



## JANUARY - FEBRUARY VOLUME 31 ISSUE 1



New Years 1985 - Don Robson and crowd on a duck in English Bay ready to fire the cannon to start the Polar Bear Swim



photo courtesy of Archives Canada

Staff of the Airmen's Mess, whose tables have been set for New Year's Eve dinner, Royal Canadian Air Force Station Coal Harbour, British Columbia, Canada, 31 December 1943





photo courtesy of Archives Canada

Canadian soldiers enjoying a few drinks on Christmas Day at the front, Ortona, Italy, 25 December 1943



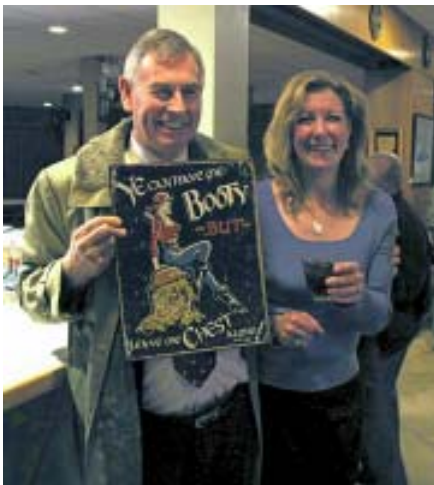
Members enjoying a few drinks at the Western Command Christmas party in the Seamen's Mess at HMCS Discovery 1 December 2008



no, Andy, Mecca's the other way



Three amigos guarding the rations table



now Santa knows you've been naughty

About twenty people braved the snow and attended the annual Christmas party. Even Brent braved the B.C. Ferries to make it.

Our thanks to Scott Lorette for organizing the venue and playing host.

## The Executive:

President - Harry Moon  
Vice President - Robert Mossier  
Secretary - vacant  
Treasurer - Dean Wilcox

## From the President:

From under the President's desk!

Well, 2007 was a great year with a lot of events for all the members to take part in.

Things started off early with our participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Vancouver in March. May saw us get together with the Vancouver Island crowd at Fort Rodd Hill. Canada Day saw us at Port Moody for a stellar one day event organized by Guy Black. John Hawthorne and Pat Papworth took a contingent south for the Kelso Air Show to meet up with our Washington State friends. August of course saw all the hard work by Ian Macarthur, Don Robson, and Brent Blakley, organize the largest sealift of Western Command with the multiple ferry trip Freedom route 2007. A tremendous trip from the Abbotsford Air Show up the Sunshine Coast over to the Island and down to Fort Rodd Hill.

November saw Brook Quom, Grant MacAvoy, and George Clark again put together the premier static event with their CMEC event in Abbotsford. Although with a Soviet T-55 and Andy Hill driving Ian Newby's Leopard 1 Chassis and crushing cars, it is a little less static than last year.

While Western Command may be about preserving machines it is the people that make it what it is. WE have the best people sharing the load as I can assure you these events came together despite my lack of participation (due to work) at a lot of these events.

I want to thank everyone who makes Western Command the successful organization it is.

2008 is going to be no less with a bigger 1 Can Para focused event scheduled for the May long weekend at FRH. Guy Black is organizing another stellar Canada Day event at Burnaby Village Museum and Freedom Route 2008 will see us attending the MVPA convention in Portland, Oregon.

Bruce McMillan has kept up the newsletter despite me, and Dean Wilcox has kept the books in perfect shape, Thanks guys

Membership remains strong with a majority of members staying on. We do need to find a new meeting place for our monthly meetings, our current hosts are headed for the wrecking ball.

Elections are in April (I think) and we need a recording secretary as Tammy and Drew Swan have moved up to Trail.

Keep Them Rolling!

Harry Moon

President

Western Command

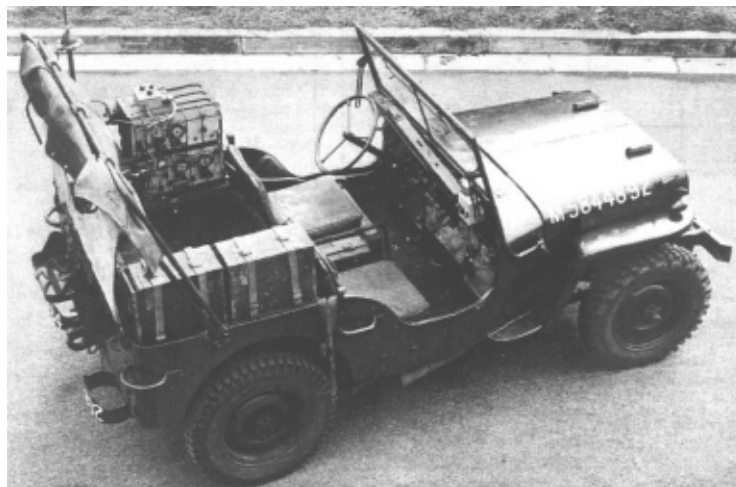
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It is now 2008, please renew your membership!

Two common radio configurations for use with an American jeep.



The SCR-694 is based on the BC-1306 transmitter/receiver. This radio is getting hard to find so it is often substituted with the post war GRC-9 which to most people looks identical. The American forces pretty much used their own equipment and not British/Canadian stuff.



The most common wireless set used by the Commonwealth forces was the wireless set 19. The jeep pictured here also has the British high power amplifier. The radio was typically mounted over one fender well and the batteries over the other. As a radio jeep it also carried spare parts and a chorehorse generator.

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This newsletter is available via email in a PDF document format. This has the advantage of fast delivery and colour pictures are in colour.

if you wish to be added to the email list send an email to the editor.

Western Command also has a forum hosted by Convoy Magazine. Convoy is a Canadian publication

with lots of good articles. Published quarterly for an annual \$25 subscription.

Check out the website at [www.convoymagazine.com](http://www.convoymagazine.com)

Red Fridays - wear red to show your support

## For Sale

- New and used Iltis parts for sale. Contact Dave Good [superdave@hotlinkwireless.com](mailto:superdave@hotlinkwireless.com) or 780-967-3741
- 1942 Jeep parts. Front and rear axles with leaf springs, 2 fenders, hood, grill and many small parts. Contact Don Reynolds 250-397-2773. located in Canim Lake, B.C.
- 1954 signals line construction vehicle. Still running, located in Minburn, Alberta. Make an offer. Contact Ken Richards 780-593-0002 or Gord Heaton 780-797-4147

## Wanted-

- any Sherman tank parts. Contact Brooke Quam, Dan Jahn or George Clark
- Wanted 4 good Iltis tires. Kevin 1-250-862-8565
- Jeep parts for an MB.
  1. Springs (Rear, even if it's just the top 2 leafs)
  2. Oil filter ( 2 strap kind)
  3. Cross over tube
  4. Carb horn (Tin piece that fastens to cross over tube & sits on top of carb)
  5. E-brake handle
  6. 1 head light ring
  7. Old Rad ( mine doesn't have the shroud on it)
  8. Temp gauge ( mine was cut at block)contact Vince Hands [42mbjeepguy@qlink.ca](mailto:42mbjeepguy@qlink.ca) or 604-463-1537
- Wanted M38 top bow set and M38 top in good condition. Grant Johnson 1-250-762-2679

## Swap

- swap three jeeps for one jeep. M38, a M38A1 and a M151A2. All are running with older cosmetic restorations and paperwork. Some TLC required to make them parade ready. More TLC required to make them show quality. Body off restoration required to make them museum quality. Will swap all three for a VERY nice WW2 jeep . contact Dan Jahn at [danjahn@qlink.ca](mailto:danjahn@qlink.ca) or 604-467-1988.

## Events

There are many exciting events this year to bring out your vehicle. Fort Rodd Hill will have it's annual military encampment in May. The big event will be the Freedom Route 2008 convoy to the MVPA convention in August. There are the many monthly events that happen such as:

- Old Car Sunday in the Park in Mission
- Kelso, Arlington airshows
- Lynden Dutch festival
- Canada Day
- Hyack parade
- and many more...

Stay tuned for specific dates or attend a meeting for the latest.

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This year Portland, Oregon will be hosting the Military Vehicle Preservation Association annual convention. This event takes place August 14-16. Plan your holidays now. Because it's so close, Western Command will attend with a convoy of vehicles. Come and see the large collection of military vehicles and bring your loonies for a huge swap meet.

## Western Command Kit Shop-



For sale:

"Western Command" vehicle sticker - truck size	\$10.00
"Western Command" vehicle sticker - jeep size	\$5.00
"Western Command" embroidered patch	\$2.50
"Red Ensign" flag stickers - 4" wide	\$3.00

Please send payment made out to Western Command Military Vehicle Historical Society along with order including your name, mailing address and contact number to:

Kit Shop  
Western Command MVHS  
2837 St. James St.  
Port Coquitlam, B.C.  
Canada V3B 5G5

Next meetings are tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 12th and April 9th, 2008 at the Royal Canadian Legion, South Burnaby branch 83, 5289 Grimmer St., Burnaby. Meeting time is 2000 hours (although the pre-meeting crowd gathers at the bar first). We meet the second Wednesday of every month.

Please note \*\*\*\*\* The Legion is being demolished soon so our meeting venue will be changing. Changes will be posted here and on the website when this happens.\*\*\*\*\*

Website address is [www.westerncommand.com](http://www.westerncommand.com)

This newsletter is your newsletter. Your participation is very valuable. If you organize an event or take pictures at an event please share your info to the other members via the newsletter or website.

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or eyeball at club meetings

