



Stichting Herdenkingsmonument Mierlo-Hout  
**News letter**  
9th year Volume No.4  
September 2023

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Hello friends,

**79th Commemoration of our liberation**

September 22 it will be 79 years since we were liberated from German oppression.

This year too, our youth is central to this commemoration.

OBS 't Hout is this year's adoption school with all group 8 children.

Prior to the 22nd, these groups are informed about what happened on September 22, 1944 in our region, and specifically Mierlo-Hout.

On September 22, these children will move with authentic military vehicles to War Cemetery Mierlo. Prior to this move, the children are first given more information at the monument by chairman Mario Coolen.

At the military cemetery, the children receive an explanation via a certain route what some fallen soldiers mean for our liberation.

This explanation is provided by our secretary Harrie Raaijmakers.

Following this tour, the military vehicles will be returning to Mierlo-Hout, where the freedom fire will be lit at the monument at noon.

At 7 pm there is a memorial service in the St. Lucia Church.

At 7.45 pm the commemoration will take place at the monument on the corner of Hoofdstraat / Houtse Parallelweg.

Both items are graced by Gemert Firebrigade Pipes & Drums and the guild St. Antonius Abt Mierlo-Hout



## PROGRAMMA VRIJDAG 22 SEPTEMBER 2023

- 12.00u. Ontsteken vrijheidsvuur bij herdenkingsmonument
- \* 19.00u. Traditionele herdenkingsdienst in de Sint. Luciakerk
- \* 19.45u. Officiële gedeelte bij het herdenkingsmonument met o.a. krans- en bloemlegging en het ontsteken van kaarsjes.

Na de afsluiting bent u van harte uitgenodigd voor een gezellig samenzijn onder het genot van een drankje, bij **De Koning** op de Mierloseweg 301.

**Graag tot ziens bij de 79e bevrijdingsviering!**

## Just another monument

### Drome FFI Memorial

In the town of Mirmande in the Drôme France, this colossal monument stands on a clearing on the hill overlooking the N7 and A7.



F I H.Raaijmakers

**It can even be seen from space, so big.**



## Monument

A large semi-circular wall topped with plexiglass plaques bearing the names of those who died in the area. The plaques bear the names of the 221 American soldiers who died in the area between August 20 and 30, 1944.

In the center of the hemisphere is a large concrete sculpture representing the Drôme department. The monument was unveiled September 3, 1995.

FFI memorial sculpture.

FFI stands for Forces Françaises de l'Intérieur (French Home Army)

With a height of sixteen meters, the monument represents, stylized, the geographical contours of the department. The names of resistance fighters and deportees from the Drôme are mentioned on the plaques.

The registered names have been checked against the lists of history.

The mortuary tablets contain more than 1,600 names;

- ❖ 869 Drôme resistance fighters shot or killed in action
- ❖ more than 500 deportees died in the concentration camps from gas, exhaustion or torture
- ❖ 223 American soldiers killed in the battle of Montélimar
- ❖ 30 French and Allied aircraft shot down
- ❖ 53 martyrs shot in Valréas (Vaucluse enclave in the Drôme department)
- ❖ 895 inhabitants of the Drôme, including 140 women, were deported
- ❖ Of the 263 Jews, 246 were murdered
- ❖ Of the 606 deportees as 'political', resistance fighter or hostage, 184 perished in the concentration camps.
- ❖ Unnamed are thousands of civilian casualties, killed by bombs or shot in reprisals for Nazi barbarism.



A cross on a bare sword - the Cross of the Liberation (Croix de la libération) - is the decoration of the Order of the Liberation, a very high French decoration for the resistance and the fight against Germany in World War II.

For more information: <http://museedelaresistanceenligne.org/media379-MA>;

## Mierlo-Hout Then and Now



1944 F I M.Coolen Sr.



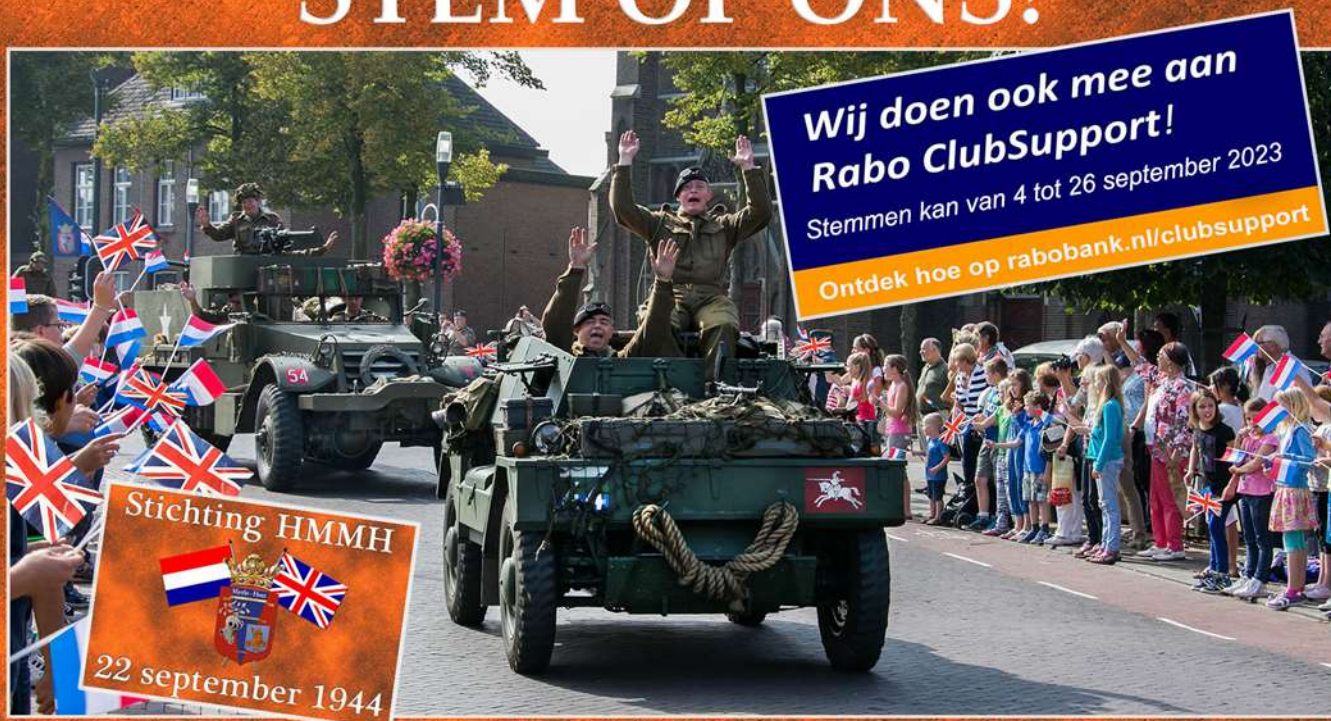
2023 F I H.Raaijmakers

## Rabo Club Support campagne 2023

September 4 to September 26, 2023

This year, as a Foundation, we will again participate in the Rabo Club Support campaign. By casting your vote, an x amount will be attributed to our Foundation. We will use the allocated amount, which will be announced in October, in the preparations for the 80th anniversary of our liberation in 2024.

# STEM OP ONS!



Stichting Herdenkingsmonument Mierlo-Hout

For more information about our Foundation, please refer to our website:

<https://monumentmierlohout.nl>