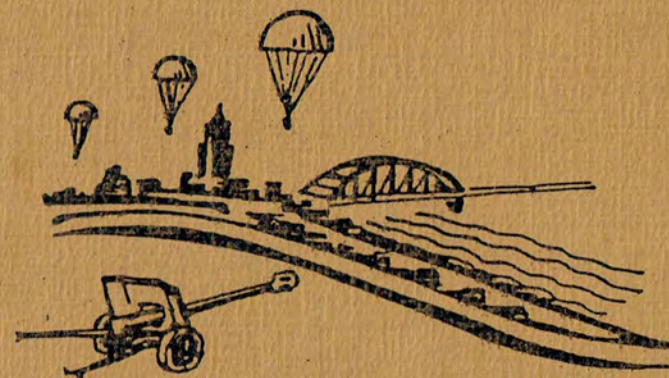


where words fail

WEST ARNHEM 18 SEPTEMBER 1986



WERKGROEP "AIRBORNE WEST ARNHEM"

W H E R E W O R D S F A I L

Making it possible for civilians and veterans to get into contact
and into a conversation - that was what the Workgroup Airborne
West Arnhem was aiming for in 1985.

By the great enthusiasm and on request of many people this
second reunion has materialised, with even more emphasis on
the contact between both parties. For only then will there be
an opportunity that they will recognise each other in their
stories.

Stories which are not easily told.

Stories about people

Stories about people whom they met in those days,
for a short while

People whom they don't know anything about

And yet

Whom they share a 'life experience' with

Stories which have to be told

To be able to live on with them

That is the reason why there is a reunion here

That is why there is this booklet with drawings

Drawings of familiar sport - monuments from our memories

Memories, also of the comrades

Who were never able to tell their stories

September 1944

Drawings of the battle in West Arnhem

Drawings of situations

Of soldiers, of people

People who think

People who feel

Even now - after so many years :

"Why them? Why me?"

Ad van Wordragen

1. The Beginning:

The landings of gliders and paratroopers North-West of Arnhem

2. At the 'Olde Toll' and 'Casablanca', with the prison in the background Frost's spearhead, advancing along the banks of the Rhine. Hardly any resistance from the Germans
3. Unnoticed by the German Pantzer troops who speed across the Rhine-bridge into the direction of Nijmegen, the first paratroopers who had advanced onto the bridge - take up positions near the bridge
4. The next group, advancing along the Utrecht Road, hits on fierce opposition. 'Hoogstede' the villa near the Brink, set on fire by mortars
5. In the 'lombok' district. Civilians, who think that liberation is near, show the paras the way in the narrow streets between the northern and southern routes.
6. Near the Museum and 'Airborne-house' across the road. Opposition is too fierce - they have to go back
7. Elisabeth Hospital: in the front-line. In increasing numbers the wounded are carried in. One moment the British are around and in the buildings - then again the Germans
8. 'Fair Hill' at the corners of Utrecht Road and Orange Street. With newly-arrived and regrouping troops the Airbornes try to break through - but in vain. They are, however, thrown back by heavily-armed German Pantzer troops.
9. The End. The Old Church along the Lower Road Oosterbeek. The last troops are pulling out - across the Rhine to the southern bank, under heavy fire from the Germans. Leaving many wounded and dead friends behind.....



