



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

## PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

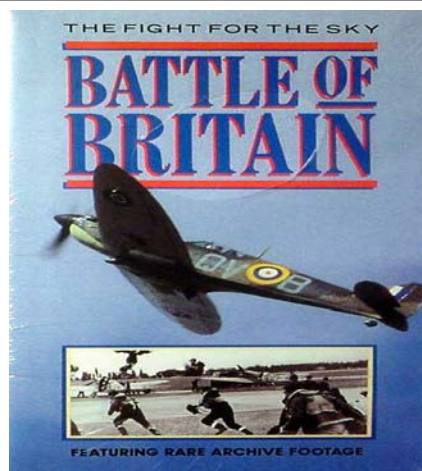
SEPTEMBER 2015

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### President' Comment

Summer is almost over and looks like we may be having an early Fall. For many of us who remember the Griesbach Barracks in Edmonton, the sight along 97 Street where the leaves turned to gold and red. It was a beautiful sight and many photographers would take snap shots. It is all nature's reminder to preserve our environment. Griesbach Barracks has now been developed as an urban community and it is a unique community. Not only are the trees preserved, the streets inside Griesbach Village are named after veterans who fought in both great wars. There is no community anywhere in Canada has so many military monuments erected on site to commemorate Canadian Military history. My compliments to Marv Neumann of the Canada Lands Company Limited who has been responsible for the development of Griesbach Village.

Speaking about monuments, the Griesbach Royal Canadian Air Force Commemorative Society (GRCAFCS) has been busy for the last five years, planning and soliciting for funds and approvals for the RCAF Ad Astra Monument to be erected in Griesbach Village sometime in September this year. This monument site on stone designs resembling different airplanes commissioned in wars Canada engaged in, such as the Mosquito, and others. The monument is a 30 feet structure that resembles fighter jets surging on formation. The official dedication will take place at 1245 hours on Sunday, September 20, 2015, with the Lieutenant Governor officiating and representation from the three levels of government, as well as other military and veteran organizations in attendance. It will take place at the Griesbach Village at McRae Avenue or just kiddy corner from the Kipness Veterans Centre. There will be pleasant surprise for spectators which perhaps include a fly pass with a Hercules, or even one or two F-18s. Not to mention Griffin Choppers. No RSVP is required for standing room.



## Battle of Britain 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the reign of HRH Queen Elizabeth II

On Saturday, September 12, 2015, the commemorative dinner to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Britain will take place at the Chateau Louis Hotel in Kingsway. The Lieutenant Governor will be in attendance, with the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of 408 Squadron, the one and only J'Lyn Nye as the Emcee. We are now at near seating capacity. If you still want to attend this dinner, please Email the president of EUSI, Major Alexander Tsang by August 31, 2015.

On September 6, 2015, HRH Queen Elizabeth II will have been the reigning head of state of 16 countries in the world for the last 75 years. To commemorate the longest reigning monarch in the Commonwealth, perhaps arguably in the history of human kind, a tree planting ceremony will take place inside Griesbach Village at 10:00 Hours on Saturday, September 19, 2015. If you would like to attend this ceremony, please contact the president of EUSI for more details.



### MY BUDDY

They say he died in glory,  
What ever that may be.  
If its dying in a burst of flame,  
Then glory's not for me.

In the briefing room this morning,  
He sat with clear eyes and strong heart,  
Just one of many airman  
Determined to do his part.

My buddy had the guts alright,  
He sought not glory nor fame.  
He knew there was a job to do,  
My crew all felt the same.

But death had the final word,  
In its log it wrote his name.  
For my buddy died this afternoon  
In glory - in a burst of flame.



The 9th Canadian Siege Artillery Memorial



### HUMOUR

Little grandson asked: "Granddaddy, when you were in the Army and were posted as sentry at night, were you afraid?"

"I was, grand sonny, but only until I fell asleep."



The following is an excerpt provided by **Col Harry Quarton of his epic journey to the Netherlands** this summer. It has been edited slightly for publication. Col Quarton is one of very few veterans alive today who fought to liberate the Netherlands. Col Harry Quarton is a long time EUSI member who is now 92 years young and residing with his loving wife, May, in Kelowna, BC.

The 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of The Netherlands 2015 is now history – April 30 – May 10. I am indeed grateful for being selected to represent The South Alberta Regiment (29 CARR) along with my former Vice-President, Arthur Webster.

May, my official Caregiver, and Arthur and his son Art joined the delegation in Ottawa where we were hosted to a reception put on by the Minister of Veterans Affairs, Erin O'Toole, where I presented him with a copy of our Regimental History, South Albertas, A Canadian Regiment at War. We flew from Ottawa to Eindhoven Military Base in the Netherlands on the RCAF Polaris DND Airbus

Our delegation was made up of 56 Veterans and Caregivers as well as the official group including the Prime Minister and his wife, Minister of CVA, Erin O'Toole, and his Deputy Minister General Walt Natynchuk, the Minister of Defence, Jason Kenny, and General Lawson, Chief of Defence Staff.

Unfortunately, some Regiments were not represented as they had no Veteran to send.

On Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Government of Canada Ceremony of Remembrance took place at the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery where I had the honour of reading the Act of Remembrance

On Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, we departed our hotels for Holten War Cemetery organized by the "Welcome Again Veterans" where we were all introduced to the official party at a group luncheon.

Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, we returned to Wageningen for the Liberation Parade through the City. During the parade where all Veterans were riding in jeeps, my dear wife organized a surprise for me at a main intersection of the City, when she left the crowd on the sidewalk and rushed out into the road to my jeep, throwing her arms around me and kissing me, this was followed by two of the young ladies from Veterans Affairs who came screaming, Daddy, Daddy and followed May with the kisses and hugs. The crowd roared with laughter.

Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, we drove to Kamp Westerbork. This was the famous Transit Kamp where the Nazis assembled over 100,000 Jews for transit to Concentration camps in Germany and Poland. A memorial service was conducted and featured a Jewish Rabbi, who was a five year old and a survivor of the Kamp.

Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, VE Day, we visited the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery in Germany. This brought back many unpleasant memories of those days.

Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, we bussed to the Koning Willem IIIkazerne (military police training centre) where we assembled in military vehicles for the National Street Parade in Apeldoorn. We proceeded past the Canadian Liberation Monument. The street crowds were estimated at 150,000 people. This was followed by a Liberation Festival at the Omnisportscentrum. Here we had the pleasure of personally meeting HRH Princess Margaret. We finished the day and tour at a joint dinner at De Molen restaurant.

Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, we departed our hotels for the Eindhoven Airport and our return to Ottawa where again we were looked after in great fashion by the staff of Canadian Veterans Affairs who did an outstanding job in organizing, running and most of all, their care and affection shown to us all.

Thank you, Colonel Quarton, for having served Canada.

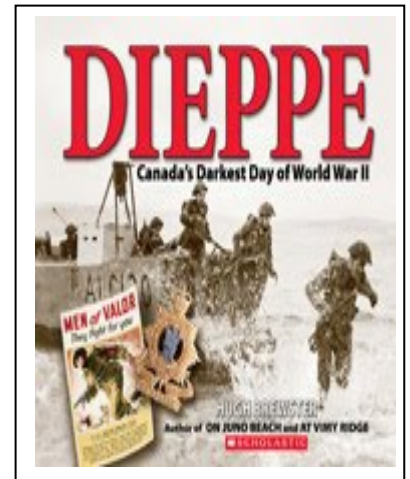


## CANADIAN MILITARY READING

### Dieppe: Canada's Darkest Day of World War II

Hugh Brewster

On the night of August 19, 1942, a force of five thousand Canadians launched an attack on the Nazi-held French port of Dieppe. When all was said and done, and the Allies were forced to retreat, nearly a thousand Canadian troops lay dead and almost two thousand were taken prisoner. Through meticulous research and interviews with veterans both in Canada and at Dieppe, Hugh Brewster has created a fascinating and haunting historical tour of the planning and execution of this tragic raid, and its aftermath.



## CANADIAN GEAR

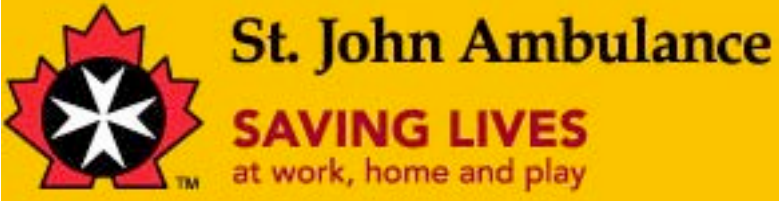
### LIGHT ASSAULT RADIO



Canadian Uniforms

The Light Assault Radio, or AN/PRC-521, is a modern, lightweight, tactical assault VHF Radio. It is soldier friendly, easily maintained and highly portable. The radio supports both voice and data encryption and can communicate with the Combat Net Radio (Primary) in a fixed frequency mode. This is the smallest, hand-held, front-line radio available to the Army. The AN/PRC-521 can be used in a variety of hand-held or manpack roles, meeting the needs of dismounted platoons and sections, security personnel, sentries, military police, and emergency forces.





Get trained!



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SECURITAIRE



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