

Sleeping kits for children

Murray Dryden is perhaps best known as the father of former National Hockey League goalies Ken and Dave Dryden.

But the senior Dryden has a goal of his own.

In the nine years since he retired from business, the 68-year-old Dryden has provided bedding and sleepwear to nearly 30,000 children in 15 countries.

It all started as a hobby. Dryden had a special interest in taking photographs of sleeping children.

"Nothing is more beautiful than a sleeping child — and nothing is sadder than a child without somewhere to sleep," he tells service clubs and other organizations to whom he shows slides of small children sleeping naked or in rags on mats and in streets.

He also shows slides of children sleeping in "sleeping kits" provided by his program, called Sleeping Children Around the World.

Each kit contains a mattress, a rubber sheet, two pairs of cotton sheets, two blankets, one pillow, two pillowcases, two pairs of pyjamas and a mosquito net or, in cooler climates, an extra blanket.

A donation of \$20 buys one kit. The name of the donor is printed on a label sewn to each kit. Dryden, who oversees delivery of many of the kits, photographs the kit with the child and forwards a picture to the donor.

Customs meeting in Canada

The thirteenth biennial meeting of representatives of the Customs Investigations Services was held in Ottawa April 21-25, the first time Canada has ever been the host country.

More than 50 countries participated in the closed meeting, where the main subject of discussion was white-collar customs commercial frauds. Representatives also discussed customs enforcement in general and considered action against narcotics smuggling.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Customs Co-operation Council, an inter-governmental organization of 88 members set up in 1950 to improve customs procedures and make it easier to develop international trade and promote co-operation among customs administrations.

Canadians cheered on anniversary of Dutch liberation



Thousands of Dutch cheer Canadian veterans as they parade through Amsterdam.

Canadian veterans of the Second World War, reconstructing their triumphant procession through Amsterdam were cheered by tens of thousands of people celebrating the thirty-fifth anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands.

Crowds several deep in places threw flowers at 350 of the original 1,000 Canadians of the 1st Canadian Army who took control of the Dutch capital from the occupying Germans in May 1945, almost 11 months to the day after the Normandy landings.

Every five years, the Netherlands celebrates its liberation with a public holiday. Ten Canadians were invited for each of the 30 years that has passed since the end of the occupation.

Drove through city

The veterans drove through the city to the packed Dam, the city's main square, in an convoy of 85 vehicles used in the war. The procession began at the Berlage Bridge where the Canadians entered Amsterdam.

The veterans, many in khaki uniforms and wearing medals, distributed cigars and chocolate just as they did 35 years ago and gave the V for victory sign to the merry crowd.

The commander of the first Canadian troops to enter Amsterdam, Brigadier-General Henry Bell-Irving, released the first of a flock of white doves to commemorate the liberation.

General Bell-Irving, now lieutenant governor of British Columbia, said the reception given to the troops was even

more enthusiastic than that in 1945, when an estimated half a million people lined Amsterdam's streets.

Other ceremonies

Veterans Affairs Minister Daniel Macdonald lead the official delegation to the Netherlands.

The principal commemorative ceremony was at the Groesbeek Canadian War Ceremony near Nijmegen in southern Holland on May 7. Ceremonies were also held at Canadian war cemeteries, where 7,000 Canadian servicemen, who fell during that campaign, are buried or commemorated. These were cemeteries at Holten and Bergen op Zoom, Holland; Adegem, Belgium; and Reichswald Forest and Rheinberg in West Germany.



Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands lays a wreath at a Canadian war cemetery.

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