



Sabretache

THE OFFICIAL
JOURNAL OF
THE CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

w w w . c m h s . c a

June 2019

D-Day Paratrooper

By Roy Akins

Cpl. James Clement Ogburn was born 31 August 1919 in Rabbit Lake, Saskatchewan.

A farmer by trade, on 16 December 1941 he joined the Canadian Militia and for the next 18 months was trained in Light Anti-Aircraft Artillery. One month shy of his 23rd birthday he chose to join the war effort and on 29 June 1942 he volunteered for regular service.

His first assignment was as a Lance Bombardier with Royal Canadian Artillery, serving as an instructor with the 32nd and 112th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries and the 102nd Heavy Battery. From December 1942 – January 1943 he was trained in small arms, grenades, Thompson SMG, Bren Gun, 2” Mortar and Anti-Tank Rifle.

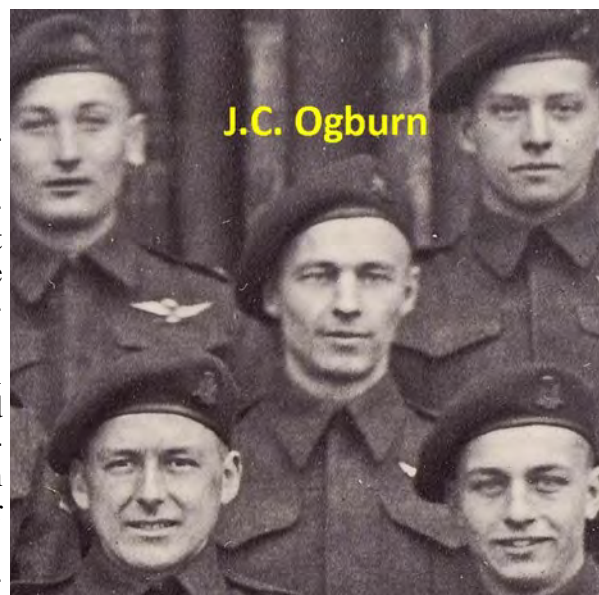
On 4 February 1943 Ogburn transferred to 1 Canadian Parachute Battalion and proceeded to Ft. Benning, GA for training. He received his Parachute Qualification on 8 March 1943 and one month later enrolled in the Regimental Signaller Course.

On 23 July 1943 Ogburn and 1 Can Para embarked for the UK to begin training with the British 3rd Parachute Brigade under Brigadier James Hill. On 30 November 1943 he was qualified as Regimental Signalman.

Ogburn went on to participate in all three major engagements undertaken by 1 Canadian Parachute Battalion...

- Normandy (Operation Overlord)
- The Ardennes (The Battle of the Bulge)
- The Rhine Drop (Operation Varsity)

Ogburn survived the war and was awarded the 1939-45 Star, the France and Germany Star, the Defence Medal, the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, and the War Medal.



Identity discs issued to Ogburn in 1943 when he joined 1 Can Para



The next CMHS meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 18th, 2019 7:00 pm** At the Petty Officers'



Ogburn's Parachute Qualification Card

Notice of Next Meeting

The next CMHS meeting will be held on
Tuesday, June 18th. @ 19:00 (7:00 pm)
At the Petty Officers' Mess, HMCS Tecumseh.

The unofficial agenda of this meeting will be:
Introduction of guests, Minutes of last meeting Correspondence, Membership report
Treasurer's report, Old business / New business Break, Show & Tell
The President, **Allan Ross** would like to invite everyone to remain after the meet-
ing for an informal time of fellowship.

Ogburn's 1945-dated "coming home" Battle Dress.

This example is quite scarce in that it features all Canadian-manufactured insignia...

yellow-embroidered letters on the shoulder flashes that are believed to represent the Battalion's connection to the 6th Airborne Division

- unique Canadian head design on Pegasus wings privately purchased in Toronto (see Into The Maelstrom pg. 69)



CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of General Meeting held on May 21, 2019

Petty Officers Mess: HMCS Tecumseh

Meeting called to order by President Alan R. at 71:7 pm.

19 members present and 1 guest.

Minutes of last meeting. Acceptance moved by Mike C. Second by Matin U. Approved.

Newsletter – once again thanks for the great article from Roy.

Treasurers Report provided by Floyd. Moved acceptance by Mike C. Second by Barry E. Accepted.

Membership - Currently 39 regular members. 3 Life members 2 Honorary. Approval moved by Barry E. Seconded by Brad M. Approved.

Correspondence: Nil

OLD BUSINESS:

Nil

NEW BUSINESS:

-Next display at the Military Museum is D-Day Dodgers from May 27 to June 10th with a Gala opening on May 31st.

-June 22nd is the Military Show. Book tables with Marty.

-June 9th is the Summer Skirmish re-enactment at the museum.

BREAK: Raffle conducted by Dave G.

SHOW & TELL:

James B. – Just returned from Texas where he went to Fredericksburg; Admiral Nimitz home town which had a great museum. Showed us an American war ration book.

Brad M. – Field surgical kit, Canadian, WW2 vintage

Mike C – Lord Strathconas QSA medals.

Bob M. – Mongolian medal and Moroccan medal

Frank – Croix de Guere medal and miniature.

Stu E. – Story of an executed soldier and photo of his tombstone.

David G. – Framed set of Uncles (tailgunner) medals with photos, wings etc.

Al D – Article on Peggy Taylor who trained to work for underground in France.

Al R – British campaign medals to Indian soldiers.

Moved to adjourn at 8:10 pm by Mike C Seconded by David G.

**This story and all captions and pictures were supplied by Member Roy Akins of St. Albert, Alberta
“Thank You”**

**Attention Members
Saturday June 22nd.
3rd Annual Militaria Show
Hillhurst Sunnyside Centre
10 AM to 3 PM**



Floyd presenting cheque for \$556.40 to the Veterans Association Food Bank on behalf of the CMHS.

D-Day and the Ardennes

The Rhine Drop

17

(XVIII) MISCELLANEOUS ENTRIES

(For entries for which space is not otherwise provided)

NOTE.—No entry on this page has any legal effect as a WILL.

Particulars	Date	Signature of Officer
Mustard & DM	7-6-43	A Simpson Lt
Unit to ...	5-12-41	...
Night V. ...	17-6-43	...
Awarded ...	21/1/44	...
FINGERPRINTED — GAIB		
Embarked U.K.	5/7 June 44	
Parachuted into France	6th June 44	...
Returned to U.K. from	6-9-44	
France	...	
Awarded ...	Dec 1944	
13 days PL with FTW	11-9-44	
10 days PL with FTW	1-12-44	
EMBARKED IN UK	25-12-44	
EMBARKED	26-12-44	
		Belgium
Embarked	21-2-45	...
N.W. EUROPE		

18

No entry is to be made on this page without special instructions being issued

Particulars	Date	Signature of Officer
Embarked U.K.	22-2-45	...
7 days PL with FTW	27-2-45	...
Embarked in U.K.	24 Mar	...
Parachuted into Germany	12.5	...
Embarked Germany	20 May	...
Embarked U.K.	45-	...







Ogburn's UK-made Beret with Z-Code WD Stamp (1945 manufacture)



French D-Day "Invasion Currency" Issued to Cpl. Ogburn



Cpl. James Clement Ogburn

