

Tietlebaum, Nathan, Sergeant (D3384)



- Nathan Tietlebaum was born on 25 February 1917 in Montreal, Quebec. He was 27 years old when he was reported as missing in action and presumed dead on 13 October 1944 in the Netherlands.
- On 26 July 1940, he enlisted with the 3rd Canadian Motorcycle Regiment (17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars). On 26 February 1941, he went to Camp Debert, Nova Scotia and, in August 1941, he was sent to the UK with the 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment (17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars). He was deployed to France, arriving on 17 June 1944, which does not correspond exactly to any of the sub-units of the 17th Hussars. The first sub-unit to land in France was "B" Squadron, which arrived on 11 June. It was joined by the 62nd Light Aid Detachment (a vehicle and weapon repair team) on 16 June, by "A" Squadron on 25 June, and by "C" Squadron, Headquarters Squadron and Regimental Headquarters on 15 July. However, since his death was reported by Lieutenant Doig of "A" Squadron, he may have been a member of that squadron.
- At the time of death, he was not married and had no children.
- Nathan had no military experience prior to enlisting. Prior to enlisting, he had been employed for 7 years as a manager, salesman and truck driver at the Berlet Fruit Importing Company in Montreal, and before that, he was employed for 1 year on a poultry farm.
- He attended school up to age 15 and completed 2 years of high school.
- According to his medical examination, he was 5 foot 7 inches tall and weighed 175 pounds. He had brown eyes; and had suffered compound fractures on his right forearm in 1934 resulting in a slight deformity. He was found fit for category A.
- At the time of his enlistment, he lived at 62 Laurier West, Montreal, Quebec.
- His Next-of-kin on his enrollment form and beneficiary of his will was his sister Mrs. Ethel Segal, who lived at 4610 Saint-Urbain Street, Montreal, Quebec. His father, Lazarus, had passed away in 1918 or 1919, and his mother, Lilian, had passed away in 1939. They had four other children, Wilfred (36), Tillie Victor (35), Sarah Soltano (33), and Ethel Segal (29).
- Since Tietlebaum's remains were not found after the bombardment that killed him, he was presumed dead and is presently commemorated on Panel 10 at the Groesbeek Memorial, Netherlands (rather than by a gravestone).

Context

- On 3 October 1944, when the 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment arrived in the Scheldt area from Calais, France, the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division had just been tasked with clearing the low-lying lands south of the Scheldt Estuary of enemy forces so that the Allied Forces could start to use the recently captured deep-water port of Antwerp. However, the enemy was determined to hold these lands and deprive the Allied Forces of access to the port. An initial attempt was made by the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade, with "A" Squadron of the 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment in support, to cross the Leopold Canal and advance north. This initiative bogged down very quickly in the face of fierce resistance. A second more-successful attempt by the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade was made by performing a right-flanking operation from Terneuzen across Braakman inlet. Then to augment the 9th Brigade, on 11 October, the members of 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment were deployed into the landing area as infantry soldiers. The 9th Brigade was able to push south, and the Highland Light Infantry captured Biervliet. On 12 October, the 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment used its antitank guns, flamethrowers, and mortars to push south to form a front line between Biervliet and the Braakman Inlet. During this advance, it captured 170 enemy soldiers.



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- Then, on 13 October, the 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment was then reassigned to the 8th Brigade. The North Shore Regiment of the 8th Brigade, which was to push south to the head waters of the Braakman inlet, moved through the front lines, thus freeing up "A" and "C" Squadrons for other tasks. "C" Squadron was switched over to the north-western sector of the front to fill in the gap between the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders and the North Nova Scotia Highlanders. At 1500 hours, under heavy mortar fire, they moved into their new positions just north of 'Driewegen', about 3 to 5 kilometres north-west of Biervliet. According to the Regiment's war diary, they suffered three casualties, one fatal. "A" Squadron moved into reserve while "B" Squadron continued the advance south and then west alongside the North Shore Regiment.
- Sergeant Nathan Tietlebaum was presumed killed in action in one of these operations, possibly on the 13 October 1944.



Nathan Tietlebaum

**SERGEANT
NATHAN TIETLEBAUM**

SERGEANT NATHAN TIETLEBAUM, D-3384, 17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars, of Montreal, was killed in action on October 13, 1944, according to an official announcement.

Sergeant Tietlebaum enlisted in the army in July, 1940. He went overseas with the 7th Recce Regiment of the 17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars in August, 1941.

Sergeant Tietlebaum was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. L. Tietlebaum. A brother, Sergeant Wilfred Tietlebaum, served overseas with the R.C.A.F. Sergeant Nathan Tietlebaum resided at the home of his sister, Mrs. Ethel Segal, of Montreal. He was a member of the Y.M.H.A. before his enlistment.



Sgt. Nathan
Tietlebaum



Pte.
John S. Symmers

KILLED: Reported killed in action on the Western and Italian Fronts are the above Montreal soldiers.

Sergeant Tietlebaum refused an offer to stay in Canada as an instructor when his unit, the 7th Rec'ce Regiment (17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars) went overseas in August, 1941. Son of the late Mr. and Mrs. L. Tietlebaum, of Montreal, he joined up in July, 1940. He is survived by a brother, Sgt. Wilfred Tietlebaum, R.C.A.F., overseas, and three sisters, Mrs. Tillie Victor, Mrs. Sarah Soltane and Mrs. Ethel Segal, of 4610 St. Urbain street.

Private Symmers, 23, formerly of the Black Watch (R.H.R.) of Canada, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Symmers, of 768 Irène street. A member of Calvary United Church, he enlisted in April, 1940, and went overseas in August of that year. He was transferred to the Seaforth Highlanders and sent to Italy.