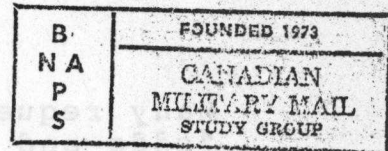


CANADIAN MILITARY MAIL STUDY GROUP

NEWSLETTER # 51

January 1983



Many of you have expressed a desire to see this group carry on. You must realize that it will be very difficult to keep going in the same manner that we have been under Colin Campbell's editorship. Comments on his work have always been most complimentary.

We, in the far west, have known of Colin's desire to retire for some months. Three of us, Bill Robinson, Brian Plain, and I, have discussed this matter and, in the absence of any other volunteers, have decided to do what we can to keep the Group going.

Our consensus was to change the concept of the Newsletter and put out "self-contained" articles on various campaigns or operations. Accordingly here is your first installment entitled:

Y FORCE THE CANADIAN ARMY IN JAMAICA 1940-46.

The intent of these articles is to give you a concise review of the operation with dates, units involved, references for further study, and illustrations to help identify mail from the particular operation.

In the works are other topics such as Q Force, C Force, Z Force, Canadian Forces in Alaska in WW II, etc. We need help from members on other topics and would appreciate similar articles from you. First, would you kindly advise me of your desired topic to ensure that we do not overlap. We would wish to be able to edit any article submitted so that we can maintain a common style and form.

It is intended that these articles be self contained so that you could start a sort of reference manual that we so sorely lack. All articles will be checked by several members to ensure as much accuracy as possible. In the event you have any comments, note errors, omissions, etc. please advise the acting editors as soon as possible.

After these articles have been circulated, it is felt BNAPS may want to use some of them in Topics and we trust you would concur in this.

Probably by now you have read enough of this, but please remember we need the help of all members to keep it going. Please do contact any of the 'committee' with your ideas and offers of help, and we will do our best to keep things moving.

At the moment we have \$66.91 in the bank and should be able to continue for some time on this. There are 31 paying members and five courtesy members, and, since it is some time since we printed the membership list, we will try to include this in the future.

All the best for the New Year, and do write us...

Wm. G. Robinson 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, B.C. V6M 3A7

Dr. Brian C. Plain 230 Robson Road West, Kelowna, B.C. V1X 3C8

Ken V. Ellison R.R. #1, Oyama, B.C. VOH 1W0

Many requests have been received that we continue with the "odds and ends" and it so happens that there are a few on hand. You will realize that we do not have the "polish" of our previous editor and request you bear with us. Incidentally we hope you appreciate all the work that Colin put in on the Index - it is most helpful.

CAMP MILITAIRE ST. JEAN D'IBERVILLE A note from Colin



Looking back to Newsletter # 11, page 7, we see an illustration of the CAMP MILITAIRE cancellation from ST. JEAN D'IBERVILLE P.Q. Later we were to learn the hammer was proofed AM NO 16 14.

Quite recently, while looking through some sheets of undated proofs, this cancellation appeared again and beside it almost the identical impression lacking however the abbreviation, P.Q.!

Good strikes are not easy to find but see Newsletter #33, page 6 for the exception to the rule. This one has P.Q. clearly shown as do others we have checked.

A closer look at your Camp Militaire holdings is definitely warranted.

REFERENCES AVAILABLE:

HISTORY OF THE BRITISH ARMY POSTAL SERVICE by Proud.

This is an exhaustive reference series on the subject and includes those British type hammers used by Canadians and others. There are three volumes now as noted below. Vol. II came out several years ago and we now have Vol. I and III.

Vol. I 1892 to 1902, 275 pages, bound, £18.+ £1.7 (post)

Vol.II 1903 to 1927, 312 pages, bound, £30 + £1.7 (post)

Vol.III 1928 to 1963, 275 plus pages, £20 + £1.7 (post)

These are available by sending the appropriate amount to Proud Bailey Co. Ltd., Box 74, Heathfield, E.Sussex, TN21 8PY, U.K. or to

Vera Trinder Ltd., 38 Bedford Street, London WC2E 9EU UK

NEW MEMBER:

We are pleased to welcome Graham J.Noble of Box 80, Kingston Ont., K7L 4V6 to the group. Graham is presently planning "some sort of catalog listing" of the military P.O.'s of Ontario and may be looking for input from some group members.

C.A.P.O. NO. 10 DUPLEX

Newsletter #15 page 56 showed that this cancel existed and another has been seen lately. It appears to be quite scarce and we would like to know if any more have turned up. The regular full circle cancel is the one usually seen.

The British Army in France was retreating in May 1940 to the English Channel and all help was needed. As a result of this, Canada agreed to provide a battalion to replace some of the British troops in Jamaica.

Accordingly, the First Battalion of the Winnipeg Grenadiers landed there on June 20, 1940, and proceeded to Up Park Camp near Cross Roads, Kingston, and to Newcastle in the Blue Mountains.

Postal facilities were not provided for the Canadians, and most mail required Jamaican postage stamps. The mails were sent through regular civil channels. Exceptions to this may have been those covers with the oval marking "Military Post / Up Park Camp" as per Illustration (10) and by those unstamped covers with the handstamp marking "Canadian Army / Overseas" (9). These covers may have been bagged at the camps and sent as bulk mail to Canada.

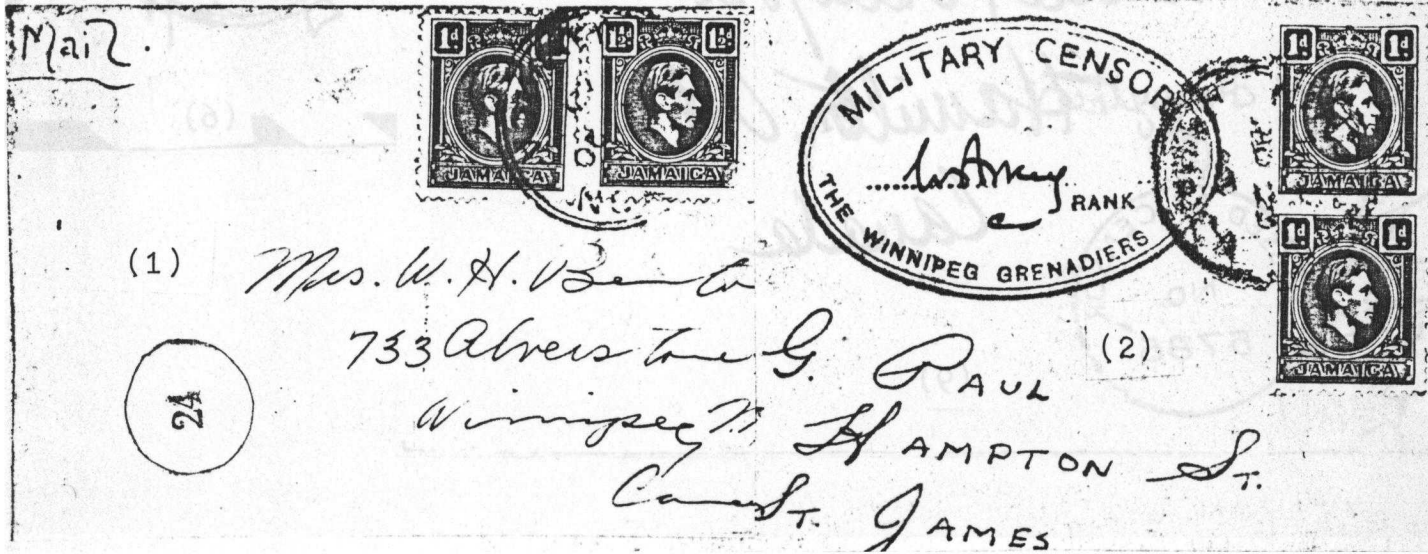
Censorship was nearly always by the Army units. Various censor markings have appeared and are illustrated herein. Most common was the round 32mm "Y" Force handstamps (3,4) which appeared in shades of red, purple, blue and black. Numbers used appear to have run between 1 and 10 with numbers 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 known as having been used. In mid 1944 there appeared the 20mm circle with crown atop (8) marking with the words "Canadian Army / 316". This type, with different numbers, was also used in Labrador and the Bahamas. Other censor markings are known and are shown in the illustrations following.

Canadian Army units that served in Jamaica were:

Winnipeg Grenadiers	June 20/40 to Sept 13/41
Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders	Sept 10/41 to May 20/43
Irish Fusiliers of Can. (Vancouver)	May 13/43 to Aug 6/44
Brockville Rifles	Aug 5/44 to April 46

References:

- Foster, T., Postal History of the Canadian Forces in Jamaica, 1940-46, Maple Leaves, October 1975, No. 155
- Guertin, H.E., The Wartime Mails and Stamps of Canada, 1939-46, Private printing.
- BNAPS Canadian Military Mail Study Group Newsletters, various issues.





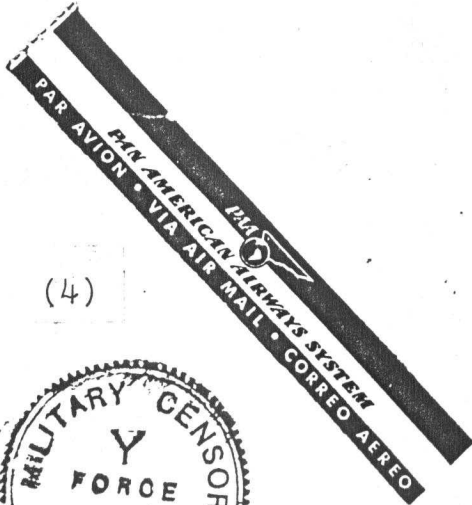
AIR MAIL.



(10)

Miss L
271 M

[Handwritten initials]



(4)

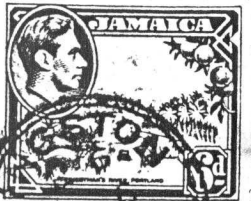


Mrs. R. A. Wold.
144 Airdrie Road,
Leaside,
Toronto,
Ontario,
Canada.

(11)

CANADIAN ARMY
OVERSEAS.

AIR MAIL #2

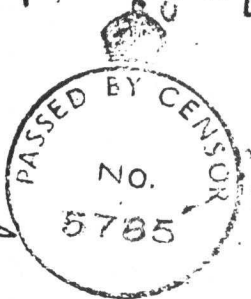


(6)

Walter Crawford

54 Front Street
Hamilton, Ont
Canada

[Handwritten signature]



(9)

(3)

Illustrations:

- 1) 24 in small circle, used with red censor label in 1940-41, likely civil censor mark used away from main base, 17 also seen.
- 2) Military Censor/Winnipeg Grenadiers, used in 1940 before (3)
- 3) Military Censor "Y" Force, Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6, 8. Most common type.
- 4) As above (3) but no quote marks around Y on No. 4 .
- 5) Military Censor "Y" Force no. (blank). Often seen used by Irish Fusiliers with initials "F.E.E." (Fred E. Eaton)
- 6) Military Censor "Y" No. 10, 39mm double circle censor.
- 7) Military Censor/Jamaica No. 16, also known No. 19. Seldom used on Canadian mail - likely British.
- 8) Canadian Army/316 , crowned 20mm circle used in 1944 by Irish and Brockville Rifles. Other nos. not seen in Jamaica.
- 9) Passed By Censor no. 5785, 30mm crowned circle seen in 1942-43 in combination with (11), and also with Jamaican postage. Likely Canadian mail through British Censor.
- 10) Military Post/Up Park Camp - British oval seldom used on Canadian mail. Also seen, similar Security Centre/Up Park Camp, Jamaica.
- 11) Canadian Army/Overseas used on covers without stamps.
- 12) Winnipeg Grenadiers, Orderly Room stamp, not seen.
- 13) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada, Orderly Room stamp.
- 14) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada, Company Office stamp.
- 15) Irish Fusiliers of Canada, Orderly Room Stamp, not seen.
- 16) Brockville Rifles, Orderly Room stamp, seldom seen on mail.

CANADIAN LEGION



(11)

CANADIAN ARMY OVERSEAS.

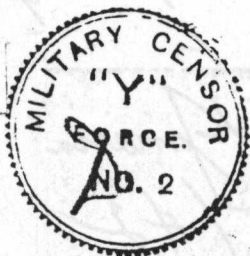
WAR SERVICES

Miss 378

*Mrs. V. Mercer,
Canadian Westinghouse Co. Ltd.,
X2 Dept.
Hamilton
Canada.*



(3)



*Miss June Pacific
271 Mary St W
Hamilton
Ontario
Canada.*



(7)

312

(4)



(16)



H. 614

(5)



R Luper

Box 165

Plot Mound Man

(4)

VIA AIR MAIL

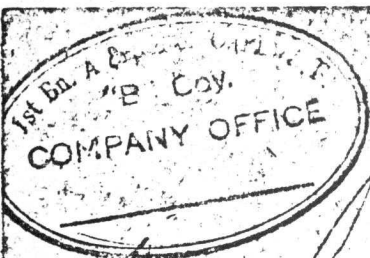
(8)

D. G. Grant
J. Grant



Mr. W. Alendoy,
48 Fairview Ave.,
2nd D +

letter 458947



(14)

Kingston Jamaica
August 2 / 42
UP PARK Camp

(13)

A. & S. H. of C. (P.L.)

APR 6 1942

ORDERLY ROOM

Dear General

Dear Sir Received your Cigaretts
O.P. and am very thankful for your
thoughtfulness and kindness, Chris O.P.
with love
Sincerely
D. G. Grant B7642
B. Company