

ONE RIDE, THREE NATIONS: UNITED IN REMEMBRANCE OF OUR FALLEN HEROES

The American Legion Riders in association with The Royal British Legion Riders Branch and The Canadian Veteran Freedom Riders held the **Fifth Annual Allied Memorial Remembrance Ride** on July 6, 2013. With more Department's Legion Riders and patriots from more Nations participating, the "Allied Ride" is becoming more popular every year. This year the South African Legion has taken on the duties to bring the Allied Memorial Remembrance Ride to South Africa.

The 2013 Texas Ride is dedicated to Honor and Remember Flight Lieutenant Leslie Broderick who passed away April 8 2013 in South Africa. He trained at the #1 British Flying Training Squadron in Terrell, Texas and was in the 4th class held here. His obituary in The Telegraph (linked below) includes details of his POW experience in Germanys' Stalag Luft III. A plaque designed in his honor was carried on the ride to Terrell with pictures taken at the British Museum, the area of his flight training. The plaque with pictures of the event, plus a few items to go with it, will be sent to Demetri Friend in Johannesburg, South Africa, where he and his group of Riders will take the plaque and formally present it to his surviving family members in a ceremony in Scottburgh, South Africa.

The ride to Terrell was enjoyable with clear skies and temperatures in the 90s. With folks picked up along the way over 100 attended the ceremonies. Terrell Police again provided friendly escort and traffic control to the airport, through town to the stadium and across The highway to the cemetery. Our friends at the Museum coordinated the activity with the City of Terrell, had everything running smooth were friendly and helpful as always.

Mike Ecklund from Terrell led the procession across Highway 80 to the British Memorial at Oakland Cemetery playing the Bagpipe. This year we had the honor of R.A.F. Squadron Leader Craig O'Donnel in attendance. At the ceremony he was invited to speak and gave an excellent talk expressing how well our nation's military interact in service, socializing and to honor our fallen. Dale Sherman played "Last Post", the British version of Taps and British, Canadian and American representatives place the wreath honoring those buried in Terrell and around the world for the Allied Forces. The ceremony concluded with a flyover from Mark Hardin and his son.

Link to the obituary:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/9990823/Flight-Lieutenant-Les-Brodrick.html>

Link to contacts, pictures and more details: www.12dis.org/scrapbook/20130706amrr

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