

Appendix B  
Extract from Barrie Examined d/23 Nov/44

## MUSTANG PILOT IS HOME FROM INVASION FRONT

Flt/Lt. Harvey Cochrane, whose wife resides at 100 Dunlop St., Barrie, is now home on leave after having served as a Spitfire and Mustang pilot in France, Belgium and Holland. Before going overseas he was an RCAF instructor at Camp Borden for two and one-half years and served as Commanding Officer at Edenvale.

A native of Toronto, the young Flight Lieutenant joined the RCAF Nov. 6, 1939, and immediately re-



**FLT./LT. J. H. COCHRANE**

ceived his commission. This was many months before the Commonwealth Air Training Plan was inaugurated.

Flt/Lt. Cochrane was in London on leave on D-Day and he hastened back to his base and got into action on D-Day plus one. Flying a Mustang fighter, he did reconnaissance work along the invasion coast and was twice attacked by enemy fighters. On one occasion nine Fokke Wolves came down out of the skies on him but he outmanoeuvred them and escaped into the clouds. On another reconnaissance flight, three ME109's attacked him and after "mixing it up" with them for five minutes, he got away.

Later during the invasion, Ftl. Lt. Cochrane flew a new Spitfire but, he stated, "I unfortunately never met up with any of the Jerrys when I had my Spitfire."

Only recently returned from Holland, the reconnaissance pilot played an important part in observation work that enabled the Allies to advance to Arnhem. Prior to the invasion he took pictures along the rocket coast of France. He completed 110 sorties (150 hours in the air) or one tour of operations, and is now home on one month's leave of absence.