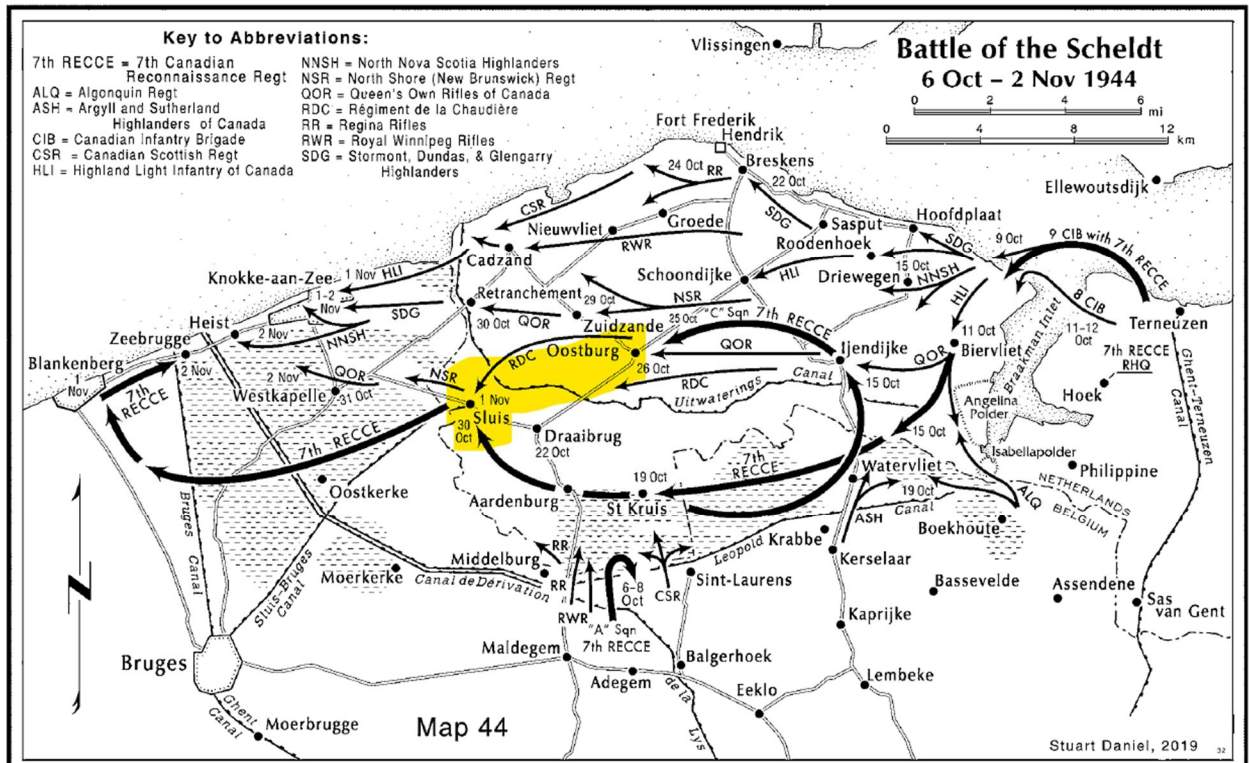


MacKenzie, James Albert Hinton, Corporal (D-3919)



- James Albert Hinton MacKenzie was born on 12 September 1922 in Bathurst, New Brunswick. He was 22 years old when he was killed in action on 30 October 1944 in the Netherlands.
- On 16 May 1941, he enlisted at the No. 4 recruiting depot in Montreal South, Quebec. After attending basic training in Huntingdon, he was sent to Camp Debert to join the 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment (17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars). He was then posted to the UK, arriving on 22 October 1941. In 1943 he successfully completed gunnery training. He was deployed to France on the 18 June (most likely with "A" Squadron). On 29 August he was promoted to the rank of Acting Corporal.
- James had no military experience prior to enlisting. He attended school up to the age of 16 and completed a commercial course by correspondences after that. Prior to enlisting, he was employed for two years as a bank clerk and ledger keeper at the Royal Bank of Canada
- According to his medical examination, he was 5 foot 11 inches tall and weighed 170 pounds. He had brown eyes and brown hair. He was classified as A.
- At the time of his enlistment, he lived with his parents, James Kenneth, and Marion Hinton MacKenzie, at 4058 Grey Avenue, Montreal, Quebec. They had been married in Bathurst, New Brunswick on 11 September 1918. They had one other child, Mary Carole MacKenzie.
- The beneficiary in James' will was his mother, who was also listed as his next-of-kin.
- He was admitted to 16 General Hospital on 29 October 1944 and died on the 30 October 1944.
- His body is buried in the Adegem Canadian War Cemetery, Maldegem, Oost-Vlaadern, Belgium. (Ref: X. C. 3.)(plot, row, grave)

Context



- On 27 October, once the bridge was built opening a logistics road between Aardenburg and Oostburg, and "A" Squadron was well positioned to protect it, "B" and "C" Squadrons were ordered to proceed through the dikes in a westerly direction from Oostburg. Enemy opposition was heavy and very determined. The squadrons could not use their vehicles because the enemy was dug in all along the dykes. Nevertheless, as they advanced on foot, they knocked out two 40 mm and one 37 mm guns and captured 80 prisoners.
- On 28 October, "B" and "C" squadrons continued their push west. Again, strong and determined opposition was met throughout the day and the previous day's objectives were finally achieved in the late afternoon. Late at night, "C" Squadron sent out a troop to link up with "A" Squadron, which was still guarding the bridge, and one of the troop's heavy armoured cars was blown up by a mine. The total number of prisoners taken for the day was 120. The unit's casualties were 1 killed (Trooper James Wilson) and 1 wounded. One flame-throwing carrier was blown up by a mine.
- On 29 October, "B" and "C" squadrons again continued to push west, aiming to get as far as the Uitwateringskanaal. "C" Squadron, on the right flank, met heavy resistance and could only advance slowly, so "B" Squadron slowed its advance as well.
- On 30 October, the main objective was to capture Sluis. "A" Squadron, reinforced with the "C" Squadron's assault troop, the entire Regimental support group, and a troop of self-propelled guns, was given the task. Each of the squadron's attempts to enter the town was met with fierce resistance. Here, Corporal MacKenzie was killed by a sniper. "B" Squadron, which was able to get across the Uitwateringskanaal and approach Sluis from the north east, was also met with

fierce resistance. So, the squadrons assumed holding positions and reported that a larger force was needed to overcome the enemy.

- On 31 October, as the Régiment de la Chaudière arrived to assault the town, and the 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment was pulled out of the line and sent further west to assume positions near Blankenberg then held by a British reconnaissance regiment.

Cpl. J. A. McKenzie Reported Killed

Cpl. J. A. H. McKenzie, 22, of the 7th Rec'ce Regiment (17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars), is reported to have been killed in action on the Western Front. He had only returned to his unit after suffering wounds a few days before being killed. The son of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. McKenzie, of 4058 Grey



Cpl. J. McKenzie was a member of Dominion Douglas Church. He received his education at the High School of Montreal and Westmount High, and was employed by the Royal Bank of Canada when he enlisted in May, 1941, at the age of 18. He had been overseas since August of that year.



CPL. J. A. H. MacKENZIE, 22, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. MacKenzie, of 4058 Grey avenue, who was killed in action on the continent while serving with the 7th Reconnaissance Regiment (17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars), according to word received here. He had been wounded recently and had just returned to his regiment a few days before he was killed. A graduate of Montreal and Montreal West High Schools, and a member of Dominion Douglas Church, he was employed by the Royal Bank of Canada prior to enlisting in May, 1941 at the age of 18. He went overseas in August, 1941.