



Caribbean Glory



Friday, June 19, 2009
Andrews Air Force Base Officers Club
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm



Few people know that thousands of British West Indians served in the British armed forces during World Wars I and II. Those who served in World War I, such as Norman Washington Manley (Jamaica), Captain Arthur Cipriani (Trinidad), and Tubal Uriah "Buzz" Butler (Grenada/Trinidad) went on to become leaders for beneficial social change which enhanced freedom and democracy in the British West Indies. When World War II broke out on September 19, 1939, many British West Indians answered the call. About 16,000 West Indians volunteered for service alongside the British during the Second World War. Wendell Christian and Twistleton Bertrand served in the South Caribbean Forces which was created to secure the southern part of the region closest to Trinidad's oil industry and the vital refineries in Curacao then under attack by marauding German U-Boats. Over 100 British West Indian women were posted overseas of which 80 chose the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF) for their contribution, while around 30 joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS). There were many more ATS and WAAF service women who stayed in the Caribbean region and did local duty. Around 7,000 West Indians served with the Royal Air Force (RAF) and the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) in roles from fighter pilots to bomb aimers, air gunners to ground staff and administration. No other colony contributed more airmen to the RAF than those from the British West Indies.





Embassy of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

MESSAGE FOR CARIBBEAN GLORY COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET

It is indeed an honour and a privilege for Trinidad and Tobago to be associated with the hosting of this evening's celebration "*Caribbean Glory*." I wish particularly to congratulate Mr. Gabriel Christian for spearheading this celebration and for selecting the month of June, Caribbean American Heritage Month, to honour our Caribbean heroes and to do so in the United States of America.

Today, people around the world, including Caribbean people, are witnessing major advancements in international politics, global business, systems of education, science and technology—all of which are working together to change the way in which we show appreciation for the people who have valiantly fought for our development and for our freedom.

Our honorees this evening—RAF Squadron Leader Phillip Louis Ulric Cross of Trinidad and Tobago (better known to us as Retired Justice of Appeal Cross), RAF Flight Lieutenant Dudley Thompson of Jamaica, and Wendell Christian and Twistleton Bertrand of Dominica, who served in the British Army's South Caribbean Forces during World War II—have displayed to the world that Caribbean people have indeed made a monumental contribution to the fight for the freedoms enjoyed by the western world.

It is not very often that we take the time to recognize and commemorate those who have flown high the flags of our beloved Caribbean region while they are still with us in the flesh. Therefore, it is my fervent hope that the sterling achievements of our distinguished honorees who are present here this evening will serve to inspire our young people into assuming pioneering roles in service to their country as well as in other spheres.



For this we thank Gabriel Christian for the passion and commitment he has displayed and the financial resources which he has invested in this venture in order to bring together the Caribbean and wider community for this milestone occasion. Through Mr. Christian's literary work, public endeavours, and community service, he has shown, by example, the great things that can be achieved by service to his country and region.

I look forward to events of this nature on the Caribbean American Heritage Month Calendar for many years in the future. Once more, I offer my heartfelt congratulations to our honorees this evening—Judge Cross, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Christian, and Mr. Bertrand. You have made Caribbean people exceedingly proud.

May God continue to bless you.



Her Excellency Glenda Morean-Phillip
Ambassador of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
To the United States



Caribbean Glory

Program



Introduction of Host, Lynton Scotland, VP, NRG Corporation

Welcome Colonel Phillip Spencer, Military Attache, Trinidad & Tobago

Invocation Rev. Dr. Lee Washington

Greetings HE Glenda Morean-Phillip, Ambassador of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago to the United States of America and Permanent representative to the Organization of American States

Film Interlude "West Indians in Freedom's Vanguard"

Remarks Judge Irving Andre, The Superior Court of Brampton, Ontario
Judge William Missouri, Circuit Court Administrative Judge

Keynote Address Message from the Rt Hon the Baroness Scotland of Asthal, QC, Her Britannic Majesty's Attorney General

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Squadron Phillip Louis UIrre Cross, DFC, DSO - Royal Air Force

Wendell M. Christian, LSM – British Army South Caribbean Forces

Twistleton Bertrand – British Army South Caribbean Forces

Flight Lieutenant Dudley Thompson QC OJ - Royal Air Force

Flight Lieutenant Cy Grant – Royal Air Force

Special Awards of Appreciation and Honor

Delegate, Hon Aisha Braveboy – Maryland General Assembly

Dr Clayton Shillingford – Dominica Academy of Arts & Sciences

VOTE OF THANKS

Gabriel J. Christian, Esq., Pont Casse Press

*Message from the Rt Hon the Baroness
Scotland of Asthal, QC*

Her Britannic Majesty's Attorney General

I am honoured to be taking part in this celebration of the contribution Caribbean people made in the two World Wars.

As one of Dominica's diaspora, I am especially proud to add my personal tribute to the debt of gratitude I am acknowledging on behalf of the United Kingdom Government.

I thank Gabriel Christian and Irving Andre, who have re-told this humbling story of sacrifice and endeavour using the testimony of their own forebears and of those who were actually involved.

These are our people who can say "we were there". We should listen to them.

This is history with a human heart. It deepens our pride in our past and our hope for our future.

This is also history with an inspiring message to today's generation, because so many of those who sacrificed and served went on to lead and to help secure the social justice and liberty on which peace depends. The international guarantees of equality and human dignity, which sprang up from the last world war, became the legacy of all men and women, black and white. It is a legacy we must all defend and guard.

So this event celebrates not just past heroic events, but also the ongoing change we want to see in the world. It is with confidence in the courage our people have to achieve that change, that I applaud Caribbean Glory and wish it every success.



Patricia Scotland

Patricia Scotland



The Honorees of Caribbean Glory

Trinidad - Squadron Leader Phillip Louis Ulric Cross, DFC, DSO who was an ace navigator in the Royal Air Force from 1941-1945 and did 80 missions over occupied Europe and Germany - to include 20 over heavily defended sites in Berlin. A graduate of London University and the Middle Temple he became a judge in Ghana, and Tanzania; he was also Attorney General of Cameroun. He later served Trinidad and Tobago as Ambassador to France, Germany and High Commissioner to London.



Jamaica - Rt Hon Dudley Thompson, QC was a flight lieutenant in the Royal Air Force and served on Lancaster Bombers on missions over the war torn skies of Europe. Organizer of the 1945 Pan African Conference with Jomo Kenyatta, Kwame Nkrumah and Dr. WEB Dubois. Rhodes Scholar and Oxford University graduate law. Represented, successfully, Jomo Kenyatta after he was imprisoned during the Kenyan independence uprising. He became Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of National Security at different times in Jamaica's Government.



Dominica - Wendell Christian, British Army, South Caribbean Forces engaged in garrison duty with the South Caribbean Command of the British army in the Eastern Caribbean and also helped secure that region in the dark days of 1943-1945 when German U-Boats sunk 400 allied ships in the Caribbean/Atlantic area. He became Fire Brigade Station Officer of the Dominica Fire Service after World War II. Now a US citizen, resident in Prince George's County.



Dominica - Twistleton Bertrand, British Arm was an NCO with the British Army's South Caribbean Forces from 1944-1947, he served alongside Christian. He rose to become the Commander of the Dominica Defence Force (Major) and Aide De Camp to the Lt. Governor of Canada. Now a Canadian citizen.



The Rt Hon The Baroness Patricia Scotland of Ashtal, QC - Attorney General of England-Scotland was born in Dominica to Antiguan and Dominican parents, the tenth of twelve children. Her family moved to Walthamstow when she was three years old. She attended Walthamstow School for Girls, and then moved on to Mid Essex Technical College in Chelmsford and earned an external London University (LLB) law degree in 1976. She was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1977, specializing in family and children's law. In 1991, she became the first black woman to be made a Queen's Counsel. On June 28, 2007, Lady Scotland of Asthal was appointed Attorney General by the new Prime Minister, Gordon Brown; and has been the first woman to hold this office since its foundation in 1315.



Made the Sacrifice for All of Us!



Catalogue Reference: IWM/CH 1978

Flight Sergeant James Hyde of San Juan, Trinidad, a Spitfire pilot who arrived in Britain in 1942 to begin his training (pictured with his Squadron's mascot, a dog called 'Dingo'). He is wearing a life jacket, known universally as a Mae West, and is holding an oxygen mask and his flying gloves. Most air battles took place at altitudes in excess of 15,000 feet (c. 5000 metres) and oxygen and thermal protection were vital.

Research shows that RAF Spitfire Pilot James Hyde of Trinidad had made the ultimate sacrifice for King and Country to secure our freedom. Many British West Indians, as our nations were still colonies, are noted as nationality: United Kingdom. We believe that more than 500 British West Indians perished in the RAF, as we discover more new names with regularity.

HYDE, JAMES JOSEPH

Initials: J J

Nationality: United Kingdom

Rank: Warrant Officer (Pilot)

Regiment/Service: Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve

Unit Text: 132 Sqdn.

Age: 27

Date of Death: 25/09/1944

Service No: 1391841

Additional information: Son of Joseph and Millicent Hyde, of San Juan, Trinidad.

Casualty Type: Commonwealth War Dead

Grave/Memorial Reference: 17. A. 7.

Cemetery: JONKERBOS WAR CEMETERY





Rt Hon Norman Washington Manley, QC in the uniform of the Royal Horse Artillery, WW I. He became Chief Minister of Jamaica and a leading proponent of the British West Indian Federation 1957-1962.

Wendell Christian of Dominica - British Army 1943-1947; in the uniform of the Trinidad & Tobago Fire Service Wrightson Rd - 1962. A trainee in the proposed Caribbean Fire Services group during the last days of the British West Indian Federation.



Prime Minister Errol Barrow led Barbados to independence. A WW II RAF veteran, he flew some 45 operational bombing missions over the European Theatre. By 1945, he had risen to the rank of Flying Officer and was appointed as Personal Navigator to the Commander in Chief of the British Zone of occupied Germany, Sir William Sholto Douglas.

Women Who Served

British Army Territorial Service (ATS) women officers in Grenada during World War II (1944)



RAF Flight Lieutenant Cy Grant of Guyana

RAF Flight Lieutenant Cy Grant of Guyana was shot down over Holland, survived capture by the Gestapo, and was imprisoned for two years in Stalag Luft III, site of the famous "Great Escape" by allied airmen.



Below is an Introduction to a planned film which captures the moment Cy Grant was shot down over Holland by a German Ace Oberfeldwebel Karl-Heinz Scherfling, who himself, was killed a year later by British Night Fighters.

An RAF LANCASTER BOMBER IS brought down over Holland.

The Lanc explodes in mid-air. The sound of the explosion awakens a young Dutch boy [Joost Klootwijk] aged 11. He jumps out of bed, grabs his bicycle, and races to the scene. The wife of a farmer in the nearby village has been killed in bed. He saw no sign of the crew of the Lanc; but saw the wreckage of the Lanc and later heard of the dark skinned navigator that many in his village had seen in the barn of a farmer some miles away. Traumatized by this incident he decided that one day he'd find out everything about that particular flight.

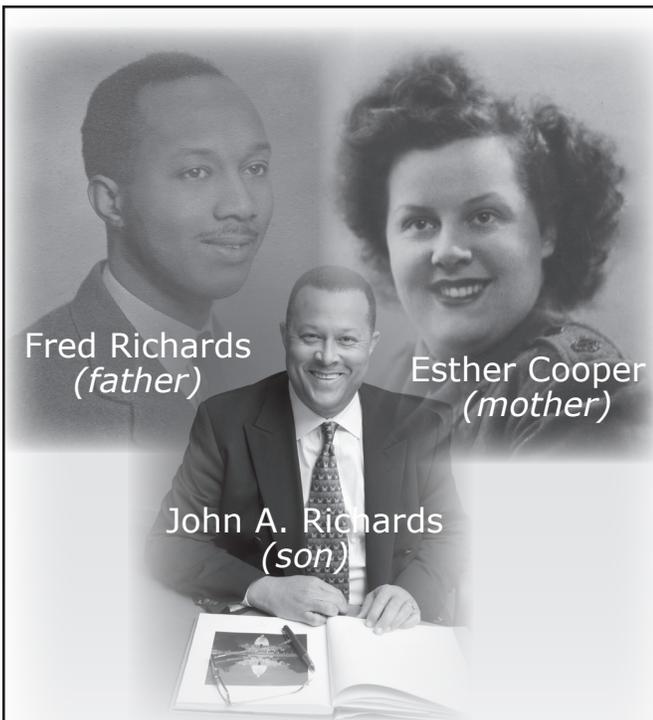
The German ace who claimed shooting down 3 Lancasters that night was

Oberfeldwebel Karl-Heinz Scherfling, who himself was killed a year later by a British Night Fighter.

A fuller account of the incident can be found in Lancaster 4827 Failed to Return, by Joost Klootwijk. In Holland, 65 years after that crash, Joost was to meet the navigator of that plane, Cy Grant, when the BBC took the latter to see the site where he came down and meet the

relatives of the people of the village who still held memories of that fatal night. There Cy met Hans, his 49 year old son. A strong friendship developed between them. Hans had translated his father's account of the incident and had asked Cy to write the Foreword for the English Edition. It was Hans who mooted the idea of an on-line Memorial for air crew - the invisible dark Caribbean air crew "who also flew" without comprehensive official recognition. An intense collaboration to achieve this began in Oct 2008 when the Telegraph interviewed Cy as one of the veterans of Bomber Command for his story in support of the Bomber Command appeal for a permanent Memorial for all Bomber crew, over 55,500, who lost their lives in WW2. Hans, the son of the Dutch farmer became the web-master of www.caribbeanaircrew-ww2.com, the most authoritative website on British West Indians who served in the Royal Air Force.





A Short Tale of Two Giants

John A. Richards, Esq.

His family hailed from the eastern-most part of Jamaica, from a town that gave the island two of its seven national heroes (Paul Bogle and George William Gordon). It was a town in which a pivotal struggle that culminated in a revolt there (the Morant Bay Rebellion) marked a significant turning point in Jamaican and British Colonial's history.

As a young man, he was part of the first generation of Richards' to leave the then-sylvan environs of St. Thomas for the big city of Kingston, developing a penchant for electronic gadgetry, eventually earning a certificate

in electronic assembly via a mail-order/correspondence program that was pretty heavily advertised in the comics and other periodicals of the day. His early predilections as a geek, and his embrace of the military would lead my father, Fred Richards, to willingly and with dignity, honour and much anticipation, join the RAF as a radar fitter and head for the UK in the early 1940s to help defend an empire that had been so unkind historically to his forebears in St. Thomas, and, indeed, around the Empire.

Far from being content with a rejection to serve in His Majesty's Armed Forces, a young lass from Scotland's lovely Strathclyde region signed up with the British supportive organization for enlisted men and women from all over the Empire: the Navy, Army & Air Force Institutes (NAAFI). It was at a NAAFI function at the Cosford Royal Air Force Base nestled in the West Midlands outside Birmingham when first fateful encounter took place between Fred and my mother, Esther Cooper.

After my dad was demobilized in 1945, they got married, lived for a brief spell in and around Coventry, gave birth to a daughter, and then succumbed to the pull of home (my father did) and persistent persuasion (that would have been my mother. They returned to Jamaica in 1956, where I was born in 1958, and my younger sister came along in 1961.

Suffice it to say, my parents, together, are one of the many anecdotes to have been spawned by humanity's deadliest

conflict to date, and like so many similar stories emanating from conflicts before and since, provide a wonderful and ironic counterpoint to the ravages of war: that in the heat and confusion of battle (often built around or at least exploiting racial and cultural differences), it is possible—and some would argue inevitable—that humans would shed their basic differences at a superficial level and come together around what ultimately matters most, that is to say, who they are as individuals and what they aspire to as human beings.

Fred and Esther built a life together with their 3 kids in Kingston that embodied and passed on those aspirations in their children, with Fred staying close to the RAF association while in middle man-

agement at one of the island's fledgling radio stations. Esther worked with the island's telephone company until relocating to the U.S. in the early 1970s. Their eldest daughter studied nursing in Scotland and plied her craft for many years in New York; their son has been a practicing attorney in Washington, D.C. for most of 2 decades, and their youngest daughter is a nurse's aide and emergency room technician in Southwest Florida.



John A. Richards
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Royal Air Force Flying Officer Julian Marryshow of Grenada (on the right) with B-flight of 602 Sqn at Sumburgh (Shetlands) in January 1943. Involved in the "D" Day Invasion, 602 later flew from airfields in Europe to strike V2 rocket sites and other prime targets. Flying Officer Marryshow is credited with destroying several trains and rocket launcher sites prior to being shot down by flak; he was able to elude capture after bailing out from his damage fighter plane and was rescued before being taken prisoner by his German pursuers.



Maintaining the tradition of leadership training: **US Army Brigadier General Eddie Charles of Dominica**, a former St. Mary's Academy Cadet Sergeant returned to his alma mater and received an award from a member of the Dominica Cadet Corps; a member of the new generation of Caribbean civic leadership. Started in 1910 at the Dominica Grammar School, the cadet program exists today in many of the former British West Indian territories. A very high percentage of Caribbean civic, business and government leaders honed their skills from young in the cadet program.



Valour of the Highest Order

M J Harwood
Air Vice-Marshal

Defence Attaché and Head of British Defence Staff United States

"Valour of the Highest Order" was the citation received by a son of Grenada, Lance Corporal Johnson Beharry, VC, for his actions in Iraq in May 2004. This extraordinary individual is a (thankfully) living example of the deep bond of friendship that exists between our two distant groups of islands, and that leads us to be prepared to sacrifice all for each other. That friendship is as meaningful today as it was in "our darkest hour." The UK Armed Forces regularly undertake exchanges with a number of the Armed Forces of the Caribbean; many Caribbean Officers train with their British counterparts at Dartmouth, Sandhurst and Cranwell; and, as I write, in Afghanistan, young men and women of the Caribbean are courageously fighting in the UK Armed Forces to bring peace and stability to that troubled region.



The Caribbean's contribution to World War II should be a source of inspiration to those grappling with the threats of today. From early 1941, hundreds of young men and women from across the Caribbean answered the call to unite against the common enemy in Europe. Some 400 served as RAF aircrew, as a group receiving the highest distinctions for bravery and valour. Others undertook vital work in the munitions factories of the northwest. The contribution that these young people made in the struggle for freedom cannot be underestimated, and must not be forgotten. Historians have suggested that the Allied victory could not have been secured without the noble service of the men and women of the Caribbean. Therefore, it is an honour to celebrate and salute their efforts today. My very best wishes.



Beacons of Caribbean Freedom

Godfrey de la Rosa
Proprietor of Under De Coconut Tree Restaurant
Hyattsville, Maryland
and
Grandson of Theodore "Reggie" de la Rosa
Keeper of the Light house in Trinidad during WW II

I am honored to be associated with such an event as Caribbean Glory. There was a time 65 years ago - not unlike in some parts of the world today - when the world was in turmoil and there existed a need to bring it to order. The call went out world wide and was heard and answered in the Caribbean among the British West Indian colonies of Britain. Many of our people left their friendly shores and landed in war torn Europe unsure of their return, but made a necessary sacrifice. A sacrifice that ensured us of the life we have today. Most of these Caribbean military men and women have passed on; a few are still here with us today. Those few: retired Judge and Royal Air Force Squadron Leader Phillip Louis Ulric Cross, Flight Lieutenant Dudley Thompson; British army soldiers Twistleton Bertrand and Wendell Christian we

honor this June 2009, in a tribute to Caribbean American Heritage Month and their unselfish service. They answered the call to do duty for God and Country and their efforts and bravery cannot go unnoticed. They became our leaders and helped build the foundation that we as a Caribbean people are proud to stand on. As with my grandfather who guided the ships off Trinidad's coast during the desperate war years, these servicemen and women who rushed to Britain's aid were beacons for freedom. Through the tireless efforts of Mr. Gabriel Christian and Judge Andre we can now read of that history, for they made it possible. So, to those who have served, and to those that are currently serving we honor thee; and from the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for all you have done. May God bless you.



The Founders of Pont Casse Press

Judge Irving W. André attended the Dominica Grammar School and the University of the West-Indies in Jamaica where he was a Gold Medalist after graduating with a First Class Honours Degree (B.A.) in History, English and Philosophy. Mr. André studied law at Osgoode Hall School in Canada. In 1990, Mr. André was called to the Bar of Ontario, and has served as a Ministry of Labour prosecutor, an Assistant Crown Attorney and later, as a Criminal Defence lawyer. He was appointed a Justice in the Ontario Court of Justice in 2002.

Gabriel J. Christian, Esq. attended the Dominica Grammar School and the University of the District of Columbia College of Business and Public Management in Washington, D.C. where he graduated with a BBA in Procurement and Public Contracting . Mr. Christian studied law at the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C., graduating with the degree of Juris Doctor in 1991. Mr. Christian was admitted to the Bar in 1991 and now practices law in Maryland. In 2007, Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley appointed Mr. Christian to the position of Judicial Commissioner, Maryland Court of Appeals.

André and Christian have written several works on Dominican/Caribbean history and literature under their Pont Casse Press publishing banner since 1992.

PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT FOR CARIBBEAN GLORY!

We ask you to pledge your support for Caribbean Glory – A documentary which will detail the contributions of the British West Indian military in the building of the modern English speaking Caribbean. All such pledges are tax deductible and made payable to the Dominica Academy of Arts & Sciences www.da-academy.org, a 501(c) (3) US Non-Profit dedicated to the educational development of the Caribbean region and Diaspora. For more details call Gabriel J. Christian, Esq. at 301-218-9400 and for more of that history of World War Service visit www.caribbeanaircrew-ww2.com.



The Genesis of Caribbean Glory

Gabriel J. Christian, Esq.

It is a truism that no nation can long endure without a common understanding of its heritage. So too it is with the Caribbean nation-states which attained independence after the upheaval wrought upon the old colonial order in the aftermath of World War II. Derived from the old British West Indian colonies, these new nations owe much to that martial leadership provided by those whose service to King and Country became the anchor of their very existence. So steeled in battle and the other adversities of a world at war, our Caribbean men and women returned home and expanded the boundaries of freedom and democracy. Today, they are almost all gone.

To remember them is to realize a consolidation of a sense of victory, and "can do," which propelled military veterans such as Norman Washington Manley, Wellington Wellwood Grant, Captain Arthur Cipriani, Tubal Uriah "Buzz" Butler, Edward Scobie, Errol Barrow, Cy Grant, Ulric Cross, Wendell Christian, Michael Manley, Twistleton Bertrand, Dudely Thompson, Milton Cato, Julian Maryshow, and many others to leadership roles in the governance and civic life of their respective countries. Gath-



ering at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland on June 19, 2009, marks another milestone, as it the first time—to our knowledge—that veterans of the British West Indian war effort in World War II are paid tribute on US soil. Their valiant struggle, as part of the Allied crusade against tyranny and for freedom and democracy, allowed us a better dispensation that we enjoy today. But for their efforts in the Caribbean and Europe, coupled with the heroism of

the famed Tuskegee Airmen of the US Army Air Corps which forged an expansion of equality of opportunity, there may have never been a Baroness Scotland now the Attorney General of England, a General Colin Powell, or a President Barack Obama. In a manner that they may never have realized, they ushered in a brave new world of opportunity. So, for those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, their lives were not given in vain.

Irving Andre and I have consecrated the sacrifice of the British West Indian military by rescuing its achievement and glory from oblivion. By rendering that noble military lineage born of our proud British West Indian heritage in words, we ensure that generations yet unborn will know of



these brave men and women. Our work then is the genesis of Caribbean Glory: that philosophy of noble memory enrolled in the service of national development. We see this work, therefore, as a catchment of collected and collective wisdom which inspires us to achieve excellence in all our endeavors. Our work also builds on the unity ethic which birthed Caribbean Diaspora institutions such as the Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS). By building pan-Caribbean organizations, such as the ICS which promoted Caribbean American Heritage Month, we mirror the unified trajectory of our men and women who came from different islands but served together in the British West Indian Regiments and Royal Air Force. Ambassador to the United States, Glenda Morean-Phillip of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago exemplifies such a passion for unity and a better Caribbean nation in her support of events such as Caribbean Glory. We owe a debt of gratitude to her and her staff, in particular, her Press Officer, the indefatigable Monique McSween. This is a time of serious challenge in our Caribbean; and we must be mindful that

we preserve that integrity which is the essence of our democracies. Our work then is a clarion call to reject that which departs from our noble traditions of governance in the public interest or deviance in leadership. This exercise is a robust stand in the defense of all that is noble in the British tradition of which those who served were part. As we forge ahead, we must never succumb to such misrule which would so impoverish our people amidst a maelstrom of misconduct which negates the rule of law.

At this moment, may we grant greater meaning to those few we honor this Caribbean Heritage Month. Though frail in body, they are forever brave of heart. They are the last of that contingent which reported for duty to King and Country when war came in 1939. We may never see the likes of them again. It is therefore right and proper that we salute them for having braced themselves to their duties, at Mankind's darkest hour. May we always remember them.



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For King and Country

Judge Irving W. André

This book owes its genesis to an ongoing dialogue between myself and intrepid friend, Attorney Gabriel Christian, with whom I have collaborated for almost thirty-five years. Christian and I graduated from students editing a magazine in the 1970s, to writing a modern history of Dominica in the 1990s. We had then written a well received book on a 1963 carnival tragedy which claimed three lives. Flushed with the success of this book, we were eager to embark on a new literary odyssey.

The subjects of this book were closer than we initially thought. Wendell Christian had regaled his children with his experiences in the British army's Caribbean Forces, Southern Command; and although well into his eighties, had a vivid recollection of his experiences. Twistleton Bertrand revelled in recounting stories of immaculately-dressed German soldiers marching in his homeland just before the war and of the German battleship, Schleswig-Holstein, with its huge guns anchored menacingly in the Roseau roadstead.

History is based on the chronicling of personal narratives. It involves the ordering of such narratives for analytical purposes. It engenders a fuller appreciation of the making of a people by locating their accomplishments within a broader canvas of historical events.



This book seeks to achieve these goals. Whether or not it succeeds in engendering a greater appreciation of the contributions of the West Indians who volunteered to fight the enemy during WWII and were willing to die for their king and country will be decided by the

reader. By recording their contributions, we have taken a modest step in repatriating a part of our history—one which for too long has been held prisoner by a historiography which has paid scant attention to it.

To reveal the story of the British West Indian military, we conducted a research offensive into the existing literature to gain access to the information within its pages. We scrutinized newspaper coverage of the two World Wars, interviewed veterans, rummaged through the Dominica National Archives, and electronically searched the British archives for information about West Indian ex-servicemen. We unearthed long forgotten photographs which authenticated the experiences of these veterans.

With this book, we hope to create a pantheon of West Indian heroes, men like Felix Eboué, Norman Washington Manley, Errol Barrow, Judge Phillip Louis Ulric Cross, Dudley Thompson, Edward Scobie, Cy Grant, and a host of other West Indian airmen and soldiers whose experiences created an indelible imprint on the former British West Indian Islands.



Supporters of Caribbean Glory

Anthony Brown, Lieutenant Governor of Maryland

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Colonel Roberto Hylton, Prince George's County Police Chief

Aisha Braveboy, Esq., Delegate, Maryland House of Delegates

Claire Nelson, PhD, President of the Institute of Caribbean Studies

Clayton Shillingford, PhD, President of the
Dominica Academy of Arts and Sciences

Appreciation

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Her Britannic Majesty's Attorney General

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Military Members Association (WIAMMA)

Ainsley Gill, Ainsley Gill & Associates, LLC

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The AGA Group, LLC

Pays tribute to those Caribbean heroes
who served during World War II

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LIMITED EDITION

For King & Country



THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF THE
BRITISH WEST INDIAN MILITARY

Irving W. André
& Gabriel J. Christian

With reflections from Squadron Leader Justice, Phillip Louls Ulric Cross, DFC,
DSO & Flight Lieutenant Hon. Dudley Thompson, OJ, QC, Royal Air Force