



**A service for the 80th Anniversary
of the Battle of Arnhem in Remembrance of
the 10th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment**

**The unveiling and dedication of the Memorial to the
USAAF 315th Troop Carrier Group**



Courtesy of Tina Cooper

**At the Tenth Battalion Memorial
Burrough on the Hill LE14 2QS**

17.00 hours. Saturday 7th September 2024

**Led by
The Reverend Brian McAvoy MBE MA RAF (Retd)**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

OPENING SENTENCE

*“Greater love has no one than this:
to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”*

*“Niemand heft groter liefde,
dan die zijn leven geeft voor zijn vrienden....”*

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

Stir up your power, O God, and come among us.
Forgive our sins against you and our neighbours.
Heal our wounds, calm our fears, and give us peace
that we may better serve you and one another day by day.

All: **Amen**

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

The presiding minister says:

Let us remember before God and commend to his sure keeping:
those who have died for their country in conflict;
those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure;
and all who have lived and died in the service of humanity.

A second voice says:

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

All: **We will remember them.**

**The Last Post
The Silence
The Reveille**

KOHIMA EPITAPH

When you go home tell them of us and say:
'For your tomorrow, we gave our today.'

LAYING OF THE WREATH AND FLOWERS

READING AND ADDRESS

'They shall rise up with wings as eagles.....'

Isaiah 40:28-31

²⁸ Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no-one can fathom.

²⁹ He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;

³¹ but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

DEDICATION OF THE MEMORIAL TO THE USAAF 315TH TROOP CARRIER GROUP

The raising of the United States Flag and the U.S. National Anthem

O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watch'd were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bomb bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Mrs. Laura Briggs to Padre:

‘Reverend Sir, on behalf of the members of the 315th TCG,
in memory of the courage and sacrifice
displayed by them during the operation
to free the people of the Netherlands in September 1944,
I ask you to dedicate this memorial stone in their honour

Padre: ‘I am honoured to do so.’

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND BLESSING

THE COMMEMORATION PRAYERS

The presiding minister says:

Remember, Lord, your people, who cry to you in their grief.
Remember the fallen in battle, and the innocents who have died
Remember your power to heal and save.

PRAYERS

For the departed

Lord, welcome into your calm and peaceful kingdom
those who have departed out of this present life to be with you.
Grant them rest and a place with the spirits of the just;
and give them the life that knows no age,
the reward that passes not away.

Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556)

For those who suffer

God of our joys and sorrows,
comfort the exiled, console the oppressed
and bring us in joy to our true home,
where your faithful servants sing your praise.

Psalm 137

*For the King and Parliament,
and for the leaders of all the nations*

Go before us, O Lord, with the blessings of your goodness,
and guide all those you call to authority in the way of your justice,
the knowledge of your liberty and the wisdom of your gentleness.

Psalm 21

For faith by which to live

How generous is your goodness, O God,
how great is your salvation, how faithful is your love.
Help us to trust in you in trial, to praise you in deliverance
and to rejoice before you with overflowing hearts.

Psalm 66

The Airborne Forces Prayer said by all.

May the defence of the Most High be above and beneath,
around and within us, in our going out and our coming in,
in our rising up and in our going down,
through all our days and all our nights,
until the dawn when the Sun of righteousness shall arise,
with healing in his wings for the peoples of the world.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Lord's Prayer said by all

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn

God is our strength and refuge,
our present help in trouble;
and we therefore will not fear,
though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
though swirling floods are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

There is a flowing river,
within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her –
she shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
thrones vanish at his presence,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

Come, see the works of our maker,
learn of his deeds all-powerful;
wars will cease across the world
when he shatters the spear!
Be still and know your creator,
uplift him in the nations –
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore.

(To the tune of the Dambuster's march)

COMMITMENT

This prayer may be said by the whole congregation.

**All: Lord God our Father, we pledge ourselves to serve you
and all your peoples, in the cause of peace,
for the relief of want and suffering,
and for the praise of your name.
Guide us by your Spirit; give us wisdom;
give us courage; give us hope;
and keep us faithful now and always. Amen**

BLESSING AND DEPARTURE

The presiding minister says:

May the Lord bless us and watch over us,
may the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us,
may the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace. **Amen.**

Numbers 6.24-26

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE REGIMENTAL MARCH



*The Memorial to the 315th Troop Carrier Group
at RAF Spanhoe with the
10th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment Plaque*

They fought on, they fought on...

“..... Some were in action while still falling through the air, and all were heavily engaged within an hour of landing. From that moment onwards not a man, save the dead or desperately wounded, but was continuously fighting, both by day and by night. They fought in thick woods, tearing aside the undergrowth to come to grips with the enemy; they fought in well-ordered streets, in neat houses, in town halls, in taverns, in churches.

With no weapon larger than a seventy-five mm. gun, and for the most part only with Brens, gammon bombs and Piats, which can be carried and handled by one man unaided, they attacked Tiger tanks weighing fifty-six tons, and self-propelled guns with a range of seven miles. With no reinforcements save the wounded, who if their legs would still bear them, staggered back to the firing line, *they fought on*.

With an enemy growing ever stronger, pressing them on all sides but one – and that a wide, swiftly flowing river – *they fought on*.

Without sleep, presently without food or water, at the end almost without ammunition, *they fought on*.

When no hope of victory remained, when all prospect of survival had vanished, when death alone could give them ease, *they fought on*.

In attack most daring, in defence most cunning, in endurance most steadfast they performed a feat of arms which will be remembered and recounted as long as the virtues of courage and resolution have power to move the hearts of men.

Now these things befell at Arnhem.”

From ‘By Air to Battle – the official account of the British First and Sixth Airborne Divisions’: 1945.

*You will find an extract from this piece
on the centre stone of the 10th Battalion Memorial*



Herbert

'The Last Drop of The Tenth', Global Health September 2004, 1944. A limited edition print of 50 from an original oil painting by Derek Chambers FRSA.



'The Last Drop of The Tenth' by Derek Chambers FRSA

*"From sky to earth for Liberty I fell
I fought. I won my wings again.
Farewell"*

A P Herbert: October 1st, 1944



A mixed B Company stick of the 10th Battalion prior to emplaning on a training jump.

