

Hoping in Hell

By Robert J. "Flash" Clayton and Howard W. Raper

Sgt. Robert J. "Flash" Clayton grew up in a large, impoverished family in the west end of Toronto. When war was declared in 1939, he enlisted dreaming of fighting the Nazis, who were marching across Europe and threatening Great Britain. The Canadian government had other plans for him. He was sent on a suicide mission to defend Hong Kong against the invading Japanese. Twice wounded, he survived the slaughter of wounded soldiers at St. Stephen's Hospital and almost four years of slave labour, beatings, starvation and disease in Japanese POW camps. At 92 years of age, he is now a patient at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto.



We are hoping to publish this small book as a fundraiser for the Legion Branch that Flash and his wife Jessie supported for many years while living in Brechin. They have both been recognized for the many volunteer hours and financial support they have given to ensure this Branch continues to serve veterans, youth & community.


The printing cost has been estimated at over \$2,700. We hope to raise this money by pre-selling copies of the book at a reduced price of \$19.95 including the HST, a reduction of 13%.

You can order a copy by sending a cheque of \$19.95 to R.C. L. Branch 488, P.O. Box 59, Brechin, ON L0K1B0 or by cash at the club room. If you would like the book mailed, please include \$5.00 for postage. We hope to have the book printed prior to Flash's 93rd birthday, October 19, 2014, certainly prior to Remembrance day.

I hope you can help us in this project that I've been working on ever since Flash was admitted to Sunnybrook Hospital.

See you at the Branch!

Howard Raper, Membership Chair

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