

Allied Memorial Remembrance Ride Texas Ride, July 2, 2011

Early on the Saturday morning before Independence Day a couple of hundred people from multiple counties in North East Texas hit the road on motorcycles, trikes and in other vehicles heading to Terrell Texas. With support from police and local officials the Texas portion of the (now very International) Allied Memorial Remembrance Ride arrived at the Number One British Flying Training School Museum at Terrell Municipal Airport. After needed stretch and refresh the group was escorted through town to the British Memorial and burial area at Oakland Cemetery.

Organizer George “Tank” Sherman opened the ceremony followed by a prayer and poem by John “Padre” Retos. Margret Long of Terrell sang our National Anthem beautifully, joined by many in the congregation. The British Vice Consul-General Andy Pryce spoke about our mutual bonds and respect for our military followed by placing the wreath honoring those buried in Terrell and around the world for the Allied Forces. The ceremony concluded with the playing of “Last Post”, the British version of TAPS by Dale Sherman from Fort Worth. The Terrell Marine Corps League assisted and provided a BBQ lunch in the park following the ceremony.

The Texas ride started 3 years ago by the American Legion Riders partnering with and following the format used by the British Legion Riders. The No.1 BFTS Museum in Terrell became a host last year and this year participants from at least 17 organizations joined the activity. As was the case in 1941 when Terrell’s citizens welcomed student pilots to their community, this year again they made the AMRR visitors feel welcome.

2011 also marked the activity becoming a truly multinational activity with the addition of the Canadian Veteran Freedom Riders going to a memorial in Ottawa; and a multistate activity with American Legion Rides from six additional states going to memorials, all on the same day. Next year New Zealand / Australia Patriots Motorcycle Club and possibly more countries will join in.

The international ride: <http://www.alliedride.org>

The 2011 Texas ride: <http://kencox.us/TXdist12/scrapbook/20110702amrr.html>

No. 1 British Flying Training School Museum based in Terrell, Texas
<http://www.bftsmuseum.org/>

Aircrew Remembrance Society
<http://www.aircrewremembrancesociety.com/1bftsterrell.html>

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