



**NAME: W. D. Marshall CD**

**BRANCH OF SERVICE: Canadian Army**

**SERVED FROM: 1941 TO: 1945**

**THEATRE OF WAR: Europe**

Rejoined Canadian Army Aug 1950.  
Served USA, Korea and Canada

### 32 DAYS IN FRANCE

Operation "OVERLORD to CHARNWOOD"

It is always difficult to visualize armies, corps, divisions, brigades or battalions. Let us visit one battalion's infantry platoon and in some detail-one man of a three man 2 inch mortar team for comments from D Day to Bloody Buron .(6 June to 8 July 1944).

Operations Order dated 27 May 1944 The old format 11th Mai is followed. The Intention Paragraph reads " The Highland Light Infantry of Canada (HLI of C) with one platoon of medium machine guns (Vickers) from the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa will land on Juno Nan Red (St Aubin sur Mer) Beach , ( A change in the plan we landed on NAN White at BERNIERES-sur-MER), reorganize at area Elder and advance, as reserve battalion of 9th Canadian Highland Infantry Brigade, to a final objective(rail line and main highway Caen-Bayeux East of Carpiquet aerodrome ),and consolidate in the allocated area to meet the enemy counter attack". The final objective was to be reached 7 hours after landing on the beach. The HLI of C was equipped with paratroop bicycles, A, B, and C companies on bikes, D Company was to ride supporting vehicles and weapons universal carriers of the battalion.

The well equipped soldiers were issued anti seasick pills and if they didn't work- bags for vomit were to be used on the voyage from Southampton to St Aubin-sur-Mer across the channel. The journey