



## MEDALS AND MEMORIES MINUTES

When **Tommy Prince (1915-1977)** was presented the Military Medal and Silver Star on behalf of the American President by King George VI at Buckingham Palace, he had come a long way from being turned down for military service in Manitoba. Prince made his name with the elite First Special Service Force dubbed the Devil's Brigade. In 1944 in Italy Prince set up for four days behind enemy lines in an abandoned farmhouse to report the location of German assembly points. When the 1,400 metres of telephone wire connecting him to his forces was knocked out, Prince grabbed a hoe and civilian clothing and rejoined the break in the wire while pretending to tie his shoe laces. The citation for his Military Medal read, "Sergeant Prince's courage and utter disregard for personal safety were an inspiration to his fellows and a marked credit to his unit". Later in Italy under similarly difficult circumstances, Prince reported information that lead the brigade to capture over a thousand German soldiers.