



Herbert Belbin Bowering
59th Newfoundland Heavy Regiment
Royal Artillery
Service No. 971615
WW II

Born: 12 March 1920

Died: 15 February 1996

Herbert was born at Coley's Point (Bay Roberts) to parents Edgar and Nellie in March of 1920.

The 1921 Newfoundland census shows Herbert the youngest of three children, he is just a year old.

According to records, Herbert enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment on the 18th of April 1940 and was discharged on 08th of September 1942. Within that two-year service span, he enlisted in the 59th Heavy Royal Artillery from the RNR. We have two

sets of service numbers for him, which was the standard at the time. One service number for the Royal Newfoundland Regiment... No. 206 and one for the transfer for the 59th (Newfoundland) Heavy Royal Artillery British Forces... No. 971615.

The 59th (Newfoundland) Heavy Royal Artillery was formed in June 1940, under the command of Lt. Colonel J.W. Nelson and consisted of 728 officers, warrant officers, Nco's and men.

The regiment was divided into four Battalions. The 20th and 23rd manned 4 – 155mm “long toms” that could fire a 43 kg shell some 23 km's. The 21st and 22nd battalions formed around 4 – 7.2-inch Howitzers that could hurl 90kg shells 17.9 km's.

The 59th Heavy Regiment was mobile and had the ability to move its heavy guns for employment in the field.

This Regiment saw action in coastal defence in the UK but also across Northwestern Europe. The regiment was disbanded in August 1945.

Back home, Herbert appears in the 1945 Newfoundland General Census at the age of 25, single and living with his parents.

Herbert died in 1996 and is buried in the Grace United Church Cemetery in Coley's Point. His wife Beryl died in 1996 as well and is buried beside her husband.

The link below provides some interesting information on the 59th Newfoundland Heavy Regiment Royal Artillery.

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/canadian-history-59th-newfoundland-heavy-regiment-war-collins-phd->

59 (Newfoundland) Heavy Regiment RA(TA)

All ranks wore the Newfoundland title at the top of the sleeve.



59 (Newfoundland) Heavy Regiment RA was formed at Ifield, Crawley in June 1940 from a cadre from 57 (Newfoundland) Heavy Regiment RA. The Regiment was disbanded in August 1945 at Saffron Walden.

Jun 40	Formed from cadre 57 Heavy Regiment	Crawley, Sussex, UK
Jun 40	Eastern Command	UK
Nov 41	Southeast Command	Ashford, Kent, UK
Apr 44	2 Army	UK
Jun 44	3 Army Group RA	NW Europe
May 45	Home Forces	UK
Aug 45	Disbanded	Saffron Walden, Essex, UK

Below are clippings from the Bay Roberts Guardian that mention Herbert:

22 August 1942

LOCAL MILITIA BOYS TO GO OVERSEAS

The following young men from Bay Roberts, serving in the Nfld. Militia, have volunteered for service in the Royal Artillery to serve overseas:

Eric Wood, son of Mr. A. H. Wood, Bay Roberts.

Warren Bradbury, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Bradbury, Bay Roberts.

Herbert Bowering, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Bowering, Colley's Point.

30 September 1944

APPRECIATIVE LETTERS FROM MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Received by The Secretary.

I wish to express my appreciation to you, your staff, and the people of Bay Roberts for the cigarettes which I have received since arriving here in France. There's nothing like a good old Wing to break the monotony. Everything's going fine here and the boys are all well and expecting to be home by Christmas. Thanks a million for the fags and the very best of luck for the future.—GNR. H. BOWERING, Nfld. Regiment, B.L.A.