

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE FOR LORRAINE AND I TO BE ASKED TO SHARE WITH
YOU THIS EXCELLENT DINNER IN HONOUR OF THOSE WHO CARRIED THE NAME OF
KINCARDINE SO PROUDLY AND BRAVELY IN ESCORT GROUP *C.2*. K 490 WAS A
HAPPY AND A PROUD SHIP. THIS WEEKEND THE RENEWING OF YOUNG SHIPMATES,
FOR THE LAST TIME SOME OF THEM OF YOU WERE TOGETHER THEY HAD CURLY
HAIR WITH THEIR CAPS TIPPED BACK IN A SALTY ANGLE. OFCOURSE YOU WILL
BE LISTENING TO ALL THE OLD SALTY DIPS, AND TRUTHS. I WAS SPEAKING UP
NORTH RECENTLY AND HAD THE MISFORTUNE OF BEING INTRODUCED BY CHARLES URGUE
URGUHART AN OLD CHIEF T.I. WHO HAS REAL WAY WITH WORDS. HE FIRST HAD A
KILLOCK PIPE ME TO THE HEAD TABLE. PIPE UP SPIRITS A DOUBLE NEATERS
IN HIS INTRODUCTION HE INFORMED THE 300 OR SO GUESTS THAT HE HAD HEARD
ME SPEAK BEFORE. EACH TIME I HEAR WILLIAM SPEAK IT IS BETTER THAN THE
NEXT. I SOMETIMES THINK HIS SPEACHES ARE LIKENED TO GIVING WATER TO A
DRONING SHIPMATE. YOU H.M.C.S KINCARDINE MEN REMEMBER WHAT A T.I. WAS.
HE IS THE CHIEF THAT HEARD THE PADRE SAY: AND THE LORD SAID LET THEIR
LIGHT. HE RUSHED STRAIGHT TO THE MESS DECK AND MADE ALL HIS HIS S.T'S
L.T.O'S. TO THE PEOPLE FROM KINCARDINE WHO DO NOT KNOW WHAT I AM SAYING
THIS WEEKEND YOU WILL HEAR A LOT STRANGE EXPRESSIONS, LIKE PUSSEY, WUPS,
PING MERCHANT, BLACK LISTMEN, NO.ELEVEN, SLACKERS, NEWFIE JOHN, DERRY
BUFFER, TIDDLY, PUSSERS CORNERS, THAT IS THE PLACE WHERE SINGLE SAILORS
MET THEIR GIRLS ASHORE, AND THE MARRIED SAILORS MET THEIR OLD WINGERS
FROM OTHER SHIPS. CAN YOU IMAGINE HOW IT WOULD SOUND TO DAY IN DERRY
UP THE FOYLE ON A QUIET STILL MORNING AT JETTY 2 ON THE TWELVE OF JULY
THE SHRILL PIPE WOULD SOUND THE VOICE THAT FOLLOWED LOUD AND CLEAR, ALL
MICKS LASHED AND STOWED BY FOUR BELLS. I WAS ASKED TO BRING YOU GREETING
FROM THE SEVENTY OR SO MATELOWS IN PARKWOOD HOSPITAL. ELEVEN MORE ARE
IN THE P.I. THE AVERAGE AGE OF THE W.W.11 VETERAN IS NOW 69. SO YOU OLD
WINGERS THAT HAVE BEEN TELLING EACH OTHER HOW YOUNG YOU LOOK. ALWAYS
REMEMBER BEAUTIFUL YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ACCIDENTS OF NATURE, BUT BEAUTIFUL
OLDER PEOPLE ARE WORKS OF ART. I SHOULD TELL YOU THAT I BECAME A PETTY
OFFICER DURING MY NAVY DAYS, I FOR ONE CERTAINLY FELT THAT I WAS OF SOME
IMPORTANCE. AN O.D. WINGER OF MINE AFTER THE FIRST WEEK ASKED IF I HAD
EVER LOOKED UP THE DEFINITION OF PETTY IN THE DICTIONARY. I LOOKED IT
UP THAT VERY DAY. PETTY HAVING LITTLE WORTH, TRIFLING, INSIGNIFICANT

WIPER

WIPER
RIM
PIT

HAVING LITTLE SCOPE OR GENEROSITY, NARROW MINDED, HAVING COMPARATIVELY
LOW RANK OR POSITION, MINOR. THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS AS THEY SEEM.
TO MORROW YOU WILL LAYING A WREATH HONOURING THOSE WHO DID SURVIVE, ALSO
(be) survive
YOUR SHIPMATES WHO RETURNED AND ARE NOT WITH YOU THIS WEEKEND, AND
OTHERS WHO ARE STILL IN HOSPITALS. THE LITTLE SHIPS OF THE CORVETTE NAVY
HAVE VANISHED FROM THE OCEANS OF THE WORLD AS QUICKLY AND AS QUIETLY AS
THEY ARRIVED. THEY LIVE ONLY TODAY IN A FEW FADING PHOTOGRAPHS AND IN
THE MEMORIES OF YOU VETERANS HERE THIS EVENING, AND OTHER NAVAL VETERANS
ACROSS CANADA WHO ONCE SAILED THEM THROUGH THE WINTER GALES OF THE WAR
TIME NORTH ATLANTIC ESCORT GROUPS. TO THESE MANY BRAVE SAILORS WHO
DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN THOSE DARK STORMY MONTHS OF THE FORTIES WE
OWE A GREAT DEBT. IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR THEM, WOULD WE HAVE BEEN ABLE
TO GATHER HERE TOGETHER REMINISCING IN KINCARDINE THIS EVENING. HAD THE
ENEMY GAINED CONTROL OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC, AS WAS THEIR PLAN, AND TAKE
A FOOT HOLD IN BRITAIN. HOW DIFFERENT THE OUT COME MIGHT HAVE BEEN, FOR
IT WAS THE STEPPING STONE, FOR ALL FUTURE STEPS OR MOVES VICTORY WISE IN
IN W.W.11. THE ENEMY WAS WELL OF THIS AND THUS THEIR SAVAGE WOLF PACK
ATTACKS BEGAN. HOW THWARTED THEY MUST HAVE FELT, WITH ALL THEIR POWER.
TO BE AGAIN AND AGAIN HELD AT BAY, BY THESE LITTLE SHIPS THEY THOUGHT
TO BE OF LESSER STRENGTH. TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST SHIPMATES (WE WERE) IN
MATERIAL THINGS NECESSARY NEEDED TO COMBAT THE ENEMY, WHAT WE LACKED HERE
WE MORE THAN MADE UP FOR IN CUNNING, SPIRIT, AND ABOVE ALL THE WILL TO
SURVIVE AND THIS WE DID. A GREAT LESSON WAS LEARNED BY THE REST OF THE
WORLD, WHICH WAS, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE, ONLY IF YOU MAKE IT SO. STRONG
PEOPLE CAN NOT BE DEFEATED. THOSE SERVING NAVAL PEOPLE ON THIS DATE WERE
YOUNG PEOPLE JUST OUT OF SCHOOL, THE OLDER MEN WERE ONLY BEGINNING THEIR
CAREERS. ALL CITIZEN SAILORS. PART OF THE CREAM OF THE CROP OF THE YOUTH
OF THIS COUNTRY CANADA. THE MEN ABOARD H.M.C,S KINCARDINE HAD ALL THESE
QUALIFICATIONS. IT IS IS VERY FITTING THAT TOMORROW THAT YOU AS NAVAL
VETERANS WILL NOT MEET AS SURVIVORS, BUT WILL IN YOUR HAPPY REUNION PAUSE
FOR A MOMENT THINK REVERENTLY OF THOSE WHO DID NOT RETURN, AND THE ONES
WHO HAVE SINCE PASSED ON.

THAT BEAUTIFUL SETTING BESIDE THE LAKE THAT THE VETERANS OF KINCARDINE ONTARIO DEDICATED THEIR CENOTAPH. THIS CENOTAPH IS TO HONOUR ALL THOSE WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE. THESE YOUNG PEOPLE NEVER LIVED LONG ENOUGH TO WEAR MEDALS. YOU WILL BE WEARING YOUR MEDALS IN HONOUR OF THEM. TO MANY A CENOTAPH IS JUST MORTOR AND STONE, AND MANY MORE WILL PASS IT THIS SPOT DAY BY DAY NEVER EVEN NOTICING IT, AS THEY DO IN THIS BUSY LIFE. NOT EVER HEARTING THE BIRDS THAT SING. OR FEEL THE WARMTH OF THE SUN SHINNING, NOR DRINK IN THE OTHER BEAUTIES OF THE WORLD AROUND THEM. TO WE WHO SERVED IT IS FAR MORE THAN JUST MORTOR AND STONE. IT MEANS LIFE THAT WAS. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR WE NAVAL VETERANS TO VISIT THE GRAVES OF OUR SHIPMATES, SO WE DO THE NEXT BEST THING, WE GO TO A CENOTAPH WHICH IS NEAREST. TO PAY OUR RESPECTS, AND LAY FLOWERS (WHICH ARE PRIMARILY THE POPPY) TO A VETERAN A CENOTAPH NO MATTER WHERE IT IS, STANDS FOR SACRIFICE OF LIFE, WE GAZE UPON IT AND WE CERTAINLY DO REMEMBER. IT DOES NOT MATTER WHERE WE ARE STANDING AT THAT MOMENT OF REMEMBERING. TO US WE ARE TRANSFORMED TO THE VERY SPOT. SO TO MORROW YOU WILL RECALL THAT THESE YOUNG PEOPLE. THEY GAVE THE ONLY THING THEY HAD TO GIVE (THEIR LIVES). THEY DID WHAT THEY HAD TO DO, BECAUSE IT WAS EXPECTED OF THEM, AND THERE FOR THEY DID IT. WE WHO WERE THE FORTUNATE ONES TO COME HOME. THE LUCKY ONES.. WE THANK GOD FOR OUR ADDED YEARS WITH FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND GRAND CHILDREN. SO SHIPMATES AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. STOP. LOOK AROUND YOU TO MORROW. THINK OF ALL WE MIGHT HAVE MISSED, IF IT NOT BEEN FOR THEM. WE MUST ALL BE THANKFUL FOR THE ADDED YEARS THEY HAVE GIVEN US.