

BUREAU DU COURRIER
 MAIL ROOM
 OCT 6 1978
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 COURCELETTE, P.Q. GOA INC

B N A P S	FOUNDED 1973
	CANADIAN MILITARY MAIL STUDY GROUP

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KENNETH V. ELLISON
 R.R. #1, OYAMA
 B.C. V0H 1W0

Number 60.
 November 1984

Another milestone! We have achieved 10 issues of the Newsletter since Colin's 'magical' 50.

From all reports BNAPEX 84 at San Francisco was a great success. Our study group, under Bill Robinson's direction, met for a breakfast meeting. There can not be many farmers in the group as only seven made it. Of the seven, three were not group members either. We have asked for a 'daytime' meeting next year in Calgary!

Since our last Newsletter we have added the following five new members to our group. A special welcome goes to Peter Eggett, Paul Burega, Robert Wyse, Robert Gagnon, and Steve Luciuk. Their addresses are noted on the enclosed membership listing.

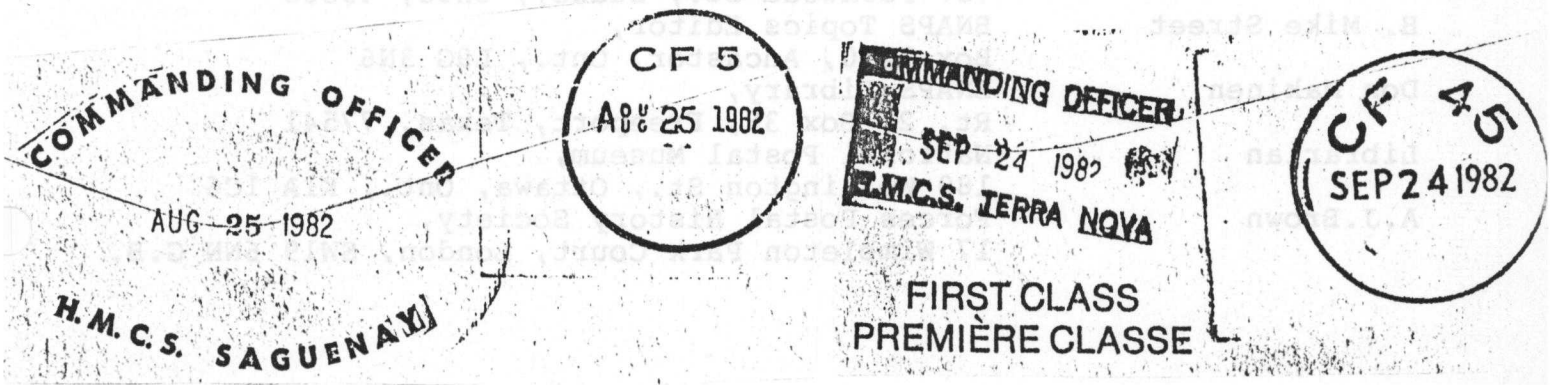
In order to have more interaction between members of the group there is enclosed a separate sheet for information on your military collecting interests, etc. This information will be summarized and included in a future Newsletter so that members may contact each other to trade or seek information if they so desire. It would be nice to have each member reply so more interest can be generated. Out of 40 members there are only six who are taking an active interest in the Newsletter.

A note is at hand saying that Joe Purcell would like information on current Canadian Military postmarks. Can you help--address overleaf.

This issue will have another article in the Newfoundland-Labrador series and it covers the CANADIAN ARMY IN LABRADOR 1942 TO 1946.

If postage weights allow there will also be included Wilf Whitehouse's article on the CANADIAN NAVAL LIASON OFFICERS AT GUANTANAMO, CUBA. This is another of those little known Canadian operations in World War II, and mail from these officers is hard to find. If the article is not here, look for it another time.

Below are some current types of military markings sent in to the editor.



J. Colin Campbell	1450 Ross Road, Kelowna, B.C. V1Z 1L6
Ed. A. Harris	620-75th Ave., Calgary, Alta., T2K 0P9
Ken V. Ellison	R.R.# 1, Oyama, B.C., V0H 1W0
Clarence Stillions	5031 Eskridge Ter., NW, Washington, DC 20016
Joe. L. Purcell	6 Richardson Drive, Kingston, Ont., K7M 2S6
Sid F. Bedwell	Box 206, Salmon Arm, B. C., V0E 2T0
R. Thurlow Fraser	205-1521 Blackwood St., White Rock, BC, V4B 3V6
Wm. J. Bailey	2107 West 51st Ave., Vancouver, BC, V6P 1E4
Wayne R. Curtis	Box 74, Station A, Toronto, Ont., M5W 1A2
Ken Barlow	1055 Ottawa Ave., West Vancouver, BC V7S 2J2
Wm G. Robinson	5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V6M 3A7
Ron Kitchen	1387 Pearl St., Ottawa, Ont., K1T 1C6
Wally L. Gutzman	272 Vinet Ave., Dorval, PQ, H9S 2M6
Wilf D. Whitehouse	2427 Greenfield Ave., Kamloops, BC V2B 4P6
E. R. Toop	Box 9026, Ottawa, Ont., K1G 3T8
Gordon M. Hill	320 -1001 -13th Ave. SW, Calgary, Alta., T2R 0L7
Philip Wolf	10515 Shillington Cr. SW, Calgary, Alta., T2W 0N8
Sam C. Nickle	1208 Belavista Cres., Calgary, Alta., T2V 2B1
Lawrence Mathews	Box 354, Bracebridge, Ont., P0B 1C0
James E. Miller	Box 160, Kamloops, BC, V2C 5N3
Dr. B. C. Plain	230 Robson Road W., Kelowna, BC, V1X 3C8
John Wannerton	8 Pearson Ave., Kenilworth 7700, Cape Prov. S.A.
J. B. Dale	Box 675, Station B, Ottawa, Ont., K1P 5P7
John E. Frith	Box 286, Copper Cliff, Ont., P0M 1N0
Graham J. Noble	Box 80, Kingston, Ont., K7L 4V6
David B. Crane	1367 Bing Ave., Kelowna, BC, V1Y 3S4
Ed. Richardson	Box 939, League City, Texas, 77573
W. S. Richards	272 Gladmer Park, Saskatoon, Sask., S7J 2X3
Jack Davis	Box 1839, Peterborough, Ont., K9J 7X6
James R. Goben	304 West Lincoln St., Bloomington, Ill., 61701
John S. Kessel	19925-78th Ave. SE, Snohomish, Wash., 98290
A. D. Hanes	126 School St. Site 20, Borden, Ont., L0M 1C0
Dr. J. Frank	50 Cotswold Dr., Saxonwold, Johannesburg, 2196 SA
Dr. Robt C. Smith	Box 9383, Alta Vista Term., Ottawa, Ont., K1G 3V1
Dr. K.S. Mackenzie	78 Prince Edward Ave., Pte. Clair, PQ, H9R 4C7
Peter K. Eggett	207 Lafferty Ave., Windsor, Ont., N9J 1K2
Paul Burega	1 Pleasant Bay, Winnipeg, Man., R2K 0C9
Robt N Wyse	262 Gardenview Dr., Burlington, Ont., L7T 1K4
Robt. E. Gagnon	B.P. 284, Ste. Therese, P.Q., J7E 4J2
Steven C. Luciuk	1542 East Heights, Saskatoon, Sask., S7J 3B5

OTHERS RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER:

John Burnett	BNAPS Study Group Co-ordinator, 757 Parkwood St., Sidney, Ohio, 45365
H. Mike Street	BNAPS Topics Editor, Box 7230, Ancastor, Ont., L9G 3N6
Don Makinen	BNAPS Library, Rt. 2, Box 38, Freeport, Texas, 77541
Librarian	National Postal Museum, 180 Wellington St., Ottawa, Ont., K1A 1C6
A.J. Brown	Forces Postal History Society, 17 Wimbledon Park Court, London, SW19 6NN G.B.

CANADIAN MILITARY MAIL STUDY GROUP

QUESTIONNAIRE

NOVEMBER 1984

Your completing this form and returning same as soon as possible would be appreciated. The intention is to stimulate more action between members by publishing a summary of the information in a future Newsletter.

NAME:.....BNAPS #.....

ADDRESS.....PHONE NUMBER.....

.....

.....

My main interests in the Canadian Military Mail line are, in order of importance, as follows:

Please be specific, i.e., Canada Militia 1914-18, Jamaica Y Force, British Field P.O.'s used by Canadians in WW I, etc, etc.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

I would like to see the following topics covered in the Newsletter:

1.

2.

3.

And I would like to help by doing an article on.....

.....

Suggestions/criticisms of present Newsletter format:

.....

.....

Please send this completed sheet to: Ken Ellison,
R. R. # 1, Oyama, B.C., Canada, V0H 1W0. THANK YOU!



Before and during the war, Labrador was regarded as the territory of Newfoundland and Canadian Army involvement here did not take place until the summer of 1942. Prior to this, on 13 August 1941, approval was given and work began on a large new military trans-Atlantic airport at Goose Bay. This airport was ready to use on 9 December 1941.

On 1 June 1942 an ordnance depot was established by the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps at Goose Bay. This was followed on 24 June 1942 by an infantry regiment, the New Brunswick Rangers. The Canadian Postal Corps' No. 1901 Postal Detachment arrived shortly after on 2 July 1942, and stayed until 31 January 1946. On 13 March 1943, the Canadian garrison, sometimes referred to as "G" Force, amounted to 1300 all ranks and included both coastal and anti-aircraft units.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS

During construction of the Goose Bay airport it would appear that most mail must have been sent out by ship and would have been cancelled at the port receiving it. As soon as the airport was in operation most mail seems to have been air lifted to Moncton, New Brunswick, where it was put into the civil post office there and thus received the Moncton postmark.

As noted above, the Army Postal Detachment arrived on 2 July 1942 but the C.A.P.O. No. 10 postmark, although proofed on 3 June 1942, does not appear to have been used until mid July. The earliest date noted for the C.A.P.O. on mail is 20 July 1942 as shown in the illustration. Two regular cancellation hammers were used in Labrador. One was the regular steel hammer and the other was a duplex (scarce). A square boxed MOTO cancel was proofed on 15 June 1942. The post office at Goose Bay, as C.A.P.O. No. 10, closed on 31 January 1946.

CENSORSHIP

Civil mails were nearly always censored by a label on the opened end before they were put in the C.A.P.O. Canadian Army mail, on the other hand, shows a variety of markings used by the censors.

First noted in June and July of 1942 was the large, round(40mm.), double ring, rubber marking that was usually in a redish ink. Three varients have been seen and they are numbered "No. AC-1", "AC-2", and "AC-3". Use of this mark ended in January 1944.(Page 2)

Overlapping in usage was the smaller (27mm.) round, double ring rubber marking. This has been noted in June and December of 1943. These devices have been seen with the numbers "No. AC 203", "No. AC 2 0 5 " , a n d " N o . A C 2 0 6 " . (P a g e 3 T o p)

Another series, the crowned circle type (21mm.), was also used in Jamaica, the Bahamas and British Guiana. Examples used in Labrador cover the period from February 1944 to March 1945 and bear the numbers 307, 312, and 324. There may be others?

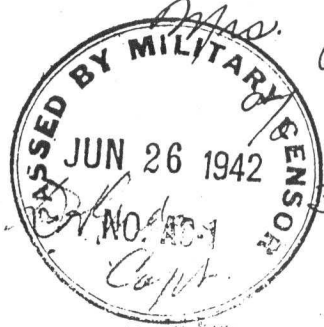
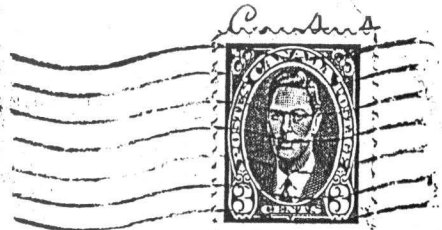
Censoring was discontinued in 1945 and letters then bore only the C.A.P.O. No. 10 postmark. Most of the Army censor markings are now very scarce. It should aslo be pointed out that, when needed, Canadian stamps were used by the services in Labrador rather than Newfoundland stamps.

From: Lt. Col. J. R. Martin
N.B. Rangus H.Q. Co.
Labrador

CANADIAN LEGION



WAR SERVICES



Mrs. J. R. Martin,
Mrs. D. Birt,
383 Marjorie St.,
St. James, Manitoba.



Lt. Col. J. R. Martin
N.B. Rangus H.Q. Co.
Labrador

(C.A.) A.F.



Mrs. J. R. Martin,
383 Marjorie St.,
St. James, Manitoba.



S. W. INRY,
4 RICH BRUS,
68-72 DE BRESOLES ST.,
MONTREAL, P.Q.



C.A.P.O. NO. 10 EARLY DATE
WITH AC-3 CENSOR MARK

From, Pte R.L. Awalt.
Area Headquarters.
C. A. P. O. #10.
Goose Bay Labrador.



MacDonald



Miss, June Power.
30, Edward, Street.
Dartmouth.
Nova-Scotia.

CANADIAN ARMY 'CROWNED CIRCLE' 324
CENSOR MARK WITH CENSORS SIGNATURE

Mc. Lawes
McNAMARA CONSTRUCTION CO. LIMITED
GOOSE BAY, LABRADOR
B. A. A. Emery
Moncton N.B.

AIR-MAIL



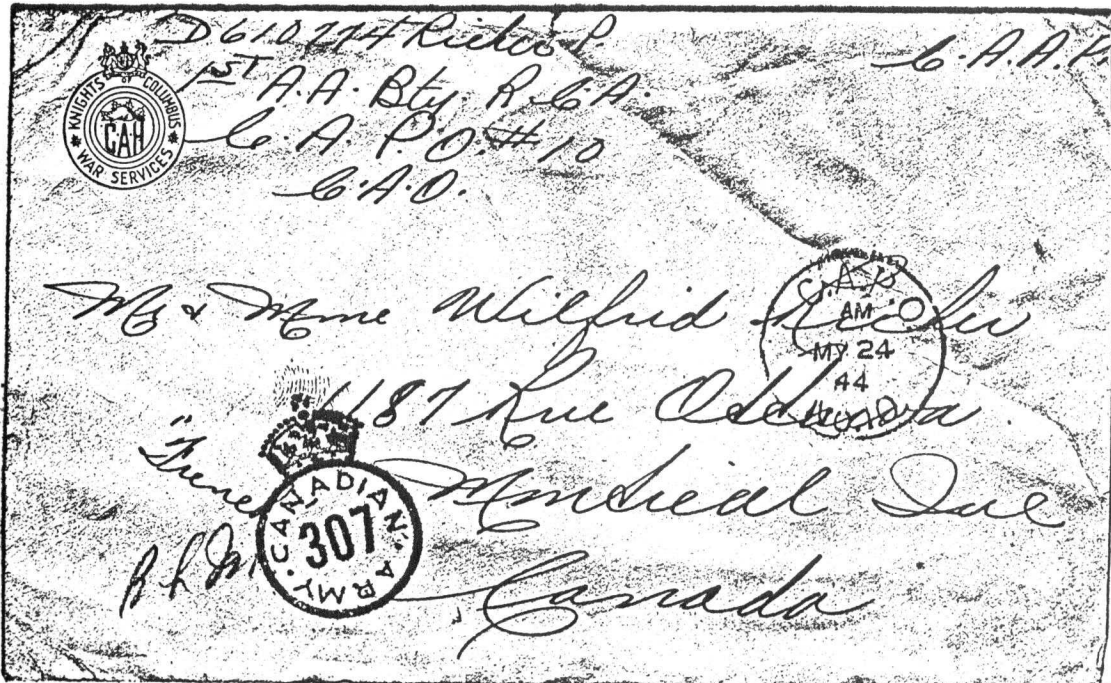
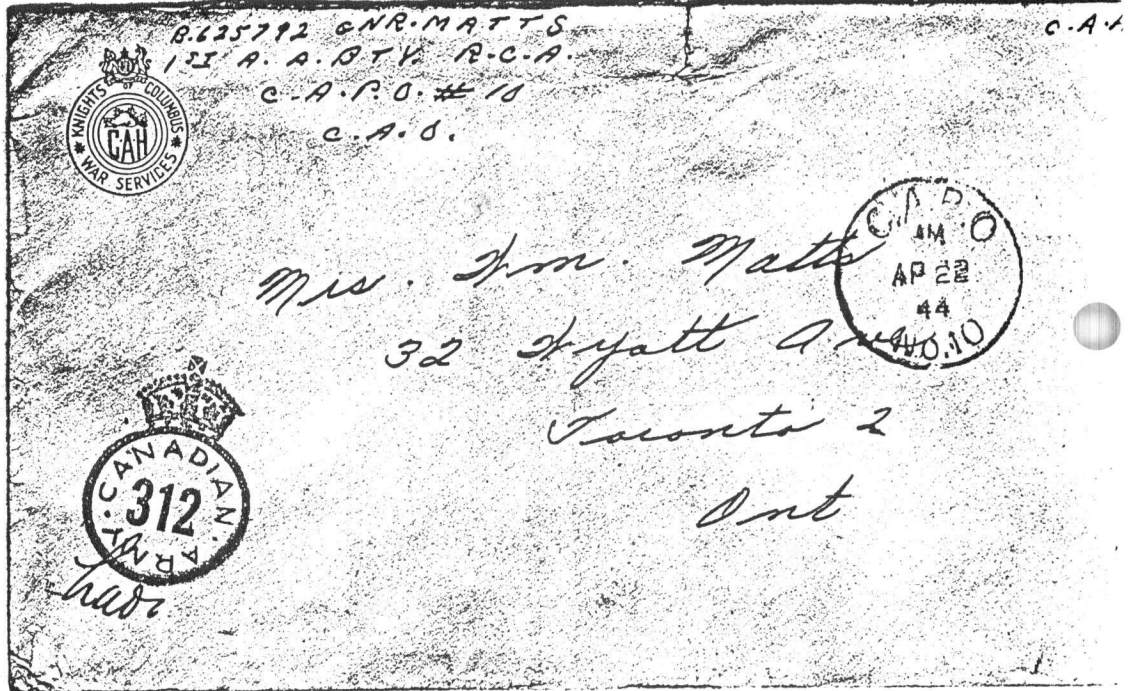
P.C. 90

Mr. Jack Lawes
of family
Hamilton
Ont

217
Rathsay Ave

OPENED BY EXAMINER
OF LAYED BY EXAMINER

DB / 47



Canadian Naval Liaison Officers at Guantanamo, Cuba

W. Whitehouse

The second "happy time" as it was known to German U-boat crews began on the east coast of the United States and in the Caribbean during the early months of 1942. As in the first "happy time" off the coast of England during the summer of 1940, ships were sailing independently rather than in convoy and thus became easy targets for the U-boat.

At this period of the war the allies were dependent almost completely on oil available from the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico. In January and February 1942, the U-boats sunk more than 150 ships in the Western Atlantic and Caribbean waters, over 50 of these ships were oil tankers and one U-boat had shelled the oil port of Aruba, in the Dutch West Indies. With these successes particularly against oil tankers, it soon became obvious that the allied war effort was in great danger unless the sinkings could be reversed.

In May 1942, the R.C.N. commenced escorting oil tanker convoys between Canada, Trinidad and Aruba, after four months of these convoys not a single ship had been lost to the U-boats. This did not escape attention by the U.S. and they requested that the seven Corvettes and the crews engaged in escorting these convoys be made available to U.S. Naval authorities for use as escorts for convoys between U.S. and Caribbean ports. At the end of August 1942, the ships were turned over to the Commander of the U.S. Navy, Eastern Sea Frontier. At this time, Canadian Naval Officers were appointed to the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo, Cuba, to act as Liaison Officers. How many Officers were involved or the duration of their appointments is not known.

Correspondence to these Officers, whether private or official, seems to have come under an extremely tight security ruling. All covers seen to date have been opened in Canada for censoring regardless of whether the letter had previously been censored.

No correspondence from these Officers in Cuba has been seen to date by the writer, if any member has such covers in his collection, it would be appreciated if they would advise the editor in order that we may learn the type of censor marking used and whether additional censorship took place on arrival in Canada.

One of the more interesting covers on hand in connection with these Officers is shown in Fig. 1. The addressee, Lieut. A. C. Jones, RCNR, was formerly the Commanding Officer of the Corvette "Oakville" from commissioning until mid-May 1942. On 27 August 1942, "Oakville" while acting as part of a convoy escort under U.S. control, sank U-94 off Haiti, subsequently arriving at Guantanamo to discharge German prisoners and to repair minor damage, found their former C.O. serving at the base. One can imagine the emotion connected with such a reunion.

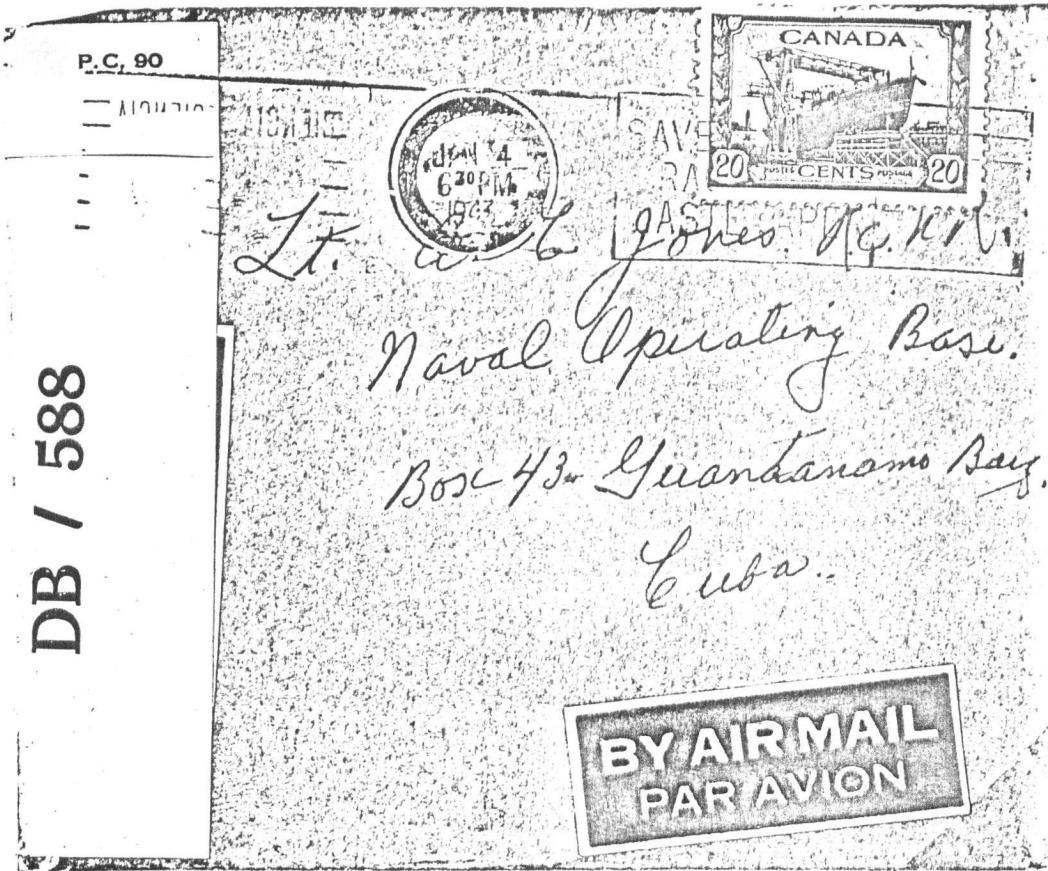


Fig. 1

Fig. 2, illustrates a cover addressed to Guantanamo and despite having been censored aboard an R.C.N. ship, the cover has been opened, censored and sealed with a label marked "Examined By DB/C 544"

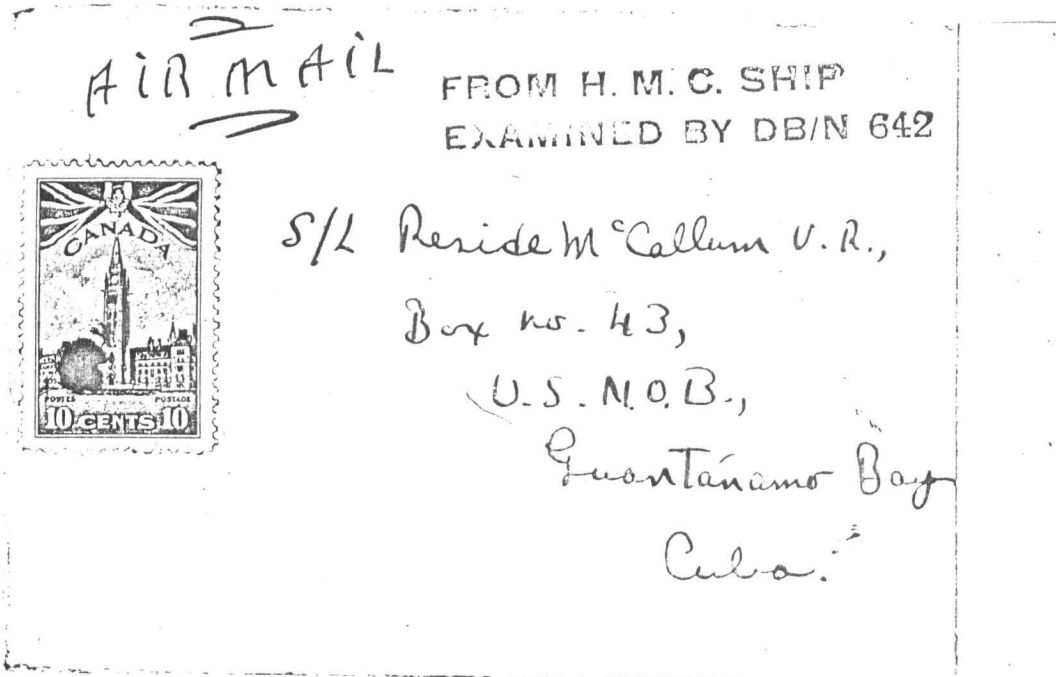


Fig. 2