

Published in the Halifax Chronicle Herald Tuesday the 19th of August 2008

Must not forget

On 14 August 1943 Nova Scotia's senior Regiment , the Halifax Rifles was disbanded in England. It had arrived a month earlier with an Armoured Brigade that unfortunately was broken up to reinforce existing regiments. As a result the Halifax Rifles soldiers ended up reinforcing units that were fighting in Sicily and Italy and those units in the UK preparing for the Normandy invasion in 1944.

Forty eight never came home most of them were buried within hours on the battlefield where they fell. Each was buried by their comrades in a brief but reverent graveside ceremony. There was little time for mourning.

Sixty five years later, we have neither a plaque nor monument in the City to honour and record their names and it would be unforgivable if we forget them. With the public's heightened awareness of each Canadian casualty in Afghanistan and the non-partisan nature of this issue, surely Premier Rodney Macdonald and Mayor Peter Kelly jointly can ensure they are not forgotten.

Edward Amy,

Friends of the Halifax Rifles