



**Newsletter Issue 17, October 2012**

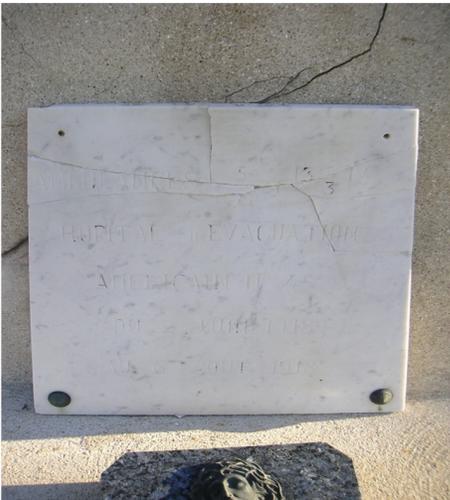
**A Memorial at the End of the World**



On 10 Dec 42, a crew of seven men on board the “Times A Wastin”, a Martin B-26 “Marauder” Medium Bomber, 440th Squadron, 319<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group departed Narsarsuaq (a US airbase in Greenland), returning to the US via Goose Bay. They ran into rough weather and crash landed at Saglek, Labrador. All of the crew survived and the plane sustained minimal damage. The crew stayed with the wreck assuming they would be rescued. By 23 Dec three of the crew had decided to head south in a small boat that was part of the aircraft’s rescue kit. They were never heard from again. The crash site was only 18 miles from the Inuit village of Hebron, but the remaining crew didn’t try to find it until Jan 43, by which time they were weak from hunger and the snow made it more difficult to walk. The pilot, 1st Lt. Grover Cleveland Hodge, kept a diary throughout the ordeal, which is online at <http://www.lswilson.ca/page8.htm>. The last entry was made on 23 Feb 43. The remains of the crew were found 9 Apr 43 by Inuit from Hebron. A monument honoring the crew was erected at the spot in 1963.

**American Ambulance Companies**

In September 1914, the French Army started to use the chateau in the French town of Perreuse as a military hospital during the First Battle of the Marne. The hospital became one of the largest in the area and was used throughout the war. The chateau owner donated some adjacent land for use as a cemetery for the wounded who died in the hospital. Today the chateau is a psychiatric hospital, the cemetery is a Franco-British war cemetery, and the grounds contain a plaque honoring the American volunteer ambulance companies that supported the hospital during the war. The original plaque had broken and was no longer legible, so American War Memorials Overseas recently donated a new plaque which the Commonwealth War Graves Commission installed. One wounded American soldier who died in the hospital, SGT Douglas Urquhart, is still buried in the Franco-British Cemetery there.



**About American War Memorials Overseas**

American War Memorials Overseas was proud to donate a display case for the Medal of Honor at the Utah Beach Museum. The museum opened last year after a major expansion, and had received a Medal of Honor from the US Army for display. AMWO’s donation insures that this precious artifact is properly displayed and labeled, honoring the Medals of Honor awarded in the area.



**Please consider a donation to help us continue our important work**