

Beynon, Edmond Wright
Private
The Toronto Scottish Regiment
(Machine Gun)
Royal Canadian Infantry Corps
B/57497



Edmond ("Eddie") Wright Beynon was born 16 March 1919 at Toronto, Ontario. His Canadian born parents Ernest Stanton Beynon and Mary Ann Wright were of English and Scottish heritage, marrying at Toronto in 1916. They had two sons: John and Eddie. Ernest worked as an instructor and later as a sales manager to support his family. They were United Church members.

Eddie attended William Burgess Public School and Jarvis Collegiate. He was active in sports, playing on baseball, hockey, basketball, and rugby teams. His musical instrument was the clarinet. Eddie took a one year wood patternmaker program at Central Technical School in Toronto while working part time at Hunt's Candy dipping chocolates.



Toronto Central Technical School

Eddie finished school age sixteen and put his tradesman training to use. He spent one year each working at Universal Pattern Works and

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Hunt's "The Better Kind" RA 1131

35 STORES IN TORONTO, HAMILTON, LONDON, OTTAWA

Basden Machines before his employment with Standard Pattern Works for the next three years.

Eddie's older brother John joined the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals (RCCS) after World War Two broke out. Eddie in turn attested 16 October 1942 at Toronto age 23. His medical examination recorded Eddie as being almost 6' tall, 161 lbs with blue eyes and fair complexion. The Army Examiner wrote of Eddie: "Above average intelligence, appears bright and alert... Well built, seems frank and honest. Is very anxious to be in the army... Attitude is cooperative and likeable. Has sound stability... Should make a very efficient soldier".

Eddie was allocated to the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps (RCOC) given his trades background and was sent to the Canadian Army Basic Training Centre at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. He was transferred to Camp Valcartier, Quebec 27 January 1943 and shipped overseas that spring, disembarking in the UK 4 April 1943 where he reported to the Canadian Ordnance Reserve Unit.



Canadian Military Pattern truck in version used for mechanical repairs. Chevrolet Model C60X, 3-ton, 6 wheel lorry. Canadian designed and built in Oshawa, Ontario. England, 19 March 1944.

Photo by Donald I. Grant, Department of National Defence / National Archives of Canada, PA-142054.

Eddie qualified as a Vehicle Driver and was assigned to the Base Ordnance Depot 10 June 1943. He spent two weeks in 8 Canadian General Hospital in the UK the next winter, discharged 8 March 1944.

Eddie remained in the UK during the buildup for the Allied D-Day invasion of Normandy, disembarking in France 12 July 1944. He served with the RCOC providing mechanical transport and other support functions for the Canadian Army until he was remustered to Infantry January 1945.

His brother John had been seriously wounded while serving with RCCS and evacuated to England for treatment at the Basingstoke Neuro Plastic Surgery Hospital.

Eddie was taken on strength by the Toronto Scottish Regiment (TSR) 26 January 1945. The TSR was a Machine Gun (MG) support battalion with 2nd Canadian Infantry Division (CID), and also had a Mortar Company. They were attached to 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade (CIB) which included The Royal Regiment of Canada, The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry and The Essex Scottish Regiment. They had landed in France about a month after D-Day and battled their way through Normandy that summer, then helped clear Channel ports and fought in the Battle of the Scheldt. After finally clearing the Germans to open Allied shipping lanes to Antwerp, Belgium, The TSR and 2nd CID were assigned to static operations around Nijmegen,

Netherlands where most of the activity involved patrolling and sniping against a well-entrenched enemy.

Nijmegen had been liberated by the Allies September 1944 as part of Operation MARKET GARDEN and became a front line city.

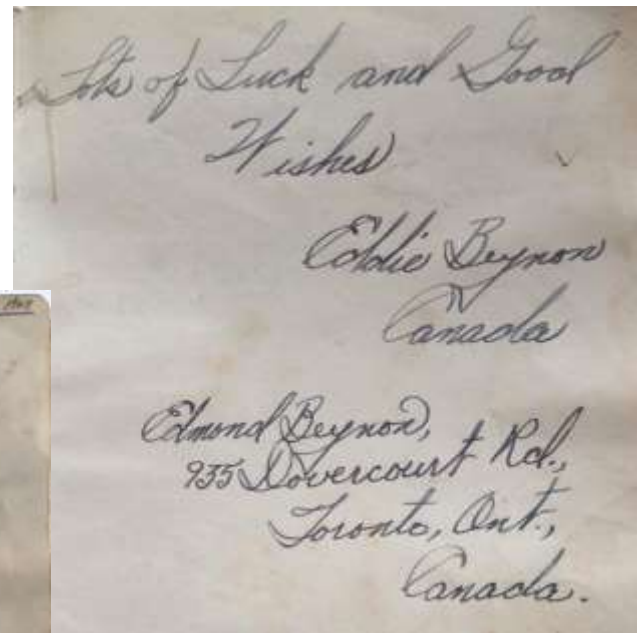
Nijmegen citizens on Allied jeep September 1944



Eddie was billeted at the family Treffers home in Nijmegen and wrote a greeting in the poetry book of their daughter Marietje. Both Eddie Beynon and Harold Brown, who also may have been a member of the TSR, recorded notes in that album which Marietje Faasen (Marc Faasen's mother) still has.



Images courtesy of Marc Faasen



The TSR and 2nd Canadian Division moved out as part of 1st Canadian Army under Operation VERITABLE February 1945. They advanced into Germany where two battalions from 4th Brigade were ordered to attack a section of the Goch-Calcar Road 18 February 1945. The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry and The Essex Scottish were supported by the Toronto Scottish Machine Gun and Mortar



A machine gun crew of the Toronto Scottish setting a Vickers Medium Machine Gun for firing.

Companies. 4th Brigade suffered heavy losses and the TSR also took casualties 18-22 February 1945.

The next phase of the Allied Rhineland offensive was Operation BLOCKBUSTER. Following 10th Brigade's attack, 4th CIB was deployed in the Battle for the Hochwald. The Royal Regiment of Canada spent most of two days clearing an area on the eastern slope of the Calcar ridge. The Essex Scottish passed through their lines on the night of 28 February to assault German positions on the edge of the forest. They were supported by a



Instructions regarding preparation of War Diaries (which will be kept from first day of mobilization, creation or embodiment), are contained in F.S. Regs. Vol. 1.				WAR DIARY OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY		FORM 31 8/7 & 8/7 (1972)	
Title pages will be prepared.				(Cross heading not required)		Original, duplicate and triplicate to be forwarded to O. i/e 2nd Echelon for disposal.	
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information TORONTO SCOTTISH REGIMENT (48) CIG			Remarks, references to Appendices and initials	
NR 988481 Sheet 4303 CALCAR	1 Mar	45	<p>Weather cloudy with wind and rain most of the day. BHQ is moving again this morning as its loan is outside of the div boundary. The new loan of BHQ is now NR 988481 Sheet 4303, Calcar. Two new offrr reinforcements were tog today, they are Lt J.O. Nesbitt who served with this unit previously and Lts G.G. Scott and T.H. Smith. Lt Nesbitt was posted to "C" Coy and Lts Scott and Smith to "B" Coy. My enemy mortaring and shelling continues as well as some patrol activity. "A" Coy at present is supporting the Essex Scottish Regt and the RELI. "A" Coy HQ moved to NR 005455 today. 6 pl "B" Coy suffered several cas today. Their posns were under enemy observation, one of them received a direct hit by an 88 we shall killing three spts, 2 CPs and wounding 2 men. One of the spts killed was 4/pl cood. An 8 pl is rather disorganized it has been relieved by 7 pl tonight.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: R.57457 Pte. WYCKEN, EW Killed in action R.25577 1/Sgt DANFORTH, J Killed in action R.75200 Sgt DEANS, JH Killed in action R.76687 Sgt MONTGOMERY, JA Killed in action R12666 Pte. TAYLOR, AP Killed in action R133947 Pte. LINDOX, JD Wounded L.41435 Pte. WANNERTON, PJ Wounded R.77019 Pte. NEWTON, AV Wounded (28 Feb 45)</p>			DC	

Toronto Scottish Regiment War Diary 1 March 1945

troop of tanks from the Sherbrook Fusiliers in fierce fighting on the morning of 1 March.

The Essex "C" Company was led by Major F.A. Tilston who was wounded three times during their advance and subsequent action. Tilston was later awarded the Victoria Cross for his heroic deeds, during which his battalion suffered 31 killed and 77 wounded while establishing a solid base for 4th Brigade to clear the northern forest. The Toronto Scottish "A" Company was supporting the Essex Scottish, but it was their "B" Company, 6 Platoon that suffered most of their casualties that day. Their positions were under enemy observation and took a direct hit from an 88 mm shell, killing three Sergeants, two Other Ranks plus wounded two men.

Eddie Beynon was one of those killed in action 1 March 1945, age 25.

MEMO
FORM 9-11 (REVISED)
M.C. 1770-24-3388

**CANADIAN PACIFIC
TELEGRAPHS**

CC FILE H.Q. ACE-B-3V, 081

CASUALTY (REPORT DELIVERY) OTTAWA 7TH MARCH 1945

TO:-
MRS MARY A BEYNON
935 A DOVERCOURT RD
TORONTO 4 ONT

50802 REGRET DEEPLY B57497 PRIVATE EDMOND WRIGHT BEYNON
HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY REPORTED KILLED IN ACTION FIRST MARCH 1945
STOP YOU SHOULD RECEIVE FURTHER DETAILS BY MAIL DIRECT FROM THE
UNIT IN THE THEATRE OF WAR STOP TO PREVENT POSSIBLE AID TO OUR
ENEMIES DO NOT DIVULGE DATE OF CASUALTY OR NAME OF UNIT

PREPAID

DIRECTOR OF RECORDS

Toronto Star March 1945

PTE. EDMOND WRIGHT BEYNON, 25, who enlisted with the R.C.O.C. and transferred to the Toronto Scottish overseas, was killed in action on the western front, March 1, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Beynon, Dovercourt Rd., have been advised. Pte. Beynon received his primary education at William

Burgess school, and later attended Jarvis Collegiate Institute and Central Tech. He was a pattern maker. He played actively with Toronto softball, rugby and basketball teams. In addition to his parents he is survived by his older brother, John, with the R.C.C.S., who is now convalescing at Basingstoke neuro and plastic surgery hospital in England.

Private E.W. Beynon was temporarily buried at Bedburg, Germany and later relocated to Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery in the Netherlands, grave reference **VIII. F. 12.**

The inscription on his headstone:
MOTHER, FATHER, SOLDIER JOHN,
MOURN A VALIANT,
DEARLY LOVED SON AND BROTHER

Edmond Beynon's campaign medals:

- 1939-1945 Star
- France-Germany Star
- Defence Medal
- War Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp



Photo credit Marc Faasen



Biography by Jim Little, Research Team Faces to Graves.

Sources Consulted:

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Library and Archives Canada

Veteran Affairs Canada – Canadian Virtual War Memorial

Ancestry public trees

Newspapers.com

Toronto Central Technical School image <https://ctsalumni.ca/history/>

Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps info and photo

<https://www.junobeach.org/canada-in-wwii/articles/supplying-canadas-field-army-overseas/the-royal-canadian-ordnance-corps/>

The Toronto Scottish Regiment badge and information

<http://tsrpd.com/index.php/history/history-of-the-regiment>

Battle of Nijmegen info and photo

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Nijmegen

Marc Faasen – Nijmegen soldier billet info and poetry album images

The Toronto Scottish Regiment Vickers machine gun picture and information

<https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/taylor-enduring-bond-between-canada-and-holland-forged-in-war>

Battle of the Rhineland information and map

<https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/UN/Canada/CA/Victory/Victory-19.html>

The Toronto Scottish Regiment War Diary <https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/home/record?app=fonandcol&IdNumber=928059>

* Do you have a photo of this soldier or additional information please contact info@facestograves.nl

Eddie's brother John survived the war and returned home to Ontario where he married Helen Percival. They named their first son Edmond after him.

BEYNON, Ernest S.—At Toronto on Saturday, July 13, 1968. Ernest S. Beynon, beloved husband of Mary Ann Wright; loving father of John and the late Edmond; grandfather of Edmond and Christopher. Resting at the Turner and Porter "York Chapel", 2357 Bloor St. W. Funeral service 1 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. Interment Brampton Cemetery.

Toronto Star July 1968

Marc Faasen's mother Marietje recalled that "There were usually four of the soldiers and they slept in the front room. We sleep upstairs, parents and six children. The soldiers did not dine with us".

One of Marc's uncle's Jan Treffers was forced to work at an ammunition factory in Nuremburg, Germany for three years during WW2 until age 24.

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Treffers family former home at St. Jacobslaan, Nijmegen, NL – courtesy Marc Faasen 2024

