



Media Advisory

Apr 30, 2008

Canada Remembers the Battle of the Atlantic

Saskatoon – May 2008 marks the 65th anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic. In commemoration of this historic Second World War campaign, a Naval Community Dinner will take place in Saskatoon on May 2nd at 7:30 p.m. Maurice Vellacott, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon-Wanuskewin, will attend on behalf of the Honourable Greg Thompson, Minister of Veterans Affairs.

“On this occasion, we not only remember Canadian Veterans and those who sacrificed their lives during the Battle of Atlantic, but also honour those who continue to serve our country in Afghanistan and other areas of conflict,” said Mr. Vellacott. “It’s a pleasure to meet some of the Canadian Forces Reservists who follow in this great tradition of naval service in Saskatoon.”

The dinner, hosted by Commander R.L. Hanson, Commanding Officer of Saskatoon’s Naval Reserve Division, is an annual event that allows community leaders and members of the public to meet the Ship’s Company and see first-hand what the Naval Reserve is all about. The dinner is particularly special in 2008, as the Naval Reserve celebrates its 85th anniversary in Canada.

The Battle of the Atlantic was Canada’s longest military engagement of the Second World War, lasting from September 1939 to May 1945.

Minister Thompson is leading an official Government of Canada delegation in Halifax this weekend. The delegation will take part in a variety of ceremonies and events recognizing the tremendous valour and sacrifice made during this long military campaign.

For more information about the Battle of the Atlantic, reports on the delegation’s progress in Halifax or details about events in your area, visit the Veterans Affairs Canada Web site at www.vac-acc.gc.ca.

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