

Assignment: Diary of an Aboriginal Veteran

Learning Goal:

- Describe the experiences of Aboriginal veterans during and after the two World Wars and the Korean war, with reference to their struggle for recognition as Canadian veterans.
- Explain how/why Aboriginal veterans played an active role in organizing for Aboriginal rights

Your Task:

You will write journal/diary entries from the perspective of a Canadian Aboriginal soldier and veteran who fought in WWI, WWII or the Korean War.

- 1. **Read through some of the sources:**
 - *A Commemorative History of Aboriginal People in the Canadian Military* (Chapter Five) <http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhh-dhp/pub/boo-bro/abo-aut/doc/abo-aut-eng.pdf>
<http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhh-dhp/pub/boo-bro/abo-aut/index-eng.asp>
 - *Native Soldiers Foreign Battlefields*
<http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/those-who-served/aboriginal-veterans/native-soldiers>
http://www.veterans.gc.ca/public/pages/remembrance/those-who-served/aboriginal-veterans/native-soldiers/natives_e.pdf
 - *Aboriginal Soldiers in the First World War* <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/aboriginal-heritage/020016-4002-e.html>
 - *Native Veterans* <http://www.mta.ca/library/courage/nativeveterans.html>
- 2. **Take notes on graphic organizer** while reading (you choose to focus on WWI, WWII or the Korean War).
- 3. **Write three diary entries** (from the same person) using the information that you have gathered:
 - Before going to war
 - During war
 - After war

(You can write these entries using a Google doc on the chrome book, or by hand)

Criteria:

- Includes three dated diary entries (about 6 sentences each) from either WWI, WWII or the Korean War
- Discusses life before joining the Canadian military, and reasons for joining
- Describes some experiences during the war
- Describes what it felt like coming home from war, and comments on:
 - Status as an Aboriginal veteran (what did that mean?)
 - Membership in organizations/activism in fight for Aboriginal rights
- Is historically plausible and is based on real occurrences/people
- Is well-written, contains some feeling/emotion, and is written in the first person

Diary of an Aboriginal Veteran: Notes

Before War

What was your life like? Where did you live and what rights did you have? Were you discriminated against? What made you decide to enlist in the Canadian army?

During War

What was life like during the war? Did you become close with others (Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal soldiers)? Were you discriminated against?

After War

How were you treated when you arrived home? Did you gain any rights? Did you receive benefits or compensation for being a veteran (compared to non-Aboriginals)?