

May 4th and 5th

We are sure you will remember it.

We certainly do.

65 years ago the World War II ended. It is useless to write down all what happened. It is very useful to remember which mistakes we should never make again.

The Netherlands May 4th we honor the dead. Every year less survivors are visiting the Netherlands to think about the ones who lost their lives to liberate the Netherlands (and the rest of Europe). So it is becoming more and more important to educate our children to remember: never again. Never!

Mount Holten. Just a little hill surrounded by heath and forest. Lt. General G.G. Simons, 2nd Canadian Army, saw the hill and knew: this is the place my men will be buried in case they don't survive. Nowadays it is Canadian soil. 1355 Canadian soldiers are buried here, of them 13 unknown.

During the evening of May 4th every year again we have lots of ceremonies. To remember who gave us our freedom back. The biggest one is down town Amsterdam at our National Peace Monument together with our Queen Beatrix. But the most beautiful one is at Mount Holten. This is also the place where at New Years Eve a second ceremony takes place. Schoolchildren put candles on the graves to carry on the light of freedom: we will remember them. Even grown ups won't keep it dry, a magnificent happening.



May 5th. Now we celebrate. Music, dance, laughter. Joy and happiness. This is what so many Americans, Canadians, British, Polish and many more soldiers fought for. This is what they gave us. To be free. Free in movement. Free in speech. Free in religion. And free in mind.

Two total different days. But also two connected days. First we remember and honor. Second we celebrate. We simply have to celebrate happiness. Have to love joy. We feel better when we laugh. We grow in freedom. Our children develop better with dance and music.

But we forget too fast too often. It seems too hard for us. Just to remember two words:

Never again!

ProHolland motor vacations will visit Mount Holten. Beautiful natural and loaded with memories, bad memories but it radiates something. You have to feel it for yourself. Putting it in words is simply impossible.

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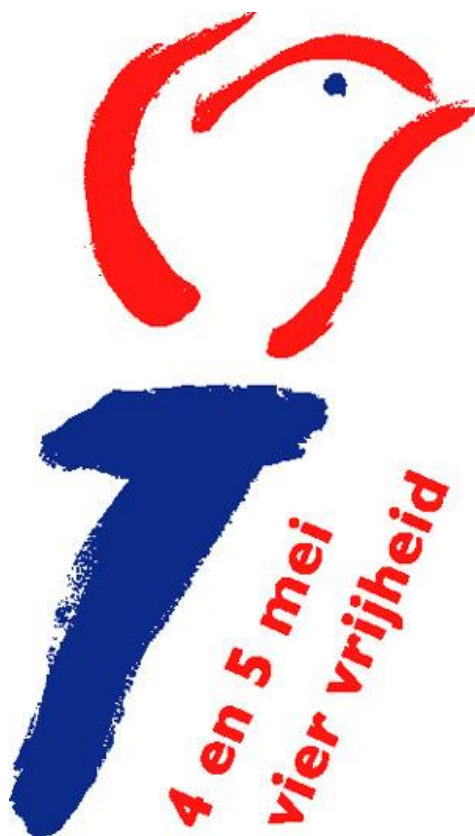
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May 4th and 5th, celebrate freedom