



VIMY RIDGE

During the winter 1916-1917, the Corps reorganized while holding from ECURIE to BULLY GRENADE; an Overseas Ministry and a Headquarters were established in London; in Canada factories poured out munitions of war, but voluntary recruiting declined.

Early in Jan., elaborate preparations for the Allied offensive, N. and S. of ARRAS were begun. On 27th March, the artillery bombardment opened; it increased gradually until 9th April when, with the four Divs. in concert and in line on 7,500 yards of front, ECURIE-SOUCHETZ, the Cdn Corps 100,000 strong, crashed through the German lines, swept over VIMY RIDGE, took the guns in FARBUS and GOULOT WOODS, and covered the southern attack by making THELUS village and LA FOLIE FARM secure. WILLERVAL and GIVENCHY were taken on 13th April, ARLEUX on 28th; the line then ran across the DOUAI plain, for 5,000 yards from near OPPY to BOIS DE L'HIRONDINELLE. Canadian casualties in April were 13,477.

La Chambre du Souvenir dans la Tour de la Paix, à Ottawa, est un poème en pierre. Les murs et le plafond sculptés sont en pierre Château Gaillard, don de la France. Sur des panneaux de marbre incrustés dans les murs sont gravés les insignes et autres emblèmes régimentaux, répétant l'histoire des Forces Canadiennes pendant la Grande-Guerre. La reproduction ci-dessus montre le panneau décrivant la prise de la crête de Vimy. Les autres panneaux sur la page quatre rappellent d'autres épisodes de la guerre et d'autres tributs à la vaillance de nos soldats. La Croix Commémorative y est aussi montrée.