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Mr. Kenneth Ouellet, President
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01 September 2017

Dear Mr. Ouellet, RE: Operation Veteran

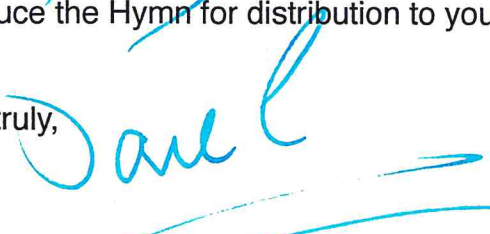
This Hymn was first recited at a Thanksgiving Service, 13 May 1917, only three weeks after Vimy Ridge: 10th Battalion, First Canadian Division. Note the spelling mistakes and the attempted corrections in the document.

I found this Hymn in the personal possessions of Brigadier-General Daniel Mowat Ormond. At this date, he was Lieutenant-Colonel, 10 Battalion, CEF. Two full suitcases of original documents and relics belonging to the General were passed on to his grandson, Dr. John Ormond, my brother-in-law. I had asked John for permission to keep this Hymn so that I could make photocopies for schools across Canada.

Please understand that the Canadian War Museum insisted, rightly so, that our family donate the 'original' article to the Museum for proper safekeeping and preservation. It must be protected to serve future generations.

In honour of the 100th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge - I wish to honour The Royal Canadian Legion, Québec Command, with a museum quality reproduction of this very special Hymn. I had the honour of participating in the Royal Canadian Legion Pilgrimage this summer and I was impressed with the dedication of the Provincial Command representatives from across Canada. Mr. Angus Stanfield, Chef de Mission, read this Hymn at the Honour Ceremony at Vimy Ridge. Please place this Hymn where your members have the best opportunity to view it. You have my permission to reproduce the Hymn for distribution to your members.

Yours truly,


Founder, Operation Veteran (www.warmuseum.ca/ov)
Associate Member, RCL

*Hymn used by the 10th Cav. Battalion
after Vimy Ridge at their Thanksgiving
Service May 12/18.*

Great God of nations, at Whose Will,
Proud sceptred Empires wax and wane
Defend our Empire's people still.
Unsheathe Thy sword for us again
For liberty and right we stand
O God arise stretch forth Thy hand.

Great God of battle steel their heart,
Who serve by land, and air and sea;
With honour let them play their part,
With duty let their service be,
Gainst cruelty and wrong we fight,
O God arise put forth Thy Might.

O God of pity be Thou nigh,
Where lurks the sunk death-dealing mine,
Where blazing roof-trees flush the sky,
In reeking trench and shattered line,
For Motherhood and King we fight,
O God arise maintain the right.

O God of mercy be our shield
And hear our dear ones far away;
For thym we stand on blood stained field,
For us they wait at home and pray,
To Thee we turn, to Thee we cry,
O God lead on to Victory.

Amen.