

Halifax 57 Rescue (Canada)

RCAF HALIFAX LW170 RECOVERY (424 Squadron)





LW170 Recovery Phase I

Finding LW170

Progress Report No.44

June 24, 2012

Registered Charity 84586 5740 RR0001

Progress Reports



THE BOMBER COMMAND MEMORIAL

"On June 28, 2012 the biggest military memorial in over 100 years will dedicated in Green Park, London to the 55,573 young aircrew killed-in-action in RAF Bomber Command, including 10,659 Canadians of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Halifax 57 Rescue

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France has donated to this international memorial to honour their fallen aircrews of Bomber Command as they had 2 squadrons in action with (152) Killed-in-action.

Poland has donated, in memory of their fallen aircrews of the (3) Polish squadrons of Bomber Command, to honour their crews with (929) killed-in-action

Canada and the RCAF contributed 15 squadrons to Bomber Command and lost more than 10,000 young aircrew! Now Canada has made a great donation in their memory and we will be there in force to pay homage to their eternal sacrifice on our behalf.

The best tribute written of them is that of Father Joseph Lardie, chaplain of 2 Canadian bomber squadrons, who watched as only 1 out of 4 (25%) of Canadian bomber crews survived their combat tour and returned home:

"Three thousand miles across a hunted ocean they came, wearing on the shoulder of their tunics the treasured name, "Canada," telling the world their origin. Young men and women they were, some still in their teens, fashioned by their Maker to love, not to kill, but proud and earnest in their mission to stand, and if it had to be, to die, for their country and for freedom.

One day, when the history of the twentieth century is finally written, it will be recorded that when human society stood at the crossroads and civilization itself was under siege, the Royal Canadian Air Force was there to fill the breach and help give humanity the victory. And all those who had a part in it will have left to posterity a legacy of honour, of courage, and of valour that time can never despoil."

So in the summer of 2012 this magnificent Bomber Command Memorial will spot-lighted on the world stage just before the London Olympics begin.

Canada will proudly be front row and centre, and not in the wings, of this world stage. Our national government has, like our allies, donated to the Bomber Command Memorial commensurate with Canada's sacrifice in Bomber Command.

This Bomber Command Memorial will become the new Vimy Ridge Memorial of Canada

and our generation. Let us continue to carry the torch and let it be ours to hold high, so we do not break faith with those who sacrificed their lives for our Freedom."

The proceeding passage was sent out months ago by yours truly in a different format to urge those important Canadian officials of the importance of the Bomber Command Memorial and what this magnificent memorial means to Canada and the world.

Canadian contributions to the entire war effort were outstanding especially in the air with the RAF and RCAF, along with our American allies, providing Victory and ensuring our Freedom.

Time does not allow me to give you a full run down and report on our continuing efforts of Halifax 57 Rescue (Canada) in this report. I am in the final stages of preparation for my trip to England and must keep this report short so as to catch my flight.

I will report on the exciting discovery of more parts in England for our Halifax Project (this trip will bring more parts to us very soon) and the continuing efforts to get the almighty sonar survey done to find Halifax LW170.

Also, our Halifax engineer expert Director George Rosskopf has begun the rebuild of the Halifax-Hastings wing spar in Ottawa. Thanks to our multi-media expert Jim Blondeau you can see George working on the initial stages of the very beginnings of the Halifax Project. Just do a Google search using this phrase

"H57RC The Rebuild shop". There are 5 rebuild shop programs for you to view!

However, due to the shortage of funds and lack of support for our efforts in these last few weeks we may have to put George Rosskopf on "rebuild hold" as we just do not have enough funds to continue at a pace that is required. This is disappointing for all of us here trying to bring a Halifax to the Bomber Command Museum of Canada to have to slow down or even stop our efforts. We really need your continued support to maintain our progress and appeal to you to donate NOW.

Suffice it to say, our Bomber Command Museum of Canada Delegation (11 people in all) will excitedly participate in the dedication ceremony of the long awaited and long overdue Bomber Command Memorial in London, England on June 28. We MUST pay justice, tribute, and homage to the crews of Bomber Command who flew and fought for us with one of the highest loss rates in military and Canadian history. They alone, in our darkest hours of World War Two, provided the effort to bring us to Victory over tyranny.

I will be collect photos and Jim Blondeau will be doing a documentary on the Bomber Command Memorial celebrations and we will share all of them with you when we return at the end of June.

And when we are there in England for these ceremonies we will think of our British comrades who provided over 40,000 young crew that were killed-in-action and for whom we must pay our respects. Please note our own Director Chris Charland has made an amazing discovery about the RCAF bomber combat that is of great significance to all of us in Canada. With a great investment of time and energy Chris went through all 800+ bombers of the RCAF which were shot down in action from 1941-1945. He documented all the British airmen on RCAF bombers that went down and came up with the stunning total of 1,590 British aircrew who sacrificed their lives along with their Canadian comrades for Canadian and world Freedom.

So few of us, even at the Bomber Command Museum of Canada, knew that such a great contribution and sacrifice should include these British warriors in RCAF Canadian bombers. I

will be putting up this very interesting data soon (thanks again Chris for all your hard work) on our website as a tribute to our "British brothers" of the RCAF.

Well, it is off the ol' blighty we go to do our best and represent you at the Bomber Command Memorial ceremonies. This will be the MEMORIAL of the century and be our "Vimy Ridge" memorial of our generation.

Please remember us when you wish to support a good cause.

And remember, WE LEAVE NO HALIFAX BEHIND

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