des Nations Unies). For this deployment the patch was embroidered in white on pale blue cotton drill material, with either an embroidered border or a merrowed edge.

The Canadian contingent wore this badge in combination with the repurposed 25th Brigade badge, now identified as the Canadian nationality badge. The UN patch was to be worn on an armlet on the left sleeve, and the nationality insignia on an armlet on the right. In addition, the regimental or corps titles were to be sewn on above the patches and non-commissioned officers' rank were to be sewn below the formation patches. The ONU patch intended for the Congo deployment was occasionally issued for subsequent UN deployments.



DND information bulletin illustrating the UN deployment insignia.



Lieutenant-General E.L.M. Burns, first commander of the UNEF speaking with members of the Canadian contingent. Note the repurposed 25th Cdn Bde patch on the RCEME armlet and the first pattern UNEF cap badge.

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Canadian Provost Corps personnel on patrol in the Congo. Note the armlets with the ONU pattern patch.

Canadian UN deployments continued to adopt new versions of the United Nations patch. The next large and lengthy deployment began in 1964, when Canada deployed peacekeeping forces to Cyprus. Separating the Greek and Turkish Cypriots led to the deployment of many of Canadian contingents, rotations nearly 25,000 Canadian totalling personnel, before the mission terminated in 1993. Canadians continued to wear the repurposed 25 CIB patch on the right

sleeve or armlet as the Canadian nationality identification, which was eventually made of drill material with a heavy merrowed edge. On the left sleeve, a third version of the United Nations patch was worn. Like the first design, with an English designation, "UNITED NATIONS", the globe and designation were embroidered in white on a pale blue drill material with a heavy merrowed edge. This pattern of the UN patch became the standard for many deployments. Bilingual examples were later introduced, in English and French, and became the standard pattern. For some later deployments, bilingual English and Spanish patches were made.<sup>1</sup>



UN patches were made by many makers in different locations and countries. Canadian deployments frequently accessed supplies of the patches in theatre or from regional sources.

Note the printed pattern.



The English-French bilingual version of the UN patch.

<sup>1</sup> Memoranda, Canadian United Nations Badge, B.L. Button, Lt.-Col. DC 2-7088, 26 April 1965. 6001-Clothing/C1 TD 5099 (DC). RG 24 ACC 1997-98 599 Box 16 File 5250 28 Pt 14.

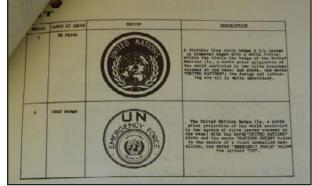


The English-Spanish bilingual UN patch.



The final version of the Canadian nationality patch was made on a drill material with a heavy embroidered border.





DND issued an appendix to the Canadian Army Orders identifying and describing the insignia in the late 1950s.

uuthor's collection

Changes to the organization of the Canadian armed forces were initiated in the early 1960s, with the goal being the unification of the three services. As an initial step, the land forces plus some tactical RCAF units were organized under a new structure called Force Mobile Command on 1 April 1966. It had been decided this new command would be identified by a unique formation sign. The badge was a white diamond shape, stylized as a compass arrow, set on North/South point, with a red embroidered edge. Four arrows in two tone blue represented the compass points. Superimposed in the middle is a red maple leaf with 11 points. (Contrary to popular interpretations, there is no significance to the number of points.) The patch symbolized Force Mobile Command being able to quickly respond on any threat, north, east, south, or west. The design was approved 27 September 1965, and was multi purpose, being used for

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### vehicle markings as well as uniform insignia.<sup>2</sup>



Proposed Mobile Command patches. The one on the left is slightly larger. As noted, example B was approved.





Despite the approval of the two inch Mobile Command patch (right), other sizes were made.



The OD 7 armlets were worn on summer dress and coverall orders of dress. These examples show the Mobile Command patches. Note the transitionary master corporal rank on the Fort Garry Horse armlet, using the combat dress major's rank badge.

<sup>2</sup> Allard J.V. Lt. Gen. Commander, Mobile Command Headquarters, Letter to the Chief of the Defence Staff, Distinguishing Formation Patch – Mobile Command, 18 November 1965. Dress Instructions: Badges and Buttons Command Badges, File 5250-28-13. Record Group 24, Box 19.

Best intentions did not get the patch into wear by April. Two significant questions arose. First, the overall size of the badge was questioned. The initial design had been 2 inches in height and width dimensions, but it was suggested that it should be 2 1/4 inches. Second, there was a question about the border, with it being suggested a margin of white material be left outside the embroidered red border. Neither change was accepted, and, finally, in September 1966, an order for 125,643 pairs was tendered, with the new adoption date of 19 October 1966. The Force Mobile Command patch was intended for domestic service, and was not worn for foreign deployments. The value of such a distinguishing patch must be questioned. With almost all army (regular force and reserve) and some RCAF personnel wearing the sign, it did not serve any real distinguishing purpose for formations. The patch was considered a moral booster, and it has been suggested it was meant to lessen the sting of unification. It was the last formation sign adopted by the Canadian Forces before unification.3



The Mobile Command patch in wear on senior Lord Strathcona Horse officers and a general officer, circa 1968.

While not specifically a formation sign, the need for a new national identifier became a focus for National Defence HQ. The repurposed 25 Brigade patch was in use for UN deployments, but it was not worn by Canada's NATO brigade. In 1964, a request was forwarded to NDHQ for an embroidered Canadian flag patch, the Red Ensign, to be worn on the

<sup>3</sup> Various documents. Dress Instructions Badges and Buttons Command Badges, File 5250-28-13.
Record Group 24, Box 19.
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sleeve of the Canadian contingent for the Allied Mobile Force in NATO. At the time, the question of a new Canadian flag was being hotly debated in Parliament, and the request



Mobile Command included certain RCAF squadrons. Two RCAF officers wear the Mobcom patch on their uniforms.

was held in abeyance. Within a year, the Canadian government adopted the new three-panel flag, in scarlet, white and scarlet, with an eleven-point scarlet maple leaf imposed on the center panel.<sup>4</sup> With this decided, a new flag patch design was proposed and approved by Directorate of Ceremonial, but shelved when Operational Command was superseded by Force Mobile Command. Even so, 1 Bn Royal Highland Regiment of Canada, tasked for the AM Force, had acquired the new flag patch for their uniforms, made at their expense. No further flag acquisitions were reported as the Force Mobile Command patch became standard issue in Canada.

In November 1965, the Canadian contingent of the International Control Commission asked and received permission to wear an embroidered version of the new flag. These were locally procured in Saigon. And, 4 Canadian Infantry Brigade Group in Germany was granted permission to wear a Canada flag for contingents participating in international competitions. Citing these initiatives, the Director of Ceremonial prosed that a patch using the design of the new flag be adopted for wear on the uniform. His

<sup>4</sup> The initial design had included a 13-tip maple leaf, but for design purposes it was changed to eleven. There is no symbolic significance to the number of leaf tips.

request was forwarded for consideration by the Chief of the Defence. With looming unification of the Canadian Armed Forces, it appears no action was immediately taken. It would be reconsidered after unification. <sup>5</sup>



An image from the Ottawa Citizen newspaper shows the new large Canadian patch in wear, July 1966.





The initial large size and authorized standard size Canadian flag patches which would become the national identifier patch starting in the 1960s.

The Royal Canadian Navy, the Canadian Army and Royal Canadian Air Force were unified in 1968. As part of the process, the uniforms of the three services were replaced with one common style, the Canadian Forces green garments. To facilitate unification, minimal insignia was to be worn on the uniforms, temporarily ending the use of formation signs, except for UN deployments. For the next decade, Canadian personnel would not wear formation signs.

Between 1946 and 1968, only a handful of new formation signs were adopted by the Canadian army. Serving the important purposes of identification, fostering esprit de corps, and addressing political initiatives, these patches were taken into wear when circumstances demanded. Continuing the practice instituted during the First World War, formation patches, while limited in use, fulfilled these important functions. It was deemed important that contingents for overseas deployments were easily identified as Canadian, and insignia to meet this requirement were designed and authorized. With unification, a trend of minimal uniform insignia became the norm. The post war era of insignia came to an ignominious end, having been deemed unwanted and irrelevant in the process of unifying the services.

<sup>5</sup> Bates W.F. Lt.-Col. Director of Ceremonial, Memoranda August 23, 1966. RG 24 Box 16 File 5250 28 Pt 14.

## **BOOK REVIEW**

By Bryan Patterson, HM #953

# BLOND KNIGHT OF GERMANY:

### A Biography of Erich Hartmann

Raymond F. Toliver and Trevor J. Constable, TAB BOOKS Inc., 1970. (Still in print)

The Ace of Aces. As a fighter pilot in the Luftwaffe during the Second World War, Erich Hartmann scored a total of 352 "victories", a number that probably will never be matched again.

He was an amazing soldier and airman. On one day, July 7, 1943, he shot down seven Red Air Force aircraft. In 1945, he shot down five American Mustangs over Romania in two sorties and two more



а

short time later over Czechoslovakia. He was

match for any enemy pilot he met. Shot down twice himself he escaped from the Russians both times by clever tricks. One of Hitler's favorites, he was always a humble man, even with all the accolades showered upon him.

He was awarded one of the highest German honours, the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross, on 29th October, 1943. On March 02, 1944, he was presented with the next higher award, the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross with Oak Leaves (the 420th recipient). On July 4, 1944, he was the 75th recipient of the swords' decoration to the Knight's Cross and on 25 August, 1944, he was awarded the Diamonds to the Swords and Oak Leaves decoration to the Knight's Cross (the 18th recipient).

He surrendered to the Americans on May 8, 1945, but they handed him over to the Russians eight days later, and he spent 10 bleak years in Siberian prisons, finally being released in 1955. A tremendous read – highly recommended.

# THE REPUBLICAN MEDAL ISSUED TO CANADIANS DURING THE

SPANISH CIVIL WAR, 1936-1939

By Ken Cox #1738

Many Canadians would be surprised to know there are plaques in British Columbia, Winnipeg, Toronto and a monument in Ottawa to over 1500 Canadians who fought in Spain, between 1936 and 1939, during that country's civil war. This was a time in our own country when the economy was ravaged by the Great Depression (1929-1939); a time when thousands of Canadian men and women were out of work.



The Ottawa Memorial to the 1547 men and women who volunteered to fight in Spain.

The unemployment rate rose to 30% with approximately 100,000 people unable to find employment. The governments of R.B. Bennett and later W.L. Mackenzie-King seemed to have little sympathy for these people, often believing they were a source of civil unrest, lacking in personal initiative. Work camps were organized under the Department of National Defence (DND), usually in far remote

northern regions of British Columbia or Ontario. The men earned about 40 cents a day planting trees, building roads and clearing brush. To receive any kind of social assistance, the men had to accept placement in these camps.

Of all the political parties in Canada, only the Communists under Tim Buck offered some hope of social change. They started to organize in these camps, demanding better working conditions and improved social assistance. The end result was a great march on Ottawa with strikers riding the rails, demanding jobs and improved social assistance. The unrest fomented riots in Winnipeg where the RCMP were ordered to stop the march and arrest the organizers.

But it wasn't just Canada that was experiencing the effects of the depression. In Europe, the Fascist parties of Hitler and Mussolini had taken power

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and, in Spain, Francisco Franco had grabbed power after the abdication of the King, to lead his own Fascist party. Opposing Franco's take over was a democratically elected Republican party. The result was the outbreak of three years of civil war.

The Soviet Union saw what was happening in Fascist Germany and Italy and certainly did not want to see a third Fascist government in Spain. They started to send military aid to the Republican forces fighting in Spain and spread the word to Communist parties throughout the world to recruit volunteers to fight against Franco. Germany and Italy in turn also sent massive aid and military support to the Nationalist Forces. The western democracies, including Canada, wanted no part in the fighting and made it extremely difficult for volunteers to get to Spain.



Canadian Volunteers sailed from New York because the Canadian government was arresting anyone who fought in a foreign war in which the country was not involved

The volunteers who came to the aid of the Republicans would be organized into International Brigades. The over 1500 Canadians who volunteered were initially assigned to the Abraham Lincoln and George Washington Brigades, but would later form their own unit known as The Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion.

When the Civil War ended with the Nationalist (Fascist) forces in control of Spain, the remaining Canadian volunteers needed to be repatriated. The Mackenzie-King government really didn't want these men and three women returned, so they sent a delegation from the RCMP and Departments of

Immigration and External Affairs to question the remaining volunteers in Spain. This 'delegation' did everything possible to make it difficult for the men to prove they were Canadian citizens. In fact, the men had relinquished their passports when arriving in Spain and these, along with any other documents, had been removed to Moscow at the end of the war. The Canadian Government also didn't want to incur the expense of shipping the men back to Canada.



Some members who served in the International Brigade, in Canada's Mackenzie Papineau Battalion during the Spanish Civil War 1936-1939

The Communist Party of Canada mortgaged everything it owned to provide passage home. Contemporary newspapers reported that approximately 10,000 people showed up at Union Station in Toronto to welcome the men home. Many of the volunteers who returned from Spain would continue their fight against Fascism and served in the Canadian Army when World War Two broke out.

The Spanish Republican Party went into to exile in France and eventually created a medal that was issued to the International Brigade volunteers. The number of Canadian and American volunteers who claimed the medal is unknown. The International Brigade medal appears for sale every so often on various auction websites. They were not engraved with the name of a recipient so it is difficult to prove whether it was issued to a Canadian, American or any of the other members of the various International Brigades.

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Obverse and reverse sides of the International Brigade of Republican Volunteers for service during the Spanish Civil War 1936-1939

Collectors will certainly not see them in any row of service medals earned during World War Two. They were never officially recognized by any of the victorious allied countries. It should be noted that both the Spanish Nationalist Government of Franco and the Fascist Governments of Italy and Germany all struck medals to commemorate their involvement in the civil war. These, too, often come up for sale.

# CSMMI CLASSIFIEDS

# PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR COLLECTION

By Larry W. Will

As you acquire and catalogue your badge or medal collection, the idea may come to you that your collection should be photographed. Good quality images are essential for inventories and insurance purposes. It is not as hard to do as you might think.

Today's digital cameras (DSLRs) take wonderful pictures, but the easiest approach is to use your cell phone. Modern cell phone cameras have excellent properties and can take high quality images. Familiarize yourself with your phone's camera settings. Some have macro settings that can create excellent close-up images.

The principle of taking a good close-up is to have a steady mount for the camera, good lighting and correct colours. Never use a white or vibrant color background. Reds, greens, and other deep colors will bleed into the badge or medal edges in the image. A white background will cause the camera to over-expose the image by using the background rather than the badge itself. It is recommended to use a grey or off-white background.

I have found an inexpensive cellphone mount at Walmart and Canada Computers. It is a simple yet highly effective way to have your cell phone remain steady while you are setting up the "shoot". This stand also pivots so you can ensure that the camera and the badge are in the same plain. This will eliminate any perspective distortion.



Cell phone mount without phone in the holder.



Place your cell phone on the stand.

Continued on page 2725

Use the camera controls to "zoom" into the badge. (Or on the macro feature, if using it.) Fill the image frame but do not extend past the frame edges. Balance the subject in the field, both north and south as well as east and





Place the badge on the grey background in front of the mounted cell phone. Adjust the angle of the cell phone to match the angle of the badge



Check the image for lighting, contrast, tones, and inappropriate shadows.



Allow the camera to set the exposure. Take the photo. Use a timer when taking the photo so that you aren't touching the camera while the photo is being taken and potentially moving it or changing the focus of the camera. Check the results and retake if needed, making any adjustments as required. When satisfied with the results, SAVE the image.

Transfer the saved image from the cell phone to your PC. I highly recommend that you develop an approach to "naming" the image. I find that using the

numbering from the accepted militaria references (Cross, Babin or Mazeas) work well.

Use a graphics application to re-frame and remove background.

#### DON'T FORGET – Always backup your files!

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WANTED TO SELL: West Coast member has a wide variety of British Army, Royal Household, and Royal Navy buttons for sale. Too many to list. Looking for specific buttons or group of buttons? Contact me with your wish list at: rogeranixey@gmail. com (1)

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