

SWORD AND TRUMPETER
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17 th. Hussars Association
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Here we are again - late as usual!

The following report has been recieved from Lorne Crabtree on his return from France, where he landed again on the beaches on the tenth Anniversary of D-Day.

At ten minutes after the landing itself, we attended a memorial service on the beach at Bernieres-sur -mere, Conducted by Padre Ray McCleary. We spent the rest of the morning wandering around then whole area and some of the places visited were, Coursuelles, Capriquet(now a French Military Airport), with many of its ruins still very much in evidence, Buron, Gruchy, Authie and Chateau St. louet. all very much rebuilt, but recognizable in spots, Villons-les-Buissons, Thoon. We had lunch in Caen and then Attended a service at Beny- sur- Mer, Where a number of our lads are buried and then visited Roselle and Rots.

The next day we went to Abbeville, passing through, Till-la- Campagne and the Quarry at Hautmesnil and many other names that I can't remember (Ed. Note: Suggest you look up the maps and story in your Regimental History as you read this.)

On 8th of June we arrived in Ghent and took part in a very impressive ceremony there that evening which involved the return to us of the 3 Div. Colours and our handing them over again to the Burgomaster for safekeeping. Later there was a civic reception in the very ancient town hall.

June 9 we spent on a bus tour of the Scheldt area. Here again we saw many places whose names mean much to the 7th. Rec'ce, through "A" Squadron's rest cure on the Leopold- The landing and taking over from the H. L. I. near Biervliet. That evening we moved up to Antwerp and from there the group spread out all over France, Germany and some home again

I used many feet of Kodachrome along the way and if it turns out and anyone is interested- I should be able to show that will be not much more than a series of moving snapshots of some of the places we saw without any continuity.

The Association is still growing, in spite of the fact that there are about forty lads who have not paid their membership dues for the yesr 1954. Our total, paid up membership is now well over the four hundred mark. We still have a long way to go to reach our potential, so look around and see if you can dig up a new member. One new member each, would put us up to a thousand members and then we would have an Association.

Enclosed you will find an invitation to the Regimental Christmas Party. How about giving the kids a break and showing up. Make sure you return the form as quickly as Possible.

One hundred years ago our sister Regiment, the 13/18th Hussars took part in the "Charge of the Light Brigade" and last Sunday the Regiment celebrated Balaclava Day at a special service. Prior to the special services they took part in the Tri-Service parade in honour of the Van doos fortieth Anniversary.

Now is the time to start thinking about your executive for the 1955 year. A new slate will be presented to you for election at an Annual Meeting, which will be held sometime in January. If you were there last year, you will remember that the business end of the meeting did not take much more than fifteen minutes and after that was through, the bar was opened and we watched a movie, taken by British and Canadian cameramen of "The Left of the Line" from D-Day to the end of the war. We are planning the same type of meeting again and hope that we will see a good turnout. Note to those of Scottish Descent--- Admission is Free

The Regiment still has on hand a fair supply of the Regimental History "7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment in World War II, Edited by Capt. Walter G Pavey". You can buy a copy through the Orderly room, the Adjutant or the Secretary of the Association will be glad to look after it for you. If you have not seen a copy, it is well worth having on your bookshelf and makes very interesting reading, even if you don't know all the spots mentioned.

If we ever find the time to do it, what would you think of a Directory of all the members, with their addresses. There are some lads with whom you have lost contact and also it might suggest the name and addresses of new members. Drop us a line and let us know what you think of the idea.

As we grow, we find that our members are not only scattered from coast to coast, but are also in Indo-China (two of our members are serving with the Truce team there) and the States and the U.K.

That's it for now- hope to see you at the Christmas Party.

The Sword and Trumpeter you have just read was found after we had completed what you are now about to read.

We reproduce it because it is the oldest, record that we have found with regards to the start of our Trumpeter.

Unfortunately it is unsigned so we do not know who produced it. Should any one know, or have an earlier dated copy, we would appreciate a copy. for our records.

(Ed.)

