



**Royal Canadian Legion
Liberation of the Netherlands
Branch 005**



AUGUST 2022, Edition 2022-08

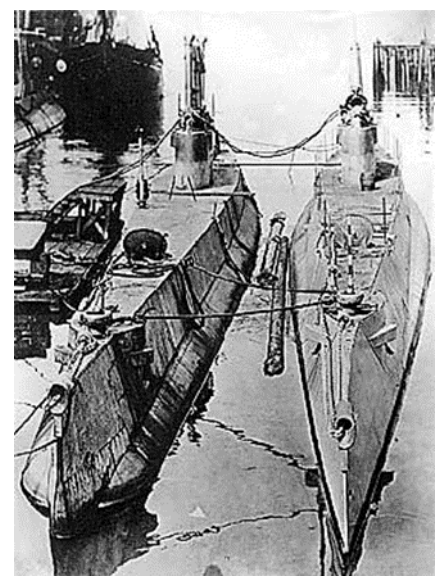
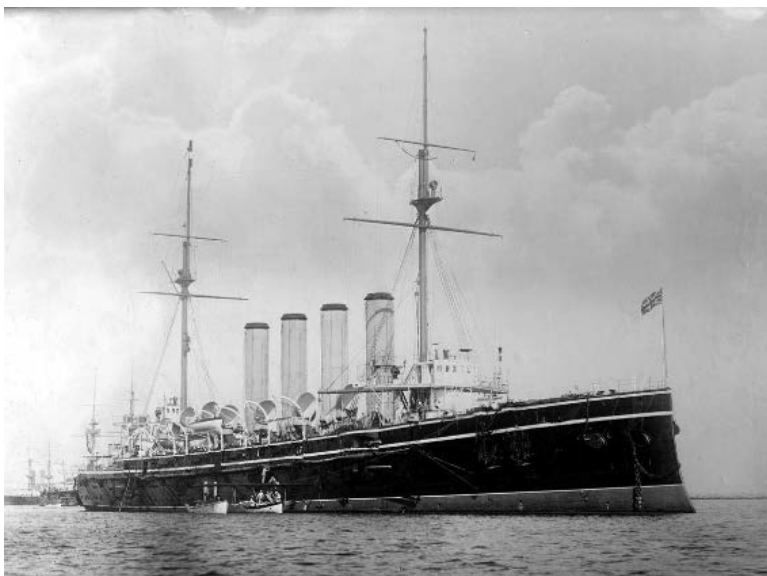
In this edition: **Unveiling monument Maassluis**
 Miscellaneous
 Upcoming

BACKGROUND STORY IS BACK

Royal Canadian Navy

A little history
From the Naval Service Act of 1910 to its part in WW2

Activate link by clicking on Royal Canadian Navy or on the photo's





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Maassluis, August 28, 2022.

Mayor Edo Haan unveiled the memorial to the killed crew of a Blenheim Mk IV of the RAF.

It crashed on August 28, 1941 after being shelled by ships of the German Navy.



At the unveiling, in addition to the representative of the Royal British Legion, Elsa van Gelderen and a delegation from the Royal Canadian Legion, 'Liberation of the Netherlands' Branch 005, approximately sixty veterans and interested parties were present.



De bemanning v.l.n.r.: boordschutter Albert H. Collins, 2e piloot Stanley F.M. Gunnis en 1e piloot Frank K. Orme. (Foto: #WO2MS)



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Studiegroep Luchtoorlog 1939-1945



Loss Register

Loss chart: T1224

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--|---|-------------------|-----|---------|-----------|-----------|------------------|--------------|---------|
| Day or Night of operation | | Operation | Target | Nickname Aircraft | | | | | | | |
| 28 Aug 41 | | - | Rotterdam | | | | | | | | |
| Factory | | Aircraft | Mk | Serial/Wnr. | | Code | Unit | Air Force | TO/t | Airfield | |
| Bristol | | Blenheim | IV | V6436 | | YH-L | 21 Sqdn | RAF | 1741 | Watton | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Time | Cause of the Crash | | Crash Location | | | | | Damage | | Province | |
| 2010 | Shot down by Flak | | Crashed behind Govert Wijnkade at Maassluis | | | | | | | Zuid-Holland | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Function | | Mil Rank | Ini | Name | Age | Mil reg | Air Force | Fate | Cemetery | Grave | Remarks |
| Pilot | | P/O. | F.K. | Orme | 25 | J/3739 | RCAF | KIA | Hoek van Holland | F 35 | |
| Observer | | P/O. | S.F.M. | Gunnis | 23 | 63809 | RAF | KIA | Hoek van Holland | F 35 | |
| Wireless Operator/ Air Gunner | | F/O. | A.H. | Collins | 34 | 82972 | RAF | KIA | Hoek van Holland | F 35 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wartime Records | | Background Info | | | | | | | | | |
| Operations Record Book | | Chorley, 'Bomber Command Losses 1941', page 127; Boiten, 'Blenheim Strike', page 151-160 and 276; Baart & Van Oudheusen, 'Target Rotterdam', page 172-177; Zwanenburg, 'En nooit was het stil I', page 248-252 | | | | | | | | | |

Version April, 2022

Detail Source

Name: Frank Kerr Orme

Rank: Pilot Officer

Death Age: 25

Birth Year: abt 1916

Death Date: 28 Aug 1941

Military Base: Watton, Norfolk

Service Number: J3739

Unit: 21 Squadron

Command: Bomber Cmnd

Ship: Blenheim IV

Occupation: Pilot

Casualty: Killed in action

Residence Place: Rockcliffe Park, Ontario, Canada

Burial Place: Hook of Holland General Cemetery,
Netherlands

Notes: Shot Down By Flak At Maassluis During A
Low-Level Raid on Shipping in
Rotterdam Harbour





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Miscellaneous.

August 13 was the 81st anniversary of the founding of the Canadian Women's Army Corps (CWAC).

21,642 women served with the CWAC between 1941 and 1946 and 3,000 of whom went abroad.

Women were eager to contribute to the war effort, and after much lobbying, the CWAC was established in 1941. CWAC members worked as medical assistants, drivers, stenographers, number clerks, radar operators and mechanics, to name a few. They also performed administrative and household duties.



After five years of "dedicated and efficient service," the CWAC was disbanded in 1946. Not only did they contribute to the war effort, but the CWAC also paved the way for women in the Canadian Forces.

You can read more about these incredible women here:

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/canadian-womens-army-corps>



Private Lowry, CWAC, tightening up the springs on the front of her vehicle, Chelsea & Cricklewood Garage, England, July 7th, 1944.

Photo by Barney J. Gloster. Department of National Defence / National Archives of Canada, PA-177084.



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August 19, 1942 - August 19, 2022.

Dieppe Raid - Operation Jubilee



Casualties and losses

Ground forces

Canada:

907 killed
2,460 wounded
1,946 captured^[5]

United Kingdom:

275 commandos

United States:

3 killed
5 wounded
3 captured^[6]

Royal Navy

1 destroyer
33 landing craft
550 killed and wounded

Royal Air Force

64 Supermarine Spitfire
fighters
20 Hawker Hurricane
fighters
6 Douglas Boston
bombers
10 North American
Mustang Mk 1 fighters
62 killed 30 wounded 17
captured

Germany

Wehrmacht:

311 killed
280 wounded

Kriegsmarine

1 submarine chaser UJ-
1404 sunk

Luftwaffe

23 Fw 190
25 Dornier Do 217



*« Au moment où cette lettre vous parviendra,
le Raid de Dieppe aura été oublié par la
plupart des gens, mais pas par nous.
Les cicatrices seront vives dans les villes des
Prairies pour des générations à venir... »*

Grant Odum Philip, du Calgary Regiment,
dans une lettre écrite à son père, août 1942.

*"By the time this note reaches you, the Dieppe
Raid will have been forgotten by most people
but we never shall. The scars will be livid in
Prairie towns for generations to come..."*

Grant Odum Philip, the Calgary Regiment,
in a letter to his father, August 1942.



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, There are only three people in the world who have been awarded the Victoria Cross twice. Today we remember Captain Noel G. Chavasse, who was one of them'.

The above message on a Facebook account caught my attention.

Curious as I am, I wanted to know; why and when. But also; who are the other two.

So searching:



The names were easy to find.

In addition to Captain **Chavasse** (physician) of the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC), these were:

Captain **Arthur Martin-Leake** (surgeon) also of the Royal Army Medical Corps and

Captain **Charles H. Upham**, infantryman in 2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force (2NZEF).

In chronological order:

Arthur Martin-Leake obtained his first VC in 1902 during the [Second Boer War](#).

He tended to wounded men less than 100 yards from enemy lines. He was fired upon, wounded but continued his task until he collapsed from exhaustion. Not after he ordered the wounded to be supplied with water first.

His second VC was awarded to him in 1914. For his actions near Zonnebeke, Belgium. Under constant shelling he rescued wounded close to enemy lines.



Captain Noël G. Chavasse



Captain Arthur Martin-Leake



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His commander wrote in the recommendation:

„His action in three instances, during the heavy shelling of the dressing station, gave both the wounded and the staff tremendous confidence. It is not possible to name a specific occasion, he behaved in this way constantly"

Arthur Martin-Leake died, aged 79, in High Cross, Hertfordshire, in 1953.

After cremation at Enfield Crematorium, Middlesex, Martin-Leake was buried in St John's Church, High Cross. He is commemorated with a plaque and tree at [the National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas, Staffordshire.](#)

Noël G. Chavasse obtained both VCs in WWI. As a qualified doctor, he was assigned to the Royal Army Medical Corps when WWI broke out.

His unit was assigned to the 10th Battalion of the [King's \(Liverpool\) Regiment.](#)

The battalion was involved in the fighting around Hooze near Ypres. Heavy fighting: of the 900 men of the battalion only 140 men and 2 officers survived the battle.

Chavasse was awarded the Military Cross.



On Day 1 of the Battle of the Somme, the 10th Battalion was tasked with attacking the village of Guillemont. There, too, the 10th Battalion suffered heavy losses. Chavasse tended to as many wounded as possible, day and night. Twice he sustained injuries from shrapnel, and in one case he carried a wounded man 500 yards away to a safe place. During his activities, he collected as many recognition tags of fallen soldiers as possible.

The recommendation stated:

„He saved the lives of at least twenty seriously wounded, apart from the lighter cases he took in hand. His courage and sacrifice could not be praised enough".

In February 1917, King George V awarded him the Victoria Cross.

In July 1917, Chavasse was involved in the [Battle of Passchendaele, a k a the Third Battle of Ypres.](#)

Together with his team, Chavasse set up an advanced First Aid post in a captured German position.



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During a German shelling, Chavassee suffered a head wound. Against advice, he returned to the post after receiving treatment. Again he sustained head wounds during artillery fire that followed. He ordered the bearers to move other wounded to safety; he believed he should stay to support his team.

On August 2, 1917, disaster struck. He sustained serious injuries in the abdominal region. The nature of this necessitated his team to have him transferred to a field hospital.

On August 4, 1917, Noël G. Chavassee, at the age of 32, died from his injuries.

He was buried in the military cemetery in Brandhoek, Belgium.

Posthumously, he was awarded the second VC. Two VCs are engraved on his tombstone; the only one in the entire world.



Charles H. Upham is the only one to receive the double award in WW2 and the only one to receive it for participation in combat operations. In doing so, he was also among the survivors.

The first VC was awarded to him for actions in Crete in May 1941, in which he was also wounded by mortar fire. Despite his injury, he carried a more severely wounded victim to a safer location. In an action eight days later, he personally eliminated twenty-two enemy soldiers.

The second VC was for his actions on 14 and 15 July 1942 during the First Battle of El Alamein.





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He captured an enemy position and eliminated a tank and several enemy vehicles. He kept going despite severe injuries to one arm until, due to blood loss, he nearly lost consciousness.

After tending to his wounds, he stayed with his men and continued to fight despite multiple wounds he sustained.

Finally, his decimated company was overrun by the enemy and Upham was taken prisoner of war.

His captivity and his repeated attempts to escape from it are a story in their own right. My conclusion after reading: he was really tough. Judge for yourself.



"I refuse to be shot by a corporal. Bring back an officer" (smokes cigarette) - New Zealand Army Captain Charles Upham (VC and bar), entangled in the wire between fences while attempting an escape from German POW camp.

Photo credit: POW camp Commandant H. Knapp.

For those interested: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Upham

Eventually, he ended up in Colditz, the place where "extremely troublesome" prisoners of war were incarcerated. There he was liberated by American troops.

He was sent to Britain, met again Molly Mc Tamney, who was working there as a nurse. They married on June 20, 1945.

Upham returned to New Zealand in September 1945, his wife following him at the end of the year.

Charles Hazlitt Upham died on November 22, 1994 in Canterbury in the presence of his wife and three daughters.

A modest headstone marks his grave in the cemetery near St. Paul's Church in Papanui, a suburb of Christchurch.

Herman Stigman





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August 2022. The Royal Canadian Legion is Honouring Veterans with Memorial Banners

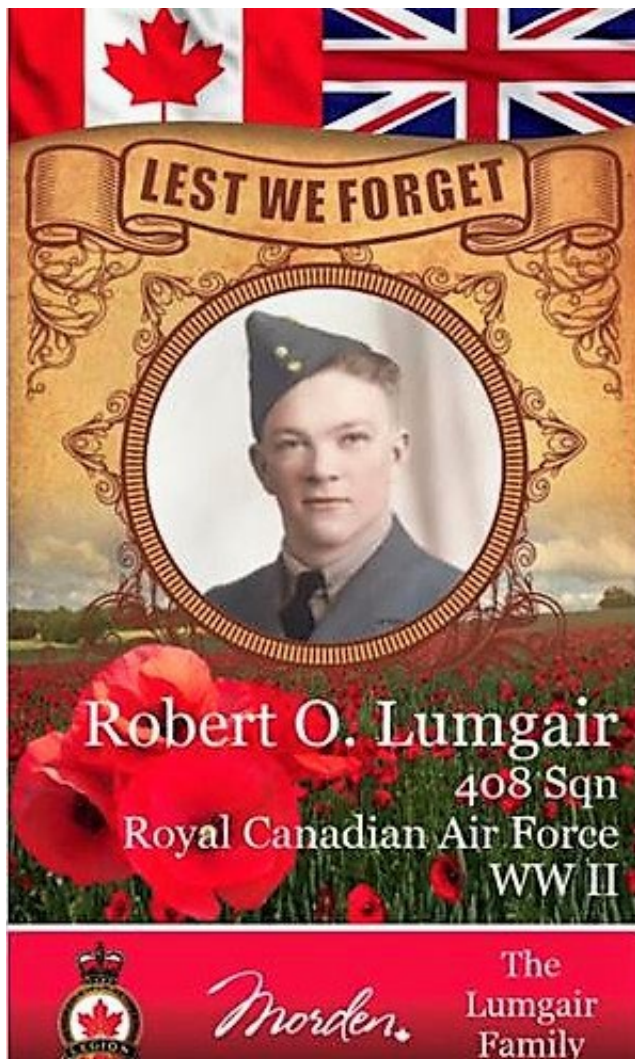
Source: Legion Magazine.

Flying Officer Robert Lumgair of Morden Manitoba is one of hundreds of Veterans being remembered by the [Memorial Banner Program](#), organized by Legion Branches across [Canada](#).

The banners pay tribute to local Veterans and are displayed in communities for all to see. Many stories behind the names can be found on the Legion Branch's website.

The banners are often sponsored by family, friends and/or acquaintances.

In this way a veteran gets a "face" and is honoured for his or her commitment to peace and freedom.





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Groesbeek, August 27 2022.

Source: Facebook-account Faces-to-Graves.



A visit from Canada.

30 participants from Guelph led by Tammy Atkins from the museum in Guelph. Welcomed by a number of Faces-to-Graves volunteers, who took them to the 13 graves of the soldiers from Guelph and told the life stories of some of them.





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Upcoming.

Wednesday, September 7, 2022,
LOCHEM Boardmeeting

Sunday, September 18, 2022,
OOSTERBEEK Commemoration

From September 7 until September 19, 2022: [In our Father's Footsteps](#)

Visit from Royal Montreal Association Branch 14 (Qc) (Sept. 19 - Oct. 7, 2022)

The best way to stay informed: [see our agenda.](#)

To end with a smile:

