

Canadian Military Mail Study Group

NEWSLETTER

No. 112

July - August 1993

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Editorial Ramblings

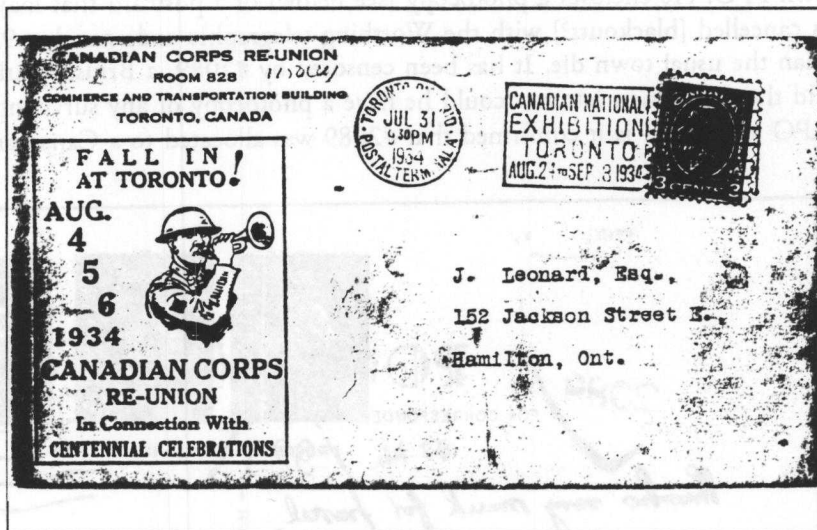
This is the last issue before the BNAPS 93 Convention in Toronto. As you will have noticed, the last couple of issues have been somewhat delayed; that is bound to happen when your editor has to try to eke out a living in some kind of gainful occupation (oddly enough, not entirely unrelated to writing and editing).

In any event, if this issue does not get mailed in time, I will bring copies with me to BNAPEX.

Most of you have remitted the dues for 93 now; I was a bit late in requesting those, so you may want to send 93 and 94 combined.

Hope to see you in Toronto!

Henk Burgers



Coming in Future Issues:

Articles on Canadians in various countries during WW II, MPO updates, book reviews and, of course, lots of other interesting news items submitted by our members.

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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WW II - Canadians in Europe

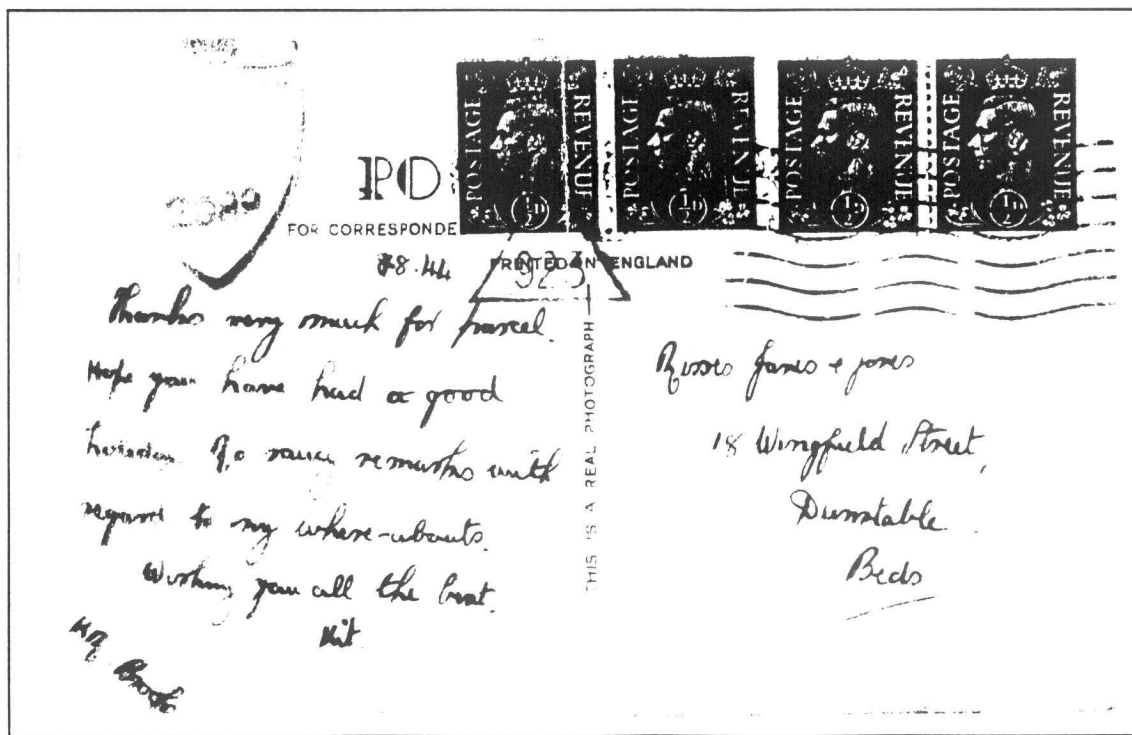
By John Tyacke

Requests for Information

I have recently received two requests for information from the UK, and hope that some members of the study group can help in answering their queries. I would be happy to coordinate the answers if sent to me at John Tyacke, 1 Ottawa Street, Toronto M4T 2B5, or alternatively, please write direct.

The first is from John Hobbs, Secretary of the Sussex Postal History Society and the Worthing Philatelic Society, 12 Ophir Road, Worthing, Sussex BN11 2SR, UK.

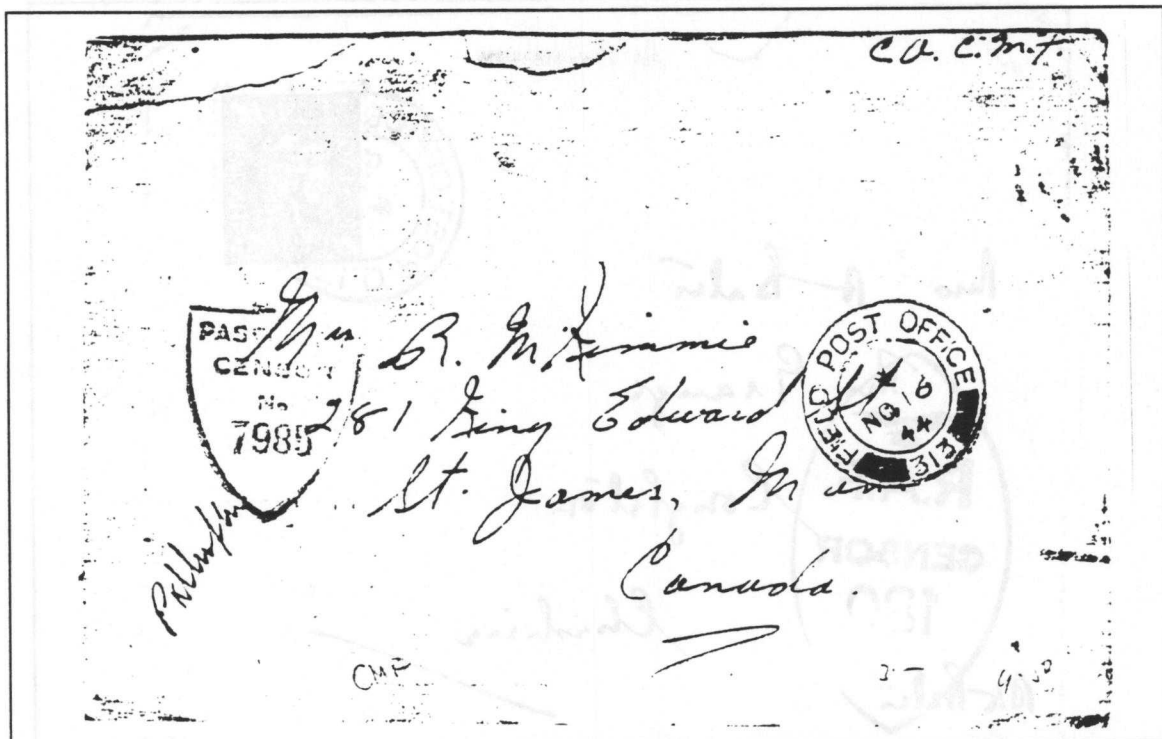
He wants to know if the Canadian Army stationed in Worthing in WWII used the local post or had their own FPO. He encloses a photocopy [see below] of a postcard that may have been sent by a Canadian. It is cancelled [blackouts?] with the Worthing telegraphic code number 923 triangular machine cancel rather than the usual town die. It has been censored by #2089, a British mark often issued to Canadians - where did they post their letters - could he have a photocopy of any surviving covers - was there an FPO or an APO allocated - is it confirmed that #2089 was allocated to a Canadian unit?



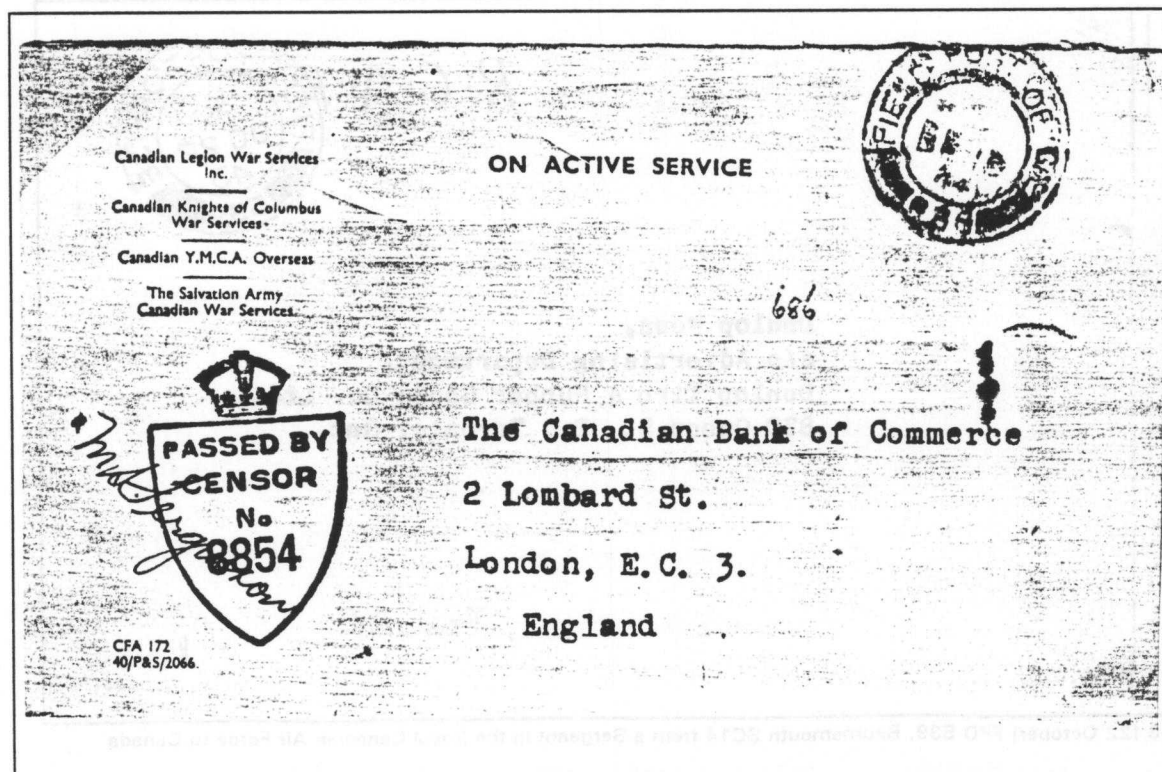
The second is from Robson Lowe, 39 Poole Hill, Bournemouth, BH2 5PX, UK. Let's make a real effort to help the father of postal history with our combined wisdom!

He has sent photocopies of eight covers from his collection of WWII British FPO's used by Canadian Forces, and would like to know any additional facts about them. In particular he would like to know the location (or unit) to which the different censors were attached.

World War II
British Field Post Offices used by the Canadian Forces



1944 (16 November) FPO 313, Italy TC1 from B Squadron, Mediterranean Forces to Canada

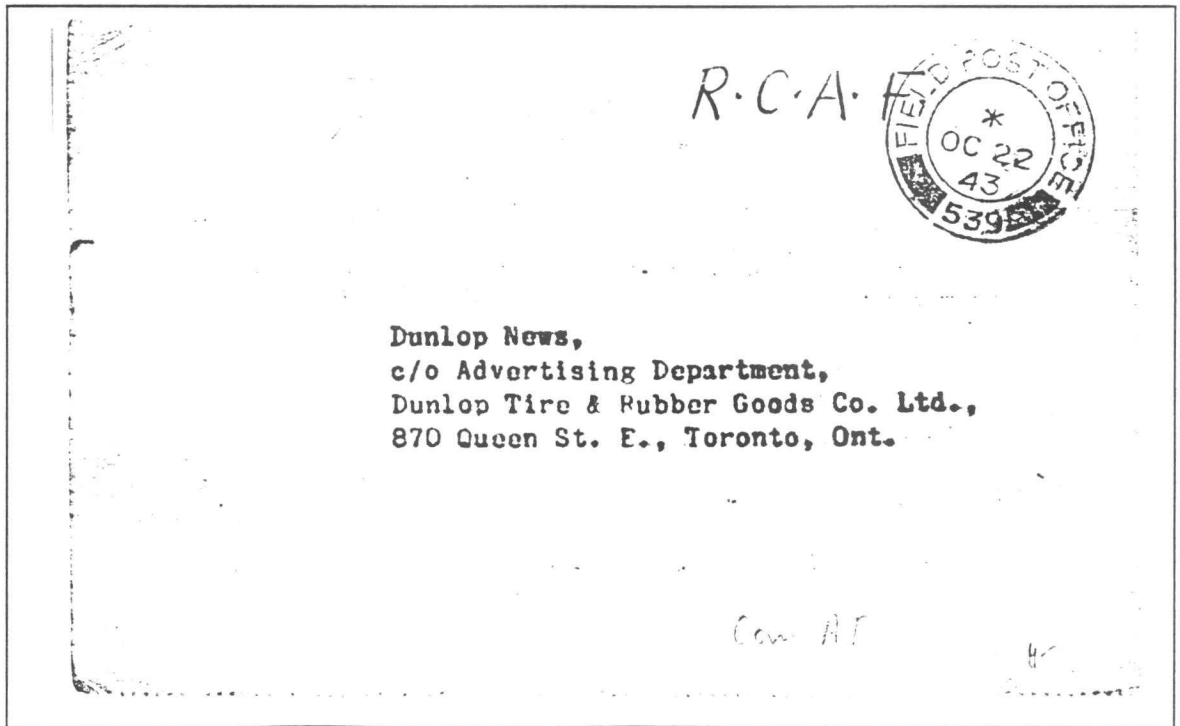


1944 (19 December) FPO 686, France, BLA SC 754 to England

Montgomery's forces turned to the liberation of the watergate to Antwerp. The Battle for South Beveland and Walcheren Island were concluded on 8 November.

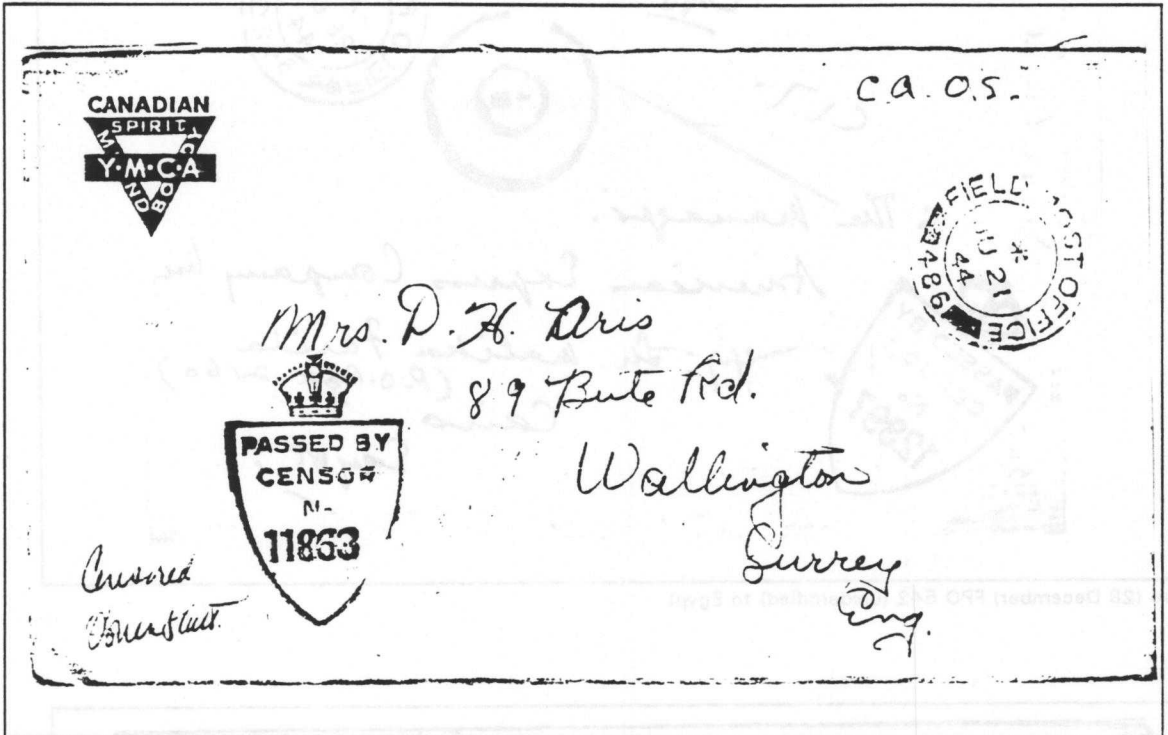


1943 (10 March) FPO 494 Northern Ireland, Canadian R.A.F. Group Captain to Cheshire

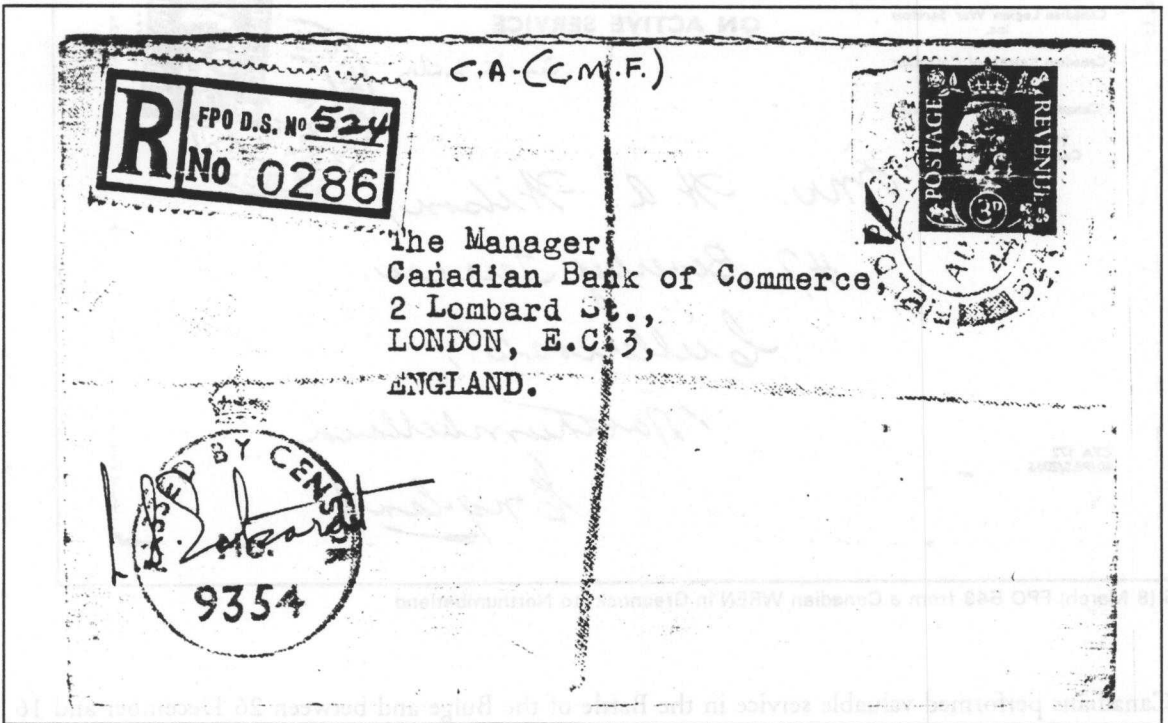


1943 (22 October) FPO 539, Bournemouth SC14 from a Sergeant in the Royal Canadian Air Force to Canada

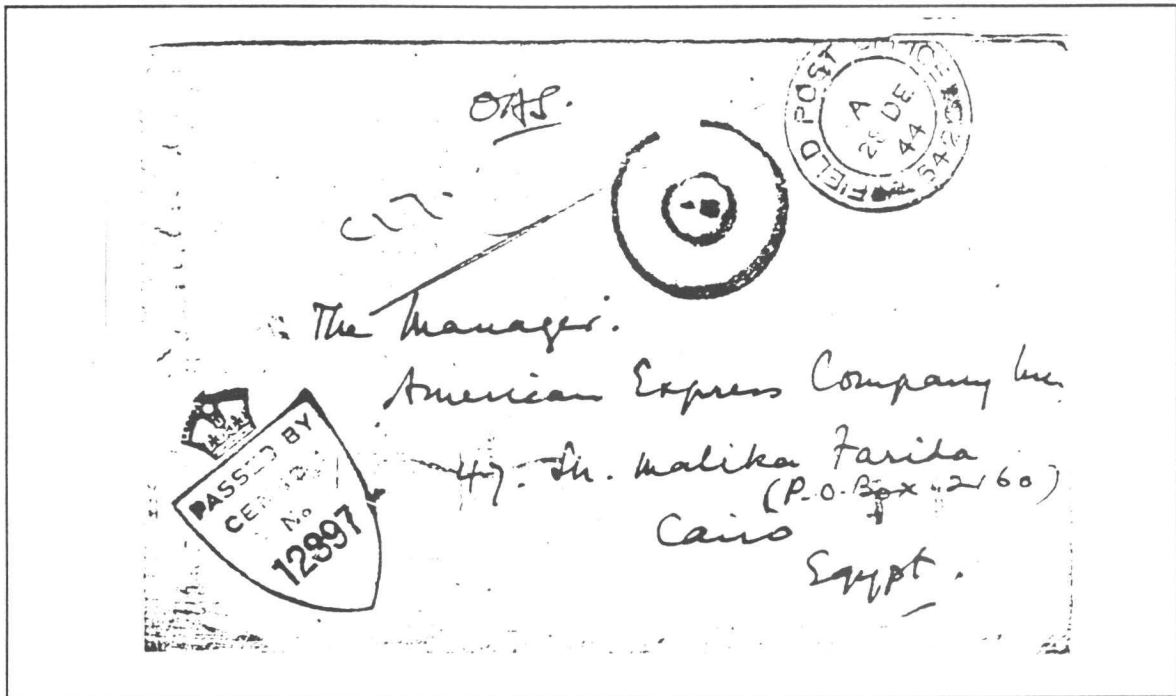
The Canadian forces were part of Montgomery's 21st Army Group, and were very active in France at this time.



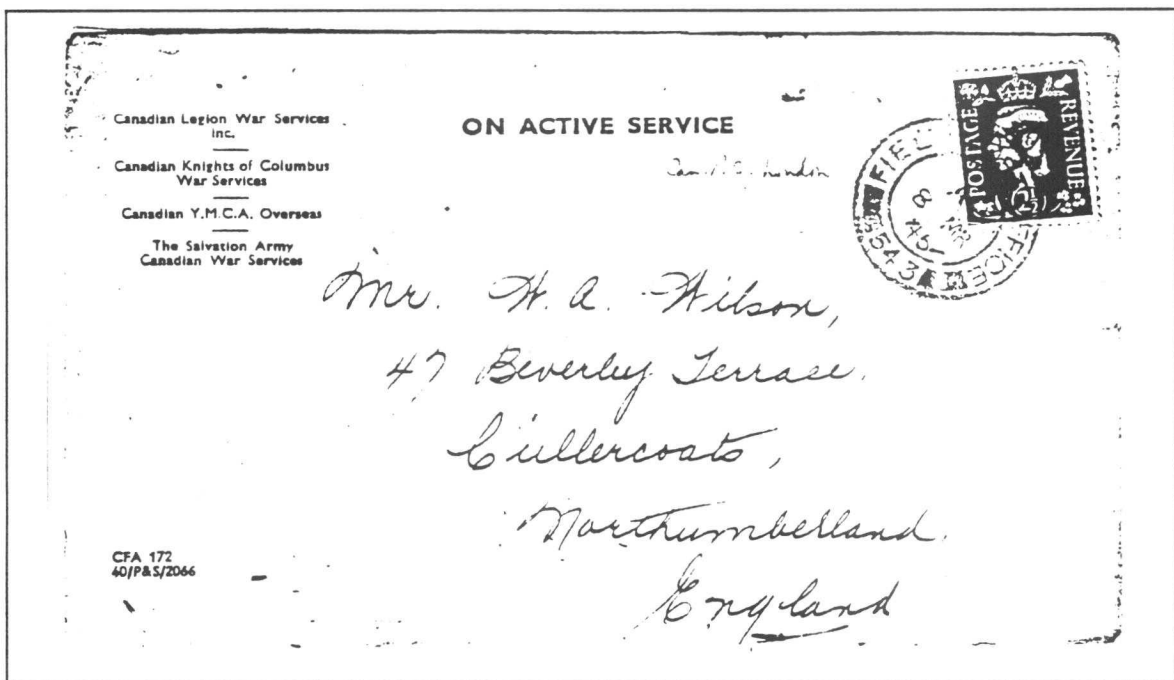
1944 (21 June) FPO 486, France, BLA C8, Y.M.C.A. envelope to Surrey



1944 (10 August) FPO 524, Italy CA5, registered to London



1944 (28 December) FPO 542 (unidentified) to Egypt



1945 (8 March) FPO 543 from a Canadian WREN in Greenock, to Northumberland

The Canadians performed valuable service in the Battle of the Bulge and between 26 December and 16 January the Bulge was eliminated. In the Rhineland, the Canadian First Army attacked on 8 February, and they wiped out the last German bridgehead on 10 March.

Book Review

By Dean Mario

Members will be delighted in a new Canadian military publication now available from the Laurier Centre for Military, Strategic and Disarmament Studies at Wilfred Laurier University, Waterloo. *Canadian Military History* is a wonderful addition to any member's library. Although not specifically related to the subject of military postal history, it is a fine attempt which would be of great use to those interested in general Canadian military history.

The first issue (Autumn 1992) is complete with six fine articles which range from such diverse topics as Donald E. Graves' "William Drummond and the Battle of Fort Erie" to Desmond Morton's "A Canadian Soldier in the Great War: The Experiences of Frank Maheux". There are future plans to include a section devoted to letters to the editor and an extended book review section. This particular issue is replete with excellent black and white photos (Most from archival sources) and several map illustrations.

This attempt is a fine example of an academic work written for members of the general public. It does not have the "stuffiness" one often sees in similar works. It is a good source for secondary school students and serious scholars. This is not to say, however, that the work lacks in substance; all of the articles are well-documented and wonderfully written. Those with a military background will find it interesting and informative too.

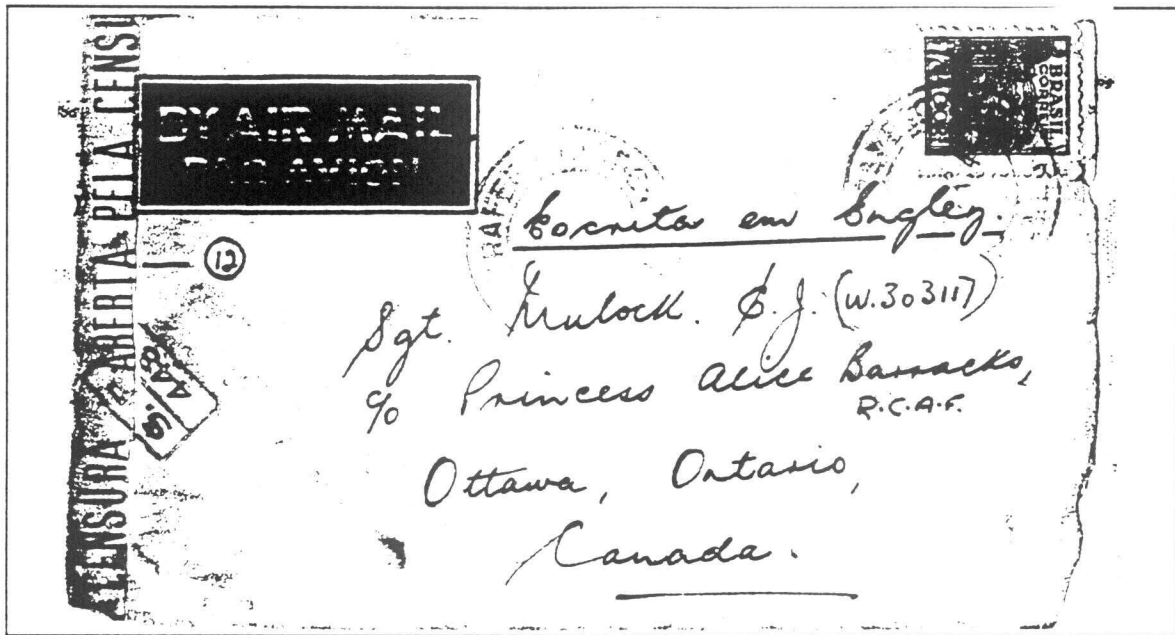
Members should act soon before the first (complimentary) issue is exhausted. Subscriptions for two issues (spring and autumn) cost \$12 (two years \$22). U.S. and international subscribers should remit in U.S. funds to cover the cost of additional postage or pay in Canadian funds and add \$3 extra per year. Those interested should write to: "Canadian Military History", Wilfred Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3C5. Softcover, 104 pages, 8½ x 11".

In Memoriam

Stuart Clark, one of Canada's great promoters of philately died in Winnipeg on July 4th last. He is survived by his wife Beverlie. He and his wife have been tireless workers in promoting the hobby and have served in many capacities in the RPSC and the Winnipeg Philatelic Society. Our condolences to our member Beverlie Clark; Stuart will be missed by all Canadian philatelists.

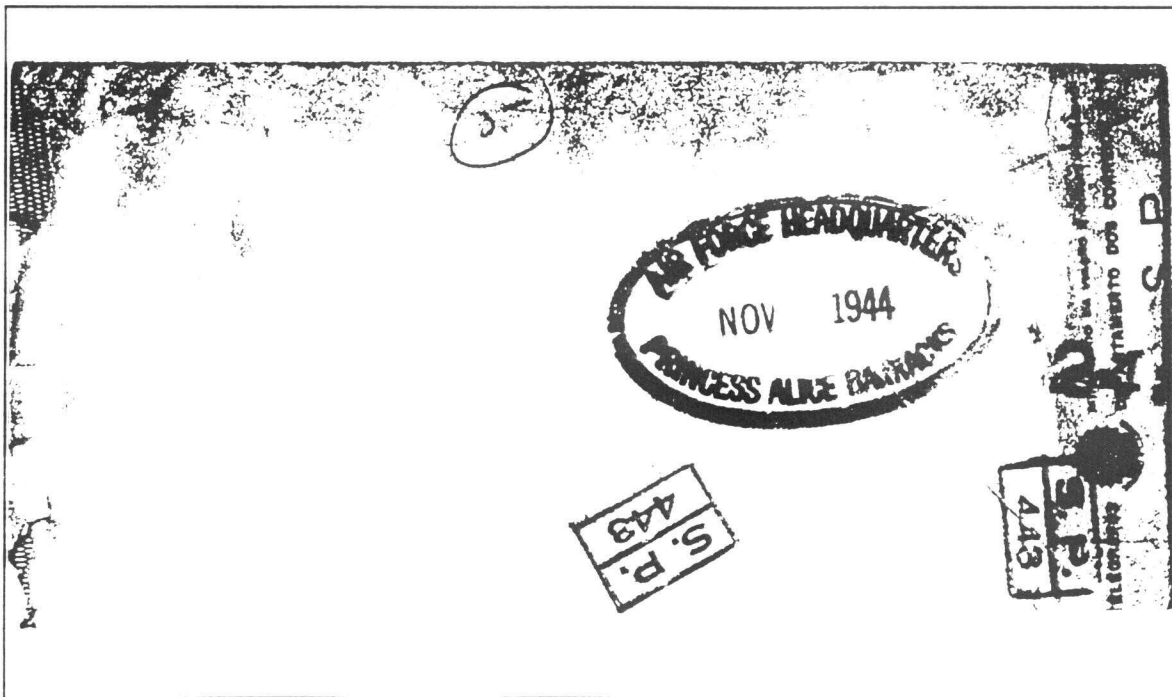
Escrita en Englez

By Dave Hanes



All the way from Brazil (no sender), but bearing a Brazilian censor tape and a nice oval Air Force Headquarters - Princess Alice Barracks on the reverse.

Princess Alice Barracks was in Ottawa on Metcalfe Street, between Argyle & Catherine Street. It subsequently became known as Beaver Barracks and was used as an NCO's Mess and Barracks. During WWII it also housed No. 38 Company of the CWAC. Thanks to Ron Kitchen and E.R. Toop for digging out this bit of information.



Letters to the Editor

I was very curious about the front page FPO cover on the Mar-Apr newsletter. Pte McLean R.D. transferred from 1 CORU to my unit, the Canadian Scottish. Bob was in B Coy, I was in A and did not see him in action. After the war, Bob came to live in Vernon and he was often to our house. He died of cancer in Dec 1992. He was a very wealthy man, a millionaire many times over. I am curious as to who had the cover as Bob told me he had disposed of all his covers years ago. *George Douglas, Vernon*

This was just a cover from my collection, George, which I picked up some years ago.

I am still looking for anything from the Yukon Field Force or any mail from N.W.M.P. to R.C.M.P. during the earlier beginnings of the Yukon Territory. *Tim Popp, Nipawan*

I think that Canadian and Australian Forces could be serving concurrently on the Golan Heights and in Cambodia. There are also some individual Australians serving in UNPROFOR in the former Yugoslavia. I notice that CFPO 5005 has been allocated to Somalia. The Australian government has announced that a contingent of 30 from all three services is being sent there to assist in protecting the aid workers. *David Collyer, Sydney, Australia*

Thanks for the info, David.

Was pleased to receive the March-April issue of the CMMG newsletter in this morning's mail. I've been a member of the CMMSG for many years and have tried to contribute to the newsletter over this period of membership. I was also fortunate enough to be published in the study group's "anthology" that celebrated the centennial issue of the newsletter.

Due to a combination of poor health and lack of contact with group members, my interest in military mail fell to a distressingly low level. I've sold my military mail holdings, but retain the newsletters. In addition, my numerous reference books on the Canadian Armed Forces and military mail will possibly be offered for sale in the near future. This being the case, I see no option but to resign from the group with many thanks for past enjoyment and participation. *Jack Davis, Peterborough*

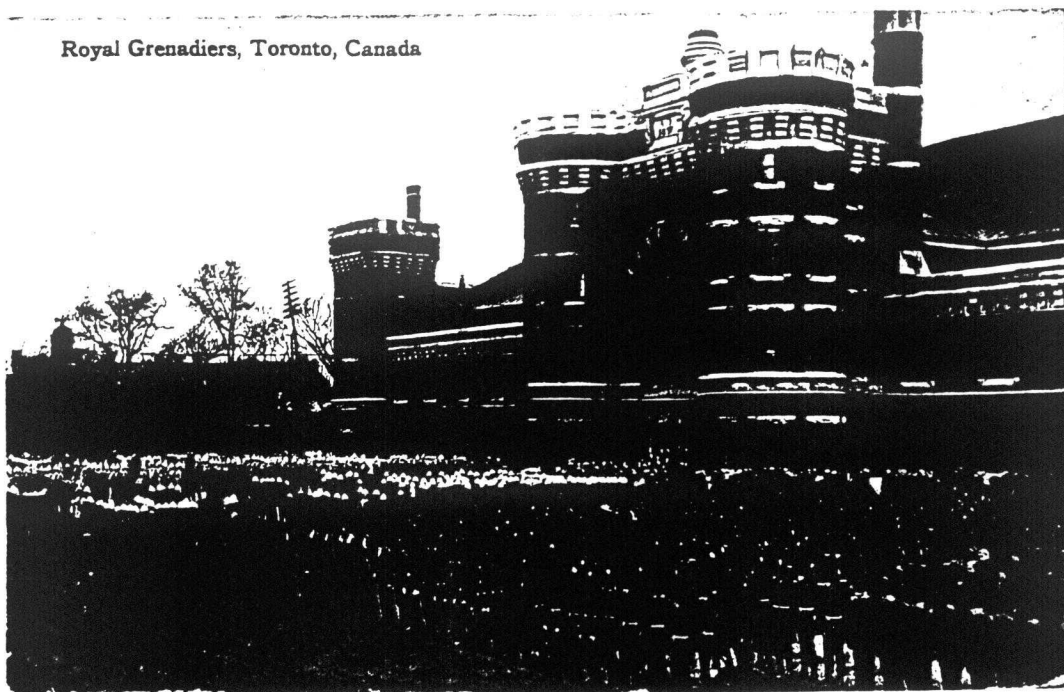
Sorry to lose you as a member, Jack. Best wishes for the future and hope your health improves.

The Observer

Received a news bulletin from Christie's auctions. On 21 - 22 September they will have a sale of Great Britain which includes "a fine range of Postal History including early Bishop Marks, Scotland and Military Mail". Call them in London at (071) 839 9060 for a catalogue.

Cover-Cover

Royal Grenadiers, Toronto, Canada



The cover on our front is self-explanatory. Since it has no markings on the reverse, here is a look at the Royal Grenadiers, Toronto, in front of their armoury in 1916.

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.

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: Falklands Island invasion material (yes, Falkland Islands!). Please send photocopies/prices desired. Have material for trade (modern Canada/UK/USA).

Dean Mario, Box 342, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3.

FOR SALE: DEEMED SUSPECT by Eric Koch. The story of 2290 enemy "aliens" from Germany and Austria interned in Canada during WW II. Soft cover. Price \$5.00 plus postage. Excellent reference.

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

WANTED: Security MPOs, other WW2 MPOs and CSEF material. Send photocopies and/or price to:

Henk Burgers, c/o HBA Ltd., 2660 Southvale Crescent, Suite 301, Ottawa, ON K1B 4W5

WANTED: INFORMATION. Researching movements/locations/dates of West Nova Scotia Regt. (3CIB); Essex Scottish (4CIB); North Nova Scotia Highlanders (9CIB); while in Britain 1939-44. Does any member have access to War Diary or Regt. History, or know a veteran of these battalions?

Kim Dodwell, Middle Ho., Cruckmeole, Hanwood, Shrewsbury, SY5 8JN, U.K.

Wanted: FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE Canadian covers. (See article in N/L 109); even photocopies will do!
Ken V. Ellison, R.R. #1, Oyama, B.C., 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 Burch Street, Kelowna, BC V1Y 4B2.

FOR SALE: North West Field Force Transport Office Qu'Appelle Station 18__, blank supply order form. \$50.00.
Albert Tanner, # 201, 1025 Gilford Street, Vancouver, BC V6G 2P2.