



To all our members and supporters of Halifax 57 Rescue we send you this initial report direct from Hollviken, Sweden as myself and H57RC Director James Blondeau have just arrived in Sweden to help our partners Swedish Coast and Sea Center this weekend with the recovery of Halifax bomber HR871 off the coast of Sweden.

James Blondeau is a documentary film producer and has already filmed our recoveries of Halifax bombers from Norway and Belgium. He is gathering all the video and images he can of the preparations and dives on the Halifax and will be sharing them with us and the world within the next few hours and day ahead. So standby for more exciting video news on saving HR871.

While most of you are celebrating Canada Day at home we are celebrating in a far away land by recovering some important Canadian history that has been hidden by Baltic Sea sand for over 70 years!

This weekend we will be doing more plotting and locating important airframe pieces from our Halifax HR871 which lies just south of the Falsterbo lighthouse in 50 feet of 75% freshwater and 25% salt water.

Just last Saturday our SCSC dive team was out and discovered even more of the Halifax while working outwards from the main body of the bomber, the center-section. The important thing about this section was the lack of corrosion and the good shape of the aluminium skin of HR871. You can see the evidence of this just by looking at the photo attached, taken by Jan Christensen, when he discovered this section of wing which was under 10 cm. of sand just beside the center section.

So now that I have your attention on this pending treasure I wanted to let you know we will begin to uncover this entire section this weekend for this will be a trial run of our new recovery tools, the "Sand-removal Underwater Equipment" that we are gonna call "SUE". (yes, I am partial to Johnnie Cash songs also)

It is a sand vacuum tool using water jets and venturi effect to suck up the sand from around the Halifax. We have come up with a small and large version of this special device so we shall call them "little SUE" and "big SUE". So day after tomorrow we will using "little SUE" and do our best work to begin to release the Halifax from the sands of time, 72 years of it! Big SUE will be used later on this summer as we get into major sand removal over the entire site.

We have just had a planning meeting tonight and came out with a game plan, weather permitting, for our next dive all day on Sat. July 2. You will be included in all this. Swedish media interest in the Halifax recovery has increased and I have an interview with Swedish national radio tomorrow July 1. In addition, a local newspaper from Trelleborg, Sweden has taken up the interest in our Halifax Project as their deep-sea Port of Trelleborg has agreed to support the Halifax recovery and assist bringing her into land later this summer.

So things are heating up all the way around and we are pleased with the recovery process and building up even more support from all the people. So hang on to your hats and standby for more reports before and after our Sat. dive. Thanks to all of you as we move into the real main action of this recovery. The more people we can get to support us the more assurance we have of completing our recovery mission this summer with out delays.