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The legend of the three stripes of white tape on the collar of the seaman – Page 2



Binoculars

The workhorse binoculars for all major armies in World War II were 6X30 Binoculars manufactured by various optical companies.

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ARTILLERY IN ALBERTA

German First World War 10-cm Kanone 17 (10-cm K 17) Field Gun, This gun was captured by the 50th Battalion (Calgary), 10th Canadian Infantry Brigade, 4th Canadian Division of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) near the Marquion-Cambrai road Northwest of Rail-lencourt, France on 28 September 1918. This gun stands at the east end of Henderson Lake on Oakside Dr S in Lethbridge.

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Page 6— After last months newsletter featuring the Japanese Kurogane Type 95 four wheel drive, we have a few more Japanese vehicles which were developed for the military.



The legend that the three stripes of white tape on the collar of the seaman represent Lord Nelson's three great naval victories probably still survives, although no basis in fact can be found for it.

Similarly, the unfounded story that the black silk is worn in memory of Nelson would also appear to be untrue.

Major Frederick V. Longstaff, Ret., of Victoria, whose writings on West Coast naval subjects are well known and who is a member of the Society of Nautical Research, has gone to authoritative sources for the truth about the two legends. His observations follow:

"The sailor's blue jean collar has worn on the edge three stripes of white tape and many explanations have been quoted since 1860. The *Mariner's Mirror* of October 1948, page 308, quotes the wording of the Admiralty Circular of January 30th, 1857.

"The Commander-in-Chief Devonport forwarded a joint report by the commanding officers at that port in which the description of the suggested duck frock was: 'Collar and wristbands of blue jean, having a border of three rows of 3/16 of an inch white tape, 1/8 inch apart, with white metal button at the wrist . '

"The Devonport proposal was adopted almost verbatim, the wording of the Admiralty Circular of January 20th, 1857, being: 'A duck or white drill frock, to be made with collar and wristbands of blue jean, each having a border of three rows of 3/16 of an inch white tape 1/8 of an inch apart with white metal deadeye button at each of the two wrists.'



"The writer E.W. Bovil says: ' It will be noticed that HMS *Victory* was amongst the ships that favoured two rows, despite the well - known association with Nelson; I do not find in 1866 any indication that the choice of three rather than two rows was motivated by any desire to commemorate the number of Nelson's naval victories in this way.'

" It will be found that the black silk handkerchief was commonly worn by sailors before Trafalgar to protect the collar from pigtail tar. Hence it was already in use in 1857."

Binoculars

The workhorse binoculars for all major armies in World War II were 6X30 Binoculars manufactured by various optical companies.



Wray 6x30 (RAF)

Several British optical companies provided binoculars for the armed forces

- Kershaw, Leicester, Ross, and Taylor-Hobson were principle suppliers for the Army
- Wray was a principle supplier for the Air Force.
- Barr & Stroud produced binoculars for the Royal Navy.

Other smaller companies also produced binoculars for the British. It is possible that American binoculars produced by Bausch & Lomb and others may have been supplied through lend lease.



Ross 7x50 (Army)

The 6X30 binoculars were designated Binocular No.2 and were further identified by a Mk number (II or III) and the manufacturers name. As with many items produced in bulk for the military, the binoculars were manufactured to a specific standard and for the most part they all look similar. In some cases the manufacturers can only be told apart by their distinct manufacturers stamp.

The 6x30 indicates that the binoculars have a magnification six times greater than the human eye and an objective lens thirty millimeters in diameter. Thus the “6” means things would appear six times closer. The size of the objective lenses relates to how much light is refracted to the eye. A larger objective lens will result in a brighter sharper image.



Deinst 6x30 (DAK)

A step up from the standard 6X30 binoculars were the No.5 binoculars. The No. 5 were also further identified by Mk Numbers (I -IV) and a manufacturers name. No. 5 binoculars had a magnification of seven with a fifty millimeter objective lens. The 7X50 binoculars provided far better magnification and a much brighter image. However, No.5 binoculars were less common than the standard issued binoculars as they were more often used in sea service and by higher ranking officers.



Deinst 10x50 (DAK)

While the British binoculars were robust and did the job, German binoculars manufactured by Dienstglas and using Zeiss optics were considered far superior. German tank and platoon commanders were issued 6X30 Dienstglas binoculars and most company commanders and above were issued the more powerful 7X50 Dienstglas binoculars. The highly prized optics often found their way into the hands of Allied soldiers.

Artillery in Alberta, Continued

History of Lethbridge Field Gun



German First World War 15-cm schwere Feldhaubitze 1902 (15-cm sFH 02), captured by Canadians, Arras, France, Sep 1918. (Library and Archives Canada Photo, MIKAN No. 3397947)

Calgary



5.5-inch Breechloading Mk. III Gun on a Mk. I Carriage, Veteran's section, Queen's Park Cemetery, North on 14th Street, Canada made carriages for these guns during the Second World War, and after the war acquired 85 of them for the RCA. The gun fired a 45.5-kg (100-pound) shell to a range of 14,800 metres (16,200 yards).

Canadian Signaller receiving the order to fire a 5.5-inch Breechloading Mk. III Gun of a Medium Regiment of the Royal Canadian Artillery (R.C.A.) south of Vaucelles, France. The photograph also shows a stack of shells for the gun. (Library and Archives Canada Photo, MIKAN No. 3396144)





Redcliff

German First World War 10.5-cm leichte Feldhaubitze 16 (10.5-cm leFH 16), (Serial Nr. 12626). This gun was captured by the 31st Battalion (Alberta), 6th Canadian Infantry Brigade, 2nd Canadian Division of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF). The gun is located beside the Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 6 at 302 Broadway St E. Redcliff

Fort Macleod

7-pounder Bronze Mk. II 200 lb Rifled Muzzleloader Gun (painted black), mounted on a field carriage. The bronze guns were conversions from the 3-pr smoothbore, while the steel guns were designed from scratch. All 7-pr used the same projectile but different charges. They were the same 3-inch calibre as the 9-pr, but could not interchange projectiles (except for case shot) because the studs on the projectiles were different.

Below

9-pounder 8-cwt Muzzleloading Rifles operated by the NWMP Artillery Detachment, D & H Divisions with Fort MacLeod, Alberta, 17 Dec 1890.



(Library and Archives Canada Photo, MIKAN No. 3574417)

Editor's Note; I will be featuring more Artillery In Alberta in the next issues. You can contribute also with pictures and descriptions

Artillery In Alberta comes from the website belonging to **Harold Skaarup**
www.silverhawkauthor.com

The aim of this website is to locate, identify and document every historical piece of artillery preserved in Canada. Many contributors have assisted in the hunt for these guns to provide and update the data found on these web pages. Photos are by the author unless otherwise credited. Any errors found here are by the author, and any additions, corrections or amendments to this list of Guns and Artillery in Canada would be most welcome and may be e-mailed to the author at hskaarup@rogers.com.

Toyota Despite the War restrictions on passenger car manufacture, Kiichiro Toyoda wished to promote technology development with a view to the future. On September 13, 1940, he therefore issued an order for research to be undertaken into prototypes and for preparations to be made for their production. The introduction to the order emphasized the need for technology development, declaring "Toyota anticipates that, as times change, a day will come when this type of production is required. We should therefore undertake research into prototype production". Specifically, a definition was given of the 'vehicle types that Toyota may produce in the future'



Model AK-10 Small Four Wheel Drive
"TO-KI"

In April 1944, work started on the design of the AK10 small four-wheel drive truck. In July of the same year, six prototype units were completed, but, just as preparations were under way for full-scale production, the war ended in defeat for Japan, and production plans were suspended. After the war, when it came to the development of a jeep-type all-wheel drive vehicle, the design technology of the AK10 and the remaining parts proved of great use .

A modified version of a production truck, the four-wheel drive KCY truck, began in October 1942. The prototype was completed in June 1943 and public road testing was carried out in August of the same year. The results were positive, but production was suspended after four units



"SU-KI" A plough/ski-shaped four-wheel drive amphibious vehicle whose development was based on the KCY truck was produced between November 1943 and August 1944 in a run of 198 units. The chassis of the KCY four-wheel drive truck thus became the basis of subsequent Toyota all-wheel drive technology .

Su-Ki amphibious trucks were deployed to the Japanese military forces on Pacific islands when they assaulted the Ellice Islands Campaign later in 1943 as well as in the Solomon Islands Campaign. They had a speed of 65 km/h and with their open top some even featured heavy machine guns.



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The SOCIETY

is a non-profit registered society which fosters the study of the military and the police, and the heritage of Canada, the British Empire, and the world as well as the preservation of military artifacts and records. The CMHS meets once every calendar month at:

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