

The
Maple Leaf
Legacy
Project



L'heritage
de la feuille
d'erable

UPDATE!

A Project in Remembrance of Canada's War Dead

Latest Numbers

The aim of the Maple Leaf Legacy Project is to photograph or obtain a photograph of every Canadian War Grave of the 20th Century.

As of September 30, 2006 the number of Canadian war graves or commemorations photographed on hand is:

95,523

On the above date

174

commemorations were added.

This project relies solely on the kind assistance of the hundreds of volunteers and sponsors around the world to get the photographs or to donate funds to help pay for the good work of the project. To date the project has been honoured with the assistance of at least

693

wonderful and generous volunteers from around the world who have contributed photographs or other services.

*For Canada, for Canadians,
for the fallen, lest we forget.*

We remember

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Hello one and all:

Greetings from Ypres,

Volunteers continually amaze me. Just when I thought they had given so much, if asked, they give even more.

Case in point. Upon reviewing some of the photos taken in the early days of the project, I have realised that at the time, they were quite good in most cases. However with the vast improvement in digital photography over the past 10 years, many of those early efforts really need to be redone. This is the case primarily in Alberta, Manitoba and a number of locations in France, Belgium and the UK. We were all so keen to get out there and get the job done, we didn't realise that the photos were 'okay' but not really good. So, the word was put out in Alberta and Manitoba primarily, but also British Columbia. And the troops have come through in spades. Hundreds have already been done and many more are in the works for the weeks and months to come. Special thanks go out to Gerry Halliday, Doug & Gladys Hay, Ralph McLean, Warren Otto, Kenn Doerksen, David Peever and Heather Darney for their extra efforts in this regard. In Europe, I am slowly but surely redoing the ones I can and when I get help in the form of a visiting volunteer, out we go to do some more. Matt Smith, of the Australian project, will be here in November and we will redo many of those we did way back in 2000 with our old Sony Mavicas (donated by Sony UK) in Belgium and France. The idea being that we want to be sure the best possible photo of the headstone is the one that will, theoretically, be the one that lasts for many generations to come.

This past month, I sent, on behalf of all the project volunteers, a nice framed photo to Lauren Harper (wife of Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper). No, not a photo of me. It was a presentation copy of the photo of her great uncle's war grave at Barlin, France. Mr and Mrs Harper visited the grave for the first time this past summer.

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I have finally got the database program I need to enable me to start getting the images online. Now, once I have figured out how to use it, I can make a start on the long, long road to the destination of getting all photos online. Wish me luck.

Also, keep an eye out for a program on Canadian television - the History Channel I think - called 'Ancestors in the Attic' where the MLLP will get a special mention. I think it will be around Remembrance Day. 'Check your local listings' as they say.

And finally, if anyone out there is interested in joining out 10th Anniversary battlefields tour of

Belgium and France with the highlight being the rededication of the Vimy Memorial, next April, please contact June Bates at junebug24@sasktel.net The space is limited so express your interest now and get the details from June.

Take care and until next time,
I remain...

Steve Douglas
Director
Maple Leaf Legacy Project

NEWS FROM THE VOLUNTEERS

This is the section that belongs to you - the volunteers, regional representatives, and people having an interest in commemorating Canada's fallen. Why not let everyone know what's going on in your part of the world by sending us photos, progress reports or news about events? Please send your submissions to dcrory@chebucto.ns.ca with "MLLP Newsletter" in the subject line. Here are a few items for this edition:

A Special Effort in Honoring the Fallen

We recently received word from our friends with the Salvage Halifax Foundation that they have successfully completed salvage of a Halifax MK III bomber that was shot down by a German fighter in May 1944. All



.....Salvage Halifax Foundation 1944

seven crewmembers including airmen from Canada, England and Zimbabwe died in the crash. The bodies of two of the crewmembers were recovered at the time of the crash and were subsequently buried in Nijmegen, Holland. The other five were still with the plane. The aim of the salvage operation was to recover the remains of the remaining crewmembers and bury them with the dignity and respect they deserve.

During the operation, members of the foundation reported that they had found an unusual large amount of wreckage and some parts of the plane were found in very good condition. Those human remains that were found were subsequently buried alongside those of their comrades at Jonkerbos War Cemetery on September 27. The Foundation members wish to publicly thank all the people who had contributed to this recovery project. For more details visit the group's web page at: www.hank.nl.halifax1944.

Here's some interesting news from Arthur and Mary Deakin about a special radio broadcast. We hope they let us now how the event went.

"Just a bit of info that you may be interested in. The Passendale Radio Club are running a special event station 9-12 November. The Club Sec is Ivan Vanthuyne _on4@vra.be_ (mailto:on4@vra.be) .More about the event at zwvrac.vra.be. Also historic radio films free at www.britishpathe.com

Mary and I will be in Cyprus then at the Poppy Ball. I run a low power Ham Station.

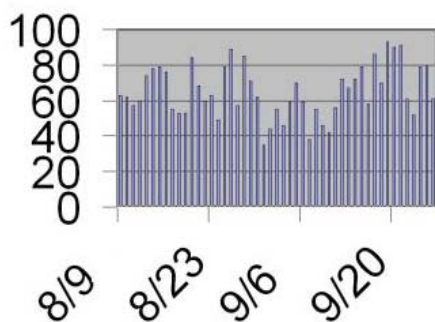
I will let you know what happens.

Cheers for now Steve. Keep up the good work.

WE never Forget"

*Arthur & Mary Deakin
G0 EOM / 5B4AFZ
73s*

MLLP WEB SITE VISITS



Here's a new feature in the MLLP **UPDATE** – a daily look at the number of visitors to the MLLP web page. Are you included in these numbers?

Check out what's new at: www.mapleleaflegacy.ca and count yourself in!

Web Links

Support our Troops: For those interested in learning how to show their support for our troops serving both at home and abroad, the Canadian Forces recently launched its official "Support Our Troops" campaign. Canadians have several ways to show their support such as writing to the troops to let them know they are appreciated or by buying Canadian Forces sanctioned merchandise such as T-shirts, ball caps, fridge magnets, window decals etc. Proceeds from the sale of the items will be reinvested directly into the morale and welfare programs for the Canadian Forces members and their families. For more information, please visit: http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/newsroom/view_news_e.asp?id=2074



"Support Our Troops"
Get your merchandise
right here!



The response to "Support Our Troops" has been incredible. Orders will be processed as quickly as possible, however, please allow approximately 4 weeks for delivery. Thank you for your support!

Logo/image courtesy of the Canadian Forces (www.forces.gc.ca)

NUMBERS OF NEW FALLEN

Afghanistan Death Toll

Death by year		How they died	
2006	29	Combat/attacked/explosions	27
2005	1	Friendly Fire	5
2004	1	Accidental	5
2003	2		
2002	4		

Source: CBC News

News Items

Canadian Peacekeepers Commemorated for their Service

August 13 (Veterans Affairs News Release)

Calgary, AB - The Honourable Greg Thompson, Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada, accompanied by Brigadier General T.J. Grant, Commander of the Land Forces Western Area, and Colonel (retired) Don Ethell OC, OMM, MSC, OStJ, AOE, CD, of the Canadian Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping (CAVNUP) today joined Veterans, community leaders, and members of the public in ceremonies honouring Canadians killed on peacekeeping missions around the world. Today's services also celebrate the service and contribution of Canadian Peacekeepers throughout the world.

"We are here to commemorate the many sacrifices made by our Canadian Forces Veterans for the principles of freedom and security throughout the world. The actions of these brave men and women ensure that others can experience the freedom that we enjoy in Canada," said Minister Thompson. "Ceremonies such as those held here today continue to keep the torch of remembrance burning bright for generations to come."

Today's ceremony commemorated the sacrifice Canadian Peacekeepers made during peace sup-

port operations throughout the world. Their names have been inscribed into the Wall of Honour, including all Canadians who have died since the Wall of Honour was unveiled in 2004. The Wall of Honour, dedicated in 2004, also includes all of the Peacekeeping missions in which Canada has served or is currently serving.

Following the ceremonies, a reception was hosted by Canada Lands Company in honour of past and present peacekeepers.

"It is extremely important that we honour all Canadians killed in peacekeeping or peace support operations," said Don Ethell of CAVUNP. "August was selected because on August 9th 1974, nine Canadian peacekeepers were killed when their plane was shot down in Lebanon. This is the largest single day loss of Canadian troops on a peacekeeping or peace support operation."

Since the first United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) mission in 1956, Canadians continue have held a proud tradition of peacekeeping throughout the world, with 100 000 Canadian peacekeepers participating in over 50 missions.

WAR POETS

AFTERMATH

By Siegfried Sassoon

HAVE you forgotten yet?...

For the world's events have rumbled on since those gagged days,
Like traffic checked while at the crossing of city-ways:
And the haunted gap in your mind has filled with thoughts that flow
Like clouds in the lit heaven of life; and you're a man reprieved to go,
Taking your peaceful share of Time, with joy to spare.
But the past is just the same-and War's a bloody game...
Have you forgotten yet?...
Look down, and swear by the slain of the War that you'll never forget.

Do you remember the dark months you held the sector at Mametz--
The nights you watched and wired and dug and piled sandbags on parapets?
Do you remember the rats; and the stench
Of corpses rotting in front of the front-line trench-
And dawn coming, dirty-white, and chill with a hopeless rain?
Do you ever stop and ask, 'Is it all going to happen again?'

Do you remember that hour of din before the attack--
And the anger, the blind compassion that seized and shook you then
As you peered at the doomed and haggard faces of your men?
Do you remember the stretcher-cases lurching back
With dying eyes and lolling heads-those ashen-grey
Masks of the lads who once were keen and kind and gay?

Have you forgotten yet?...

Look up, and swear by the green of the spring that you'll never forget.



Remembrance Ceremonies at Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery near Nijmegen, The Netherlands in 2001. Courtesy of the Canadian Forces (www.forces.gc.ca)

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NEWSLETTER

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