

It is my belief that the effects of the drug Mefloquine has not borne full account in the tragic circumstances of:

1. Shidane Arone's death.
2. The wrongful imprisonment of Trooper Kyle Brown.
3. The misplaced opprobrium, shame and subsequent disbandment of a proud historical Airborne Regiment.
4. The chronic effects it places upon the reasoning and decision making in my daily life.

As a member of 2 Commando, The Canadian Airborne Regiment, I was one of the soldiers who witnessed the psychotic break of Mcpl Matchee-and was ordered by him to remain and observe the carrying out of a standing, unlawful Order. I carry with me the weight and brunt of that event to this day, and am haunted with it every day.

In Brian Bergman and Luke Fisher's piece titled appropriately enough " A night of Terror " (Maclean's, March, 1994) they ominously wrote how : *"Canadians may never know the full story of what happened that March night of the 16ththey will almost certainly never understand why some members of Canada's elite military force behaved so abominably. "*

I believe I now understand why.

Like the piece mentioned above, we in the Commando also called March 16th "Fright Night". Then again, we called every *Tuesday* night that nickname-it was the weekday of issue for Mefloquine.

I have just recently connected with Trooper Brown and we have spoken at length. Prior, we were separated after the incident for 21 years through his imprisonment, life, and other circumstances. Further, the psychologically dissociative symptoms from PTSD-and the lasting effects of Larium-conspired to refrain our meeting and subsequent elucidative discourse to break-down these events and get all the variables. Time's objective lens and new positive, supportive facts have also highlighted the need for further investigation.

It is therefore my intention, with the full support and co-operation of Mr. Brown, to determine all causal factors involved in the play of actions of that frightful evening. Many families' lives, military careers and no less than the full honour of a disbanded Canadian Regiment, are owed no less than the full account your help-and the possible help of other agreeable voices-will provide to this imperative. So we all can understand why...and heal.

Will you help?

Sincerely,

Mcpl John Dowe, Ret'd.



COM HANABO

GUNS