

Canadian Military Mail Study Group

PAGE NO. 1.
OCTOBER 1991

ON TO NEWSLETTER NUMBER 101!

Back at it again with NEWSLETTER # 101 and PAGE # 1!

Since we were going to post a letter to those few members who have not yet responded to the request for money for the ANTHOLOGY, it was decided to not waste postage so this N/L will be included therewith.

There is an awful lot of dull writing in this N/L as it was felt necessary to cover many 'business' aspects of the Study Group so that you would all know what is going on especially in relation to our book.

No one has yet volunteered, or been volunteered, for the position of EDITOR. Your Executive feels that a new direction is needed for the Newsletter. New ideas and a new presentation are badly required to keep up interest in the Study Group!

By the way, 32 or more of our Study Group members attended BNAPEX at Vancouver at the end of August. It was nice to meet for the first time Doug Lingard and Peter Waugh and to renew acquaintance with the other 30! Special mention should be made of John Wannerton who came all the way from Capetown, South Africa. This was John's third convention, all in a row, and we expect to see him at next years too! Now if we could get our other member in South Africa to come, and yes, there is Kim Dodwell in England whom we have not met as yet.



HUBBA HUBBA!

What goes on in the minds of military postal history collectors! On pages 737 and 755 we showed two of the above markings used from the Korean War. In the last Australian Forces Mail Research Group N/L there were two more shown, and lately, from Ritch Toop, another one. How many more are there still to be noted?

- (1) as shown in our N/L, page 737, dated 1954
- (2) as shown in our N/L, page 755, dated 1952 (reduced)
- (3) latest from Ritch Toop, dated 1954
- (4) a variation, sent to New Zealand, date unclear
- (5) to Australia, dated 1953, similar to (2) (reduced)

BNAPEX '91 is now history. The 'Vancouver section' of the Pacific Northwest Regional Group did a great job under the capable direction of Bev and Jack Wallace. All went well and the large crowd seemed to enjoy the show at the Bayshore Hotel.

For our CMMSG, the highlite was the distribution of our *Special Edition* book (240 Pages) to celebrate 18 years and 100 Newsletters. Of course Ritch Toop's 1 - 100 Index seems to be unique in the study groups - we hear several other groups now have the message and are working on an index and perhaps a book!

Another highlite for our group was the awarding of the John S. Siverts Award for the best study group newsletters during the year.

The exhibition section of BNAPEX was well represented with our study group members showing. Eleven members entered exhibits and 5 of those were military subjects as follows:

Bill Bailey, Canadian Military Postmarks, awarded Silver-Bronze
Bill Robinson, Anglo-Boer War Mail, awarded Silver
John Wannerton, WWI Military & POW Mail, awarded Silver
Ritch Toop, Military mail 1900-1920, awarded Gold
The Editor, Hong Kong Force "C", awarded Vermeil

Other members showing, but on other subjects were:

Jack Wallace, BC & Vancouver Island, Vermeil
Bob Bayes, Admiral Issue, 1911-1925, Silver
Hank Narbonne, MOODS, Vermeil
Earle Covert, Specialized Geo. V & VI Stationery, Silver-Bronze
Walter Plomish, Airmail Covers on C1 & C3, Gold
Bill Pawluk, Vignettes of Postal History, 1896-1911, Silver

STUDY GROUP MEETING

Eighteen members and two guests attended the Saturday seminar, and after the short business meeting, Ron Leith, on behalf of the Blackout Study Group, gave a very interesting overview of the origin and use of blackouts. This talk was greatly appreciated by all present as Ron did a splendid job!

At the business meeting, 'elections' were held with no change in officers, yet. A review of the financial picture showed a bank balance of \$1084.36 at 15 August 1991. There are 77 members including 5 BNAPS officers and 2 N/L's on exchange with the Forces Postal History Society (GB) and the Australian Forces Mail Group. One copy of the N/L goes to our Canadian Postal Archives as well. It is costing us \$65 to \$70 for each issue, and half of this goes for postage!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT DEPARTMENT.

This one is for the books, no doubt about it! Seems as though John Frith, while visiting this area of BC prior to the Convention, decided to get a hard cover copy of the ANTHOLOGY from Bob Lee. As one often does, John checked to see if his article was even printed in it. Lo and behold the first page of his article was missing!

The **ANTHOLOGY** and **INDEX** expenses are \$2154.99 to date with a small additional amount owing for postage and packing. In this regard we saved quite a bit of expense by being able to hand out 42 copies at **BNAPEX!** The amount received to date for the publications is 1029.34 with another possible 20 members still to order and pay which gives another \$400. approximately. As intended from the start, the balance will be taken from the bank account of \$1084.36, above.

As you no doubt know, Rob't A. Lee of Kelowna provided the 'desk-top' publishing facilities that has given us such a great job and no money has passed between ourselves and Bob for this. The Study Group has paid one-half of the printing and binding costs with Bob paying the other half. An arrangement was made with Bob that of the 250 copies printed, he was to get all copies over and above the 88 we required. It was further agreed that only Bob could sell the books as payment for his input. Of course the **CMMSG** is servicing its own members. Rest assured that Bob Lee will be lucky to recoup enough money from his sales to cover what he has put into the project in time and equipment use.

We owe Bob a great vote of thanks because, on our own, the result would not have been nearly as presentable. A further financial report will be presented when the project has been wound up.

By the way, in N/L 100, we intimated that we would be sending out copies to every member. On this your Chairman, Editor and Editorial Advisers decided that we had to ask for the money up front to pay off our debt. Accordingly those of you who have not yet got a copy of the book should find an orange order slip included with this N/L. If you desire a copy you should, or rather must, reply by 15 October 1991 or the copy saved for you will no longer be available. Harsh words maybe, but the project must be concluded.

Of interest is the fact that Bob Lee had 25 of his copies 'hardbound'. By noon of the first day of the Convention these were all sold! There may be more hard cover copies made up and for one of these, or an extra soft cover regular copy, you should contact Bob Lee, the sole selling agent.

THE SIBERIAN GEISHAS

On page 70 of the **ANTHOLOGY** you will have noted Ed Harris' story about the 'Geishas'! As a follow up to this interesting stationery from Siberia, we have noted 5 different pictures used in this manner from troops serving there in 1918-19. John Wannerton showed a set in his recent exhibit, a dealer had a set for sale at **BNAPEX** for \$1500, and a couple more were seen in a auction catalog - all different!

NOTE - see Contents of Anthology - error in author of article En Route to Omsk and Posted at Tomsk was a contribution of Ed Harris and not as shown. The Editor appologizes to both Ed and Jim. The article itself, on page 229, is correctly headed.



MALTE
1 Can. Fel. Hosp.
CFPO Box 5003
Belleville, Ont.
KOK 3R0

Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Mauter
679 Walle Rd.
Kelowna, B.C.
V1W 1A4

CFPO - BPFC 5003

From Bill Robinson comes this cover from the Gulf which appears to be dated 6/III/1991. It is from a Lieutenant-Commander in the navy nurses who was the senior nursing officer at 1 Canadian Field Hospital. Previously, on page 748, we showed two cancellations from CFPO 5004. In both cases the return address was CFPO 5003 or 5004 at Belleville Ontario, KOK 3R0.

DON'T FORGET

Bailey and Toop, Volume 3 of the *CANADIAN MILITARY POSTS* is now available...

For info on extra copies of our *CANADIAN MILITARY POSTAL HISTORY ANTHOLOGY* contact:
Rob't A Lee, #203-1139 Sutherland Ave., Kelowna, B.C., V1Y 5Y2
The soft cover edition is C\$32.05; US\$30.00, postpaid.
The hard cover is C\$44.89; US\$40.00, postpaid, if still available.

FIRBY-RICHARDSON MILITARY AUCTION

Chuck Firby advises that he has been instructed to sell, by auction on 13 November 1991, a goodly portion of Ed. Richardson's comprehensive military collections. We have spoken to Chuck and are assured that he will send out catalogs to our members. See last TOPICS for Firby's advert and address.

In this connection, John Frith advises that he will be at the sale and would be happy to act as auction agent for any of our members. His address is Box 286, Copper Cliff, Ontario, P0M 1N0.

NEW MEMBERS

Perhaps it is the Special Edition being published, who knows for sure, but we have SIX new members since our last report to you. Actual paying members now are 70! Welcome the following:

- J. Doug Hannan, 23-1950 Burtch Road, Kelowna, B.C., V1Y 4B2
- Wm. S. Pawluk, Box 9198, Stn F, Calgary, AB, T2J 6X9
- Joe M. Smith, Box 1143, Rocky Mountain House, AB, T0M 1T0
- Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, AB, T2P 2E7
- Jack M. Wallace, Box 1116, Stn. E., Victoria, B.C., V8W 2S6
- Peter W. Waugh, 19639 Poplar Drive, Pitt Meadows, B.C., V3Y 1Z3

Please note change of address for Allan L. Steinhart to
305 - 35 Church Street, Toronto, Ont., M5E 1T3.

CANADA'S SHIPS IN THE GULF - UPDATE

By Wilf Whitehouse

Six months have passed since my last article, titled as above, appeared in N/L # 99, page 742. Since then the three ships returned to Halifax on 8 April 1991 and a good deal of new information has come to light from Maurice Hampson of Edmonton who corresponded with the postmaster, W.O.Desmarais at Manama, Bahrain.

Desmarais advises that all ship mail originating in the Gulf passed through Manama and commencing 27 September 1990, which was the date of arrival at Bahrain of the the three ships, was cancelled using the 33mm diameter rubber unilingual handstamp CFPO 5071/current date in three lines/FMO Halifax, N.S. B3K 2X0 (Fig. 1)

Word was received that a problem existed with this unilingual handstamp in that the recipients were led to believe that the mail had originated in Halifax, thus all reference to the FMO Halifax was removed from the handstamp. (Fig. 2) Readers will probably find it hard to believe that the next of kin of those in the Gulf would believe that their relatives had suddenly returned to Halifax because of a postmark. What is more likely is that either the Quebec language police, or Quebec politicians, complained that there was no French indicated in the handstamp.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

Dhow at anchor

18 Nov 90

Hi Gerry

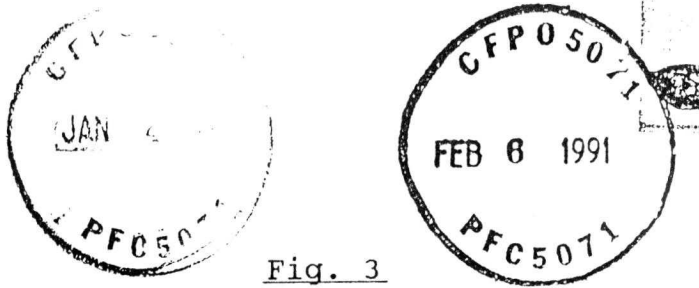
I finally got a picture of the Naval ship stationed in the Gulf. As you can see they are sailing in disguise as 3 Dhows. Interfacing with the Navy was difficult at first, but now we seem to be working well together. Our position is now functional & expect to settle down for a routine of 12 hrs a shift til the end. I haven't



21 AC&W Sqn ('A' Flt)

Hornell Hts, North Bay

Ontario, Canada

Fig. 3

Shortly after the removal of all reference to the FMO Halifax, a bilingual handstamp 33mm in diameter CFPO 5071/current date in a single line/UPFC 5071 arrived in Manama from Trenton, Ontario. Because "U" was incorrect for the French word Base it was removed, partially at first then later completely removed. (Fig. 3) It was that part of the "U" remaining in the January dated example which led me to strengthen it into a "B" in my original article illustration and which now causes me embarrassment.

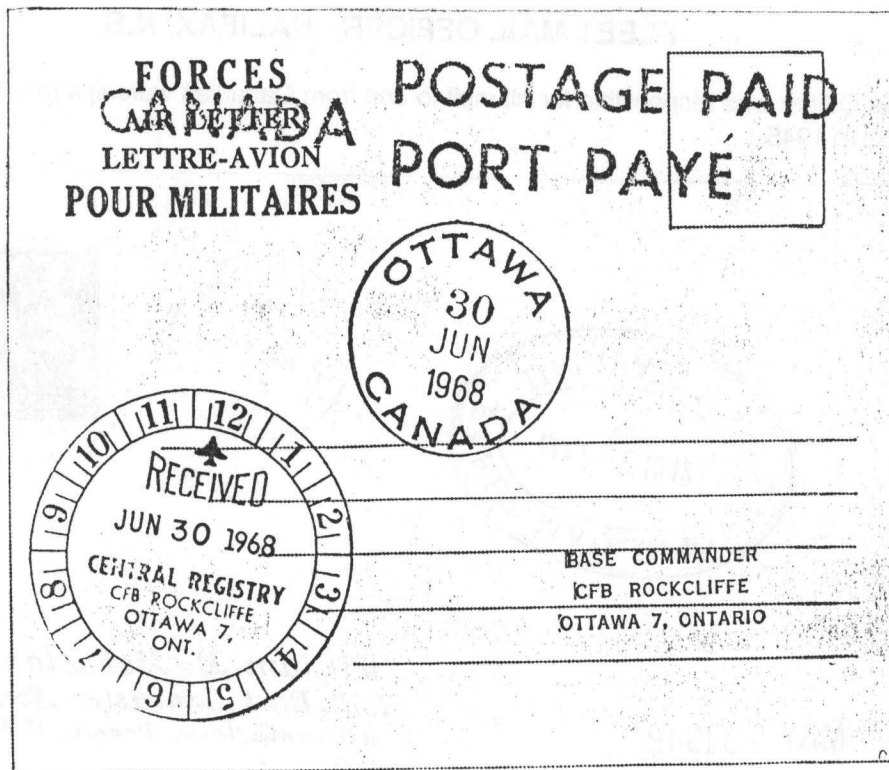
The steel handstamp C.F.P.O./current date in 2 lines/5071 did not arrive in the Gulf until 11 November 1990. (Fig. 4)

Meanwhile, the Postmaster had ordered a rubber handstamp to be made locally. It was 31mm in diameter and was first used on commemorative covers dated 17 January 1991, with the last day of use being 26 March 1991 which was the closing date of CFPO 5071 at Manama, Bahrain. (Fig. 5) Desmarais has not made it clear whether this locally made handstamp was used on regular ship mail or only on commemorative covers.

In explaining the large volume of ship mail which made its way through the mailstream across Canada after mid-January 1991, Desmarais advises that on a couple of occasions after the ground war had started, the ships could not get their mail back to Manama and this mail was forwarded to Canada via other routes and was supposed to be cancelled at the Main Post Office in Halifax.

Fig. 4Fig. 5

This update, may itself be updated as more covers and information come to our attention. In the meantime, members who have covers from our ships in the Gulf, which they feel would be of interest, are urged to forward photostats to the editor along with any supplementary information. Of particular interest would be commemorative covers from any of the three ships.



CANADA POST PAID / PORT PAYE

From Herb Williams comes another POST PAID handstamp. This one is obviously philatelic. It is from Ottawa on 30 June 1968 and on a FORCES AIR LETTER form. The marking is of a different style than those shown previously.

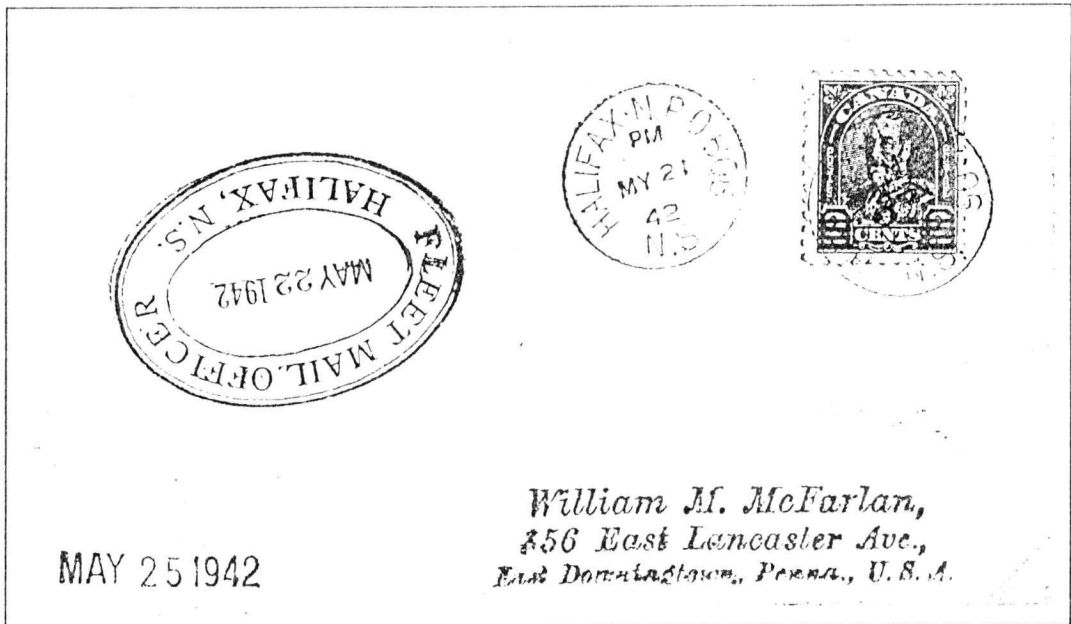
ROYAL 22nd REGIMENT 75th ANNIVERSARY

From Michel Gagne comes this cutting from PHILATELIE QUEBEC of February 1991. Shown is the postcard photo used to produce the stamp in 1989.



FLEET MAIL OFFICER HALIFAX, N.S.

This Officer was responsible for all mail to and from Canadian warships in the Western Atlantic from 1939 to 1945.



This cancelled-to-order cover shows the double-oval marking of this Officer, along with the circular date stamp of Naval Post Office No. 606 of May 21, 1942. Later types of marking from this Office, located at H.M.C.Dockyard, have all references to Halifax removed for security reasons.
(Courtesy Bill Robinson.)

SOME SPITFIRE!

A note from Ron Kitchen encloses a clipping from THE MILITARY BOOK CLUB - YOUR #1 SOURCE FOR MILITARY BOOKS. Quote:

"It's your first mission as a tail gunner in a Spitfire, piercing the nighttime sky over London at 350 m.p.h. ... Suddenly the aircraft banks, a rocket explodes, and you're taking heavy fire..."

MOROCCAN CIVIL WAR

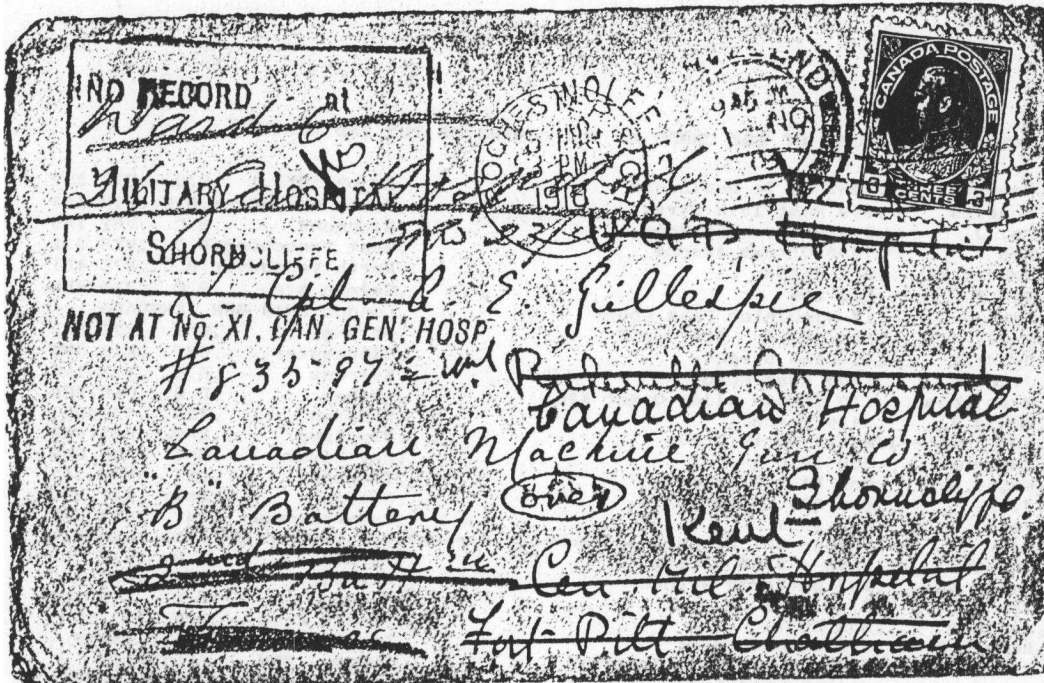
A news report of 6 September 1991:

RABBAT, Morocco - The first contingent of United Nations peacekeepers, including Canadian soldiers, has arrived in the Western Sahara to monitor a ceasefire between Moroccan troops and Polisario guerrillas...

The first UN contingent, led by Maj.-Gen. Armand Roy of Canada, flew into the Western Sahara town of Layoune aboard a US military plane Thursday. The 40 member contingent included 14 Canadians and 15 Americans.

A total of 1,700 peacekeepers, including 740 Canadians, are expected to be deployed in the region during the coming weeks to monitor the ceasefire, while officials prepare for a UN-supervised referendum in January to decide the territory's future."

More Canadian military postal history in the making?



TWO UNRECORDED WWI C.A.M.C. TRANSIT MARKINGS ON THE SAME COVER

John Frith reports: When the person who redirected this cover to a CMGC L/CPL at the "Canadian Hospital, Shorncliffe, Kent", they probably did not realize that there were two Canadian hospitals located there.

No. 9 Canadian General Hospital served at Shorncliffe from 10.9.17 to 17.12.18, when it was relocated to Kimmel Park, Rhyl, Wales. It had originally been titled SHORNCLIFFE MILITARY HOSPITAL and thus the boxed handstamp "NO RECORD at / MILITARY HOSPITAL / SHORNCLIFFE" probably was used at this hospital.

The straight line handstamp "NOT AT NO. 11, CAN.GEN.HOSP." was used at the other C.G.H. located at Shorncliffe from 13.9.17 to 20.9.17. It had originally been titled MOORE BARRACKS MILITARY HOSPITAL SHORNCLIFFE. (Hope the cover reproduction shows all this.)

ADVERTISING BUY, SELL, TRADE

Several members have suggested that we allot space for some advertising. Let's see how it works. Send 25 cents for each line _ maximum 4 line insertion which will include name/address.

After writing Can. Forestry Corps article in ANTHOLOGY, have decided to see what I can find from, or to, the C.F.C, especially in WWI. Postcard scenes of CFC also wanted. Please send photocopies. Ken Ellison, R.R.#1, Oyama, B.C. V0H 1W0

Have you anything to spare from Camp Borden, esp. WWI? Contact Dave Hanes, 33 Lillian Crescent, Barrie, Ont., L4N 4P8

E.Ritch Toop, Box 9026, Stn. T, Ottawa, Ont., K1G 3T8 is interested in S.S. GRIPSHOLM's carrying Cdn. military mails. Send photo's.

CMMSG always needs articles, as well as an EDITOR. Please respond!

LIST OF 'CHARTER MEMBERS' OF THE CMMSG AT THE COMING OF THE 2ND CENTURY

Alary	,Robert	,7462 de la Deviniere	,Anjou (Mtl.)	,P.Q.	,H1K 3S7
Arnold	,Charles	,249 West 15th Street	,North Vancouver	,B.C.	,V7M 1S3
Bailey	,Wm. J.	,5-8191 Francis Road	,Richmond	,B.C.	,V6Y 1A5
Barlow	,Ken	,1055 Ottawa Avenue	,West Vancouver	,B.C.	,V7S 2J2
Bayes	,Robert A.	,Box 86456	,North Vancouver	,B.C.	,V7L 4L1
Bedwell	,Sid F.	,Box 206	,Salmon Arm	,B.C.	,V1E 4N3
Brown (FPHS)	,Alan J.	,17 Wimbleton Park Court	,London SW19 6NN	,ENGLAND	
Burega	,Paul	,Box 15765 Station F	,Ottawa	,ONT	,K2C 3S7
Burgers	,Hendrik	,11 Elma Street	,Gloucester	,ONT	,K1G 3N2
Campbell	,J. Colin	,1450 Ross Road	,Kelowna	,B.C.	,V1Z 1L6
Caron	,Mrs. Lola	,110 Grande Allee Ouest #201	,Quebec	,P.Q.	,G1R 2G8
Christman	,Edwin F.	,5419 Jason	,Houston	,TEX.	,77096.
Clark	,Mrs. Beaverlie	,924 North Drive	,Winnipeg	,MAN.	,R3T 0A8
Covert M.D.	,Earle L.	,Box 1070	,Hay River	,NWT	,XOE ORO
Curtis	,Wayne R.	,Box 74 Station A	,Toronto	,ONT	,M5W 1A2
Dale	,J. B.	,Box 675 Station B	,Ottawa	,ONT	,K1P 5P7
Davis	,Jack	,Box 1839	,Peterborough	,ONT	,K9J 7X6
Dodwell	,Kim	,Middle Ho. Cruckmeole Hanwood, Shrewsbury	,Shrops. ENGLAND	,SY5 8JN	
Douglas	,George T.	,2106 - 32nd Street	,Vernon	,B.C.	,V1T 5L1
Eggett	,Peter K.	,207 Lafferty Avenue	,Windsor	,ONT	,N9J 1K2
Ellison	,Ken V.	,R. R. # 1	,Oyama	,B.C.	,VOH 1W0
Felton	,James W.	,Box 56371	,Little Rock	,ARK.	,72215
Flynn	,Robert A.	,621 Vasona Court	,Los Gatos	,CALIF.	,95030
Forces Mail Group	,Australian	,Box 201 Gladesville 2111	,Sydney NSW	,AUSTRALIA	
Frank	,Dr. J.	,50 Cotswold Drive Saxonwold	,Johannesburg 2196	,SOUTH AFRIC.	
Frith	,John E.	,Box 286	,Copper Cliff	,ONT	,POM 1N0
Gagne	,Michel	,72 De Montbrun	,Boucherville	,P.Q.	,J4B 4T9
Goben	,James R.	,304 West Lincoln Street	,Bloomington	,ILL	,61701
Hanes	,A. David	,33 Lillian Crescent	,Barrie	,ONT	,L4N 4P8
Hannan	,J. Douglas	,23 - 1950 Burtch Rd.	,Kelowna	,B.C.	,V1Y 4B2
Harris	,Ed.A.	,620-75th Avenue NW	,Calgary	,ALTA	,T2K 0P9
Hill	,James R.	,2015 Lake Bonavista Dr. SE	,Calgary	,ALTA	,T2J 2Z8
Hill	,Gordon M.	,11 Coach Side Terrace SW	,Calgary	,ALTA	,T3H 2T3
Johnson	,Leanna F.	,717- 25 AVE. NW	,Calgary	,ALTA	,T2M 2B4
Johnson (BNAPS)	,Jon	,717 -25 AVE. NW	,Calgary	,ALTA	,T2M 2B4
Kaye	,Don	,Box 4201	,Hamilton	,ONT.	,L8V 4L6
Kitchen	,Ron	,1387 Pearl Street	,Ottawa	,ONT	,K1T 1C6
Leith	,Ron D.	,Box 430	,Abbotsford	,B.C.	,V2S 5Z5
Lingard	,Douglas	,2425 Blackstone Crescent	,Ottawa	,ONT.	,K1B 4H3
Longbourne	,James W.	,1961 Southmere Crescent	,Surrey	,B.C.	,V4A 7B9
Luciuk	,Steven C.	,1542 East Heights	,Saskatoon	,SASK	,S7J 3B5
Mario	,Dean W.	,P.O. Box 342 M.P.O.	,Saskatoon	,SASK	,S7K 3L3
Mathews	,Lawrence	,Box 354	,Bracebridge	,ONT	,P1L 1T7
Mayo	,L. Dan(Jr)	,Box 20837	,Indianapolis	,IND	,46220
McCarthy (BNAPS)	,Peter	,Box 688	,Richmond	,P.Q.	,JOB 2H0
Miller	,James E.	,Box 3005 M.P.P.	,Kamloops	,B.C.	,V2C 6B7
Narbonne	,R. F.	,216 Malley Drive	,Carleton Place	,ONT.	,K7C 3X9
Nickle	,Sam C.	,1208 Belavista Crescent	,Calgary	,ALTA	,T2V 2B1
Pawluk	,Wm. S.	,Box 9198 Stn. F	,Calgary	,ALTA	,T2J 6X9
Phillips (BNAPS)	,Clinton A.	,1704 Glade Street	,College Station	,TX	,77840
Plain	,Dr. Brian C.	,230 Robson Road West	,Kelowna	,B.C.	,V1X 3C8
Plante	,Jacques	,Box 1413 C.F.P.O. 5056	,Belleville	,ONT.	,KOK 3R0
Plomish	,Walter R.	,205-466 East 8th Avenue	,New Westminster	,B.C.	,V3L 4L2
Pomfret	,Colin	,R. R. # 1	,Millgrove	,ONT	,LOR 1V0
Popp	,Tim	,Box 1124	,Nipawin	,SASK	,SOE 1E0
Postal Arch. Lib	,Canada	,365 Laurier Ave West	,Ottawa	,ONT	,K1A 0N3
Robinson (BNAPS)	,Wm. G.	,5830 Cartier Street	,Vancouver	,B.C.	,V6M 3A7
Salovey	,David	,34 Hillside Ave. IFF	,New York	,N.Y.	,10040
Sanderson	,P. R.	,Box 174	,Lindsay	,ONT	,K9V 4S1
Smith	,Joe M.	,Box 1143	,Rocky Mountain House	,ALTA	,TOM 1T0
Soper	,Robert B	,1155 Cartaret St.	,Halifax	,N.S.	,B3H 3P2
Speirs	,Dale	,Box 6830	,Calgary	,ALTA	,T2P 2E7
Steinhart	,Allan L.	,305 - 35 Church Street	,Toronto	,Ont.	,M5E 1T3
Stillions	,Clarence	,5031 Eskridge Terrace	,Washington	,DC	,20016
Street	,H. Mike	,Box 7230	,Ancastor	,ONT	,L9G 3N6
Tanner	,Albert G.	,1002 - 1125 West 12th Ave.	,Vancouver	,B.C.	,V6H 3Z3
Toop	,E. Ritch	,Box 9026 Stn. T	,Ottawa	,ONT	,K1G 3T8
Tyacke	,John	,1 Ottawa Street	,Toronto	,ONT	,M4T 2B5
Vanderburgh	,Dr. Geo. A.	,Box 204 Owen Sd. Street	,Shelburne	,ONT	,LON 1S0
Verge	,Chas. J.G.	,Box 2788 Station D	,Ottawa	,ONT	,K1P 5W8
Wallace	,Jack M.	,Box 1116 Stn E	,Victoria	,B.C.	,V8W 2S6
Wannerton	,John	,8 Pearson Ave. Kenilworth 7700	,Cape Province	,SOUTH AFRICA	
Whitehouse	,Wilf D.	,#39 1750 Pacific Way	,Kamloops	,B.C.	,V2E 2K8
Williams	,Herbert W.	,305-1240 St Georges Ave	,North Vancouver	,B.C.	,V7L 1S3
Willson (BNAPS)	,Victor L.	,Box 10420	,College Station	,TEX	,77842
Wolf	,Philip	,9832 - 19th Street SW	,Calgary	,ALTA	,T2V. 4C3
Waugh	,Peter W.	,19639 Poplar Drive			
			Pitt Meadows	B.C.	V3Y 1Z3