

28-02-2013

Dear all of the Infogroup and the Projectgroup,

It is 2 weeks ago since our last newsletter, but our Facebookpage at www.facebook.com/#!/DeDam7Mei1945 is updated on a daily basis. Some information is not shared on this page, but shared with our projectgroup and our infogroup only, so to you.

Our Foundation (Stichting) will be legally established in March. Three familymembers of three different victims of the Amsterdam Dam massacre of 7 May 1945 will form the board (bestuur). These 3 are; Rob Doves, Johan Wieland and me Arthur Rebattu.

We are very happy that a lot (10+) professional researchers help us on a Pro Deo basis to research the names of the people that died due to the Damshooting and the historical circumstances in a way that never before could be performed. We also are happy that the Historical Archives of Amsterdam has given us a priority in the inventarisation and digitalisation of all the documents of the possible victims that died in May 1945. This operation will come to result within several weeks. From then we will be able to research the other 60% of the data and get copies. From this 40 % that we could investigate, we now know that between 30 and 40 man, women and children died due to the Dam shooting massacre.

Our mission and project will be noticed in the coming months in newspapers and media in the Netherlands, but we keep our main goal on 7 May 2015 and that time will be needed to get in contact with the family of all the discovered victims and give them the attention that they need to participate.

All we have done and will do cost some amount of euro's. Untill now we 3 that will form the board of the foundation have invested 160,- euro's each to provide for the initial costs.

A month from now we will present you the bankaccount of the foundation. Please consider to donate, so we will be able to reach our goal in 2015.

I thank you for response on this email,
Arthur Rebattu

The artist/historian Ronald van Tienhoven about whom I wrote in newsletter 12 has got the green light for his project that will take place from 7 may 2013 until next june.

Curious about Ronalds project I suppose? If you want to see it or download it you can follow this link and take the steps to install Dropbox if you have not yet.

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/v46u2qdcw15kw1d/2dFUNz_NkP

In the Dropbox link you will also find two other important documents.

Our second session at the Amsterdams Stadsarchief took place last Tuesday.

Because they have given high priority to scan and digitalize the documents of deadcertificates of all possible victims of may 1945, we will have to wait till that job is completed. So Johan Wieland and me studied and copied other documents of 1945 till 1948, about De Groote Club and the anonymous plaquette that was installed on 7 may 1947. We found out that a group of business men and shopowners took the initiative early 1947. They intended to mention the number of victims and get in contact with the families of them.

Both intentions apparently were not realised. We published the document on our Facebookpage

www.facebook.com/#!/DeDam7Mei1945

Also we were informed by one of our military historians about the terrible machineguns that were used by the German Kriegsmarine from De Groote Club, a small video is to be seen also on our facebookpage.

Here a picture of the MG42 machinegun, from which 1 bullet can kill several people because the bullets will go through one body to the next with a rate of fire of 1200-1500 rounds per minute! Horrible and a warcrime to fire with this on a crowd of innocent man, women and children.



In the meantime we could start an other line of research with the help of three military historical researchers.

This concerns the question **how it was possible that these warcriminals escaped arrest and a trial?**

They were transported by the Canadian army in the morning of 9 may 1945 from the building of De Groote Club. This after talks between the high ranked of the Germans and of the Dutch BS commander Overhoff. About what we found out thus far is really shocking! The members of the Kriegsmarine were mostly brought to a warprisoner camp near the harbor of IJmuiden. There the most fanatic officers were still in charge of the German Soldiers, several German soldiers in the camp were trialed as traitors because they had denounced their Führer Adolf Hitler. They were executed with rifles that were temporarily provided for this purpose by the Canadian army. What a bloody shame! From their they were shipped to Germany.

Thanks for your support, till next newsletter

Arthur Rebattu