

Brulé, Leopold Daniel

Corporal

Essex Scottish Regiment

Royal Canadian Infantry Corps

B103162



Leopold Daniel Brulé was born in North Bay, Ontario, Canada on 17th January 1922, the son of Joseph David Brulé en Mathilde Montreuil. David and Mathilde were both French Canadian, they married on 8th

No.	Name of Person Baptized	Date and Place of Birth	Date of Baptism	PARENTS	SPONSORS
1922	Daniel Albert Leopold	17 Janvier 1922	22 Janvier 1922	David Brulé Mathilde Montreuil	Joseph Boule - Zénaide Rousseau

January 1917 and got 10 children, five boys and five girls. A boy and girl died short after they were born.

The family lived in North Bay, 414 O'Brien Street.

Leopold Daniel was the second oldest of the family, he went to the public school in North Bay but he didn't like it at all and left school after seven years.

He attended the evening school for another two years in the subject motor mechanics. He had several jobs, first snow shovelling at the Canadian Pacific Railway, later as a labourer at the Dominion Construction Ontario and he returned to the Canadian Pacific Railway this time he worked as a washout at boilers.

Parents and grandparents Leopold Brulé



At Canadian Pacific Railway he continued working until he took service in the army. The Canadian Pacific Railway guaranteed him a job when he would return from his military service.

After serving according to the National Resources Mobilization Act of 1940, he enlisted in the Canadian Army on 17th September 1942.

When he enlisted in his medical report was written:

"Length 5ft8inch, weight132 pounds, brown eyes, brown hair. He attended the Roman Catholic Church. He is a chap of medium development both mentally and physically, says he speaks English and French. He has a direct and somewhat brusque manner. One of his brothers is in the Royal Canadian Air Force and this brother thinks he will get to like the army, but at present he lacks enthusiasm in this respect, has no preference as to branch of service".

He wanted to become a machinist.

Leopold Daniel is posted to the Infantry and received his training in Brantford en Borden, Canada. First the basic training until 1st December 1942 and after the advanced training until April 1943.

On 8th April 1943 he is posted as a Private to the Canadian Infantry Reinforcement and he left by boat to England and arrived on 10th April. Early May 1943 he is posted to the Canadian Base Ordnance Depot and stayed there until 1st June 1943 when he is placed at the Canadian Infantry Reinforcement Unit. On 17th June 1943 he is posted to the Essex Scottish Regiment.

The regiment followed many training courses in various places in England before leaving for France.

Leopold Brulé left on 4th July 1944 by boat and arrived on 5th July in La Valette, France.

On 18 August he was promoted to Corporal.

The Essex Scottish Regiment fought in France, Belgium, The Netherlands and Germany.

From the time on Leopold Brulé joined the Regiment, they fought in a lot of battles, i.e. the Verrierés (July 1944), the Rhine Battle (Antwerp, 20th September 1944), the Liberation of Putte (6th October 1944) and Liberation of Zuid Beveland (end of October 1944).



Infanteristen van het Essex Scottish Regiment tijdens de strijd om Merkssem

From 8th November 1944 the regiment set up camp in Groesbeek (near Nijmegen) and stayed here until 8th February when Operation Veritable started. During this time the regiment went on several patrols to Mook, Boxtel, Vught.

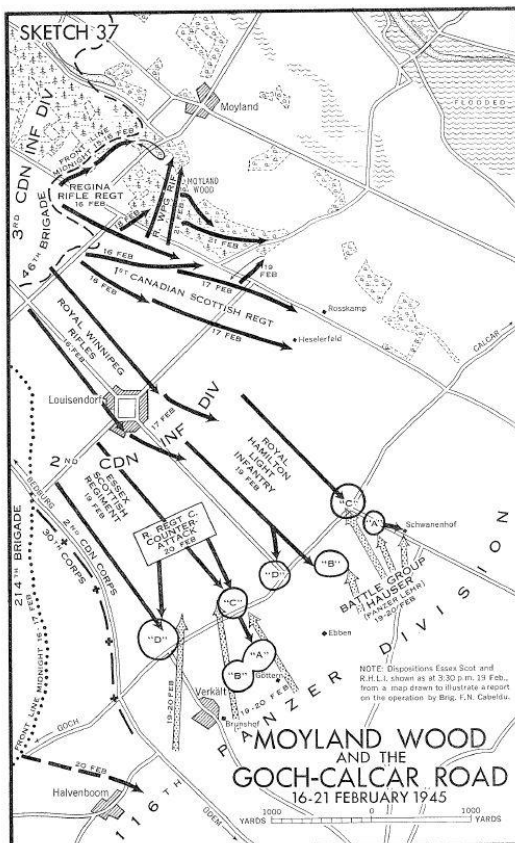
From 24th January to 4th February 1945 Leopold Brulé went on leave to England. On 5th February he rejoined his regiment.

On 8th February 1945 Operation Veritable started. The Essex Scottish Regiment was stationed around Wyler and awaiting further orders.



Het onderkomen van de Essex Scottish in het winters landschap rond Groesbeek.

On 14th February they were called up, they had to advance from Nijmegen via Mook-Gennep-Hekkens through the Reichswald to Cleve and Calcar and with the support of Kangaroos (tanks) they were steadily successful.



On 18th February they were around Calcar and were ordered to start the attack on Moyland.

During the night of 18th to 19th February heavenly rain started, the Essex Scottish Regiment was ordered to capture buildings in Gottern and Brunshof, the mud played tricks on the tanks and they progressed very slowly during the day.

On 19th February at 2.15 pm, the Germans launched a violent counterattack. The Essex Scottish Regiment were under heavy fire from the "Goch Kalkar" road. A fierce battle ensued, at 4.30 pm they had almost reached their goal (another 200 yards) when just then reinforcement arrived for the Germans.

Their Pantzer Corps was doubled and at 8 p.m. the Germans launched the attack, just as the Essex Scottish Regiment was out of tanks as they were being withdrawn to be re-manned and refueled. The Essex Scottish

Regiment could not withstand this violent attack and they were overrun by the Germans beyond their Head Quarter.

Staff and survivors retreated to the basement of a farm. During the night reinforcements arrived, the counterattack was launched and they succeeded in driving the Germans back. Eventually they got hold of the Calcar Road.

The battle on 19th February was the bloodiest of the entire Operation Veritable, the Essex Scottish Regiment left 51 dead (out of a total of 400 dead on 19th and 20th February), 99 wounded and 54 became prisoners of war.

Among them the deceased Corporal Leopold Daniel Brulé.

On 1st March 1945 he was buried in Bedburg, Calcar and later reburied at the Canadian War Cemetery Groesbeek, grave reference **X. A. 2**.



On 27th March 1945 the Ottawa Journal reported Leopold Daniel Brulé was killed in action.

6 THE OTTAWA JOURNAL, TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1945.

Army Casualty List

KILLED IN ACTION.
ELLIOT, R. J., Tpr., Blyth Post Office, Ont.
Royal Canadian Artillery.
BRADLEY, J., Gnr., Calgary.
Western Ontario Regiment.
AVEY, L. G., Pte., Woodstock.
HILTS, John Duncan, Pte., Mrs. Alice Hilts (mother), Post Office, Rockwood, Ont.
McCREA, S. B., L. Cpl., Stoughton, Sask.
Central Ontario Regiment.
BRULÉ, L. D., Cpl., North Bay.
COLES, A. J., Pte., Charlton, Ont.
DELARGIE, H. E., Pte., Hamilton.

His name is mentioned in the Book of Remembrance, page 499 and he is commemorated at the Municipal War Memorial in North Bay, Canada.

Awards:

1939-45 Star

France & Germany Star

Defence Medal

War Medal 1939-1945

Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp



Life story by Else Schaberg, Research Team Faces To Graves.

References:

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Library and Archives Canada

Veterans Affairs Canada – Second World War Book of Remembrance

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/books/page?page=499&book=2&sort=pageAsc>

The Essex Scottish Regiment, C. van Beek, Putte, 2004, special uitgave Tijding, periodiek Heemkundekring het Zuidkwartier

Official History of the Canadian Army in the Second World War, Vol III The Victory Campaign: The Operations in Northwest Europe, 1944-45, Publisher Queen's Printer, Ottawa, Author: Stacey, C.P.

<http://ontariowarmemorials.blogspot.com/2017/01/north-bay.html>

The Ottawa Journal, Tuesday, March 27, 1945

Anne Brûlé (pictures family)

St-Vincent-de-Paul, Diocèse de Sault-Ste-Marie, North Bay



*We are Essex Scottish – loyal and true,
 We come from Windsor, how do you do?
 We are glad to see you – hope you are well,
 We will be with you – on the road to hell.*

The Essex Scottish song

Hector Brulé-Norman Gray- Leopold Brulé



North Bay Municipal War Memorial



INISHTRAHULL		MOYLAND		PASSBERG	
WO:	Brown, James	RCAF		Lt	Brunet, Paul Wilfred Michael
Pte	Brown, James Alexander	A&SH of C		Lt	Brunette, Jack
Col	Brown, James Christie	N Shore		Gnr	Brunke, Victor
Pte	Brown, James Eric	RCAF		O/Tel	Brush, John Clarence
L/Cpl	Brown, John Leslie	A&SH of C		Pte	Bryce, William Edward
Lt	Brown, Louis Kreses	Alq R		AB	Bruzzese, Anthony Vincent
Pte	Brown, Max Bradie	RCAF			
Col	Brown, Michael Peter	C Scot R		Pte	Bryans, Henry Noble
Pte	Brown, Raymond Clifford	RHC		L/Bdr	Bryde, Nelson
Pte	Brown, Robert Allen	RCAF		Gdr	Brydges, Thomas Edwin
Rif	Brown, Ross Alexander	RCAF		Pte	Brydges, Walter Robert
L/Cpl	Brown, Ross Maryvyn	QOR of C		FO	Bryden, Edward Dale
WO:	Brown, Stanley Wilfred Robert	14 H		FO	Brydon, Wilbert Alexander
LAC	Brown, Stephen Henry Russell	RCAF		Rfn	Bryksa, Steve
FL	Brown, Sydney Walter	RCAF		Sgt	Buchan, John Kenneth
Pte	Brown, Thearon	RCAF		Pte	Buchanan, Gordon
Cpl	Brown, Thomas Alfred	Alq R		F/L	Buchanan, David
Pte	Brown, Vincent Collingwood	RWp&Rif		F/L	Buchanan, Douglass John
Pte	Brown, Walter Edward	RHC			Alexander, DFC
PO	Brown, Walter Gordon	Calg Highrs		Gnr	Buchanan, George Allan
Pte	Brown, Walter Hugh	RCAF		PO	Buchanan, John Gilbert Ross
AB	Brown, Wilfred Lawrence	Seaforth of C		Pte	Buchanan, Kenneth Purdy
Sgt	Brown, William David	RCAF			Neth NS Highrs
Gdsm	Brown, William Eben	RCAF		Rfn	Buchanan, Norman
Pte	Brown, William Harold	CGG		Spr	Buck, Arthur Ormond
Sgt	Brown, William Horace	Line & Well R		Pte	Buck, Gordon Ralph
Lt	Brown, William Howard	C Pro C		WO:	Buck, Francis Pierce
AB	Brown, William Hunter	Calg Highrs		Pte	Buck, William Bruce
Rfn	Brown, William Robert	RCAF		ERA	Buckley, William
Pte	Brown, Woodrow Beverly	RCAF		AB	Buckley, Donald Joseph
Pte	Brown, Zave	QOR of C		L/Cpl	Buckley, Patrick Marshall
Pte	Browne, Reginald Ernest	Alq R			
Pte	Bruelker, Roscoe Donald	RHLI		FO	Buckmaster, John
Bdr	Bruce, Robert Henry	RHLI		Lt	Buddell, William Thomas
PO	Brucek, John James	RHLI		Pte	Budden, Cecil Raymond
	Bruiggaman, Joseph Aloysius	RCAF		Pte	Budreau, Melvin Edwin
Cpl	Brulé, Leopold Daniel	RCAF		Pte	Buell, Jack Donald
Pte	Brundige, Reginald Howard	RCAF		Pte	Buggy, Orville George
Sgt	Brundrit, Edward Hodgins	RCAF			Cameron of C
Pte	Brunelle, Paul	RCAF		Gdsm	Buhlman, Albert Joseph
		Alq R		Pte	Bulger, Lawrence William
					Neth NS Highrs
				L/Cpl	Bulger, Lloyd
				S Sgt	Bull, George Kenneth
				Pte	Bullen, William Fitzherbert
					C Scot R



The Faces to Graves Initiative is searching for photos and information about soldiers who are buried at the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery in The Netherlands.

If you recognize any of the names on these grave markers please contact WWW.FACESTOGRAVES.NL

November 2017 – in an effort to find relatives, the Library of North Bay put together a small exhibition of seven soldiers coming from North Bay or surroundings.

In case of Leopold Brulé, via the St-Vincent-de-Paul, Diocèse de Sault-Ste-Marie, North Bay, we got in touch with his cousin Anne Brulé who kindly provided us with pictures.