

NEWSLETTER NR.6 MEMORIAL WITH NAMES OF THE UNKNOWN VICTIMS OF 7 MAY 1945 ON THE DAM AMSTERDAM TO BE ESTABLISHED ON 7 MAY 2015

Dear all of the Infogroup and the Projectgroup,

Already this is Nr. 6 of our Newsletter, as long as there is news on a week to week basis, this Newsletter will keep you informed about what happens. It will be in the near future that this will be changed in a two-weekly Newsletter.

Again the past week a lot of new information has come in. As you will be aware by now, we use a combination of researches that never before could be done.

1. Old fashioned good professional research on archives and documents, but partly also by Internet.
2. Genealogic professional researches, mostly already by Internet possible.
3. Public contacts with witnesses and relatives, that come in by our Facebookpage

www.facebook.com/#!/DeDam7Mei1945

Today we have reached 12 verified victims of the Dam shooting of 7 may 1945. Still over a 100 others are in research.

Besides that, we have gathered a lot more information about the circumstances on how this could happen and also and even more of importance to the families of the victims, why this warcrime was not investigated.

What do we mean by "not investigated"?

The suspected perpetrators and even their leading German officers were not arrested.

The over 100 wounded were not heard and also a lot more witnesses were never asked to make a statement.

But above that the ones that died were never memorized by name and background.

Last weeks, we got in contact with more close familymembers of those victims.

What an enormous impact the dead of their close relatives has made on themselves as child or grandchild and their parents has been a real schock to the projectgroup.

This impact got even worse by the way the whole drama was handled by the authorities.

So what can we expect almost 70 years later? We would like to think a lot more.

In this aspect we are very disappointed that the local Governement of Amsterdam did not answer within 6 weeks after 4 October on our request to help us to find the names of the victims and to accomplish a memorial with their names on 7 may 2015. That although the Maire of Amsterdam Van der Laan had personally read our request and decided that is was important enough to adress it by "wethouder" miss Gehrels with also the "portefeuille" History and Memorials.

So I called yesterday the secretary of the Maire of Amsterdam and I got a very friendly miss Van der Wansem on the line, she made excuses and promised to call me back because this was not the way it was supposed to be.

Therefore I am still full of hope, that we may expect that what was done wrong in the past to (the relatives of) the victims will become a priority to correct and that injustice will not be repeated in the present.

With regards and greetings,
Arthur Rebattu