HAN The three villages at the centre of Als

Memorial Ceremony for air crashes in Nørreskoven. Coffee and lectures in Notmark 16 September 2021

In the night between 15 and 16 September 1944 2 Halifax bombers crashed into the Nørreskoven after an explosion in the air. One Australian and one Canadian plane. Both crews perished in the air crashes. The crew of each plane comprised 7 airmen.



Every year on 16 September these deceased airmen who also fought for our freedom, are commemorated by various units of the Home Guard and by others.



The members of the Home Guard fell into ranks, and with Piper Bjørn Allerelli Andersen in front we walked to the hillock with the Englishmen's Grave.

Squadron Leader of the Air Force Home Guard Squadron 286 Peter Mathiesen welcomed us. (In the US: Danish Air National Guard Squadron 286).

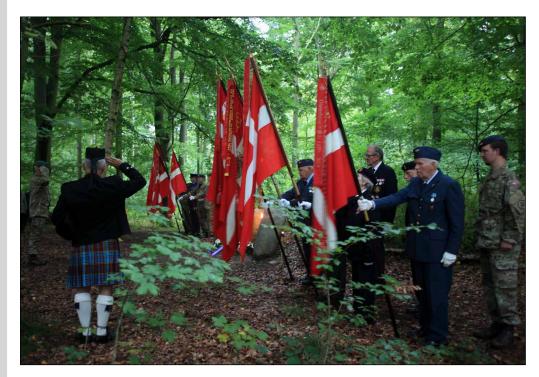
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Anders Straarup made a short speech and told of the air crashes.

This year the weather was fine. We met at 18.00 hrs in the forest. Standards were unpacked and the piper got ready. At 18.30 hrs torches were lit, and the crowd walked to the hillock to the sound of bagpipes.



Here we were welcomed and then Anders Straarup was called on to speak. He has devoted his retirement to the research of air crashes and airmen during the war, and he has made a gigantic website about them. Then flowers were laid on the grave and the colours were dipped.



After the ceremony we went back to the cars and drove to Notmark School.

Flowers were laid and the colours were dipped.

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Bjørn Allerelli Andersen gave details about the project Air Force Memorial Center Als.

At the common coffee table Bjørn Allerelli Andersen described the plans for an Air Force Memorial Center Als which is to be built near the airport. Then Anders Straarup had the floor. He told the audience about his website www.airmen.dk and demonstrated how to use it – very impressive.



A fine event, well planned, very moving and interesting.

By Steen Weile, translated by Anders Straarup



You can see that the audience found the subjects interesting.

The three villages: Hundslev, Almsted and Notmark