

Kent: "The Many" came to Biggin Hill. Some with poignant memories. Others too young to remember the chapter of history dedicated to those "immortal few"

On this Battle of Britain anniversary, R.A.F. Stations throughout the country were "at home" to the public - who joined the pilots and machines of the jet age in paying tribute to a brave company.

And by this day of aerial display and mock attacks - we, in Britain, did keep their memory green...

At Biggin Hill (the most famous of all fighter ^{stations} ~~stations~~) the Standards of Commonwealth and Allied Squadrons who operated from the Station are paraded at a Drumhead Service.

Air Marshal Sir Dermot Boyle presented a Station badge (recently approved by the Queen) to ^{the C.O.} Wing-Commander Smallwood, ~~the Station C.O.~~

And on the edge of that famous flying field - the Bishop of Rochester, Dr Chevasse dedicated a Hurricane and a Spitfire - to stand as permanent reminders of a great sacrifice...

Meanwhile, across the North Sea, in Holland, bereaved relatives and "men of the Red Beret" have made their annual pilgrimage of remembrance to the Airborne Cemetery, at Oosterbeek. Ten long years have passed since the "Battle of Arnhem" - and to-day, General Urquhart, who commanded the First Airborne Division - lays a wreath in memory of his gallant "Red Devils" who did not return.

And ^{the general} sprinkled the ashes of crosses from the Field of Remembrance, at Westminster, on "this corner of a foreign field"

Since that September day, the Dutch people have lovingly tended the graves of the Airborne fallen ~~on which stood the graves and preserved memories~~ ~~for the tributes...~~ SOUND

In silent procession, the pilgrimage moves to Arnhem Bridge, where, during the action, the hard-pressed airborne defenders received this actual message from General Urquhart. SOUND.

At Arnhem Bridge, stands the Airborne Men's own Memorial - and here, Gen. Urquhart and his men must have recalled the events leading up to those epic days of September. 1944... (3)

Famous battles remembered

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The plan was to hold the Rhine Bridge, at Arnhem, until reinforcements
thus splitting the German Army in two...
arrived - ~~with the intention of capturing the bridge~~. A plan which would bring
liberation to Holland and a speedy end to the war.. / SOUND

After the glider troops landed - eight thousand Red Devils dropped from
the skies. And though for days they held the bridge - their magnificent
effort was in vain. /

Making the pilgrimage this year is Colonel Warwick - ~~and his pictures show~~
~~GALLANT WORK AT THE IMPROVISED HOSPITAL:~~ ^{REBOWNED FOR HIS}

War correspondent Alan Wood, ~~too, was one of the original band of~~
~~reporters who~~ ^{RECALL} eyewitnessed the gallant stand. We ~~recall~~, his
words of tribute to the Red Devils:-

"If in the yearsto come any man says to you "I fought at Arnhem" - take
off your hat to him and buy him a drink, for his is the stuff of which
England's greatness is made". /