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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Toronto, Ontario

For his first role as a civilian WWII pilot, **Darryl Flatman** had to tap into a very serious place in his heart....that of courage.

While onset in Gander at the location of the activities which forever altered the outcome of WWII, Darryl felt an extreme sense of pride. "We were on hallowed ground, on the actual runways that our forefathers used to cross the Atlantic Ocean. I was in awe!!! The pride and the courage that it took to fly the Hudson Bombers to England in an effort that had never been seen in the history of Canadiana humbled me".

All of this emotion parlayed into his portrayal of **JEFFERS** and Flatman had the opportunity to actually fly in a Hudson aircraft and was able to see first hand what these warriors had to deal with in the air.

Airing on October 29th and 30th, at 8:00pm, **ABOVE AND BEYOND**, is a two part, 4 hour dramatic mini-series for CBC, which takes place during World War II. As the War in Europe escalates, the Royal Canadian Air Force and Britain's Royal Air Force must consider faster and more reliable methods of transporting planes across the Atlantic. With technological improvements, the ability of bombers and fighters to cross the Atlantic is realized, giving much needed support to Europe. As a major departure point, the town of Gander becomes a hub of activity for American, Canadian and British forces.

Above and Beyond celebrates the passion and courage of the civilian Canadian men and women who turned the tide of World War II by building an air bridge from Canada to Britain. Most called it foolhardy at best, suicide at worst.

Summer, 1940: the Battle of Britain is raging and the RAF desperately needs aircraft to fight off German advances. When one of Prime Minister Winston Churchill's (Joss Ackland) Ministers and Canadian press magnate Lord Beaverbrook (Kenneth Welsh) suggests flying planes from Gander to Europe, many call it a suicide mission. North Atlantic aviation is in its infancy and winter flying is unheard of. But Britain's need is desperate and there is little left to lose.



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On November 10th, 1940, (eve of what is now known as Remembrance Day) seven Hudson Bombers, flown by civilians, successfully make the flight from Gander to Ireland, ushering in a new era in aviation history. This Atlantic Ferry Organization team became the core of the RAF North Atlantic Ferry Command, which, by 1945, had flown 10,000 aircraft from Newfoundland to Britain, helping to turn the tide of war.

Flatman has since portrayed another fighter pilot and flew in a B17 Bomber in the big screen **CLOSING THE RING**, directed by **LORD Richard Attenborough**. He can also be seen on the small screen in recent airings of the US National Bud Light Commercials.

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We will be in Toronto with Darryl Flatman for the week of October 23 - 27th inclusive.

For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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