



The Royal Canadian Legion

"Liberation of the Netherlands"

Branch 005



December 2021, Number 2021-12.

In this edition:

- From the Board
- Reflections from your editor
- Editorial feedback
- Miscellaneous
- Candle Evening
- Agenda

The main objective of our Branch is to fulfill an active role during commemorations at Canadian and other allied military cemeteries, monuments and ceremonies where fallen soldiers from, in particular WW II, are remembered.

For photos of previous events visit our website. [Click here to have a look](#)



Leo Heaps (L) and Sam Boroditsky (R)



Both paratroopers
But what else did they have in common?

[Click here to read the background story in this edition](#)





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FROM THE BOARD.

And then it is 2022 already.

In the previous newsletter no. 2021-11, the president of RCL Branch 005 wished you all happy holidays and a healthy 2022. The former, the happy holidays, will probably have succeeded and we will do our best to make the latter come true in 2022. But that is not always obvious. As you also know, Martin Reelick is currently up for a heavy medical treatment process. We wish him all the best and look forward to his being able to resume his role as President of RCL005 in 2022.

The past year was unfortunately dominated by the Covid pandemic. Despite that and with all the restrictions related to it, RCL Branch 005 attended 25 events by invitation. Often in a 'sober' setting, but still.....! The presence of the Colour Party at the visit of Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to the Canadian cemetery in Bergen op Zoom is certainly worth mentioning. This was at the request of the Canadian Embassy and took place last November.

What the year 2022 will look like is still a big question. We are looking forward to a situation in which we can meet everyone freely again and the ceremonies as well as the commemorations can take place again as we are used to. The reality is unruly. At the time of writing this text, it does not appear that restrictions can be reduced in the short term. It remains to be seen. We stay in touch with our relations and jointly look for possibilities that help us to naturally continue to attend to ceremonies and commemorate our fallen liberators.

On behalf of the board, as mentioned above, I wish everyone a healthy 2022.



Wim Poppenk

2nd Vice-President Branch 005



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REFLECTIONS FROM YOUR EDITOR

During this period there are many people who look back on what they have done and experienced in the past period of time. New plans, resolutions and wishes are being made for the future. At least for the new year. That's called 'reflecting'. I would like to include you in my reflections as editor of our Newsletter.

The Newsletter of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005, 'Liberation of the Netherlands', is a bulletin with information and interesting facts for and by members of this association. This bulletin is published on RCL005 website and Facebook to keep people who are interested in our activities informed. It describes the realization of our objectives, but also the special moments that have arisen. Texts and stories **MUST** become available throughout the year that are worth reading. These should be very personal, because every person experiences an event differently.



The editors of the RCL005 bulletin are Herman Sligman (L) writer/editor and the undersigned, Ruud Janssen, (R) editor.



The writer/editor determines, based on the frameworks established by the Board of RCL005, which article will be published and how. Based on his passion and interest, Herman also writes many articles himself and looks for photos to go with them, if we don't have them ourselves. Like the 'Background Story', which can be read every month in the Newsletter. It's quite an art to get that done every time.

The editor is the one who assesses the written texts on 'sensitivities' and text use, which have been produced meanwhile in both Dutch and English. On occasion, he also supplies 'raw' material if, for example, he has been present at an event. But most of the work, almost a day job, is done by our editor, Herman.

We would also like to thank everyone who has contributed to the RCL005 Newsletter over the past year. The responses received show every time that readers (in the Netherlands, but certainly also abroad) are interested in our activities and appreciate it very much.



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In the past year, 2021, due to the COVID measures, the number of events in which we, as an association could participate, was very limited. That will unfortunately be no different for the coming period.

That is why I ask you all, if you suddenly experience something, see something new, see an idea emerge or hear interesting things from family and/or friends abroad that could be of interest to RCL005, to let the editors know via redactie@rcl005.org.

If possible in Dutch AND English, that saves us a lot of work and time.

And if you have them of course with photos or other visual material! I am sure your contribution will be much appreciated by the readers.



Finally, I hope and trust that we face a better time coming up for everyone, both business and health wise. The most important thing is that we respect and support each other where necessary in bad times. And of course, in our hearts we will never forget those who died for our freedom!



Happy 2022!

Also, on behalf of the writer/editor of the RCL005 Newsletter:

Herman Sligman.

Your editor:

Ruud Janssen

LEST WE FORGET





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EDITORIAL FEEDBACK.

As previously comrade Ruud Janssen has written:

At the end of a year, many people look back on the past period.

(By the way: Thank you Ruud for protecting me against a "slip of the pen")



As writer/editor of the RCL Newsletter I try to look ahead as much as possible.

But once a year I also want, or have, to look in the rear-view mirror.

On one hand to evaluate what has happened within our foundation, on the other hand to see whether it has elicited reactions from the readers.

2021 was the year that, little by little, seemed to open up some possibilities for our primary mission:

Encouragement and Support of Commemorations and Remembrance.

I write on purpose "it seemed to open possibilities". It was quickly overtaken by reality.

The already limited programs were soon adjusted or postponed again.

What we DO want to mention here are a few things that have NOT appeared in a Newsletter so far.

In the 2021-02 edition we mentioned:

L/Cpl Howard Reginald Myatt and Major Hugh Philip Falloon.

Both, posthumously, appointed Knights 4th Class in the Military Order of William.

Responses have been received to this topic.

Howard R. Myatt has a final resting place at the Canadian War Cemetery in Groesbeek (XI.D.2) His tombstone does not mention the high Dutch decoration.

At the Canadian cemetery in Holten however for Cpl. J.W. Campbell a new headstone was placed with the additional text on it.

My motto is: „credit where credit is due“, so I decided to bring this up.

I contacted Sgt. Jo-Anne Wiseman of the Canadian Embassy. As part of her position, she has had a number of conversations with CWGC authorities last summer. She reported the omission on Myatt's tombstone. The feedback was that the adjustment of the tombstone was only possible after a request from relatives of the fallen. The challenge lay with us again.





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On the website Ancestry.com I found a family tree that mentioned Howard R. Myatt. Several names were shielded because it concerned persons who are still alive.

I contacted the person who published the family tree and emailed him why and what I was interested in, especially Howard R. Myatt.

There was a response very quickly. It turned out that the originator of the family tree had contact with the Myatt family. He wrote that a younger brother and sister of Howard R. are still alive and he would forward my mail.

Almost by return mail came a message from Raymond Myatt. I have informed him of my action. The attention for his older brother who had never returned touched him deeply.

The current status:

Dear Mr. Sligman,

Thank you for the information in your message. I have contacted Diane Nkeze at the Canadian War Graves Commission in Ottawa. They have acknowledged my letter and have advised that my request will be forwarded to the Western Europe area and Central Representative Team who are covering Netherland. They have advised that it can take up to 20 working days for me to receive a reply unless it is a complex request which may take longer. I don't believe this is a complicated request and I will be following up with them to see what the status is in a couple of weeks time.

Thanks for all your help and I will keep you posted.

Raymond Myatt

Major Hugh Philip Falloon.

A response came from a totally unexpected side::

From an assistant curator, Michael Nickerson, of the Queens Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada museum. He had also served with the QOCHC.

He himself had set up a search for a fallen from World War I; a great-uncle of former UK Prime Minister David Cameron.

In doing so, he had contacted a retired librarian, Mrs. Marina Alexander.

That turned out to be a golden opportunity for him.

She had sent him articles about the regiment, including the death/funeral notice for Major Falloon.



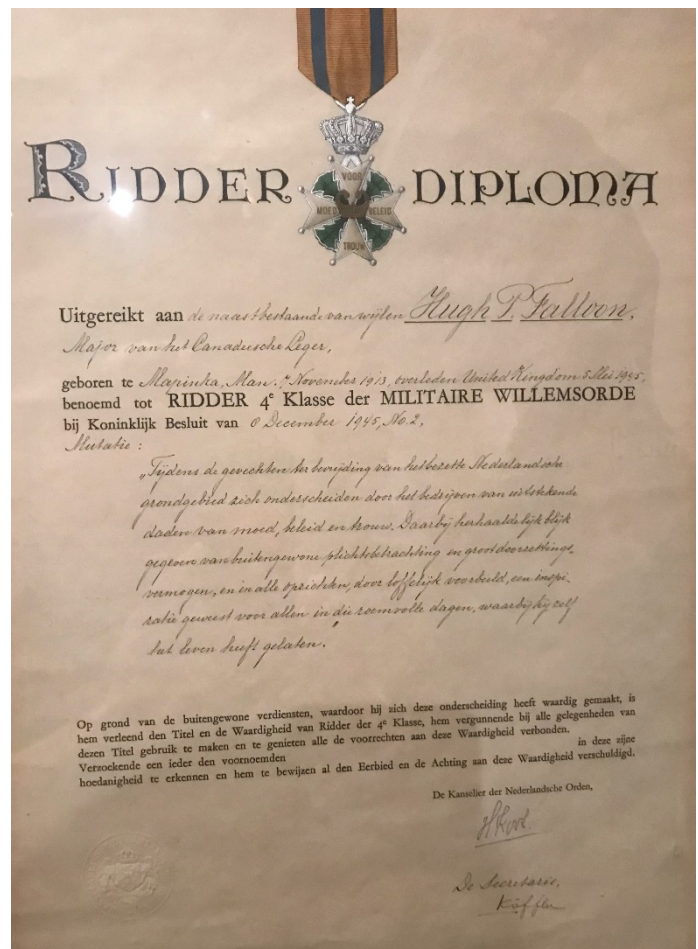
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Major Falloon's decorations

In return, Michael Nickerson had sent Mrs. Alexander photos of Hugh Falloon's awards. These are kept in the QOCHC museum. He also sent our 2021-02 edition, which included Falloon's story, and it was much appreciated there.



Dover Express

OBITUARY.

MAJOR H. P. FALLOON.

The funeral took place on Friday last week, at Waldershare Cemetery, of Major Hugh Philip Falloon, of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada, grand-nephew of the late Rev. Hugh Falloon, of Temple Ewell, former Vicar of Christ Church, Dover, who died on May 5th, 1945, at No. 4 Canadian General Hospital, Farnborough, of wounds received at Deventer North Holland, in his 31st year. He was buried in the same grave as his sister, who was killed on active service in 1942. The mourners present were:—Mrs. Falloon (mother) Miss Falloon (Coolberry), Dr. and Mrs. J. R. W. Richardson. Also present were: Mr. A. Kouyoumdjian, Messrs. Lloyd and Groome (representing Edmonds and Co., Wood Green, N.), Mr. Porter, N.F.S. (representing Mr. V. Lomas), Mr. Claud Watson and Miss Watson, Capt. Colin Watson, the Matron, R.V. Hospital, Waldershare. The following attended from the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada, the deceased's regiment:—Major J. J. D. Gagnon, Capt. D. W. R. Dodge, Capt. A. C. S. Williams, Lt. H. Comack, Lt. W. G. Neill, Lt. O. W. Anderson. The bearers were all 2nd-class warrant officers of the Highland units. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack. The hymn, "My God, my Father," was sung at the church, and the Rev. K. F. Power, Chaplain at Shorncliffe Garrison, officiated. The Lament was played by a Piper. The "Last Post" and "Reveille" was sounded by a Bugler. The funeral arrangements were by Mr. H. J. Sawyer, of 85, High St., Dover.

Message from the Dover Express of May 18, 1945.

By courtesy of Mrs. Marina Alexander.

Also our appreciation to Michael Nickerson for his positive response. This is exactly why we invest so much time in the Newsletters but especially in the background "STORIES".



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But comments like the one below are a nice reward for the time invested.

Thank you once again for your contribution to our archives.

Respectfully yours

Michael Nickerson

Former member of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles and Queens Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada.

However, who can describe my surprise when a week later another email from Michael Nickerson came in, with attachments:

Dear Mr. Sligman:

Thank you very much for your article on Dieppe.

I did not know until about two years ago that a fellow electrician that I took my apprenticeship with and that I worked with, has a Dieppe history. His father and his uncle both served with the Cameron Highlanders. His father was taken POW at Dieppe.

His uncle was killed while creating a smokescreen to cover the withdrawal of soldiers from the beach in Pourville.

I have attached pictures of our Dieppe display and I have attached pictures of the wooden German ammunition box containing the 'field files' in Cameron HQ.



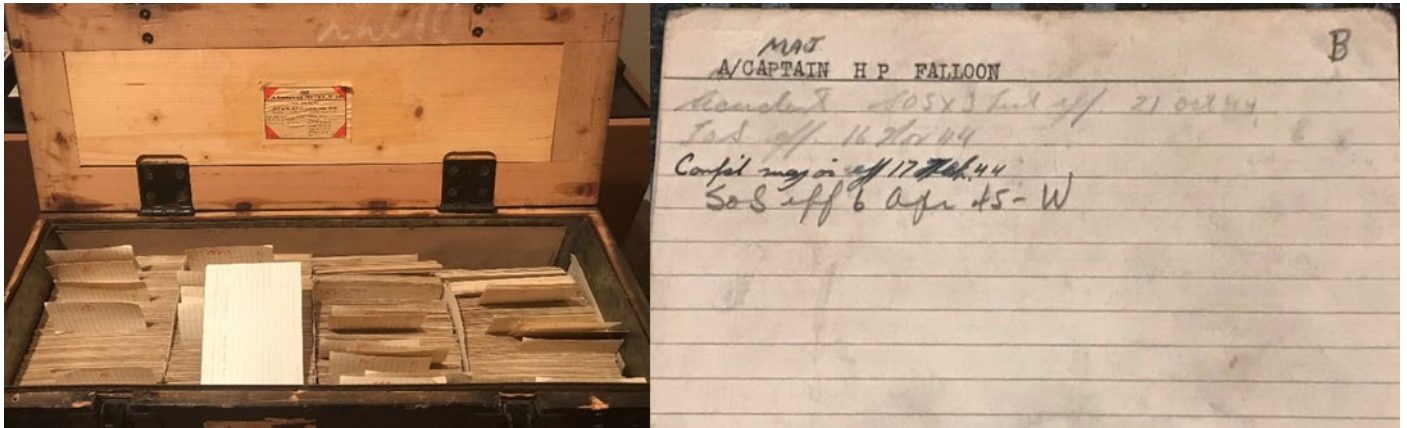
Dieppe display



Box with „field files“



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On the right the field card from Hugh P. Falloon.
Contains only very brief information in case a regiment's headquarters falls into enemy hands.

A third reaction was forwarded by our president.

Sent: November 23, 2021 3:16 PM
To: President <President@rcl005.org>
Subject: bericht destijds via onze website
From: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Subject: Document

Message Body:

I have a document signed by the members of the Legion thanking my grandfather for his service during World War II. At my uncles request we were wondering if you were interesting in receiving a back as a historical document.

Naturally, I contacted the sender and stated that our Branch was definitely interested in the document he referred to.

In response, an email came with the following attachments:



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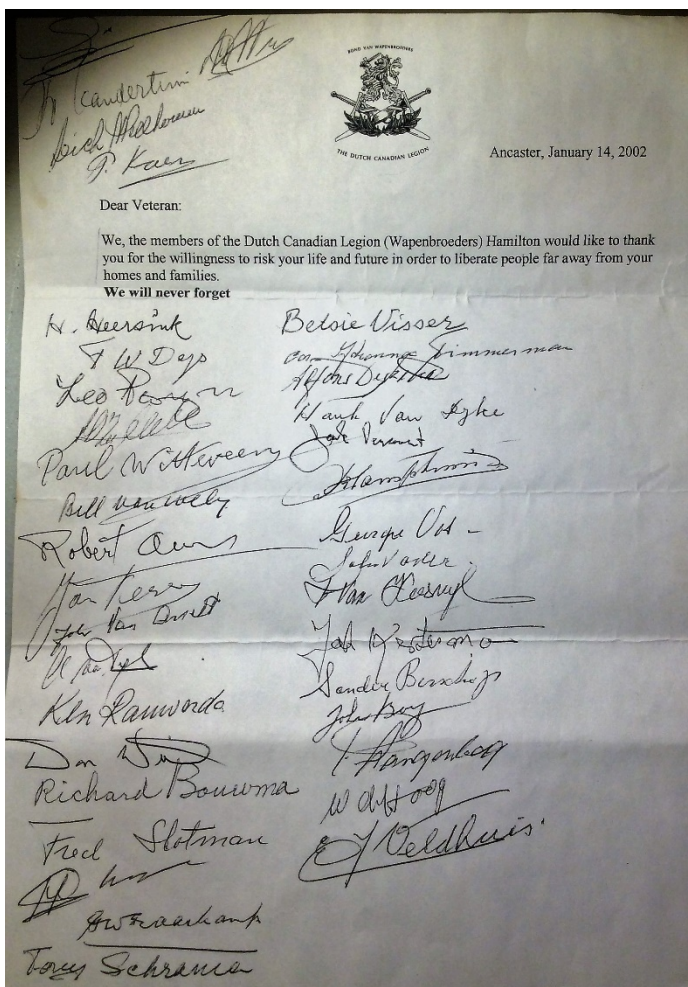
Photo of the shadow box.

Through my Facebook account I also requested information about the document and the "medal", on the right.

The questioner was not aware of the wearer's medal on the red-white-blue ribbon. It turned out that it was handed out by the National Committee Thank You Canada & Allied Forces. (NC TYCAF)

Comrade Berry Swarthoff, who else, was quick to answer this question.

I have informed the questioner (Mr. Kevin Irving).



The origin of the document on the left side is still unknown.

Searching the internet has not led to any clarification. If any of the readers can clarify:

,Dutch Canadian Legion (Brothers in Arms) Hamilton, then I would like to get informed.

Summarizing:

It is nice to receive reactions;
it stimulates and motivates.

Herman Sligman



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LAST MINUTE INFORMATION.

Got information about the document on page 10 at the last minute.

I found a personal message on my Facebook account from someone in my home village.

Thank you Mr. Carlo van den Kieboom.

His cousin in Canada wrote:



The Brantford Armory on Saturday had some of the atmosphere of the Netherlands in 1945.

Twenty Dutch war veterans living in Canada were there to start an organization for sharing experiences, remembering colleagues, celebrating freedom and peace, and, of course, the enjoyment of speaking Dutch.

The group formed Bond van Wapenbroeders in Canada, part of the Dutch League of Servicemen and Resistance Fighters.

The president is Maj. Eugene Roosegaarde Bisschop, a 71-year-old retired regular officer of the Royal Netherlands Army.

"We all have the same thoughts and memories about our service," said Mr. Roosegaarde Bisschop, who was deputy provincial resident of the league and president of the branch in Arnhem before emigrating to Canada in 1981.



Clipping from „The Expositor” from Dec 6, 2012

Dutch Canadian Legion (Bond van Wapenbroeders) was organized in 1987 by Major (retired) Eugene Roosegaarde-Bisschop, a Dutch emigrant who previously was the president of the Arnhem chapter. It was formed to provide a support network for ex-servicemen and resistance fighters for psychological trauma, for sharing experiences, remembering colleagues, celebrating freedom and peace, organized outings, and the enjoyment of speaking Dutch. A chapter (afdeling) each was formed in Chatham, London, Toronto, and Hamilton, Ontario (Ancaster is now part of Hamilton). The signatures are from the members or spouses.

Dit bericht kreeg ik van een van mijn Canadese neven n.a.v. jouw vraag van eerder dit jaar. Groeten Carlo van den Kieboom





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MISCELLANEOUS.

At the end of 2021 we saw the message below in the Canadian media. We post it without further comment.

Of course we post it. Branch 005 „Liberation of the Netherlands“ subscribes to the proposition that efforts that go far beyond normal values, without considering the danger to one's own life, should be respected and valued.

Legion supports awarding Victoria Cross to Afghanistan Veteran

Dec 1, 2021

Private Jess Larochelle deserving of commendation

OTTAWA, ON, 1 December 2021 – The Royal Canadian Legion is supporting efforts to award a Canadian soldier the **Canadian Victoria Cross**. It is the country's highest honour for bravery, valour, self-sacrifice and devotion to duty when in the presence of an enemy.

Private Jess Larochelle served in Afghanistan and performed selfless acts to save others during an attack by enemy forces in 2006. Media reports describe a badly wounded and bleeding soldier who returned to his post to prevent further casualties as enemy fighters gained ground. While severely injured he fired multiple M72 rockets, resulting in the enemy's retreat and saving the rest of his section. Two members had already died.

"There is no doubt that Private Larochelle went above and beyond in excruciating circumstances to save his Comrades and serve our nation," says Bruce Julian, Dominion President. "We ask that our military leaders review Private Larochelle's actions with a view to honouring him with this award."

The Legion joins a chorus of others requesting Pte. Larochelle be recognized for his extraordinary service with the Canadian Victoria Cross. He was previously awarded the Star of Military Valour, which is the second highest award for bravery.

The **Victoria Cross** was established in 1856 and has been awarded to over 80 Canadians. The Canadian Victoria Cross was established on 1 January 1993 and has not been awarded to any soldiers to date.





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CANDLES ON WARGRAVES.

Christman Eve.

Even in this time, a tradition that has developed considerably in recent years has been maintained. With as "fixed values" the well-known places: Bergen op Zoom, Groesbeek and Holten we want to highlight several places

Laatste update: 24-12-'21 16:30	
De teller staat op:	
locaties	350
Aantal graven	18.720
Aantal Monumenten	82

At 4.30 p.m. (Zulu+1) on December 24, 2021 the following figures were known:
350 locations; 18,720 graves; 82 monuments.

Thanks to all participants and photographers for their efforts.



Aalten



Bergen op Zoom



Den Nul

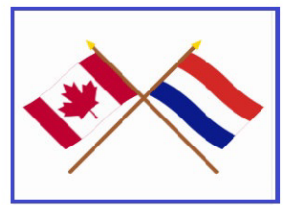


Enschede



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Groesbeek



Hilversum



Holten



Jonkerbos



Markelo



Nederweert



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Oosterbeek



Schoonebeek



Posterrenk



Tolkamer



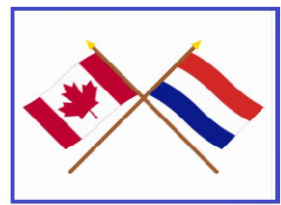
Tubbergen



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Uden



Wilnis



Zuidwolde



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Halle



Hengelo.Gld.



Hengelo. Gld.



Hummelo



Ruurlo

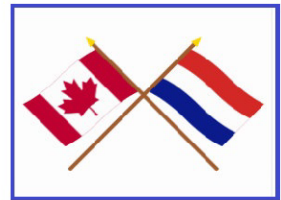


Rha



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Steenderen



Steenderen



Zelhem



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DECEMBER 29, 2021.

Comrade Reinier Groeneveld was interviewed by WW2 tv.

Subject: Patton's Best Medics - 4th Armored Division Medical Units in the Bulge.



For me personally a very informative broadcast. The Canadian part in the Battle of the Bulge was limited to the deployment of the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion. This is seldom mentioned, but it made a significant contribution. (see also the background story in our 2021-10 edition)



8-3 Journal Page 4 of 5 Pages

Organization 46th Medical Battalion Armored, APO 254, US Army

From: 1 December 1944
To: 31 December 1944
Place: France, Belgium, & Luxembourg.

Time	In	Out	Serial	Index	Date	Incidents, messages, orders, etc.,	Action taken
22 Dec			44			A/46 moved to north outskirts of Arlon on M4. B/46 still at Hulle. Trains billeting party left at 0700 to reconnoiter areas north of Arlon. no suitable area found. Ambulance relay established at messancy opened at 2200. Order received that all personnel will carry Gas Masks when outside of billets. message received requesting 4 ambulances report to Div Hq at 230800 to evacuate casualties.	
23 Dec			44			four C/46 ambulances under the direction of Lt Kenyon sent to Div Hq at 0800. A/46 moved to Verle. Lt Pollak and 4 ambulances from C/46 sent out to support Rec Comd. Casualties will be evacuated thru A/46. Considerable enemy air activity in vicinity during night.	
24 Dec			44			5 additional Army Ambulances requested to support Rec Comd. new password received. message received Administrative Center now located at Morfontain.	
25 Dec			44			Five Army Ambulances sent to Lt Pollak to support Rec Comd. new password received for the day. Rec Command moved to left flank of Division so casualties are evacuated through B/46. message received requesting 4 ambulances to support patients of C/46. Reconnaissance for new bivouac area in vicinity of Arlon.	

If you want to see the complete session, activate the link below. Time: 1 h 24 minutes. Well worth it for the really interested.

https://youtu.be/MPuN_aZOmU8



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AGENDA. (up to now)

January 23, 2022: New Years Reception Lochem **cancelled**

February 16, 2022: Board Meeting

March 27, 2022: General Meeting

