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NOVA SCOTIA / NUNAVUT COMMAND
VETERANS' SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK - Volume Nineteen**



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On behalf of the Government of Nova Scotia, I would like to extend my sincerest appreciation to our Nova Scotia military members, veterans and their families for the enormous contributions and sacrifices they have made and continue to make to ensure our safety, both domestically and abroad.

I'm proud of our Province's longstanding military history and I want to acknowledge the important role our veterans and troops play in our Province's social fabric. I know this as the Minister of Military Relations, the MLA of Eastern Passage; home of CFB Shearwater, and as the proud mother of a son in the Canadian Armed Forces. Nova Scotians have participated in all of Canada's military operations abroad and continue to play a critical role during times of domestic hardship, including their rapid response in assisting in environmental disaster relief, search and rescue efforts, and more.

I would like to acknowledge the Nova Scotia Nunavut Command of the Royal Canadian Legion for all they do to support our veterans, including honouring them in this annual Veterans Recognition Book. We are forever indebted to our veterans for their selflessness and bravery during service.

The Canadian Armed Forces truly are the backbone of our East Coast community, and our Province is immensely proud of our troops, both past and present, for their valuable service and sacrifice.

Honourable Barbara Adams, MLA
Minister of Seniors and Long-Term Care
Minister responsible for Military Relations

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President's Message



As President of Nova Scotia/ Nunavut Command, I would like to thank all those that have contributed to the publication of this 19th edition of the Veterans' Service Recognition Book.

These publications provide an opportunity to recognize Veterans that have served and are presently serving in the Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP, during times of War and Peace. We all can be proud of their service and dedication, so that we might live in a Peaceful and Democratic society.

It is especially important that these stories and biographies are circulated throughout our many communities as a way to pay tribute, that is so deserving to our Veterans.

We thank Editor Comrade Steve Wessel for his continued promotion and support of this most worthy publication. Also, we appreciate Fenety Marketing and Mark Fenety for their professional efforts in the publishing of this and previous editions.

Enjoy this 19th Edition.

Yours in Comradeship



Don McCumber
President
Nova Scotia/ Nunavut Command
The Royal Canadian Legion



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Project Chairman/Editor's Message



As project Chairman/Editor, it is an honour and a privilege to present the 2023 edition, the 19th book in our Veteran Service Recognition Book (VSRB) series. All of these books are produced in an effort to honour, acknowledge and remember the contributions made by so many brave Canadians who have served, not only in times of war, but also during many peacekeeping and peacemaking missions. We also recognize and support those men and women who continue the proud tradition of service to Canada throughout the world in the Canadian Forces and the RCMP.

This being our 19th VSRB edition, and including our very first book, the history of our NS/NU Legion branches, marks **20 years** in producing and presenting these unique publications. With this 20th anniversary in mind, I thought it was time to update my photo (above) instead of reusing the one you've had to look at over the past 8 years or so; and to also offer my sincere thanks to all the Legion branches, members and individuals who have supported this publication through the years by contributing biographies and photos. To date, you have helped the Legion raise approx. **\$1.6 million** in personal contributions and through advertisements, for use in supporting the many Veteran's programs within our Command.

As always, I wish to thank Fenety Marketing for their continued partnership and shared expertise in the production of these books. I would also like to recognize and thank Comrade Gary Silliker, CD, for his in-depth research and continued contributions to these publications.

In closing, we look forward to issuing the 20th edition of the VSRB series in the fall of 2024, and if you would like to contribute to the 2024 edition, I encourage you to use the form at the back of this book and send it to our Command office.



Stephen Wessel
Project Chairman / Editor
Veterans' Service Recognition Book

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Craig Hood CD, WO (Ret'd)

Craig joined The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada in 1990 at the age of 16. In 1991, before his 18th birthday, he completed the basic parachutist course in Edmonton on serial 9109 and then became a member of the Parachute Company. In December of 1993 he transferred to the regular force and was posted to the 2nd Bn Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry; a childhood dream of his after observing the unarmed combat instructor in the movie *The Devil's Brigade*. While serving in the 2nd Bn, he deployed to Bosnia in 1997 on Roto 0 of OP Palladium under NATO's Stabilization Force or SFOR.



WO Craig Hood (Ret'd) is NS/NU Command's new Executive Director

There was a lot to process in the aftermath and near conclusion of the Balkans War, he recalls and the memories of that time, good and bad will never be forgotten. Upon completing four years with 2PPCLI, he returned to The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.



In around 2001, Craig moved to Barrie Ontario, where he transferred to the Grey and Simcoe Foresters and in 2007 was attached to 1RCR for pre-deployment training in Petawawa. In 2008, Craig deployed to Afghanistan as a Sergeant/heavy weapons mentor within the Operational Mentor and Liaison Teams otherwise known as OMLT. In December of 2008, upon the OMLT teams taking casualties, he was promoted to Warrant Officer (while so employed) and switched roles to mentoring an Afghan National Army Company as the 2i/c (2nd in command).

Upon returning to Canada, Craig moved back into the Greater Toronto Area and once again, rejoined The Queen's Own Rifles where he filled many rolls such as Recce Platoon 2i/c, Direct Fire Support Platoon 2i/c, RQMS and Course 2i/c for many courses.

In 2021, Craig took up an opportunity to teach at 5CDTC Det Aldershot where he worked as an instructor and course 2i/c on several NCO and Officer leadership courses. In 2023, after over 33 years of service as an infantry soldier, he was released due to injuries sustained during his service.

In 2014, Craig had joined the Royal Canadian Legion at Branch 322 Ajax Ont. as a way to help support his fellow veterans. In 2016, Craig was one of the Co-Founders that stood up the Legion's OSI Special Section, otherwise known as BSO Legion OSI. The mandate of this special section was to promote mental health awareness and fight mental health stigma. BSO Legion OSI was ratified at Convention in St John's NFLD of that year and Craig held the position of 1st Vice President at ratification.

In 2019, Craig became the National Coordinator for Operation VetBuild, a program which incorporates hobby as a means of building and sustaining good mental health. He developed this program and incorporated it into BSO Legion OSI's offering of services. Operation VetBuild now supports veterans and their families in branches across the country.

When hearing that there was an opportunity to do more for veterans through the Legion, he applied for the role of Executive Director of Nova Scotia Nunavut Command and to his excitement was offered the position in which he has taken on in September of this year. After 33 years of military service and 9 years as a volunteer within the Legion, Craig feels that this is the transition that he needed, to continue to serve Canada and its veterans. He also feels that the skills, the discipline and the friendships that he has forged over his years as a soldier and Legion volunteer will be his greatest assets.



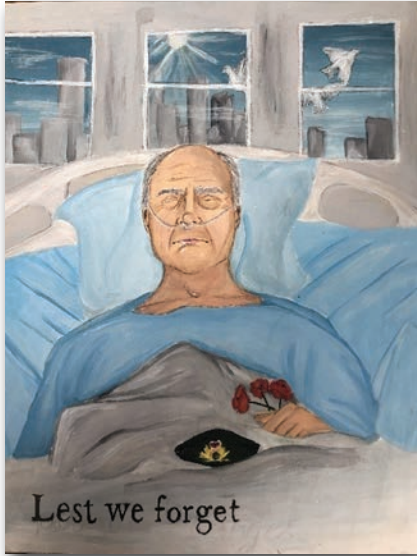
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Nova Scotia / Nunavut Command Poster and Literary Contest Winners – 2023



1st Place

Senior Colour Poster, **Brianna Doiron**
Submitted by Montgomery Branch 133, District F

2nd Place

Senior Colour Poster, **Olivia Felker**
Submitted by Habitant Branch 073, District D



1st Place

Intermediate Colour Poster, **Kassie Clark**
Submitted by Oxford Branch 036, District C

2nd Place

Intermediate Colour Poster, **Aleigh Mumford**
Submitted by Elmsdale Branch 048, District F



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1st Place

Junior Colour Poster, **Ruby Langley**

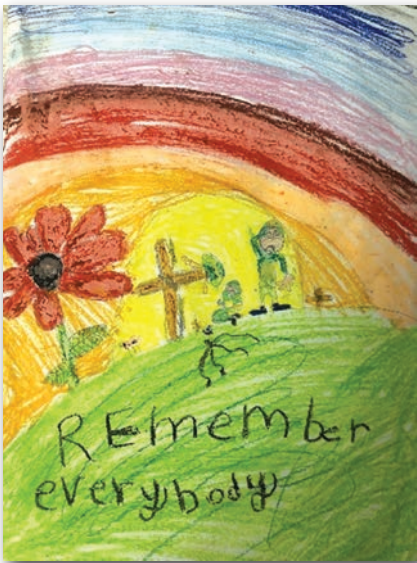
Submitted by Earl Francis Mem. Branch 152, District F



2nd Place

Junior Colour Poster, **Isabella Mason**

Submitted by Elmsdale Branch 048, District F



1st Place

Primary Colour Poster, **Mallory Pope**

Submitted by Tatamagouche Branch 064, District C

2nd Place

Primary Colour Poster, **Camila Peveril**

Submitted by Habitant Branch 073, District D



continued ...

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1st Place

Senior Black & White Poster, **Isabelle Boyce**
Submitted by Habitant Branch 073, District D



2nd Place

Senior Black & White Poster, **Jenna Cross**
Submitted by Habitant Branch 073, District D



1st Place

Intermediate Black & White Poster, **Erin Nicholson**
Submitted by Montgomery Branch 133, District F

2nd Place

Intermediate Black & White Poster, **Connor MacArthur**
Submitted by Elmsdale Branch 048, District F



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continued ...



1st Place

Junior Black & White Poster, **Aliviah Martell Young**
Submitted by Elmsdale Branch 048, District F

2nd Place

Junior Black & White Poster, **Lily MacBride**
Submitted by Habitant Branch 073, District D



1st Place

Primary Black & White Poster, **Ella Kloosterman**
Submitted by Elmsdale Branch 048, District F



2nd Place

Primary Black & White Poster, **Beatrice Atkinson**
Submitted by New Germany Branch 102, District E



continued ...



Gratitude

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continued ...

**Following are a selection of the 1st place Poetry and Essay submissions
as well as a listing of 2nd place in each category:**

1st Place Senior Poetry, **Ria Suidgeest,**

Submitted by Tatamagouche Branch 064, District C

THE SOLDIER

This goes out to the soldier
To the one who fought
To the one who risked their life

For our country
And our home
To the one who knew what was right
And kept us safe

To the one who left their family
To fight for us
For them
And for our country

To the one who knew the risks
But went to help anyway
Knowing they may not come home
They did it for us
So for that, we are thankful

So this goes out to the soldier
The one who saved the world

2nd Place Senior Poetry, **Abigail Gilbert,**

Submitted by Colchester Branch 026, District C



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1st Place Intermediate poetry, **Gabrielle Breau,**

Submitted by Colchester Branch 026, District C

Everything is different now

He's not the same
He's not the same as he was before.
Mama says it was the war.
He doesn't smile like he did before.
The way he walked through the door.
I hear him every night,
the screams that ruin my mother's smile.
Draining it of the happiness before the war
And now my happiness has begun to dry
I try so hard not to cry.
I wish I could go back to before.
I wish my big brother never went to war.

2nd Place Intermediate Poetry, **Matteo Mercer,**

Submitted by Elmsdale Branch 048, District F

1st Place Junior Poetry, **Lucas Byers,**

Submitted by Tatamagouche Branch 064, District C

Lest We Forget

Soldiers walking into war
Not knowing
What lies ahead.
Violence.
Trauma and death.
This is why
On the eleventh hour
Of the eleventh day
Of the eleventh month
We take a moment of silence
To remember
Those who fought in war
For country
Freedom and lives.

2nd Place Junior Poetry, **Claudia Parker,**

Submitted by Habitant Branch 073, District D

continued ...



Larry McGuire, Retired, Royal Canadian Navy
Garreth Hutton, Retired, Royal Canadian Navy



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1st Place Senior Essay, **Malek Al Radi,**

Submitted by Colchester Branch 026, District F

Note: Malek's entry also won 1st Place at the national (across Canada) level.

We need to hold the candle high.

I don't want to share something that I read or saw on television, I am going to tell you about my own experiences. When I was five years old, I was forced to move to another country because a war started in my own country. There were explosions near our home and planes bombing my village from the air. We were frightened and my family, my father and my mother, my four sisters, my two brothers, and I, we all had to flee. There was no time to pack. After we left, our house was bombed.

I was so happy to go to Jordan, which was a safe country. I explored new things and met new people, but all the time I was thinking about when I would get back home. I thought we would be away for a few days or maybe a year, but unfortunately that was not the truth. The truth was, I did not go back because the war is still going on, and I am only sixteen. I have been away from my home for eleven years. I haven't seen my country, my village, or my relatives. Even now, every time we read or hear news, it is still about who died, what terrible things are still going on, how expensive the war has been, and how money has lost its value and those who are left behind can hardly buy for their families. It is terrible to see your children hungry and not be able to do anything about it. My country is still suffering.

I hope peace returns soon.

I now go to school in Truro, Nova Scotia, and last week, we held a Remembrance Day service. We all wore our poppies, we sang O Canada, we had a visit from five veterans, some classes spoke about remembering, a wreath was placed at the front, but my favorite part was the Candle-lighting ceremony. We lit candles for our grandparents and families who died in war, for our friends and relatives in the armed services, and candles for peace. It was wonderful. It made me think that we need a light wherever it is dark, and that it is important to remember.

Lighting a candle reminds me that in order to light it, there have to be good people and those good people must hold the light that will put out the darkness.

2nd Place Senior Essay, **Liliana Despres,**

Submitted by Colchester Branch 026, District F



continued ...

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continued ...

1st Place Intermediate Essay, **Shana Ali,**
Submitted by Somme Branch 031, District F

Going Back

I've been here for hours. Cold, sick and hungry. Watching the rain from the cave I'm staying in. All I have left is stale bread and 2 days' worth of water, the rest stolen by animals. I wouldn't blame them; I would do the same thing. I was left behind by my group. They said they would come back, but they never did. Sometimes I think they forgot about me, or maybe they tricked me, or maybe they're all dead. I don't care what happened to them, all I know is that they left me behind. I was silent for a few seconds, thinking of what I had said. Have I gone mad? How could I say these things? The only reason I'm alive is because they told me to stay here because I am injured. They cared about me, fighting, crying, and dying while I'm safe, secure and warm. I might be hungry but at least I'm alive, unlike all those other soldiers who are either dead or dying. Have I become a monster? I'm so tired I can't even think. I limp to the rock I call my bed and I look at the rocky roof of the cave, dreaming of peace, freedom, and home. I dream of my friends, and family, of warmth and love. For once, I have a good dream, not one of death, blood and darkness. I smiled for the first time in a long time.

I wake up, thinking I am home. Nope, still in the cold, dark, damp cave. I slowly get up. Everything hurts, but my leg is feeling better. Not limping as bad as yesterday. I wash my face with the rain, it's cold but refreshing at the same time. I feel better today. I feel calm and for once, I feel like everything will be ok. I do a little stretching and have a piece of bread. I sit down on my rock and think; there is nothing better to do. I think about yesterday, I think about my dreams and I think about home. I think so much my head starts to hurt and I realize that the rain has stopped. I step outside, my boots splashing the puddle around me. It feels good to get out of the dark cave. I look around, the birds are singing, the grass is shining. It is a beautiful day. I pack my stuff and I head out. I will go back to find the war. I know, I know, war is terrible and there's too much blood, hate and death. But the only reason I decided to go to war was for my family, friends. If everyone was scared to go to war, our country, my home, would not stand. My family would not be with me anymore, no one would. That's why I'm going back to war, that's why I'm fighting, that's why I'm risking my life, for my family.

2nd Place Intermediate Essay, **Aaliyah Thomson,**
Submitted by Montgomery Branch 133, District F

*continued ...*



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*continued ...***1st Place** Junior essay, **Katie Davies,**

Submitted by Hants County Branch 009, District D

The Importance of Remembrance Day

On June 6, 1944, Canadian soldiers landed on the beaches at D-Day. Hundreds of soldiers died and were injured. The landing crafts carried the soldiers onto the beaches as the Germans attacked them. Paratroopers dropped into France to help with the attack. Soldiers pushed tanks off the ships and brought them to shore to clear the barbed wire that the Germans had set up to defend the beaches. It was early in the morning, the water was freezing, and many soldiers had to swim to shore while the Germans attacked from the cliffs. My grandmother was a year old and she lived in a town near Prague. Her mother prayed that the Nazi soldiers would not come for her daughter. Her father had been deported to the concentration camp in Terezin two years earlier.

In August 1942, the Canadians tried to invade France but were unsuccessful. They ran into a German convoy of ships and the Germans now knew they were attacking. Many soldiers lost their lives and many were captured by the Nazi soldiers. My grandmother wouldn't be born until November, but her parents worried about what might happen to their family. Their family had to wear yellow stars sewn onto their clothing when they went out. Her cousins were not allowed to go to school, to the park, to the movies or see their friends that weren't Jewish. Jews lost their jobs and were forbidden from going into stores to buy food. Even though the Canadians were unsuccessful during the Dieppe raid, my great-grandparents knew that help was coming, and they now had hope.

On May 7th, 1945, the Germans surrendered. It was too late for my great uncles, my great-great grandmother and my grandmother's cousins. They died in Auschwitz. But my great-grandfather was able to return home. And my two-year-old grandmother was now safe from the Nazis. On November 11th of each year, I attend a Remembrance Day ceremony and think about all the sacrifices the Canadian soldiers and Allies made, so my family and other families could be free.

2nd Place Junior Essay, **Julia Blundell,**

Submitted by Elmsdale Branch 048, District F



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Pour plus d'information sur ce Programme, veuillez composer le **1-800-465-7113**.

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Veterans,

Thank you for your bravery, sacrifices, and strength. Because of all the women and men, young and old, who served and continue to serve, we are able to live in a land of peace and freedom.

Every day, we honour, celebrate and give thanks to you. Your courage will continue to offer a sense of hope to Canadians who need it most. It is that same desire to extend compassion that motivates us to restore dignity in Canada's most vulnerable.



SalvationArmy.ca

Quilt of Valour for James Ronald Fowler

*Military veteran **J. Ronald Fowler** holding his quilt
with **Margaret DeViller** the quilter.*

On the right is

***Linda Rolfe** a veteran and the area representative of
Quilts of Valour Canada Society.
(**Percy J. Cottreau** photo)*



Linda Rolfe, a veteran and the area representative of the Quilts of Valour Canada Society, presented a quilt of valour to James Ronald Fowler of Greenville NS. The presentation was held at Wedgeport Legion Branch 155 during a 2023 monthly meeting. Ms. Rolfe said the quilt “was well deserved in recognition of his service and sacrifice for Canada”.

J. Ronald Fowler served 4 years in the 84th Independent Field Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, based in Yarmouth NS. He completed a six month United Nations tour in Egypt from February to July 1976. He also served in the 73rd Service Battalion out of Petawawa, Ontario as a truck driver. After his return from Egypt, he took his release from the military and pursued other employment. As a young man he also served in the Air Cadets for 5 years.

Mr. Fowler spent time with the Wedgeport Legion during Remembrance Week 2022 remembering veterans such as his father Doug Fowler buried in the Greenville cemetery. Greenville is not in the Wedgeport Legion catchment area, however the veterans of Korea who are members of the Wedgeport Legion, wanted to remember their comrades of the Korean War buried in Greenville. For the past years Canadian flags have been placed at all 15 veteran markers in the cemetery situated near the Greenville church.

Mr. Fowler has since joined the Wedgeport Legion Branch 155.

continued ...



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Quilt of Valour for Leslie Joseph Muise

*Photo of Leslie J. Muise with his quilt made by
Karen Thibault. On the right is Linda Rolfe
a veteran and the area representative of
Quilts of Valour Canada Society.
(Percy J. Cottreau photo)*



Linda Rolfe, a veteran and the area representative of the Quilts of Valour Canada Society, presented a quilt of valour to Leslie Joseph Muise of Hubbard’s Point, NS. The presentation was held at Wedgeport Legion Branch 155 during a 2023 monthly meeting. Ms. Rolfe said the quilt “was well deserved in recognition of his service and sacrifice for Canada”.

Leslie Joseph Muise, age 90 and still a pillar of the Wedgeport Legion, had a varied military career serving in the Canadian Army and the Canadian Navy. He joined the army in May 1951. He was posted to Picton and Petawawa, Ontario, after which he was sent to war torn Korea (still a dangerous place even after the armistice was signed) on Special Duty from October 1953 to May 1954.

He received the Republic of Korea Ambassador for Peace Medal. He also made a trip to Korea in 2018 accompanied by granddaughter Galisa Devine. Such trips for veterans that are open to families are still offered by the republic.

After Korea he requested a release from the army and in March 1955, he joined the Royal Canadian Navy until March 1966. During his time in the navy he trained in Cornwallis, NS, and served on ships HMCS Trinity, Iroquois, Algonquin, at HMCS Stadacona and also later on HMCS Micmac and Athabaskan. In the spring of 1963, he was posted on shore at HMCS Shelburne. In March 1966 he transferred to the Royal Canadian Signal Corps in Kingston, Ontario and in June 1969 he was posted to CFB Valcartier, Québec, where he served with Engineers, 430 Helicopter Squadron. In May 1977 he was posted to CFS Mill Cove NS with the RCAF. He retired in November 1977 as Sergeant in Tri-Service Communications.



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Lest We Forget



Nova Scotia RCMP Veterans Association

*Lieutenant Commander John Willard BONNER :
RCMP Regimental #1213 Lost at sea September 11th 1942.*



John Bonner spent most of his life at sea. In 1929 he joined the Canadian Preventative Service which in 1932 was absorbed into the RCMP Marine Service. With the rank of Master he commanded several RCMP patrol vessels until World War II when the RCMP Marine Service and it's vessels were transferred to the Royal Canadian Navy. In 1941 BONNER was given command of the Corvette HMCS Charlottetown and promoted in 1942 to Lieutenant Commander.

On September 11th 1942, HMCS Charlottetown was torpedoed by the German U-boat U-517 off Cap Chat Quebec in the St. Lawrence river. Nine of her sixty-four crew members were lost including Bonner.

When the ship was struck, Bonner ordered abandon ship, organized the evacuation and was the last to leave the ship. As he swam away there was a violent explosion and he was killed. His body was not recovered. He is listed on Panel 6 on the Halifax Memorial. Bonner Drive at RCMP Depot Division is named in his honour.



Lest We Forget





William Cochrane RCN



William "Willy" Cochrane (left) is presented with his 75 year medal by branch President Darrell Leighton, Hants County Branch 009.



With great sorrow we say goodbye to our Comrade of 77 years; William "Willy" Cochrane. William Cochrane was born 8 September 1923 in Windsor, Nova Scotia. Willy worked at Nova Scotia Textiles before enlisting in the Royal Canadian Navy on September 23, 1942. He served out of Halifax. He spent 18 months on the *Rayond'or*, a minesweeper and then 6 months on the HMCS Stormont, a frigate. William was discharged as an Ordinary Seaman on October 23, 1945. He received the Atlantic Star, War Medal 1939-1945, Defense Medal and the CVSM/Clasp. He was a life member of the Hants County Branch 009, Royal Canadian Legion.

William Cochrane was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion for 77 years. He passed away on June 8, 2022 at the age of 98.



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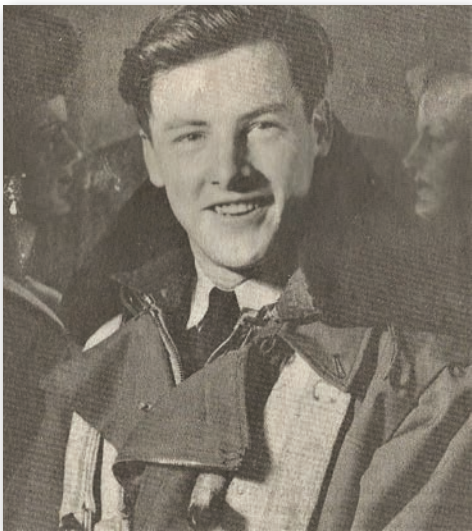
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ALLAN COGGON – an Aviatore

Story by Gary Silliker



Allan Fenwick Coggon was born in Dartmouth in 1919 and his family moved to Clearland, just outside Mahone Bay, when he was a child. In 1946 Allan became a member of Branch 49 Mahone Bay. He was a tireless advocate of our Canadian veterans' legacy. Here is some of Allan's story – a story of four decades of flying.

Allan went for his first airplane ride in February 1927 when he was eight years old. A de Havilland Gipsy Moth, equipped with skis, landed in Mahone Bay and was offering rides for a dollar. Allan was hooked on becoming a pilot. In October 1939 he applied to the RCAF for a chance to fly. He was accepted into the RCAF on 1 June 1940, which just happened to be his 21st birthday.

After basic training in Toronto, he did pilot training in Thunder Bay, Saskatoon, and Trenton. Allan was presented with his pilot wings in November. The RCAF decided that his talent and skill as a pilot would be best suited for a position within the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan; consequently, Allan became a pilot instructor.

His instructional duties saw him posted to Dauphin and Winnipeg, MB; Picton, ON, and Pennfield Ridge, NB.

In June 1942 Flying Officer Coggon was posted to St Hubert, QC, as a staff pilot for the RCAF Training Command Headquarters. His duties consisted primarily of flying military and civilian VIPs to various locations (which sometimes included secluded fishing camps). Allan had been requesting an overseas posting for over a year, but to no avail. In July 1943 he had 1,260 flying hours in his logbook and again requested a posting overseas – he wanted to get into the fighting war. The RCAF posted him to 164 Heavy Transport Squadron in Moncton.

Allan was inducted into the permanent force of the RCAF in January 1944 and posted to Ottawa as a staff pilot. In September, with 2,240 flying hours in his logbook and numerous requests to go overseas, was posted to England. Allan was amongst a large group of RCAF men being trained for operations in the far east. Their role was to fly troops, ammunition, and supplies into battle – often behind enemy lines. Allan left for India in January 1945.

In Comilla he joined 31 Squadron, RAF, and on 9 February, while at the controls of a C-47, he made his resupply mission flying over 'the hump' (Himalayan Mountains) into Burma.

His squadron's main tasks were close-support missions for the ground troops (in Allan's case it was usually the troops of the 81st East African and 82nd West African divisions). Many of his



Allan Coggon (left) during training in Saskatoon, Sask.



Allan Coggon in Burma

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missions required flying at tree top level to avoid anti-aircraft or small arms fire from the Japanese troops in the jungles below.

On one memorable mission Allan was flying at 8,000 feet when he noticed the head of a snake peeking out from an equipment access panel on the floor between his feet. It looked like a cobra to him. Allan quietly told the co-pilot to slowly leave the cockpit. Once that was accomplished Allan fired 3 rounds from his pistol at the cobra. Upon returning to base, he explained the three bullet holes to the maintenance crew. The C-47 was quickly repaired, and he flew another mission. The next day the maintenance crew informed him that they had found the remains of a 7-foot snake in the plane. Many of the loads he flew consisted of perishable items such as rice, feed for mules, and gain-based foods; rats, mice and snakes were often found in the loads.

Near the end of March, he was on a mission to drop three tons of barbed wire and steel pickets behind enemy lines. The load had to be dropped at 50 feet and it had to be done in 4 passes. During the drop the Japanese forces were shelling the drop zone. On the last pass there was an explosion very close to Allan's plane. The plane's port wing tilted earthwards, and the engine quit – at the same moment a “bloody mass” of flesh came through the open cockpit window and struck Allan in the head. He was able to recover the plane and return to his base safely. Allan was never sure what that bloody mass of flesh was; however, he always hoped it was the remains of some cow that was struck by a Japanese shell.

The greatest threat to airmen flying the hump into Burma was not the enemy – it was the weather. Allan had several near-death experiences due to sudden changes in the weather. He would later note that planes were often “blown around like leaves.”

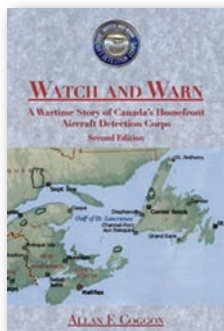
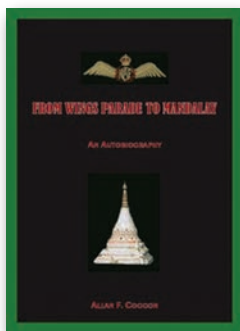



Allan Coggon, 70, shows Air Force Wings presented to him by the Nationalist Chinese government for his role as a pilot in South East Asia during the Second World War.

Flight Lieutenant Allan Coggon left India on 15 July 1945; starting a five-day journey to England. He arrived in Halifax in late August, and after 30 days leave, he reported to RCAF Training HQ in St Hubert. In December he was posted to 124 Ferry Squadron, RCAF, and spent the next year flying various types of aircraft back to Canada. Flight Lieutenant Coggon was selected for this task because he was able to fly and navigate at the same time. He was released from the RCAF in April 1946.


Allan stayed in the aviation business after the war. He flew for KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, from 1947 to 1952 on trans-ocean, and inter-continental routes to the Dutch East Indies and the West Indies. In 1952 he flew with Hollinger Air Transport, on the mega-project, to build a 360-mile railroad to the interior of Labrador. That was followed by a year as the personal pilot to Sir James Dunn. He then became the chief pilot for the Air Service Division of Algoma Steel Corporation. Allan was a freelance helicopter and seaplane instructor from 1982 to 1990. He returned to Mahone Bay in 1990 and was a founding member of the Western Nova Scotia Aircrew Association and the Silver Dart Chapter of the Canadian Aviation Historical Society.

He wrote two books: ‘From Wings Parade to Mandalay’ (an autobiography of his war years) and ‘Watch and Warn’ (the story of the Canadian Air Detection Corps of WW II).





Allan is remembered fondly in Clearland; especially for his rendition of the song “Lunenburg County Jail.” He died on 24 December 2006 and is buried in the Upper Blue Rocks Cemetery.





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Douglas Cox - Evader

Story by Gary Silliker



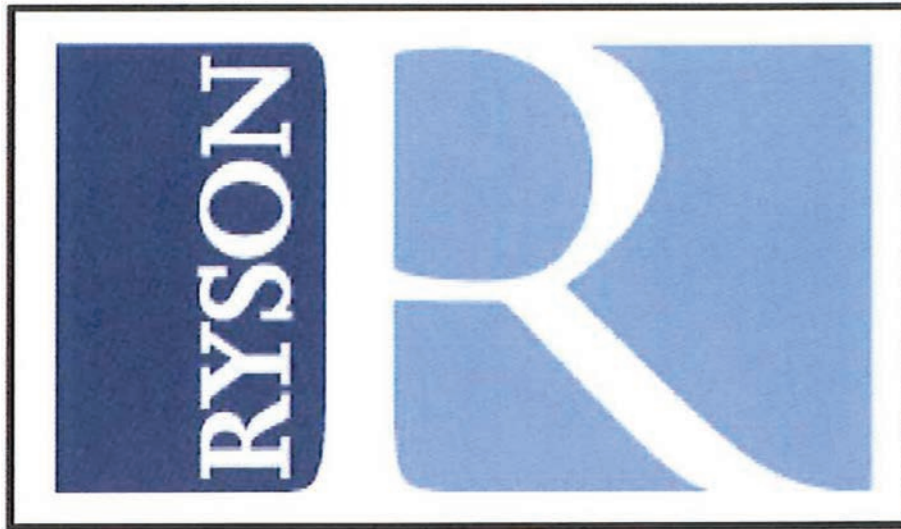
Douglas Maxwell Cox was born on 5 August 1919 in Halifax. Upon finishing high school, he attended the Provincial Normal School (now NS Teachers College) where he obtained a teacher certificate. Doug enlisted in the RCAF on 19 July 1941.

He trained and qualified as an Air Observer/Air Navigator on 27 April 1942 and was posted to Operational Training Unit 31, RCAF Station Debert, NS, on 14 May. Sergeant Cox was posted to RAF Ferry Command on 30 June 1942. Three days later, in Gander, NL, he took on the role of navigator for a Mitchell bomber bound for Britain. Doug would later recount that trip, noting that he and the civilian pilot made up the entire 'crew.' He also remembered the pilot telling him not to get too concerned if he dozed off for a few minutes every now and then during the nighttime crossing of the Atlantic.

After delivering the bomber he was transferred to Bomber Command and sent to No.14 OTU, Cottesmore, for more training. In late January 1943 Sergeant Cox was posted to 7 Squadron RAF (pathfinder force) and was assigned to a crew flying Short Stirling Mark I R9149 MG-B. The other crew members were Pilot Officer Frank Morton "Tommy" Tomlinson (pilot) of East Noel, Hants County NS; Warrant Officer I Vincent Albert Fox of Fairville, NB; Sergeant JR Cox; and RAF airmen Warrant Officer II C Davies, Sergeant G Howard, Sergeant L March; and Warrant Officer II J Jennings.

Doug would later remark that very few airmen were keen on recent modifications that removed the nose gun position on the Stirling. That meant the bomber had no defense against a frontal attack by an enemy fighter. Sgt Cox flew his first bombing mission on 7 February. His last mission on that bomber, was on 9 March. That night MG-B was shot down near Élan, Flize, Ardennes, in northern France, by Lt. Helmut Bergmann of Luftwaffe Night Fighter Wing 4. Tommy Tomlinson stayed at the controls of the burning bomber, as the rest of the crew bailed out, and was killed in the crash. The other crew members became Prisoners of War; however, Doug escaped capture and became an 'evader'.

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Warrant Officer I Vincent Albert Fox, of MG-B, was killed in April 1945 when RAF fighters mistakenly attacked a large group of POWs who were on a force march in Germany.

Flight Lieutenant Doug Maxwell Cox, DFC, recounted his days as an evader, behind enemy lines, in his story “It Was a Long Walk Home” which was published in the RCAF magazine ‘The Rondel’ in May 1961. After hiding out in a rural area, dressed as a farmer labourer, he contacted the French Resistance. He was hidden in a Paris apartment; however, two attempts to get him back to England by sea failed. Doug did recount the time he and another evader were riding in a train’s passenger car when two Gestapo were checking identifications papers. Fortunately for Doug and his friend, the inspection stopped two seats short of where they were sitting. His final ‘walk’ was across the Pyrenees and into neutral ‘Axis-friendly’ Spain. In early July, he made it to the British Garrison in Gibraltar and arrived back in England on 24 July.

Doug was surprised to learn that, during his evasion escapades in France and Spain, he had been promoted to Flight Sergeant and again to Warrant Officer II. He happily collected his back-pay before being repatriated to Canada on 7 September.

Doug returned to England in June 1944 and was posted to 433 Squadron, RCAF. He flew another 30 bombing missions between 18 July and 25 October. During that period, he was commissioned to the rank of Pilot Officer. On 15 November 1944, Doug was awarded an ‘immediate’ Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions with 433 Squadron.

Doug was released from the RCAF in the summer of 1945 and enrolled in Dalhousie University that fall. After obtaining a BA degree, in 1949, he took his wife and young children to Bordeaux, France, as part of a university training plan. While there Doug made a visit to the grave of his pilot Tommy Tomlinson in the Elan Churchyard. He returned to Canada in 1950 and enrolled in the University of Toronto obtaining a degree in French studies.

Doug re-joined the RCAF in 1953, as a navigation officer, and was employed as Language Professor at the College Militaire Royal in St. Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec. Flight Lieutenant Douglas Cox, DFC, was released from the RCAF in 1966 and moved his family to Lunenburg County. Doug taught school in Hebbville and Mahone Bay until his retirement in 1979. Retirement allowed him more time to work his Christmas tree farm.

He became a member of the Western Nova Scotia Aircrew Association, the Royal Air Forces Escaping Society (Canadian Branch), Branch 24 Bridgewater RCL and a ‘friend’ of 14 Construction Engineering Squadron, RCAF.

Douglas Maxwell Cox, DFC, died on 17 April 2012 at the Veterans’ Unit of Fishermen’s Memorial Hospital in Lunenburg.





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 ***Lest We Forget***



James Gibson Laurier Fraser WWI and Family



Duncan Cameron Fraser

James Gibson Laurier Fraser was born in New Glasgow, N.S. on 14 September 1895, youngest of Duncan Cameron and Elizabeth (Graham) Fraser's five children. Duncan Fraser was a lawyer by profession and was elected Member of Parliament for Guysborough in 1891.

He held this position until 1904, at which time he accepted appointment to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia. Two years later, Duncan was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, a post he held until his untimely death at age 64 on 27 September 1910.

Following her husband's passing, Elizabeth relocated to Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, where she resided with her oldest daughter, Annie, and her husband, Rev. William G. Wilson. Her son Laurier, as he was known to family, and his older sister Sarah, accompanied their mother to Moose Jaw.

Two other siblings, Alistair and Margaret Marjorie, had already left home. Alistair completed his studies at Dalhousie University in Halifax and later re-joined the family in Moose Jaw, where he commenced the practice of law. Alistair, like his father Duncan, also served as Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia from 1952 to 1958.

Margaret completed her nursing studies at Lady Stanley Institute, Ottawa and commenced employment at Vancouver General Hospital.

In the meantime, upon completing his schooling, Laurier entered a five-year legal apprenticeship with a nearby Gull Lake, Sask. Law office.



Alistair Fraser

The outbreak of the First World War in August 1914 soon impacted the Fraser siblings. Shortly after the British declaration of war on Germany and Austria-Hungary, both Alistair and Margaret travelled to Camp Valcartier, Quebec.

Margaret enlisted with the Canadian Army Medical Corps, while Alistair accompanied the 17th Battalion (Nova Scotia) to England, where he received a commission as a Lieutenant when he attested with the unit. Alistair subsequently served in Belgium with the Princess Patricia's Light Infantry (PPCLI) and at Vimy Ridge, France with the 15th Battalion (48th Highlanders of Canada).

Too young to enlist at the time of the war's commencement, Laurier joined the 60th Rifles of Canada, a Moose Jaw militia unit. On 19 February 1916, he enlisted with the 229th

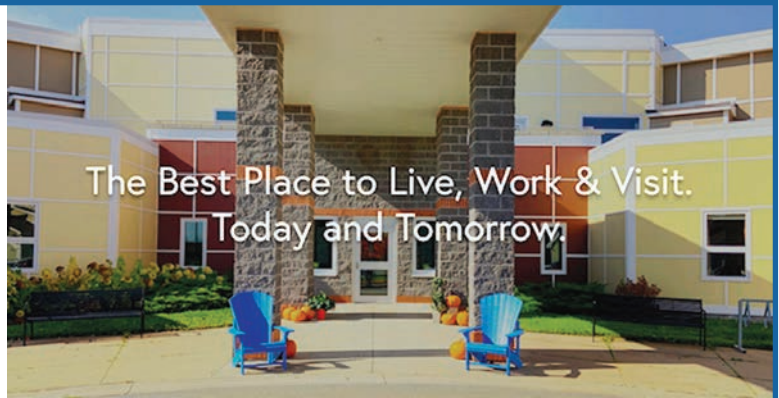
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Margaret Fraser



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Battalion (South Saskatchewan). At the time Laurier was a strapping 5 feet 11 inches tall and weighed 195 pounds. As with his older brother, Laurier received the commission rank of Lieutenant at the time of his enlistment. Following a summer of training in Western Canada, the 229th made its way by train to Halifax, N.S., and departed for England on 23 September 1916. Upon arriving overseas, the 229th was dissolved and its rank and file dispersed to existing units in the field. As a result, Laurier was placed on the Canadian Expeditionary Force's "General List" of Officers and awaited the opportunity to serve at the front.



Laurier Fraser at training camp

Laurier spent seven months in England before receiving a transfer to the 16th Battalion on 26 April 1917. He crossed the English Channel to France on May 1st and joined his new unit in the field four days later. The 16th had been established at Valcartier, Quebec, in September 1914, its initial ranks composed of soldiers from four Highland militia units. As a result, the battalion adopted the title "Canadian Scottish".

Following its arrival in France in mid-February 1915, the 16th served with the Canadian Corps in Belgium's Ypres Salient until September 1916, when the Corps relocated to the Somme region of France for two months. The Battalion spent the winter of 1916-17 in sectors near Lens, France and participated in the Canadian Corp's historic 9 April 1917 attack on Vimy Ridge. Alistair, Laurier's older brother, participated in that battle.

Laurier served with the 16th in France throughout the spring and summer of 1917. In late October, the unit made its way northward to a location close to the Belgian border, where it paused to prepare for its role in the Canadian Corp's attack on Passchendaele Ridge. At month's end, personnel arrived at Ypres, Belgium. While the 16th served several tours in the line, its soldiers did not participate in the assault's final stages. The unit remained in the area until mid-month, at which time its soldiers made their way back to their previous sectors near Lens.

Throughout the winter of 1917-18, the 16th completed a regular schedule of rotations, conducting occasional raids on German trenches and enduring intermittent machine gun, artillery and trench mortar fire during its tours. On 25 February, its soldiers occupied "a little more than 1000 yards" of the St. Emile sector's trenches. In subsequent days, personnel set about wiring and deepening the front line, amidst sporadic artillery and machine gun fire.



*Lt. Laurier Fraser,
16th Battalion
(Canadian Scottish)*

Early the following month, hostile fire intensified considerably. On March 1st, a trench mortar shell killed three "other ranks" (OR) and wounded a fourth. Artillery and mortar shelling continued throughout the subsequent days, culminating in a heavy barrage on the 16th's line in the early morning hours of 4 March 1918. As the hostile fire subsided, German soldiers attacked a section of the line to the battalion's left.

The 16th's No 1 Company, located in support trenches at the time of the bombardment, was particularly hard-hit by the barrage. Two of its Officers were killed and a third wounded, while four OR were killed and the same number wounded. Lieutenant James Gibson Laurier Fraser was one of the two Officer fatalities. He was laid to rest in Bully Grenay Communal Cemetery. Laurier's cousin, Lieutenant Roderick Douglas Graham (*see article this edition*) was in camp with the 85th Battalion at nearby Raimbert and attended Laurier's interment.

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Hormidas Fredette – The last survivor of C Force

Story: Gary Silliker

On the 24th of April 2023, I was listening in on a webinar from the University of Ottawa about the ‘myths and memories’ of the Canadian soldiers of C Force. During the lecture I learned that Mr. George MacDonnell had died on 15 April and that Mr. Hormidas Fredette of New Minas, NS, was now the last Canadian survivor of the Battle of Hong Kong. Serendipitously, a few days earlier, I had learned that Mr. Fredette was living in New Minas. I knew I had to take time to meet with Mr. Fredette. Over that past 35 years I have had the privilege to speak with several Canadian veterans of the Battle of Hong Kong and I knew Mr. Fredette would be my last. I had a lovely and informative visit with Hormidas on 5 May. Here is some of his story.



CANADA

Hormidas Fredette was born in 1917 in the small town of Upper Melbourne, which is just on the outskirts of Richmond, in the Eastern Townships of Quebec (Upper Melbourne was the scene portrayed on the 1954-1974 Canadian two-dollar bill).



As a teenager he found employment as a farm labourer and woodsman. Life was hard for his family as they made their way through the Great Depression. During that time Hormidas joined the local militia unit, Les Fusiliers de Sherbrooke, and became a very proficient operator of the Vickers machine gun. In 1940, as Canada went to war, he enlisted in the 1st Battalion of the Royal Rifles of Canada.

The Royal Rifles soon became part of ‘W Force’ of the Canadian army and served in Newfoundland on garrison duty from early November 1940 to August 1941. Rifleman Fredette’s last place of duty, while in Newfoundland, was in St John’s. It was there he met Lillian Mitcham – they were engaged to be married before he left Newfoundland.



W Force on parade in St. John's NFLD.

HONG KONG

After leaving Newfoundland the battalion became part of ‘C Force’ - a contingent was made up of 1,975 Canadian army personnel designated for the defense of the British colony of Hong Kong in China. The bulk of C Force was made up of two infantry battalions – The Royal Rifles of Canada and The Winnipeg Grenadiers. The military forces of Imperial Japan had invaded China in 1937 and were known to be amassing on the border with Hong Kong. C Force departed Vancouver on 27 October and arrived in Hong Kong on 16 November.

On 8 December, the British colony was attacked by the soldiers of the Imperial Japanese Army (IJA). The entire military garrison at Hong Kong numbered 14,351 personnel (British, Canadians, Chinese, Free French and Indians). They were no match for the 35,000 battle-hardened soldiers of the IJA. A losing defensive battle ensued, which ended on Christmas Day, with the surrender of the entire garrison.

Hormidas Fredette was at Fort Stanley on Christmas Day when it became obvious that the fight for Hong Kong was coming to an end. Rather than accept immediate capture, he sought and was granted permission by his platoon leader

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continued ...

to evade capture in hopes of escaping the island. Rifleman Fredette hid amongst an outcropping of rocks during the surrender of the last remnants of the Royal Rifles of Canada that day. Later that night he noticed that there were no sounds of battle, that the streetlights were back on and that cars and trucks were driving around with headlights on. All indicators that the battle was over, and things had settled down. He decided it would be safe to surrender peacefully and avoid a potentially violent capture by the IJA.

Two hundred and ninety Canadians were killed during the Battle of Hong Kong and 493 were wounded. Another 272 would perish from disease, malnutrition, physical abuse and murder, while being held as prisoners of war (POWs). Hormidas was kept in the North Point POW camp, on the island of Hong Kong, until 26 September 1942.



North Point POW Camp, Hong Kong



*Sgt. Kanao Inouye –
“Kamloops Kid”*

Then he was transferred to Shamshuipo POW camp in Kowloon on the mainland of Hong Kong. There was a notoriously cruel and brutal IJA sergeant at that camp. The “Kamloops Kid” took great delight in beating and abusing Canadian POWs. Sergeant Kanao Inouye was born in Canada in 1916 and had grown up in Kamloops BC. In 1938 he traveled to Japan to continue his education. Inouye was conscripted into the IJA in 1942 and served as an interpreter/prison guard for the IJA and for the notoriously cruel Kenpeitai (political police). Fortunately, for Rifleman Fredette, he only had one run-in with the “Kamloops Kid.” Sergeant Inouye warned Hormidas to “just play the game.” Kanao Inouye was executed for war crimes in 1947.

JAPAN

In late December the Japanese war machine needed to rapidly increase output. POWs were seen as a cheap source of labour. To that end, POWs from various camps in the Pacific region (Singapore, the Philippines, Malaya, Thailand, Java, Hong Kong) were sent to Japan.



The Tatsuta Maru – “Hell Ship”

At 5 AM, on 19 January 1943, the Tatsuta Maru left Hong Kong with 1180 Allied POWs; 663 of them were Canadians, including Rifleman Hormidas Fredette. The POWs were herded into the hold of the ship and each prisoner was given a small box that contained his food and water for the trip. There was no room to lay down and the vessel became known, amongst the POWs, as the “hell ship”. The ship arrived in Nagasaki, Japan, at 4 AM on 22 January. Hormidas was amongst a group of POWs who then boarded a train for the 10-mile journey to the Tsurumi-ku POW camp near Yokohama. Hormidas worked at that location for Nippon Steel Tube Company in the Tsurumi Shipyards.

While he was employed at various jobs in the shipyard, his primary task was sitting for hours on a block of wood sorting large nuts and bolts for defects or damaged threads.

Once, while working inside a ship, Hormidas realised that the scaffolding he was standing was shaking violently. He looked around, and to his surprise, he saw that the Japanese workers had run away. The shipyard was being struck by an earthquake! He exited the ship quickly.

On 16 April Hormidas was transferred to the Ohashi POW camp to work for the Nippon Steel Company. The POWs were already suffering from the effects of a poor diet; when the winter of 1944-45 came, there was an even greater lack of food for the prisoners. Rations were reduced to 3 small bowls of rice per day. One night he was assigned the duty of ‘fire picquet.’ That night he made his way into a storeroom and found a box of daikons - a large winter radish. He pulled one from the box, peeled it and ate it quickly. It did not agree with his stomach, but he could not tell the guards that!

It was around this time that Hormidas Fredette and Joseph Cardin, of Drummondville, decided that they had had

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enough of the poor rations and decided, unwisely, to protest by having a ‘two-man sit down strike.’ That was a very bad idea. Hormidas and Joseph sat down on a warm steam pipe rather than go to the mess hall for their breakfast. It was not long before two guards entered the room armed with long hardwood staffs. They proceeded to beat the two men. Fredette and Cardin were then dragged into the mess hall. In front of the other POWs, they were beaten senseless.



Members of the Royal Rifles of Quebec, survivors of the Battle of Hong Kong, Ohashi prison camp, prior to evacuation on 15 September 1945

Hormidas took the beating until he fainted and fell to the floor. The impact, with the rough cinder-block floor, resulted in a severe abrasion to his face and he bled profusely. The public beating was a ‘show of force’ by the guards to strongly discourage POWs from complaining about their meager rations or defying their captors. Two weeks later, Hormidas was surprised when the man, who had beaten him so badly, stopped him, and in very good English, asked “How are you today?”

A few months later Hormadis was suffering from a very bad case of dry beri beri. His feet were swollen and numb. He was given an injection of anti-biotics; however, due to the unsanitary conditions, the injection point on his arm quickly became infected. Within a day his arm was useless and ridged. He was not able to work. That fact would be of no concern to the guards who insisted that anyone who could walk would work.

Fortunately, there were two American doctors in the camp who treated him and hid him from the guards until he regained the use of his arm. Those two doctors were Lieutenant James E. Eppley of the US Navy, who had been captured in Guam in December 1941, and 1st Lieutenant Edwin W. Tucker of the 12th Medical Regiment (Philippine Scouts) of the United States Army Medical Corps, who had been captured in the Philippines in March 1942. Hormidas attributes his arm and his life to those two Americans.

LIBERATION and REPATRIATION

Japan surrendered on 15 August and Hormidas was liberated from the Sendai POW Camp on 15 September. His first stop was in Guam where he able to regain some strength while under the care of US Forces. While in Guam he was able to attend a USO show and go for a ride in a B-25 Mitchell bomber. From Guam he travelled by ship to San Francisco and then by train to Seattle, Vancouver and, finally, to Montreal. After a brief re-union with his family Hormidas was off to St John’s to see Lillian.



*Hormidas Fredette,
May 2023*

He and Lillian were married before they left Newfoundland. They returned to Richmond, Quebec, and a few years later opted to relocate to the Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia. They would have two sons – Brain and Ronald.

Mr. Hormidas Fredette is a member of Branch 6 Kentville RCL. He was awarded the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee medal in 2012.

Editor’s note: The following pages are a list of N.S. C Force soldiers who served during the Battle of Hong Kong.

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Nova Scotia soldiers of C Force

The following Nova Scotia soldiers were captured or killed during the Battle of Hong Kong, while others died in POW camps.

Royal Rifles of Canada

- Rifleman **Percy ATWOOD** of Barrington.
Killed in action 23 December 1941
- Rifleman **Alfred BABIN** of Sydney.
- Rifleman **Howard BENT** of Halifax.
Died while a POW from drinking poisoned liquor (methanol poisoning) on 7 September 1945
- Rifleman **Leo BOTTIE** of West Lardoise.
Died of diarrhea, beri beri, and acute enteritis on 5 January 1945 whilst a POW.
- Rifleman **Hercules BUCHANAN** of Lockeport.
- Rifleman **George CHURCHILL** of Sandford.
- Rifleman **Earl FRANCIS** of Halifax.
- Rifleman **Kenneth GATES** of Kentville.
- Rifleman **Angus JACQUARD** of Little River Harbour.
Died while a POW on 1 January 1944. He died of injuries incurred when the hut he was living in collapsed.
- Rifleman **Gilbert JACQUARD** of Comeau's Hill.
- Rifleman **Alton JEWERS** of Halifax.
- Rifleman **Stephen KERR** of Port Williams.
- Rifleman **George LAKE** of Windsor.
- Rifleman **Joseph LEBLANC** of Petit-de-Grat.
- Rifleman **Ferdinand LLOYD** of Doctors Cove.
- Rifleman **Maurice LOCKHART** of Greenwich.
- Rifleman **Laurie MACKAY** of Truro.
- Rifleman **Thomas MACLAUGHLIN** of Bass River.
Died on 28 November 1942 of diphtheria and colitis whilst a POW



Royal Rifles of Canada

continued ...

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The West Hants Regional Municipality is inspired daily by all its volunteers. One of the largest volunteer organizations in Canada is the Legionnaires. Our Legions raise funds for those in need; provide support to our veterans and their families; and organize our annual Remembrance Day services.

Locally, the Royal Canadian Legion, Hants County Branch 009, Windsor, has been a backbone of many volunteer efforts in West Hants for over 100 years. Our local veterans commit hundreds and hundreds of volunteer hours each and every year. West Hants is also honoured to partner with Branch 009 on its Legion Banner Program. Lest We Forget.

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The West Hants Regional Municipality thanks all veterans, past and present, for their service.



continued ...

- Lance Corporal **John MACPHERSON** of Wolfville.
- Sergeant **Albert MARSHALL** of Halifax.
- Rifleman **John MCEACHERN** of Sydney.
- Rifleman **Walter MOORE** of Kentville.
Killed in action on 21 December 1941
- Rifleman **Gerald MYERS** of Ostrea Lake.
- Rifleman **James PATTINGALE** of Maplewood.
- Rifleman **Irvin RAY** of St. Mary's River.
Died while a POW of Acute Pneumonia on 13 November 1943
- Rifleman **Lloyd ROBLEE** of Springhill.
Awarded a "mentioned in dispatches" (MiD).
Died whilst a POW on 21 April 1944. Cause of death is unknown.
- Rifleman **John RUSSELL** of Springhill.
- Rifleman **Perry SARTY** of Mersey Point.
Died while a POW of Pneumonia, Chronic Enteritis, and Beri Beri,
on 15 November 1943
- Corporal **Carlyle SAVAGE** of Berwick.
- Rifleman **Vincent SERROUL** of Little Bras D'Or.
- Corporal **Elmer SMITH** of Scotsburn.
- Rifleman **Robert SMITH** of Glen Levi.t
- Rifleman **Henry SURETTE** of Port Bickerton.
Killed in action 25 December 1941
- Rifleman **James WALLACE** of Kentville.

The Royal Canadian Army Service Corps

- Corporal **James HURLEY** of Middleton.
- Private **Walter SAUNDERS** of Chester.
- Staff Sergeant **John LAING** of Sherbrooke.



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Chief Petty Officer John James Gascoigne, RNR

Story: Gary Silliker and John Cunningham



John Gascoigne was born in Coventry, England, in 1915 and died in Charlottetown in 2004. He was a member of Branch 49 Mahone Bay N.S. for 15 years.

In the early 1990s, when asked about his service during WWII, he remarked “I may have been one of those nuts that liked hardship. But there was war on. I was glad to be part of it.” Here is some of his story.

John’s military service started in 1939 when he joined the local Home Guard. Surprisingly, it was during this time that he would suffer his only war wound. One night while on a home guard night patrol, with rifles and bayonets ‘fixed’, the soldier in front of John suddenly turned around. The soldier’s bayonet struck, and gashed, John’s nose.

John enlisted in the Royal Naval Reserve in 1940 and trained as a radioman (operator/mechanic) and coder. By 1942 he was a member of the Royal Naval Commandos, also known as RN Beachhead Commandos, which were part of the Combined Operations Group. These commando groups conducted numerous small clandestine operations along the coast of Europe prior to the spring of 1943.

On 10 July 1943 John went ashore in Sicily as part of the Beach Signals Section Number 9. John and his fellow commandos landed on the beaches of Sicily 30 minutes before the army assault troops came ashore. Their job was to establish shore-to-ship communications, mark out the landing sites, and guide the assault craft onto the beaches.

On 9 September John’s unit was part of Operation Avalanche - the Allied landings near the port of Salerno, Italy. Again, his unit landed ahead of the assault troops.

continued ...

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morning, we will
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Vice Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten inspecting RN Beachhead Commandos

His unit took part on the D-Day invasion, on 6 June 1944, as part of Operation Neptune. John and his fellow naval commandos operated ashore, in support of the 50th (Northumberland) Infantry Division at Gold Beach.

John would note that, while there was a lot of shelling of his position, the D-Day landing was much smoother than the landings in Salerno.

One of his memories from Normandy was of the day he was shot at by a well concealed sniper near Bayeaux. At the time he was driving a truck and would later remark “I stepped on the accelerator and got out fast.” It was later revealed that the sniper was a French Fascist woman.

After the war John left the navy and immigrated to Canada. He found work in London, ON, in the engineering department of EMCO Corporation. He and his wife Katherina moved to Clearland N.S. in 1976 where John joined Branch 49 (he was the branch treasurer for many years). John and Katherina became founding members of the Mahone Bay Founders Society. John was also a member of the South Shore Naval Association and the Royal Naval Commandos Association.



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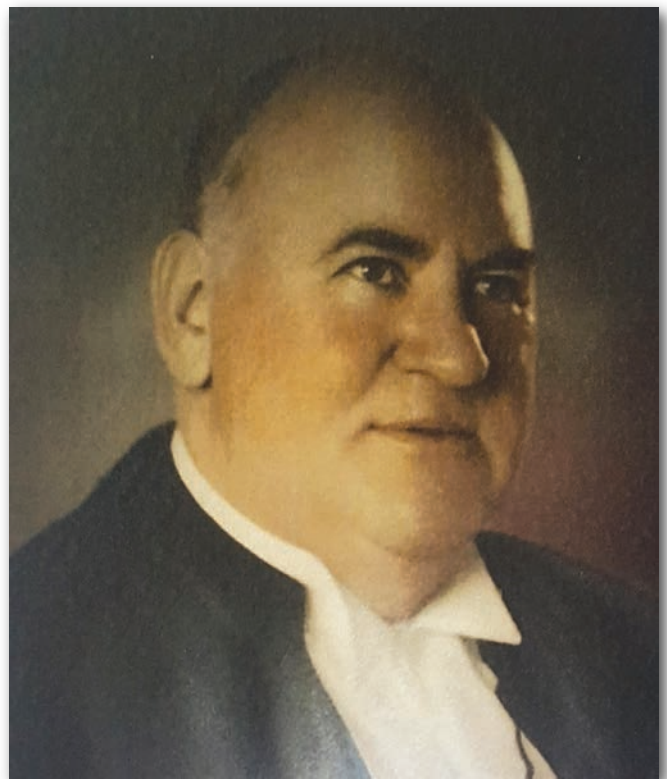


Roderick Douglas Graham WWI

Roderick was born in 1891 in New Glasgow N.S. In 1911, Douglas was a member of the Dalhousie University boxing, rugby and hockey teams in Halifax. He graduated as a lawyer from Dalhousie in 1914, enlisted in the army, and was sent overseas as a Lieutenant with the Nova Scotia Highlanders 85th Battalion.



Roderick Graham WWI



Roderick Graham, post WWI, Lawyer

Roderick fought, and was wounded, at Vimy Ridge on 9 April 1918 and was also awarded the Military Cross (Amiens).

Roderick was released from service following WWI with the rank of Major and upon his return to Canada, began his law practice. He later married Irene Wentzell and lived the remainder of his life in Halifax, N.S.

The following are portions of a long, eloquent letter written by Roderick while posted in France, to his brother Henry:

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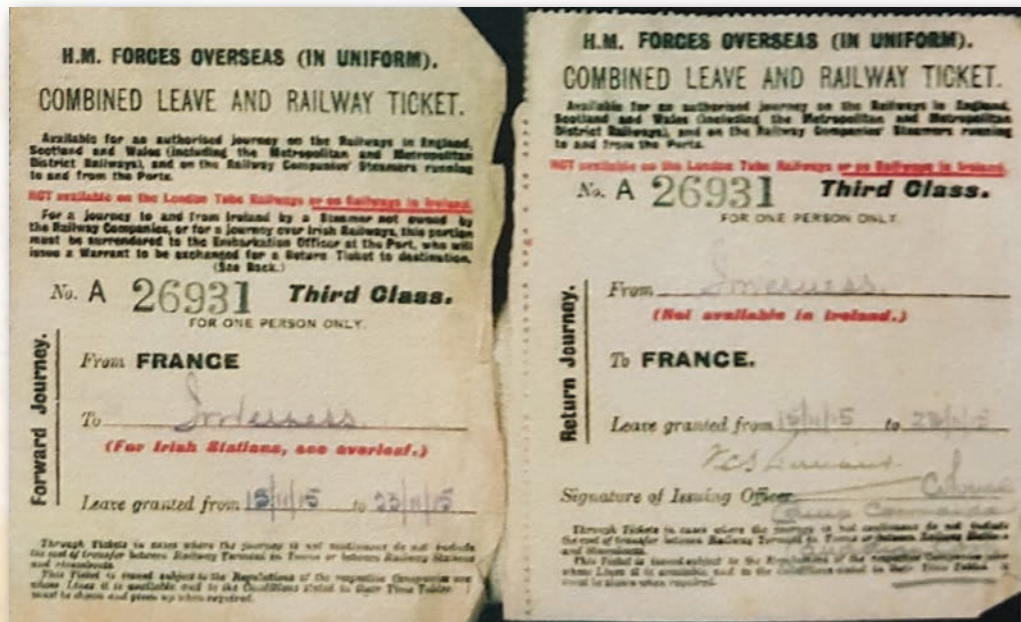
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Dear Henry,

High time for another letter, if I am to keep my New Year's resolution, and I mean to. Since last writing, I have been through much varied experiences, the full tale of them I can only hope to tell you on my return to Canada – some pleasant – some unpleasant – some tragic and some so terrible as to beggar description, by my humble pen. Words – cold, hard methodical utterances that they are – do not seem to respond to the sympathetic tunings of my heart strings nor give expression to the wild thought which so often courses my brain. So many personal losses too, distress me.

Besides I am now in command of a company and when we are hit it seems I have more responsibility than before. The hardest fighting I have seen was during the last couple of months, by this, I mean continually hard without any soft spots to rest upon. Some of the finest boys I have ever known went West during our last few tours. I can't get used to casualties, and no matter how quickly the blank files are filled up, I still remember the old faces. At times the whole world seems upside down to me, when I try to figure out how the thing is going to end. I think, too, that, had I the power, I would stop the world in its flight and insist that all its people pause in their daily routine long enough to pay tribute to my illustrious dead. Vain thought, my dear Henry, but one that gives an indication of my feelings.

But I must turn to the pleasant things of which I spoke. France is putting on her summer garments, and the countryside which was badly torn up, is becoming more pleasant to the eye. Flowers are blooming along the roads; leaves are green and warm sunshine throws a new light on the battle-scarred frontier. Of course, it is the time of year when all things breath of love and life, and so our ambitions and passions are naturally stimulated. If it were not for the war, France would not be such a rotten place, after all. A very pleasant experience, which befell me, was fourteen days leave in England and Scotland. "Fourteen days leave!"



Copy of a WWI combined leave and railway ticket

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The real significance of these three words is only known to a soldier who has gone through hell, and starting out on such a holiday, sees before him two solid weeks of life and luxury. We call it “Blighty” leave, a word that has been coined by the Tommy meaning England. The possibility of leave is hoped for by all ranks, but always doubted. So, when I was told I was to have a fourteen days’ trip to “Blighty”, I could hardly believe it. It was exactly three months since my arrival the second time, and the thought of leave was far from my mind. The battle of Passchendaele, however, with its heavy casualties made such a change in the roster that my turn came around very quickly. Well from the moment I received my warrant until I was on my way, was a matter of minutes rather than hours. Thought it did not happen to be a very good time for me to take leave, I soon forgot. One cannot go to England for two weeks at one’s own chosen time.

The day was dark and cloudy with an odd shower. I mention this because I had to ride a matter of ten miles in mud and water to the nearest station. But the road did not seem long, and the weather, as far as I was concerned, a mere matter of detail and not bothering me in the least. My mind was filled with visions of dear old “Blighty” – its warm hotels, its bright theatres and crowded thoroughfares, and I may add, its myriads of beautiful women. Too full of these delights to dwell for a moment on wet clothes – that I think is the frame of mind we all take on when speeding away from the lines.



My horse is a wonderful creature – fast as a streak of lightning with racing blood in her veins. In fact, she is easily the fastest saddle in our lines. Breaking camp, I let her run and in a very short time had left my groom so far behind that he never caught up, where, by the way, I had tied (my horse) and boarded the train, pulling out before he made an appearance. I think it was the second best (ride) I have ever had. I judge best by the amount of pleasure it gives, for I have had many exciting, many jaunty, adventurous and many unpleasant journeys on horseback since coming to France.

You may be curious to know something of what I consider the best. It was quite different from the one I have told you about.

The enemy push had started and things in our particular sector were mighty lively. I was in command of a company for the first time actually holding the line, needless to say I had some anxious moments, when Fritz was making a bid for our line, and incidentally our pelts. We stood them off very nicely, however. We received orders to move to another part of the line, just where, nobody knew exactly. Our first halt was at a very small village where we billeted for the night. The night was a quiet one as far as the troops were concerned but a busy one for me.

My orders for the next move were being changed almost hourly, and our intelligence was getting more and more interesting as the battle progressed. In fact, by morning, we were

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prepared to see the Huns coming into the backyards. My own feeling was much the same as that I have often experienced before a football match – a nervous anxiety to get started at something and an almost superhuman effort required to keep still. Finally, I got my orders to move off, passing a certain point, about a mile from the village, at a specified minute. The country was new to me and my ways were not complete, but galloping ahead I managed to pick the right road and we passed the given point on the dot. At the foot of a long hill, I halted the men for a rest, and started out to find the rest of the battalion, there was no sign of them anywhere. We seemed to be absolutely alone.

However, my only course was to push on, so I decided to give the men an extra ten minutes then hike it for the objective. Just as my order to “fall in” was being carried out, who should appear but the Colonel and his Adjutant. The latter, after a moment’s conversation with the C.O. rode towards me, and my heart quailed for an instant, as I dwelt on the possibility of having come in the wrong direction. But the Adjutant said: “The Colonel’s compliments, sir, you are the only company on time. Your company will lead the battalion when the orders come up. The Colonel wishes you to ride with him, sir”.

This in front of my own men was no mean compliment. We are not on parade, not marching through a city street, but marching towards a clever enemy whom we might expect to encounter at any bend in the road, or on the brow of any hill. Here was the essence of soldiering, indeed, much as we played when youngsters, and as our imagination led us believe it was in reality. Leading my company ready and expecting at any moment to swing into action, it was a proud and glorious ride for me. Later when we marched at attention and saluted the corps commander, who had come forward in his car to look us over, the buttons in my tunic suffered a severe strain. What happened later I must reserve for a fireside story at home. We had quite a time. That much you may know.



I have drifted from my subject of leave but no matter. The trip to the base and across the Channel was uneventful. I spent much of my time and money in Bonnie Scotland, visiting such places as Edinburgh, Glasgow, Ayr, Firth of Clyde, Loch Lomond, etc., having an odd cup of tea with a bonnie lassie and enjoying to the full all the scotch hospitality offered.

Give my very warmest wishes to all, good things to all, and best of luck and prosperity for yourself.

Your affectionate Brother, Douglas

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Major Errol Stewart “Bubby” Gray, MM



My uncle, Errol Stewart “Bubby” Gray of Amherst, N.S., was born 6 April 1920 and served with the North Nova Scotia Highlanders, 1st Battalion, RCIC as a Captain during the Second World War. The regiment stormed the beaches of Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944, and fought their way inland through fierce resistance. Up to this point, the unit had proceeded with great dash and vigor. The advance guard had cleared out a large number of enemy pockets, without suffering any casualties, and were further inland than any other troops at this time. Bubby had displayed unusual swiftness and initiative while commanding the vanguard, advancing as far as Authie on June 7, 1944. He exhibited great personal courage on a number of occasions by moving forward on foot, while under fire, in order to maintain progress.

When being fired upon in Les Buissons, he pressed on by leading his men through an open field and successfully destroying an enemy 88-mm gun and rocket projector in the process. His efforts in directing and leading his supporting infantry were again successful in capturing another 88-mm gun in Buron.

On July 8, 1944, Operation Charnwood was launched and The North Nova Scotia Highlanders planned to attack the vicinity of Authie, two kms west of Caen, however German shelling caused heavy casualties among the Canadian troops. Authie was eventually conquered in the afternoon, however it came at a cost as seven Sherman tanks were destroyed, and 160 Canadian and British lives were lost, including that of Captain Errol Gray, who was killed in action that day. He was 24 years old. The outstanding courage, aggressiveness and devotion to duty displayed by Errol Stewart “Bubby” Gray, throughout the advance, was a large factor in pressing forward against enemy ranks and because of his many acts of heroism, gallantry and distinguished conduct in the field, Bubby was awarded the Military Cross and promoted to Major after his death. He is buried in the Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery, in France.



Military Cross



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George Douglas MacDougall WWII



*Flight Sergeant
George Douglas MacDougall*

George was born in 1922 in New Glasgow, N.S. to George and Jessie MacDougall. He enlisted in the Air Force, receiving his wings in 1941, and at 19 years of age, was one of the youngest New Glasgow boys in the air service.

George was posted to Bomber Command and achieved the rank of Flight Sergeant. On the night of 4 February 1943, while on his 22nd bombing mission in a Lancaster Bomber, George was shot down over Montfoort, Holland and was killed in action.

The following is a snippet of a letter home from George to his parents in December 1942.

To: Mom and Dad,

I have been promoted to Flight Sergeant. I am quite happy tonight because I am going on a few days leave tomorrow. I may take a run to Bournemouth and a run up to see Doane. He is not far from here.

No doubt you read of the 1000 bombers at Cologne and Essen. I was in all of those trips and they were pretty good ones too. Cologne was my first Opp and quite a start, eh! I hope the censor doesn't mind what I'm writing. I don't think there is anything wrong with it. I have never in my life seen a fire so huge as the one at Cologne. There couldn't have been much left of the place. Seems like an uncivilized way of fighting but I am convinced it is the only way of shortening the war. I think that 'Jerry' is pretty sad about the whole thing. It looks as if everyone had gone to the shelters and I can't say I blamed them. I didn't have to go that night but it was such a big show I didn't want to miss it. I have been doing quite a bit of flying this past week and have about XXX (censored) hours now. That's XXX (censored) more than when I left Canada.

I was talking with the King yesterday. He inspected us and talked to some of the chaps. He stopped in front of me and asked me what crew I was in and how many in the crew and things like that. Then the Queen came along and I tried to entice her over by smiling but she just smiled back at me. The King looked better than the last time I saw him but still looked a bit tired as if he had been worrying. He was very tanned and looked very well in his uniform. The visit was a good surprise for us.

Your Loving son, George.



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Brigadier General Reverend Doctor Colin Nickerson, MC, CD, DD, MStJ

Story by Gary Silliker

Colin Douglas Nickerson was born in Ottawa in 1919. His father was a United Church minister and the family lived in Berwick and Leitches Creek, NS, before moving to Mahone Bay. Upon finishing high school Colin found work in the Sydney Steel Plant. When he had saved enough money, he enrolled in Mount Allison University and had just completed his first year of theology courses when he opted to go to war. He enlisted in the Princess Louise Fusiliers in Halifax (PLF) in the rank of fusilier.

Fusilier Nickerson arrived in England in 1942 and was trained in communications and artillery target locating. He was commissioned as a lieutenant in 1943.

On 27 October 1943 convoy KME-25A consisting of 8 British and 15 American transports escorted by 7 American, 3 British and 2 Greek destroyers, as well as the anti-aircraft vessel HMS Colombo, left Liverpool, England, bound for Italy. On the evening of 6 November 1943, Lt Nickerson was aboard the SS Monterey, just off Cap Bougaroun, Algeria, when the convoy was attacked by nine bombers and 16 torpedo planes of the German Luftwaffe. The BREN-gunners of the Irish Regiment of Canada, on board the Monterey, successfully shot down a bomber. Then the ship proceeded to take on 1,675 survivors of the Santa Elena which had been sunk. The Monterey was already fully loaded with 3,500 troops; the addition of so many survivors quickly impacted on the ship's supplies of rations and water. The combination of rough seas, and lack of rations, resulted in troops being in a very weakened state by the time the Monterey docked in Naples, Italy, four days later.

The PLF was part of the 5th Canadian Armoured Division (5 Cdn Armd Div) and designated as the 11th Infantry Brigade (11 Inf Bde) Support Group. Their role was to provide medium/heavy machine gun and heavy mortar support to the infantry regiments of the brigade. In July 1944, while in Italy, the 5 Cdn Armd Div did a major re-organization and the PLF was split into two independent machine gun companies – one for 11 Inf Bde and one for 12 Inf Bde. Colin served in the 11th Independent MG Company (PLF).

Lt Nickerson's first combat action occurred north of Ortona on 17 January 1944 when the 11 Inf Bde attacked a German stronghold. In May, the PLF entered the Liri Valley to join the fight to break the Hitler Line. The citation for Colin's MC tells most of his story from that time:

"On the 14th of May 1944, Lieutenant Nickerson was detailed as mortar position officer near Aquino. Throughout the day his platoon was subjected to intense enemy shell fire and Lieutenant Nickerson was painfully wounded while attempting to render first aid to his seriously wounded Platoon Sergeant. In spite of his own injury, this officer continued to carry on with his task and also to look after his wounded men refusing to be evacuated himself."

"Still on duty on 25th May 1944 east of Ceprano, this officer was again wounded, this time in two places. Although now unable to walk, he continued to control his platoon, on more than one occasion crawling to and from his wireless to receive and issue fire orders. He would not allow himself to be evacuated until the enemy was out of range. He was then ordered back. Lieutenant Nickerson's courage and devotion to duty and refusal to consider his own injuries as long as an unfinished task was ahead of him was a gallant example to his platoon and was of significant importance in that the support given by the platoon enabled the leading infantry battalion to gain their objective."

continued ...

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continued ...

On 20 July, Colin was informed that he had been awarded the Military Cross.

Nickerson would later remark that being in command of heavy mortars was ‘not the best job to have’ as it made him, and his platoon, a high value target for the opposing German mortars and artillery. On 2 September 1944, Colin’s heavy mortar platoon was protecting the Canadians of the Lanark and Renfrew Scottish Regiment from a major German counterattack. The history of the PLF would later record “that night through the good work of Lieut Colin Nickerson's platoon, who fired 1800 bombs in an all-night stand-too, the Lanarks were saved from a bitter counter attack.” It cost the platoon three battle-damaged mortar tubes. Lt Nickerson suffered a leg wound, from enemy shrapnel, but had opted to stay in the fight until he felt it was safe to seek medical attention. After a few days of rest, he was back in action.

The war diary of the PLF notes that at 2 PM, on 12 September, a fire plan for ‘mortars and medium machine guns was laid on.’ Colin would be part of that fight. It was his last battle and it cost him his left arm.

A piece of shrapnel entered the left side of Colin’s back and exited his chest tearing away flesh and bone. It should have been a fatal wound; however, the aid post of the Irish Regiment of Canada was very close by. His fusiliers rushed him to the Irish and the medics were able to staunch his bleeding and remove his dangling arm.

Lieutenant Nickerson was hospitalized in Italy and eventually sent back to England for more treatment. Back in Mahone Bay his mother had encouraged the local girls to write letters to soldiers who had been hospitalized in England.

Colin, who had never lived in Mahone Bay, was captivated by the letters of Emma ‘Jean’ Burgoyne from Oakland. Captain Nickerson, still confined to a bed, was returned to Canada in late 1944 and hospitalized in Halifax. Jean Burgoyne came to visit him in the hospital. On her second or third visit to the hospital, Colin proposed that they should marry. Jean agreed.

Normally, Colin would have been formally presented his Military Cross by King George VI. Due to his medical condition, he was unable to attend the ceremony in Buckingham Palace; subsequently, he was presented with his Military Cross, in Halifax, by the King’s representative in Nova Scotia – Lieutenant Governor Henry Ernest Kendall.



Military Cross

Colin completed his divinity studies at Pine Hill Divinity College in Halifax and went on to become a United Church minister. The Canadian Army contacted Colin in 1950 and offered him a medical exemption and a position as a chaplain. He accepted the offer and started a new military career in the Canadian Armed Forces. In 1978, Brigadier- General Colin Douglas Nickerson, MC, CD, the Protestant Chaplain General of the Canadian Armed Forces, retired from military life. He returned to Mahone Bay a year later.

Colin was a long-time member of the War Amps of Canada and a became a member of Branch 49 Mahone Bay RCL. He became a Member of the Order of Saint John in 1977 and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity in 1982, from the Atlantic School of Theology.

When reflecting on Remembrance Day he once noted “a great feeling of sadness.” Looking back on his life as a warrior, and then a minister, he remarked that his religious faith was never shaken; however, he did admit that his faith in mankind was sometimes troubling.

Colin and Jean had a family of four children, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Colin Douglas Nickerson, MC, CD, DD, MStJ, died on 2 October 2015 in the Veteran's Unit, Fisherman's Memorial Hospital, Lunenburg, with family at his side.



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Gary Silliker, Peacetime and Special Duty Area

Submitted by Branch 49 Mahone Bay



Gary was born in Miramichi, NB, and joined the Canadian Armed Forces as a reserve infantryman in 1969. He transferred to the regular force in 1972 and spent the rest of his military service with the construction troops of the Canadian Military Engineers. Gary commenced his regular force service as a refrigeration-mechanical technician and qualified as a mechanical systems technician in 1988. In 1992 he was commissioned from the ranks as a construction engineer officer.

His postings include: Kingston, ON; Chilliwack, BC (3 times); Penhold, AB; Goose Bay, NL; Shelburne, NS; Barrington, NS; Gagetown, NB; St John's, NL; Halifax, NS; and Bridgewater, NS.

Gary's deployed operations include: 1978 -UNEF II (Sinai) as part of a mobile repair team; 1997 - Operation Nobel (Bosnia) humanitarian demining operations; 2002-03 - Operation Apollo (UAE) constructing Camp Mirage; 2009 - Operation Athena (Afghanistan) counter-insurgency operations; and 2011 - Operation Attention (Afghanistan) attached to the US Army Corps of Engineers managing a construction program for the Afghan Army. Over the years he also served briefly in Haiti, Jamaica, Norway, Sweden, Romania, and the USA. In 2003 Gary transferred back to the reserve force and officially retired from the CAF in 2013. As a civilian he worked in Afghanistan for three years with the UN Mine Action Center and one year as a contractor for Global Affairs Canada. Gary also spent 11 months in South Sudan as a rapid response leader with UNICEF. Gary has been married to his high school sweetheart, Corinne, since 1975 and they have a son, a daughter and 4 grandchildren. He is currently the commander of Zone 13 NS/NU Command RCL.



*Silliker on deployment
(with a friend)*

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Aubrey Spidle – Highlander and Forceman

In July 2010, I was preparing to return to Afghanistan for my third 'go-round.' I took some time to visit Aubrey Spidle at his home in Mahone Bay. I had met the gentle warrior a few years earlier and had had a few occasions to talk with him about his wartime service. I knew his health was failing and it was doubtful if we would meet again. As we spoke that day, Aubrey related some of the 'darker' actions that he had done, or had to do, in close-quarter combat. I remember him saying "I don't know if it was the right thing to do, but I figure that I shall find out soon enough." Here is some of Aubrey's story.

- Gary Silliker



Aubrey Roy Spidle was born in Mahone Bay and joined the Canadian Army in 1943. He trained as an infantryman and arrived in England in August of that year. Aubrey was in an infantry re-enforcement unit when a call came for volunteers for the Cape Breton Highlanders (CBH). He would later remark, somewhat jokingly, that he opted for the CBH because too many of his schoolteachers were officers in the West Nova Scotia Regiment.

The CBH were part of the 11th Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Armoured Division and landed in Italy in November 1943. Aubrey's first combat action took place north of Ortona when the CBH were in a fierce fight from 9 to 15 January 1944. It was shortly after that fight that a call came for Canadian infantrymen, in Italy, to volunteer for service with the First Special Service Force – a highly trained American-Canadian commando force. In the preceding 5 weeks of action, in the mountains south of Rome, the FSSF had suffered 77% casualties during the Battle of Monte La Defensa. The call for Canadian volunteers emphasized that the men must meet the

FSSF medical standards and have proven ability to effectively close and engage the enemy with speed and violence.

Aubrey volunteered and was soon wearing a US Army uniform as a member of 6th Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Regiment FSSF – he was now one of the 'forcemen.' Private Spidle was amongst the FSSF troops that took over the Mussolini Canal sector at Anzio in early February. The FSSF had adapted their fighting tactics for nighttime raids that emphasized "stealth and violence" and the silent killing of the enemy. German units quickly pulled back about a kilometer to avoid the aggressive patrols of the 'forcemen.'

It was during one of those nighttime operations that one of the forcemen brought back the diary of a dead German soldier. Part of the diary noted "The black devils (Die schwarzen



FSSF
arm patch

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Teufel) are all around us every time we come into the line." The FSSF became known as the "black devils" (in 1968 Hollywood would dub them "The Devil's Brigade").



Private Spidle and the 'forcemen'

In late May the Allied forces broke out from the Anzio beachhead; Private Aubrey Spidle was now in charge of a heavy machine gun section. Lieutenant General Mark Clark, commanding the 5th US Army, had agreed with the other Allies to use his army to cut off a large part of the retreating German army after breaking out of the Anzio Beachhead; however, he was fixated on getting to Rome first and claiming the prestige that that it would bring him. Clark arbitrarily, and without warning, broke with the orders of General Harold Alexander's plan to encircle the retreating German 10th Army, and made a dash for Rome – much to the delight of the retreating German forces. Mark Clark went so far as to order his troops to bar access to Rome by any other Allied forces – British, New Zealanders, Indians, South Africans and Canadians. On 4 June 1944 the FSSF spearheaded the entry into Rome. Despite Clark's wishes for an all-American entry into Rome, the FSSF spearhead contained a number of Canadian soldiers – including Aubrey Spidle.

On 14 August Aubrey took part in the amphibious landing on the islands of Port Cros and Levant in the Mediterranean. This action enabled the Seventh U.S. Army to land safely in southern France during Operation DRAGOON. In late August the FSSF were moved into a spearhead position as the Allies advanced into southern France. It was during this time that Sergeant Spidle was severely wounded. The forcemen had to scale a 200-meter cliff to enter the town of Cannes. Aubrey would recount that the enemy forces, well ensconced in the mountains above the town, saw them coming and commenced blocking their approach with mortar and artillery fire, coupled with enfilade machine gun fire. Sergeant Spidle sought cover, and would later tell Robert Hirtle of Mahone Bay, "I just got there, I got hit. I made a dive over this rock pile and fell over a cliff dropping about 25 feet." He had been hit by gun fire in the leg and shoulder; however, unbeknownst to him at that time, he had also fractured 4 vertebrae. "That was the longest night of my life," he said. Aubrey laid there all night and was found the next morning by two stretcher bearers. "Was I ever happy to see them" he said, "They loaded me on the stretcher, took me out to a field dressing station and patched me



Purple Heart Medal

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up.” He was evacuated to a hospital near Naples, Italy. It was there that the doctors discovered his 4 broken vertebrae. Sergeant Spidle was placed in a body cast for 5 weeks which was followed by more treatment and rehabilitation. While in hospital he was awarded the Purple Heart (the decoration awarded to wounded American servicemen). Aubrey had to return his Purple Heart once the authorities discovered he was Canadian.

Aubrey returned to the FSSF in early November in France. The FSSF was a unique military unit that never failed to achieve its objective; nonetheless, it was disbanded 5 December 1944 in a field near Villeneuve-Loubet, France. The decision to disband the unit was based upon the perceived lack of a requirement for shock troops in exploiting the final stages of the war in Europe, as well as the costs of maintaining such specialized units. The original FSSF Canadians were posted to the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion while the FSSF Canadian re-enforcements were returned to their former units. Aubrey returned to the CBH.

The Cape Breton Highlanders fought their last battle of the war in the Delfzijl Pocket from 23 April to 02 May 1945. The CBH made their final attack on the town of Uitwierde on 1 May. At that time Aubrey was the team leader of a Bren gun crew within a rifle section. One of the soldiers in that rifle section was his cousin Ford Spidle of Parkdale. He would later recount a mad dash across an open field under enemy observation. During the run, Aubrey saw his cousin get hit by bullet and collapse; Aubrey could not stop to check on Ford as the success of the attack depended upon him getting his Bren gun crew into action.

(Private Ford Spidle is buried in the Holten Canadian War Cemetery).

Aubrey returned home to Mahone Bay after the war. He married Rosalie Veinotte and they had 2 sons and 2 daughters; as well as 8 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Aubrey was a life member of Royal Canadian Legion, Branch No. 49, Mahone Bay, where he served as branch secretary for several years. Prior to his retirement he worked as Assistant Manager of the Nova Scotia Liquor Commission in Mahone Bay.



Aubrey in Legion uniform with the Bronze Star Commendation and medal



On 9 March 2007, Aubrey was awarded the Bronze Star from the United States Government for “meritorious achievement while serving in the First Special Service Force.”

Aubrey died at home on 26 September 2010.

The United States Congress awarded the Congressional Gold Medal (the highest civilian honor awarded by Congress) to the FSSF on 12 July 2013. Individual bronze replicas of the medal were presented to surviving forcemen on 3 February 2015. Replicas were also made available to the families of forcemen who had died prior to 3 February 2015. Aubrey’s family graciously loaned the medal to Branch 49 where it is proudly displayed in his memory.



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Francis Nelson Whynot, MM

Story by Gary Silliker



The ‘Kangaroo Regiment’ was unique in the history of the Canadian Army, in that they were formed on foreign soil and disbanded on foreign soil. One of its members was Francis Nelson Whynot from Mahone Bay, NS.


Francis Nelson Whynot joined the 1st Canadian Armoured Personnel Carrier Regiment in November 1944; a few weeks before the unit was renamed as the 1st Canadian Armoured Carrier Regiment (1st CACR). In December 1944 the 1st CACR was transferred to the 79th Armoured Division of the 2 Corps of the British Army. The regiment was formed in the Netherlands in November 1944 and was disbanded in the same country in July 1945.

Why Kangaroos? During the Battle of Normandy the requirement for a tracked armoured fighting vehicle to transport personnel over long distances, protected from enemy small arms fire and shrapnel, made itself apparent. In preparation for Operation TOTALIZE in August 1944, Lieutenant General G.G. Simonds, commander of II Canadian Corps, ordered the conversion of US M7 Priest self-propelled guns into the Kangaroo armoured personnel carrier. The concept was to carry infantry into battle much like a mother kangaroo carried her young. The vehicles were modified and the crews were trained, and their first use during the Falaise Gap battles were successful. A Kangaroo Squadron was organized on 26 August 1944, attached to the 25th Canadian Armoured Delivery Regiment (The Elgin Regiment). By November the ‘kangaroos’ were primarily converted Canadian Ram tanks.




RAM Kangaroo

continued ...



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continued ...

During Operation BLACKCOCK the 2nd British Army was tasked with clearing the enemy out of the Roer Triangle formed by the towns of Roermond and Sittard, in the Netherlands, and Heinsberg in Germany. The fight for the triangle started on 13 January 1945 and ended on 27 January. 1st CACR was part of Task BEAR and responsible for carrying the highlanders of the Royal Scots into battle and getting them as close as possible to the enemy strong points.

During the battle Lance-Sergeant Whynot was in command of 3 RAM Kangaroos and tasked with the delivery of vital supplies (water, ammunition, food, etc) to the forward elements of the Royal Scots of the British Army.

Lance Sergeant Whynot's actions during that fight earned him the Military Medal 'for bravery in the field.' The citation for his medal included comments such as "his duty was carried out, often under extreme and most dangerous circumstances, being subjected on many occasions to heavy shelling and mortaring....had it not been for the NCO's cool determination in the face of enemy fire and almost impassible roads the troops would most certainly be without supplies....a reliable and clear thinking soldier....surmounted every difficulty with one aim, the fulfillment of the task at hand and the well being of his men....personal comfort and safety have been brushed aside in an unbelievably unselfish manner....his fearless devotion to duty has been vital in support the fighting echelon."



Whynot was awarded the Military Medal on 10 May 1945. He returned home to Mahone Bay after the war and became the town's postmaster in 1946. The former Lance-Sergeant of the "Kangaroos" joined Branch 49 Mahone Bay and served as the branch president for the period of 1950-53. Francis Nelson Whynot, MM, was 70 years old when he died in 1986.





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Officer of Order of the British Empire

Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Alfred Charles Amy, DSO, MC, of Kentville.



Headquarters, 1st Commonwealth Division. Awarded 3 October 1953.

“Lieutenant-Colonel Amy has been General Staff Officer, Grade One of 1 Commonwealth Division since August 1952. In this appointment he has worked tirelessly and enthusiastically and has played a leading part in welding together the many and diverse elements of the Division. He has been a constant visitor to all front-line positions and has thus acquired an extensive and detailed knowledge of the defensive line which has been of the greatest value in the planning of operations. His personality and tact have ensured the best possible relationships between the staff and units. In addition, his liaison with the United States Corps and Army could not have been better. His service to the Commonwealth Division has been outstanding”.

Member of the Order of the British Empire

Captain John Hector MacGregor of Donkin.



Royal Canadian Army Chaplain Corps attached 3rd Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Awarded 6 June 1953.

“During the period 1 May 1952 to 1 March 1953, Captain MacGregor served as Padre, first with 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, and later with 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, on return of the 1st Battalion to Canada. Throughout his service in Korea, Captain MacGregor wholeheartedly devoted himself to the morale and welfare of all ranks. He visited the forward companies and echelons on a regular and extremely busy schedule and was present whenever any patrol of section strength or greater was despatched. On numerous occasions he assisted the Medical Officer and heartened and encouraged wounded men. He regularly conducted services of worship in company areas under shellfire. His Christian leadership, devotion to his calling, and tireless unending service to all ranks were of the highest order and of inestimable benefit to the spiritual guidance and state of morale of the Battalion. His courage and devotion to duty have provided an outstanding example to all ranks.”



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Member of the Order of the British Empire Major Ivan Murray McLaughlin of Amherst.



1 Commonwealth Division Headquarters (Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers) .
Awarded 6 June 1953

“Major McLaughlin served in Korea as Officer commanding 191 Canadian Infantry workshop from April until December 1952, when he was appointed second-in-command to commander, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers 1 Commonwealth Division. In each of these appointments he has shown technical and organizing ability of a high order and has contributed in large measure to the efficiency of electrical and mechanical engineer services in the division. His duties as second-in-command encompass not only the general supervision of his own service for the Canadian Brigade but in addition a far larger volume of work concerned with the operation of this service for other commonwealth countries represented in the division. In this capacity he quickly mastered the intricacies of unfamiliar methods and equipment problems, to such a degree that in a very short time his assistance and advice were sought by all members of the various electrical and mechanical engineer contingents in the division. Early in his tour, shortage of important materials and major assemblies for the repair of vehicles necessitated a change in the system of supply. The organizing of this control system fell to Major McLaughlin, and due to his energy and excellent organizing ability, a smooth working system was evolved in a very short time and thereby the service to the division was improved considerably. The cold weather posed many unfamiliar technical problems that it was his duty to investigate and to seek a solution. These, he willingly tackled with efficiency, in addition to his numerous other commitments, and he was always on call with assistance and advice at any hour. The unusual circumstances of this theatre, and in this division, threw a far greater load on him than is normal but he was equal to any task. The smooth running of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineer Services in the division, during a period when these services were severely overloaded, was to a large extent due to the sterling work done by this officer and his outstanding efforts are highly deserving of permanent recognition.”

Military Cross Lieutenant Andrew Martin King of Halifax.



First Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment - Awarded 28 March 1953.

“During the period 5 September to 5 October 1952, ‘A’ Company, 1st Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment, occupied a most hazardous position which was subjected to continuous enemy artillery and mortar fire. On 29 September Lieutenant King, in spite of the enemy sniper fire, proceeded to an outpost known as ‘Vancouver’ and personally assisted in evacuating a wounded soldier. At the time no stretcher bearer was available and the prompt and courageous action of this officer contributed to saving the wounded soldier’s life. On 1 October ‘Vancouver’ outpost was subjected to a most vicious concentration of enemy artillery fire. A wounded soldier returned to the main company position but due to his condition the company commander could not get a coherent report of the situation. Lieutenant King led a relief party through the continuous shelling to the outpost where he assessed the situation and sent a report back. The non-commissioned officer in charge of the outpost and four others had been buried in the command post, two others were killed and the remainder wounded or in a shell-shocked condition. He reorganized the post in the remnants of the badly shattered defences, and then proceeded to attempt to uncover those buried in the command post. He worked unceasingly with complete disregard for the enemy artillery and mortar fire. As the position appeared untenable he was ordered to withdraw. However, this gallant officer personally requested permission to remain. Permission was granted and this young officer by his determination and courageous attitude instilled confidence in his men. During the recovery of the dead and wounded, work had to be stopped due to an enemy probe which was dispersed with mortar fire directed by Lieutenant King. Not until the last man had been recovered and a fresh patrol established did this officer return to the main company position. This officer’s utter disregard for his personal safety and instant and efficient action made it possible to evacuate the dead and wounded of ‘Vancouver’ outpost and the recovery of all fighting equipment. His sound appreciation of the situation and action prevented the enemy from gaining any knowledge of the damage inflicted on our own troops. Lieutenant King’s courage and unselfishness has made a lasting impression on all ranks of his battalion.”

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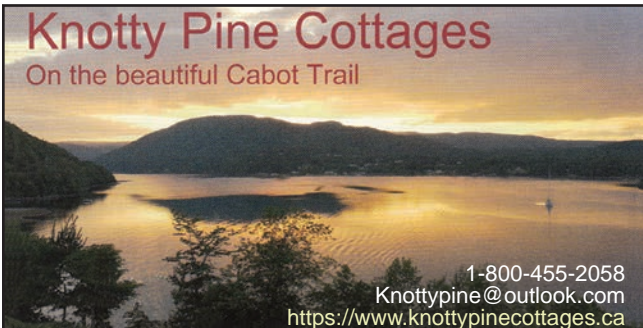


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Military Cross

Lieutenant George Edward Moodie Ruffee of Wolfville.



81st Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery. Awarded 3 October 1953.

“Lieutenant Ruffee has served as Forward Observation Officer with 3rd Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment, since arrival of the regiment in Korea. During the attack against ‘C’ Company, 3rd Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment, on the night of 2/3 May 1953, which commenced at midnight and lasted for approximately seven hours, Lieutenant Ruffee manned his observation post in spite of the most intense shell and mortar fire. Numerous hits were scored on his observation post, including one which burst directly in front of the aperture through which he was observing. Despite the severity of the enemy shelling and mortaring, during which two of his three driver operators were killed and portions of his communications severely damaged, this officer continued to direct artillery fire on the enemy from the moment the attack commenced until they were driven off. By his courage and devotion to duty he contributed in an outstanding manner to the successful defence of the locality. Ever since the arrival of 81 Canadian Field Regiment in the Korean theatre, Lieutenant Ruffee has devoted his energies in a most marked degree toward the improvement of artillery fire in support of the infantry battalion with which he is affiliated. In spite of long hours of duty with its resultant fatigue, he is invariably cheerful, keen and willing. He enjoys the confidence of the infantry he supports and of the men under his command. His conduct in battle has been a credit to his corps and he has set a fine example, particularly when under heavy shellfire.”

Military Cross

Major George Gray Taylor, ED, of Weymouth.



First Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment. Awarded 28 March 1953.

“During the month of September and the first week of October 1952, ‘A’ Company commanded by Captain (Acting Major) Taylor was the forward company of 1st Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment, in the Kowang San area. The enemy continually harassed the company position by bombardment and patrol action. On the 1/2 October ‘A’ Company was subjected to a most vicious concentration of artillery and mortar fire. The concentration was the heaviest the battalion had undergone since its arrival in Korea. Two of the platoon sergeants and a number of junior non-commissioned officers were killed. The calmness and efficiency displayed by this officer contributed greatly to inspiring his men to maintain the company position. On 23 October ‘A’ Company was adjacent to ‘B’ Company. At 1800 hours the enemy attacked ‘B’ Company preceded by a most intense concentration of artillery and mortar fire which was designed to neutralize ‘A’ Company. Major Taylor in a calm, cool, efficient manner controlled his company throughout the attack. As the survivors of ‘B’ Company reached his company position they were organized into an effective fighting group and taken under command. As a result, the enemy was unable to enter the ‘A’ Company position to exploit their initial success. Throughout the entire period and in spite of the many casualties, Major Taylor exercised a firm control over his men. With utter disregard for his personal safety, he assisted in the evacuation of many casualties. He was without the services of a company second-in-command and worked unceasingly, going for long periods without rest. However, his courage and cheerfulness under fire had a steady influence on all ranks of the company. This officer by personal example and firm control over his men maintained his company in a determined fighting spirit in the face of very demoralizing circumstances.”

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MILITARY MEDAL

Corporal Joseph Cecil McNeil of Reserve Mines.



Third Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment. Awarded 4 July 1953.

“On the night of 2/3 May 1953, a fighting patrol from ‘A’ Company, 3rd Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment, made contact with superior enemy forces in the valley to the right front of the position held by ‘C’ Company. The patrol was heavily engaged by the enemy and the patrol leader became a casualty. Corporal McNeil who was second-in-command of the patrol immediately took over command and in spite of being surrounded and under heavy enemy fire, reorganized his patrol and commenced a withdrawal. At the same time, he maintained communications with his control station giving a description of the battle and calling for supporting fire. In a cool and competent manner, he directed the withdrawal of the patrol, beating off successive attacks and collecting his wounded as he retired. When a second patrol which had been sent to his assistance was also attacked and the patrol leader killed, he picked up some of the survivors of this patrol and made good his retreat to No.7 Platoon position of ‘C’ Company, bringing with him four uninjured and seven injured men. In the course of the withdrawal, he was personally attacked by an enemy soldier whom he despatched with his Patchett gun. When he had expended all the ammunition provided for his own weapon, he continued to fight with those of the wounded who accompanied him. Subsequent to Corporal McNeil's return, ‘C’ Company sustained a heavy enemy attack on its position. There is no doubt that this non-commissioned officer's gallantry and coolness under fire and his capable handling of the patrol not only seriously disrupted the enemy attack by giving early warning but also created severe casualties among the enemy and saved a number of his own troops from death or capture.”

BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL

Sergeant James Willard Parker of Wolfville.



Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps 25 Canadian Field Ambulance. Awarded 12 April 1952.

“On 11 October 1951, Sergeant Parker was detailed by his commanding officer to investigate a mine detonation which occurred in a mine field approximately one mile north of village of Songhyon, Korea, in the immediate vicinity of the advance dressing station of 25 Canadian Field Ambulance. Sergeant Parker, accompanied by two stretcher bearers, proceeded to the mine field. On nearing the field, a British soldier stopped them and stated that there were two casualties inside the mine field. Sergeant Parker and his two stretcher bearers followed the safe lane into the mine field where they found one casualty lying across the path. The two stretcher bearers immediately carried the wounded man away. Sergeant Parker located the other casualty some 30 feet away in the mined area. Unhesitatingly and with complete disregard for his personal safety, he walked across the mined area, picked up the wounded soldier and carried him to the safe lane from where a stretcher bearer party took over.”

Bronze Star - USA

Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Alfred Charles Amy DSO, OBE, MC, of Kentville.



Awarded 11 July 1954.

“Lieutenant-Colonel Amy, Royal Canadian Armoured Corps, distinguished himself by meritorious service in Korea from 6 August 1952 to 31 July 1953. He performed outstanding service as General Staff Officer, 1 Commonwealth Division, displaying sound military judgement and prompt energetic action in supervising and coordinating staff matters connected with the division's operations. His outstanding enthusiasm, drive and energy were an inspiration to his associates. His frequent visits to front line positions, often under heavy enemy fire, assisted immeasurably in the overall mission of the division. He established cordial relations with the staffs of other commands assisting in obtaining the utmost and close cooperation. The exemplary manner in which Lieutenant-Colonel Amy performed his duties provided a distinct contribution to the accomplishments of 1 Commonwealth Division in Korea and reflects credit upon himself and the military profession.”



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Mention in Dispatches



Mention in Dispatch pin

Lance-Corporal Burnell Gordon Algee of Blomidon.

First Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment. Awarded 17 January 1953.

“On 23 October, 1952, ‘B’ Company of 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment, was continually harassed by artillery and mortar fire. At approximately 1820 hours the enemy attacked. The attack was preceded by an intense artillery concentration and the enemy due to the vicious barrage and their superior numbers overran the position. Lance-Corporal Algee was employed as the company signaller. During the shelling he carried out his duties in a cool and confident manner. When the intense bombardment started, the company commander was at one of the platoon areas away from Lance-Corporal Algee. This non-commissioned officer quickly realized the seriousness of the situation, informed Battalion Headquarters and requested all available help. He remained at his set until it was knocked out; then he took part in the close fighting and assisted in the withdrawal of a platoon to which he had attached himself. Lance-Corporal Algee's conduct was an example to his comrades. By his initiative and quick appreciation of the situation he was responsible for obtaining immediate artillery and mortar support.”

Major Duncan Hugh Gillis of Salt Springs, Antigonish County.

2nd Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery. Awarded 8 November 1952.

Staff Sergeant Aubrey Layton Hicks of Maccan.

Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. Awarded 6 June 1953

Corporal Joseph Edgar Leblanc of River Bourgeois.

Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps. Awarded 28 March 1953

Lieutenant James William MacLean of Glace Bay.

First Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment. Awarded 8 November 1952.

Private George Leonard McIntyre of Elm Hill, Queen’s County.

Second Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment. Awarded 12 April 1952.

Sergeant Robert Fraser Murray of Truro.

Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps. Awarded 2 August 1952.

Gunner George Henry Snow of Three Brooks, Pictou County.

1st Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery. Awarded 17 January 1953.

“Gunner Snow was employed as a Signaller at 55 Observation Post on a feature known as ‘Hill 210’ during the attack on 1st Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment, on his immediate right. During and before the attack, the area of ‘Hill 210’ was subjected to heavy bombardment, and all lines forward of battalion headquarters of the 1st Battalion, Royal 22e Regiment were out in several places. Without waiting for instructions from the Observation Post Officer, Gunner Snow twice within a short period repaired the lines, under shellfire. As a result of Gunner Snow's initiative and disregard for his own safety, the line to 55 Observation Post was, for two hours, the only line communication to the forward companies.”



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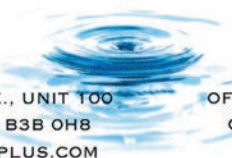
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Nova Scotian war dead and wounded of the Korean War

Story by Gary Silliker

The Korean War began 25 June 1950, when North Korean armed forces invaded South Korea. The war's combat phase lasted until an armistice was signed 27 July 1953. As part of a United Nations (UN) force, 26,791 Canadian military personnel served in the Korean War, during both the combat phase and as peacekeepers afterward. After the two world wars, Korea remains Canada's third-bloodiest overseas conflict, taking the lives of 516 Canadians and wounding more than 1,200.

In August 1950 the government of Canada decided to support the United Nations Security Council Resolution 84 that authorized the United States to establish and lead a unified command comprised of military forces from UN member states and authorized that command to operate under UN authorization.

Canadian naval, army and air forces would be part of Canada's contribution. The 'Canadian Army Special Force' was established in August 1950 for service in the Korean War. On 15 September 1950 the UN forces began landings at Inchon and drove the North Koreans back across the 38th Parallel. In October 1950 Chinese troops crossed the Yalu River to support North Korean forces.

The 2nd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry arrived in Korea in Pusan on 18 December 1950.

Nova Scotians would serve in all Canadian elements of the UN force. Some would serve in the forces of Britain and the United States. Unless otherwise stated, all the Nova Scotia war dead, noted below, are buried in the United Nations Cemetery (Busan), South Korea.

All Canadian war dead of the Korean War are commemorated on the Korean War Monument in Ottawa and the Wall of Remembrance in Brampton, ON. Nova Scotia Korea war dead are also commemorated on the Nova Scotia Korea War Memorial in Yarmouth.

1950

The first Nova Scotia serviceman to die in Korea was 2nd Lieutenant **Ace Allen**. He served as a platoon leader in Company G, 2nd Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division of the US Army. Ace was a WW II veteran who was born in 1923, in Glace Bay, to Israel Nathan Aron and Emma Allen. 2/Lt Allen was killed in action on 19 August along the Naktong Bulge, near Yongsan, South Korea (a two-week battle that claimed the lives of over 600 US soldiers). He is buried in the Oak Hill Burial Park, Lakeland, Polk County, Florida, USA.



Ace Allen



Wilfred Douglas Clooney

Gerald Dean Laurie, Malcolm Richard Royles and Wilfred Douglas Clooney were early recruits to the new Special Force. Laurie and Royles were members of the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment while Clooney was a member of the 2nd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.

continued ...



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Private Laurie was born in Denmark, NS, and was the son of Ella Mary Ross. Private Royles was born in Maple Grove, Hants Co., and was the son of Herbert and Olive Ellen Royles. Private Clooney was also born in Maple Grove. He was the son of Mr. Garfield and Mrs. Elizabeth Clooney of Maple Grove.

Privates Laurie, Royles and Clooney were travelling in a taxi from Pembroke to Petawawa on 28 September. The taxi collided with another vehicle; Laurie and Royles were killed, and Clooney died the next day. Gerald Laurie is buried in the Lockerby Memorial Cemetery, Tatamagouche, while Malcolm Royles and Wilfred Clooney are buried in the Saint John the Baptist Anglican Church Cemetery, Maple Grove.



Austin Emery George

Weldon Eugene Barkhouse of Martin's Point, Lunenburg Co. and **Austin Emery George** of White Head, Guysborough County, were gunners in the 2nd Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery. On 21 November they were on a train bound from Calgary to Vancouver; where it was intended that they would board a ship bound for Korea. There was a minor, yet deadly, mixed-up in telegrams between railway stations which resulted in two trains sharing the same track. At Valemont, BC, the two trains collided. Seventeen artillerymen of the Royal Canadian Artillery and four crewmen of the Canadian National Railway



Weldon Barkhouse

were killed.

Gunner Barkhouse, the son of Harold Martin Barkhouse and Elsie Mildred Barkhouse, is buried in the Willow Bank Cemetery, Wolfville. Gunner George, a WW II veteran and the son of Levi Matthew and Jeanette (Munro) George of Canso, is buried in Canso Cemetery.



Clyde Cruickshanks

Clyde Reginald Cruickshanks was a lance-corporal in the Royal Ulster Regiment of the British Army. Clyde was born in Halifax and was the son of Adam Joseph and Bertha Veronica Cruickshanks. He was married with three children at the time of his death. Clyde was one the famous "Halifax 100" and enlisted in the Manchester Regiment of the British Army in March 1939. In December 1939 Clyde's platoon was the first British unit to engage the enemy in combat. During the German advance of May 1940, Clyde's unit was ordered "hold the line" against the enemy as the bulk of the British forces evacuated to Dunkirk. Clyde was taken prisoner on 26 May and remained a POW until the end of the war.

He re-enlisted in the British Army for service in Korea and was killed in action, fighting against North Korean guerrilla forces, on 27 November 1950.

1951

Gerald Kenneth Frizzell was born in Sheet Harbour in 1922. He was the son of son of Kenneth Golden and Gladys Pearl Frizzell. His family moved to the United States when he was a year old. Gerald served in the United States Marine Corps during WW II at Guam, Bougainville, Okinawa and China. He served with the Marines in Korea, as a member of Company G, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division. Corporal Frizzell was killed in action outside of Pohon on 29 January.



Gerald Frizzell

In February the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, entered the fighting during the second advance toward the 38th parallel. Amongst the Patricia's was Borden Bruce Brown of Springhill. Private Brown, a WW II veteran, was the son of Roy Thurlo and Beatric Etna Brown of Joggins. Private Brown was one of four soldiers of 2PPCLI killed in action on 23rd February during the advance. His name was added to the Amherst cenotaph on 4 November 2020.

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continued ...

10 March – Private **John Dalton Appleby** of Kentville and **Lance-Corporal Herald Smart** of Brooklyn were wounded.

12 March – Private **Cecil Barklay Adams** of Enfield was wounded.



Keith Harview

Keith Joseph Harview served as a corporal in the 93rd Bomber Squadron, 19th Bomber Group, US Air Force. Keith was born in Truro and was the son of Joseph and Maude Helen Harview. In 1948 he left his job as a radio operator in Windsor, ON, and went to live in Michigan. He enlisted in the USAF to gain citizenship in the US. On 29th March, Harview was part of a 12-man crew on a B-29 Superfortress on a bombing mission against bridges in Hamhung, North Korea. During the mission the bomber developed engine trouble and reported it was descending to 2000 feet to jettison its bombload into the Pacific Ocean.

Nothing more was heard from the bomber. Lost at sea, his name is listed on the National Korean War Veterans Memorial, Washington, District of Columbia, US.

Earle MacAskill was born in Glace Bay. He was the husband of Elizabeth Margaret MacAskill, the father of Helen and Donna May, the son of John and Agnes MacAskill and a brother to Sandy, Johnny, L.B. Buddy, Tommy, Tillie, Kay and Ella and Sally. Earle served as a corporal in the 2nd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He was killed during a mortar accident alongside Private Leo Gladu and Private Frederick George Works on 3 April.



Earle MacAskill

Lovell Phillip Jollymore, who was born in Sydney, served as a sergeant first class in Company F of the 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, US Army. He was the son of George Jollymore of Middle River, Maryland. SFC Jollymore, who had been awarded the Bronze Star for Valour, was seriously wounded on 6 April and died before nightfall. He is buried in the Baltimore National Cemetery.

On the night of 21/22 April the North Koreans, aided by the 60th Chinese Infantry Division, began a major offensive by breaking through the first UN line of defenses, held by the 6th ROK Division (Republic of Korea). All that stood between the Chinese army and the South Korean capital of Seoul was 2nd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (2 PPCLI), 3rd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (3 RAR) and A Company 72nd US Heavy Tank Regiment. All three units were tasked to defend the Kapyong Valley. The Chinese attacked in overwhelming force and eventually managed to push the Australians off their position. 2 PPCLI was then cut-off; nonetheless, they held off the Chinese forces and by doing so saved Seoul and countless lives. Ten Canadian soldiers were killed and 23 wounded during the battle. Australian losses were higher (32 killed, 59 wounded), while the Chinese force suffered an estimated 2,000 casualties.

The holding action of the Americans, Australians, and Canadians at Kapyong allowed the UN forces to consolidate their troops for the next stage of operations. They had fought tenaciously against a Chinese army with a force several times their size. In recognition of "outstanding heroism and exceptionally meritorious conduct," a United States Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to 2 PPCLI, 3 RAR and the American tank company for their actions at Kapyong on 24-25 April 1951.

Leslie Thomas Fielding, the son of Edwin O. and Mary Lydia Fielding of Truro, was killed at Kapyong on 25 April while serving with 2 PPCLI. Prior to joining the special force, he had worked at various jobs such as Stanfields in Truro, the Truro Hotel, the Canadian National Railway (CNR), and a greenhouse. Leslie was working at the St. Lawrence Starch Company in Mississauga, ON, when he enlisted in the Patricia's in August 1950. He was seriously wounded in his right leg and died of blood loss.

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28 April - Lance Corporal **Anthony William Edmond** of Glace Bay was wounded.

30 April - Private **Francis Russell Bouchie** of Mulgrave was wounded.



Joseph Levison

Second Lieutenant Joseph Yehudi Levison was the son of Felix and Ivelda Levison of Halifax. Joseph left his studies at Dalhousie University to enlist in the special force. He served as a Canadian Army public relations officer with the 25th Canadian Public Relations Unit and arrived in Korea in December 1950. Second Lieutenant Levinson was attached to 2 PPCLI. On 26 May, he was returning from the RCR area with Derek Pearcey, a Reuters Journalist, when their vehicle struck an anti-tank mine. Both men were killed, along with a British soldier.

Cecil Robert Ellsworth Fancy of Mahone Bay served in the Royal Canadian Regiment. Cecil was the son of Cecil Clayton and Eva Martha Fancy. He, and his father, served in WW II; his father was killed in Italy. Private Fancy is listed as dying an accidental death at the 121 Evacuation Hospital in Seoul on 5 June.



Harry Boates

6 June – Major **Harry Barlow Boates**, MC, of Westville and Private Sidney Herman Cuff of Sydney were wounded.

11 June - Corporal **Arthur Clarke** of Maccan and Private **William James McLellan** of New Waterford were wounded.



William McLellan

Everett Cameron Buchanan served in the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He was from North Sydney and was the husband of Patricia Mae Buchanan, the son of Everett Cameron and Margaret Rachel Buchanan Gwinn, the brother of Norman Angus and half-brother of Earl MacLeod Gwinn and David William Gwinn. Private Buchanan drowned in the Kyobashi River, Hiroshima, Japan, on 30 June. He is buried Yokohama War Cemetery, Japan.

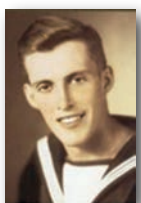
6 July - Private **Clifford Benedict Nicholson** of Westville was wounded.

In early July peace negotiations began at Kaesong between the Communists and a delegation of the UN Security Council. On 10 July it became clear that the Chinese expect the UN to surrender. The UN declined.

Private **Michael Alexander Dunphy** was from North Sydney and was the son of Thomas and Jennie Dunphy. Lance Corporal Harold Smart was born in Avondale, Queen's County, and was the son of Ernest Charles Francis and Florence Helen Smart. Both men served in 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Michael Alexander Dunphy and Harold Smart were killed in action when their patrol was struck by machine gun fire near Kadon-Ni in the Chorwon valley on 11 July. They are buried beside each other.

11 July – Private **Kenneth Albert Wakeman** of Halifax was wounded.

20 July - Gunner **Kenneth Robert** of Berwick was wounded.



Robert Moore

Able Seaman **Robert John Moore** of the Royal Canadian Navy served on HMCS Sioux. Robert was born in Yarmouth and was the son of Herbert John and Mary Elizabeth Moore and the brother of William Henry, Victor Alexander, and Mildred Constance. On 21 July Robert was travelling from Vancouver to Tokyo aboard Canadian Pacific Airlines DC-4 Flight 3505 (UN chartered). The plane crashed into the sea in the Gulf of Alaska. His body was never recovered. Robert is commemorated on the Korean War Naval Memorial in Calgary.

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continued ...

Ray Wilson Crowell served as a lance corporal in the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps. L/Cpl Crowell was from Clark's Harbour, Shelburne Co. and was the son of Philip and Mattie Dutton Crowell. He was killed on 8 September during Operation Minden (part of a general advance to extend the 'Wyoming Line', the UN Main line of resistance.). His unit was supporting the Royal 22e Régiment as they assaulted across the Imjin River.

25 September - Private **Charles William Bauld** of Truro was wounded.

In October and November 1951, the 1st Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (1 PPCLI) replaced 2 PPCLI.

Operation Commando was an offensive undertaken by United Nations Command between 3–12 October. The objective was to seize what was referred to as the "Jamestown Line" by destroying elements of the Chinese People's Volunteer Army. This prevented the Chinese forces from interdicting the UN supply lines near Seoul.

Private **Elwin Herman Goodwin** was the son of William Roy and Eva E. Goodwin of Yarmouth. He was born in Argyle Sound, Yarmouth Co. and served in the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. **Leonard Francis MacDougall** served as a private in the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment. He was born in Tyne Valley, PEI, and was the son of Francis Loman and Josephine MacDougall of Halifax.



Leonard MacDougall

Both men were killed in action on 4 October during Operation Commando. Elwin was killed in action during D Company's advance to Hill 187. Leonard was killed during the battle as B Company advanced on the same objective.

4 October - Private **Alfred Rodney Anderson** of Halifax was wounded.



Vernon Weatherbee

Private **Vernon Robert Weatherbee**, a WW II veteran, served in the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Vernon was born in Truro. He was the son of William Scott Muir and Florence Irvine Weatherbee and the husband of Luella Weatherbee and father of Stanley and Gene of Shubenacadie. He was killed in action on 13 October when the Chinese forces shelled his position.

15 October - Private **John Frederick Crawley** of Halifax was wounded.

18 October - Private **Robert Havelock Lockhart** of Greenwich was wounded.

19 October - Lance Corporal **Wilfred William MacDonald** of Westfield was wounded.

Corporal **James Kenneth Evans** was born in Halifax. He was a WW II veteran and served in Korea with 2nd Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment. James was the son of Sarah Unice Clarke; his father was a Great War veteran who died when James was quite young. James was on a patrol in an enemy held area on 23 October during the Battle of Kowang-san. He was killed in action by enemy machine fire.



James Evans

23 October - **Private Robert Havelock Lockhart** of Greenwich was wounded for a second time.

29 October - Lieutenant **Daniel Logan Harlow** of Bridgetown was wounded.



Hubert Legge

Hubert Donald Legge was the son of Harry William and Irene May Legge of Kentville. Hubert served as a private in the 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Private Legge was killed in action on 8 November (probably by enemy shelling) as he manned an outpost that had been established by D Company 1 PPCLI.

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8 November - Privates **Clifford Lewis Chapman** of Kentville and **Robert Alexander Grant** of Bridgewater were wounded.

Edward Jack Hanspiker served as a private in the 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He was born in Truro and was the son of John Edward and Louise Marion Hanspiker of Halifax. Edward died of his wounds on 23 November at the 8055 MASH Unit (Mobile Army Surgical Hospital) in Dongducheon-si.

5 December – Gunners **Terrance Peter Best** of Halifax and **Alexandre Joseph Muise** of New Waterford were wounded.

Robert Donald Casey served as a private in the 2nd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment. Robert was born in Halifax and was the son of John Edmond and Gladys Eva Casey. He was the brother of John Thomas, Francis William, Ronald Wallace, Carl Raymond, William Patrick, Olive Eleanor and Irene Madeleine. Private Casey was killed in action on 6 December while serving with B Company, 2 RCR.

8 December – Gunner **George Mossa Wilson** of Aylesford was wounded.

15 December - Private **George Wallace Tye** of New Glasgow was wounded and Private Thomas Earl McPherson of Glace Bay was injured in action.

1952

Harold Arthur Barkhouse was a WW II veteran who served in Korea with the 1st Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He was the son of Arthur and Pearl Emma Barkhouse of Sheet Harbour and brother to Reginald Fulton, Margaret, Lottie and Nettie May. He was seriously wounded in Korea and medically evacuated to Canada where he died on 13 January. Private Harold Arthur Barkhouse is buried in the St. James United Church Point Cemetery, East River, Sheet Harbour.

14 January – Private **Carl Newton Brown** of Pugwash was wounded.

22 January – Privates **Abraham Benedict Doucette** of Eskasoni; Wesley Frederic Fudge of Chipman; and **William Joseph Saulnier** of Yarmouth were wounded.

Harold Carlen Harrison was born in Springhill. He was the son of William Ottie and Ethel Mae Harrison; the husband of Phyllis Nina Harrison; the father of Arlene Ruth, Carney Irene, and Brenda Lee; and the brother of Ronald, Muriel and Grace. Harold was a WW II Veteran who had served in NW Europe. Private Harrison served in Korea with the 1st Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment. Harold died on 3 February at the Norwegian Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (NORMASH) while he was attached to the 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade headquarters. On 4 November 2020, his name was added to the Amherst cenotaph.

Robert Arthur Ryan was born in Waterville. Private Ryan served in the 1st Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment. He was the son of Albert Thomas and Laura Ryan of Halifax and brother of James, Wilbert, William, Joseph, Ronald, Margaret, Edith, Ruby and Elizabeth. Robert was killed in action by a mine strike on 19 February.



Robert Ryan

21 February – Gunner **John David Simpson** of Amherst Point was wounded.



Stephen MacPhee

Stephen Hugh MacPhee was born in Port Morien to William A. and Sarah McPhee in 1929. Stephen was a brother to George, Walter, Daniel, Alexander, Harold, William, Godfrey, Robert, Rose, Anita and Evelyn. He served in Korea as a private with 1st Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment. Stephen was killed near Munsan-eup on 24 March.

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25-26 March 1952. The Chinese launched a raid on the forward platoon of 1 PPCLI holding Hill 132 and on a 2 RCR outpost on Hill 163, both part of the "Hook" position west of the Sami-ch'on River. The Chinese were successfully repelled at a cost of eight Canadians killed and 13 wounded. Three of the dead were from Nova Scotia.

Private **Raymond Robert Sweeney** of 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry was born in Halifax in 1930. He was the husband of Beryl Augusta (nee Patmore) Sweeney of Bowness, Alberta; the father of Timothy Robert and Berilyn Rae; the son of Charles and Dorothy Sweeney; and the brother of Kenneth and Lorraine. Raymond enlisted in the army in November 1948 in Montreal. He was killed on 25 March when his tent caught fire.



Raymond Sweeney



Kenneth Erb

Private **Kenneth Irvine Erb** served in Korea with the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment. He was born in Massachusetts and moved to Nova Scotia with his family when he was two years old. Kenneth was the son of Kenneth Irvine and Beatrice A. Erb and the brother of Robert and Herbert. He enlisted in the Canadian army on 10 October 1950 in Halifax. Kenneth was killed in action on 26 March at Hill 163.

Private **Emerson Edward Patterson** of the 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry was born in West Apple River, Cumberland Co., in 1928. He was the son of Freeman and Jennie Patterson and the brother of Leslie Amos, Millard Arthur, Malcolm Allison, Freeman Ashley, Elizabeth Emma, Myrtle Louise, Gertrude Alice and Christena May. Emerson was killed on the night of 26 March during a raid on the Chinese positions. His name was added to the Amherst cenotaph on 4 November 2020.

26 March - Gunner **Francis Edward Carter** of Berwick and Private **William Charles Chase** of Shubenacadie were wounded.

In early spring of 1952, 1RCR and 1 R22eR replaced 2 RCR and 2 R22eR.

Ross Reginald Patrick of Halifax served as a private in the 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He was the husband of Mary Emma Patrick of Springfield; the father of Wilfred Lawrence and Mary Patricia; the son of William and Marjorie Patrick of Bridgeville, Pictou Co.; and the brother of Kenneth George and William Gary, Edith Jean, Doris, and Norma. Ross was accidentally killed, on 9 April, when another soldier's rifle discharged during cleaning. Private Patrick was only 12 feet from the barrel of the rifle when it discharged. He died quickly.



Ross R. Patrick



Laurie Canning

Laurie Albert Canning served as a private in the 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Laurie was born in West Caledonia, Queen's Co. in 1931. He was the son of Bertram J. and Annie M. Canning and brother of Joseph, John, Eugene, Bertram, Carl, Mary, Agnes, Alice, Anne, Barbara and Claire. On 2 May,

Laurie suffered a serious stomach illness and was rushed to the 1 PPCLI Regimental Aid Post. He died enroute and his death was deemed 'accidental.'

7 May - Private **George Herbert Coleman** of Steam Mill Village was wounded.


Corporal **Neil Thorold MacLeod** was a veteran of WW II who stayed in the army in 1945. He served in Korea with the 1st Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment. Neil was born in Cape Tormentine, NB in 1926. Corporal MacLeod was the son of Neil and Mrs. Ruby MacLeod; the husband of Mrs. Viola Maude MacLeod of Sydney Mines and the father of Neil Daniel and June Evelyn. He was a brother to Danny and Mary. Corporal MacLeod contracted malaria while in Korea and was sent home on sick leave. He died of a ruptured spleen, associated with malaria, on 8 May. Neil is buried in the Brookside Cemetery, Sydney Mines.

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William Stone

On the night of 23 May “D” Company of the 1st Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment conducted a raid against the Chinese position on Hill 113. Amongst the raiders was **William Albert Stone** of Stewiacke. Private Stone was the son of Bruce Hill and Verna Ellen Stone and brother of Charles Cecil, Ronald Everett, Bruce Harold, Earl Arthur, Ralph Oral, Raymond Owen, Vernon Roberts, Elsie May, Ruth Eileen, and Constance Naomi. William was killed in action during that raid. He has no known grave.

27 May - Lieutenant **James William MacLean** of Glace Bay was wounded.

30 May - Private **William Calvin Sheppard** of Glace Bay was wounded.

4 June - Acting Corporal **Ambrose Morton MacInnis** of Port Hawkesbury and Private **Joseph Melvin McNeil** of Reserve Mines were wounded.

Gunner **Charles Donald Webb** served in the 1st Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery. He was the son of Henry Edward Webb of Halifax and enlisted there on 17 January 1952. He was killed in action on 16 June.



Charles Webb



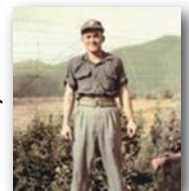
John Long

19 June – Sergeant **Peter Francis Elwood** of Tufts Cove and Gunner **John Vincent Long** of Sydney were wounded.



William Johnstone

25 June – Lieutenant **Eric Gibson Bauld** of Halifax and Privates **John Robertson Barlow** of Aylesford; **Clarence James Boyce** of Westville; **Harold William Lane** of Armdale; and **Alonzo Williston Sawler** of Cambridge were wounded. Private **William Edward Johnstone** of Westville was injured in action.



John Barlow

26 June - Privates **Eric Roger Burgoyne** of Northwest Cove and **Alphonsus Loyola McIntyre** of Glace Bay, along with Corporal **John Benjamin James Pictou** of Shubenacadie were wounded.

30 June - Privates **Lionel Peter Halfkenny** of Halifax and **Alexander Hastie** of Sydney Mines were listed as ‘missing in action (believed killed).’



Lionel Halfkenny



Arthur Herman

Lieutenant **Arthur Graham Herman** served in the 1st Battalion, Royal 22e Regiment. Arthur was born in Moncton, NB, and was the son of Reverend Arthur K. and Myrtle A. Herman of Wilmot, Nova Scotia. On 19 August he was on Hill 210 when the Chinese attacked. Lieutenant Ramsey Withers, the battalion signals officer, and Lieutenant Herman were walking to the Company headquarters when the Chinese started shelling. Lieutenant Herman quickly returned to his men in a forward position. A 122mm howitzer shell struck the position. Lieutenant Herman, along with Lance Corporal Gaston Francoeur, and Privates Marcel Beland and Joseph Wilfred Major were killed.

3 September - Privates **Alexander Bernard Gillis** of Antigonish and **Arthur Ernest Howard** of Florence were wounded.

9 September - Private **Neil MacPherson** of New Aberdeen was wounded.

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Gunner **Ralph Rexnall Murphy**, of East Jeddore, served in the 1st Regiment of Royal Canadian Horse Artillery (1 RCHA). He was the son of John William and Beatrice Murphy. Ralph was killed in action on 13 September at Majon'ni.



Ralph Murphy

30 September – Private **William Karl Hamm** of Halifax and Lance Corporal **Aloysius Osborne** of Glace Bay were wounded.

Private **William Henry Elliott** was born in Montreal and served in A Company of the 1st Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment. He enlisted in the army in Halifax in January 1951. William was the son of Albert Edward and Ethel Elliott and brother of Gordon Albert, Franklyn Ross, Douglass, Rita, Velma, Muriel and Irene. Private Elliott was killed in action, on 1 October when A Company's position was shelled by the Chinese.

On the night of 2 October HMCS Iroquois was shelling the railway line on the east coast of North Korea. The Chinese shore batteries returned fire and HMCS Iroquois was struck.



John Louis Quinn

Lieutenant Commander **John Louis Quinn**, MiD, was aboard HMCS Iroquois that night. John was born in Moose Jaw and enlisted in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1942. He attended King's College in Halifax before going to sea. John's WW II service ranged from shore establishments to sea duty on corvettes and motor torpedo boats in the Atlantic, Pacific and along the coast of NW Europe. He was the son of Colonel H.J. Quinn MM and Rosa Quinn and the husband of Grace Lillian (Merrill) Quinn and father of Charles Patrick Quinn. John transferred to the Royal Canadian Navy in 1945 and served in the Mediterranean Sea and the North and South Atlantic. Lieutenant Commander Quinn was killed when an enemy shore battery opened fire and struck the "B" gun turret of HMCS Iroquois. He is buried in the Yokohama War Cemetery (Japan). His widow and son settled in Halifax.

3 October - Private **Thomas Alexander Lamie** of North Sydney and Lance Corporal **John Edward MacDonald** of Stellarton were wounded.

Private First-Class **Clarence Edmond Deon** served in Korea with the 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division of the US Army. Clarence was born in Beech Hill, Antigonish Co. in 1927. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Deon. Clarence moved to Maine with his family when he was a child. In October the 31st participated in some of the heaviest fighting of the war at features known as 'Triangle Hill Complex' which include 5 hills in a triangular shape – all held by Chinese and North Korean forces. **Operation Showdown** began on 14 October with the objective of clearing the hills of all Communist forces. PFC Clarence Edmond Deon was killed that day. He is buried in the Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, Ma.


The **First Battle of the Hook** was a battle fought during the period of 2-28 October 1952 between the United Nations Command and Chinese forces over several frontline outposts. Hill 355, about 40 kilometers south of Seoul and known to the troops as "Little Gibraltar" because, like the British fortress for which it was named, it commanded the highest ground overlooking supply lines.

Canadians fought on and around Hill 355, defending the front lines and repelling enemy assaults. Every Canadian battalion saw service there at some point. By the time the battle ended 18 Canadians were dead (five of whom were from Nova Scotia), 43 were wounded and 14 were taken prisoner.

Lance Corporal **William Edward Johnstone** of 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, was born in Westville in 1929. He was the son of William Johnstone and Margaret Johnstone, of Westville; the husband of Elva May Johnstone and father of Douglas Wayne of Calgary, AB; and brother of Isabel, Eleanor, Edith Doreen and Patsy. Lance Corporal Johnstone was recorded as 'missing and presumed killed in action' near Naengjeon on 15 October. His body was never recovered. Lance Corporal William Edward Johnstone is commemorated on the Commonwealth Memorial (Busan), South Korea.

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16 October - Private **Russell William Macumber** of Bramber was wounded, while Private **Clearance Murray Power** of Sydney Mines suffered his second wound of the war.

17 October- a training accident (explosion of a grenade or mortar shell) near Kure, Japan, on October 17 killed two soldiers and accidentally wounded 13 others. Amongst the accidentally wounded were Lance Corporal **Louis Wilson Barkhouse** of Thorburn; and Privates **George Raymond Canning** of Parrsboro and **Claude Joseph Gaudet** of Halifax.

22 October – Private **Charles Herbert Chute** of Bear River was injured in action.

On October 23rd the Royal Canadian Regiment had been holding “Little Gibraltar” since early September. That morning Little Gibraltar (aka Hill 355) came under heavy artillery attack and Chinese forces assaulted the hill. The Canadians were pushed off some positions but were able to recapture those positions by nightfall.

23 October – Lance Corporal **William Edward Johnstone** of Westville was listed as missing in action (believed killed). Private **James Joseph Pender** of Halifax and Lance Corporal **Earl Lester Ray** of Latties Brook were wounded.



Elmer McInnis

Private **Elmer McInnis**, of Florence, served with the 1st Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment and was taken prisoner on the night of 23rd October. He was listed as ‘missing in action, presumed dead.’ His family would not know if he was dead or alive until 23 April 1953, when a released Canadian POW, told authorities that he knew Elmer was alive.

Cape Breton soldiers, Privates **William Dawson** of Reserve Mines, **Angus Weldon McInnis** of Glace Bay, and **Charles Joseph Morrison** of Glace Bay served together in “B” Company of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment. They died together on 23rd October at “Little Gibraltar” when they were caught in an ambush. William Dawson was the son of James and Agnes Dawson. He was the fourth eldest son of three brothers and four sisters.



William Dawson



Angus McInnis

Angus McInnis was the son of Norman and Sarah McInnis of Passchendaele and the brother of Norman William, Hugh Joseph, Donnie Joseph and Wilma May.

Charles Morrison was the son of John J. Morrison and brother of John, Michael, Fabian, Roderick, and Isabel.



Charles Morrison



John Hilton

The next day another member of “B” Company of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment was killed at Little Gibraltar. Nineteen-year-old Private **John Walter Hilton** was from Dartmouth (he was only 17-years-old when he enlisted in the RCR). He was the son of Winfred and Delia Hilton and the brother of William, Ann and Winifred.

24 October - Private **Edward Malcolm Campbell** of Sydney Forks was wounded.

28 October – Privates **John Henry Perry** of Reserve Mines, **Joseph Vernon Leroy Swann** of Halifax and **Boyd Allison Rand** of Cambridge Station were wounded. (NOTE: Mr. Swann was awarded the Canadian Medal of Bravery on September 24, 1984.)

30 October - Private **Eldridge Matthew Stewart** of Shelburne was wounded.



Boyd Rand

continued ...

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continued ...

31 October - Private **Richard Norman Osmond** of Bedford was wounded. Private Bernard Jewer of New Waterford was listed as missing in action.

In late 1952 and early 1953, the third contingents (consisting of 3 PPCLI, 3 RCR, and 3 R22eR) replaced the 1st battalions.

Private **Clarence Thomas Meuse** served in the 31st Regiment of the 7th Infantry Division of the US Army. Clarence was a Mi'kmaw of the Bear River First Nation and was born in Halifax in 1929. He was the son of William and Mary Rose Jeremy Meuse and the brother of Magurite. His family moved around Nova Scotia and the State of Maine during his childhood. Clarence enlisted in the US Army in Aroostock County, Maine. Private Clarence Thomas Meuse was killed in action on 4 November. He is buried in the Woodlawn National Cemetery, Elmira, Chemung County, New York.

22 November - Private **Gerald Harvey Clarke** of Bras d'Or was wounded.



Edward James Power

Edward James Power, of North Sydney, served as a private in the 3rd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He was the son of Edward and Jean Power. Edward was also known as "Joe Dowey" – which was just a fictitious name he used while on leave. Private Edward James 'Joe Dowey' Power and Private Arthur King of Charlottetown were killed in action, by enemy mortar fire, during an ambush patrol on Christmas Eve under the command of the famous Sergeant Tommy Price, MM, SS.

1953

Private **Bernard Ancel MacDonald**, of 3rd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment, was from Antigonish. He was the son of William Joseph and Elizabeth MacDonald and brother of Francis, Roy, Lewis, Dougald, Louise, Mary, Helen and Alma. He was killed in action defending Hill 132 (aka "Warsaw") on 8 January.



Bernard MacDonald

15 January - Private **Sidney Stephen Howard** of Florence and Sergeant **Joseph Lawrence Mahe** of Dominion were wounded.

22 January - Sapper **Neil Maxwell McCuish** of New Aberdeen was wounded.



Patrick Redmond

Lance Corporal **Patrick Gerald Redmond** of Beaverbank served with the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps. He was the son of Mr and Mrs James Joseph Redmond. Patrick was an 'older soldier' of the special force having been born in 1914. He served in England and NW Europe during WW II. Lance Corporal Redmond, along with four soldiers of the Korean Service Corps, were killed on 22 April, at Hill 187, when the kitchen tent of A Company of 3 RCR was struck by enemy artillery fire.

23 April – Private **Elmer McInnis** of Florence was confirmed as being a POW

Private **William Earl Morrison** of Glace Bay also served with the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps. William was injured in a vehicle accident on 24 April and evacuated to the 38th Field Ambulance of the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps. Private William Earl Morrison died of his injuries the next day.

27 April - Private **Claude Joseph Gaudet** of Halifax was wounded again.

On the night of 2/3 May Lt. Gerry Meynell, of the newly arrived 3rd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment was out on patrol with his unit when they were suddenly under attack. He would be killed, along with having half of his men killed or wounded. The surviving men retreated to Hill 187, knowing that the Chinese were about to unleash an overwhelming attack on their position.

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The Battle of Hill 187 is infamous in Canadian military history. Throughout the night and into the next morning, the Chinese would throw wave after wave of men at 3 RCR and hammer them with artillery fire.

Eventually, ammunition ran out and men engaged in hand-to-hand combat with the Chinese. Grenades were being thrown constantly. One platoon estimated they threw 350 grenades alone. A platoon commander who could see his men dealing with 800 Chinese troops swarming their position, opted to call down an artillery bombardment on his own trenches to disperse the Chinese offensive.

The regiment would hold the hill, but it came at a cost of 26 Canadians dead, 27 wounded and seven taken prisoner. Six of the dead were from Nova Scotia.

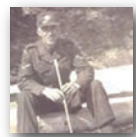
Due to the ongoing ‘peace talks’ a political decision was made to suppress details of the fight to the press. What was published in Canada several weeks later, had been heavily censored before it made it into newspapers. Even today very few Canadians know about what happened at Hill 187.

Lieutenant **Hugh Gerard Balfour Meynell** of Brooklyn, New York; Corporals **Douglas Harold Richard MacLean** of Truro and **Roger Byron Schoultz** of Shelburne; and Privates **Michael Paul Chiasson** of New Waterford, **James Joseph Christoff** of Glace Bay, and **Lloyd Stanley Roach** of Pictou served in the 3rd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment. All six men were killed on 3 May defending Hill 187.



Gerry Meynell

Gerard ‘Gerry’ Meynell was the son of Gerald Balfour and Margaret Meynell of Lebanon, New Jersey, and the brother of David and Richard. He was the husband of Maralyn Meynell of Maine. He enlisted in the Canadian Army on 1 November 1950 in Halifax.



Roger Schoultz

Douglas MacLean was the son of Allan and Bertha MacLean of Tatamagouche, and the husband of Ethel Marion MacLean and father of Richard Allan, Harold Douglas, Thomas and Heather Margaret.



Douglas MacLean

Roger Byron Schoultz was the husband of Harriet Jeannette and the father of Judith Lynn and Marilyn Ann. He was the son of John Alfred and Genesta Schoultz and brother of Russell Alfred and Herman Ernest.



Michael Chiasson

Michael Paul Chiasson was the son of Leo and Mary Welina and brother of Robert Joseph Chiasson.



James Christoff

James Joseph Christoff was the son of Peter Christoff and brother of Chris, George, William, Stephen, Benny, John, Olga, Margie, Rosie, Lillian and Laura.

Lloyd Stanley Roach the son of George Hocken and Sadie Roach and brother of Victor George, Harold Joseph, Margaret Joyce, Lorraine Gertrude and Hazel Mary.

5 May - Corporal **Ross Finley Evong** of Halifax was wounded. Private **Barry Stephen Gushue** of Sydney was listed as “missing in action (believed to be prisoner of war).”

6 May - Private **Lloyd Stanley Roach** of Pictou was listed as “missing in action (believed to be prisoner of war).” Privates **Harry Arnold MacDonald** of Springhill Junction and **John Oscar Rhynard** of New Glasgow were wounded.



Lloyd Roach

7 May – It was confirmed that Private **Bernard Jewer** of New Waterford was a prisoner of war.

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14 July – Corporal **Allan McDonald** of New Waterford and Private **Michael John Nicholson** of Glace Bay were wounded.



Clarence Morine

21 July – Private **Clarence Morine** of Wolfville was wounded.

27 July – Some Nova Scotians are still listed as ‘missing.’ They were Lance Corporal **Alvin Ambrose Deveau** of Comeauville and Privates Barry Stephen Gushue of Sydney and William Albert Stone of Stewiacke.

The Korea Armistice Agreement is signed on 27 July and three years of fighting ends. When peace was finally negotiated, a fourth Canadian contingent was enroute to join the Canadian Brigade in Korea. When these new battalions arrived in Korea, they became the 2nd battalions of the Queen's Own Rifles, The Black Watch, and the Canadian Guards. Forty-four (44) Canadian servicemen of the Korean Conflict would die before the last of Canadian troops were withdrawn in 1957.

1953 -post Armistice

All the following war dead are commemorated on the Wall of Honour in Calgary.

Private **Wallace MacPherson Betts** served in Korea with the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment. He was the son of Edgar Allen and Elizabeth Betts of New Glasgow, NS, and the husband of Mrs. Gladys (Furlotte) Betts of Durham Centre, Restigouche County, NB. He had enlisted in the regular army on 7 February 1947.

On 28 July, 25-year-old Wallace Betts died of a heart attack while visiting his in-laws in Durham Center, NB. His usual residence was in New Glasgow. Private Betts is buried in the Lorne Street Cemetery in New Glasgow.

24 November – The casualty report read: “The following personnel previously reported missing in action, now for all official purposes are presumed to have died as a result of enemy action.” Lance Corporal **William Edward Johnstone** of Westville and Private **William Albert Stone** of Stewiacke.



Bennie Clements

Benjamin ‘Bennie’ Clements served in Korea as a private in the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He was born in Inglewood, Annapolis Co. and was the son of William and Minnie Clements of Annapolis and brother of Isaac, Ray, Eugene, Andrew, Rawleigh, Lorne, Wayne, Dorothy, Edna, and Gertrude. Bennie had served during WW II in Italy and NW Europe. He died on 15 December. (The details about his death are not easily accessible. He may have been murdered while helping Korean refugees escape to South Korea)

1954

Private **Ralph Elvin Turnbull** of Springhill was 29 years old when he died on 1 January while serving with 2nd Battalion, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada. A veteran of the Second World War, he was the son of Roderick Martin and Mary Elizabeth Turnbull and brother of Obediah, Roy, Thomas, John, Harold, James, Margaret, Christie, Rhoda and Ruth. His name was added to the Amherst cenotaph in 2020.



Ralph Turnbull



Alexander McNeil

Sapper **Alexander McNeil** served in Korea with the 59th Independent Field Squadron of the Royal Canadian Engineers. He was older than most soldiers of the special force having been born in 1905 in Bridgeport. Alexander was a WW II veteran. He was the son of Michael and Mary McNeil and brother of Neil, James, Mrs. Anthony McCormack, Mrs. Dan McCormick and Mrs. Lauchlin McLean. He died on 21 May in Glace Bay of heart failure.

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Private **Murdoch Ryan MacMillan** served in Korea with the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment. He was a WW II veteran and the son of Robert William and Hilda Ann MacMillan; the husband of Barbara MacMillan and the father of Murdoch, LeRoy, Murlaine and Diane and Gordon. He died of chicken pox and bronchial pneumonia in the Inverness Memorial Hospital on 22 June. Private MacMillan is buried in the Malagawatch Cemetery in River Denys.



Murdoch



Russell Jodrie

Russell Arthur Jodrie served in Korea as a regular force sergeant with the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He was a veteran of WW II having enlisted in 1940. Sergeant Jodrie was born in Port George in 1917 to Samuel and Gertrude Jodrie. Russell was the husband of Vivian Blanche (Dauphine) Jodrie of Bridgetown. Jodrie died of a heart attack, on 26 June, at the Stratford General Hospital, Ontario, while on active duty. He is buried in St Joseph's Church Cemetery, Kentville, NS.

Private **Elvin Stanley Sabean** was the son of Elvin and Tarasa May Stanley of Berwick. He served in Korea with the 2nd Battalion, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada. He was posted in Aldershot, NS, when he fractured his skull and died of a brain injury on 26 December. Private Sabean is buried in the Berwick Cemetery.

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Nova Scotia war dead of the Florence War Cemetery

Story by Gary Silliker

In early December 2022 my wife and I spent a week in Florence Italy. While there, I took the time to visit the Florence War Cemetery. I stopped at all 49 of the Canadians graves and left memorial tributes of poppies, small Canadian flags and/or Canadian pennies.

Three of the war dead were from Nova Scotia. Here are their stories:



Lemuel William Gray was the son of William and Thirza Gray, and husband of Alice (Murray) Gray of Springhill. He was born in Westville N.S. in 1917. Prior to going to war Lemuel had worked as an electrician and as a mechanic. He enlisted in the RCAF on 5 November 1939 and was posted to 11 Bomber Reconnaissance Squadron RCAF in June 1940 as an aeroengine mechanic. LAC (Leading Aircraftsman) Gray was promoted to Acting/Sergeant in June 1941 and was posted to Alberta for pilot training.

In December 1942 he qualified as a pilot, was commissioned as a Pilot Officer and posted to Halifax where he would catch a ship for England. He arrived in England in January 1943 and was posted to the RAF. In January 1944 he was posted to 454 Squadron (Royal Australian Air Force) in Libya as part of the Desert Air Force.

In July 1944 his squadron relocated to Pescara Italy. The 454 Squadron followed the advance of the Allies and relocated to Falconara on 18 August.

On 23 August, Lem was at the controls of Martin Baltimore bomber FW 602 on a bombing mission over Limestone Italy (north of Venice). FW 602 was hit by flak over the target and then dropped out of formation gradually losing height. Lem was working hard to get the crippled aircraft into friendly airspace. He was killed making a crash landing near Pisa. All of Lem's crew survived and swore they owed their lives to his skill in bringing the crippled aircraft home.

Flying Officer Lemuel Gray was buried with full military honours in the United States Military Cemetery in Follonica. His body was relocated to the Florence War Cemetery after the war.



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continued ...



James Joseph Redmond was born in Halifax in 1918 to James and Margaret Redmond. James enlisted in the active army on 31 August 1939. A month later he transferred to the regular force of the Royal Canadian Artillery with a posting to the Fortress Company in Halifax. James Joseph Redmond and Mary Estelle Manolopolis married on 16 October 1940 at Halifax. Mary gave birth to their son George in 1941.

Bombardier Redmond arrived in England in September 1943, as a qualified army clerk, and was transferred to the Canadian Armoured Corps where he was promoted to sergeant. Sergeant Redmond arrived in Italy in February 1944 and was retained at the 5th Canadian Armoured Brigade HQ as a senior clerk. Redmond must have had some special traits or skills, as he was never posted to any one regiment of the brigade. He was one of those senior non-commissioned officers who could be placed anywhere within the brigade to get things sorted out.

The 5th Canadian Assault Troop was organized for the 5th Canadian Armoured Brigade of the 5th Armoured Division in Italy on 1 June. The troop was raised to provide the brigade with its own engineers. Its strength was 2 officers and 84 other ranks of tankers and engineers. They were given special training in methods of keeping tank routes open, which included using demolitions and removing enemy mines and booby-traps. One section from the Troop joined each of the three armoured regiments on 18 July 1944. Sergeant Redmond was appointed as the troop sergeant major.

Sergeant Redmond's troop were supporting the British Columbia Dragoons when he was killed in action on 28 July.



Joseph Thomas Edison Walsh was born in 1920 in Dartmouth. He was the son of Joseph and Margaret Walsh, and the husband of Ruth Muriel Walsh and father of Thomas and Dorothy. He enlisted 10th Fortress Royal Canadian Artillery in May 1939 as a reserve gunner and enlisted in the active army in October. He and Ruth were married in March 1940.

In October 1941 he transferred from the RCA to the Royal Canadian Engineers and joined the Electrical/Mechanical troop of 2nd Fortress Company. Sapper Walsh arrived in England in August 1942. He took part in the invasion of Sicily in July 1943. Sapper Walsh of 3rd Field Company, RCE, was killed in action on 7 August 1944 during the 'Advance to Florence.'

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Pipers of the 25th Nova Scotia Overseas Battalion in World War 1



Pipe Band of the 25th Battalion, c. 1915.
Back row, left-to-right: Mike MacDougall, William Brand, Walter Telfer, David Brand, David Neilson, Arthur Lavery, Jim Cant, Angus Campbell.
Middle row: John 'Jock' Carson, Major MacRae, Major MacKenzie, Lt. Colonel LeCain, Captain Logan, Lieut. MacNeil, Dan Morrison.
Front row: Ronald C. MacDonald, Bernard Kane, Arthur Muise.

There have been several informative books and articles written since the end of the Great War and there are many stories to tell and many accomplishments to highlight regarding Pipers of the Great War. What follows is part of a much larger story of pipers from Canada's east coast who served overseas during both world wars, beginning with pipers in the 25th Nova Scotia Overseas Battalion.



Archie A. MacLellan
*dressed in the uniform
of the Nova Scotia
Highland Brigade.*
*(Photo:
Sears Collection)*

Background

It is well known among pipers today that during the First World War, pipers were used to march soldiers to and from the front lines and would often pipe their comrades 'over the top'. In some units, pipers would compete for this honour, a tradition which originated among Scotland's highland regiments, and often permission to perform this task had to be granted by a senior officer. The toll on pipers was devastating and out of several thousand pipers from Britain and the Empire, it has been suggested that over 500 pipers were killed in action with another 600 being wounded. (This number has been enlarged recently to over 2,000).

In an effort to limit the casualties as a result of this practice it was decided to transfer the musicians to support roles. In addition to entertaining the troops, pipers and drummers were employed as messengers, stretcher-bearers, and ammunition carriers. Due to the restructuring of the role, there were many casualties among pipers who may not have been playing their comrades into battle, or have been missed in the list of those wounded/ killed. For instance, Angus MacIntyre, served with the 24th Field Battery, Canadian Field Artillery, and saw action at several battles of the war including Vimy Ridge. He instructed many individuals to play bagpipe over his lifetime in Glace Bay. Similarly, John R. MacIsaac, a talented piper from Bein Eoin, Cape Breton was also in the field artillery but he was killed in 1915. When notice of his son's death reached his father, Rory 'Shim' MacIsaac, a piper and fiddler, he was so affected by the news he never cared to play the pipes again.

In addition, two other pipers from Cape Breton serving overseas left out of the lists of wounded/killed were Donald J. Nicholson and Archie Andrew MacLellan. Nicholson was wounded while playing the troops of the 85th Battalion, Nova Scotia Highlanders into action at the Battle of Lens, and died of his wounds June 29, 1917. MacLellan, was piper in the 185th Battalion, Cape Breton Highlanders, but towards the end of the war he was transferred to the Royal Canadian Regiment. He was wounded on November 10, 1918, and died from wounds on Armistice Day, November 11, 1918, possibly the last 'piper' to die in that conflict.

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Pipers of the 25th Battalion were often dispatched to rallying points along the line, to enable them to pipe their tired companions back to the rest camps behind the lines. In those instances where companies were split up during marches it was customary for the band to be split with two or three pipers and a drummer or two to lead individual companies. Some pipers opted to rejoin their companies and take part in the fighting for short durations, such was the case with David Brand (b. 1879), an immigrant Scot to Halifax who had served one year as a piper with the Gordon Highlanders before he immigrated to Canada. Brand had been a tailor in Halifax when he enlisted in the 25th Battalion in May of 1915 but due to his age he was evacuated back to England within two years.

25th Battalion (The fighting 25th)

Nova Scotia had already contributed men to several Canadian units with the outbreak of the First World War. One of the first infantry units raised in Nova Scotia was the 25th Battalion CEF (Canadian Expeditionary Force). Organised at Halifax in 1914, it had recruiting centres at Amherst, Sydney, Truro and Yarmouth. It was part of the much touted 'citizen's army' Canada was preparing to send to fight in Europe. The ranks of the 25th Battalion consisted mostly of farmers and fishermen, tailors and tradesmen from a variety of ethnic groups including English, Acadians, lowland Scots, and descendants of highlanders who settled in the province in the first half of the 19th century. A few of the recruits had basic military training with local militia battalions such as the 94th Regiment (Cape Breton) and the 78 Pictou Highlanders and 63rd Rifles on mainland Nova Scotia. These men were part-time soldiers, training one night a week augmented with a two-week summer camp dedicated to military drill and war craft as it was practiced in the post-Boer War period.

The 25th battalion was not raised as a Highland unit, but because of the number of native Nova Scotian Gaels among its ranks, it held a strong attachment to the Highland tradition and from its very beginning this included a pipe band. In April 1918 a plebiscite was held among the NCOs and men that passed overwhelmingly in favour of re-designating the battalion as the 25th Highland Battalion (Nova Scotia) and for permission to, like members of the pipe band, wear Highland dress. Things move slow in the army, of course, and the war ended before any official action could be taken to re-name the Battalion or authorise the wearing of kilts.

Nova Scotia had a close affiliation with the music of the pipes well before war was declared in 1914. It was remarked by an officer of the 85th Battalion Nova Scotia Highlanders during the war that in Nova Scotia, "pipe music was the favourite form of entertainment ... the people preferring it to all other kinds of music." The 25th Battalion had both a brass band and a pipe band, and at its height its ranks swelled to 16 pipers and eight drummers. The brass band was not so lucky and it was broken up in England before the unit was sent to France, its members sent to the ranks, or were attached to the pipe band as drummers and buglers. Casualties had been high during the war and many soldiers (and pipers) rotated through the battalion from other sections of the Canadian corps.

The benefits of highland bagpipe music on the morale of soldiers and its ability to banish fatigue in the Canadian army, is best summed up by Robert N. Clements, an officer with the 25th Battalion in his memoir, *Merry Hell*.

"The men quickly came to realize that for marching purposes on the road over long distances, the slower rhythm of the pipe music was much easier to move by than the quicker tempo of a regular brass band. For ceremonial duty on the parade ground, the short quick step of 180 to the minute with a brass band was very effective. Even when slowed down to 100 to the minute on the line of march it could just about kill you over a long distance under full load. Against this the cadence of the pipes at about eighty to ninety a minute enabled men to use a longer and easier rolling stride with much less muscle strain. Over the years, under active combat conditions, it became clearly recognized that behind the pipes entire battalions could cover ground faster, for longer distances, and arrive at their destinations in better physical shape than by any other means".

The Scottish connection

The original pipe band consisted of both native Nova Scotians and ex-pat Scots then living in both Halifax, NS and the United States. Since the United States was not yet at war, a handful of Scottish pipers from the Boston area traveled north to Nova Scotia to enlist for overseas duty.

Mike MacDougall (b.1891) was originally from Lewis Bay West, Cape Breton County. He was descended from immigrants from Morar, Scotland, he was the first piping instructor for the MacDougall Girls Pipe Band of Dominion, Cape Breton in the 1950s. The band, which lasted for over 40 years was named after Mike and as a further honour, the band wore the MacDougall tartan.

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The Highland Dress Pipe Band, Boston, c. 1910 **Front row:** Drum Major John Maclean (Cape Breton), Pipe Major Jim Cant, Joe Morrison, Duncan Grant, Pipe Sergeant 'Jock' Carson. **Next row:** George Martin, Billy Smith, Jack Urquhart (bass) Dan Morrison (Cape Breton). The others remain unidentified. Mike MacDougall, Angus Campbell, and Dan Morrison represented Cape Breton and were all descended from Highland immigrants to the island in the early 19th century. The Scottish pipers included William Brand, David Brand, Arthur Lavery, James Cant, John 'Jock' Carson, and Walter Telfer.

Angus Campbell (b. 1886) was from Campbells Mountain, Inverness County and after the war he settled in Western Canada.

Dan Morrison (b.1883) was originally from Blues Mills, Inverness County. He immigrated to Boston before the War, and returned to Nova Scotia to enlist in the 25th Battalion, and after the conflict returned to Boston where he was active in several pipe bands.

Brothers David (b. 1879) and William Brand (b. 1897) had immigrated to Halifax Nova Scotia several years before the war. William led his company into battle at Vimy Ridge and was awarded the Military Medal (MM) for Conspicuous Gallantry. He was unscathed during most of the war but in 1918 he was near a high explosive shell that caused severe shellshock and led to his eventual discharge as being "medically unfit".

Arthur Lavery (b. 1884) was from Shettleston, Scotland but had immigrated to Cape Breton where he was employed as a coal miner. Prior to leaving Scotland, Lavery had served for three years with the 93rd Regiment. After the war he returned to his home at Sydney Mines, Cape Breton.

James Cant was born at Dundee, Scotland in 1883 and listed his occupation as boilermaker. He learned to play the pipes as a youth and at the age of 15 tried to volunteer for service in the Boer War as a piper. He was refused because of his age but later did serve with 3rd Battalion Black Watch for almost 2 years. He immigrated to New York in 1906 and later settled in Boston where he was Pipe Major of the Highland Dress Association Pipe Band. During the War, James developed severe varicose veins and was discharged as medically unfit in 1917. His wife, Mary was from Nova Scotia and after the war he spent time both in Halifax and Boston. Piping continued in the family and his two sons were pipers; Alan, who was Pipe Major of the Halifax Rifles Pipe Band, and James, who played with the Boston Legion in the United States.

John 'Jock' Carson (b. 1880) was originally from Greenock, Scotland and he had also immigrated to New York and later settled in Boston several years before the War. Carson, too, had previous military experience, having served eight years with the 5th Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. He married Margaret MacKinnon of West Bay, Cape Breton during the early days in Halifax and in 1915 he was appointed Pipe Major of the 25th Battalion with the rank of Sergeant.



Carson's bagpipe as presented by H.R.H. Prince Edward, The Prince of Wales

Carson was a fighting piper, and had gone over the top five times during the war for which he received three decorations. At the battle of Courcelette, the 25th was paired with 22nd regiment (The Vandoos) and Carson, known after the battle as "Jock, The Lone Piper of Courcelette", was shot and passed out. When he regained consciousness, he was still clutching his pipe chanter and discovered that the rest of instrument had been shot away. In 1919, H.R.H., Prince Edward, The Prince of Wales, presented him with a new set of silver mounted bagpipes on behalf of the Commanding Officer and officers of the 25th Battalion. After Carson's death, Carson's widow, Margaret donated the presentation bagpipe to the Province of Nova Scotia in a moving ceremony in Halifax in 1950. Carson's son, John, played a few final tunes on the bagpipe before

putting them back in the box and depositing them at the Provincial Archives. This set of bagpipes was for many years housed in the Public Archives of Nova Scotia but are now on loan to the Army Museum also in Halifax, NS.

Pipe Major Carson is credited with composing at least one pipe tune, a lament simply titled Courcelette. Unfortunately, this tune, which commemorates one of the toughest battles of the First World War, has been lost. The Battle of Courcelette,

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and the hand-to-hand fighting that ensued, reduced the overall strength of the battalion to 200 and on the battalion's last parade in Halifax in 1919 only 48 of the 'originals' answered their names.



John 'Jock' Carson in Boston

After the war, Carson remained in Nova Scotia for a short time, but eventually returned to Boston where among other jobs he was a building superintendent. Carson appears to have been lucky in war and lucky in life. In 1926 he received word that his uncle in Colorado had died and left him a sizeable inheritance, valued at \$300,000 at the time (approximately \$4 million today). After he was notified of his inheritance, he made arrangements to have a friend manage his affairs and went about practicing for an upcoming event. The relatives of Carson only recently became aware of the inheritance in 1926 and were at a loss to explain what eventually happened to the mine, mining stock, bonds and ranch in Colorado which made up his inheritance. Perhaps it didn't survive the stock market crash of 1929.

The last piper to be examined with Scottish connections is **Walter J. Telfer**, or as he was later known throughout the British army "The Hero of Vimy Ridge". He was born at Tighnabruaich, Argyllshire, in 1885. Prior to the outbreak of the war, he was living in Boston with his mother and was employed as wine steward at a local hotel. He enlisted in Halifax in February 11, 1915 and on April 9, 1917 he was wounded at Vimy Ridge. The Battle of Vimy Ridge is considered by many to have been Canada's coming of age as a country and still stands as Canada's most important military victory.

William Brand and Walter Telfer both piped their companies into action at the Battle of Vimy Ridge and both were awarded the Military Medal.

Unlike Brand, Telfer was wounded severely during the assault. After being struck down by shrapnel he crawled into a shell hole and continued to play his comrades to their objective. While waiting for the return of his comrades Telfer spotted a German soldier in a nearby shell hole and some discussion followed as to who was whose prisoner.



Walter J. Telfer

When the 25th Battalion withdrew from battle, they used several German prisoners to carry Telfer, pipes and all, back to the dressing station. The German prisoners kept pointing to Telfer's pipes while on the stretcher shouting "Mitrailleuse! Mitrailleuse! (Machine gun! Machine gun!) According to a later newspaper account, Telfer had no idea what they were saying until many years after the war.



*1917 sketch of
Walter Telfer
by E.M.E. Pratt*

He spent the next several hundred days in hospitals in France and England, where after numerous amputations to his right leg he was eventually outfitted with a prosthetic limb. For the rest of his life, he had limited left arm function and suffered from 'ghost pain' from his right 'foot'. These hardships did not stop him from playing a few tunes for fellow patients at Cornelia Hospital in Poole, England where he was convalescing in August of 1917. It may have been around this time in hospital that Mrs. E.M.E. Pratt sketched Telfer. The image is dated 1917, and depicts Telfer sitting in a chair (side on), playing pipes, his missing leg obvious in the drawing.

Telfer eventually returned to Boston and in the 1920s he was asked on several occasions to recount his exploits at various functions throughout the city, performing the "same tune on the same bagpipe" which won him so much fame and honour at Vimy Ridge. Telfer and his wife eventually moved to Everett, Washington State, where he died in 1966. The whereabouts of his pipes and service medals are currently unknown.

The 25th Battalion was one of the most decorated Canadian battalions during the First World War, and pipers played an integral role in its success. "The 25th marched to the pipes as they moved from Boulogne to their baptism of fire at Kemmel: on the march from their ordeal at the Somme up to the Vimy sector; at Vimy itself their pipes played them over the top in a display of valor outstanding even on that day of glory; in the proudest moments of all- the triumphant entry into Bonn and the Victory March in London – the shrill defiance of the pipes seemed to symbolize the very soul of the Empire". The 25th Nova Scotia Overseas Battalion was officially disbanded on September 15, 1920 and its regimental colours deposited in Halifax where they are now on display at Government House.


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Shot at Dawn

Story by Gary Silliker

In 2007 I took a walk from Talbot House out to the Poperinge New Military Cemetery to visit the graves of Canadians buried there. The “New Military Cemetery” was established in June 1915 and contains 677 Commonwealth burials of the First World War and 271 French war graves. It was during that visit I discovered the graves of Private James Wilson and Private Come La Liberté – two Canadian soldiers who had been executed. I would later learn that the cemetery contains the graves of 17 soldiers who had been executed. I also learned that one of the ‘shot at dawn’ was a Canadian serving in the British Army. A year later I was back in the area and made a point of visiting the grave of 2nd Lieutenant Eric Poole of the 11th Bn West Yorkshire Regiment.

As a major military centre, just behind the lines, Poperinge was the scene of numerous courts martial and about 50 soldiers were executed there.

10 December 1916

The first British army officer to be executed, by firing squad, during the Great War, was a Nova Scotian. Eric Skeffington Poole is buried in Poperinge, Belgium.



Eric Poole was born in Nova Scotia, on 20 January 1885 to Henry Skeffington Poole and Florence Hope Gibsone Poole. His service record shows that he gained his first military experience in the 63rd Regiment of the Halifax Rifles, with whom he served for two years between 1903 and 1905. The Poole family moved to England sometime between 1905 and the outbreak of the First World War, settling in Guildford, Surrey.

In October 1914, Poole joined the Honourable Artillery Company, where he worked as a driver in 'B' Battery for the next seven months. He earned a commission as a temporary second lieutenant in the 14th Battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment in May 1915. A year later, Poole was transferred to serve in France with the 11th Battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment, shortly before it was due to go into action at the Battle of the Somme.

According to the medical history sheet compiled for Poole's general court martial in November 1916 he had suffered some mental stress after being hit by clods of earth kicked-out by an enemy shell during fighting on the Somme on 7 July 1916. Near the end of August, after a period of recuperation, Poole was returned to duty with his battalion. He was soon placed in charge of a platoon in C Company.

According to his own testimony at his trial, the shell-shock injury caused Poole to get confused at times and to have great difficulty in decision making. It was in this condition that he wandered away from his platoon on 5 October 1916, during a move into the frontline trenches at Flers.

Poole was apprehended by the military police two days later and arrested on 10 October. In early November, it was decided to try Poole by general court martial for deserting 'when on active service'.

continued ...



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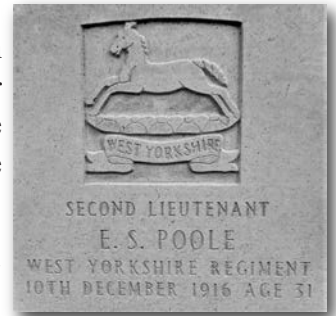
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At Poole's trial, held in the town of Poperinge on 24 November 1916, the court called six witnesses. Those witnesses noted that Poole's 'nerves seemed rather shaken' and that he had confessed to feeling 'damned bad' on the morning of 5 October.

Two men spoke in Poole's defence, including a Royal Army Medical Corps doctor who argued that the 'mental condition' of the accused had precluded him from intentionally deserting his company. In his own testimony, Poole outlined his recent medical problems and confessed that he had been unaware of 'the seriousness of not going to the front line on Oct 5th'.

Despite defence pleas, however, the five-man court found Poole guilty of desertion and sentenced him to 'death by being shot'. This verdict was confirmed by Sir Douglas Haig on 6 December 1916, three days after a medical board sent to examine Poole concluded that 'he was of sound mind and capable of appreciating the nature and quality of his actions'.

Poole was executed by firing squad in Poperinge town hall on 10 December 1916. He was buried in the town's military cemetery.



Eric Poole was the first British army officer to be sentenced to death and executed during the First World War. Despite the abundant evidence that he was medically unfit to command a platoon, as a result of the shell shock, Poole seems to have been at least partially a victim of a political decision.

General Herbert Plumer, commander of the Second British Army BEF, confirmed the sentence noting: "I have considered the case very carefully. Despite the evidence as to the accused's mental condition I should, if he had been a Private, have recommended the sentence should be carried out ... in view of the inherent seriousness of the offence when committed by an officer I recommend that it be inflicted."



General Herbert Plumer

Field Marshall Haig, commander of the British Expeditionary Force, noted : "After careful consideration I confirmed the proceedings. This is the first sentence of death on an officer to have been put into execution since I became C-in-C. Such a crime is more serious in the case of an officer than of a man, and also it is highly important that all ranks should realize that the law is the same for an officer as for a private."

Poole's fate aroused little fuss back in Britain, where his family were anxious to avoid publicity - particularly because his father was seriously ill at the time. Eric Poole's sister wrote to the War Office, beseeching them to conceal the shame of her brother's death. Eric's elder brother Major Henry Reynold Poole of the Royal Artillery was a regular army officer and had been awarded a DSO earlier in the year. The War Office, equally wary of adverse publicity, agreed that Poole's name would not appear in the casualty lists published in British newspapers, and that no information about the circumstances of his death would be made public.

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The first Military Medal awarded to a Canadian soldier in WW II



Fraser Peter Hutchinson of Port Wallace (Dartmouth), NS, was the first Canadian soldier to be awarded the Military Medal during WW II. King George VI pinned the MM on Sapper Hutchinson in a private ceremony that was not widely published. Hutchinson was sworn to secrecy that he would not reveal any of the details about his escape from the continent back to England until after the war.

Fraser Peter Hutchinson was born in 1912 in Quebec and moved to Nova Scotia, with his family, sometime before 1921. In November 1939 Gunner Hutchinson transferred from the Non-Permanent Active Militia to the Canadian Active Service Force and was posted to the Royal Canadian Engineers.

The sapper-historians of the Canadian Military Engineers Association tell us the rest of the story:

In June 1940, the 1st Canadian Division started to move from England to Brittany in France as part of the effort to re-establish a second British Expeditionary Force (2 BEF) in Europe following the Dunkirk Evacuation. The main body of the 1st Field Company landed in Brest on 14 June with most of their vehicles having arrived a few days earlier with the advance party on 8 June. The company quickly moved out of Brittany inland to assemble in the area of Laval-La Mans. 2nd Field Park Company landed without their equipment and stayed in Brest with Division Engineer HQ. 3rd and 4th Field Companies, while having assembled in English ports, were not embarked.

Things were moving faster than the planners had anticipated. The French Army was near collapse and unable to support the new Allied force. Without support and with the capitulation of France only days away, the newly landed troops were withdrawn little more than a week after the initial units had landed. The 1st Field Company left most of their equipment, destroying as much as possible. The Canadians also left behind six soldiers, including Sappers C. Julien and Fraser Peter Hutchinson who were quickly taken prisoner by the Germans. Four of the six managed to escape including the two sappers.

Sapper Hutchinson Reports for Duty

On 4 March 1942, almost two years later, Sapper Fraser Peter Hutchinson turned up at the Headquarters of the 1st Canadian Field Company wearing the first Military Medal awarded to a Canadian in the Second World War. While he was under strict instructions not to divulge any details relative to either the award or his escapes, we do know that his adventure began when he was left behind wounded and unconscious in hospital. When he recovered, the Germans put him into a labour camp. He escaped with the assistance of French civilians and reached Paris and later managed to cross into Vichy France, only to be arrested in Marseilles. He escaped once again and this time went to Geneva. He quickly discovered Switzerland was not the best jumping-off place for


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getting back to Britain and risked recapture to return to Marseilles. There he obtained forged papers and made his way to Spain where he was imprisoned once again. Luckily, his release was secured by the British Consul at Madrid and he was escorted to Gibraltar, the then back to England.

Sapper Hutchinson was a plasterer before the war and served in the Non-Permanent Active Militia from 1933 to 1939 in the 88th Battery, RCA. He enlisted in the Active Force at Halifax, 17 November 1939 and was assigned to the Royal Canadian Engineers. His wife was living in Port Wallace, NS at the time. After returning to the 1st Field Company, he went on to participate in the invasion of Sicily where he apparently became the first Canadian to capture an Italian prisoner. Although he returned home in 1943, he continued to serve in the Canadian Army until 1951. He died in Vancouver in 1988.

His medals are now on display in the Citadel Army Museum in Halifax.



Citation

Interestingly, there are no details in Sapper Hutchinson's citation other than, "in recognition of distinguished services in the field." This may be because any knowledge of his exploits after being captured were hidden for security reasons to protect the French Resistance operatives who assisted in his escapes and helped him in and out of France more than once. His family was also not made aware of the details. His award was Gazetted on 12 February 1942 and on 2 September 1943. His medal was presented by King George VI.



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The short life of Canso A 11062

Story by Gary Silliker



PBY-5A Canso

On 4 June 1944, two Nova Scotia airmen were sent on ‘temporary duty’ to 4 Repair Depot, RCAF, in Scoudouc, NB, from their base in Reykjavik, Iceland. They were tasked with inspecting a brand-new Canso A aircraft and, if the inspection went well, accepting the plane on behalf of 162 Bomber Reconnaissance Squadron of the RCAF.

Warrant Officer II Robert Densmore Harvey was from Ellershouse N.S. and Flying Officer Willis Hilson Lloyd was from Berwick. Harvey was a wireless operator/air gunner (WAG) and Lloyd was a pilot.

Their squadron buddy Pilot Officer Elliot Watson of Sarnia ON, another WAG, was also along for the trip.

On 1 July 1944 the inspection was successfully completed and on 5 July Canso A 11062 with Lloyd, Harvey and Watson on board took off for Reykjavik.

Robert Harvey was born in Ellershouse in 1914 and had had held various jobs farming, lumbering and on road construction sites prior to enlisting in the RCAF on 27 June 1941 in Halifax. In January 1943 Robert married Myrtle Evelyn Rooney in Denison, NS. He trained and qualified as a wireless operator/air gunner (WAG) and started serving with 162 BR Squadron in June 1943 conducting anti-submarine patrols from Yarmouth to Halifax .



WOII Robert Harvey

Flying Officer Willis Hilson Lloyd was born in Waterville, NS, in April 1921. He graduated from high school in 1937 and was working as a bank clerk at the Royal Bank of Canada in Berwick when he enlisted in the RCAF. He was trained as a pilot and received his pilot wings on 25 June 1943 at 8 Service Flying Training School, Moncton. In October he was posted to 162 BR Squadron.



FO Willis Hilson Lloyd

Lloyd and Harvey arrived in Reykjavik Iceland, with the rest of 162 BR Squadron on 2 January 1944. While 162 BR Squadron continued to search and destroy/suppress German U-Boats east of Iceland to protect the convoys of cargo ships, a new emphasis of concern came to the fore in March. The anti-submarine aircraft of Coastal Command started concentrating on putting a “cork” into all approaches to the English Channel. 162 BR Squadron became part of the air forces dedicated to bottling up the northern approaches to the English Channel. This was part of the Allies’ denial operations in preparations for D-Day.

Lloyd, Harvey and Watson delivered the brand-new Canso A 11062 to 162 BR Squadron on 6 June. The plane and its crew were posted on temporary duty to Wick, Scotland, on 25 July.

On 29 July 11062 took-off from Wick at 1255 hours for anti-U-Boat patrol.

RCAF and Shetland historians tell us more of the story:



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“The patrol over, they were returning to Wick. The crew were more relaxed than they should have been. No watch was being kept on the radar, and no navigation fixes had been obtained – why bother, there was nothing but open sea for miles around!!

At 1930, flying in cloud, the aircraft flew into the summit of the Sneug (418 m high) on Foula, Shetland Island. There was a violent explosion throwing wreckage over a wide area.

One piece of wreckage fell at the feet of a woman hanging out her washing at Grass Meadow, a mile from the crash.

Peter and Davie Gear, with Robbie Isbister made their way to the mountain dreading what they might find. They were amazed to find one of the crew alive. F/Sgt Knight had been in one of the blisters and had been thrown clear. He had received a broken pelvis and burns. As luck would have it, the District Nurse who was the only medical help on the island, was away on holiday. It was left to the islanders to make Sgt Knight as comfortable as possible. News of the accident was sent by telegraph but the RAF were already expecting it. The radar station at Watts Ness had been tracking the Canso and when the blip had not re-emerged from the permanent blip of Foula it was suspected that something was wrong.

Luckily the sea was calm and a seaplane, with the RAF Station Sumburgh medical officer on board, was able to land and take F/Sgt Knight to Scalloway. The next day volunteers were called for at RAF Sumburgh to go to Foula and recover the bodies of: Flying Officer Abram Hildebrand of Winkler, MB (pilot); Flying Officer Willis Hilson Lloyd of Berwick, NS (pilot); Flying Officer George Gordon Bradshaw of Cobourg, ON (navigator/bomber); Pilot Officer James Edwin Bowler of Bartonville, ON (wireless operator/air gunner); Warrant Officer II Robert Densmore Harvey o Ellershouse, NS (wireless operator/air gunner); Pilot Officer Elliot Courtney Watson of Sarnia, ON (wireless operator/air gunner), and Flight Sergeant Robert Wilford Ernest Townsend of Tisdale, SK (flight engineer).

The crew are buried in Terrace 7b of the Lerwick New Cemetery. That cemetery contains the graves of 120 war dead of Australia, Canada, Norway, and the UK. In January 2019 Helen Himmelman, of Mahone Bay, NS, visited the graves of the crew of Canso A 11062 and left a tribute of red and white flowers.



A 11062 - crash site on Shetland Island



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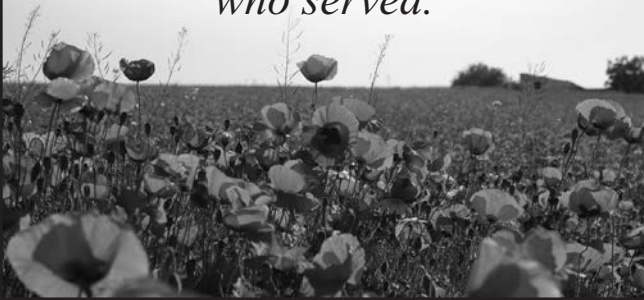
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BARRETT, Harold

WWI

Harold was born in Bishop's Cove, Nova Scotia. He served in the Army with 185th Overseas Battalion during World War I. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47 on March 1, 1933.

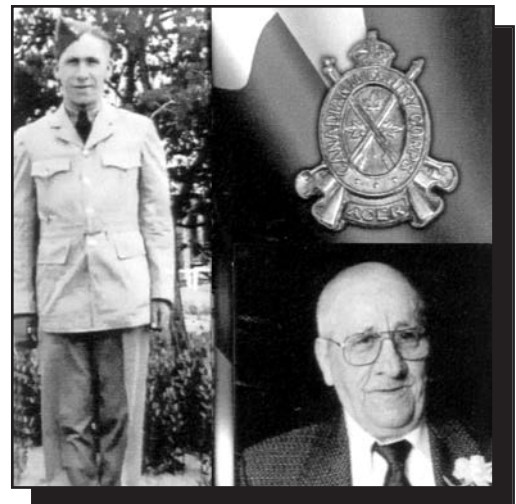
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BOUDREAU, William A.

WWII

William was born in Louisdale, Nova Scotia in 1919. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Royal Canadian Infantry Corps in Canada during World War II. Sapper Boudreau received the War Medal 1939-1945. After the war, he moved back to Louisdale where he and his wife Irene started a family of seven children. He continued to live in Louisdale until his death in 2001. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



BRITTON, Louis W. M.

WWI

Louis was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He served in the Army with 10th Fortress Canadian Engineers during World War I. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47 on March 1, 1933.

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CAMPBELL, Peter

WWI

Peter was born in Hay Cove, Nova Scotia. He served in the Army with 185th Overseas Battalion during World War I. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47 on March 1, 1933.

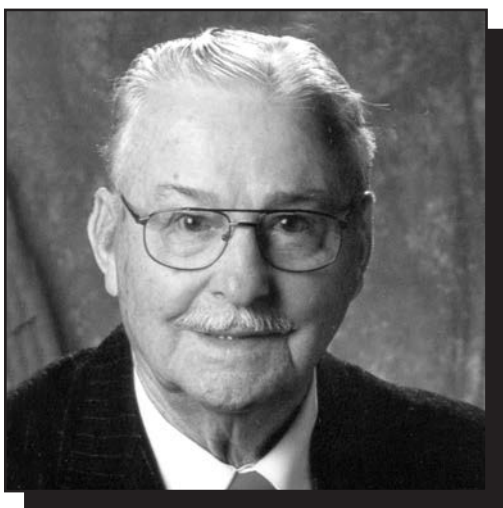
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DAVID, Tyrone Joseph

SPECIAL DUTY AREA

Tyrone was born in Arichat, Nova Scotia in 1965. He joined the Navy in December 1986 and retired in April 2020. Clearance Diving Officer David served in the Fleet Diving Unit (Atlantic) for three years on exchange with Belgium Mine Hunter as Operations Officer, five years teaching Mine Warfare CFFS (Q), did three NATO tours, two Afghanistan tours, one Bahrain tour and specialized in Mine Warfare and Explosives. He retired as LCdr. Tyrone is a two-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Arichat Branch 150.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



DIGOUT, Murdock Henry

WWII

Murdock was born in French Cove, Nova Scotia in 1913. He served in the Canadian Army in Continental Europe, Germany and Holland during World War II. He was a sixty-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47. Murdock passed away in 2005.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion

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FRASER, Alistair

WWI

Alistair was born in Guysboro, Nova Scotia in 1886. He joined the 17th Battalion going overseas in September 1914. He became a Major in the 15th Battalion of the 1st Canadian Expeditionary Force. He was wounded twice, once at Vimy Ridge receiving the Military Cross. Alistair was Aide de Camp to General Sir Arthur Currie. After returning to Canada, he became Gen Council to the CNR, the V.P. of Transportation and later was appointed Lt. Governor of Nova Scotia. He is remembered on a stone in Riverside Cemetery in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.

Submitted Independently

FRASER, James Gibson Laurier

WWI

James was born in Guysboro, Nova Scotia in 1895. Laurier was in Moose Jaw studying law when the war broke out. He responded and joined the 229th Battalion in Moose Jaw. He served a year without incident. On March 4, 1918, Lt. Laurier Fraser was in the trenches with the 16th B (Canadian Scottish) Battalion near Mazingarbe, France when he was killed by an enemy artillery barrage. A bomb dropped killing him and his fellow officers. He is remembered on a stone in Riverside Cemetery in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.

Submitted Independently



FRASER, Margaret Pearl

WWI

Pearl was born in Guysboro, Nova Scotia in 1884. When war broke out, she enlisted with the CAMC as a Nursing Sister. Pearl and her cousin Harriet were among the first to establish the No. 1 Canadian General Hospital. They were the first to arrive in France with the 1st Canadian Contingent. In 1916, Pearl was transferred to the No. 2 Casualty Clearing Station in Bethune, Belgium. From there, she went to The King's Red Cross Hospital in England as nurse in charge. Pearl was next assigned to the hospital ship Araguaya and from there was appointed as matron on the hospital ship Llandovery Castle. On the evening of June 27, 1918, the Llandovery Castle was torpedoed. Pearl and 234 crew members lost their lives that night. She is remembered on a stone in Riverside Cemetery in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.

Submitted Independently

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GEDDES, Donald Larry
SPECIAL DUTY AREA & PEACETIME

Donald was born in Mont Apica, Quebec in 1958. He joined the Canadian Armed Forces on October 22, 1978, as an Aero Engine Technician where he served at CFB Trenton on CC137 Boeing 707 and the CC130 Hercules then at CFB Greenwood on both the CP140 Aurora aircraft. Geddes always wanted to fly so he started to pursue his dream of becoming a Flight Engineer, which he was selected for and successfully completed his training in December 1987.

This new trade brought much satisfaction and reward; his first postings were with 440 Squadron Detachment in Yellowknife, 440 Transport and Rescue Squadron in Edmonton, and then back to the Det in Yellowknife all on the CC138 Twin Otter. During this time, Geddes flew many re-supply missions all through the mountainous interior of the Great White North.

The next phase of his career brought a change in aircraft type and the discovery of a new passion for the CC130 Hercules Aircraft; other than a short four-year tour with the AWACS in Germany, he remained dedicated to the CC130 Hercules serving with 436 (T), 429 (T), and 426 (T) Squadrons all based out of Trenton. Retiring in the rank of WO. Geddes loved the saying and was often quoted repeating “there is nothing like seeing or hearing the four fans of freedom”.

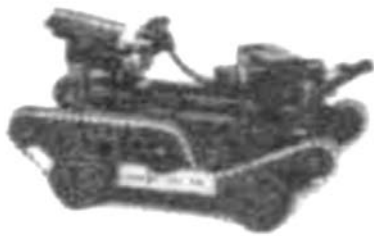
During his forty-year career, Geddes completed two rotations to Afghanistan performing tactical air lifts/drops and he also deployed on Operation Enduring Freedom after 9/11. His most memorable occasions were his Good Show award highlighted in the Flight Comment for “outstanding professionalism and appropriate action resulting in the prevention of loss or damage to the aircraft and possible injury or loss of life to the crew” when completing 10,000 flying hours and flying Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

Don is also the proud father of two sons, David and Patrick. David was sworn into the RCAF as an Aviation Technician and Patrick studied Non-Destructive training at Durham College. In his spare time, Geddes could be found in numerous hockey rinks throughout Central Ontario where he coached/managed/assisted his sons’ teams. Now retired from the RCAF himself, Don fills his “empty nest hours” working with CAE as a CC130 Instructor on the simulator as well as his full-time job at Wing Ops as a civilian in charge of the Aircraft Publications. He is enjoying his weekends off, Sunday Sports and weather permitting, the golf course.

Don Geddes was Veteran of the Month for October 2019 and is a ten-year member at The Royal Canadian Legion Centennial Branch 160.

Submitted by Centennial Branch #160, The Royal Canadian Legion

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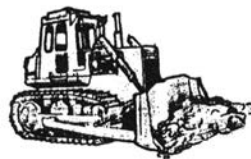
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GEDDES, Donald Lloyd
SPECIAL DUTY AREA & PEACETIME

Donald was born in Magdalen Islands in 1933. He served in the Air Force in London, Ontario; Mont Apica, Quebec; St. Hubert, Quebec; Gander, Newfoundland; Moncton, NB; Greenwood, Nova Scotia; Toronto, Ontario; Ismalia and El Gorah, Egypt; and Golan Heights, Israel. He received the Peacekeeping Medal, UNDOF, Queen's Jubilee and CD1. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Salisbury and Toronto Branches for a total of 42 years. Donald passed away in 2010.

Submitted by Centennial Branch #160, The Royal Canadian Legion

GERO, Norman Joseph

WWII

Norman was born on December 22, 1914, and began his service in the Canadian Army as an Instructor at the Training Camp situated in Parkdale in New Glasgow, NS. He was L/Cpl. N.J. Gero of No. 1 Platoon "A" Company No. 61 C.A. (B) T.C. He later served with the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry overseas and played an active part in the liberation of Holland. Norman passed away on May 2, 1979.

Submitted by Normandy Branch #034, The Royal Canadian Legion



GILBY, Alan D. "Jake"

WWII

Jake was born in Elmsdale, Nova Scotia in 1922. He joined the Canadian Army and served with the 104th Coast Battery in Canada. He was a Life Member of Elmsdale Branch 48, The Royal Canadian Legion and served as President of the Branch in 1956. Jake passed away in 1999.

Submitted by Elmsdale Branch #048, The Royal Canadian Legion

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GIONET, Alcide J.

WWII

Alcide was born in Caraquet, New Brunswick in 1927. He served in the Merchant Marine on the Lady Nelson and Lady Rodney during World War II on the High Seas, England, West Indies and Newfoundland. Seaman Gionet received the War Medal 1939-1945, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, and 1939-1945 Star. After the war, he lived in Halifax with his wife Katherine and started a family of five boys. He continued to live in Halifax until 1980 when he moved to Louisdale until his death in 2007.

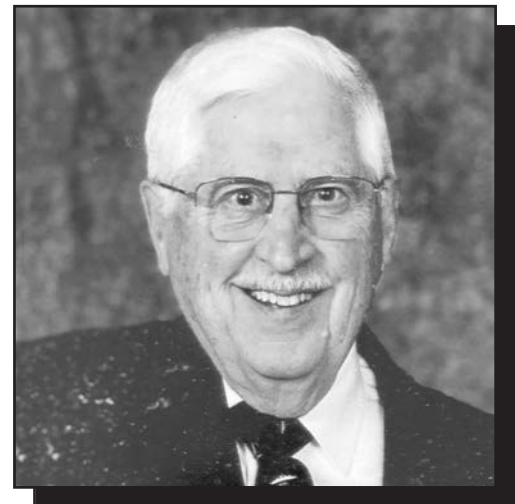
Submitted by St. Peters Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion

GOYETCHE, Arthur Raymond

WWII

Arthur was born in Arichat, Nova Scotia in 1919. He served in the Navy on HMCS Oakville, HMCS Mayflower and HMCS Digby on the High Seas during World War II. He was a Life Member of The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 47 in Louisdale. Arthur passed away in 2015.

Submitted Independently



GOYETCHE, Charles

WWII

Charles was born in Cape Auget, Nova Scotia in 1918. He served in the Royal Air Force with the Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury units in Victoria, BC during World War II. He returned from the war and started a family with his wife Eleanore, raising two children, eight grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47. Charles passed away in 2011.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



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GRAHAM, Harriet

WWI

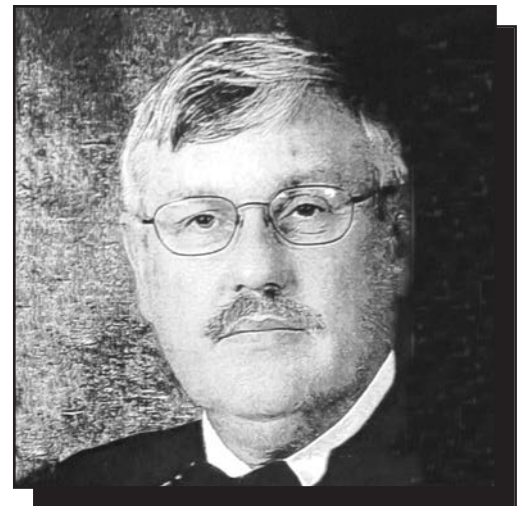
Harriet was born in Guysborough, Nova Scotia in 1881. When war broke out, Harriet joined the 1st Contingent in September 1914 as a nursing sister with the CAMS. She and her cousin Pearl were among the first to arrive in France and set up the No. 1 Canadian Hospital. They also qualified for the Mons Star. The hospital was eventually destroyed by a single German aircraft killing 32 staff and patients and leaving seventeen wounded. Harriet was awarded the Decoration of the Royal Red Cross. Harriet passed away in 1931 and is buried in Riverside Cemetery in New Glasgow, NS.

Submitted Independently

JOHNSON, Terrence Robert

Terrence was born in Consett, United Kingdom in 1957. He served in the Navy on HMCS Ottawa, Nipigon, Huron, Fraser, Margaree, Preserver, Fredericton, and Naval Engineering Unit, NDHQ on the East Coast, West Coast, Ottawa, Saint John and Ottawa. He received the CD2 and SSM. Terrence is a five-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Centennial Branch 160.

Submitted by Centennial Branch #160, The Royal Canadian Legion



JOSHUA, Reggie John R.

WWI & WWII

Reggie enlisted in Petit-de-Grat, Nova Scotia, in 1896. He served in the Army in World War I. Following the war, he worked on ships then joined the efforts of World War II as a fireman on the Lady Laurier in the Merchant Navy. Following World War II, he settled with his family in Petit-de-Grat where he worked on fishing draggers out of Boots Fisheries. His family then moved to Louisdale and continued fishing. He lived in Louisdale until his death in 1971. He was active in the local Legions where he and his former comrades remembered the honours of war and enjoyed his Remembrance Day Services. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Branches 47 and 150 for thirty years.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



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KELLS (SMITH), Ruth May

WWII & KOREA

Ruth was born in Springhill, Nova Scotia in 1925. She started working for the Department of Defence until she enrolled in the Royal Canadian Air Force on December 4, 1943, as a Wireless Operator. She completed her basic training in Ottawa and attended the #1 Wireless School in Montreal, graduating in 1944. Her postings were to RCAF Station Penfield Ridge, NB; RCAF Station Yarmouth, NS; ADHQ in Halifax; and then on to NDHQ in Ottawa where she was released on October 12, 1945.

On release, Ruth moved to Toronto and was living there when she received a call asking her to re-enlist for an interim period from February to December 1946. Without hesitation, Ruth re-enlisted and was stationed at RCAF Dartmouth, NS until her discharge in 1946. On release, Ruth moved to her new home in Vancouver, BC where she worked with Hayes Manufacturing Co as a stenographer. In 1947, once again, she received a phone call, the Department of Defence requested her to travel to Prince Rupert, BC as a Wireless Operator for surveillance of foreign countries communications for Directorate of Special Radio Activity (DSRA). DSRA was an arm of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) where the work was focused on the Russians. In 1948, Ruth, along with the other Wireless Operators, was transferred to Victoria and then to an installation outside of Vancouver in 1950. In 1952, Ruth was voluntarily released from the RCAF and returned to Nova Scotia where she worked with Maritime Tel and Tel in Truro. Again, Military found her and needed her skills; she was asked to report to Ottawa to resume Wireless Operations at Leitrim during the Korean Conflict and remained there until she decided to resign and request an administrative position at NDHQ in December 1956.

Ruth then worked at Army Budget as a secretary and joined the RCAF Reserve, 2416 Squadron. While on weekend training at RCAF Station Foymount, the Administration Officer offered her the position of Civilian Personnel Officer (CPO) where she had 110 civilian employees to administer. Then Foymount requested that the Army Budget allow Ruth to transfer to Foymount and Ruth was transferred to RCAF Station Foymount. That following July, the Chief Civilian Personnel Officer in Montreal requested her to fill in for the CPO at RCAF Station Bagotville where she worked for six weeks and was then offered the position full time. She could not accept as she would soon be getting married to Lieutenant-Colonel Wesley Kells on March 30, 1957, and she gave birth to their son David on March 11, 1958.

Submitted by Centennial Branch #160, The Royal Canadian Legion

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**KNOTT, Mary Patricia****WWII**

Patricia was born in England on July 15, 1924. She served her country and Canada well, including her time in the British Army, D-Day and the Canadian Army, among other assignments. She received the Defense Medal, War Medal 1939-1945, the Canadian Centennial Medal 1967, and the Canadian Forces Decoration and Clasp. She was a Life Member and Past President of Colchester Branch 26, The Royal Canadian Legion. Patricia passed away in August 2003.

Submitted by Colchester Branch #026, The Royal Canadian Legion

LAFFIN, Marsden**WWII**

Marsden was born in Moose Brook, Nova Scotia in 1922. He served in the Canadian Army in Canada. Marsden passed away in 1987.

Submitted by Queens Co. Branch #166, The Royal Canadian Legion

**LANDRY, Bastine****WWI**

Bastine was born in River Bourgeois, Nova Scotia in 1898. He served in the Navy on the High Seas and in Canada during World War I. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Arichat Branch 150. Bastine passed away in 1974.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion

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LANDRY, Cletus Lorenzo

WWII

Cletus was born in River Bourgeois, Nova Scotia in 1919. He served in the Army with the North Nova Scotia Regiment in Holland, Germany and England during World War II. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47 for forty years. Cletus passed away in 2004.

Submitted Independently

LANDRY, George

WWI & WWII

George was born in Louisdale, Nova Scotia in 1893. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Provo Corp in Canada, France and Belgium. He served in both World War I and World War II. He was awarded the British War Medal 1914-1918, Victory Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, and War Medal 1939-1945. After the war, George joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Arichat Branch 150. George passed away in 1968.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



LANDRY, Gervase Alfred

WWII

Gervase was born in River Bourgeois, Nova Scotia in 1921. He served in the Army with Light Artillery Battery Regiment in England, France, Belgium and Holland during World War II. He suffered bullet injury twice in Holland and recovered in England. He received the Dutch Medal and Holland Service Meritorious Medal. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47 for 21 years. Gervase passed away in 2006.

Submitted Independently

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LANDRY, John Lazarus

WWII

John was born in River Bourgeois, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia in 1919. He joined the Army in April 1942 and served with Princess Louise Fusiliers in Continental Europe during World War II. He was discharged in March 1946. John received the France and Germany Star, Italy Star, Defence Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp and Jubilee Medal 1985-1986. He was a Life Member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47. John passed away in 1993.

Submitted Independently

LANDRY, Lloyd Amos

Lloyd was born in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia in 1957. He served as a construction engineer with 1 CEF (STR Tech 612) in Canada, Germany, Golan Heights, Serbia, Bosnia, and Kosovo. He received the CD, Peacekeeping Medal, NATO. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47 for three years. Lloyd passed away in 2003.

Submitted Independently



LANDRY, Raymond Martin

WWII

Raymond was born in Sampsonville, Nova Scotia in 1909. He served in the Merchant Navy on the High Seas during World War II. He received the 1939-1945 Star, War Medal 1939-1945, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47 for over sixty years. Raymond passed away in 2005.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



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LARADE, Paul

WWII

Paul was born in Cheticamp, Nova Scotia in 1921. He served in the Army with Le Régiment de Maisonneuve in England and Continental Europe during World War II. Paul passed away in 1988.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion

LEBLANC, Alfred Abram

WWII

Alfred was born in River Bourgeois, Nova Scotia in 1911. He served in the Reserve Army in Canada and Labrador during World War II. Alfred passed away in 2000.

Submitted by Family



MacCUIISH, David

WWI

David was born in St. Peter's, Nova Scotia. He served in the Army with 185th Overseas Battalion during World War I. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch 47, The Royal Canadian Legion





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MacDONALD, John A.

WWI

John was born in St. Peter's, Nova Scotia. He served in the Army with the Field Artillery 6th Coast Battery during World War I. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion

MacINTOSH, Charles

WWI

Charles was born in St. Peter's, Nova Scotia. He served in the Canadian Army Overseas Forestry Corp. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



MacKENZIE, Alexander Chisholm

WWII

Alexander was born in St. Peter's, Nova Scotia in 1923. He served in the Navy on HMCS New Glasgow on the High Seas during World War II. Alexander passed away in 2000.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



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MacLENNAN, William Roderick
SPECIAL DUTY AREA & PEACETIME

William was born in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia in 1939. He served in the Canadian Forces as Chaplain (P), in Lahr, West Germany, Cyprus, Namibia and Canada. He received the Medal of Bravery in 1978 while serving as Chaplain at CFB Gagetown. William passed away in 2021.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion

MacLEOD, Alexander Hugh

WWII

Alexander was born in Marshes, West Bay, Nova Scotia in 1914. He served in the Army with the North Nova Scotia Highlanders in Europe during World War II. Alexander passed away in 2002.

Submitted Independently



MacLEOD, D. A.

WWI

D. A. MacLeod was born in Framboise, Nova Scotia. He served in the Army with 185th Overseas Battalion during World War I. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



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MacLEOD, John A.

WWII

John was born in Marshes, West Bay, Nova Scotia in 1918. He served in the Army with the North Nova Scotia Highlanders and the West Nova Scotia Regiment in Europe during World War II as a Corporal. John passed away in 1971.

Submitted Independently

MacLEOD, Philip

WWII

Philip was born in Marshes, West Bay, Nova Scotia in 1923. He enlisted in the Army and served with the Cape Breton Highlanders and Regina Rifles in Europe during World War II. Private MacLeod was severely wounded while serving in Belgium. He passed away in 2007.

Submitted Independently



MALIN, Richard James

PEACETIME

Richard was born in Alness, Scotland in 1943. He served in the Air Force in Ramore, Ontario during Peacetime. He has been a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Centennial Branch 160 for over 26 years.

Submitted by Centennial Branch #160, The Royal Canadian Legion



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MARTELL, Charles Paul
SPECIAL DUTY AREA & PEACETIME

Charles was born in St. Peter's, Nova Scotia in 1953. He served in logistics attached to numerous units in Canada, Germany and Cyprus. He received the CT, UN Peacekeepers and NATO Medal. He is a 39-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47.

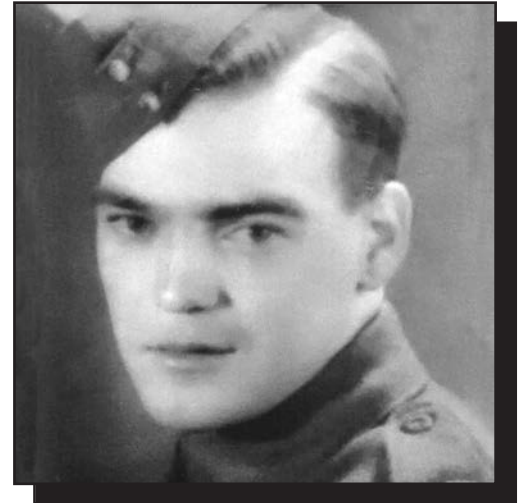
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McPHEE, Alphose Joseph

WWII

Alphose was born in Dieppe, New Brunswick in 1918. He served in the Army with the Royal Canadian Engineers and the New Brunswick Rangers in the North Atlantic area, the United Kingdom, Central Mediterranean, Continental Europe and Canada. He received the 1939-1945 Star, Italy Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, and War Medal 1939-1945. Shortly after returning home to Louisdale from the war, he went to work for Arsenault Monuments in North Grant as a stone carver. He also worked building the Pulp Mill in Port Hawkesbury. He then completed all the stonework on the Alexander Graham Bell Museum, and then he was employed as the foreman on the stone work at the Fortress of Louisbourg where he retired in 1968 and moved back to Louisdale where he passed away in 1972. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Arichat Branch 150.

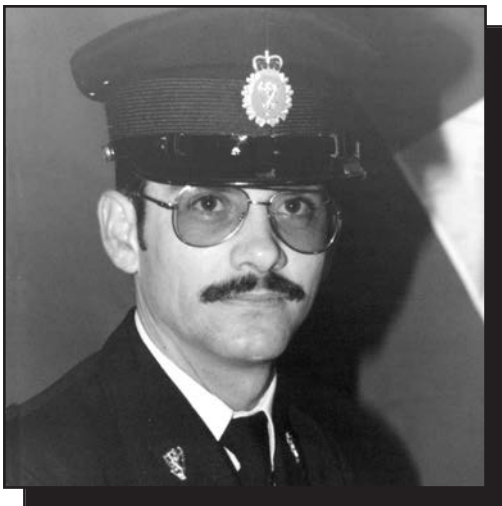
Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



McPHEE, George W.
SPECIAL DUTY AREA & PEACETIME

George was born in Louisdale, Nova Scotia in 1952. He joined as a terminal equipment technician and then remustered to teletype and crypto technician and served with Canadian Forces Communication and Electronic Command across Canada and Germany completing 26 years of service. He is a member of The Royal Canadian Legion Lahr Branch 2 and St. Peter's Branch 42.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion





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MORRISON, Russel C.

WWII

Russel was born in Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia in 1905. He served in the Army in Canada during World War II. Upon returning from the military, Russel retired in St. Peter's with his wife Hilda and started a family raising four children. Russel worked for the Department of Highways and then went to work for the St. Peter's Fish Hatchery. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion L'Ardoise Branch 110. Russel passed away in 1964.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion

NICKERSON, J. E.

WWI

J. E. Nickerson was born in Grand River, Nova Scotia. He served in the Army with the 185th Overseas Battalion during World War I. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



POND, Terrence Reginald

SPECIAL DUTY AREA & PEACETIME

Terrence was born in Woodstock, NB, in 1947. He served in the Army with the Royal Canadian Artillery in Canada, Europe, the United States and the Middle East. He is a twenty-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Centennial Branch 160.

Submitted by Centennial Branch #160, The Royal Canadian Legion

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SAMPSON, Brian Carl
SPECIAL DUTY AREA & PEACETIME

Brian was born in Sydney, Nova Scotia in 1967. He served in the Army with the Royal Canadian Dragoons and 8th Canadian Hussars at the Golan Heights, Bosnia, Somalia, Kosovo and twice in Afghanistan.

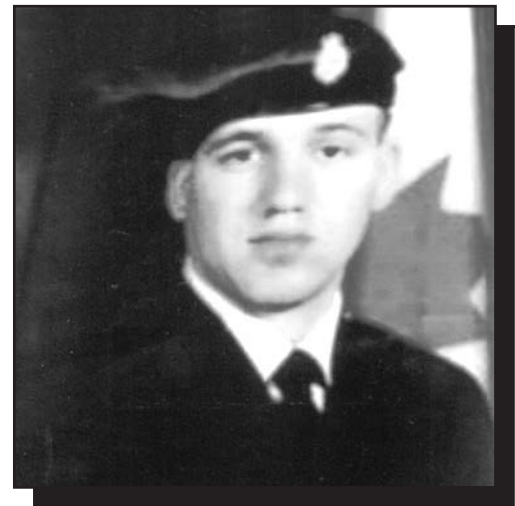
Submitted Independently

SAMPSON, Duane Travis

PEACETIME

Duane was born in Arichat, Nova Scotia in 1970. He served with the Royal Canadian Dragoons and 8th Canadian Hussars in Canada.

Submitted Independently



SAMPSON, F. J.

WWI

F. J. Sampson was born in St. Peter's, Nova Scotia. He served in the Army with the Canadian Expeditionary Force. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #0147, The Royal Canadian Legion

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SAMPSON, G. E.

WWI

G. E. Sampson was born St. Peter's, Nova Scotia. He served in the Army with the Russian Expeditionary Force C.A.O. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion

SAMPSON, Jule

WWII

Jule was born in Lower L'Ardoise, Nova Scotia in 1915. He served in the Army with the Infantry in Canada during World War II. He received both the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and the War Medal 1939-1945. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47. Jule passed away in 1995.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



SAMPSON, Michael Clifford

WWII

Michael was born in River Bourgeois, Nova Scotia on February 3, 1900. He served in the Navy on HMCS Stadacona during World War II. Michael passed away on October 26, 1944.

Submitted by Family



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SAMPSON, Paul Joseph

WWII

Paul was born in Louisdale, Nova Scotia in 1917. He served in the Army with the West Nova Scotia Regiment in Canada during World War I. He did his training in Aldershot and in Megantic, Quebec. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47. Paul passed away in 2002.

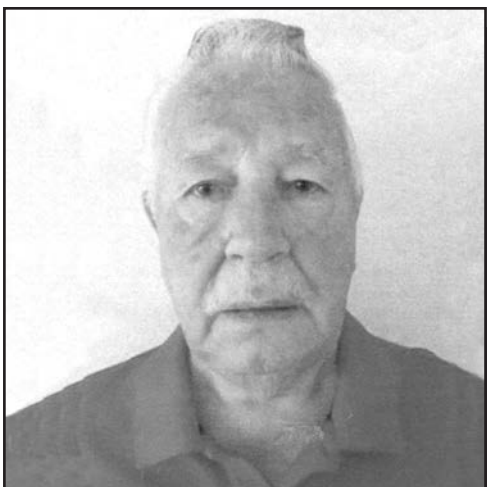
Submitted by Family

SELLERS, William Brown "Billy"

WWI

William was born in Harbour Grace, Newfoundland in 1889. In 1911, he lived in Sydney and married Matilda Sampson. They had one daughter. Billy worked as a crane operator in Sidney, then joined the war in 1915 listing himself as a driver. He was deployed to France with the Canadian Field Artillery driving the heavy cannons. In August 1917, he was exposed to mustard gas but returned. William was discharged in April 1919 at war's end and demobilization of his unit, the 36th Battery C.F.A. Billy lived in Sydney working at the Blast Furnace and considered one of the best men to tap a furnace. In the 1970's, they moved to California with Minnie, his daughter and grandchildren. Billie was an active member of the Ashby Legion and an enthusiastic Poppy Volunteer. He passed away in 1969 and is buried at the Resurrection Cemetery in Sydney River, Nova Scotia.

Submitted Independently



SEMON, Peter

PEACETIME

Peter was born in Sydney, Nova Scotia in 1938. He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1955, trained in St. Jean, Quebec and transferred to Clinton, Ontario. As a fighter control operator on completion of course, he transferred to Tofino, BC; Sydney, NS; Moisie, QC; Beaverbank, NS; St. Margarets, NB and Ramore, ON. He remustered to Air Observer in 1970 and completed a course in Winnipeg and Greenwood. He transferred to Comox, BC on Argus A/C and in 1975 transferred to Shearwater, NS on Sea King 423 Squadron then to VT406 Training Squadron. He served on HMCS Fraser, HMCS Ottawa, and HMCS Algonquin. Peter retired in 1981 and received the CD1. He is a 38-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Centennial Branch 160.

Submitted by Centennial Branch #160, The Royal Canadian Legion



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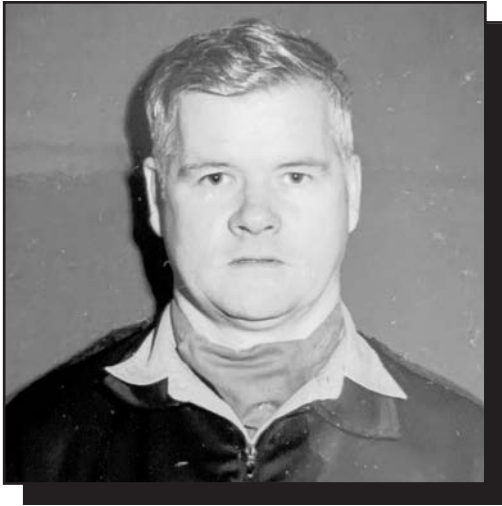
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STARK, George C.
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George was born in Huntingdon, Quebec in 1937. He served in the Navy on HMCS Bonaventure, HMCS St. Laurent, and HMCS Protecteur in Canada, on the High Seas, and Cyprus. He received the Cyprus, NATO, Peacekeeping and CD1 Medal. He is a 33-year member of The Royal Canadian Legion Centennial Branch 160.

Submitted by Centennial Branch #160, The Royal Canadian Legion

STEWART, R. G.

WWI

R. G. Stewart was born in St. Peter's, Nova Scotia. He served in the Army with the 185th Overseas Battalion during World War I. He was a charter member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion



STONE, John Henry

WWII

John was born in St. Peter's, Nova Scotia in 1922. He served with the 8th New Brunswick Hussars in England, Italy and Holland during World War II. He was a member of The Royal Canadian Legion St. Peter's Branch 47 for 56 years. John passed away in 2003.

Submitted by St. Peter's Branch #047, The Royal Canadian Legion

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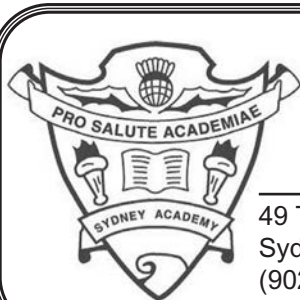
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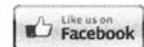
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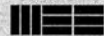
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Place of Birth:	Year of Birth:	Year of Death:
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Branch of Service: Navy <input type="checkbox"/> Army <input type="checkbox"/> Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Navy <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		
Service Unit: <i>i.e. North NS Highlanders, CWAC, Names of Ships, Squadrons, etc.</i>		
Areas Served in: <i>i.e. - Canada, High Seas, England, C/E, Korea, SDA (Please name), etc.</i>		
Killed in Action? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Year of Death: <input type="text"/> Where Killed _____		
Was or is a Member of Legion Branch - Name & #:		How many years? _____
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Thank you for your service.



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