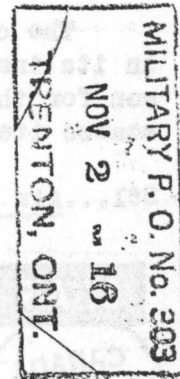
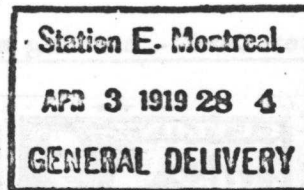
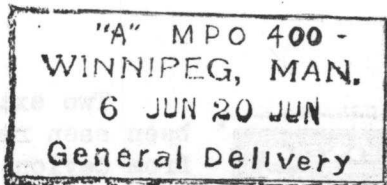


November 19, 1979

1450 Ross Road,
Kelowna, B.C.
V1Z 1L6

Dear Member:

257...Double dated General Delivery postal markings



These markings would have been applied to the mail at military post offices immediately on receipt.

The Trenton marking (1943) allowed 15 days (inclusive dates) while the RCAF Station St. Johns, P.Q. stamp (1960) allowed a span of 16 days. Should the mail not be called for within the time allowed it would be returned to the sender.

See also the MPO 400 marking of 1957 vintage. We were surprised to find a 1919 General Delivery marking on a proof sheet albeit a civil marking but it proves this style of stamp has been around for quite some time. It might be interesting to have other examples sent in, (photocopies)-for the record. Please include year date of usage as stamp make no provision for this.

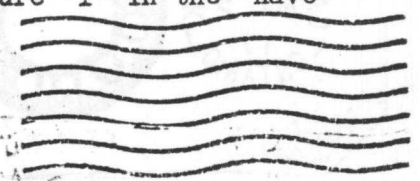
258...R.C.A.F. Station TOFINO, B.C.



This marking probably is an Orderly Room stamp used to provide a receiver's date. It was applied to the back of a cover from Vancouver in February, 1944. The "16" is inverted. The opening date of MPO 1122 (TOFINO) was Aug 22 1944. Bill Robinson picked this one up recently.

259...Machine cancel - CAF 6

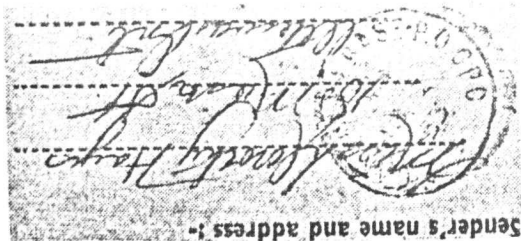
A first report of this cancel and thanks go to Bill Robinson. It is suggested that readers add this cancel to their survey sheet which will be found in NL 29, page 4 under type 3. It may also be added on page 7 of NL 30 with the figure "1" in the "have" column as we now know of this single example.



260...Base Post Office, Montreal, P.Q.

The postmark shown at left on the next page was applied to the back of a Forces Letter posted in Ottawa in 1953 to a soldier in Germany. As this marking is very faint a facsimile is shown on the right however the date is different. In the 1950s there were two base post offices in Montreal whose function was to sort mail going to the CAPOs in Europe.

260...cont'd.



The circular date stamp of the other office is shown at centre and differs slightly in its inscription. These strikes were used only as backstamps. Thanks to Bill Robinson for the "active service" strike, not a clear one, but, we venture to say, a rather scarce item.

261...Air Mail Letter Card - sorting mark

Two examples of these have been seen recently on letter cards from Ceylon to addresses in Canada posted late in 1943.

In an excellent article, "The RCAF in South East Asia 1942-1945" by the late Lt. Col. R.H. Webb these single ring stamps are mentioned as probably being added by the RAF Base Post Office in

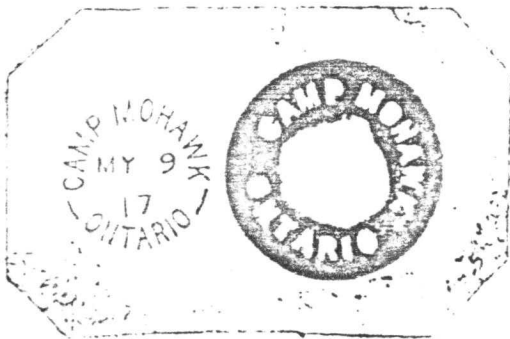
Colombo when it was known that a particular bag of mail would have to be resorted. The air route at that time was via Lagos-USA-Canada. See Canadian Philatelist for Jul-Aug 1967.

262...M.O.T.O.s (Money Order Town Office)

First reports have been received and members may enter these on the appropriate survey sheets in their file of Newsletters.

Our type 6A (see chart NL15-page 5) for Summerside, P.E.I. MPO 625 and Mossbank, Sask., MPO 1203. Our 6B types C.A.P.O. No 10 (Goose Bay, Labrador) and N.P.O. 112 (Windsor, Ontario) Also seen, our type 6A for Scoudouc, N.B. MPO 704 and Trenton (6 Repair Depot) Ont., MPO 310. And some more, if you're still with us, Kingston, N.S. MPO 616 and Brantford, Ont, MPO 206, and NPO 606 Halifax, N.S.

Lastly, our type 6B - MPO 604 (Debert, N.S) and NPO 618 (Halifax, N.S.).

263...Proof strike - Camp Mohawk, Ontario

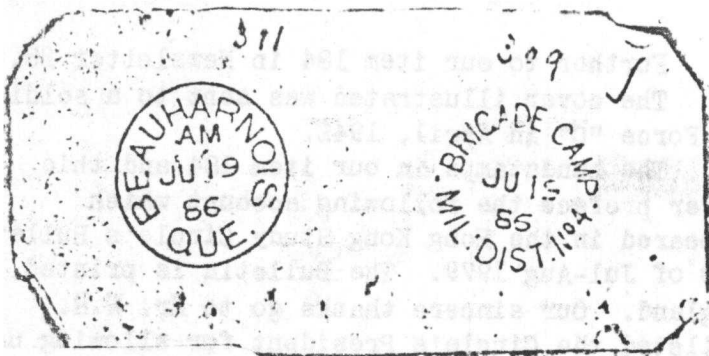
We were particularly gratified to receive a photocopy of a page from a proofing book showing the Camp Mohawk c.d.s. and seal. To our knowledge this has not been viewed before in a military mail publication. Nor has a cancel on an item of mail been reported.

Camps Rathbun and Mohawk began building in April 1917 and flight training commenced in May. Early in the summer these camps housed 43 Wing (RFC) with Headquarters in nearby Deseronto.

By November 1918 accomodation was provided at Mohawk for 71 Officers, 320 Cadets, 69 Warrant Officers and Sergeants and 450 rank and file.

Our thanks to the Manager and Staff at the Postal Museum for making this photocopy available and to Gray Scrimgeour for replying to our letter concerning this most interesting item of military postal history. We're sure Gray will be just as elated as we would be to receive a report of a Camp Mohawk cancel on cover.

264...Proof strike - Brigade Camp, Mil. Dist. No. 4



Illustrations of the cancel on the right have been seen a number of times however this example is from the original proof strike and is clearly dated JU 19 86.

The Beauharnois civil PO proof was struck on the same slip of paper using the same date, the slip then being pasted to a page in the proofing book.

Boggs reference on page 642 shows an earlier date for the Brigade Camp cancel but June 19th most likely is the correct

proofing date in view of the evidence shown here.

This is the earliest proof known in our Canadian military mail studies. We do not know of any strike having been reported.

Over the years our country has been geographically divided for military purposes into Divisional Areas, Military Districts and Commands which collectively would be an interesting study. One reference we have seen refers to Ottawa as being the Headquarters of Military District No. 4 in 1885. Information to the contrary, with references, would be appreciated.

The same sources as Mohawk made possible the subject proof strikes and we are most appreciative of their co-operation.

265...First reports - roller cancels



Our member Dr. Brian Plain sends in photocopies and the following first sightings:

Rivers Camp, Man.
RCAF Station Uplands, Ont.
CFPO 33 (Rafah, Egypt)
CFPO 109 (Metz, France)

Readers may amend their survey pages for the first two while the last two CFPOs will be included in a future survey. Sooner than we had expected! See page 5.



Rivers Camp, Man.

CFPO 109

266...Opening and closing dates

Further to our item 243. Joe Purcell advises MPO 500 opened 1 Jun 51 and closed 5 Sep 61. It then became Denwood, Alberta.

MPO 511 opened 22 Jun 59 and closed 15 Jun 77 but is open again as the large circular postmark testifies.

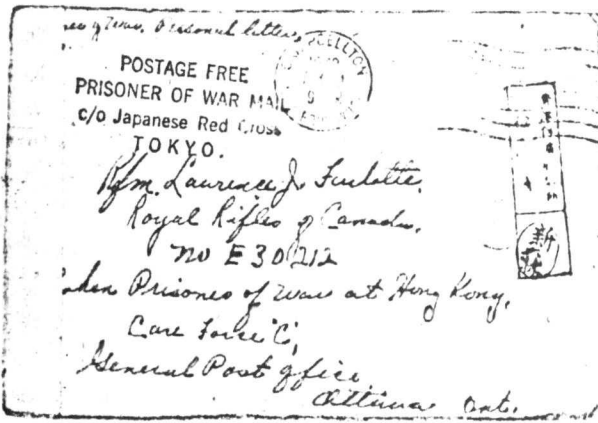
MPO 500 operated in the main camp while 511 was in the training area.

267...Norwegian airmen in Canada - World War Two

Colin Campbell at 1450 Ross Road asks...During WW2 in excess of 2600 Norwegians trained in Canada at Little Norway bases, first in the Toronto area, and then at a camp just North of Gravenhurst, Ontario. Some, after their initial training, went to other camps in Canada for more advanced training but little is known of this latter phase.

Have reader/members any information on the camps at which this advanced training took place?

268...FORCE "C" - HONG KONG - WW2



Further to our item 184 in Newsletter 28. The cover illustrated was sent to a soldier in Force "C" in April, 1942.

The handstamps in our item 184 and this cover preface the following account which appeared in the Hong Kong Study Circle's Bulletin 220 of Jul-Aug 1979. The Bulletin is printed in England. Our sincere thanks go to Mr. W.R. Wellsted the Circle's President for allowing us to reprint the account and to our member Mr. C. R. (Ron) McGuire for advising us of the existence of the article. We understand that Ron provided much of the material for the article.

The history of the Force "C" handstamps follows: quote....

"Staff-Sergeant Charles Albert Clark (Service number C-97586), a veteran of the First World War, was the postal clerk with Force "C" at Hong Kong. He hid the two hammers just before the island colony was taken by the Japanese, wishing to ensure the devices did not fall into enemy hands to be misused. After the war ended I understand Clark personally brought the hammers back to Canada where they were kept by the Postal Corps before being presented to the Postal Museum in 1975. Your suggestion that these hammers were never actually used may be true and, until examples are discovered on cover, we cannot be certain on this point.

Of the total of 1,973 Canadians in Hong Kong on December 8, 1941, the day of invasion, 290 died in the battle and 264 later died as prisoners-of-war. Clark was one of those who managed to endure the well-known horrors of several Japanese prison and forced labour camps.

Clark returned to Canada in 1945 with several health problems and suffering from malnutrition. On 15 June 1946 he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for saving the life of Col. Patrick Hennessy under fire during the battle for Hong Kong and, for his part along with Private K.S. Cameron, in sabotaging a Japanese ship building plant in the Yokohama-Tokyo area. Their heroism greatly affected the Japanese war effort and caused over one million dollars in damage. After he regained his health, Clark returned to his old Post Office job in Toronto.

Clark was the founder of the Hong Kong War Veterans Association. This group rightfully lobbied for many years before realizing success in having the Canadian Government recognize the fact that P.O.W.'s held by the Japanese suffered and incurred more damage to their health, than P.O.W.'s held by other members of the Axis Alliance. Eventually the former Japanese P.O.W.'s were granted a slightly higher pension, however before this happened, Clark died tragically in a house fire on 11 January 1967 at the age of sixty-eight.

You are probably aware of the Hong Kong War Veterans Association but in case you are not the address of the President is Charles Brady, 356 Prince Edward Avenue, OTTERBURN HEIGHTS, P.Q. J3H 1W2." unquote

We feel sure that CMMSG members will appreciate having this military postal history record of Staff-Sergeant C.A. Clark in their Newsletter.

269...Did you know that.....

one of the largest projects the National Postal Museum staff has produced deals with Canadian/Norwegian military postal history?

An 8 panel exhibit has been prepared featuring the Little Norway's postal facilities and the history behind the stamp shown here. The display was first shown at the ENAPS Convention in Clearwater, Florida in October 1978 and again at STAMPEX in Toronto in June 1979. It is slated to go to Norway (their NORWEX 80) in June 1980.

Finally, the complete postal history story of Little Norway is planned for future publication, one of the Museum's booklet series.



270...CAPOS/CFPOs - Dec 1951 - Dec 1975 - SURVEY - Part 1

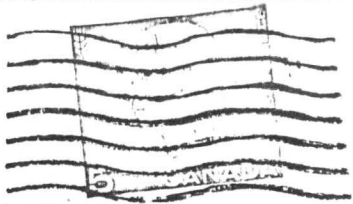


POST OFFICE	LOCATION	DATES	small c.d.s.	large c.d.s.	machine	roller	REG (boxed)	REG (round)	M.O.O.N.	oval d.s.	other
* 32	Gaza Palestine	12 Aug 57 to 29 May 67									
* 33	Rafah Egypt	16 Apr 57 to 15 Feb 67									
34	Naples Italy	30 Feb 56 to 1 Mar 58									
35	Abu Suweir Egypt	25 Nov 56 to 5 Sep 57									
* 35	El Arish Egypt	6 Sep 57 to 29 May 67									
40	Hannover Germany	1 Dec 51 to 7 Dec 53									
40	Iserlohn Ger	8 Dec 53 to 8 Jun 57									
* 40	Hemer Ger	14 Sep 61 to 6 Oct 70									
40	Lahr Ger	7 Oct 70 to									
41	Vinnhorst Ger	20 Dec 51 to 31 Mar 52									
* 41	Hemer Ger	14 Sep 61 to 19 Jun 70									
41	Werl Ger	20 Jun 70 to 31 Jan 71									
42	Bothfeld Ger	20 Dec 51 to 31 Mar 52									
* 42	Soest Ger	16 Sep 61 to 14 Oct 70									
42	Baden-Soellingen Ger	15 Oct 70 to									
43	Hohne Ger	24 Dec 51 to 27 Nov 53									
43	Soest Ger	1 Sep 54 to 15 Jun 57									
* 43	Iserlohn Ger	14 Sep 61 to 8 Oct 70									
43	Lahr Ger	9 Oct 70 to									
* 44	Werl Ger	31 Jan 52 to 13 Oct 70									
44	Lahr Ger	14 Oct 70 to									
45	Hannover Ger	1 Apr 52 to 16 Oct 53									
* 45	Werl Ger	17 Oct 53 to 15 Feb 67									
46	Antwerp Belgium	15 Feb 57 to 28 Sep 57									
* 46	Werl Ger	29 Sep 57 to 2 Oct 70									
46	Lahr Ger	3 Oct 70 to									
101	North Luffenham England	1 Sep 53 to 22 Mar 55									
* 101	Soest Ger	30 Apr 64 to 15 Jun 71									
102	Langar Eng	8 Sep 53 to 31 Mar 64									
* 102	Soest Ger	1 Jun 64 to 31 Aug 70									
* 103	London Eng	1 Sep 53 to 15 Sep 67									
* 104	Paris France	20 Oct 52 to 15 Feb 67									
* 105	Grostenquin Fr	16 Oct 52 to 1 Feb 65									
105	Lahr Ger	27 Mar 67 to									
* 106	Zweibrucken Ger	20 Jan 53 to 15 Feb 67									
* 107	Baden-Soellingen Ger	28 Apr 53 to 15 Feb 67									
108	Furstenfeldbruck Ger	17 Jun 53 to 18 Jul 53									
* 108	Marville Fr	1 Nov 54 to 25 Aug 67									
108	Lahr Ger	16 Oct 67 to									
* 109	Metz Fr	11 Apr 53 to 15 Feb 67									
110	Trier Ger	1 Feb 57 to 30 Jun 58									
* 110	Ramstein Ger	1 Jul 58 to 30 Jun 69									
110	Zweibrucken Ger	1 Jul 69 to 28 Aug 69									
* 111	Decimomannu Italy	15 Jun 57 to 15 Feb 67									
111	Cairo Egypt	8 Jan 74 to 4 Jun 74									
111	Quneitra Golan Heights	5 Jun 74 to									

* designation CAPO changed to CFPO effective 1 Jan 65

195

270...CAPOs/CFPOs - Dec 1951 - Dec 1975 - SURVEY - Part 1 - cont'd.



POST OFFICE	LOCATION	DATES	small c.d.s.	large c.d.s.	machine	roller	REG (boxed)	REG (round)	M.O.O.N.	oval d.s.	other
112	Iserlohn Ger	3 Sep 68 to 4 Dec 70									
112	Rabah Israel	30 Jan 74 to 12 Jul 74									
112	Ismailia Egypt	13 Jul 74 to 9 Dec 75									
112	Tel Aviv Israel	10 Dec 75 to									
113	Cairo Egypt	13 Jun 74 to 16 Aug 74									
113	Ismailia Egypt	17 Aug 74 to									
112 and 113 are CFPOs											
		totals									

There are a number of very good articles on the series of postal markings listed here. One of the earliest appeared in TOPICS for December 1956 entitled "Post-War Canadian Military Markings : Europe" by Jack Wilsdon.

Another, from Maple Leaves, "Canadian Forces Mail, Part 5" by the late Lt. Col. R.H. Webb published in December 1959.

The Forces Postal History Society in their Newsletter #155 of Mar-Apr 1979 has an interesting account, with listing and illustrations, of postal markings used by the Canadian Forces in Europe 1949-1979. This was compiled by J.A. Daynes.

Finally, the Department of National Defence (D Post), issued as recently as Jan 1976, a comprehensive listing of post offices operated by the Canadian Forces Postal Service. It contains CAPO/CFPO designations, Post Office Department numbers, location and effective dates. Our survey is based on this listing.

Please note : nil survey returns are requested at this time.

271...Volunteers wanted or You, You and You!

Our files for Newsletters 36 and 37 are very thin. They have that undernourished look.

All of us can benefit from something you have just researched or are about to write for Canada's military mail story.

If you Madam, or you Sir, haven't made a contribution yet here are three topics we'd like to see researched and written up. These are: military roller cancels, military seals and Canadian base post offices. We've shown you some rollers in item 265 and a seal in 263 and a mystery postmark inscribed, 3 CANADIAN BASE P.O. N93, here in 271. Have you ever seen it before? Please choose one of these, or something else that appeals in another area, and let your scribe know so that duplication of effort can be avoided.



We've had a lot of help over the past 6 years, and thats for sure, but the more the merrier.

A Merry Christmas to everyone.

All for now...

Colin, Ken & Sid.

P.S. Our Treasurer advises that a call for dues likely will be made in our next Newsletter but please wait for the official notice.