



Stichting Herdenkingsmonument Mierlo-Hout
News letter
Year 4, Volume No.5
Nov 2018

**Remembrance Sept 22
2018**

Another Monument

75th Remembrance

Remembrance Sept 22 2018

Again a successful remembrance.

Unfortunately the weather was not great, it rained during the visit to the war cemetery in Mierlo with the kids of primary school 't Baken and it rained during the memorial service at the monument.

Sept 17 was the start of the memorial week of 74 years of liberation in Mierlo-Hout.

The 4 primary schools were visited by our secretary. A presentation was provided regarding Market Garden and what this operation meant for our region.

He also provided insight on what happened Sept 22 1944.

The kids now have an impression of what happened in Mierlo-Hout during that period.



One child mentioned: I still cannot believe that a few hundred meters from our school, there was a battle for our freedom. The children were impressed with what they learned that day.

Our adoption school of this year is 't Baken. Each year we taken the adoption class to the war cemetery in Mierlo. They received more information from Ad Hermans; he took the class to several graves and informed them what those soldiers had done for us during the battle in our region.



The kids were transported in old military vehicles.



The kids listening to Ad Hermens

During our time at the cemetery, we met three English veterans, who also paid a visit to a grave of one of the soldiers. It turned out that one of the three was the only survivor of a crash with a bomber.



At the end of the visit to the cemetery, a picture was taken of the group incl the English veterans.



Sept 22 74th remembrance.

As usual, we started our remembrance with a memorial service in the St Lucia Church. Our guests, community alderman Cathalijne Dortmans and alderman Harrie van Dijk, also joined the service as delegates of the municipality. Guild St Antonius Abt, children of 't Baken and others interested joined the service. The service was graced by Fire Brigade Pipes & Drums from Gemert.



The second part of the remembrance took place at the monument. Our chairman Mario Coolen welcomed all at the 74th remembrance of our obtained freedom. Alderman Cathalijne Dortmans described what this obtained freedom means and how important it is we cherish this freedom seeing the circumstances in other regions in the world.



Alderman Cathalijne Dortmans during her speech.

Our secretary Harrie Raaijmakers recited a poem.

After listening to the “Last Post”, we laid garlands and flowers.



Both alderman after laying the garlands on behalf of the municipality of Helmond.

As a last gesture, the kids placed candles on the path in front of the monument.



After the remembrance, we had a nice gathering in nursing home Alphonsus.

Pictures were provided by Jan Dijkstra and DIOW, for which we thank them.

Another monument



This special item is displayed in our National Military Museum in Amersfoort

In the early morning of June 6th 1944, several vessels left England into the direction of the Normandy coast.

Under the name of operation Neptune, a big attack is done by the allied troops. The troops were formed from American, British, Canadian and French units. The goal is to free North-west Europe from the German occupier.

The vessels transported ground forces and material and make sure the ships pass the sandbanks. The American troops land on the most Western point of Normandy; Utah Beach and Omaha Beach. Among these troops, the Landing Crafts Control 60 (LCC60), a discoverer under American flag with 14 crew members. It is guiding the last ships as well as possible to the beaches.

During the landing operation, the boat stays close by as command and control vessel.



Lt Howard Vander Beek

The Captain of the LCC60 is Lieutenant Howard Vander Beek, a descendant of a Dutch immigrant family. He succeeds to land the vessels with material close to Utah Beach, despite the strong tide and bad weather conditions.

Howard Vander Beek takes the flag home and keeps it in his attic. After his passing in 2014, the flag was offered at an auction. It was bought by a Dutch family and they have given the flag to the National Military Museum to preserve it.

The owner wants to give the flag back to the United States of America. However his wish is that President Trump will come pick up the flag in person. Negotiations are ongoing.

75th remembrance



The board is working on the preparations of the festivities, which will take place from Sept 17 until Sept 22 2019.

We will keep you posted on the progress in the following news letters.