



Canadian Military Mail Study Group



No. 105

June 1992

Page 41

Editorial Ramblings

Despite my habitual tardiness (perfected during a long army career!) the April-May issue got out more or less on time. This second effort is also going to be slightly later than I originally anticipated, but should be mailed out in time for you to receive it around Canada Day (or the 4th of July in the case of our US members).

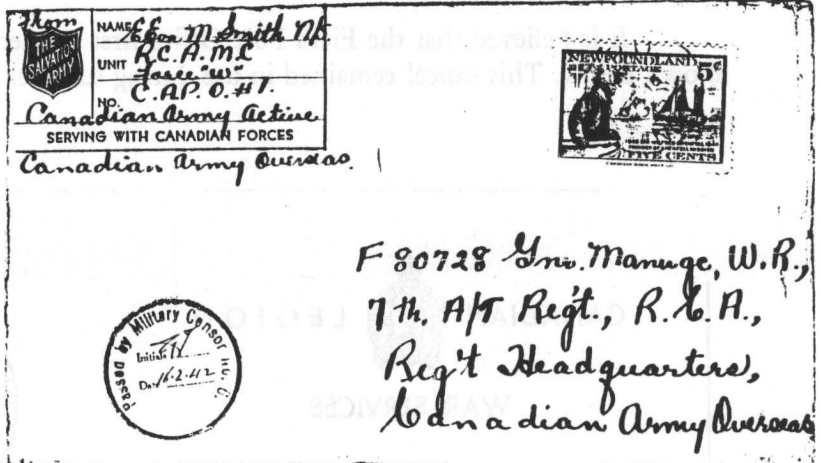
Thank you all for the many letters commenting on Issue 104. I'm glad you liked it and I will, therefore, carry on.

After this issue is safely put to bed (notice how easily this publishing-speak comes to me suddenly), I am going to review our finances and make a little list. Meaning: if you have delayed or forgotten to pay your dues, do so now, please.

This issue includes a bit of everything again. If there is anything special you want to see, or know more information about, why not drop your editor a line. If I do not have anything on hand relating to your request, I'll ask the members to help us out. That way we all can learn something from each other.

We have more information about #5 Stationary Hospital, a long listing of the British and Canadian FPOs serving the Canadian Army during WW II, locations of US forces in Newfoundland, as well as some letters and our members' ads. Good reading!

Henk Burgers



Coming in Future Issues:

More from the Canada Official Postal Guide, a series of photographs showing the Royal Canadian Postal Corps on the job around the world, Part 2 of Bill Robinson's MPO listing and much, much more!

The Canadian Military Mail Study Group Newsletter is the publication of the Canadian Military Mail Study Group of the British North America Philatelic Society.

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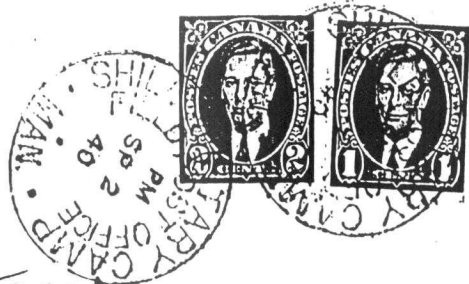
A Canadian Military Cancel

From J. C. Campbell

Camp Shilo (now Canadian Forces Base Shilo) is approximately 20 miles east of Brandon, Manitoba. Its construction started in 1931 as a relief project and in 1934 an Artillery Camp of Instruction was held on the site. In 1960, Shilo became the home base of all gunners in all the units of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery.

It is believed that the Field Post Office first opened on 15 February 1934 using the cancel shown below. This cancel remained in use during summer camps until early May 1941.

CANADIAN  LEGION
WAR SERVICES



*Mrs. J. Dow
c/o Dr. J. G. Pullar
2909 Wolpe Street,
Calgary, Alberta*

Today, CFB Shilo is one of the active bases of the Canadian Armed Forces and is also used by some NATO forces to train their troops.

BNAPEX '92

Don't forget! BNAPEX '92 will take place from September 10 to 12, 1992 in St. Charles, Illinois at the Pheasant Run Resort and Convention Center. For further information see BNA TOPICS or contact: Bob Schlesinger, Chairman, 523 Highland Grove Drive, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089, U.S.A.

The next few pages contain a listing of the British and Canadian FPOs that served the Canadian Army overseas during World War II. Each FPO is matched with the formation it served. Some unit names have had to be abbreviated, but I trust that all will be clear. If not, drop me a line. Corrections or additions will be welcomed.

FPOs of the Canadian Army Overseas During WW II

From W. G. (Bill) Robinson

1ST CANADIAN INFANTRY DIVISION

CANADIAN FPO	BRITISH FPO	FORMATION & UNITS SERVED
D.C.1	314	<u>1st Divisional HQ</u> 4th Recce Regiment RCAC (4th Princess Louise Dragoon Guards) 1st Infantry Divisional Signals 1st Inf Div Support Bn (Saskatoon Light Infantry)
T.C.1	313	<u>1st Divisional Ration Point</u> 1st Anti-Tank Regiment RCA 2nd LAA Regiment RCA 2nd Field Park Coy RCASC 1st Inf Div Troops Coy RCASC 1st Inf Div Ordnance Field Park RCOC 1st Provost Coy RCMP 1st Inf Div Workshop RCEME
C.1	310	<u>1st Infantry Brigade HQ</u> Royal Canadian Regiment Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment 48th Highlanders of Canada 1st Field Regiment RCHA 1st Field Coy RCE 1st Infantry Brigade Coy RCASC 4th Ambulance RCAMC 1st Infantry Brigade Workshop RCEME
C.2	311	<u>2nd Infantry Brigade HQ</u> Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Loyal Edmonton Regiment 2nd Field Regiment RCA 3rd Field Coy RCE 2nd Infantry Brigade Coy RCASC 5th Field Ambulance RCAMC 2nd Infantry Brigade Workshop RCEME
C.3	312	<u>3rd Infantry Brigade HQ</u> Royal 22e Régiment Carleton and York Regiment West Nova Scotia Regiment 3rd Field Regiment RCA 4th Field Regiment RCA 3rd Infantry Brigade Coy RCASC 9th Field Ambulance RCAMC 3rd Infantry Brigade Workshop RCEME

2ND CANADIAN INFANTRY DIVISION

CANADIAN FPO	BRITISH FPO	FORMATION & UNITS SERVED
D.C.2	432	<u>2nd Divisional HQ</u> 8th Recce Regt (14th Canadian Hussars) 2nd Infantry Divisional Signals 2nd Inf Div Sp Bn (Toronto Scottish Regiment)
T.C.2	433	<u>2nd Divisional Ration Point</u> 2nd Anti-Tank Regiment RCA 3rd LAA Regiment RCA 1st Field Park Coy RCE 2nd Inf Div Troops Coy RCASC 2nd Inf Div Ordnance Field Park RCOG 2nd Provost Coy CProC 2nd Inf Div Workshop RCEME
C.4	434	<u>4th Infantry Brigade HQ</u> Royal Regiment of Canada Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Essex Scottish Regiment 4th Field Regiment RCA 2nd Field Coy RCE 4th Infantry Brigade Coy RCASC 10th Field Ambulance RCAMC 4th Infantry Brigade Workshop RCEME
C.5	435	<u>5th Infantry Brigade HQ</u> Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada Régiment de Maisonneuve Calgary Highlanders 5th Field Regiment RCA 7th Field Coy RCE 5th Infantry Brigade Coy RCASC 11th Field Ambulance RCAMC 5th Infantry Brigade Workshop RCEME
C.6	436	<u>6th Infantry Brigade HQ</u> Fusiliers Mont-Royal Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada South Saskatchewan Regiment 6th Field Regiment RCA 11th Field Coy RCE 6th Infantry Brigade Coy RCASC 18th Field Ambulance RCAMC 6th Infantry Brigade Workshop RCEME



Have a great summer!

3RD CANADIAN INFANTRY DIVISION

CANADIAN FPO	BRITISH FPO	FORMATION & UNITS SERVED
D.C.3	483	<u>3rd Divisional HQ</u> 7th Recce Regt (17th Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars) 3rd Infantry Divisional Signals 3rd Inf Div Sp Bn (Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa)
T.C.3	484	<u>3rd Divisional Ration Point</u> 3rd Anti-Tank Regiment RCA 4th LAA Regiment RCA 3rd Field Park Coy RCE 3rd Infantry Div Troops Coy RCASC 3rd Infantry Div Ordnance Field Park RCOC 3rd Provost Coy CProC 3rd Infantry Div Workshop RCEME
C.7	485	<u>7th Infantry Brigade HQ</u> Royal Winnipeg Rifles Regina Rifle Regiment 1st Bn. The Canadian Scottish Regiment 12th Field Regiment RCA 6th Field Coy RCE 7th Infantry Brigade Coy RCASC 14th Field Ambulance RCAMC 7th Infantry Brigade Workshop RCEME
C.8	486	<u>8th Infantry Brigade HQ</u> Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Régiment de la Chaudière North Shore (New Brunswick) Regiment 13th Field Regiment RCA 16th Field Coy RCE 8th Infantry Brigade Coy RCASC 22nd Field Ambulance RCASC 8th Infantry Brigade Workshop RCEME
C.9	487	<u>9th Infantry Brigade HQ</u> Highland Light Infantry of Canada Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Highlanders North Nova Scotia Highlanders 14th Field Regiment RCA 18th Field Coy RCE 9th Infantry Brigade Coy RCASC 23rd Field Ambulance RCANC 9th Infantry Brigade Workshop RCEME

To be continued.

Cover-Cover

Sent from Lester's Field Military Hospital to RHQ of 7th AT Regt RCA.
Censor No. 6 on front and Orderly Room despatch stamp on reverse.

As part of his continuing coverage of material relating to the medical services in the military, Colin Campbell has provided us with a brief biography of Major General G. L. Foster, the Director-General of Medical Services Overseas during WW I

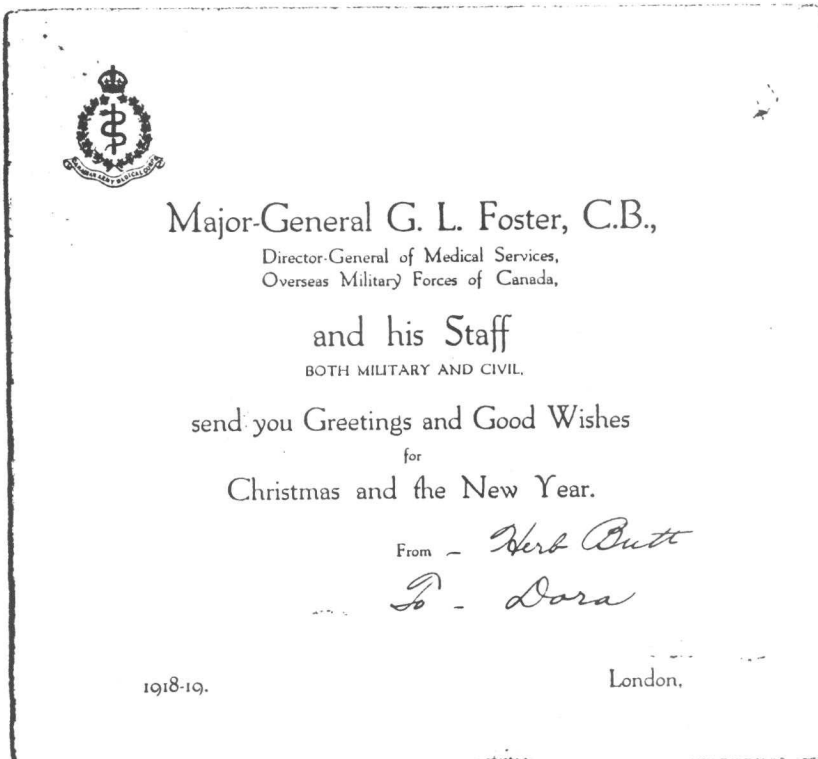
Major-General G. L. Foster, C.B.

From J. Colin Campbell



Son of George and Elmira Foster. Born at North Kingston, Kings County, Nova Scotia, May, 1874. Graduated M.D. 1896, University of New York, U.S.A. First appointment, Canadian Militia, August 4, 1897, Lieutenant and Assistant Surgeon, 68th Regiment, Kings County, Nova Scotia. Served with the Yukon Field Force as P.M.O., March, 1898, to July, 1900. April, 1913, appointed Assistant Director of Medical Services, Military District No. 2 with headquarters at Toronto, Ontario.

In September, 1914, sailed from Quebec with First Canadian Contingent and appointed A.D.M.S. 1st Division Canadians, with the rank of Colonel. Served in France from February, 1915, to September, 1915, as A.D.M.S. 1st Division Canadians. September, 1915, appointed Deputy Director of Medical Services, Canadian Corps, on its formation and served with Canadian Corps in France until February, 1917, when appointed Director-General of Medical Services, Overseas Military Forces of Canada with the rank of Major-General, headquarters in London, England. March, 1920, appointed Acting Director-General of Medical Services, Canadian Militia, with headquarters at Ottawa. General Foster died on May 17, 1940.



Continuing with Colin's favourite topic, here is an item contributed by Dean Mario on #5 Stationary Hospital.

More on No. 5 Stationary Hospital

From Dean Mario

The two items illustrated are closely associated with #5 Stationary Hospital. The first shows the Officers's and Nurses' Quarters at the Abbassia Cavalry Barracks. The other is a Christmas fancy greeting card from the Hospital.

Both cards are illustrations from the book, A History of No. 7 (Queens's) Canadian General Hospital. I can't seem to find Polson's first or second names, but can forward the information that Polson was Officer-In-Charge of the Hospital's Gordon Ward (the wards were all given familiar names). I'm afraid that's about it! Sorry I can't be much more help. A future check of nominal rolls might find something, but the copies that I have do not list him at all.



Figure 1. A Christmas Card from No. 5 Stationary Hospital.

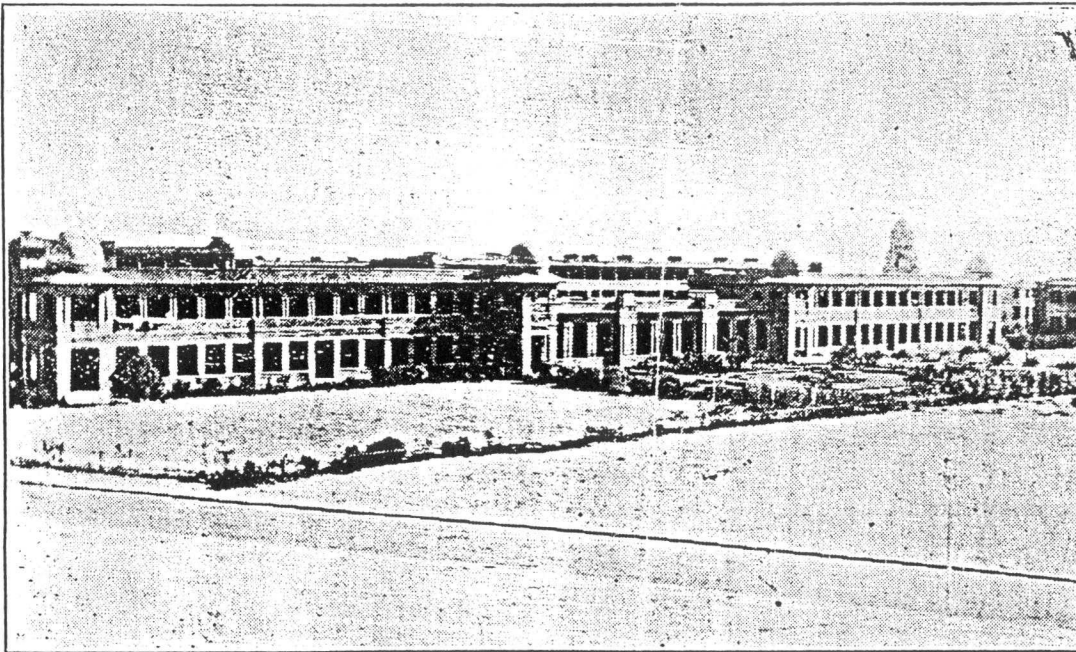


Figure 2. Quarters of Officers and Nurses.

LETTERS

From Walter Plomish:
 "Received my CMMSG newsletter and, yes, it was I who sent all the information on "mis-sorts", re. cover to Chile etc. Too bad it got mixed up, as I spent some time digging through a mound of documents from the archives. I like the newsletter, especially the way it's set with the bold type." *(My apologies for the mix-up, Walter. Won't happen again! And thanks for the compliment).*

Got a note from Joe Frith regarding a book published by "Access To History Publications" in Ottawa about the CSEF, entitled "Canada's Soldiers in Siberia, 1918-1919". I happen to have a copy and can heartily recommend it (No, this is not a paid plug!). The book is full of good info about the CSEF and contains a complete nominal roll, diary excerpts and lots of good photos. John Skuce, the author, has done a lot of research and presents the reader with a wealth of information.

Contact: Access to History Publications, P.O. Box 7161, Ottawa, Ontario, K1L 8E3. Canadian price is \$49.95 + \$3 p&p.

For the WW I overseas post offices fan, a nice cover illustrating an early 3.X FPO cancel, contributed by Bill Robinson

FIELD POST OFFICE 3.X

From W. G. Robinson

FPO 3.X served the Third Brigade, First Canadian Infantry Division. This cover was mailed by Reg. No. 24757, Pte Haynes R. Powell, of F Coy, 13th Battalion, on February 22, 1915, to his sister at San Remo, Italy. There, it was assessed 50 Centesimi Postage Due, as Italy was still neutral at that time and did not recognize the Free franking. It was then re-addressed to Bordighera, Italy.

The cover bears an impression in red of square Censor No. 2411, which was allotted to the 13th Battalion, and the signature of Lieutenant Francis Stuart Molson as censoring officer.



Bailey and Toop recorded the use of this 3.X Hammer from 26 February, 1915, so this is an earlier date of use. The Field Post Office was in the Armentieres area, near Gravenstafel, during February and March, 1915.

And now for something from modern times (NOT the Chaplin movie!)

TRIBAL CLASS UPDATE AND MODERNIZATION PROGRAM (TRUMP)

From W. D. Whitehouse

In NL #92 on page 675, a Christmas card connected with this program was illustrated and a few details provided as to what this refit would mean to the appearance and capabilities of the four ships involved.

The time frame for these mid-life refits was estimated to be 18 months and as pointed out, "Algonquin" entered Davie shipyards at Lauzon, P.Q. in October 1987. Now, more than 18 months behind schedule, "Algonquin" is back in service and it is as up-to-date as any warship in the world.

"Algonquin" still carries her circular rubber CF 20 cachet in her postal kit, but a new Commanding Officer's handstamp (whose date should read 1992) leads one to believe that this ship has been designated a French language unit of the fleet.



COMMANDANT

11 FEV 1991

L'ALGONQUIN

Small Ads

The Newsletter will accept small ads from members. One insertion of up to four lines for a Loonie! (For our overseas friends, that's a Canadian dollar) Send your ad with real money or mint (Canadian preferred) stamps.

TRADE: MILITARY History-hard cover-140 pages-SIXTH CANADIAN FIELD COMPANY (RCE) 1939-1945, for similar First World War. J.C. Campbell, 1450 Ross Road, Kelowna, BC V1Z 1L6.

FOR SALE: CMMSG MILITARY MAIL ANTHOLOGY. Hard Cover - \$44.89 in Canada; US\$40.00 for USA and overseas; Soft Cover - \$32.05 in Canada; US\$30.00 for USA and overseas; Post Paid. Order from: Robt. A. Lee, #203-1139 Sutherland Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 5Y2.

WANTED: Royal Newfoundland Regiment: WW I and II Canadian Chaplain; WW II Canadian Orderly Room markings on cover. Have some material for trade if interested. Dean Mario, Box 342, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3.

CANADIAN FORESTRY CORPS: Lost track of the number of responses to my C.F.C. ad. Thanks to all who replied! Covers, postcards still wanted, especially WW I.

Ken Ellison, R.R. # 1, Oyama, BC V0H 1W0.

NEWFOUNDLAND WANTED: Covers to and from Newfoundland servicemen, all periods. Civil and Military censorship covers concerning Nfld. also desired. Send photocopies, even if you do not want to trade the material. Doug Hannan, 23 - 1950 Burtch Street, Kelowna, BC V1Y 4B2.

THREE SHIP POSTCARDS WANTED, but photocopies in any case. CPR's MONMOUTH (built 1900); Donaldson's LAKONIA (built 1899); Atlantic Transport's MANITOU (built 1898). Any postcard will do, but prefer WW I period.

J. Colin Campbell, 1450 Ross Road, Kelowna, BC V1Z 1L6.

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