



47

January 30, 1982

Dear Member:

We should like all members to STAND EASY for a moment while we acknowledge these Group members for their EXTRA MEASURE OF ASSISTANCE over the past year:

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Sid Bedwell | Brian Plain | Bill Robinson |
| Ken Ellison | Joe Purcell | Ritch Toop |
| Thurlow Fraser | Bill Richards | John Wannerton |
| John Frith | Ed Richardson | Wilf Whitehouse |

Two gentlemen, Alan Brown and Reg. Kingston in England, although not members of our Group contributed heartily and deserve special mention.

399...Canadian Military Hospitals Overseas - World War One cachets

Of the four contributors to this item Ed Richardson leads the pack with a huge input from his collection. Dr. Plain provided additional reference material so we have most of the ingredients for a really good listing of these historic items which appear on soldier's mail.

If you have any hospital cachets in your collection not reported thus far would you please include a photocopy (or tracing) with your survey return.

Notice the appeal which was made in the third paragraph of item 388 and the cachet from No 9 Canadian General Hospital, RHYL, in Wales, below.* Originally known as Shorncliffe Military Hospital from 25.7.15 to 10.9.17 and then as No 9 C.G.H. at Shorncliffe from 10.9.17 until 17.12.18, No 9 moved to Rhyl 17.12.18 and remained until closing 26.6.19. * see page 2



West Cliff Eye and Ear Hospital opened 20.10.15 closed 20.9.19 Always at Folkestone in Kent.

As D. of C. CRCH 16.12.14 to 10.9.17 As No 15 CGH 10.9.17 to 15.9.19 Always at Taplow in Buckinghamshire.

400...CANADIANS BEHIND ENEMY LINES by Roy MacLaren

This is a new book by the author of CANADIANS ON THE NILE - 1882-1898 and CANADIANS IN RUSSIA - 1918-1919. Printed by U.B.C. Press in 1981 its the story of all the Canadians who volunteered for "behind the enemy lines action" in World War Two. Hard cover only available now at \$24.95.

Note::: In NL 48 we will be reviewing a superb North-West Rebellion cover.

399...Canadian War Hospitals Overseas - World War One cachets - continued

PUTNEY SW. 15.
10.45 - M
5 FEB 18



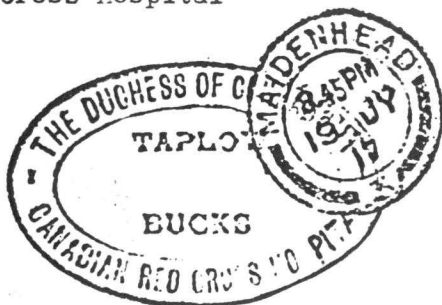
39mm tracing

O.C. NO. 5. "OVERSEAS" GENERAL HOSPITAL



Princess Patricia's Canadian Red Cross Hospital

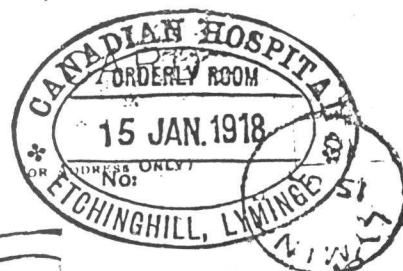
..... Lieut. Colonel O.C. No 5. "OVERSEAS" General Hospital



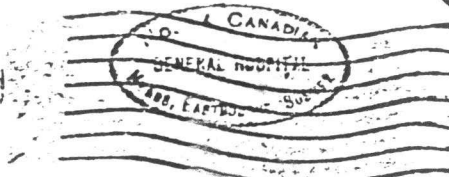
RHYL, (Wales)



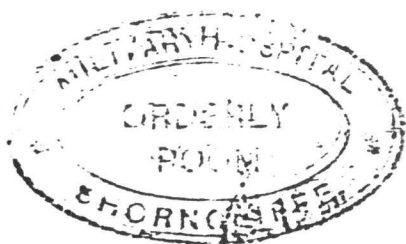
The Queen's Canadian Military Hospital



tracing



No 14 Canadian General Hospital Meads, Eastbourne, Sussex



CANADIAN WAR HOSPITAL THE BEACH, WALMER.



No 15 Canadian General (Duchess of Connaught Canadian Red Cross) Hospital

401...British type single-ring and skeleton cancellations - all diameters

We will go out on a limb and say that we are virtually finished recording the different postal markings used on Canadian soldier's mail overseas during the First World War. We refer to major varieties such as the subjects of this item. Future discoveries should fall into one of the major listings presented in Newsletters thus far.

One exception remains for consideration, that is machine cancels of Swedish design called Krag type cancels.

Some of the cancels listed below have been knocking around in our file since these Newsletters began but readers have been most helpful in bringing the number up to 18. Other illustrations and listings will follow as they become available. Your continued support is requested to increase the number of camps listed bearing in mind our Canadian Soldier's Mail criterion.



YOUR PERSONAL CHECK LIST

| INSCRIPTION | approx. dia. mm | cancel | backstrike | DATE | INSCRIPTION | approx. dia. mm | cancel | b' strike | DATE |
|---|--------------------|--------|------------|------|--|--------------------|--------|-----------|------|
| Cdn Record Office Postal Despatched D.L.S. Cdn Base P.O. Shorncliffe Camp Cdn Record Office Received | 25 | | | | * Crowborough Camp B O B O @ 6 o'clock | 29 | | | |
| Received Canadian Pay (blank) Office | 25 | | | | Field Post Office X | 28 | | | |
| Chyngton Camp Seaford Sussex | 25 | | | | Field Post Office 155 | 29 | | | |
| Dibgate Camp B O | 26 | | | | Otterpool Camp B O | 28 | | | |
| Purfleet Camp Grays | 24 | | | | Registered CPC Kimmel Park | 29 | | | |
| Blackdown Camp Aldershot | 29 | | | | Army Post Office (A)? | 37 | | | |
| Chyngton Camp Seaford | 24 | | | | Bramshott Camp B O | 36 | | | |
| Crowborough Camp B O B O @ 4 o'clock | 28 | | | | Sling Plantation Camp | 36 | | | |
| | 29 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

NOTE: The designation single-ring and skeleton should be explained so we may use the same terms as our counterparts in England.

Both have single rings but the skeletons are made up of moveable type while normal single-rings have fixed lettering. Both single-ring and skeleton types were metal (though there were rubber single-rings for packets/parcels) but there were no rubber skeletons.

* possible by moveable type See page 4 for illustrations.....

402...Survey Return - items 337 and 358

Members will recall these items from NLS 41 and 43 and by now will have thumbed through their stock a half dozen times to rate their collection against the checklist.

The First World War postmarks are real toughies but as a group we may come up with a good showing. Please mark your "ballots" carefully.

The Canadian duplex cancels should be 98% subscribed. You will notice the absence of a couple of hopefuls and the additions of those reported since this listing first appeared last April. If you have found others please add them to the survey sheet before posting to Colin Campbell in Kelowna.

Report one only of each of those represented in your collection even though you may have heaps of duplicates! From the returns we should get a good idea of rarity.

The last page of this Newsletter (both sides) is the SURVEY RETURN intended for your annotation and posting, hopefully within 30 days of receipt. When the results are ready (allowing overseas returns to come in) the identical pages will be re-run with the results added for your file. A lot of work goes into these surveys so please give the "RETURN" your best shot.

401...British type single-ring and skeleton cancellations - continued



Blackdown Camp Aldershot

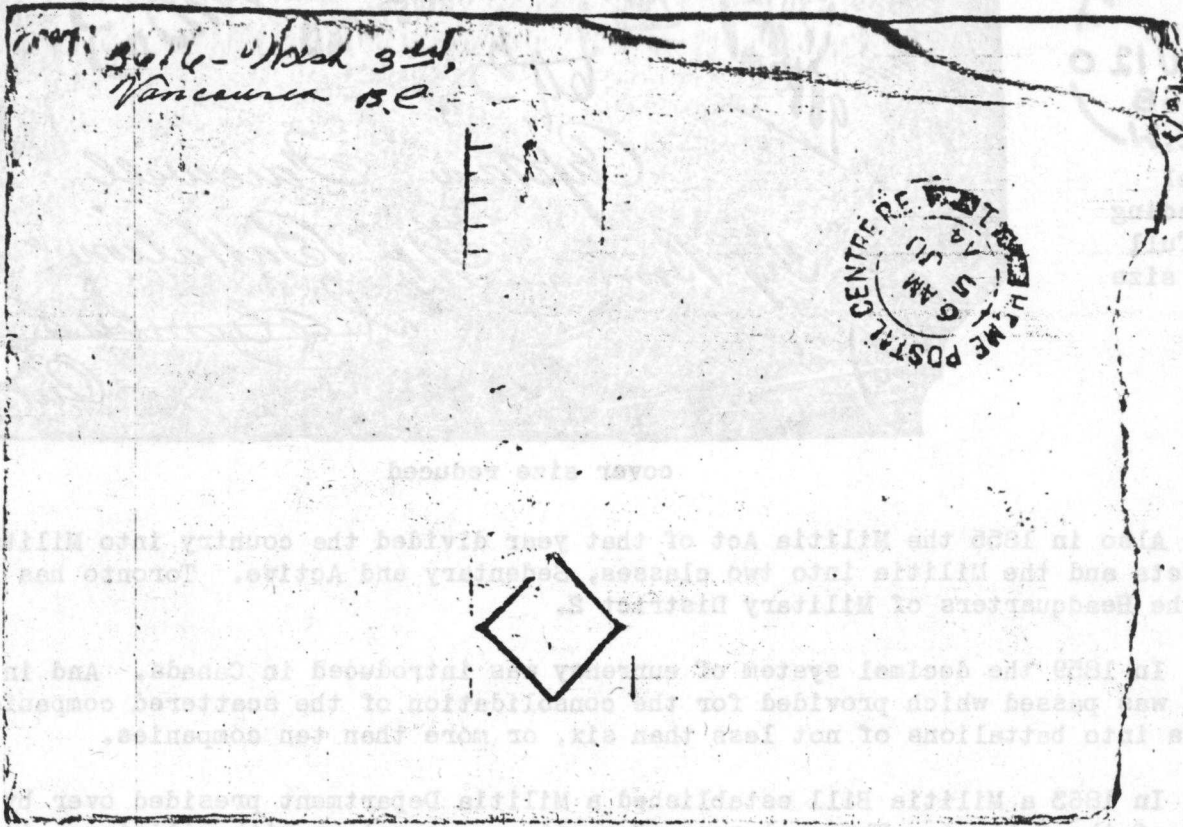
A.P.O. ?

Sling Plantation Camp 10 DE 14

403...HOME POSTAL CENTRE R.E./1

According to Guertin:

"At the beginning of the war,mail,including parcels for overseas, was placed in double bags and sent from Ottawa to Montreal for dispatch to Britain.Later,mail was also shipped from Atlantic ports. Letters and parcels-the latter after Custom's inspection in the United Kingdom-were forwarded to the Canadian Section,Royal Engineers (Postal Section)Home Depot,and subsequently dispatched by van to the individual units where they were distributed by postal authorities of each unit.The Home Depot was situated in Bournemouth until May 1941 and from 1941 at Nottingham."



The cover shown above demonstrates the use of a British type marking that reads HOME POSTAL CENTRE R.E./L,and most likely was applied to the cover at Nottingham.The cover was mailed from Vancouver May 25/44 to:

C.D.N./117 Captain Alex M.Millar
B.Coy.2nd Glasgow Highlanders,
Army Post Office,
England.

It would appear then that this marking was used by the Canadian Forces at Nottingham and one would anticipate a similar marking to surface, from Bournemouth.

A point of interest on this cover is the black diamond.I have seen this on other covers but am at a bit of a loss to fully explain it. As the date on this cover is one day before D-Day,one may wonder if it had something to do with security,or perhaps it was a mark applied to early mail for forces in France.A cover shown by Guertin dated June 9 1944 with a Krag Army/Post Office/S.C.2/ also shows this marking and similar but smaller diamonds have been seen in conjunction with a undated machine.

Any Ideas?

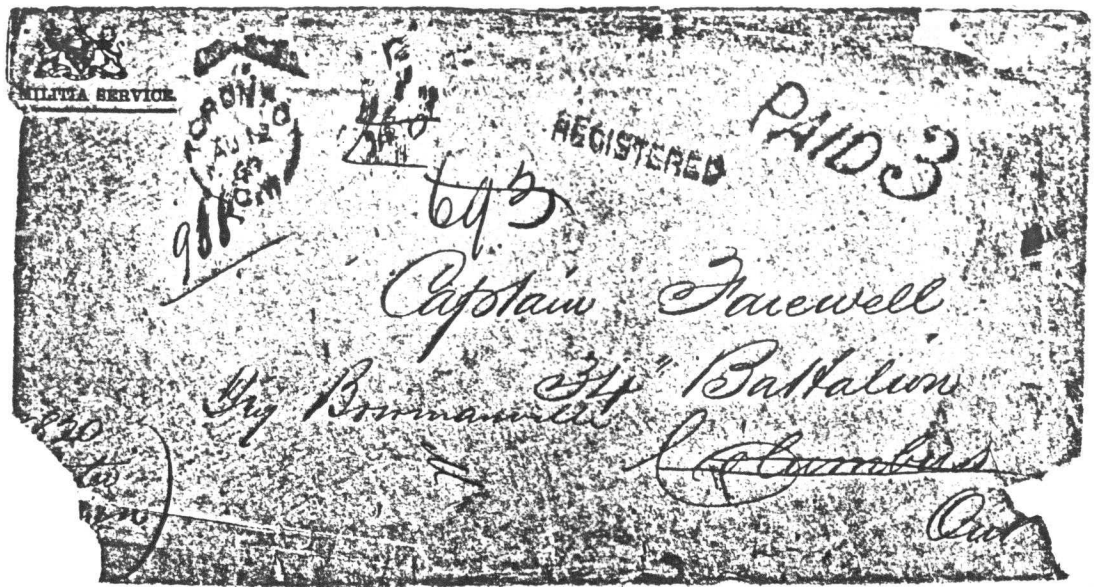
404....1868 Militia Service cover - a postal/military history item - Part 1 of 2

In studying this cover let us review briefly some postal/military history in the 20 year period from 1855 - 1875.

It was 1855 when a registration system on letters (other than Money-Letters) was introduced and the rate was set at 1d, that fee being payable only in cash prior to 1858. Following that stamps or cash were optional. In the case of the subject cover the Registration fee of 2 cents was paid in cash as indicated by the straight-line handstamp in red ink. See Boggs page 460 for types of handstruck "R" stamps.



cancel tracing full size



cover size reduced

Also in 1855 the Militia Act of that year divided the country into Military Districts and the Militia into two classes, Sedentary and Active. Toronto has long been the Headquarters of Military District 2.

In 1859 the decimal system of currency was introduced in Canada. And in 1859 an Act was passed which provided for the consolidation of the scattered companies of Militia into battalions of not less than six, or more than ten companies.

In 1863 a Militia Bill established a Militia Department presided over by a member of the Cabinet. Three classes of service were set up with militiamen in the first two subject to six days drill each year at 50¢ pay per day. Provision was made for schools for the training of Officers and the organization of drill associations and cadet corps.

In 1865/66 the Fenian Raids on Canada from points in the United States took place causing considerable alarm and many thousands of the Militia were called out and remained on duty for several months. A great deal has been written about military events at this time but for our purposes the formation of 25 battalions of Infantry and Rifles may be traced to the year 1866, indicative of the concerns of the day.

It was September of 1866 that the 34th Ontario Battalion of Infantry was formed and it is perpetuated today in The Ontario Regiment (R.C.A.C.) with headquarters at Oshawa, Ontario.

Canada's year of Confederation of course followed in 1867 but it was July 1, 1868 - the date had not yet been designated Dominion Day - that the 34th paraded its ten companies in honour of Confederation's first birthday.

405..Postage stamp of Newfoundland cancelled at Base Army Post Office-Egypt



The illustrations show, on piece, Scott's #65 of Newfoundland first issued 24 June 1897 cancelled by a Base Army Post Office Z hammer (see tracing) dated 2 NO 15. This of course was 18 years after the stamp was issued and 6000 miles from home!

There are two possibilities how this could have occurred and readers may make their choice or suggest alternatives.



On 4 October 1914 the good ship S.S. Florizel* left Newfoundland to join the convoy of ships bound for England carrying the First Canadian Expeditionary Force. On board were 537 young soldier volunteers who had recently been cadets in four different church corps on the island. The Newfoundland Companies eventually trained at several sites in England and Scotland.

It was 5 April 1915 when B.A.P.O. Z was opened for business in Alexandria, Egypt by a British Officer, Lt. Hopkyn, and the office remained there for 4 1/2 years.

In September 1915 the Newfoundland Battalion was sent to the Dardenelles joining the British 88th Brigade, 29th Division at Suvla Bay.** In December the Gallipoli operation was abandoned and the 29th left for Egypt where they engaged in further training. It was during the brief period of time covered by this paragraph that the letter with its Newfoundland stamp passed through B.A.P.O. Z.

In March 1916 the Division sailed for the south of France then by train to the Somme area where they were joined by a considerable number of re-inforcements from Newfoundland before going into action at Arras.

The Royal Navy absorbed 1964 Newfoundlanders for their ships and a large number of men served in the Merchant Marine.** It is possible that the letter with its Newfoundland stamp could have been posted in Alexandria by one of these seafarers?

* On February 24, 1918 the Florizel (3,081 tons) ran aground at full steam just north of Cape Race, Newfoundland with a loss of 94 souls.

** In commemoration of the wartime service of her soldiers and sailors in the First World War Newfoundland issued a fine set of stamps (12) 2 January 1919. Of the twelve, one commemorated the Suvla Bay engagement and four, bearing the Latin word "UBIQUE", meaning EVERYWHERE, the service of the Royal Naval Reserve. The remaining seven honoured other military actions in which the Newfoundlanders were engaged.



References:

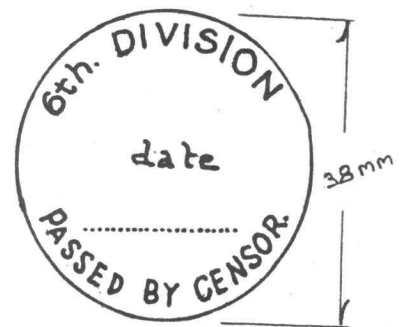
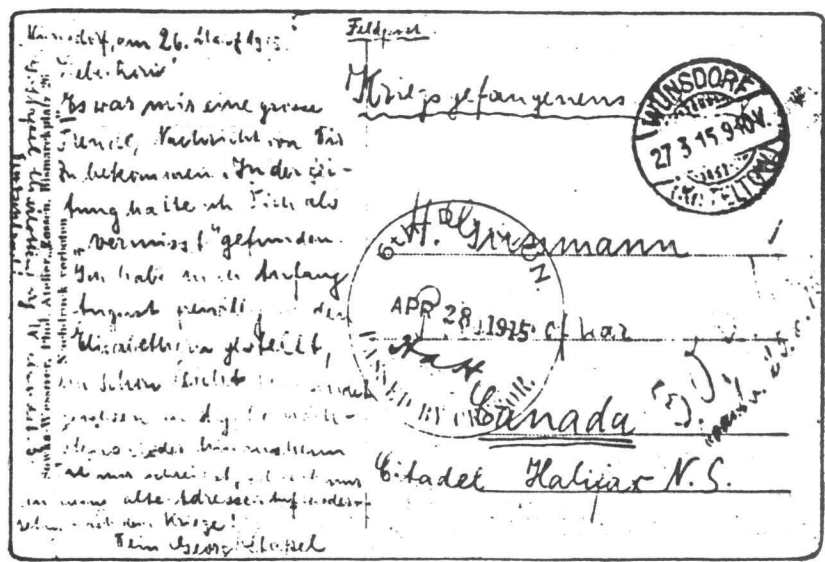
Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps-North America by Robson Lowe. History of British Army Postal Service-1903-1927 by E.B. Proud (1981). A Winter's Tale - The Wreck of the Florizel by Cassie Brown (1976). A History of Newfoundland and Labrador by F.W. Rowe (1980).

406...Censor mark-6th DIVISION-Apr 28 1915-Nova Scotia-World War One.....

During the First World War there were two internment camps in Nova Scotia the first opening at Halifax (the Citadel) 8 September 1914 and the second at Amherst (Malleable Iron Works) 17 April 1915.

As prisoner of war mail usually was free franked military cancels are not known from these camps but a censor mark from Amherst is known quite well and shown in Newsletter #20, page 7. See also TOPICS for May/June 1979, page 42, fig 4. Notice figure 5 as well for another censor mark (the subject of this item) used there.

The post card shown below (courtesy Bill Robinson) is addressed to Halifax (Citadel) and bears the subject censor mark. It was used concurrently for a very short time with the type shown in NL 20. Notice the censor's initials.



full size

The designation, 6th DIVISION, may be explained by the fact that in 1913 (1914 in another reference) Canada was divided for military purposes into 6 Divisional Areas and 3 Military Districts. Reference "The Militia List-Dominion of Canada, page 141". D.A.6 comprised the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island with headquarters at Halifax. Early in 1916 the 6 Divisional Area titles were dropped in favour of Military Districts with the same 3 provinces making up M.D.6 and H.Q. at Halifax. In November 1917 New Brunswick became M.D.7 with H.Q. at St. John.

Here are some random excerpts from various references which add a little colour to the story::

quote- In February 1915 Otter (Maj-Gen) travelled to Halifax where about 80 prisoners were confined in the Citadel.

More than 800 Germans (by British request) were transferred from Newfoundland and the West Indies to Canada. An abandoned factory building in Amherst N.S. was rented. Some of these prisoners had been in the war in Europe, and at sea, and were somewhat dangerous. The Officers were removed to the Citadel at Halifax.

By the end of 1916 the German Officers at the Citadel were returned to Amherst (Likely by 1 October as internment operations at the Citadel ceased 3 October, 1916), Ed.

Only in 1919, July 24, could the first large shipment of prisoners, mostly German sailors from Amherst, sail from Quebec for Rotterdam. Unquote.

The Amherst internment facilities were closed 27 September, 1919.

All for now..... Ken, Colin & Sid.

402...Survey Return - items 337 and 358



NOTE

Double Ring type - - CANADIAN is common to all

| | on stamp | cover | | stamp | cover |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| Base P.O. Bramshott Camp. | | frontback | Field P.O. St Martins Plain. | | frontback |
| P.O. Bramshott Camp. Hants. | | | Base P.O. Salisbury | | |
| Base P.O. Brighton. | | | Field P.O. Salisbury Camp. | | |
| P.O. Brighton. | | | Base P.O. Seaford Camp. | | |
| P.O. C.D.D. Buxton. | | | P.O. Seaford Camp. | | |
| P.O. Coombe Down Bath. | | | P.O. Seaford Camp. Sussex. | | |
| P.O. Crowborough Camp. Sussex. | | | P.O. C.D.D. Shoreham -on-Sea. | | |
| Base P.O. Dibgate Camp. | | | P.O. C.C.A.C. Shoreham -on-Sea. | | |
| P.O. Dibgate Camp. | | | Base. Shorncliffe. | | |
| Post Office C.C.A.C. | | | Base P.O. Shorncliffe Camp. | | |
| P.O. Hastings. | | | Base P.O. Witley Camp. | | |
| POST Office Otterpool Camp. Kent. | | | P.O. Witley Camp. | | |
| P.O. Otterpool Camp. | | | Field P.O. 1 | | |
| Command Depot P.O. | | | | | |



NOTE



WITLEY





REGISTERED oval type - - REGISTERED/CANADIAN is common to all

| | date | cover | | date | cover |
|--------------------------------|------|-----------|-------------------------------|------|-----------|
| P.O. Bramshott Camp. | | frontback | P.O. Seaford Camp. Sussex. | | frontback |
| P.O. Bath. | | | P.O. Shorncliffe. | | |
| P.O. Crowborough Camp. Sussex. | | | P.O. Witley Camp. | | |
| P.O. Otterpool Camp. | | | P.O. C.D.D. Shoreham -on-Sea. | | |
| F.P.O. Sandling Camp. | | | F.P.O. St Martins Plain | | |

280

402...Survey Return - items 337 and 358

Notes:

| | |   | | | | |   | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|--|-------------|----------------|--------|-------|--|--------------|----|------|-------------|----------------|--------|-------|--|--|
| | | type | with CANADA | without CANADA | got it | state | | | | type | with CANADA | without CANADA | got it | state | | |
| St. Thomas | MPO 101 | 2A | | X | | | Shilo | MPO 1001 | 2A | | X | | | | | |
| Trenton | " 303 | 2A | | X | | | Rivers | " 1006 | 2A | | X | | | | | |
| Ottawa | NPO 317 | 2B | | X | | | Souris | " 1008 | 2A | | X | | | | | |
| RCAF Station/Centralia | ^O _n t | 2 | X | | | | Churchill | " 1015 | 2A | X | | | | | | |
| Valcartier PQ | MPO 501 | 2A | | X | | | Gimli | RCAF Station | 2 | X | | | | | | |
| MPO 501 (Valcartier) | (Military Post Office) | 2B | | X | | | Rivers Camp Man. | | 2 | X | | | | | | |
| Moncton | MPO 705 | 2A | | X | | | Terrace | MPO 1109 | 2A | | X | | | | | |
| Dartmouth | " 602 | 2A | | X | | | F.M.O. Halifax | | 2 | | X | | | | | |
| Shilo Man. | | 2 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shearwater | NS | 2 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| RCAF Station Centralia | ^O _n t. | 2 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



More Notes: