

Lloyd Mercer Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry 2nd Battalion

Service No. B801751

Korean War

Born: 01 Nov 1929

Died: 21 Nov 1995

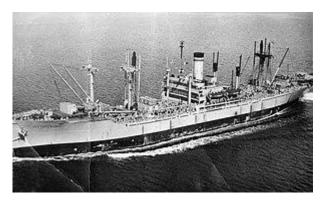
Place of Birth: Shearstown, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: Harry and Naomi (Roach) Mercer

Lloyd was the seventh (7th) child and the last born to Harry and Naomi on November 1st 1929. Naomi passed in May 1932. Lloyd would have a number of step brothers and sisters.

Lloyd enlisted in the Canadian Army in 1950 as a member of the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry, more commonly known as the P.P.C.L.I. or "the Patricias." He would serve from 21 August 1950 to 07 July 1952.

On August 15, 1950, the 2nd Battalion was created in the PPCLI as a component of the Canadian Army Special Forces in response to the North Korean invasion of South Korea. The new Battalion trained in Calgary and CFB Wainwright before boarding the USNS Private Joe P. Martinez. This ship would be the troopship that transported him to Korea.



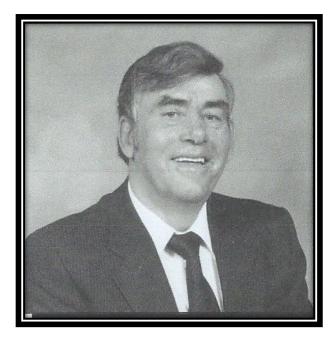
USNS *Private Joe P. Martinez* (T-AP-187) arriving in Seattle, WA., 27 Dec 1951 with Korean War veterans.

"USNS Private Joe P. Martinez (T-AP-187) was a Boulder Victory-class cargo ship built for the United States Navy during the closing period of World War II. The ship was named after Private Joe P. Martinez, a Medal of Honor recipient."

Lloyd was at the Battle of Kapyong, Korea in April 1951. From that battle, the 2nd Battalion of the PPCLI was awarded the U.S. Presidential Citation for their outstanding service in holding hill 677. He was also awarded a medal of service for his time in the Korean War.

After leaving the CAF in 1952, Lloyd married Jessie Barrett from Spaniard's Bay. They were both living in Toronto when they met and married. Lloyd worked with the Toronto Transit as a streetcar driver for some time.

Then in the mid 1950's Lloyd, Jessie and daughter returned to Newfoundland, where he worked as carpenter until he retired. Together, he and Jessie had three (3) children, all girls, Linda, Lois, and Deborah.



Lloyd was a long time member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 32, Bay Roberts. Lloyd's picture and U.S. Presidential Citation is on display (copy provided below) at the Branch, as soon will be his uniform.

Lloyd Passed away in late 1995 and is buried in St. Mark's Cemetery at Shearstown.

Annex B to Chapter 1

REPRODUCTION OF UNITED STATES

PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 52

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY Washington 25, D.C. 19 July, 1951

Section

BATTLE HONORS. - As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (Sec. 1, WD Dul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (Sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), citation of the following units is confirmed in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2, Army Regulations, 260-15, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

3D, BATTALION, ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT

2D BATTALION, PRINCESS PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY

COMPANY A, 72D HEAVY TANK BATTALION (UNITED STATES)

are cited for extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of combat duties in action against the armed enemy near Kapyong, Korea, on the 24th and 25th of April, 1951. The enemy had broken through the main line of resistance and penetrated to the area north of Kapyong. The units listed above were deployed to stem the assault. Early on the 24th of April, the 3D BATTALION ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT, moved to the right flank of the sector and took up defensive positions north of the Pukhon River. The 2D BATTALION, PRINCESS PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY, defended in the vicinity of Hill 677 on the left flank. COMPANY A, 72D HEAVY TANK BATTALION, supported all units to the full extent of it's capacity and in addition, kept the main roads open and assisted in evacuating the wounded. Troops from a retreating division passed through the sector which enabled enemy troops to infiltrate with the withdrawing forces. The enemy attacked savagely under the clangor of bugles and trumpets. The forward elements were completely surrounded going through the first day and into the second. Again and again the enemy threw waves of troops at the gallant defenders, and many times succeeded in penetrating the outer defence, but each time the courageous, indomitable and determined soldiers repulsed the fanatical attacks. Ammunition ran low and there was no time for food. Critical supplies were dropped by air to the encircled troops, but still they stood their ground in resolute defiance of the enemy. With serene and indefatigable persistance, the gallant soldiers held their defensive positions and took heavy tolls of the enemy. In some instances when the enemy penetrated the defenses, the commanders directed friendly artillery fire on their own positions in repelling the thrusts. Towards the close of the second day, the 25th of April, the enemy breakthrough had been stopped. The seriousness of the breakthrough on the central front had been changed from defeat to victory by the gallant stand of these heroic and courageous soldiers. The 3D BATTALION, ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT; 2D BATTALION, PRINCESS PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY, and COMPANY A, 72D HEAVY TANK BATTALION, displayed such gallantry, determination and esprit de corps in accomplishing their mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set them apart and above other units participating in the campaign, and by their achievements they have brought distinquished credit on themselves, their homelands, and all freedom-loving nations.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

OFFICIAL:

WM. E. BERGIN Major General, USA Acting The Adjutant General

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J. LAWTON COLLINS Chief of Staff United States Army