

Canadian Military Mail Study Group

NEWSLETTER NO. 91
CHRISTMAS 1989

As has been 'Military Tradition' for the last two Christmas newsletters, we are presenting some Army Christmas Greeting Cards for your enjoyment having dealt with the Navy and the Air Force in previous years.

TOP CARD: 1888, from 6 Company, Victoria Rifles of Canada, who had their HQ in Montreal. Printed by Canada Bank Note Co. Photo reduced - actual size is 101 by 172 mm.

BOTTOM CARD: 1917, from an un-named Machine Gun Company. Soldiers are printed in gold. Actual size 95 by 152 mm.



Season's Greetings



FRANCE-BELGIUM

WORLD WAR I
CARD FROM
48th HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA
(cover and inside view)



ALLIED WITH THE
GORDON HIGHLANDERS

1915-1916

GREETINGS

FROM THE

OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS
AND MEN,

No. 1 COMPANY, 48TH HIGHLANDERS
OF CANADA.

Officer Commanding- CAPT. A. SINCLAIR.

Lieut. H. PRICE.

Lieut. J. A. M. LIVINGSTON.

Lieut. J. A. DAVISON.

Lieut. D. M. GRANT.

Coy.-Sgt.-Maj. LANGTRY, L. A.

C.-Q.-M.-S. STEVENS, J. T.

Q.-M.-S. CAMPBELL, J.

O.-R.-Sgt. ALLBERRY, H. P.

No. 1 PLATOON.

No. 2 PLATOON.

Sergt. SUTTON, H. H.

Sergt. TURNER, C. E.

Sergt. MONSON, C. G.

L.-Sgt. MUTCH, T.

L.-Sgt. TEMPLE, J.

Corpl. REED, T.

Corpl. BINNY, W. J.

L.-Cpl. BURT, T.

Corpl. ROBERTSON, J. A.

L.-Cpl. WADE, F.

L.-Cpl. MUNROE, J.

L.-Cpl. ONLEY, A.

No. 3 PLATOON.

No. 4 PLATOON.

Sergt. McDONALD, J.

Sergt. COTCHER, W. J.

Sergt. HUGOETT, A. P.

Sergt. KEMPSTON, J. C.

L.-Sgt. WORTHINGTON, W. W.

L.-Sgt. PHILLIPS, W. J.

Corpl. SMITH, C. N.

Corpl. McNEILL, J.

Corpl. STIRLING, W.

L.-Cpl. BRISTOW, W. J.

L.-Cpl. BEAUDETTE, F.

L.-Cpl. ETCHES, H. C. N.

L.-Cpl. LOMES-SMITH, R. L.

L.-Cpl. GILL, A.

L.-Cpl. APPELTON, S.



*Though we are far from our Native Land,
We bid you all Good Cheer,
And though we cannot Shake your hand,
In our thoughts you're always near.*

*From your loving Husband
J. A. M.*



WORLD WAR I
FROM MACHINE GUN COMPANY
62nd BATTALION, C.E.F.

<<<<<<<

WORLD WAR I
217th QU'APPELLE
O/S BATTALION, C.E.F.

∨
∨
∨
∨
∨
∨

**LIST OF OFFICERS
OF THE
217TH OVERSEAS BATTALION
C.E.F.**

*To
Marie Laurou*

- Officer Commanding L.-Col. A. B. Gillis
- Second in Command Major W. B. Wood
- Adjutant Captain E. F. M. Williams
- Quartermaster . . . Captain A. P. Crisp
- Medical Officer . . . Captain D. C. Hart
- Paymaster Captain D. A. Campbell
- Chaplain Captain J. A. MacFarlane

- Major J. T. Cooke
- Captain J. Wilson
- Lieutenant J. L. Hart
- Lieutenant H. Downing
- Lieutenant W. J. Dalziel
- Lieutenant J. A. MacDiarmid
- Lieutenant J. C. McGillivray
- Lieutenant J. L. A. Franks
- Lieutenant G. C. Smart
- Lieutenant T. Dane
- Lieutenant W. J. Shandler
- Lieutenant W. W. Lynd
- Lieutenant J. W. Montgomery
- Lieutenant H. S. Stidston
- Lieutenant J. M. Wessel
- Lieutenant T. Collins
- Lieutenant F. I. MacDonald
- Lieutenant K. Scott
- Lieutenant E. R. Wood

From the
**Officer Commanding
and Officers
of the
217th (Qu'Appelle)
Overseas Battalion**

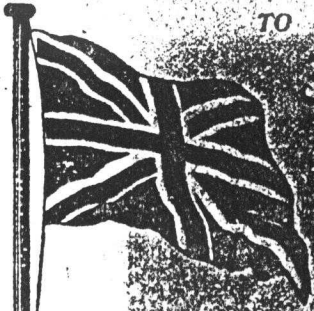


*Christmas
Greetings*

Homage . . .

TO OUR
Heroes,

With
Christmas
Greetings.



Photos from the Front.

Snapshot taken at the Seat of War.

With
Hearty Christmas Greetings.

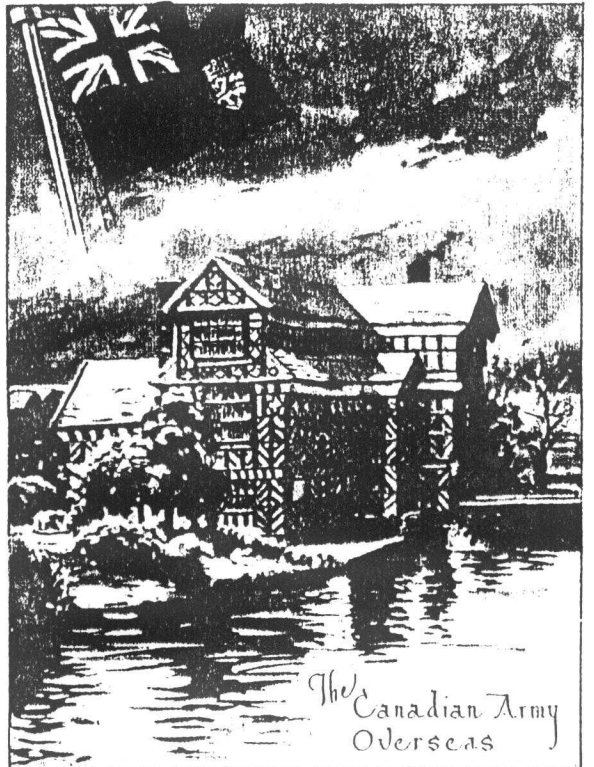
* * *

May you have
a Right Merry
Christmas
and a Very
Happy New Year.

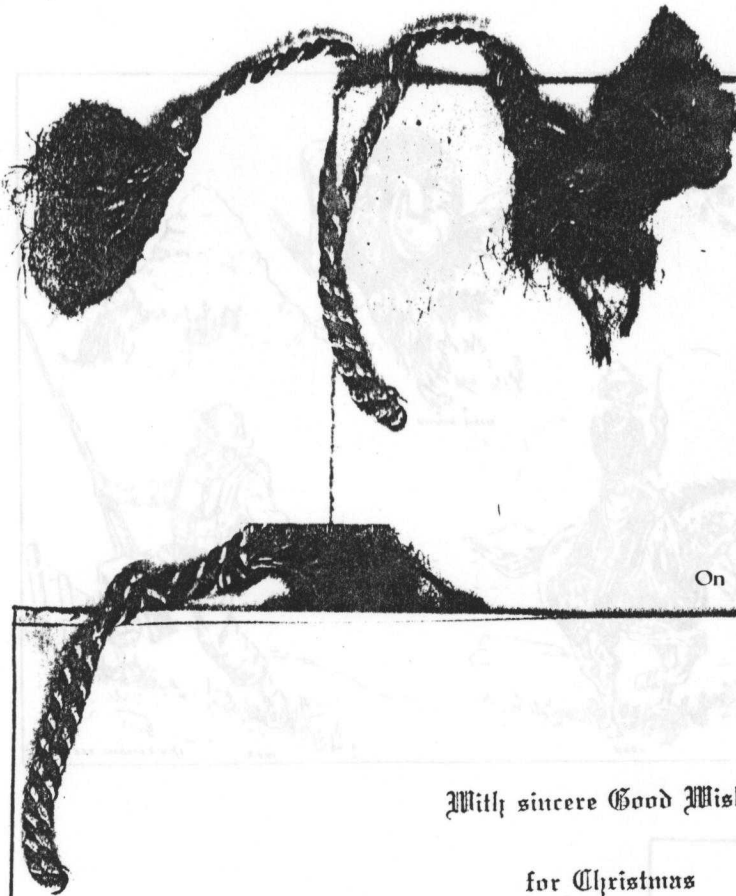
to Stanley
From Aunt Alice

WORLD WAR I
PROBABLY BRITISH CARD
USED BY A CANADIAN

WORLD WAR II
SALVATION ARMY CARD
FOR USE BY TROOPS



The Canadian Army
Overseas



On Guard 1914 - 1919

With sincere Good Wishes

for Christmas

and the New Year

WORLD WAR II
VETERANS GUARD OF CANADA
NO. 36 COY.
With PACIFIC COMMAND.

No. 36 Coy.
Veterans Guard of Canada

Bill
(Brother)

1944 ITALY
SALVATION ARMY CARD
DRAWN BY VICTORIA ARTIST
L/CPL EDWARD GOODALL





1ST BATTALION

1942 ROCKY MOUNTAIN RANGERS
1st BATTALION CHRISTMAS CARD
DRAWING INSIDE BY
VICTORIA ARTIST
L/CPL EDWARD GOODALL



WITH THE
CANADIANS



IN ITALY

CHRISTMAS
1944

1944 SALVATION ARMY
CHRISTMAS CARD FROM ITALY

WORLD WAR II
R.C.A.M.C. CARD (partial front)
FROM UNIT AT PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.



Prince Rupert Military Hospital, R.C.A.M.C.

Dayton

21 ARMY



GROUP

PERSONAL CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

FROM THE C-IN-C

(To be read out to all troops)

1. The forces of the British Empire in western Europe spend Christmas 1944 in the field. But what a change has come over the scene since last Christmas.

The supreme Battle of Normandy carried with it the liberation of France and Belgium.

Last Christmas we were in England, expectant and full of hope: this Christmas we are fighting in Germany.

The conquest of Germany remains.

2. It would have needed a brave man to say on D day, 6 June, that in three months we would be in Brussels and Antwerp: having liberated nearly the whole of France and Belgium; and in six months we would be fighting in Germany: having driven the enemy back across his own frontiers.

But this is what has happened.

And we must not fail to give the praise and honour where it is due:

"This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes."

3. At Christmas time, whether in our homes or fighting in the field, we like to sing the carols we learnt as children; and in truth, this is indeed a link between us and our families and friends in the home country: since they are singing the same verses. The old words express exactly what we all feel today:

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

That is what we are fighting for, that is what we desire: on earth peace, good will toward men.

4. And so today we sing the Christmas hymns, full of hope, and steadfast in our belief that soon we shall achieve our hearts' desire.

Therefore, with faith in God, and with enthusiasm for our cause and for the day of battle, let us continue the contest with stout hearts and with determination to conquer.

5. And at this time I send to each one of you my best wishes and my Christmas greetings.

Wherever you may be, fighting in the front line, or working on the lines of communication or in the ports, I wish all of you good luck and a happy 1945. We are all one great team; together, you and I, we have achieved much; and together, we will see the thing through to the end.

6. Good luck to you all.

B. L. Montgomery

Field-Marshal

C-in-C 21 Army Group.

FIELD SERVICE POST CARDS A Christmas note!

We are all familiar with those 'non-descript' buff colored cards that pop up in the lots that we sometimes buy. They were used in both World Wars. You know the kind, sometimes called I AM QUITE WELL cards where one had to stroke out the lines not wanted.

No other writing was allowed other than the sender's name, but did you know that there was an exception to this rule? In the First World War the authorities allowed to be added MERRY CHRISTMAS - HAPPY NEW YEAR, or similar wording, and it was meant to be added just above the name of sender. In addition to this concession there was, in 1917, an overprinted background, or foreground, with similar wording.

These cards were essentially British, but used by the Allied Nations as well. Has anyone seen either of these overprinted / overwritten cards? They seem to be very scarce, or perhaps we have never been on the lookout for them.

The idea for this 'bit' comes from the Newsletter of the AUSTRALIAN FORCES MAIL RESEARCH GROUP (Nov / Dec 1989) and also the illustration if another can't be found in the collection! Further reference on the above is to be found in WARTIME POSTAL STATIONERY, a 1986 book edited by John Daynes and published by the FORCES POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY in England.

A. F. A. 2042
114/Gen. No./6248

FIELD SERVICE

POST CARD

The address only to be written on this side. If anything else is added, the post card will be destroyed.

Mrs Mabel M...
245.5...
Branch
M...

NOTHING is to be written on this side except the date and signature of the sender. Sentences not required may be erased. If anything else is added the post card will be destroyed.

(Postage must be prepaid on any letter or post card addressed to the sender of this card.)

I am quite well.

~~I have been admitted into hospital.~~

~~I am sick~~ and am going on well.

~~I am wounded~~ and hope to be discharged soon.

~~I am being sent down to the base.~~

~~Letter dated~~ _____

~~I have received your telegram~~ _____

~~parcel~~ _____

Letter follows at first opportunity.

I have received no letter from you

~~lately~~

~~for a long time.~~

Wishing for a happy New Year

Signature W. J. Osborne

Date 9.11.13

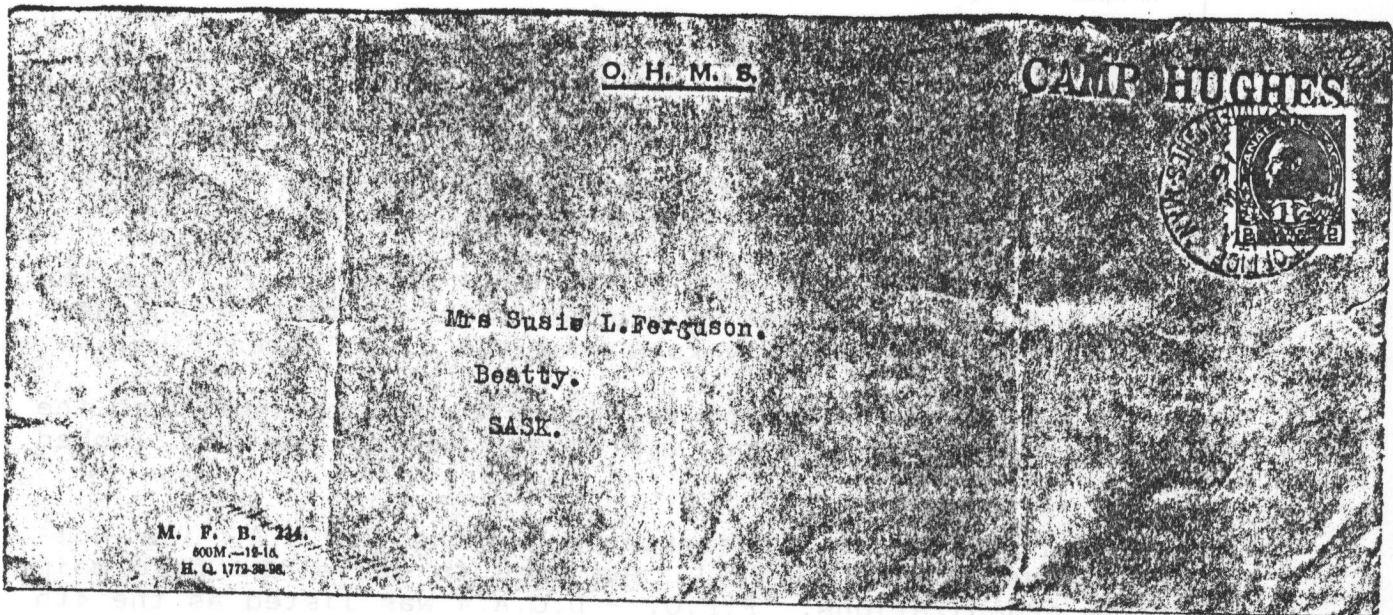
W. & A. G. 11-18339 8000m. 8-17. G. & Co. Grange Mills, B.W.

CAMP HUGHES Straight line marking.

The cover pictured here was recently offered by Wild Rose Philatelic Auctions of Edmonton. This militia official cover, #10 size (reduced here), was posted from Camp Hughes on 4 July 1916 and shows the hammer with the MAN. abbreviation.

Unusual here is the straight line CAMP HUGHES (in purple) marking. There appears to be no reference to this 'cancel' in our N/L Index. Has anyone any comment? The straight line was applied first, then the stamp, followed by the militia cancel.

This militia hammer was proofed on 13 October 1915 and although it may be the 'commonest' of the three Hughes markings, its use has only been noted between 2 June 1916 and 22 October 1916. (Information from Colin Campbell's ongoing research of the Militia cancels.)



EDITOR'S NOTES

It is hoped that this N/L arrives at your place before Christmas. Service Christmas cards are something that few of us have saved. As you can note, our 1987, 1988 and now 1989 December N/L's have been devoted to this 'collateral' material. We hope that you enjoy this further presentation.!

Several new books are out:

A CANADIAN'S ROAD TO RUSSIA by Stuart R. Tompkins, University of Alberta Press, 466 pages, \$30. WW I and a Canadian in the C.E.F., including Siberia. (J.C.C.)

WHITE PLUMES ASTERN by C. Anthony Low, \$24.95, a story of the R.C.N.'s Motor Torpedo Boat Flotilla.

Happy New Year BEST WISHES *From the Staff* ^
^
^
^

C.A.A.F.

Canadian Legion War Services Inc.
Canadian Knights of Columbus War Services
Canadian Y.M.C.A. Overseas
The Salvation Army Canadian War Services

ON ACTIVE SERVICE



Mrs. Harold C. Lawrie
Unionville
Ont.
Can.

FIGURE 1.

CFA 172
10/100/2066

THE MAPLE LEAF CLUB IN HILVERSUM, HOLLAND

From John Frith comes this item which he assumes that we all have seen. The Editor has never seen it before!

"I rather imagine that all of us have seen covers from the Maple Leaf Club like that in Figure 1, at one time or another. However, how many actually know what the club looked like?

I came across the postcard in Figure 2. and thought that the rest of the members might appreciate seeing what it looked like."

Note that the cover, overprinted by the Y.M.C.A. (in Holland?), was the 'universal' type used to serve the four main service organizations. F.P.O. - D.C.A.4 was listed as the 4th Division Headquarters.

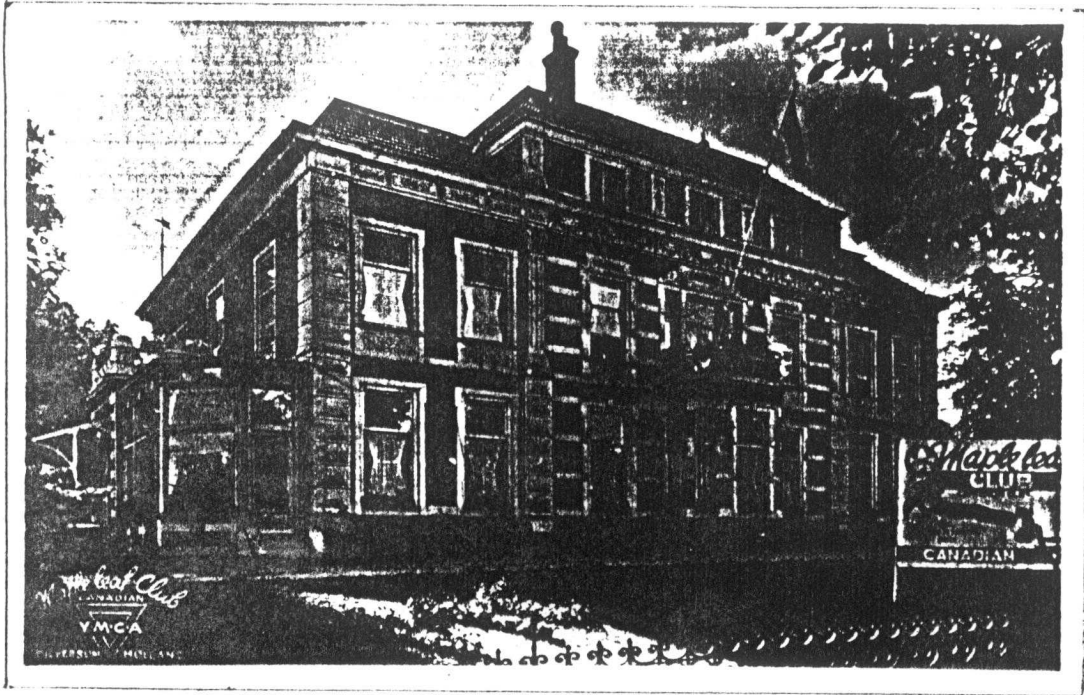


FIGURE 2.