



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

NEWSLETTER NO. 98
JANUARY 1991

BEST WISHES for the NEW YEAR and may it be the best for our readers! This year will be one of change for the World, and for all of us.

NEW MEMBER:

James W. Longbourne, 1961 Southmere Cres. Surrey, B.C., V4A 7B9

Jim, as he says, has an accumulation of military material from his army days and would like to delve further into the subject. Welcome Jim!

CORRESPONDENCE:

Since the last Newsletter, and with No. 100, we have been busy in this regard. A letter from BILL BAILEY notes that we erred in the article on Page 728. Capt. Edward HILLIAM is the name of the writer, or 'franker' of the letter as anyone can see! Bill points out that the Captain was Commander of the 10th Infantry Brigade from 18 January 1917 to 12 November 1917 and by the end of the war he was a Brigadier-General who had achieved K.M.G. and D.S.O. honors.

Letter came in from JIM GOBEN re "Get Well cards". JIM FELTON came through with a couple with the usual interesting bits of information. There was also one from our old friend, THURLOW FRASER questioning our Page 723 and the Texas Christmas card. Seems he, at one time, owned one of these lovely items and wondered if this was it. This one of Dean's is a different one as we were shown the one that was Thurlow's quite recently. Who would expect to find two such cards after 74 years! Thanks to these and other correspondents!

DUES:

Again we must ask for DUES as that time of the year has rolled around again. Our present financial position, as outlined at our AGM at Galveston, is quite good but we do need funds to get our BIG 100 going. The dues are C\$10.00 or US\$9.00 as was decided at the meeting. Your status in this regard is noted on the blue slip attached, or if there is no slip you are in good standing - Thank You!

*St. Hubert Airport
Sat. June 17, 1961*

Dear Jim and Mrs. -

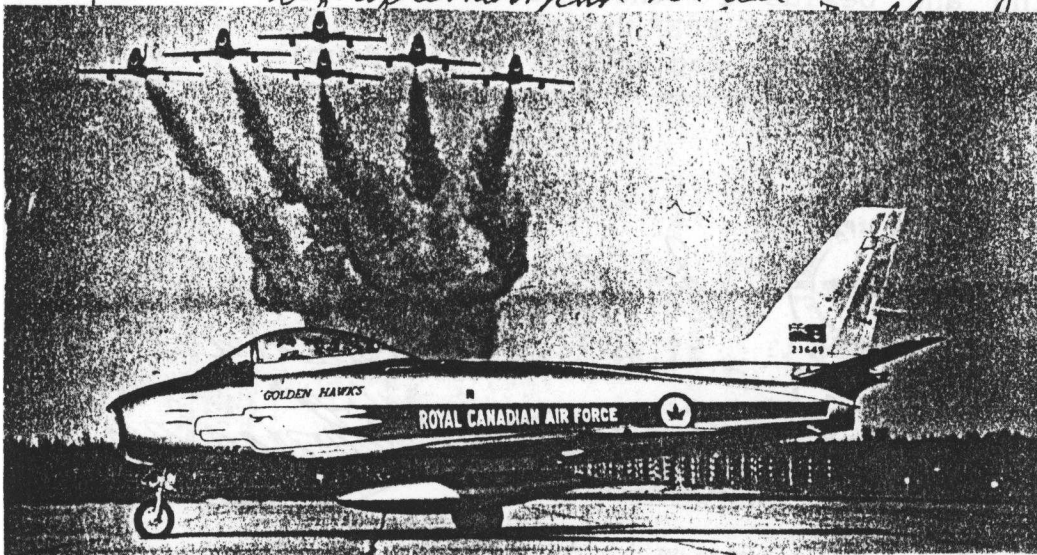
*It is a beautiful sunny
Sat. afternoon, and we are*

ROYAL CANADIAN



*J. Duckland
Box 94
burn
Main*

g, climaxed by the
of skills demanded of
the UNITED NATIONS.



THE GOLDEN HAWKS

From Dave Hanes.

The year 1959 was a milestone in Canadian Aviation history. It was the 50th Anniversary of Powered Flight in Canada as well as the 35th Anniversary of the R.C.A.F. These two events could not pass without an appropriate salute, which took the form of a Golden Anniversary aerobatic team, called the Golden Hawks and it was authorized for one year. The team's Sabre 5's were painted gold with a fuselage-length red and white hawk emblazoned on each side. The team members were selected from the entire roll of the RCAF Sabre pilots.

After a two month intensive practice session at RCAF Station Chatham, the Golden Hawks were honed to a fine edge. The team performed its first public show at Air Force Day, Torbay, Newfoundland on 11 May 1959. Although formed for only one year the Golden Hawks were so popular that it was decided to extend the deadline.

The Golden Hawks final year was 1963 and this year was every bit as successful as the previous ones. From the first show until the 317th and last one in Montreal, the Hawks were the pride of the RCAF and the heroes of Canadian youth across the country. On 7 February 1964, the Golden Hawks were officially disbanded. The main reason given was that the money saved would be used for more vital defense needs!

Shown here are two postcards of the former Pride of Canada which are only part of the group assembled by the author.

Air Force Day cancel used at RCAF Station St. Hubert, P.Q.
One of the Sabre aircraft used by the Golden Hawks Team.

MILITIA DEPARTMENT / CANADA / FREE 1867

This item is courtesy of BNAPS'er Cec. Coutts, and it has been reduced to fit on this page.

It is essentially a circular on light blue paper and was folded to a postal size of 200 by 85 mm., approximately, and does not appear to have had a seal. On the 'face' is the Militia marking and beside it there is a MONTREAL/C.E. of My 22/67. The straight line FREE on the upper right is in red. Back stamps are a split ring LONDON and a double split ring ST. THOMAS.

This marking, although not listed in Bailey and Toop's THE CANADIAN MILITARY POSTS, Vol. I, is known to them and will be included in a future work, we are informed.

The subject matter of the circular appears to be a Head Quarters promotions list of the Volunteer Militia of 1867.

J. H. M.

W. Edward Pedman,
Passed Candidate,
St Thomas C.W.

HEAD QUARTERS.
Ottawa, 10th May, 1867.

GENERAL ORDERS.

VOLUNTEER MILITIA.

No. 1.
2nd Battalion "Queen's Own Rifles," Toronto.
To be Brevet Major:
Captain Henry Croft, No. 9 Company,
13th Battalion of Infantry, Hamilton,
No. 4 Company.
To be Lieutenant:
Ensign John R. Young, vice Routh, promoted.
27th "Lambton" Battalion of Infantry,
No. 8 Company, Garrison Battery, Savona.
To be Captain (temporary):
1st Lieutenant Charles Seager, M. S., vice O'Doherly, whose resignation is hereby accepted.
To be 1st Lieutenant, acting till further orders:
2nd Lieutenant James Hewitt Wood, vice Seager, promoted.
To be 2nd Lieutenant, acting till further orders:
Joshua Fourth Adams, Gentleman, vice Wood, promoted.
33rd "Huron" Battalion of Infantry,
No. 4 Company, Exeter.
To be Ensign, acting till further orders:
James North Howard, Gentleman, vice Bowerman, whose resignation is hereby accepted.
46th "East Durham" Battalion of Infantry,
No. 1 Company, Port Hope Garrison Battery.
To be Captain, (temporary):
1st Lieutenant Samuel Southorpe, M. S., vice B-Home, whose resignation is hereby accepted.
To be 1st Lieutenant, acting till further orders:
Edward Pullen, Gentleman, vice Southorpe, promoted.
To be 2nd Lieutenant, acting till further orders:
Robert G. Wallace, Gentleman, vice Buchmann, deceased.
The 54th "Sherbrooke Battalion of Infantry" will henceforth be designated as the 53rd Battalion.
The 53rd "Melbourne" Battalion will henceforth be designated as the 51 "Richmond" Battalion of Infantry.
55th "Mégantic" Battalion of Infantry.
An additional Company at Glenora, County of Mégantic, is hereby authorized to be added to this Battalion to be No. 5 Company.
To be Lieutenant, acting till further orders:
Hamilton Rickaby, Gentleman.
To be Ensign, acting till further orders:
Malcolm McKenzie, Gentleman.
57th "Peterborough" Battalion of Infantry,
No. 6 Company, Hastings.
To be Captain, acting till further orders:
John Blacklock, Esq., vice Fowlds, deceased.

No. 2.
The following Officers of the Volunteer Militia and candidates for appointment therein, having appeared before Boards of Officers at Montreal, Kingston and London, for the purpose of having their qualifications tested, have received certificates as follows, viz:

MONTREAL.

FIRST CLASS.

1st Lieutenant Charles C. Baylges, 1st Battalion G. T. Ry. Brigade.
do Wm. V. Dawson, Montreal Light Infantry.
Captain John R. Kickwood, do
Lieut. Colonel Henry Bailey, 2nd Battalion G. T. Ry. Brigade.
2nd Lieutenant James Rogers, Engineer Co., do
Ensign Patrick Newell, 3rd Battalion, do

SECOND CLASS.

Captain John Bulmer, 1st Prince of Wales Regiment.
do Thomas Corcoran, do
do Wm. Henry Smith, Montreal Light Infantry.
do John R. Jones, 1st Bat. G. T. Ry. Brigade.
do William McWood, 2nd do
Color Sergeant Robert McLaughlin, do
2nd Lieut. Jonathan Ivinson, do
Sergeant George Cold, 52nd Bedford Battalion.
Captain Thomas L. Wilson, 1st Bat. G. T. R. Brigade.
do Thomas Symington, do

KINGSTON.

FIRST CLASS.

Sergeant I. W. Johnson, 14th Battalion Rifles.
Lieutenant P. McIntyre, do

SECOND CLASS.

Sergeant J. P. Thompson, 15th Battalion Infantry.
Ensign A. McNice, 14th Battalion Rifles.
Wm. Munro, Gentleman.

LONDON.

FIRST CLASS.

Major A. J. McMillan, 23rd "Waterloo" Bat. Infy.
Lieut. Neil Caswell, 25th "Huron" do
do Thos. B. Jackson, 32nd "Huron" do
do John Lewis, 27th "Lambton" do
Lieut. & Adjutant David Scott, 28th "Perth" do
Ensign James Magee, 7th "The London Light Infy." do
Sergeant Major John Clunnet, 22nd "The Oxford Rifles." do
do John Windred, 23rd "Essex Battalion Infantry."

SECOND CLASS.

Captain Michael Stephenson, 5th Battalion G. T. Ry. Brigade.
do John Duck, 24th "Kent" Bat., of Infantry.
1st Lieutenant James Thomson, Garrison Battery, Goderich.
Lieutenant Wm. A. Bayley, 5th Battalion G. T. Ry. Brigade.
James Benson, Gentleman.
William T. Smith, do

No. 3.
The following Officers of the Volunteer Militia having obtained the necessary Certificates of qualification are now confirmed in their respective ranks, viz:—
Lt.-Col. Henry Bailey, 3rd Bat. G. T. Ry. Brigade.
Major A. J. McMillan, 29th Waterloo Bat. Infantry.
Captain William H. Smith, Montreal Light Infantry.
do John Bulmer, 1st Prince of Wales Regt.
do Thomas Corcoran, do
do John Duck, 24th Kent Battalion of Infantry.
do John R. Jones, 1st Bat. G. T. Ry. Brigade.
do Thomas L. Wilson, do
do Thomas Symington, do
do William McWood, 2nd do
do Michael Stephenson, 5th do
1st Lieut. James Thomson, Goderich Garrison Bat'y.
do Chas. C. Baylges, 1st Bat. G. T. Ry. Brigade.
Lieutenant J. Lewis, 27th Lambton Bat. Infantry.
do Wm. A. Bayley, 5th Bat. G. T. R. Brig
2nd Lieut. J. Ivinson, 1st Bat. G. T. Ry. Brigade.



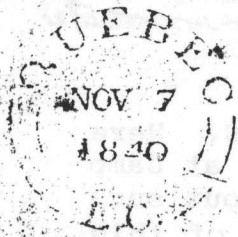
AN EARLY CANADIAN MILITARY COVER

From Ritch Toop

This military letter of 7 November 1840 is from W. Henry, Staff Surgeon at Quebec, to Mr. Worthington, Assistant Surgeon of the 56th Regiment at Lake Temesconata.

Up to 1855 Canada had local Militia, and in that year the Militia Act was passed and a new force of volunteers was set up. These men were uniformed and were the origin of the Canadian Army (Militia). The British Garrison left in 1871 and Canada's first regular units were formed in that year. From 1874 to 1904 the Militia was under a British officer. The last British troops left the Dominion in 1906.

Quebec Que Nov 7 1840



W. Henry

Mr. Edward Worthington

Asst Surgeon

Detach 56 Reg

Lake Temesconata

Mail

W. Henry

Staff Surgeon





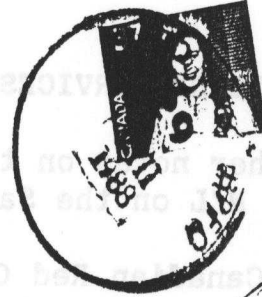
AN RFC LETTER FROM FORT WORTH TO ST AGATHA, ONTARIO

Another nice item from Colin Pomfret deals with the RFC. Here is part of a letter by a Wireless Operator in training at Camp Taliaferro. No specific references have been noted about such training in Texas but here is such proof. The writer of this letter appears to have left Toronto with 200 other RFC men on 7 January 1918 for Fort Worth. It is noted that 83 C.T.S. (Canadian Training Squadron) was originally part of No. 43 Deseronto Wing. Here is the letter quoted almost verbatim:

"Returned to camp Jan 3rd was ordered to pack kit for Texas. The following morning (we were) sent to recruits depot Toronto until Jan 7th before proceeding south. Left 4PM on the 7th on a special military train, 200 soldiers in all, likely you can imagine a gang of fellows like that cutting it up, it certainly was a fine trip, sorry it did not last longer, were getting the best of eats good service good accomadation and classy style. Really since in army life I hardly know what to do with the many extra knives, spoons plates etc they use at these stylish meals (on the train). Really it was a fine feeling to enjoy all these luxuries for a few days, especially when the government pays the bill. Arrived at this camp Jan 10th, like it fairly well water seems about the only thing lacking here. Some days we have no water for washing. likely that will be remied shortly, sleeping quarters got Camp Leaside beat, spring cots and hair mattresses. Quite a monster camp, twice as big as leaside. will be a very up to date camp by spring. Ft Worth is the nearest city from here, about 10 miles, rather far to suit us chaps. Dallas a city about 30 miles is the best place in the state most soldiers here spent their Christmas leave there, the people were so nice and kind to our fellows that 42 failed to return to camp so Dallas has been placed out of bounds until these chaps return."

(What a job trying to copy this as it was written!)

GARY MILLS, CPL (432)
HCER, 45 SUP. SPN.
CFPO 5000
BELLEVILLE, ONT.
KOK 3RO



MRS. MARTHA MILLS

90 DOW DR., P.O. BOX 716
COPPER CLIFF, ONT.
POM 1NG

Major Calvert,
8 Jarvis St.,
TORONTO, Ont.



The Salvation Army,
CAPO 5050,
MONTREAL.



No enclosure permitted
Ne rien inserer

SALVATION ARMY STATIONERY from John Frith and Ritch Toop.

Does anyone have the story on the stationery shown here? The Air Letter (Toop) was used in 1953 and shows the Salvation Army shield imprinted thereon. Maybe this is not too unusual but have you seen the same shield used on a cover in 1988 which came to us via Frith. This latter cover was used from Lahr, West Germany as noted. John asks if you have seen any more of these since the 1950s.

TUUM EST is from the Latin and it means 'it is up to you.'

AUXILLARY SERVICES STATIONERY

Further notes on the above subject to add to that elsewhere in this N/L on the Salvation Army follow:

The Canadian Red Cross Society put out this special cover for use in Japan, and the Korean War in the 1950's. It is special in that it is designated FAR EAST THEATRE. This cover was used from Hiro, Japan, as noted by the cancel CFPO-29 of 4 December 1954. The Corporal using this envelope was with #25 CRG. Ration Stores and he gave his return address as CANADIAN A.P.O. 5003, VANCOUVER, B.C.

The printing on this cover is in red, as is the humourous stamping at the lower left. Reports on any other Auxillary Services envelopes from 1950 to date would be appreciated. Send, please, to the Editor, Ken Ellison, R.R. # 1, Oyama, B.C., VOH 1W0 and we will give the results in the next N/L.

JAPAN
1954
+

THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY
FAR EAST THEATRE

ON ACTIVE SERVICE



*Mrs. D. Starnum
44 Sudor Ave;
Oakville, Ontario
Canada*



ARMED FORCES AIR LETTER - CHRISTMAS ISSUE 1944

Recently came across an old article by the Dean of Canadian Military postal history, the late Lt.Col. R.H.Webb, and we thought there might be a few details here of interest to the collector of today. Following are some excerpts therefrom.

ARMED FORCES AIR LETTER - CHRISTMAS ISSUE 1944

(cont)



On the 25 October 1944, members of the Forces were advised that their use of the concessionally rated EXPEDITIONARY FORCE MESSAGES (EFM) would be suspended for the coming Christmas season. In lieu thereof, specially designed airgraphs and free Air Letter Forms (ALF) were to be provided. These airgraphs appear to have been issued to troops in the Mediterranean, Middle East and Far East theatres, while those serving in North-West Europe and the UK were given overprinted ALF's. Some 800,000 of the forms (CFQ 11) were overprinted CHRISTMAS ISSUE 1944 in red and issued on the basis so as to allow each member to send one free ALF in each of the weeks ending 5, 12, 19, 26 November and 3 December.

In the Canadian instance, the weekly distribution was not enforced but the ALF's had to be mailed by 5 December for free transmission. Since there was not sufficient time to deliver the stock to distant theatres, authority was granted for ordinary ALF's (British or Canadian) to be given free franking with the sender writing the words FREE and CHRISTMAS GREETINGS at the top right corner. The ALF's required either a censor stamp or an officers signature to be mailed.

For the Canadians serving in Italy, a quantity of the CFQ 11 form was issued with a special Christmas Greeting picture printed on the message side. (See N/L Pages 132-134 for illustrations and further text).

At the same time the Post Office Department was requested to provide a free ALF for members of the British Forces and Merchant Navy who were serving in Canada or vicinity. Thus a supply of the Canadian ALF's was overprinted in red and issued. It is possible that some of these ALF's were made available to Canadians serving in the West Indies and British Guiana.

For those members interested in learning more about the ALF's, or AFAL's as they are now known, it is suggested that you refer to Wilf Whitehouse's series of articles in our Newsletters and the best way to find them is through the INDEX!



RCAF - POSTAGE PAID CANADA

From the 'Editor's desk' comes this item for members to comment on, 'pro' or 'con.' If the later, please straighten the matter out!

The guide used here is Wm. Pekonen's 1968 CHECKLIST OF CANADIAN OFFICIAL STAMPLESS COVERS SINCE 1963. Those of you who know Bill will be glad to hear, quote "Am starting to get back to my collecting interests again after a long hiatus that began with my loss of much material in an office which burnt down about nine years ago. Became discouraged and decided to let some time go by."

To quote from Bill's book "Until the end of 1963, Government mail which did not qualify under the free mailing privileges used various other methods. The most recent use was of stamps overprinted with "G" signifying Government official mail." Previous to this stamps were overprinted "OHMS", and previous to that , perforated "OHMS" ones were in use. Although not common, we have seen these items on the Services official mails.

A public announcement to discontinue the overprinted stamps was made on 3 January 1964 and another method was then adopted. This was to have printed envelopes, for Government usage, with the notation CANADA - POSTAGE PAID - PORT PAYE in the upper right hand corner.

This was fine, but at the time the various Government departments had a good supply of the old envelopes in their offices across Canada. An interim measure to take care of this situation was the provision of rubber handstamps with the same, or similar wording.

We come to the cover shown here which was dated 12 June (or July?) 1964 and mailed from LANCASTER PARK, ALBERTA where there was an RCAF base. This letter was sent from that base, according to its 'pedigree', and must have been official business. Note the large rubber handstamp as used by the RCAF to secure mail delivery in the period between the "G" stamps and the printed POSTAGE PAID envelopes.

The use of this 'extra' large rubber handstamp may have been unique to the RCAF at Lancaster Park. Addition of the word POST in POST PORT PAYE is also a departure from the normal PORT PAYE.

If this filler for the N/L is incorrect, perhaps you could advise the editor in time for the next letter.

Would you like to see more on 'modern' Canadian military postal history? Since your editor is not up on this phase, please send in any items you would like to see printed here.