



Painted by Bernard Werners.

UNDER MY FATHER'S PILLOW

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Photos and documents

from the family archive

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My sister and I with the Canadian liberator Jack.

INTRODUCTION

On page 109 of the booklet *De Bevrijding van 's-Hertogenbosch* (DE BOSCHBOOM 1969) I read a moving piece written by block head Foppele ('t Zand): 'And then those poor stumperds. Children who did not yet realize what was happening around them. Instinctively they took cover from their parents, who tried to protect the delicate child's body as much as possible from the merciless missiles and cold with their bodies. They looked up at their parents with big questioning eyes, as if to see in their eyes how great the danger was'.

I admire the bravery and creativity of my then young parents. My father's birthday was on October 28, so the day after the liberation of DEN BOSCH he celebrated his 39th birthday! My parents married on October 16, 1940. They had two children during the occupation. On 11-11-1944 a third 'liberation child' was added: (died in 2008). After the war: my special brother (1947) and last 'Kruimel' (1948). In the photos and videos you can see two little girls in military clothing. On the liberator's lap and on a real jeep. (My sister Tony and I). The Canadian Jack Hazelwood was one of our liberators. From Brandon, Manitoba – Canada. In my experience, he was the 'superhero'. I learned English words: 'Jack, chocolate!' I would shout and tap furiously on his breast pocket. In response to this anecdote, I would like to share something: - In 2008 on April 26, the following article was published in the Telegraaf: 'On our appeal last April - placed with an interview with a Spitfire pilot - readers of De Telegraaf responded en masse.' Eyewitnesses of the Second World War. Special eyewitnesses of Dutch people who experienced the war. (With a CD of the last interview with Soldier of Orange.) By Charles Sanders. Publisher House of Knowledge. My contribution to this book: pages 48 and 49.

After some searching and inquiring, I came across the document thanks to my youngest sister. Then I got the copies, which my oldest sister took care of for me. Neatly printed, but almost illegible. I was very curious about the content. She added a note: 'Dad wrote it on two notepads, and later (up to page 20) copied it in a notebook. One part was still attached with a staple, other sheets are loose. I'm going to sort them after copying...' Written in pencil on - partly lined - partly graph paper -. Many texts were crossed out. A few loose leaves made it difficult to determine the order; and almost nowhere dated!