



Corporal James John Whitehall

James John Whitehall was born in Kingsmere, Quebec on April 1st, 1923.

Mother: Emily Louisa Whitehall (nee Hiam)

Father: Lenford Whitehall; served in World War One as a private (SAPPER) in the Third Canadian Division Engineers.

Jim joined the Canadian Armed Forces in May 1942 and did his basic training in Huntingdon (QC). He completed his advanced training with the Armoured Corps at Camp Borden (ON).

He then headed overseas on the Queen Elizabeth in December of 1942 for six months training in Aldershot, England. In late June of 1943, they then proceeded by train to Greenock (on the River Clyde in Scotland) to board the ships to the Mediterranean.

They set sail on the first of July 1943 in a convoy that harboured in Algiers on July 9th and, that evening, sailed from the north coast to the Algerian town of Philipeville (now known as Skikda), where they disembarked.

Two days later, on July 11th, they boarded trains and travelled in the boxcars stenciled "40/8," signifying their capacity for forty men or eight horses, known as "des quarante hommes et huit chevaux". (Although uncomfortable, this mode of transportation became symbolic of the bond between those who served).

These trains took the men across the desert to Sousse in Tunisia where they spent two weeks before setting sail for Sicily, Italy. The men arrived in Sicily at the end of July and Jim was posted (TOS) to the Three Rivers Regiment, Canadian Armoured Division (12th CAR).

After the invasion of Italy in September of 1943, Jim was posted to the Carrier Troop as a gunner operator on the machine guns of the Brengen Carriers. He remained with the carriers until April of 1944.

New Stuart light tanks (manufactured by the Cadillac Motor Car Company) were provided for the Battle for Casino in May of '44. These tanks had a major drawback...they were so noisy that they alerted every one of their presence and attracted enemy fire!

The job of the Stuart crews was reconnaissance and, when the situation was too dangerous for the “softskins”, to take in petrol, food and other supplies. However, the Stuarts made so much noise, their Allies often told them to go away!

Throughout the Campaign, there was a shortage of personnel. On paper, there were four men to a crew. In reality, there was often only two, sometimes three, men until near the end of the war. Often, men would be taken from the Stuarts to serve on the battle tanks when there was a shortage.

It wasn't until the troops were leaving Leghorn, Italy that they received the new Stuart Mark 5's with their engines that were so quiet one had to touch them to be sure they were running. A welcome gift given a little late!

With the Luftwaffe dropping a few bombs to see them on their way, 12th CAR left Leghorn in March of '45 and sailed for Marseilles in the south of France. They travelled through France by train to Menin in Belgium.

Jim finally got his first leave and went to England for a couple of weeks. He did not divulge his escapades there....!

After his leave and Menin, Jim stayed a short spell in Germany, near Cleave and Calcar. Then back to Holland to finish the war.

Jim volunteered for the Pacific and in June was on his way home (from England to Clyde) to Canada on the Ile de France. He reported to Camp Borden for training. However, during this time, the United States dropped the bomb on Hiroshima. The Japanese surrendered and Jim never set sail for the Pacific.

Corporal James John Whitehall stayed in the army for the winter and took his discharge from the Canadian Armed Forces in the summer of 1946 at the age of 23.

In 1947, Jim served in the Transport section as a reservist in the Black Watch Regiment in Montreal but work obligations did not allow the time.

Medals

- The 39-45 Star
- The Italian Star
- The France-Germany Star
- The Defense of Britain Medal
- The Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Overseas Clasp
- The Victory Medal

Jim became an electrician and married Alba Boerio (nee November 28, 1931) on June 30th 1951.

Alba and Jim, now married 60 years, have seven children; four boys and three girls. They have 19 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. (Please see Appendix One).

There has been, and continues to be, much military activity within Jim's family. (Please see Appendix Two).

The Descendants of James John Whitehall and Alba Boerio

Children (beginning with first born)		Grandchildren		Great Grandchildren
Alan James Whitehall	December 15, 1952	Matthew Alan Whitehall	December 22, 1982	
		Sean Michael Whitehall	December 14, 1984	
Kenneth George Whitehall	March 28, 1954	Colin Angus Whitehall	May 5, 1986	
Joanne McDougall, wife		Leanne Audrey Whitehall (Moore), wife		
	January 14, 1957		December 25, 1979	
		Maxine Lindsay Whitehall	November 23, 1988	
Linda Jane Whitehall	April 22, 1957	Kelsey Alexandra Traikov	February 17, 1993	
Ronald David Whitehall	July 15, 1959	Benjamin Ronald Whitehall	March 27, 1981	Brooklyn Zazillia Mary Whitehall
Sylvie Jeanne Fournier, wife		Chantille Agnus Ann Walton-Whitehall, wife		January 21, 2006
	January 13, 1966		February 27, 1982	Whatt James Whitehall
		Aaron Raphael Whitehall	November 22, 1983	April 15, 2009
		Diana Eastwood, partner	July 13, 1984	
		Joshua Thomas Whitehall	October 12, 1984	Silas Patrick Birkholm Whitehall
				September 25, 2007
		Maxim René Joseph Grondines	September 22, 1991	
Donna Lynn Whitehall	February 4, 1962	Jonathan James Andrushkoff	May 24, 1992	
Steve Andrushkoff, husband		Timothy Christopher Andrushkoff	March 8, 1995	
	October 8, 1960	Madison Ashley Andrushkoff	November 13, 1997	
Neil Christopher Whitehall	April 24,	Erika Helen Whitehall	April 19, 1991	
Nancy Ann Elspeth Wilson, wife		Emma Elspeth Whitehall	November 22, 1994	
	May 3, 1963			
Sandra Jean Olive Whitehall	June 10, 1970	Melissa Alba Whitehall	December 9, 1990	
		Amanda Rose Davidson	December 14, 1993	
		Krystina Ann Davidson	June 5, 1995	
		Jason Anthony Davidson	August 3, 1996	
		Noah Richard Davidson	April 9, 1998	

Military History of the Descendants of James John Whitehall and Alba Boerio

Alan James Whitehall, son:

- 1970 to 1978: **Black Watch (RHR) of Canada**, Montreal Reserves
 - Various Call-outs:
 - 1st and 2nd Battalions R22eR in Germany and CFB Gagetown
 - 2nd Battalion The Royal Canadian Regiment (Op Ginger and Op Assay/the October Crisis of 1970)
 - 4 Service Battalion in Germany (Reforger Ex, 1975)
 - Courses completed:
 - Basic Parachutist, Machine Gunner, Driver Wheeled, Infantry Signaler, Basic Mountain Operations and French Commando Course
- November 1978: transferred service to the **Regular Force**, with **1^{ier}er Commando, Canadian Airborne Regiment** in CFB Petawawa/Sergeant by 1982
 - Activity:
 - UN tour of Cyprus in 1981, airborne deployments to the US, Norway, the Arctic and to many other remote areas of Canada and an international mountaineering exercise in England, Wales, France and Italy
- 1984: posted to **The Canadian Airborne Centre** - Instructor in static line and military free-fall parachuting, Jumpmaster and Freefall Jumpmaster and Mountain Operations Instructor Courses
- 1987: posted to **3rd Battalion PPCLI**
 - Activity:
 - Platoon Warrant Officer in a rifle company
 - second tour of UN duty in Cyprus, exercises in the US, a domestic security operation in the interior of BC and a winter deployment to the Northwest Territories
- 1989: posted to **Regular Support Staff Detach**
 - Activity:
 - Edmonton as the RSS WO for the **Loyal Edmonton Regiment**
 - Parachute deployment to the Arctic, Banks Island
- 1992: reposted to **The Canadian Airborne Centre**
 - Activity:
 - Course WO/Standards WO
 - International mountaineering conference in the Alps near Albertville, France
- 1995: posted to the **PPCLI Parachute Coy**
 - Activity:
 - MWO/Company Quarter Master Sergeant
 - another parachute deployment to the Arctic, north of Dawson City in the Yukon and another deployment to the US at the Joint Readiness Training Center in Louisiana
- 1996: **CF Nuclear Biological and Chemical School**
 - Activity:
 - School Sergeant Major and NBC Response Team SM
- 2001: reposted to **3 PPCLI**
 - Activity:
 - CSM of A Coy/187th Regimental Combat Team of the 101st Airborne Division
 - deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan
- 2003: still at **3 PPCLI**
 - Activity:
 - CSM Admin Coy
- 2005: posted to the **Canadian Parachute Centre**
 - Activity:
 - CSM of Training Company
- 2007: posted to **CFB/ASU Wainwright**
 - Activity:
 - Base Operations CSM
- 2009: retired to **CFB Wainwright**
 - Activity:
 - Senior Patrol at Range Control

Kenneth George Whitehall, son:

- 1970 to 1978: **Black Watch (RHR) of Canada**, Montreal Reserves
 - Various Call-outs:
 - 1st Battalion The Royal Canadian Regiment at Wolsely Barracks in London, ON
- 1978: transferred service to the **Regular Force**
 - Activity:
 - CFB Petawawa/several exercises and Basic Parachutist Course with the Airborne Regiment
- 1979: **Special Service Force Pipes & Drums**
 - Activity:
 - Baden-Baden, Germany/Pipe-Major of the battalion since 1983/promoted to MCpl
- 1980: posted to **3rd Bn the RCR**
 - Activity:
 - exercises in Wales, North Germany, France
 - piping functions all over Germany, Holland, Belgium, England, Scotland, France, Italy, Cyprus, Wales & Austria

- 1984: posted back to **3rd Bn the RCR/Winnipeg**
 - 1986: posted to **2nd Bn RCR/Gagetown**
 - 1990: posted to **CFB Borden**
 - Activity:
 - 2010 to current: posted to **2 Svc Bn/Petawawa**
- promoted to Sergeant in 1986 and remustered to Musician trade
 - Pipe-Major with Sgt's rank/remustered again, to the Vehicle Technician trade
 - trades training
 - 2 Svc Bn(2yrs - Somalia tour), CFSEME (10 months), CFB Borden Base Maint (1 1/2 yrs - Rwanda tour), the Royal Canadian Dragoons (8 1/2 yrs - 3 Bosnia tours), 2 Field Ambulance (3 yrs), ASU Northern Ontario (2 yrs in North Bay and then attached to 1 RCR for 1 1/2 yrs to complete tour in Afghanistan as the Battle Group Control Officer)
 - Master Warrant Officer/ 8 medals

Ronald David Whitehall, son :

- 1977 to 1978: **Black Watch (RHR) of Canada**, Montreal Reserves
 - 1978: joined the **Regular Force**
 - 1978 to 1983: **4 CMBG/Lahr West Germany**
 - 1983: posted to **8TH Cnd Hussars/CFB Petawawa**
 - 1988: posted to **CFB Gagetown**
 - Activity:
 - 1992: posted to **CFB Gagetown/RCD**
 - 1994: Sqn rebadged to **A Squadron 8 CH**
 - 1996: posted back to the **Armour School**
 - 1997: posted back to the **Tank Squadron**
 - 1998: rebadged to **RCD's**
 - 2003: posted back to **CFB Petawawa**
 - Activity:
 - 2004: returned to Canada
 - Activity:
 - 2009: **CFB Petawawa**
 - 2010: deployed to **Cyprus**
 - 2011: **St. Jean, QC**
 - 2011 to current: **Ottawa, ON**
- CFB Cornwallis/CFB Gagetown Armour trade training and posted to the Royal Canadian Dragoons (RCD)
 - Crewman, then Patrol Commander in Recce Sqn
 - 2 CMBG Special Service Force/Troop Warrant Officer in Recce Sqn
 - Instructor at the Armour School
 - Instructor and Course WO on all courses from TQ 3 to Phase IV Armour
 - C Squadron Royal Canadian Dragoons/Independent Tank Sqn
 - Tank Troop Warrant Officer / Tank Troop Officer
 - Recce Cell WO
 - Squadron Quarter Master/8th Canadian Hussars disbanded in Sept of 1998
 - Tank Standards Cell/Armour School
 - SQMS for D Sqn
 - deployed to Afghanistan as part of the ISTAR Coy
 - SQMS in HQ Sqn
 - redeployed to Afghanistan as the Task Force Kabul Operations Warrant Officer part of Operation Athena, Roto 4 and then switched over to Enduring Freedom/OP Archer O, the move to Kandahar
 - returned to Canada as Special Projects WO
 - 2006: promoted to the rank of Master Warrant Officer/Squadron Sergeant Major of D Sqn
 - 2007: SSM of Headquarters Squadron/deployed to Fort Bliss Texas as the Camp SSM
 - 2008: Petawawa Regiment MWO/Drill Sergeant Major/TQMS (DSM) as well as the SSM of RHQ
 - Base Accommodation MWO for ASU Petawawa
 - SLOC DET Cyprus SSM
 - completed SLP, CWO qualification
 - part of Canada Command as an Operations Watch Officer

Neil Christopher Whitehall, son:

- 1980 to 1989: **Black Watch (RHR) of Canada**, Montreal Reserves
 - Activity:
- Corporal/Germany and Norway callouts

Benjamin Ronald Whitehall, grandson:

- Sergeant/Royal Canadians Dragoons, CFB Gagetown

Matthew Alan Whitehall, grandson:
- reservist: Grey and Simcoe Forresters, Barrie. ON
- basic training Petawawa, ON
- basic infantryman's course w/ the Loyal Edmonton Rgt/Wainwright AB/Corporal

Aaron Raphael Whitehall, grandson:
- 2000 to 2002: RNBR "B" Coy
- 2003 to 2006: PPCLI "C" Coy, 9 Ptn
Activity:
- Rifleman
- Rifleman/support weapons
- 2003: Op Peregrin, Chase, BC/fighting forest fires
- 2004: Sovereignty Operation Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk
- Eco-challenge - completed Mountain Man Competition

Joshua Thomas Whitehall, grandson:
- 2003 to present: 2RCR "L" Coy
Activity:
- Master Corporal
- 2004: OP Halo, Haiti
- 2005-2006: OP Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan
- 2007: OP Archer/Athena - 2RCR Battle Group (I-Coy)
- 2008: Ninjmegen march in Holland (215km)
- 2009: Ironman Competition in Petawawa (50km)
- 2010 OP ArcherTF 1-10 HQ Engineer Recce Troop

Colin Angus Whitehall, grandson:
- 2006 to present: 1st Battalion RCR
Activity:
- CFB Petawawa/Corporal/Infantryman
- TF 1-10 tour/ Khandahar, Afghanistan
- Campaign Star for Afghanistan medal

Maxine Lindsay Whitehall, granddaughter:
- presently:
- Traffic Tech w/2 Svc Bn/Petawawa, ON

Maxim Rene Joseph Grondines, step grandson:
- 2010 to present:
- Navel Electronics Technician/Halifax NS

Sylvie Jeanne Fournier, daughter-in-law:
- 1988 to 2002:
- Administration Clerk
- 1988-1989: posted to Borden QL3 course
- 1989-1994: posted to Trenton, ON
- 1994-1997: posted to Petawawa, ON
- 1997-2002: posted to Gagetown, NB
Currently:
- Resource Management Support Clerk (Amalgamation of Administration and Finance Clerk)