



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 1996

NEWSLETTER No. 122

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Dear Fellow CMMSG Members:

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 1996 and I hope that the New Year is going well for all! This is also the last of my scheduled "trilogy" of newsletters. However I am very pleased to "re-up" on a more permanent basis now that the momentum is carrying us forward. I hope that I can carry on the excellent work done by all of our previous editors. The membership's exceptional support for the Newsletter has been fantastic and I hope that we can continue to produce an informative publication for many years to come.

Your "Executive" has decided to call for dues with this issue. Now that we have things organized it is in the best interests of the Group. Further details pertaining to dues can be found on page 220. I hope that every member continues with us and "re-enlists"!

Most Study Group members are aware that the collection of the late Major E.R. "Ritch" Toop, OB is now being dispersed. Interested members should contact R.F. Narbonne, Greenwood Stamp Co., 216 Mailey Drive, Carleton Place, Ontario, K7C 3X9 for more information.

Members will have noticed a difference between these last three newsletters and those from the desk of Henk Burgers. One of the most significant is that I haven't a PC (aka "personal computer") and desktop publishing is beyond my scope! Perhaps I still haven't entered the Twentieth Century! Therefore would members please submit their articles in hard copy, already printed, rather than on disk. I realize that this is quite inconvenient but it is the only method I can use at the moment. Thank you! (Neat handwriting is ok too!).

Although I have some material "in the bank", I am a bit short of material from the Korean War and UN Operations. Members are encouraged to submit articles on these subjects as well as on anything else!

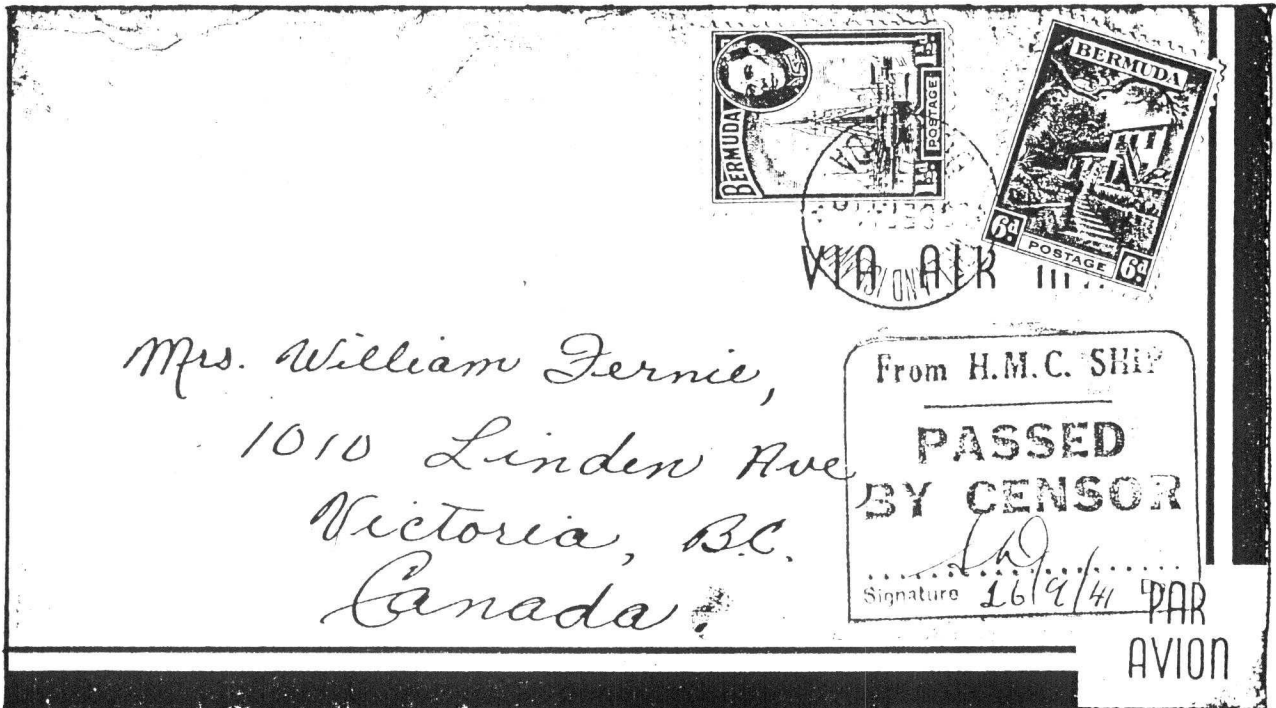
Chairman-Treasurer: Wm.J.Bailey, #5- 8191 Francis Road, Richmond,
B.C., V6Y 2E3 Canada

Editor: Dean Mario, Box 342, Saskatoon, Sask., S7K 3L3

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H.M.C.S. PRINCE HENRY--By W.G. Robinson

This ship was built in 1930 for C.N. Steamships and later was North Star of the Clarke Steamship Company. She was bought by the Navy on March 11, 1940, and converted to an armed merchant cruiser. She served off the east and west coasts of America. She displaced 5,736 tons, with dimensions 385' x 37' x 21', carried a crew of 32 officers and 386 ratings, and was capable of a speed of 22 knots. She was armed with four, four-inch guns in twin mountings, two two-pounders, and eight 20mm cannon. She was later converted to an Infantry Landing Ship.



The airmail cover above was mailed at Bermuda on September 26, 1941 during the transfer of the ship from the west coast to Halifax, which commenced on August 24. It bears the circular date stamp of Ireland Island, Bermuda, the R.N. Dockyard, and the Naval censor marking of September 26, 1941.

TORONTO, ONT. SUB POST OFFICE "X"--By J.C. Campbell

It may be timely to collect some facts on the two cancels illustrated in The Canadian Military Posts, Vol. I by W.J. Bailey and E.R. Toop (Ed. by E.B. Proud, 1984). Please see pages 247 and 249. For starters, what are the earliest and latest dates of usage, by the military, for these hammers known as "A" and "B"?



The copies of proof strikes on page 247 differ in their appearance of, or the absence of, a period after "Toronto". Also, there appears to be a slight difference in the position of the "X" in the earlier hammer relative to the later hammer.

Two dates which the writer can cite struck during the Great War are

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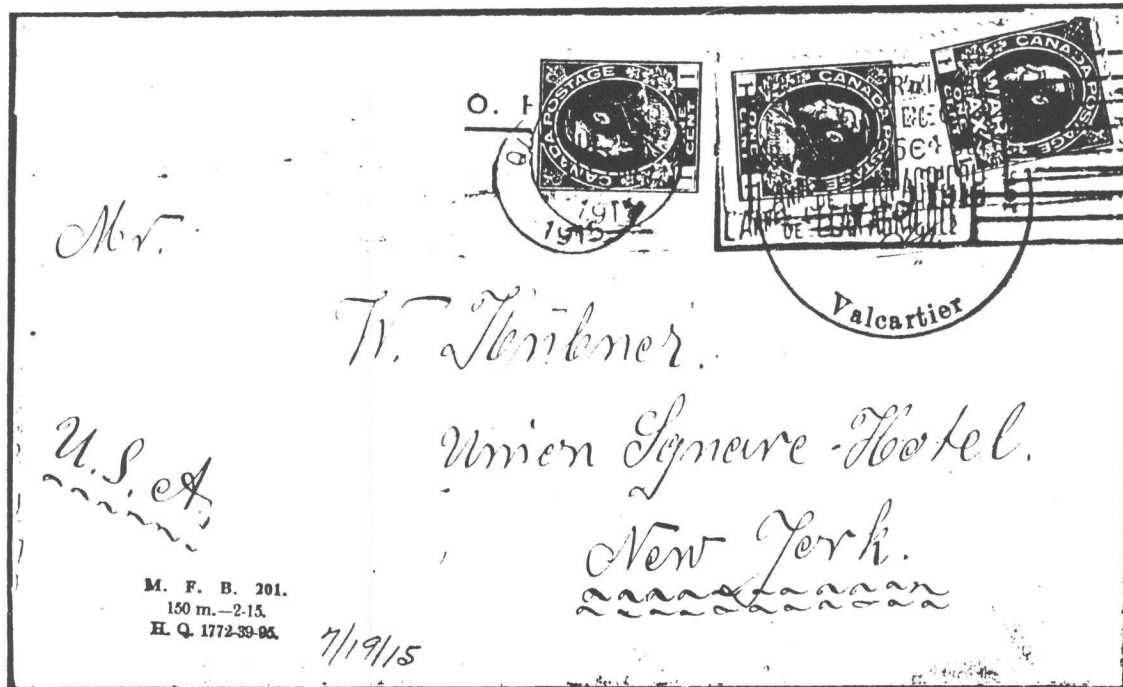
"AM/FE 7/15" and "Blank/NO 21/18". The latter is Proud's "A". The pre-war dates shown on page 247 include timemarks "12" and "15" and the writer has "SP 1" and "SP 6/1910" with timemarks "17" and "13" respectively as well as "AU 29/1912" with timemark "19". It therefore would seem that numbered indicia indicate pre-military usage. Is this correct? The illustration on page 249 appears to be dated "PM/AP 5/1915".

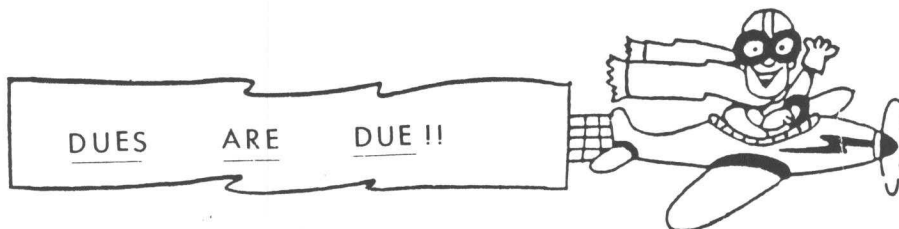
Would readers having examples of "TORONTO ONT/SUB POST OFFICE X" cancels, struck during the First World War and having some indication of a military connection, advise the writer or the Editor, so that more may be learned about these markings and the military establishment at the Exhibition Grounds, Toronto.

For those members having the CMMMSG N/L #20, page 7 (renumbered page 83), this cancel is shown. I might add that my copy of the Canada Official Postal Guide for 1911 makes no mention of this Sub Post Office at all.

VALCARTIER INTERNMENT CENSOR--Ex. E.R. Toop Collection

The cover below illustrates an unrecorded "Passed by Internment Censor/JUL 19 1915/Valcartier" marking from Quebec. It is on a 1915 O.H.M.S. cover to New York. The Camp opened on April 24, 1915 and closed October 23, 1915; hence its great rarity.[Ed.]





CANADA'S \$1.00 1942 DESTROYER--By W. Whitehouse

Once again the question as to which Canadian ship is represented on the \$1.00 Blue of 1942 (Scott #262) has been raised and as this subject has not been discussed in our Newsletter, this would seem to be a good time to lay rest the myths this stamp (FIG.1) has generated.

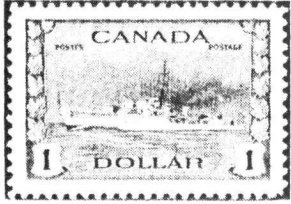


FIG.1

There have been many suggestions that the engraving of a "Tribal" class destroyer represents Iroquois, Canada's first of this type, or Athabaskan, the second ship. Now Haida has been suggested in a recent letter to me.

The fact is that the stamp design does not represent a Canadian ship but is an accurate reproduction of a pre-war photograph of a British "Tribal" H.M.S. Cossack, pendant number L-03.

I have a copy of this photo which was distributed by Ottawa in 1941-1942. The ship is shown at speed trials while still in the hands of the builders. The photo has been touched up by the censor with a wash of black in order to darken the sky and background. It could be that this was a deliberate attempt to make a pre-war photo appear to be a censored wartime photograph for use by the press.

Proof that the photo is pre-war is the pendant number. In 1938 Royal Navy "Tribal" class ships carried the pendant prefix "L". In 1939 this was changed to "F", then early in 1940 the prefix was changed to "G" which remained throughout the war. For those interested, the prefix "L" was assigned to the "Hunt" class destroyer escorts as they entered the Royal Navy in March 1940.

There are several easily recognized differences between British and Canadian "Tribal" class ships. None of the Canadian changes are indicated in the \$1.00 stamp design.

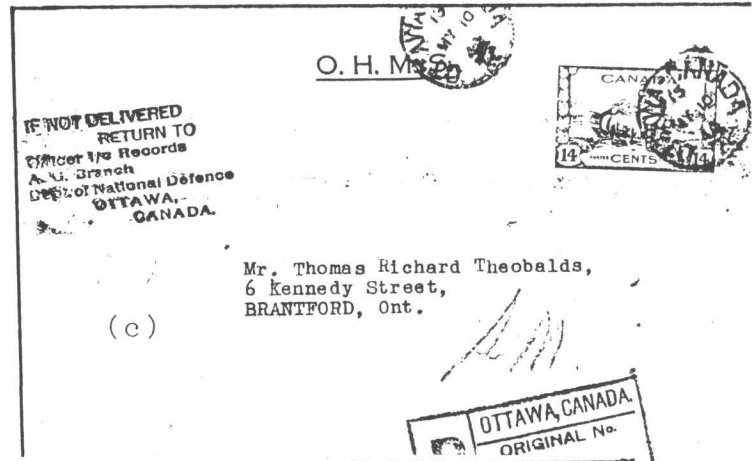
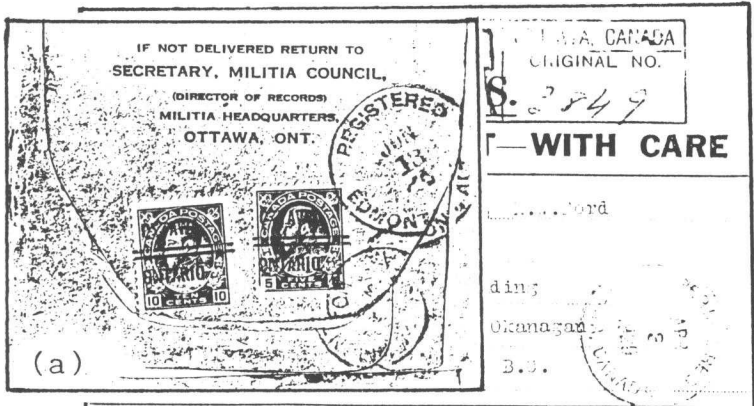
The Canadian "Tribal" class eliminated the tripod mainmast, a prominent feature in the stamp design. With this high mainmast gone the Canadian ships were able to mount a multiple pompom on the high platform forward of the mainmast which, on British ships, a searchlight was carried. The pompom in this location allowed a better arc of a/a fire to the stern. The searchlight was moved to a platform below and forward of the pompom.

There would be no wide band painted on the forward funnel of a Canadian "Tribal" which, in the Royal Navy, indicates a flotilla leader. The photo of Cossack shows such a band. Having been built as a leader, she became divisional leader in the 1st Destroyer Flotilla. Canadian "Tri-bals", when completed, were painted in the special Home Fleet design camouflage: three shades of blue panels on white. The stamp design shows the pre-war light grey overall.

Finally, the \$1.00 Blue was issued on July 1, 1942, but the first R.C.N. "Tribal" was not commissioned until November 1942. It was named Iroquois. As the engraving work for the stamp would have begun at least six months prior to issue date, a photo of a British "Tribal" would be the only reference available.

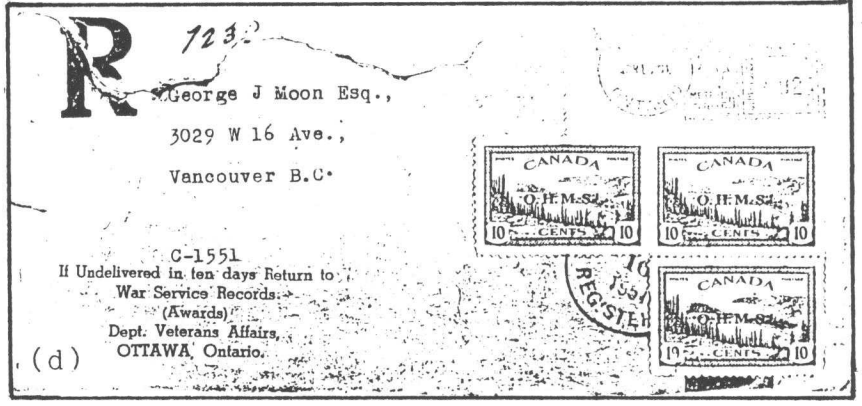
RESEARCH REQUEST 

Jon Johnson, 9604 Kalamalka Rd., Vernon, B.C. V1B 1L3 writes: "I have a great interest in covers with the "Director of Records, Militia Council" (a); "Director of Records, Dept. of National Defence" (b); "Officer i/c Records, Dept. of National Defence" (c); and "War Service Records, Dept. of Veterans Affairs" (d). If members have any covers with these return addresses, I would appreciate receiving: date; return address type; preprinted or rubber stamp address; stamp cat.no. and perfin or overprint if applicable".



not delivered return to Deputy Minister, Dept. of National Defence (Director of Records)
Ottawa, Ontario

(b) -



BRITISH DATESTAMPS USED BY CANADIAN CAVALRY BRIGADE (WWI) UPDATE--By John Frith

An error was made in the original survey sheets on WWI British date-stamps used by the Canadian Cavalry Brigade (N/L 41, Item 333) as to periods of use. This was carried through on the survey returns (Items 351 and 439). As a result of this, the proper allocations were not made in the last three periods of use. The major reference works agree as to periods of usage and their only difference in allocations are degrees of certainty which are given in the following table:

PERIODS OF USE:	K & C ¹	E.B.P. ²
Jan. 1916 - 17.6.16	CX1	CX1
18.6.16 - 30.9.16	CX1	CX1
1.10.16 - 31.1.17	(C3?)	C3
1.2.17 - 30.6.17	(SA1)	SA1
1.7.17 - 31.1.18	SA1	SA1
1.2.18 - 31.7.18	12P	12P
1.8.18 - 1.2.19	230	230
1.2.19 - May 19	CP1	CP1

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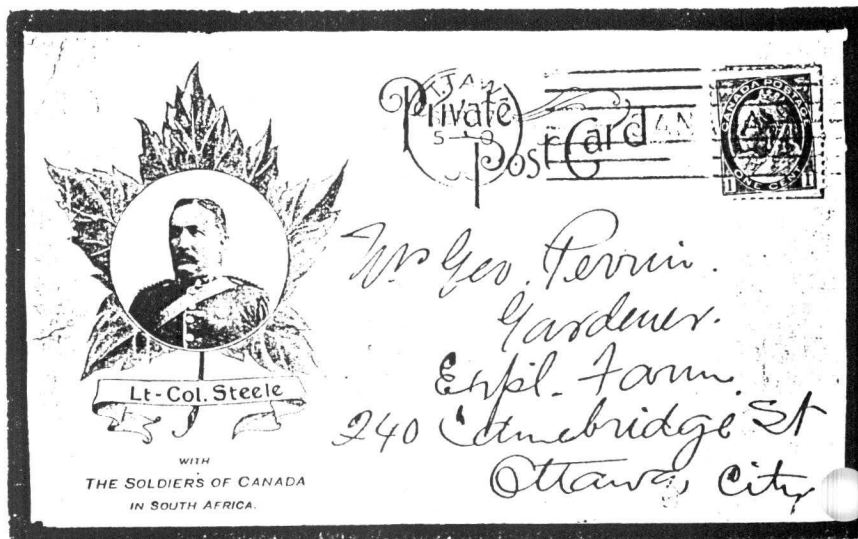
Based upon my own experience, I believe that the only allocation to still be uncertain is C3 in Security Phase II (1.10.16 - 31.1.17).

References:

- 1) Kennedy, A. and Crabb, G. The Postal History of the British Army in World War I: Before and After 1903-1929. G. Crabb, Epsom, Surrey, U.K.
- 2) Proud, E.B. History of the British Army Postal Service, Vol. II (1903-1927). Proud-Bailey Ltd., East Sussex, U.K.

SAM STEELE RE-VISITED--By J.C. Campbell

Members may wish to refer to my previous article (N/L #119, p. 189) regarding this famous soldier. The card, right, was sent from Ottawa on September 27, 1900 to a local address. The card's true size is 153mm x 91mm. This card is one from a set of ten showing famous persons from the Boer War. Others include Lt.Col. Otter, Buchan, Evans, Lessard, Drury, and Herchmer. Major Denison and Capt. Nelles are also featured. All are very difficult to add to one's collection.



CANADIAN ARMED FORCES TRAINING TEAM-GHANA (CAFTTG)--By Robert Toombs

During the 1960's the Government of Canada sent instruction groups from the Canadian Armed Forces to Ghana and Tanzania. In most instances mail from Canadian military personnel comprising these groups to Canada was via local post and is not easily identified. Likely very little mail has been so identified and set aside.

Figure 1 [page 217] shows such a cover from Canadian Armed Forces Training Team Ghana (CAFTTG) in 1971, near the close of this programme there. It is addressed to a captain at Canadian Forces Base Rivers in Manitoba, from a major, c/o CAFTT Canadian High Commission, Accra, Ghana. The front is manuscripted "Forces Mail" as it was posted at a Ghanaian military post office in Accra. The oval postmark reads "BURMA CAMP A/GHANA/10:00 (?) AM/22 JUN 71" cancelling stamps of 2 Np and 1 Np.

There were Canadian military teams at several other locations throughout Ghana, mainly Kumasi, Teshie, and Takoradi. They would have used the local post, and mail may not have been inscribed "Forces Mail".

The key to identifying Canadian military mail from (or to) Ghana (1961-1971) and also from (or to) Tanzania (1965-1969) is to look for clues in the address and the return address. It is hoped that this short note will stimulate the hunt for such rare covers from Ghana and Tanzania. You may be pleasantly surprised what covers the 25 cent shoe-

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box holds!



FIG. 1

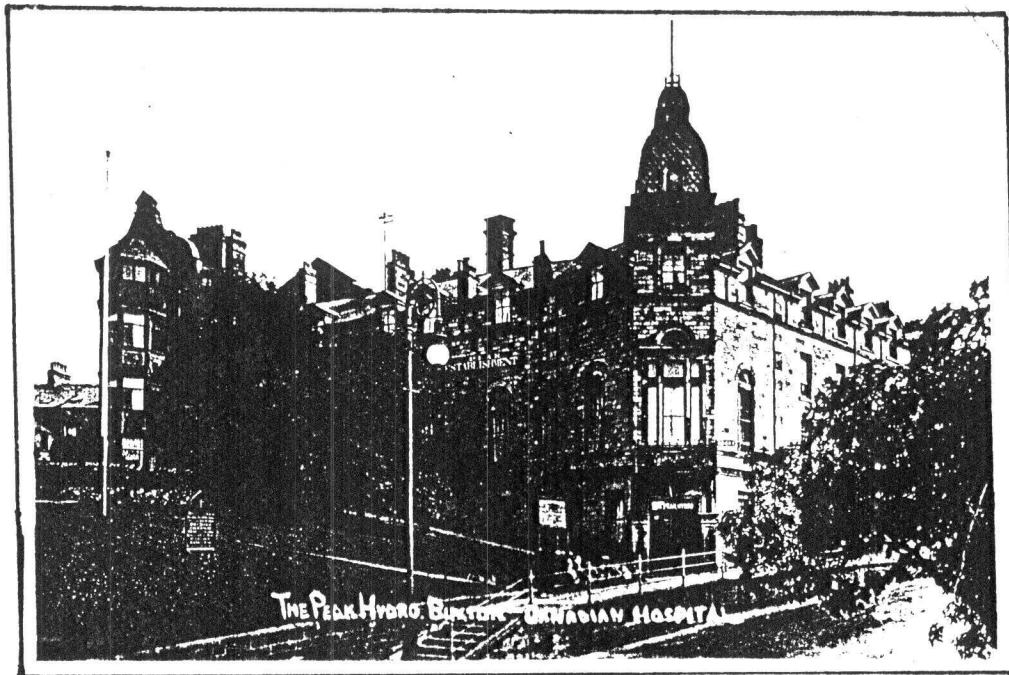
THE PEAK HYDRO - BUXTON CANADIAN HOSPITAL--By Brian Plain, M.D.

The official record by Sir Andrew Macphail¹ indicates the names and locations of many Canadian medical establishments scattered throughout England during the First World War. That listing is however vague and somewhat confusing when it comes to certain smaller but affiliated facilities providing ancillary services such as hydrotherapy and rehabilitation.

Although a Special Hospital, Buxton Red Cross Special Hospital is listed for Buxton², and functioned from February 1, 1916-March 26, 1919, it does not seem as though this card is representative of that institution. Rather, it would appear more likely that the Peak Hydro was part of the "Orthopedic Centre". This was a network of ten facilities scattered throughout England and comprising 4420 beds. In November 1915, a hospital for orthopedic cases was opened in Ramsgate but after its removal to Buxton in October 1917, its function became truly specialized. Such function comprised surgery, massage, electrical treatment, hydrotherapy, and gymnastic exercises as well as curative workshops³.

The fame of Buxton, whose population in 1919 was 10,024, rested upon its "waters". The waters of Buxton were known to the Romans and, in medieval times it was a kind of English Lourdes. The Thermal Springs (82°F.) were recommended for chronic gout, rheumatism, and allied disorders.⁴ The Peak Hydro, in Higher Buxton, was one of the most famous hydro-paths in the area.⁵

It is most likely therefore that the Peak Hydro was used as an orthopedic rehabilitation centre for Canadian servicemen who had suffered significant musculo-skeletal trauma and surgery. The card [page 218] is dated July 12, 1917 which is somewhat before the Orthopedic Centre officially arrived, but the designation as a "Canadian Hospital" indicates that it was already in use for convalescent services.



The Peak Hydro, Buxton

¹Macphail, Sir A. Official History of the Canadian Forces in the Great War 1914-19, The Medical Services, (Ottawa: King's Printer, 1925).

²Ibid., p. 219.

³Ibid., pp. 208-209.

⁴Muirhead, Findlay. The Blue Guides England, (London: MacMillan and Co., 1920), p. 377.

⁵Ibid.

RCAF IN BAHAMAS--By C.D. Sayles

The card below was posted in Nassau October 18, 1944 at a civil post

Dear Folks

This scene is similar to a view of the Florida Keys which I saw last week. I'm sure having an easy life right now but what I could be spending this time in B.C. instead of wasting it here. It's very hot most of the time except for showers, but the sandy beaches are always bad. Keep Hazel calm & contented for the next few weeks, then after that she can get as excited as of old. Keep well, yourselves & get the best out of life love Ted.

F/O Boulden EAA
J 23304 RAF
Nassau BWI

Overseas Forces.
POST CARD

Mr. & Mrs. S. McPhee.
1219 Hillside Ave
Victoria BC
Canada

Tues. Oct. 17.

PLACE STAMP HERE

POST OFFICE BAHAMAS

POST CARD (REG. U.S. POST OFF.)

CHICAGO "C.T. ART-COLOR-TONE"

office and it appears to be from an RCAF F/O serving in an RAF unit. Why did he endorse it "RCAF" and what does "FRESS" signify? Normally the free postage privilege for servicemen only applied to mail posted at military offices. Were the rules different in the Bahamas? [Members' responses to the Editor please.] [P.S. Some covers do exist with and without postage (see N/L #83 pp. 5-7), but was free postage "official" ? Ed.]

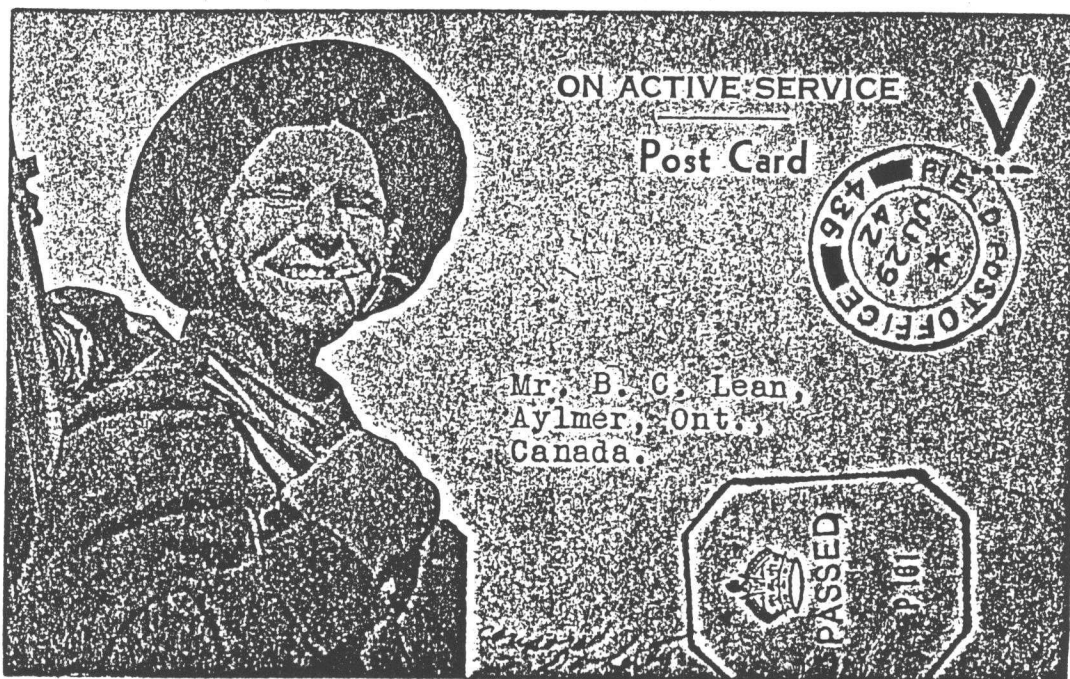
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TORONTO SUB "X" ADDENDUM

The Editor has just found several references to Colin Campbell's article (p. 212) which members may find interesting. One includes an auction catalogue reference ex. Graham Noble Collection from R.A. Lee's Sale #44 (May 30, 1987). Contained in lot 730 is a cover with the "AM/AP 21/15" CDS to England. Can one of our members supply a copy? Also found with a military connection was an item in C.G. Firby's Sale of November 13-14, 1991. Lot 240 contained a registered O.H.M.S. cover to Toronto with the "BLANK/OC 23/17" CDS. It also had the "PAYMASTER/OCT 23, 1917/M.D. No. 2" scalloped ellipse on reverse. The recent price-listing by G.S. Wegg featured two "X" covers in a C.N.E. lot. One was "17?/SP 2/11" and another "13/SP 5/12" but obviously pre-war. [Ed.]

A DIEPPE RAID POSTCARD?--By John Frith

FPO 436 was used by the 6th Canadian Brigade and this Brigade participated in the Dieppe Raid in August 1942. In June 1942 the 2nd Canadian Divisional Units, which were going to take part in the raid, were practicing amphibious landings on the Isle of Wight. This postcard below is dated June 29, 1942 and is the first censored cigarette acknowledgement card I can remember used from England at this period.



Can anyone report a similar card being censored in this period, or can anyone confirm that this card was linked to the raid? [Details to the Editor for future publication please. Ed.]

SAM C. NICKLE MILITARY COLLECTION--JANUARY 16, 1996

Charles G. Firby Auctions dispersed a major collection of the late Sam Nickle's superb early military holdings. More about this amazing sale in the next Newsletter. [Ed.]

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CMMMSG - CALL FOR DUES

Now that our Newsletter is back on track the "Executive" feels a call for dues is required. Firstly let us say that we are not destitute (yet!). A financial statement will soon follow, probably in the next Newsletter when our finances are all sorted out. In the near past it was noted that there were varying dates upon which a member's dues were collected. The current proposal is that we will call for dues all at one time when the treasury gets low. This may very well be less often than once a year. Accordingly, we are now asking for a \$10.00 payment in either Canadian or U.S. dollars (given the difference in postage rates). In order to facilitate matters please make all cheques/payments out to our Treasurer, Wm.J.Bailey, #5- 8191 Francis Road, Richmond, B.C., V6Y 2E3, Canada

If members can "prove" that they have already paid beyond December '95 please advise Ken and it will be looked into. It appears, however, that most members have not paid membership dues for some time. Thank you for your early remittance so Dean will be able to keep the Newsletters coming!

CMMMSG - FUTURE AUCTION/SALES CIRCUIT?

Many Study Groups now include an annual or semi-annual auction in their programmes. Would members be interested in participating in such an activity? The idea of a sales circuit (photocopies) was initiated by Ed Harris et al. back in 1989 (N/L #90, p. 654) but the idea seemed to just fizzle out. Any views? Your Editor needs your input! Thanks. [Ed.]

KUDOS, KUDOS, KUDOS

Special congratulations are due to Ken Ellison for his introduction into the "Order of the Beaver". It is a well-deserved recognition Ken! A further tip of the hat goes to BNAPEX '95 award-winning exhibitors (and Study Group members) Bill Pawluk (Grand Award) and John Frith (Ed and Mickey Richardson Award). Well done gentlemen! [Ed.]

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. Please send your ad with "real" money or mint (Canadian preferred) stamps to the Editor's attention.

WANTED: Covers or cards addressed to, or from, members of the Cdn. Provost Corps; SIS Units; or Service Detention Barracks (SDB's).
A.D. Hanes, 33 Lillian Cresc., Barrie, ON, L4N 4P8 (1/4)

WANTED: Info. on pre-printed POW cards and self-mailers (Cdn.). I'll send a listing in exchange for copies of additions to list.

E.L. Covert, Box 1070, Hay River, NT, XOE ORO (1/1)

FOR SALE: Canadian military mail, WWI to date. Send me your wants!

Philip Wolf, #5-513 8th Ave., S.W., Calgary, AB, T2P 1G3 (1/2)

WANTED: WWII "Z" Force (Iceland); Newfld. military covers/cards.
D. Mario, Box 342, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3 (1/2)

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Canadian Military Mail Study Group



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1997

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Dear Fellow CMMSG Members:

Happy New Year and welcome to 1997! Bill and I would like to wish you all the best for the upcoming year and hope that everyone had a very nice Christmas and holiday season. Despite some very inclement weather in Bill's part of the world, and the cold temperatures over Christmas in Saskatchewan, all seems to be back to normal. It is that time of year to say farewell to a few BNAPS officers who have served the Society well. Thanks to Jon Johnson (who remains as a Director) who relinquishes his job as Vice-President for Study Groups and Mike Street who ends his term as President. Both gentlemen have served, and continue to serve, BNAPS well and remain as vibrant Study Group members. Good luck to Doug Lingard our new V.P. for Study Groups, David Whiteley as Study Group Reporter, and Vic Willson as our new President! A sad farewell to a good friend of our Study Group, Alan J. Brown, former President of the Forces Postal History Society. Our condolences to his family. Alan's collection was previously auctioned in early December and highlights will be noted in an upcoming issue.

This year will be an exciting one for our Study Group. Jon Johnson will be running a mail sale scheduled for the next issue and reminds us that there is still time to send some material off to him for inclusion! The deadline is January 31. This Newsletter is going off to 75 members and those who receive sample copies. We have room to grow! Enclosed you will also find a small sheet to survey members' opinions on a variety of subjects. Please try to return the sheet as it will help guide the Newsletter for the future. Results to be published in a future issue (let's try for 100% return). If you wish certain information not to be published, just indicate it on the form. Thank you! Some new publications and special studies will be in the works for 1997--all in all a very good year. Your Officers want to wish all a very happy, healthy, and prosperous 1997!

MEMBERSHIP LIST: Add HENDRIK BURGERS, 11 ELMA ST., GLOUCESTER, ON K1T 3W8

JUST IN: J.C. Arnell's transatlantic stampless covers/SFL's may have some treasures for members. Contact C.G. Firby before February 5-6!

CHAIRMAN/TREAS.: W.J. BAILEY, #5-8191 FRANCIS RD., RICHMOND, BC V6Y 1A5

EDITOR: D. MARIO, BOX 342, SASKATOON, SK S7K 3L3

WHAT'S NEW? UN/CANADIAN MISSIONS--By Robert Toombs

The information below will be helpful to members and regards recent U.N. Missions which included Canadian participation. Members may wish to refer to Wilf Whitehouse's article concerning Operation "Sharp Guard", N/L #124, p. 234.

Maritime Forces Atlantic - Operation Sharp Guard <http://www.marlant.hal...a/marlant/mar004e.html>



CANADIAN NAVAL SUPPORT TO OPERATIONAL SHARP GUARD

(NAVAL ENFORCEMENT OF UN SANCTIONS AGAINST EX-YUGOSLAVIA)

September 1992

The destroyer HMCS GATINEAU (DD 236) deployed to the Adriatic Sea as part of NATO's Standing Naval Force Atlantic to monitor compliance with UN sanctions. (At the time, Operation Sharp Guard had not been formally established).

June 1993

Canadian naval commitment to Operation Sharp Guard begins and has continued uninterrupted since, with at least one Canadian destroyer or frigate participating as part of NATO's Standing Naval Force Atlantic. Canadian Commodore Greg Maddison served as Commander of STANAVFORLANT June 1993 to April 1994.

June 1993 - Present

Canadian warships assigned to Operation Sharp Guard as part of NATO's Standing Naval Force Atlantic:

Date	Assigned Ship
June 1993 to October 1993	HMCS ALGONQUIN(DDH 283)
October 1993 to April 1994	HMCS IROQUOIS (DDH 280)
April 1994 to September 1994	HMCS HALIFAX (FFH 330)
September 1994 to January 1995	HMCS TORONTO (FFH 333)
January 1995 to July 1995	HMCS MONTREAL (FFH 336)
July 1995 to December 1995	HMCS VILLE DE QUEBEC (FFH 332)
December 1995 - April 1996	HMCS FREDERICTON (FFH 337)
April 1996 - June 1996	HMCS HALIFAX (FFH 330)

Other

February 1994 to May 1994, and May 1995 to June 1995

Operational support ship HMCS PRESERVER (AOR 510) deployed to the Adriatic to help monitor sanctions and resupply NATO and WEU vessels. This is separate from Standing Naval Force Atlantic.

October 1995 to December 1995

HMCS CALGARY (FFH 335), which is based on Canada's West Coast, was in the Adriatic as the first Canadian warship assigned to NATO's Standing Force Mediterranean.

UN Mission	Date of Inception	Manpower Feb.29/96	Remarks
UNTSO	June 1948	183	
UNMOGIP	January 1949	44	
UNFICYP	March 1964	1,199	
UNDOF	June 1974	1,059	
UNFIL	March 1978	4,627	
UNIKOM	April 1991	1,179	
MINURSO	April 1991	367	
UNOMIG	August 1993	130	
UNOMIL	September 1993	91	
UNMIL	September 1993	4,398	Replaced by 'UNSMIH on July 1, 1996
UNMIR	October 1993	1,398	March 8, 1996, Closed
UNMOT	December 1994	44	
UNAVEM III	February 1995	6,552	Former Yugoslavia
UNPRADep	March 1995	1,225	Former Yugoslavia
UNMIBH	March 1995	374	
UNTAES	January 1996	2,909	Former Yugoslavia
UNMOP	January 1996	28	Former Yugoslavia
*UNSMIH	January 1996		Former Yugoslavia

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Every Good Wish for The New Year

CANADIAN PUBLIC ARCHIVES HOLDINGS (cont'd.)

:N=20290

LEVEL OF DESCRIPTION: Accession
 DAP ACCESSION NO. 1996-085 R.H. Webb fonds

1814-1984 ; predominant 1914-1945

2500 covers

25 photographs : b&w

23 photographs : colour

77 negatives : b&w

1 slide : colour

.54 m of textual records

2 artworks : 1 sketch, 1 drawing

The fonds consists of material accumulated and written by R.H. Webb in the pursuit of his hobby researching military mails. The majority of the collection includes the philatelic albums of R.H. Webb's collection of military covers and postal markings. The series include manuscript, 1814-1984; philatelic albums, 1825-1967; and research notes, 1900-1968. Manuscript series consists of philatelic articles written and/or published by R.H. Webb. Included are working copies, rough notes and finished manuscripts.

The philatelic albums series includes postal covers collected by R.H. Webb in albums. The cover depicts postal markings, stationary, labels, and cancel relating to the transportation and administering of military mails. The covers represent World War I and World War II as well as periods before and after each of the wars.

The research notes series consists of philatelically related material collected and written by R.H. Webb on the following subjects: Air Letters, Auxilliary Service and Camps, Boer War, Canadian Base Post Offices, Canadian Forces Mail, Canadian Military Foreign Post Offices and Camp Post Offices, Canadian Military Slogans, Canadian Militia Field Post Office, Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force Covers, Canadian Postal Corps, Censor Markings, Distribution and Redirection of Military Mail, Field Post Offices, Military Post Offices, Honour Envelopes, Polish Army Camp, Post World War II, Postal Services, Prisoner of War Covers, Internment, Siberian Expedition, United Nations, World War I.

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS: Open. There are no access restrictions on these records. Status effective from 1996-04-23

USE RESTRICTIONS: Nil.

COPYRIGHT: Various copyrights

CREDIT: National Archives of Canada

FINDING AID: CPA-189 The R.H. Webb fonds in Reference Services (file level)

Accession date: 1996-04-23

Branch accession no.: 123-040655-7

Provenance: Gift of Mrs. Ethel Webb

Organization ; arrangement: (philatelic material) organized into albums ; arranged by subject

Organization ; arrangement: (textual records) organized into 2 series ;

arranged alphabetically

LOCATION: Photographs: 0057

LOCATION: Negatives: 0057

LOCATION: 0170

LOCATION: Textual & Artwork: 4103 to 4104

LOCATION: Covers: C0102 to C0106

LOCATION: Slides: S0031

Roland Humphreys Webb (1910-1970), a military man served the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, landed on the beaches of Normandy on "D" Day. He was awarded the D.S.O. for outstanding bravery.

He also served at Petawawa, Camp Shilo, Jericho Beach Vancouver, and Army Headquarters in Ottawa.

Mr. Webb's main hobby was always philately. He collected stamps for over 50 years, belonged to many philatelic societies and philatelic interest groups.

His main philatelic interest was Canadian Forces Mail. He studied military postmarks and wrote many articles for philatelic journals.

Formerly in accession 1989-565. Previously acquired by the National Postal Museum.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA--By John Frith

[Members will recall the previous article (N/L 123, pp.224-226) regarding the No.1 Special Wireless Group, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, and this continues the story of Pte. John W. Egilson's correspondence.]

Readers will recall that Pte. Egilson headed his letters with whatever location he happened to be at while stationed in Australia with the Canadian Special Wireless Group, C.A.O.S. In addition it should be noted that the censor handstamp issued for use by the unit was number 2235, and that the type issued has not been previously recorded by the Forces Postal History Society but has been seen by P. Collas (page 205, fig. 133). Although similar to FPHS Aus.#102 and #104, the letters are of a different size and placement (FIG.1):

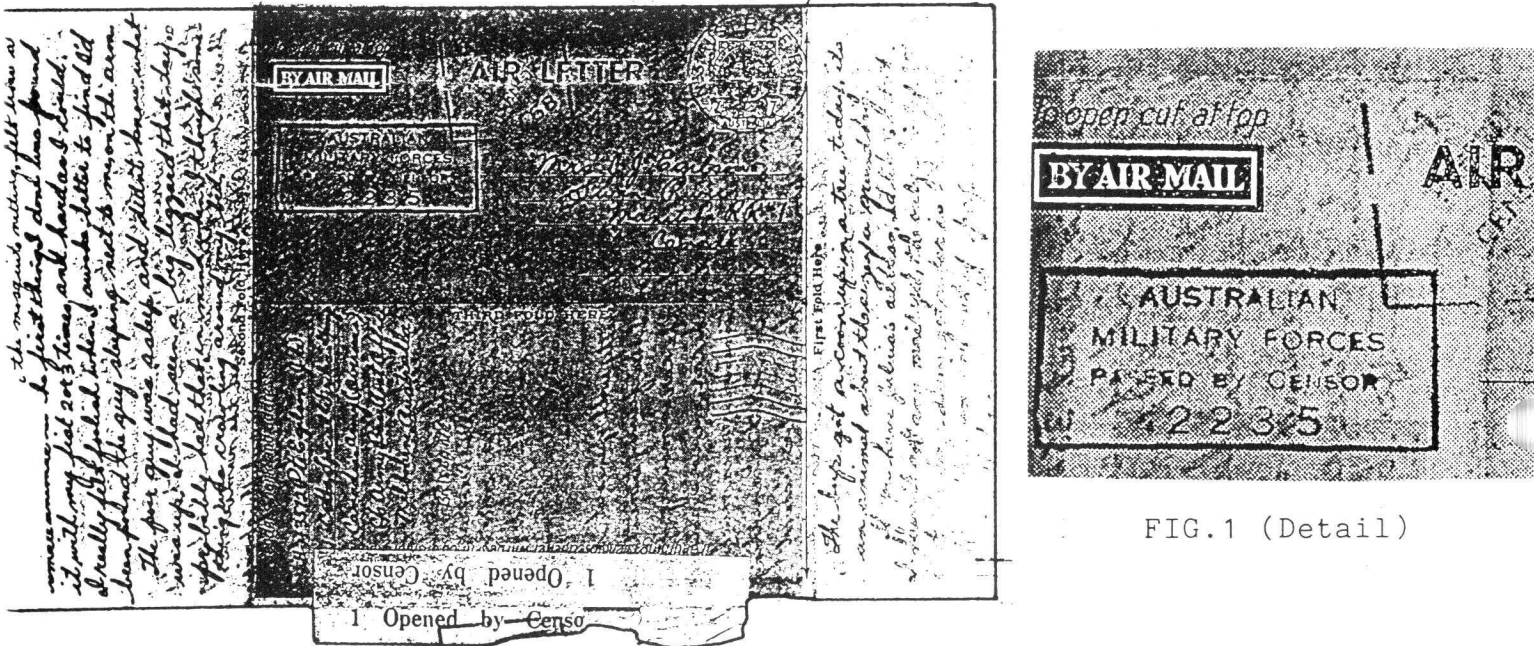


FIG.1 (Detail)

NO.3 AUST. BASE P.O./B 1800 21 FE 45
(BRISBANE 18.11.43-11.5.45)

It should be noted that the Base Censor tape tying this letter is printed in red on a yellow paper and does not seem to be recorded elsewhere. The Unit's location has been cut out of the letter by the Base Censor. This, plus the lack of a Unit censor's signature, is what probably attracted the attention of the Base Censor to this letter.

One additional feature that should be mentioned is another air mail letter card from this correspondence containing the pre-printed map of the Unit's itinerary (issued to members of the Unit prior to their leaving Darwin). See FIG.2 opposite.

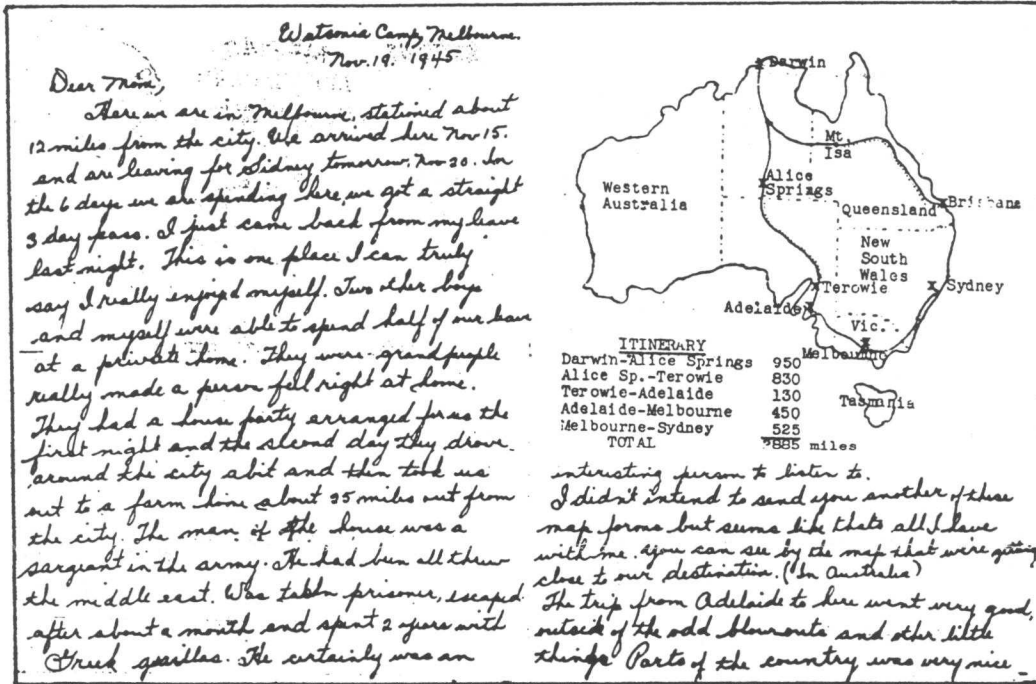


FIG. 2

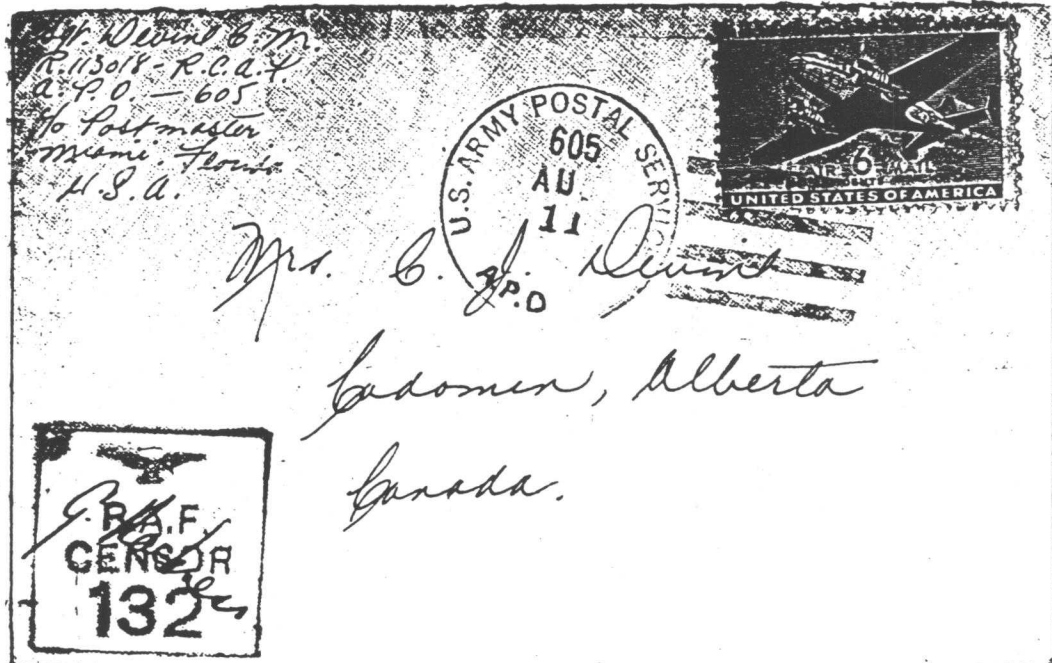
Collas, P. The Postal History of the Australian Army During World War II. Melbourne: The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, 1986.

Daynes, J.A., Ed. World War II Censor Marks. Essex, U.K.: Forces Postal History Society, 1986.

Stobbs, S. Postmarks of the Australian Forces From All Fronts, 1939 to 1953. Revised Second Ed. Saltaire, Bradford, U.K.: The Northway Printing Co., Ltd., 1984.

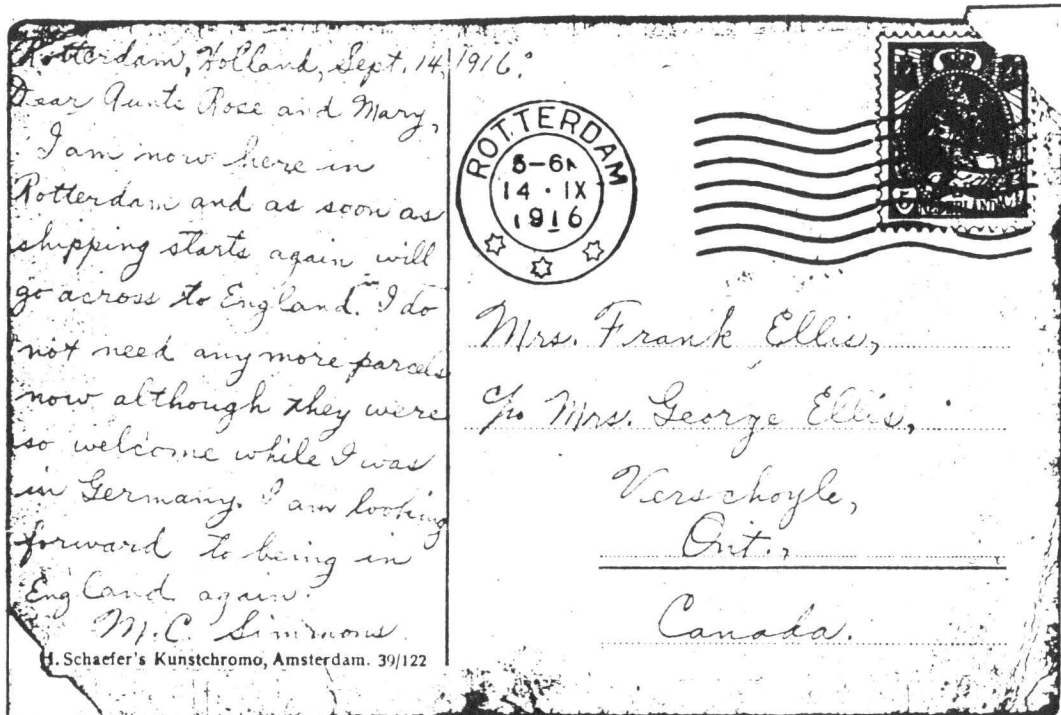
RCAF LIBERIA--By W. G. Robinson

This interesting cover was mailed by an RCAF Sgt., censored by the RAF, and mailed at the U.S. APO 605, Roberts Field, Liberia. The writer was attached either to the RAF Ferry Command, or to the RCAF Transport Command on the supply line from Canada to the RCAF Transport and Reconnaissance Squadrons in India. APO 605 was located



in Liberia from June 1942 to February, 1947.

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GREAT WAR CANADIAN ESCAPEE--By Colin Pomfret

The above postcard is from Pte. Mervyn Simmons, ex. 7th Bn., who was wounded and captured at Ypres in 1915. He and Cpl. Edwards, P.P.C.L.I., escaped from Celle Laager Z1 on August 22, 1916 and crossed the Dutch border on September 9. They proceeded to the British Consul in Rotterdam. Two days after this card was mailed they sailed on board the S.S. Grenadier and arrived at Newcastle-on-Tyne on September 18.

Refs.

Pearson, George. The Escape of a Princess Pat. McLelland, Goodchild, and Stewart, 1918.

Simmons and McLung. Three Times and Out. Cambridge: The Riverside Press, 1918.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO VANCOUVER, MAY 1939--By W. Whitehouse

After travelling aboard the Royal Train across Canada from Quebec City (beginning on May 15), King George VI and Queen Elizabeth arrived at the C.P.R. station in Vancouver on the morning of May 29, 1939.

It would be a whirlwind visit of only a few hours but the couple received a tremendous welcome from the citizens of Vancouver. The Province, a newspaper of the day, estimated that the royal couple were seen by over 500,000 people who lined the procession route through the city and on the north shore.

Returning to the C.P.R. station via the Lions Gate Bridge, the King and Queen boarded the CP SS Princess Marguerite for the dinner-time departure to Victoria escorted by HMC Ships Fraser, Ottawa, Restigouche, and St. Laurent.

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Ken Ellison has a picture postcard of the five ships in single line ahead passing through Active Pass. Unfortunately it does not photocopy well enough for use in the Newsletter.

The philatelic cover below, dated May 29 from HMCS Fraser, is the only cover of this date seen by the writer from any of the four ships. There could be covers on this date from any of the other three ships of the group. Can any members provide photocopies to the Editor?



Note the Vancouver post office cancel reads 2 P.M., three hours prior to sailing on the 29th.

Little did the men aboard these warships realize that in less than four months they would be engaged in escorting convoys in what became known as the "Battle of the Atlantic". Only two of the four ships would survive the war. Princess Marguerite was herself torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean in 1942.

THEFT ALERT!

Warren Dickson of the RPSC's Anti-Theft Committee has alerted us of a break-in in Barrie, ON on March 19, 1996. A safe was taken plus a small group of Canadian WWII registered covers ex. E.R. Toop Collection. The inventory included: MPO's 208R; 210R; 401; 506; 625; 1010; 1111; and NPO's 504; 622; 630; 1114; and 1213. Retail value of the covers stated to be \$325. Mr. Dickson can be contacted at (416) 222-7240 (bus.hours Mon.-Thurs.) or after 3:00pm at (905) 889-6133 (home) or at #108-5803 Yonge St., Willowdale, ON M2M 3V5.

INFORMATION PLEASE!

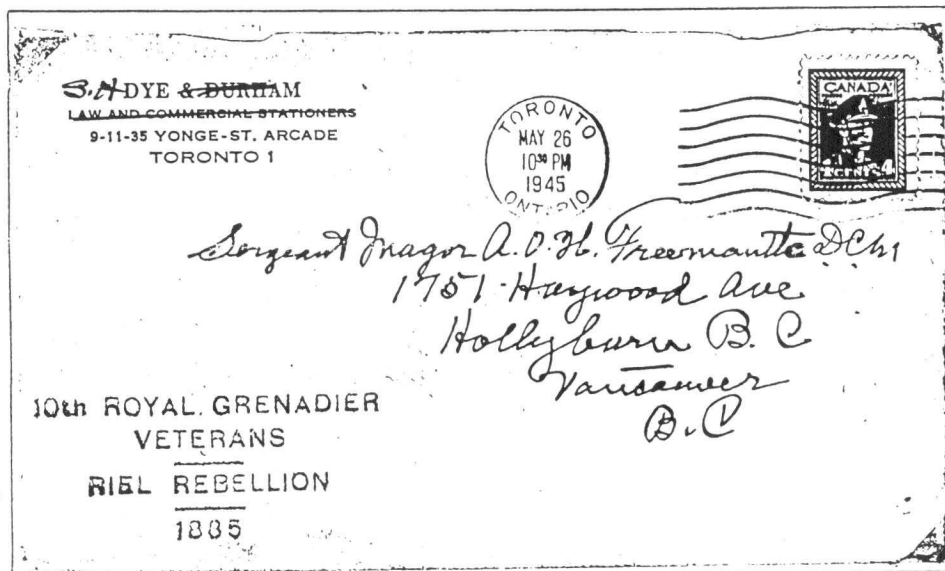
Member Robert Toombs writes with the following:

I have an airmail letter franked with 5/ from Jinja, Uganda postmarked 15 AP 82 and is addressed to the "Base Commander/CFB Calgary/Calgary, Alta./Canada/Att. Lt.Johnson/1st Fd.Amb.". On the reverse is inscribed

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"474 058 831 Major E.P.Green/Canmedel*/CMTTU**/P.O.Box 1027/Kampala, Uganda". Bailey & Toop confirmed that we had military training teams in Ghana and Tanzania in the 1960's. Does "**Canmedel" = "CANadian MEDical DELegation" and does "***CMTTU" = "Canadian Medical Training Team Uganda"? Thoughts anyone? Any feedback from readers would be appreciated. Please reply through the Editor.

A LOOK BACK AT A ROYAL GRENADIER--By J.Colin Campbell



The inscription at lower left is in lilac ink.

It was March 14, 1862 when the 10th Battalion, Volunteer Militia Rifles, Canada was first raised.¹ By August 1881, through the evolution of time, the name was changed to the 10th Battalion, Royal Grenadiers. This was the designation when the second Riel Rebellion began. Battalion headquarters was in Toronto, Ontario. The 10th was comprised of 17 Officers and 250 Other Ranks. The Royal Grenadiers did not serve in the Boer War.

Oscar Freemantle was a private in No. 2 Company, Royal Grenadiers and was present at Batoche under Lt.Col. J. Grasset, C.O., 10th Battalion.² The Batoche Column was under the command of Maj.Gen. Frederick Middleton. In 1900 authority was given for the word "Batoche" to be worn on their colours in recognition of their service in that campaign.

If this writer may assume that Oscar was twenty years of age in 1885, then he would have been eighty years old when he received the letter shown above. Again, an assumption, that in the First World War Oscar was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and became Sgt.Mjr. Freemantle.[Steven Luciuk also has a very similar cover. It would be interesting to know if other members have similar ones and what exactly was the purpose for the handstamp--a reunion of some sort? Ed.]

¹The Lineages of the Canadian Army. C.E. Dornbusch (1961)

²A History of Riel's Second Rebellion. T.A. Haultain (1885)

1997 CMMSG ROLL

APS RESEARCH LIBRARY, MS.G. HORN, BOX 8000, STATE COLLEGE, PA USA 16803
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 CDN. POSTAL ARCHIVES, C. MORIN, 395 WELLINGTON ST., OTTAWA, ON K1A ON3
 E.F. CHRISTMAN, JR., 5419 JASON, HOUSTON, TX USA 77096
 MS. BEVERLY CLARK, 924 NORTH DRIVE, WINNIPEG, MB R3T 0A8
 DAVID COLLYER, BOX 201, GLADESVILLE, SYDNEY 2111, NSW AUSTRALIA
 DR. E.L. COVERT, 349 SCHOONER COVE NW, CALGARY, AB T3L 1Z3
 WAYNE R. CURTIS, BOX 74, STN. A, TORONTO, ON M5W 1A2
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 K. DODWELL, M.HOUSE, CRUCKMEOLE, HANWOOD, SHREWSBURY, SHROPS. SY5 8JN UK
 GEORGE T. DOUGLAS, #2106-32ND STREET, VERNON, BC V1T 5L1
 PETER K. EGGETT, 6826 BILBERY DRIVE, ORLEANS, ON K1C 3R4
 KEN V. ELLISON, 14600 MIDDLE BENCH ROAD, OYAMA, BC V4V 2C3
 J. DAYNES, FPHS, 25A MILL ROAD, BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX CMO 8PZ UK
 JAMES W. FELTON, BOX 209, NEW RIEGEL, OH USA 44854-0209
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 JOHN E. FRITH, BOX 286, COPPER CLIFF, ON POM 1N0
 JAMES R. GOBEN, 304 WEST LINCOLN ST., BLOOMINGTON, IL USA 61701
 DWIGHT D. GRAY, 527 SAN SALVADOR DR., NORTH AUGUSTA, SC USA 29841
 A. DAVID HANES, 33 LILLIAN CRESC., BARRIE, ON L4N 4P8
 J. DOUGLAS HANNAN, #23-1950 BURTCH ROAD, KELOWNA, BC V1Y 4B2
 CHRIS HARGREAVES, 4060 BATH ROAD, KINGSTON, ON K7M 4Y4
 ED. A. HARRIS, #620-75TH AVE. NW, CALGARY, AB T2K OP9
 GORDON M. HILL, 11 COACHSIDE TERR. SW, CALGARY, AB T3H 2T3
 JAMES R. HILL, 2015 LAKE BONAVISTA SW, CALGARY, AB T2J 2Z8
 MARK R. ISSACS, BOX 531, CHICAGO, IL USA 60690
 JOHN JOHNSON, 9604 KALAMALKA RD., VERNON, BC V1B 1L3
 Z.B. KACZMARCZYK, #104-5350 MACDONALD, COTE ST. LUC, QC H3X 3V2
 DONALD B. KAYE, BOX 66660, STONEY CREEK, ON L8G 5E6
 RON D. LEITH, BOX 430, ABBOTSFORD, BC V2S 5Z5
 ROBERT LEMIRE, BOX 2124, DEEP RIVER, ON KOJ 1P0
 DOUGLAS LINGARD, 2425 BLACKSTONE CRESC., OTTAWA, ON K1B 4H3
 JAMES W. LONGBOURNE, 1961 SOUTHMERE CRESC., WHITEROCK, BC V4A 7B9
 STEVEN C. LUCIUK, 1542 EAST HEIGHTS, SASKATOON, SK S7J 3B5
 IVAN W. MACKENZIE, #2411-420 GLOUCESTER ST., OTTAWA, ON K1R 7T7
 DEAN W. MARIO, BOX 342, SASKATOON, SK S7K 3L3
 LAWRENCE MATHEWS, BOX 354, BRACEBRIDGE, ON P1L 1T7
 L. DANN MAYO, BOX 20837, INDIANAPOLIS, IN USA 46220
 PETER MCCARTHY, BOX 688, RICHMOND, QC JOB 2H0
 JAMES E. MILLER, BOX 3005, M.P.P., KAMLOOPS, BC V2C 6B7
 R.F. "HANK" NARBONNE, 216 MAILEY DR., CARLETON PLACE, ON K7C 3X9
 LIBRARY, NAT.ARCHIVES OF CAN., 395 WELLINGTON ST., OTTAWA, ON K1A ON3
 EVERETT L. PARKER, HC76, BOX 32, GREENVILLE, ME USA 04441-9723
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 DR. BRIAN C. PLAIN, 230 ROBSON RD., KELOWNA, BC V1X 3C8
 JACQUES PLANTE, #141-950 THERESE CASGRAIN, CHICOUTIMI, QC G7K 6K8
 WALTER R. PLOMISH, #703-69 JAMIESON COURT, NEW WESTMINSTER, BC V3L 5R3
 COLIN POMFRET, R.R. #1, MILLGROVE, ON LOR 1V0
 WM. G. ROBINSON, 5830 CARTIER ST., VANCOUVER, BC V6M 3A7
 C. DOUGLAS SAYLES, 25 HOWARD ROAD, WATERDOWN, ON LOR 2H4
 DAVID SALOVEY, 34 HILLSIDE AVE., NEW YORK, NY USA 10040
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 G.H. SAWATZKI, 6509 TIMOTHY COURT, ORLEANS, ON K1C 3E8
 JOE M. SMITH, BOX 1143, ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE, AB TOM 1T0
 ROBERT B. SOPER, 1155 CARTERET ST., HALIFAX, NS B3H 3P2
 MS. SUSAN SHEFFIELD, BOX 67039, MEADOWLARK PO, EDMONTON, AB T5R 5Y3
 CLARENCE A. STILLIONS, #2010-48TH ST. NW, WASHINGTON, DC USA 20007-1552
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 ROBERT TOOMBS
 JOHN N. TYACKE, 1 OTTAWA ST., TORONTO, ON M4T 2B5
 DR. G.A. VANDERBURGH, BOX 204, OWEN SD.ST., SHELburne, ON LON 1S0
 CHARLES J.G. VERGE, BOX 2788, STN. D, OTTAWA, ON K1P 5W8
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 DAVID H. WHITELEY, #1210-525 ST. MARY AVE., WINNIPEG, MB R3C 3X3
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 Gini Horn (APS)
 Jon Johnson
 Robert Lemire

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WHAT'S NEW? NOTES ON CANADIANS IN ZAIRE--By Robert Toombs

1) 300 Canadians went to Rwanda/Zaire in mid-November, 1996 to assist in a humanitarian mission; 2) the force was commanded by Lt.Gen. Maurice Baril of Canada; 3) all troops and equipment were Canadian. The U.S., Britain, Netherlands, Italy, and South Africa sent observers but did not participate; 4) at about the same time the Canadian troops arrived, the refugees began returning home on their own accord; 5) the Canadians co-ordinated data from aerial searches for refugees and planned air drops of food and medicine; 6) on December 14, 1996 the U.N. ordered the Canadian soldiers home; 7) by December 20, 1996 demobilization was well-advanced, with the last troops scheduled to be home before December 31, 1996. [Do any members have mail from this Op.? Egs. must be quite rare. Ed.]

BOOK, THE R.C.N. POSTAL HISTORY, 1939-45 

The information for the above has just arrived. Volume II and a further supplementary volume is now available. Compiled by Maurice Hampson and the late Percy Colbeck, these books cover areas such as the RCN censor stamps, Fleet Mail numbers, shore establishments, blackouts and more. Volume II and a Supplement Edition updates Volume I and include a large collection of photos (mostly of the offices and staff). Volume I is \$21.95 in soft cover and \$42.95 for hard cover; Volume II and the Supplementary volume are available in soft cover for \$22.95 each. A \$5.00 fee for shipping/handling per book is required. A hard cover Volume II and the Supplementary volume is \$54.95. Orders to: CANIMPEX, 619-21, 10405 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, AB, T5J 3S2. [Ed.]

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. Please send your ad with "real" money or mint (Canadian preferred) stamps to the Editor's attention.

WANTED: Information/descriptions regarding the POW Camp at Gravenhurst, ON; Toronto's "Little Norway"; and "Little Norway, Muskoka, ON". Sue Sheffield, c/o Muskoka, "A Summer Love Affair", Box 67039, Meadowlark RPO, Edmonton, AB T5R 5Y3, FAX (403) 481-1144 (5/5)

FOR SALE: Postcards sent by Hon.Lt.Col. E. Kidd, No. 5 Stat.Hospital, Egypt, to Ontario. No military markings but from a correspondence. \$7.50 each. Colin Pomfret, R.R.#1, Millgrove, ON LOR 1V0 (1/2)

WANTED: WWI Newfoundland cards/covers! Photocopies to the Editor. Thank you! (1/1)

WANTED: Covers TO Miss J. Wilson, The Gen.Hospital, Moose Jaw, SK (1918); TO Mr./Mrs. George Hegan, St.John, NB (1916-19); also hospital ship and nursing sister covers and postcards. Will trade when possible. Jon Johnson, 9604 Kalamalka Rd., Vernon, BC V1B 1L3 (2/5)

WANTED: Any postal military and military-related items of Poland. WWI and WWII (also orders, medals, documents, uniforms). Zdzislaw B. Kaczmarczyk, 5350 Macdonald Ave., Apt. 104, Montreal, QC H3X 3V2 (3/5)



DON'T FORGET THE MAIL SALE NEXT ISSUE!!!!!!



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

NEWSLETTER

MAY 1997

NEWSLETTER NO. 130
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Dear Fellow CMMSG Members:

Spring is finally here in Saskatchewan and hopefully all members are enjoying warmth and sun. Our first-ever mail sale has ended and from all accounts was a success! I hope that all members who participated are happy with their purchases or sale proceeds. Thank you to them, as well as our sale manager Jon Johnson who did a splendid job. More comments are included from Jon in this issue as well as the prices realized for the sale. Congratulations are extended to the following members who exhibited in the Edmonton Spring National and Regional Show held on March 14-16:

S.C. Luciuk (Vermeil/PHSC Toop Award), "Internment Mail in Canada"
W.G. Robinson (Silver), "Mail Censorship in Canada"
R. Toombs (Bronze), "Canada at War & Peace: The Pacific Rim"
K. Ellison (Silver Ribbon / Best 1-Frame Exhibit), "Special Service Force"
D. Mario (Silver Ribbon/Best Regional 1-Frame/AAPE Pin), "Allied Forces in Iceland". Further congratulations to members for non-military exhibits: E. Covert (Gold & Reserve Grand); R.A. Bayes (Gold); and L.G. Clinton (Silver-Bronze (2) & ATA First Medal/Ribbon).

Welcome to the following new member!:

WILLEM PUT, POSTBUS 23175, 3001-KD, ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

Please amend the membership list as follows:

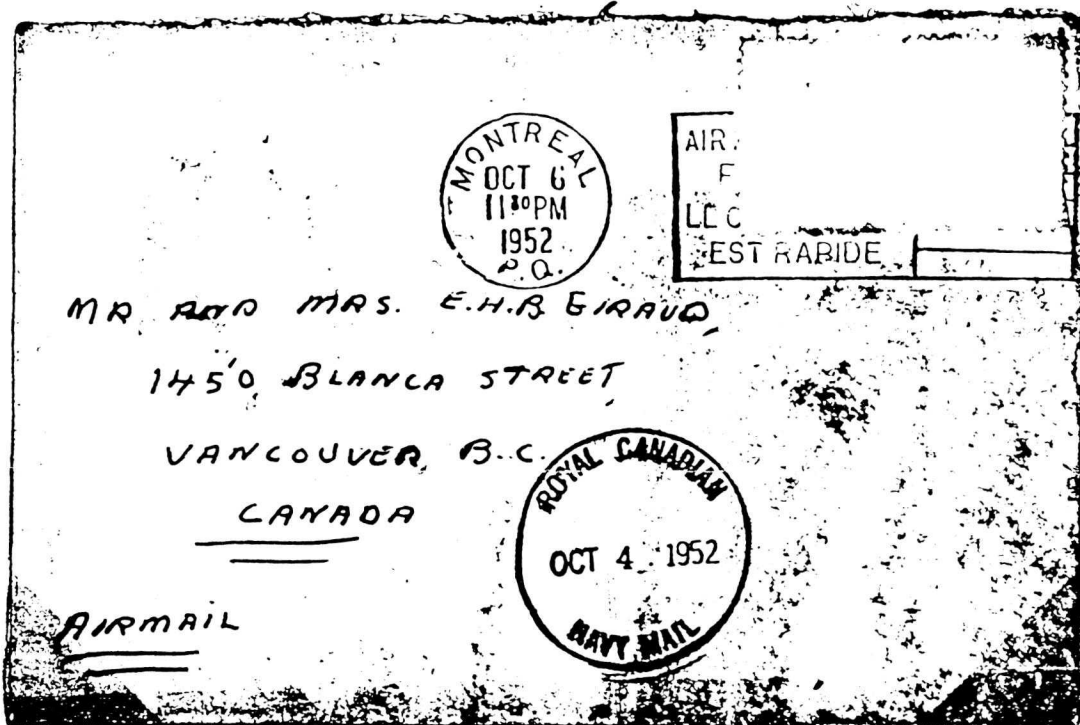
P. McCARTHY, 74 MILAN PLACE, LONDON, ON, N5Z 5A2 (new address)

Add E-Mail Addresses:

DR. E.L. COVERT: ecovert@agt.net
J.D. HANNAN : hand2@cochc.hnet.bc.ca
L.D. MAYO : dannmayo@indy.net
C.D. SAYLES : saylesd@aecl.ca

Bill and I want to wish all members a wonderful spring and early summer! The next CMMSG Newsletter will be issued in August. Cheers!

CHAIRMAN/TREAS.: W.J.BAILEY, #5-8191 FRANCIS RD., RICHMOND, BC V6Y 1A5
EDITOR: D.MARIO, BOX 342, SASKATOON, SK S7K 3L3

TAKING A SECOND LOOK--By W. Whitehouse

At first glance the cover above dated at Montreal on October 6, 1952, with a return address of H.M.C.S. Ontario, would lead one to assume that the ship was either at Montreal or in the vicinity on that date. However, as Ontario had been based on the West Coast since November 1945, some investigation was required.

A search through newspaper clippings revealed that Ontario, under the command of Captain E.P. Tisdall, C.D., R.C.N., departed Esquimalt on September 8 for a South American training cruise. Sailing south, the ship crossed the equator on September 27 with the usual ceremonies for crossing the line and the initiation of landlubbers into "shell-backs". The cruise continued south and through the Straits of Magellan, up the East Coast of South America, into the Caribbean, through the Panama Canal, and returned to Esquimalt on December 17, 1952.

Because the ship would be sailing through the South Atlantic and the Caribbean, mailing arrangements were made through CNPO 5073, c/o The Postmaster, Montreal.

On October 4, 1952, the date in the RCN MAIL cachet, Ontario arrived in Valparaiso, Chile, for a four day visit. The airmail service of two days to Montreal seems almost unreal by today's standards. Although the stamps were missing when the cover was obtained by the writer, the airmail rate for a serviceman at that time was 10¢.

NEWFOUNDLAND

You've always wanted to go there.
NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!

BNAPEX '97 - ST. JOHN'S



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CDN. FORCES, U.N. MISSIONS--By Susan Sheffield

Members may be interested in some observations in personal correspondence I received from my friends serving in the Canadian Forces, U.N. Missions (name, rank etc. have been removed to ensure their privacy). I understand that the "AIR LETTER" from Bosnia is very uncommon for civilian addresses. [The Ed. has "edited" both letters with the author's permission.]

24 Oct.

Greetings from Bosnia: The tour has gone well. There have been risks but not too many and injuries have been few and far between. I am looking forward to getting home. It has been 7 long months over here with an additional 3 months in Calgary for training. The mail system here runs fairly well. Mail for Bosnia is sent to a Canadian Forces Post office in Belleville near Trenton Ont. It's then shipped by air to Split, Croatia where it is sorted by unit and shipped by Conway to its final destination. Mail time is about 2 weeks depending on Conways.

_____		_____	
NAME		RANK	
_____		_____	
SERIAL NO.		UNIT	
			
			
AÉROGRAMME · AIR LETTER			

[cont'd.]



Staff Officer Maintenance
UNDOF HQ - Golan Heights
CFPO 5002
Belleville, ON KOK 3R0



13 October 1994

Greetings from the Middle East!

Life here is not quite the same as in Edmonton. It has certainly been a little warmer, for example. I think from the end of July until the beginning of October the temperature floated between 35 and 40, although there were days that it went to 45+. Since the beginning of October, however, we have started having some rain storms. These have helped cool things off slightly, but have also driven the spiders inside the buildings. These spiders are BIG. The locals say the real rain will come next month. If the storms get much worse, we might actually float away. The first storm had a three inch deep river running by our door - level with the door sill.

The landscape is also quite different. On the Golan, there is a fair bit of roll to the country and quite a bit of clumpy brush. It is what soldiers would call "good tank country" - as has been explored in 1967 and 1973. On the Israeli side of the Area of Separation, there are a number of green patches, but they are fewer and farther between on the Syrian side. The ground is predominantly rocky and volcanic. The rock fences are everywhere, built by hand as the local farmers clear their fields. It is really quite something to see. On both sides, the mountain range that includes Mt Hermon dominates the scenery. Camp Ziouiani on the Israeli side is at a higher elevation than Camp Faouar; they have been having chilly evenings for a while and will definitely get snow sometime during the year. We hope to be a little more fortunate.

There is a village just outside the gates to our camp. It consists of a number of stone huts with flat, corrugated tin roofs. There are also a couple of very simple concrete buildings, but they are the exception. It has been said that this village is one of the poorest in all of Syria and that it is being kept in this state by the government, as a visible statement to the UN. Of course, there are many rumours here, as the government does control society, and information is readily restricted.

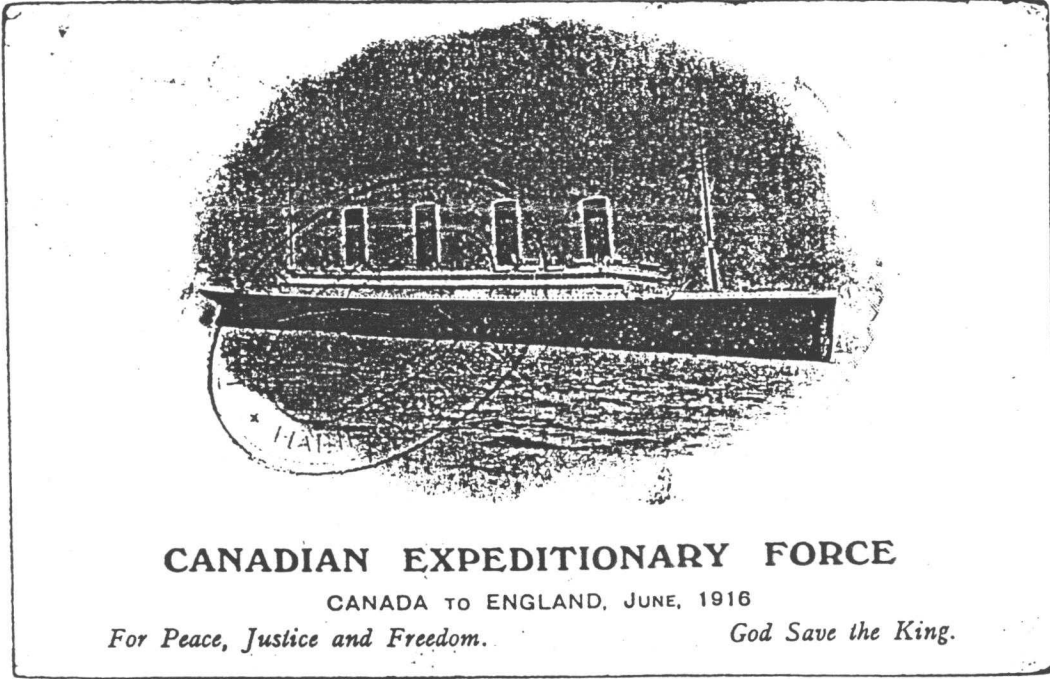
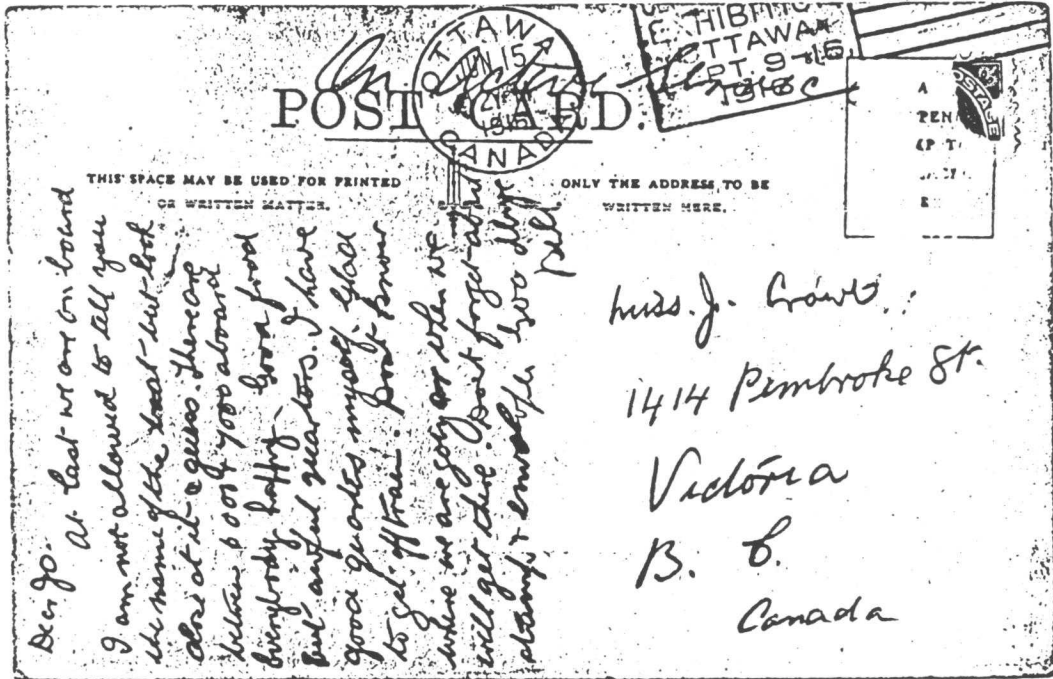
The villagers keep some cows, chickens and sheep, and I have seen a couple of small tractors, but I don't really think there is much of what we would traditionally call employment. They all draw their water from a single water point, and the women carry large buckets-full on their heads back to the huts. The children, all of whom are quite young, run about the village, and the men are rarely seen - I think they are out early and back late. It is very depressing to see, and I know that we have hired some of the villagers to work in the camp. Others line up each day to see if there is any other work, and we also provide medical care for the children. Of course, we have given emergency help, too, such as on the night when the snake bite victim came in. The doc said it was amazing to see how fast the venom takes action! The villager pulled through o.k.

You had asked some questions about the mail system here. As they said at our first briefing, "it is up to the ingenuity of the soldier to find out the best way to send mail". There are three contingents here - Austria, Poland and Canada. There are also Americans, Fijians, and many others nearby on the Sinai as part of the Multi-national Force Observers. Each has a camp post office or some means of sending mail home. Thus, if I wanted to send mail to Austria, I could do it through the AUSBATT post office. When I send mail to the States, I do it just like I was home. But if I wanted, I could probably give it to an American who could send it as part of their system. Personally, this would be too much trouble, but it is possible. We also have mailing addresses in Syria and Israel so we can use the normal (vice military) post if we desire. Anything coming from home goes to the Belleville address, is shipped by the military to Israel, and then enters the normal postal system. It is generally tedious, but it is cheap!



"TRANSMISSION DELAYED" MAIL--By J.C. Campbell

This card likely was posted at Halifax just as the ship was about to sail. The remains of an Admiral stamp is visible. By some means the card was sent to, and received by, the "INTELLIGENCE OFFICE**HALIFAX FORTRESS" and obtained the Office's oval handstamp in mauve ink. It was forwarded to Ottawa which was H.Q. for security of mail during the Great War. Finally, the card was re-posted, receiving a June 15, 1916 slogan cancel. Presumably this was after the ship was safely on its way.



His Majesty's Transport Olympic
(A Trooper)

C.E.F. HMT OLYMPIC--By David Whiteley

David sends in this card below which is quite similar to the previous one of Colin Campbell's. It pre-dates Colin's by a few months. Are there others? [Ed.]



H. M. T. "OLYMPIC"

Canadian Expeditionary Forces.

LEFT HALIFAX, APRIL 5TH, 1916

ARRIVED ENGLAND APRIL 11TH, 1916

CANADIAN PUBLIC ARCHIVES HOLDINGS (cont'd.)

ISN=16225

Canada Post Corporation

LEVEL OF DESCRIPTION: Accession

DAP ACCESSION NO. 1993-075 J.B. Irvine collection

96 items

World War II era postal covers sent from Sergeant J.S. Irvine, Canadian Army Postal Corps Overseas, to Mrs. H.G. Clark, bearing various civilian / military postal markings.

Canadian Postal Corps Overseas Christmas greeting cards issued during 1941, 1942 and 1943.

No. 9 Canadian General Hospital / Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps Christmas greeting card issued in 1944.

Royal Canadian Postal Corps Veterans' Association re-union dinner programs for the years 1967, 1970 and 1976.

World War II era, His Majesty's and Allied Forces on Leave Day Ticket, London Transport, England.

Cancelled Canadian postage stamps: 3 Cents Queen Victoria / Diamond Jubilee issue (1897), 1, 2 Cents, Queen Victoria / Numeral issue (1898).

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS: Open. There are no access restrictions on these records. Status effective from 1988-04-01

USE RESTRICTIONS: Nil.

COPYRIGHT: Unknown

CREDIT: National Archives of Canada

Accession date: 1993-12-24

Organization : arrangement: Items organized in file folders : Items arranged by type and chronologically in file folders

LOCATION: Christmas cards, Programs and Ticket: 4102

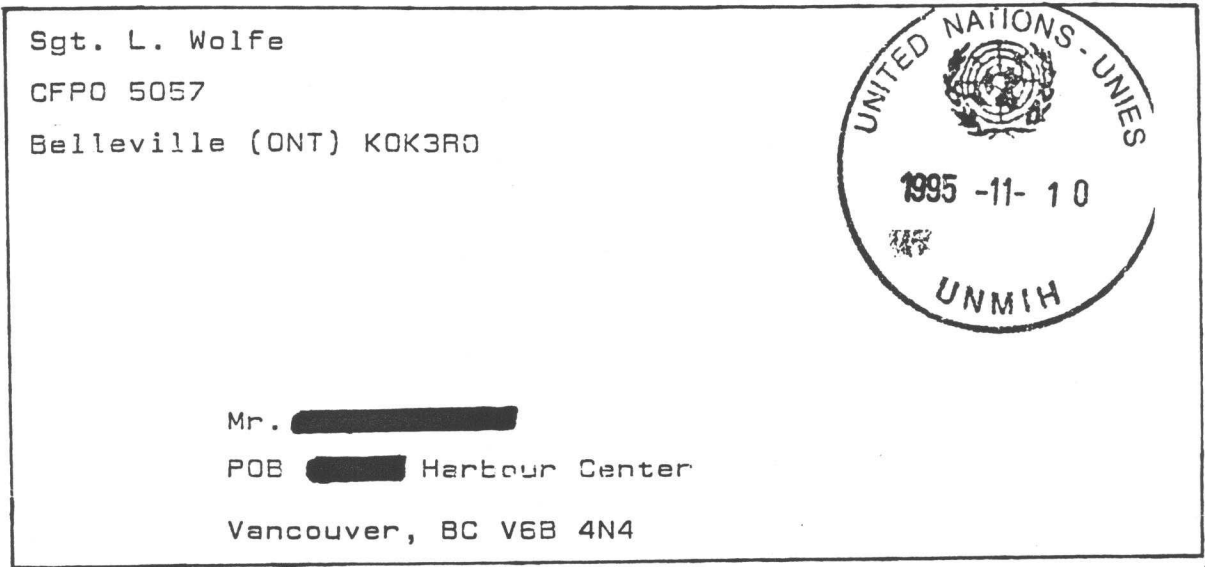
LOCATION: Stamps: A500-10

LOCATION: Lettercard packets, Covers & Registered letter: C0084

Formerly in accession 1989-565. Previously acquired by the National Postal Museum as accession 1981-054

Canadian Postal Archives accession / Acquisition des Archives postales canadiennes

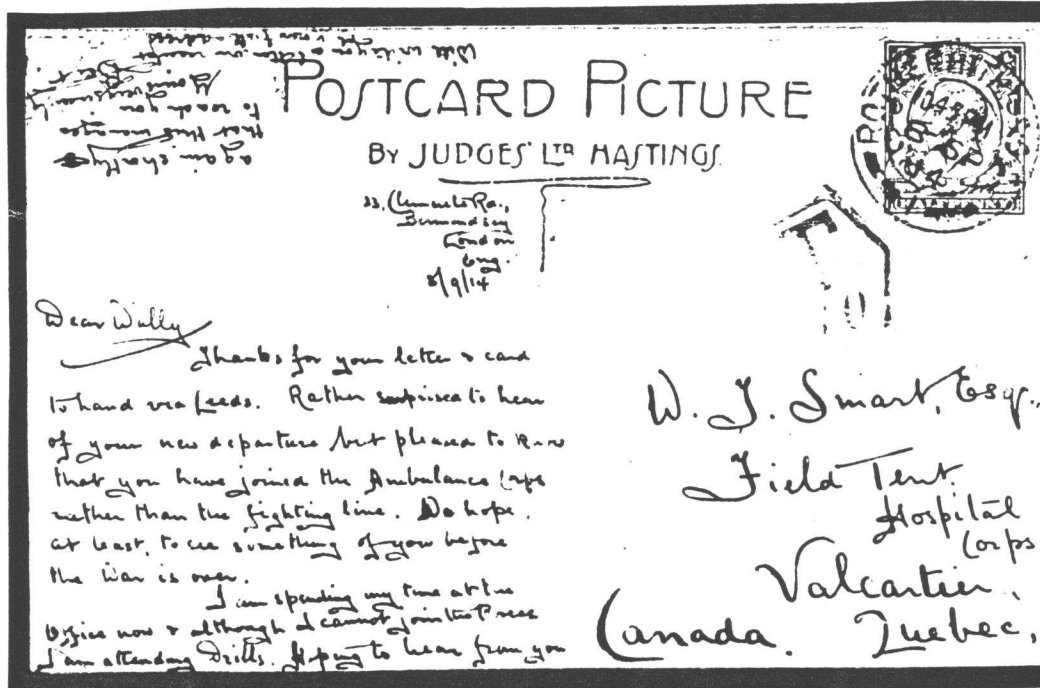
WHAT'S NEW, UNMIH--By Robert Toombs



The above illustration is a free-franked cover from the U.N. Support Mission in Haiti, with an appropriate military return address and a November 10, 1995 dated cachet. An earlier issue of the Newsletter [N/L #123] showed a franked letter from the Mission. A six-month extension to the UNMIH was announced in early-December 1996. A further review for a potential extension of the mandate of the Mission will be made on March 31, 1997. The presence of the UN force provides a framework of stability for Haiti. At present [December 23, 1996] the Canadian component numbers 750 members of the Canadian Armed Forces and some members of the R.C.M.P.

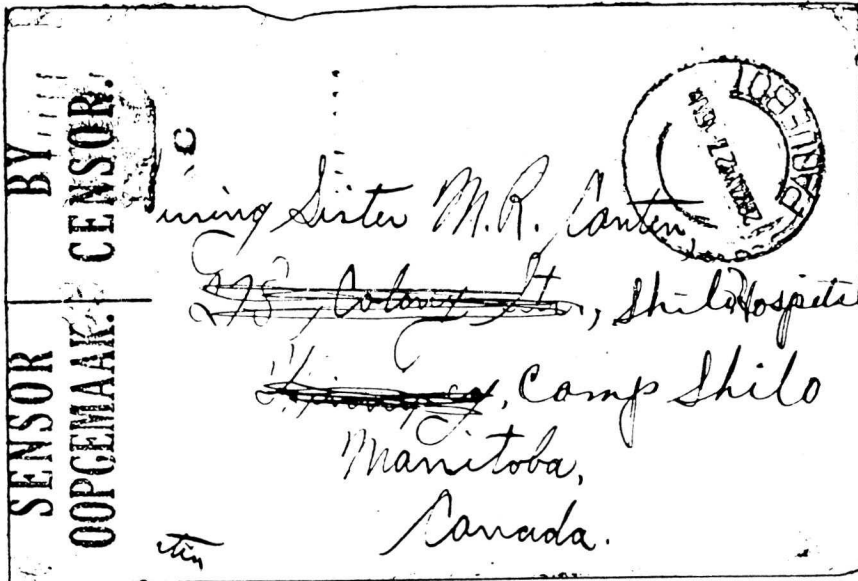
INCOMING FIRST
CONT. MAIL--By
Colin Pomfret

The item on the right, dated SP 8/14, is unusual in that it is the only incoming mail I have seen to the First Contingent.



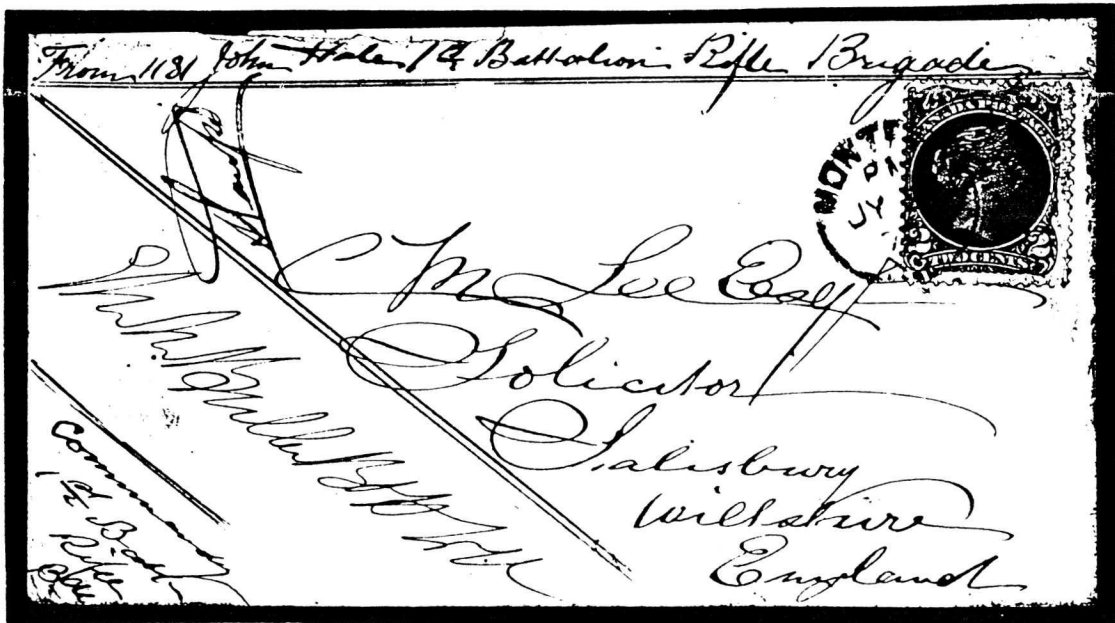
1942 R.C.A.F. SOUTH AFRICA--By Jon Johnson

The cover below is somewhat unusual. It was mailed to N/S Cantin from her brother, a Canadian fighter pilot, who was travelling to the Middle East. The paquebot postmark and the South African censor rubber stamp are both from Durban, South Africa. The paquebot cancel is May 28, 1942 and the Winnipeg forwarding cancel is June 22, 1942.



RED RIVER REBELLION, 1870

The cover below, Ex. Nickle Sale (January 1996), pays the 2¢ soldier's letter rate to England and bears a "Montreal/JY 29/70" broken-circle. It was written by No. 1811, John Hales, 1st Btn. Rifle Brigade, en route to Fort Garry with the Red River Expedition. It was counter-signed by Capt. Redvers Henry Buller and is the only known stamped cover from the 1st "Riel" Rebellion. It sold for \$5,500. [Ed.]



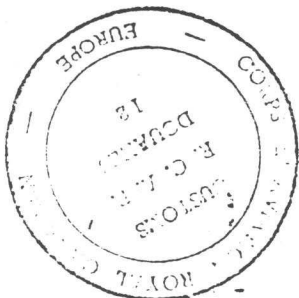
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R.C.A.F. SARDINIA/EL-ARISH--By G.H. Sawatzki

Sorting through some accumulations I found the item below which might be of interest to the Study Group and the membership at large. The cover is an O.H.M.S. D.N.D. 318 but the routing is somewhat different. But what is of greater interest is the back which shows "115 ATU/EL ARISH", "U.N.E.F./EL-ARISH/AIR STATION", and the CAPO-5057 cancels and markings. Any suggestion how this letter went?

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
MINISTÈRE DE LA DÉFENSE NATIONALE

O. H. M. S.
S. DES. M.



ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE
MADONVILLE

MAR 20 1962
DE LIGHTER WING

COMMANDING OFFICER.
R.C.A.F. AIR WEAPONS UNIT.
CAPO 5047. C.A.F.E.
DECIMONANNU.
SARDINIA.

DND 318

115 ATU
EL ARISH



COMMANDING OFFICER
AIR WEAPONS UNIT, RCAF.
CAPO 5047
DECIMOMANNU (SARDINIA)



BNAPS Military Study Group Mail Sale #1

April 11, 1997 Prices Realized

1 nb	32 10.00	63 10.00	94 11.00	125 nb	156 6.00	187 5.00	218 5.00
2 nb	33 5.00	64 11.00	95 12.00	126 5.00	157 13.00	188 nb	219 11.00
3 10.00	34 12.00	65 13.00	96 15.00	127 nb	158 8.00	189 nb	220 nb
4 nb	35 5.00	66 8.50	97 10.00	128 5.00	159 17.00	190 42.00	221 nb
5 13.00	36 5.00	67 nb	98 13.00	129 5.00	160 5.00	191 8.00	222 nb
6 nb	37 5.00	68 6.50	99 nb	130 5.00	161 nb	192 5.50	223 nb
7 nb	38 5.00	69 8.00	100 nb	131 nb	162 nb	193 30.00	224 nb
8 12.00	39 5.00	70 6.50	101 13.00	132 15.00	163 17.00	194 6.50	225 nb
9 14.00	40 5.00	71 8.50	102 10.00	133 6.00	164 7.00	195 15.00	226 nb
10 13.00	41 nb	72 6.00	103 8.00	134 nb	165 7.00	196 7.00	227 5.00
11 nb	42 nb	73 6.00	104 6.50	135 13.00	166 10.00	197 5.00	228 nb
12 nb	43 nb	74 7.50	105 6.50	136 6.00	167 10.00	198 15.00	229 nb
13 nb	44 11.00	75 6.50	106 nb	137 nb	168 10.00	199 nb	230 nb
14 nb	45 7.50	76 nb	107 5.00	138 30.00	169 7.50	200 nb	231 5.00
15 5.00	46 nb	77 5.00	108 5.00	139 18.00	170 12.00	201 9.50	232 5.00
16 nb	47 nb	78 5.00	109 7.50	140 8.00	171 nb	202 16.00	233 5.50
17 5.00	48 22.00	79 10.00	110 nb	141 8.50	172 nb	203 15.00	234 nb
18 10.00	49 23.00	80 8.00	111 6.00	142 nb	173 7.00	204 46.00	235 nb
19 26.00	50 16.00	81 11.00	112 8.50	143 38.00	174 7.50	205 30.00	236 nb
20 12.00	51 6.50	82 11.00	113 nb	144 nb	175 7.50	206 nb	237 16.00
21 10.00	52 8.00	83 8.00	114 5.00	145 5.00	176 8.00	207 25.00	238 10.00
22 10.00	53 11.00	84 5.00	115 nb	146 7.00	177 7.50	208 20.00	239 nb
23 10.00	54 11.00	85 5.00	116 nb	147 6.00	178 7.50	209 20.00	240 nb
24 11.00	55 5.00	86 nb	117 nb	148 nb	179 7.00	210 nb	241 10.00
25 11.00	56 nb	87 8.00	118 27.00	149 nb	180 8.00	211 27.00	242 13.00
26 42.00	57 nb	88 6.50	119 5.00	150 23.00	181 5.00	212 17.00	243 36.00
27 23.00	58 10.00	89 5.00	120 5.00	151 21.00	182 5.00	213 30.00	244 16.00
28 10.00	59 23.00	90 6.50	121 15.00	152 26.00	183 7.50	214 nb	245 13.00
29 nb	60 11.00	91 nb	122 nb	153 10.00	184 8.50	215 12.00	246 21.00
30 12.00	61 11.00	92 nb	123 5.00	154 18.00	185 5.00	216 11.00	247 19.00
31 nb	62 12.00	93 7.50	124 nb	155 10.00	186 10.00	217 21.00	248 13.00

Mail Sale Notes: Overall the mail sale has been a great success. When you read this the successful bidders will have received their lots and very soon the vendors will be receiving their cheques. As you can see most of the lots sold. Some lots not selling was to be expected due to the specialized interests of many of the study group members and in some cases the material being more common than the vendor realized. The reverse is also true as some lots went well above the requested reserve. One surprise was the low number of bidders, about one-third of the membership. All in all I think the mail sale went very well and will generate about \$175 for the study group treasury. I will be recommending to the study group officers that we do this again next year. The mail sale did dig quite a few items out of assorted shoe boxes around the country. Thankyou to all the study group members who made this first mail sale a success. Thanks. Jon Johnson.

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. Please send your ad with "real" money or mint (Canadian preferred) stamps to the Editor's attention:

WANTED: Covers TO Miss J. Wilson, The General Hospital, Moose Jaw, SK (1918); TO Mr./Mrs. George Hegan, St. John, NB (1916-19); also hospital ship and nursing sister covers and postcards. Will trade when possible. Jon Johnson, 9604 Kalamalka Rd., Vernon, BC V1B 1L3 (4/5)

Next time stay tuned for items on Central Camp; the small crown over circle censor; a WWII Priority Casualty envelope; and more! Keep cool for summer.

WANTED: Any postal military and military-related items of Poland. WWI and WWII (also orders, medals, documents, uniforms). Zdzislaw B. Kaczmarczyk, 5350 Macdonald Ave., Apt.104, Montreal, QC H3X 3V2 (5/5)

WANTED: A postcard or good photograph of the ship Braemar Castle ca. 1918 or so. Please send with your price. If unacceptable, I will return + postage. Gordon Hill, 11 Coach Side Terr. S.W., Calgary, AB T3H 2T3 (1/2)