

# 39 COMBAT ENGINEER REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION



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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi all, this newsletter is a very good read, as cover of the 6 Engr Sqn D Day Dinner. From a personal note, I would like to thank the Directors for jumping in and assisting me in my duties as President. I had to bow out, for family reasons, and I really appreciate how quickly everyone stepped up and pitched in from their various personal commitments.

Chimo

Bill Wenman  
President

## D-DAY

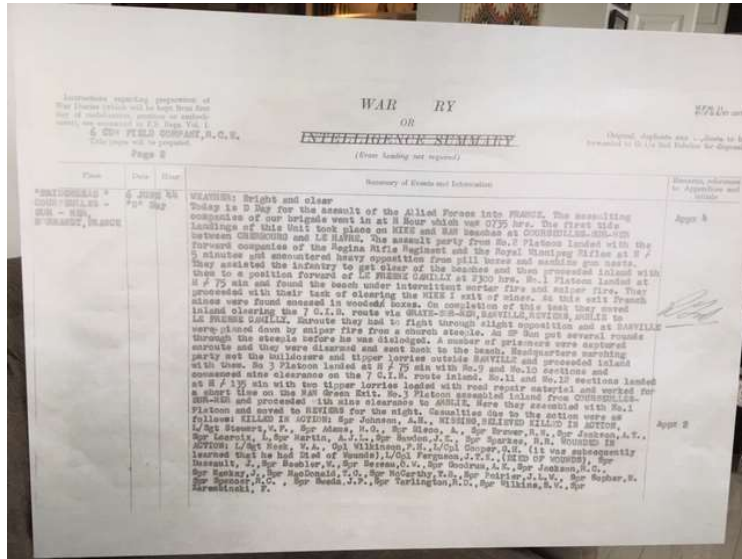
### D Day Notes

The D Day dinner recognizes the achievements and sacrifices of 6 ES during WW II. On June 6, 1944 members of 6 Fd Coy were among the assaulting troops of 3rd Canadian Infantry Division landing on the beaches of Normandy.

The museum has some interesting reminders of D Day.

# War Diary

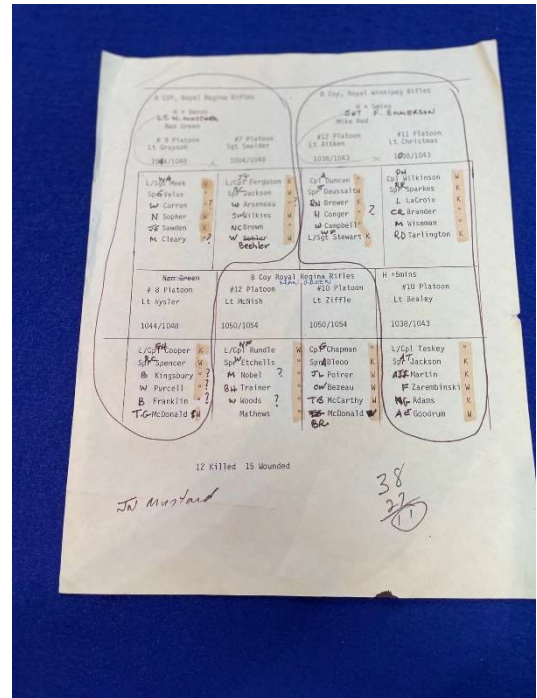
On the wall there is an enlarged reproduction of the unit War Diary entry for D Day. Also, the unit's carbon copy of the diary can be found in the display cabinet. It is open to the D Day page.



## Lt Mustard List

Lt Mustard was the Platoon Officer of 2 Platoon which was designated as 6 Fd Coy's assault platoon. The list is a poignant memory of the cost of freedom. The list has the names of 2 Platoon and includes:

- The infantry units they were assigned to;
- The beach to be assaulted;
- The infantry platoon they were assigned to;
- The infantry platoon commander; and
- Who was killed and who was wounded.



## Cpl Wilkinson

The fatalities of D Day and the European campaign are recorded in the armoury on a bronze plaque. However D Day and the rest of the European campaign had many more wounded and injured. One of those wounded was Cpl Wilkinson of the assault platoon.

On the assault Cpl Wilkinson was seriously wounded in the leg while still in shallow water. His section landed directly in front of, and at close distance to, an enemy machine gun position. He, and most of his section were killed or wounded before reaching the beach. By the end of the day only two of Cpl Wilkinson's section were unscathed.

Cpl Wilkinson was given rudimentary treatment and held at the beach for approximately 24 hours before he could be evacuated to a field treatment station near the beach. He was held at the treatment facility for a further two days before he was evacuated to a hospital ship and returned to England. The severity of his wound coupled with the limited medical treatment resulted in deterioration of his wound and required a long period of treatment, convalescence and rehabilitation. His condition prevented him from rejoining his unit and he was finally returned to Vancouver and discharged in April 1945.

Cpl Wilkinson's engineer field manual is displayed in the museum. It is water stained from the assault.



## D-DAY DINNER

39 CER hosting the annual D-Day dinner on 11 June 2022 at the Lt Col J.P. Fell Armoury North Vancouver. This year the dinner was a mixed dining in and 82 guests came to commemorate the achievements and sacrifices of 6 Fd Coy on 6 June 1944.



Capt Alex Miklas, Adjt, waiting patiently for the toasts to commence.



The 6 ES Pipes and Drums serenading the attendees prior to the dinner.

### **39 CER ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

39 CER Association held its Annual General Meeting on Monday 27 June at 1900 hours via ZOOM. The following individuals were re-confirmed as directors:

Bill Wenman	President
Bill White	Vice-President
Roli Krueger	Treasurer
Grant Acheson	Secretary
Achim von Wiedner	Newsletter Editor
Cameron McLean	
Bill Diamond	

David Blake-Knox was elected as a new Director.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

For those wishing to become members of 39 CER Association, a membership form can be acquired from: [membership@39cer.ca](mailto:membership@39cer.ca)

### **39 CER Association Contacts**

President: Bill Wenman LCol (Ret'd)  
Vice-President – Bill White Col (Ret'd)  
Treasurer – Roli Krueger Capt (Ret'd)  
Secretary – Grant Acheson Maj (Ret'd)  
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#### Board Members

Bill Diamond  
Cameron McLean LCol  
David Blake-Knox Maj (Ret'd)

The 39 CER website can be accessed at: <http://www.39cer-museum.net/>

For more Engineer news please visit the Canadian Military Engineer Association website at:  
<https://cmea-agmc.ca>