

Captain Frederick James Sims

2-D-15



Captain Frederick J. Sims was the son of Frederick George Sims (Public Works Department) and Florence Sims from Ottawa Ontario.

His twin Cynthia worked as a volunteer in a military hospital in Brockville Ontario.

He achieved his military grade at the Royal Military College. He enlisted the Royal Canadian Regiment and went overseas in July 1942.

On Saturday April 14, 1945 officers of the Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR) were around two o'clock in the afternoon together in the veranda of the villa Laag Buurlo for a command issue. The fighting action in the early morning to the German resistance at De Tol disintegrating, had failed. The Canadians had lost two Sherman tanks and there were dead and wounded. This discussion was likely to develop a plan for a follow up. The crew of a German gun on a tank discovered the Canadians and started shelling at the villa. A grenade hit by the outer wall and deadly injured two officers7:

1. Captain Sims landed with RCR in Sicily, the baptism of fire for his Canadian unit. He was the last officer (24) KIA of his regiment, shortly for the liberation of Holland.
2. Lt Reardon of the 1st Hussars supported the RCR with his Sherman tanks. Both officers are buried at the Canadian cemetery Holten.



Villa Laag Buurlo

Text plaque: For Peace and Freedom

1939 - 1945

Lest we forget

In house Laag Buurlo (this house), on 14 April 1945 one of the last battles of World War II was fought for the Liberation of the Netherlands. During the battle an enemy artillery shell penetrated the outer walls of house 'Laag Buurlo' killing Captain F.J. Sims of the Royal Canadian Rgt. and Lieutenant J.W. Reardon of First Hussars Canadian Armoured Rgt. Requiescant in pace.

Temporary graves of Capt. Sims and Lt Reardon near the psychiatric institution St. Joseph in Apeldoorn.

