

MEDALS AND MEMORIES MINUTES

Edith Anderson Monture

(1890-1996), a descendant of Joseph Brant, was born on the Six Nations Grand River Reserve.

Unable to study nursing in

Canada, Edith graduated in New

York State. She was the first Native

Canadian woman to train and

work as a nurse. In 1917, along with 14 other

Canadian nurses, she joined the U.S. Medical Corps;

she was one of only two native nurses sent to Vittel,

France. Anderson spent her time treating shot and

gassed soldiers. "We would walk right over where

there had been fighting. It was an awful sight—build-

ings in rubble, trees burnt, spent shells all over the

place, whole towns blown up." Edith remembered a

young 20 year old American patient with a neck

wound. "We finally managed to stop the bleeding and

settled the boy down The night after that he died. I

got his mother's address in the States and wrote her

telling her I was with her son when he passed away."

After the war, Edith married and raised a family work-

ing part time as a nurse in the Six Nations Reserve

Hospital.

