



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2000

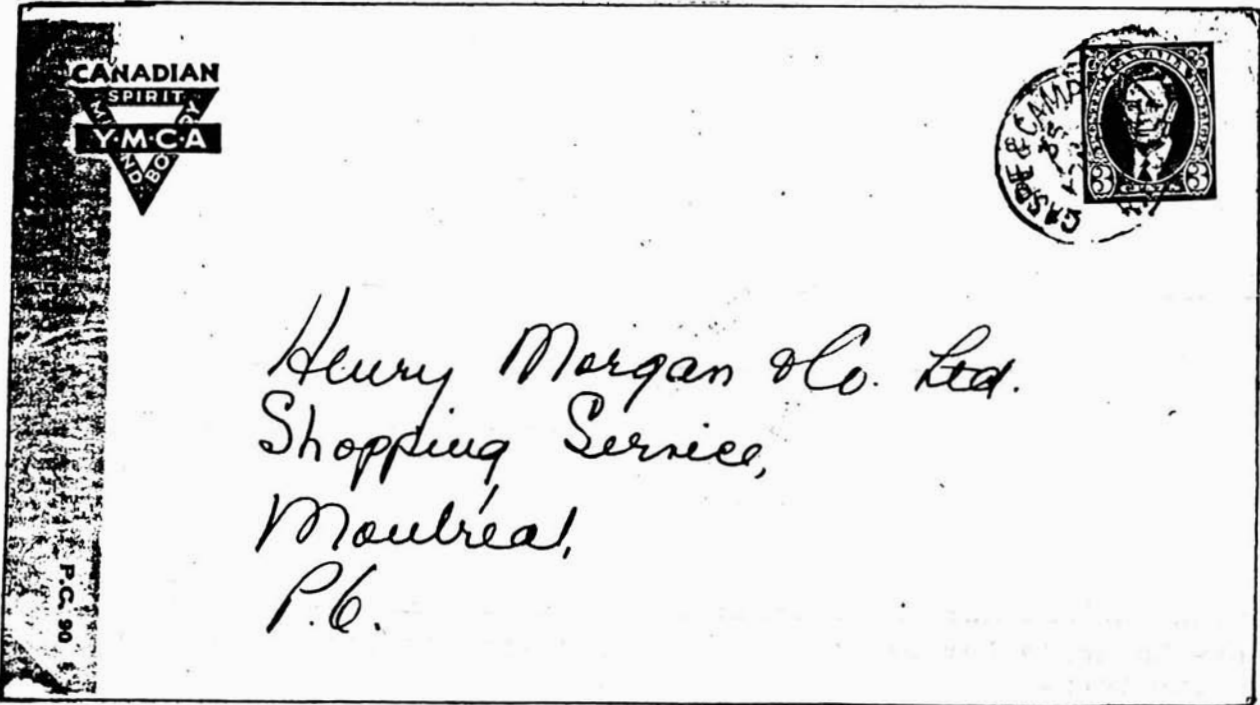
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GASPÉ MILITARY HOSPITAL--By J.C. Campbell

This cover, posted by Nursing Sister Stevens from the Gaspé Military Hospital, required domestic postage and received an R.P.O. cancel (Ludlow's Q-16), dated NOV 17/42. It had been censored by civilian authorities and note the location of the hospital relative to HMCS Fort Ramsay. The striped area is Gaspé Bay. The 37mm Orderly Room handstamp is in red ink on the reverse.

The railway line originally ran from Gaspé to Matapedia, P.Q. but in 1929 it was bought from the Quebec Oriental Railway by the C.N.R. and extended to Campbellton, N.B. The railway service ceased in 1967.

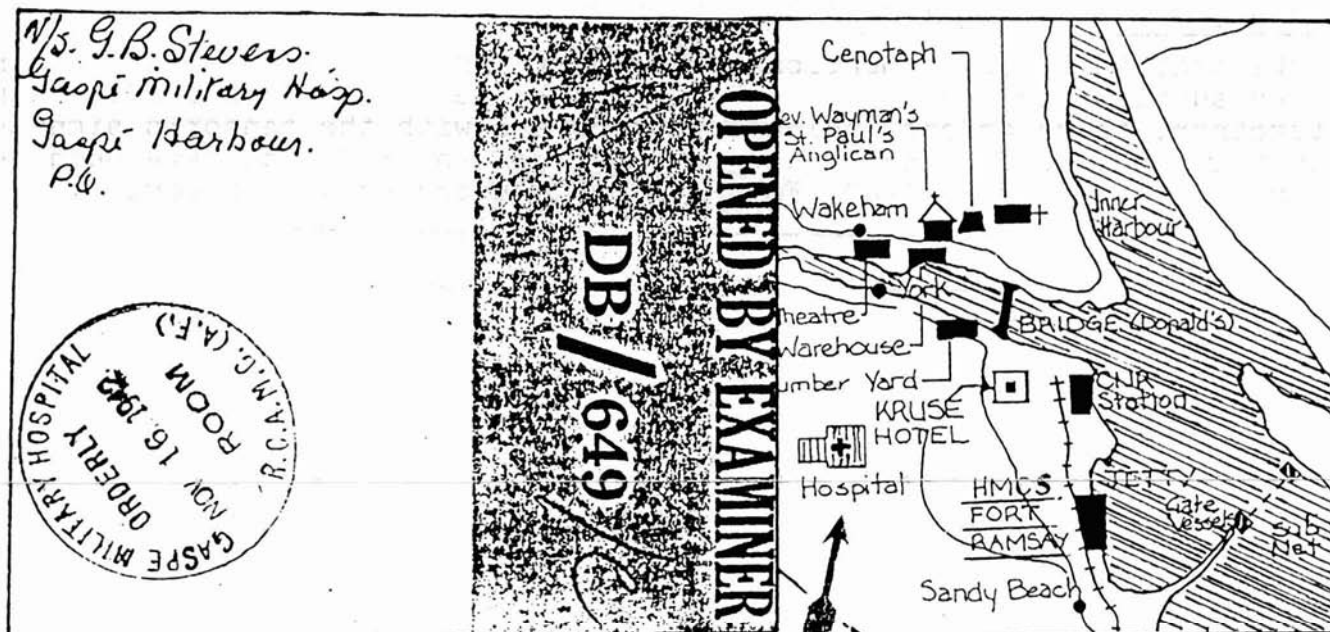
Reference: Essex, James W. Victory in the St. Lawrence. Erin, ON.: Boston Mills Press, 1984.



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Dear CMMSG Members:

Bill and I hope that all is going a-ok! Here's another issue and I do hope that much of it is of some interest. You'll find all of the remaining parts of articles herein.

One of our new members, J.L. Emmenegger has kindly sent in two of his articles on U.N. activities, including Canadian participation therein. They include mail from CANLOG, detailing part of the Canadian representation in UNDOF (U.N. Disengagement Observer Force), from the American Philatelist (June 1978); and "The Postal Facilities of the U.N. Emergency Force (UNEF II), 1973-79" (June 1980). The latter discusses participating countries' postal service which includes Canada's CANLOG (Canadian Logistics) postmarks, unit cachets, and U.N.E.F. cachets. While both articles cover all postal facilities of many nations, treatment of the Canadian aspect is well done. The UNDOF article is US\$5 and the UNEF II article is US\$10 postpaid from the author (address below).

In the next issue, published as an "extra bonus" for members, we'll examine the Canadian postal participation and examples of military mail from the Korean War. It should be one of the most detailed sources of this war from a Canadian military postal history perspective ever done (to date!). Until then, all the best!

SMALL ADS

WANTED: Correspondence to/from Wm., Mrs. W., or Hamish Maitland-Dougall. Please send photocopy/price to Doug Sayles, 25 Howard Rd., Waterdown, ON LOR 2H4 (4/5)

WANTED: Non-philatelic covers/aerogrammes sent by Canadian members of U.N. Forces and Missions (since 1948); especially in Western Sahara (MINURSO) with CFPO 5047. J.-L. Emmenegger, Box 110, CH-1009 Pully, Switzerland (1/1)

FOR SALE: Canadian military covers UN/NATO/Airforce flown/Navy/Regiments/Battles. Capt. J. Walsh, Box 554, Teulon, MB ROC 3B0 (1/1)

"Z" FORCE: THE CANADIAN ARMY IN ICELAND, 1940-41--PT.II--By C.D. Sayles

Note that there is no mention of a censor handstamp--I suspect that none were supplied to the Canadian units until they reached Iceland. Taken together, these orders indicate that covers with the censor's signature in the upper right hand corner must be from the RRC, and have been censored before July 7, 1940. FIG.3 below illustrates such a cover.

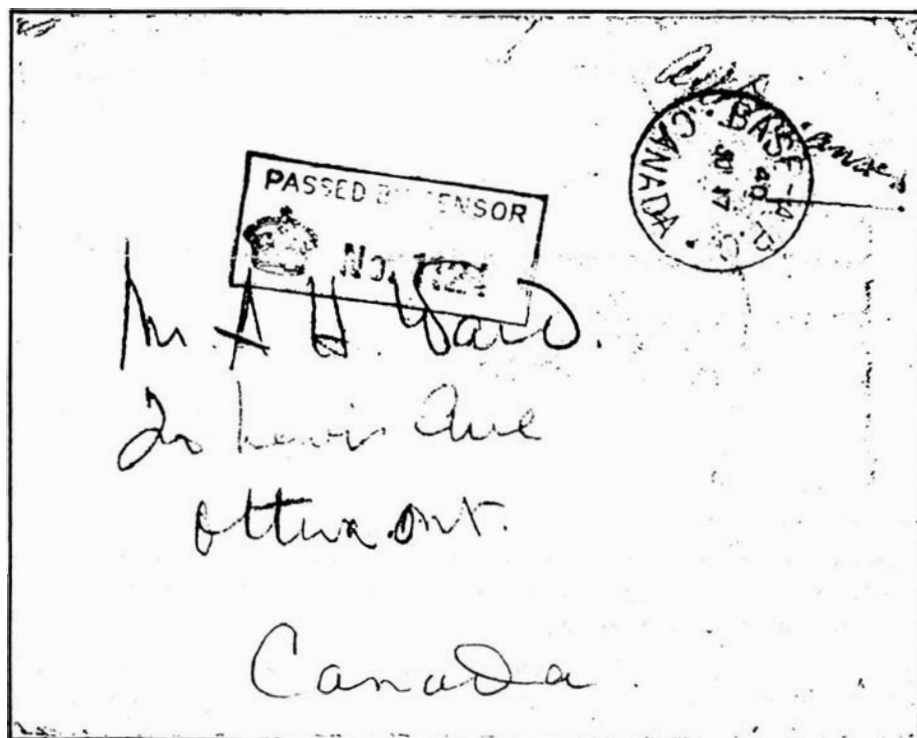


FIG.3: The Censor's Signature--A.A. Duncanson (RRC)--in the Upper Right Corner Signifies that the Letter was Censored Earlier than July 7, 1940. This Cover Probably Returned to Canada with the Troopship Empress of Australia

Another Daily Order informs us of the censoring process used after the units reached Iceland. Letters had to be handed in to the Company Office to be censored by Company officers. They were then forwarded to the Battalion Orderly Room and onward to the FPO. I wonder if this was done to ensure that Canadian mail was kept separate so that it could be dispatched separately from mail bound for Britain?

On September 21, 1940 the censorship regulations were re-iterated in the Daily Orders because numerous violations had been found. Here are some excerpts:

Routine Censorship Regulations

1. Each letter must bear the Sender's name, rank and serial number, but this must not be written on the back of the envelope.
2. The Censoring Officer must sign his name at the end of each letter, and also on the bottom left hand corner of the envelope. He must not put his rank or unit.
3. The Unit Censor Stamp should be treated as a Secret Document,

[Cont'd.]

and only entrusted to a reliable person....

4. Units not in possession of a Censor Stamp should [...arrange for their correspondence to be stamped by another Unit].

I think British censor handstamps were issued to the Canadian units after they arrived in Iceland. With one possible exception, they are all Daynes Type A-102, as illustrated below.

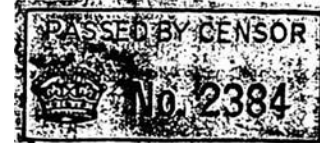
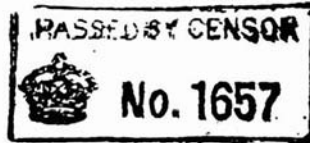
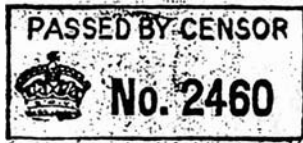


FIG.4: Censor Handstamps used by Canadians in Iceland. Daynes A-102

Identifying the Unit:

It has always been difficult to identify the unit from which Iceland covers originated. Some, and I think probably all, of the FPOs occupied static locations. For example, we know that FPO 306 was located at 17 Hafnarstraeti, Reykjavik. Since the Canadian troops often changed locations (at least in 1940), we cannot establish a reliable link between the individual units and any of the static FPOs.

Return addresses cannot help us. The troops were explicitly forbidden to put return addresses on the envelopes. I have seen several covers where this order was violated, but I think they must be treated as exceptions to the general rule.

This leaves the censor handstamps and signatures as a possible way to identify units, and fortunately this is usually possible. The key is to know which unit each censoring officer belonged to. I could not find a nominal roll of officers for any of the subject units, and so was forced to compile my own based on a reading of the unit War Diaries and Routine Orders. While these "homemade" lists are undoubtedly incomplete, they enable units to be identified in almost all cases where the censor's signature is readable.

Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa (M.G.): This unit had the longest stay in Iceland and hence covers from it are more numerous than the other units. Cover from this unit are the easiest to identify. All covers seen dated later than October 1940 carry a 75 x 6mm handstamp "ON ACTIVE SERVICE" on the front of the envelope (FIG.5). The origin and use of this handstamp may be explained by Routine Order 159, issued to the Cameron Highlanders on September 7, 1940. It says:

ARMY POST OFFICE-IMPORTANT

All ranks are warned that the recipients of letters, the envelopes of which are not marked "On Active Service", will have to pay double postage.

The handstamp appears only on mail from the Cameron's. It seems safe to speculate that the handstamp was used in the Cameron's Orderly Room to ensure that their troops' mail did not arrive postage due. The earliest usage date seen is October 26, 1940, and the latest is March 4, 1941.

[Cont'd.]

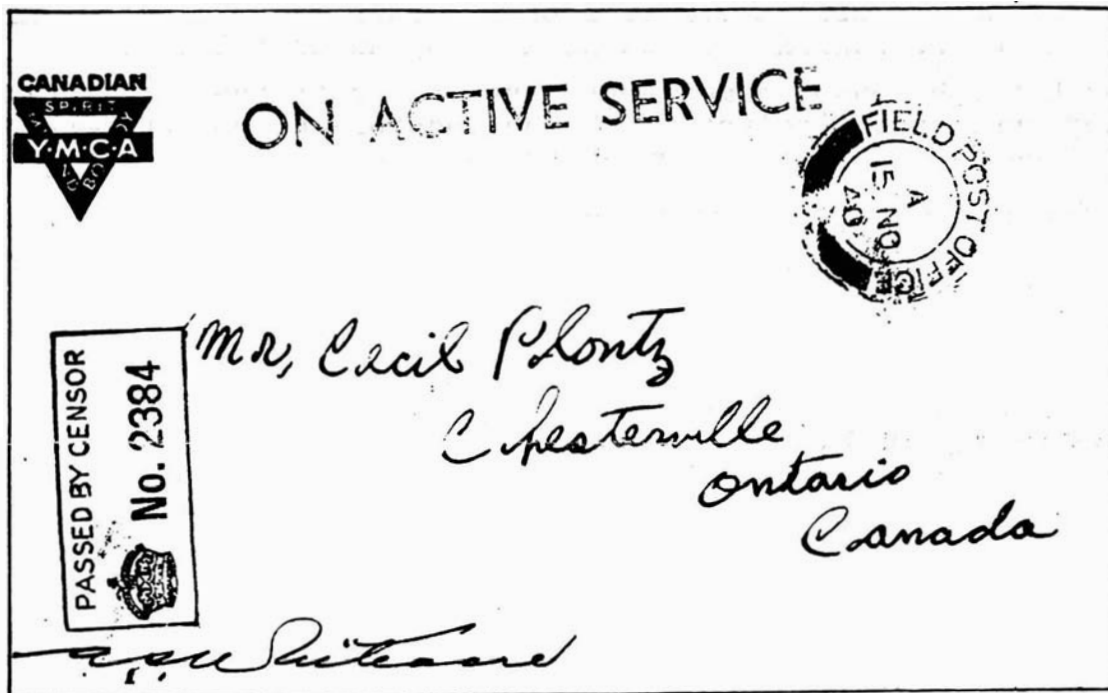


FIG.5: A Cover Mailed November 15, 1940 at FPO 2, Showing the Distinctive "ON ACTIVE SERVICE" Handstamp used by the Cameron Highlanders

The A-102 censor handstamp #2384 appears to be unique to this unit and is the one most commonly seen. I have also seen one example each of A-102 #1171 and #1657 on covers from this unit. Censor signatures seen in the study sample are:

G. Armstrong (Lt./Signal Officer), E.C.N. Browne (Lt.), R. Dickson (Lt.), E.G. Jamieson (Lt.), W.S. MacKenzie (Maj.), G.W. Mersereau (Lt.), A.S. Pettapiece (Capt.), R.M. Ross (Lt.), J.W.H. Rowley (Capt.), R. Rowley (Lt.), A.S. Whiteacre (Lt.).

Fusiliers de Mont Royal: The only way to identify covers from this unit is by the actual censor signature. I have seen:

C.P. Gaboury (RCAMC), C.P. Hebert (Lt.), H.N. Langlois (Capt./Adjutant).

Headquarters "Z" Force: To date, I have seen no covers from the Force H.Q. which can be identified with certainty.

Royal Regiment of Canada: The only way to identify covers from this unit is by the actual censor signature. I have seen:

D.M. Baldwin (Lt.), C.B. Burden (Cdn. Legion Auxilliary Services), B.S. McCool (Maj.), G.G. McKnight (Lt.), D.L. McWhinney (Lt.), R.L. Marks (Lt.), F.L. Nichols (Lt.), G.G. Sinclair (Capt.), [E.H. Jones (Maj.)].

Censor stamps Type A-102 #2460 is the one most commonly seen, but I have also seen single examples of A-102 #1121, #1171, #2276, #2306, and #2384 on this unit's mail.

[Cont'd.]

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Use of British Censor Handstamps:

FIG.6 below illustrates a cover which does not fall into the censorship scheme outlined above. It is from FPO 2--Reykjavik Transit Camp--on April 9, 1941, and the censor's signature is G.W. Mersereau of the Cameron Highlanders. The censor handstamp, however, is Daynes Type A-201 #3333. This type was in common use by British troops in Iceland. I think the best explanation for its appearance on a Canadian's letter is that as part of the Cameron Highlanders' preparations to depart Iceland later in April, the British censor handstamps were returned to the British. This example then is not a censor handstamp issued to, and used by, the Canadian troops, but rather a case of a handstamp borrowed from, or applied by, its British owner.

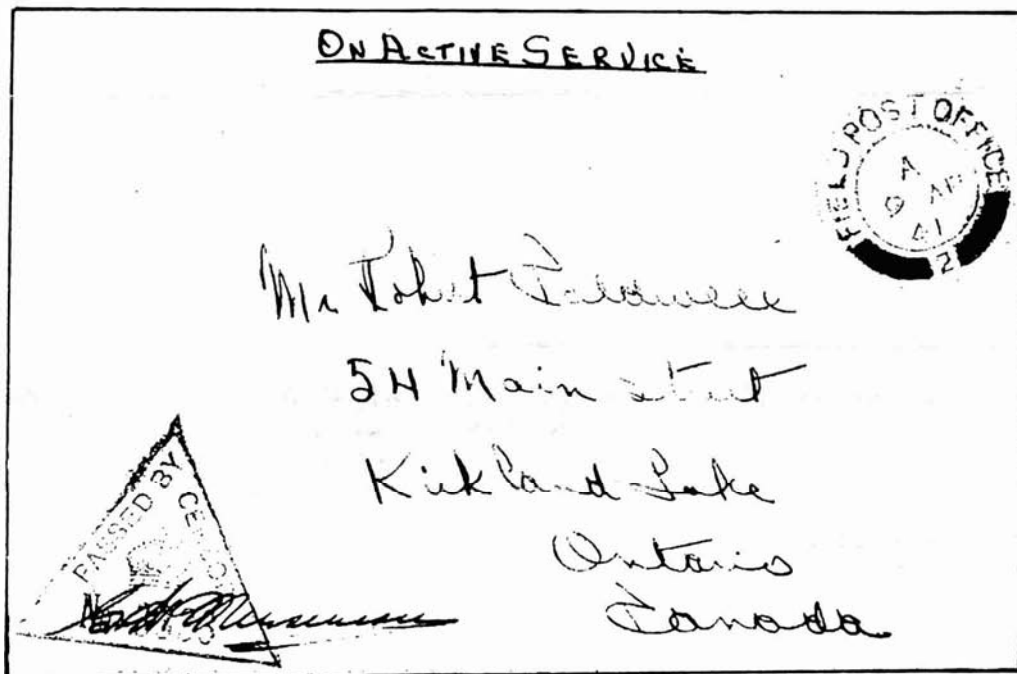


FIG.6: A Cover Showing use of a British-Owned Censor Handstamp

This article has concentrated on the Canadian Army troops in Iceland. The R.C.A.F. was also present in 1944 and 1945. In earlier years many Canadians served in Iceland as part of their duties as flying crew in Coastal Command. The air-side of the story will be the subject of a future article....

The author wishes to express his gratitude to the numerous members of the Canadian Military Mail Study Group who responded so handsomely to his request for study material. This article could not have been written without your help.

REFERENCES

1. Bittner, Donald F. The Lion and the White Falcon: Britain and Iceland in the World War II Era. Archon Books, 1983.
2. Davis, J. "'Z' Force--The Canadians in Iceland, 1940-41". The Canadian Military Mail Study Group Newsletter. No.52 [March 1983], p. 5.
3. Daynes, J.A. Ed. World War Two Censor Marks. Forces Postal History Society, 1986.

[Cont'd.]

- 4. Goodspeed, Major D.J. Battle Royal. The Royal Regiment of Canada Association. Toronto, 1962, p. 366 et seq.
- 5. War Diary of the Fusiliers de Mont Royal. National Archives of Canada. RG 24, Vol. 15062.
- 6. War Diary of the Royal Regiment of Canada. National Archives of Canada. RG 24, Vol. 15225.
- 7. War Diary of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa (M.G.). National Archives of Canada. RG 24, Vols. 15022-23.
- 8. War Diary of Headquarters, "Z" Force. National Archives of Canada. RG 24, Vol. 13813.

"POSTAGE PAID" MARKINGS--PT.II--By A.D. Hanes

CANADA
 POSTAGE PAID-PORT PAYE
 CHQ RCAF STATION WINN. EG

Emergency Mail Delivery
 D. N. D.
 OTTAWA, CANADA

COMMANDER
 CFB RIVERS
 OBODO, MAN.

ER MAJESTÉ
 SERVICES DE SA MAJESTÉ
 Postage Paid - Port Paye
 Canada Post
 CFB Bagotville Alouette PQ
 Commanding Officer
 Services Unit

CANADA
 POSTAGE PAID
 PORT PAYE

CANADA
 POSTAGE PAID
 PORT PAYE

C
C
D
01



OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
 DE LA DÉFENSE NATIONALE
CANADA
 POSTAGE PAID
 PORT PAYE

CANADA
 POSTAGE PAID
 PORT PAYE

CANADA
 POSTAGE PAID
 PORT PAYE

HEADQUARTERS
 R.C.A.F. TRENTON, Ontario

CANADA
 POSTAGE PAID
 PORT PAYE

CANADA
 POSTAGE PAID
 PORT PAYE

arters

CANADA
 POSTAGE PAID - PORT PAYE
 HQ WESTERN COMMAND

CFB WINNIPEG
 WESTWIN, MAN.

DSS
R
 WAS
 OTTAWA, ONT.
 ORIGINAL No.
 32899

[Cont'd.]

ICE
ST

POSTAGE PAID
POST PORT



CANADA

POSTAGE PAID
PORT PAYÉ

CANADA
POSTAGE PAID
PORT PAYÉ

11 A
10 V 71
ONT.

Collège Militaire Royal de Saint-Jean

POSTAGE PAID
CANADA POST
PORT PAYÉ



Commanding Officer
CFB Esquimalt
Esquimalt, B.C.

Postage Paid - Port Paye
Canada Post
CFB Bagotville Alouette PQ

POSTAGE PAID CANADA
PORT PAYÉ

POSTAGE PAID
CANADA POS
PORT PAYE

CANADIAN FORCES STATION DANA
SAGEHILL, SASK. POSTAGE PAID - PORT PAYE

CANADA
POSTAGE PAID
PORT PAYÉ



COMMANDER
APR 5 1967
HMC DOCKYARD, ESQUIMALT

ers
fence

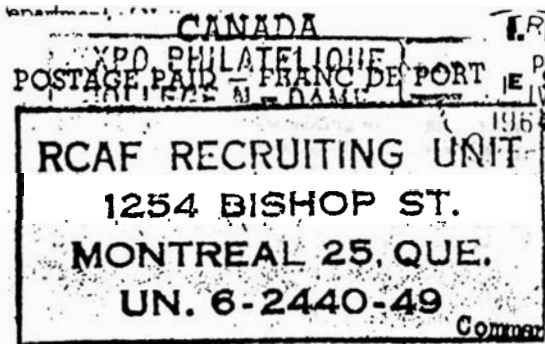


POSTAGE PAID
PORT PAYE
FROM
CO 3
SUPPLY DEPOT
ROCKCLIFFE

CANADA POST
POSTAGE PAID - PORT PAYE

CANADA
POSTAGE PAID
PORT PAYE

[Cont'd.]



NATIONAL DEFENCE
 DEFENSE NATIONALE

POSTAGE PAID



PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS AND CANADA--PT.II--By R. Toombs

Western Sahara	MINURSO	1991-	375 64 civpol	34 6 civpol	UN Mission for the Referendum in the Western Sahara. Monitor cease-fire
Balkans	UNPF	1992-1996	44,870 750 civpol	2,400 45 civpol	UN Peace Force (UN Protection Force, UN Confidence Restoration Operation)
Cambodia	UNTAC	1992-1993	19,200	240	UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia. Provide communications and logistical support, establish mine awareness and monitor disarmament
Cambodia	CMAC	1992-	1,600	12	Cambodian Mine Action Center
Mozambique	ONUMOZ	1992-1995	7,500	15	UN Operation in Mozambique. Provide security, monitor de-mining and cease-fires
Somalia	UNITAF	1992-1993	37,000	1,410	United Task Force. Distribute relief supplies
Somalia	UNOSOM	1992-1993	937	12	UN Operation in Somalia. Headquarters personnel
South Africa	UNOMSA	1992	60	0	UN Observer Mission in South Africa. Observe pre-election period. (Staffed by UN personnel only)
Georgia	UNOMIG	1993-	135	0	UN Observer Mission in Georgia. Monitor cease-fire and investigate violations
Haiti	UNMIH	1993-1996	6,800 900 civpol	750 100 civpol	UN Mission in Haiti. Implement the Governors Island Agreement
Liberia	UNOMIL	1993-	303	0	UN Observer Mission in Liberia. Monitor implementation of peace agreement
The Netherlands	UN ICTY	1993-	Unknown	2 civpol	UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Assist in preparing cases against people accused of war crimes
Rwanda, Uganda	UNOMUR	1993-1994	100	3	UN Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda. Verify that military supplies do not cross border into Rwanda
Rwanda	UNAMIR	1993-1996	5,900 90 civpol	430 1 civpol	UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda. Assist interim government with transition measures leading to elections. Commission of inquiry on arms trafficking
Somalia	UNOSOM II	1993-1995	28,000	9	UN Operations in Somalia. Distribute relief supplies
Chad	UNASOG	1994	9	0	UN Aouzou Strip Observer Group. Monitor withdrawal of Libyan administration

[Cont'd.]

Guatemala	MINUGUA	1994-	52 civpol	3 civpol	UN Verification Mission in Guatemala. Verify implementation of human rights agreements and fulfilment of definitive ceasefire.
South Africa	Commonweath Mission	1994	Unknown	2 civpol	Supported Commonwealth mission
Tadjikistan	UNMOT	1994	17	0	UN Mission in Tadjikistan. Assist implementation of cease-fire
Balkans	UNPREDEP	1995-	1,083	1	UN Preventive Deployment Force
Balkans	IFOR (non-UN)	1996-1997	60,000	1,035	Implementation Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina
Balkans	UNMOP	1996-	27	1	UN Mission of Observers in Prevlaka
Balkans	UNMIBH	1996-	5 2,027 civpol	1 30 civpol	UN Mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina
Balkans	UNMACBH	1996-1997	72	6	UN Mine Action Centre, Bosnia-Herzegovina
Haiti	UNSMIH	1996-1997	1,300 300 civpol	752 100 civpol	UN Support Mission in Haiti
Zaire	MNF (non-UN)	1996	452	452	Multinational Force for Eastern Zaire. Facilitate the return of humanitarian organizations, the effective delivery of aid, and the repatriation of refugees
Balkans	SFOR (non-UN)	1997-	30,000	1,269	NATO's Stabilization Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina
Guatemala	MINUGUA	1997	339	15	UN Verification Mission in Guatemala. Verify implementation of human rights agreements and fulfilment of definitive ceasefire
Haiti	UNTMIH	1997	1,000 250 civpol	650 60 civpol	UN Transition Mission in Haiti
Haiti	MIPONUH	1997-	300 civpol	22 civpol	UN Police Operation in Haiti. Canada also provides 24 police trainers

CANADA'S 1916 "NEUTRAL CENSORSHIP" QUESTIONS

Members are familiar with the late Allan Steinhart's ground-breaking study Civil Censorship in Canada During World War I. In it he examined details of the censorship of mails to and from Canada from April 4-19, 1916 (p.22). Allan examined the various censor tapes and markings utilized by officials in this period of "Neutral Terminal" censorship. Winnipeg, Manitoba was one of the censorship stations active during this time.

Two interesting incoming picture postcards have come to hand which pose several questions. Both were sent from neutral countries, ie. Switzerland (Feb. 3?, 1916) and Sweden (Apr.16,1916) to Winnipeg and Young, Saskatchewan respectively. Each has a similar distinct double oval Winnipeg/Canada rubber handstamp with 3mm cut out from the right side of the device. Both are in magenta and appear to fall outside the "official" dates Allan studied (Feb.25 and May 9).

Could this innocent-looking altered oval dater, commonly seen on general delivery, registered, and missent-type mail, be an unreported civ-

[Cont'd.]

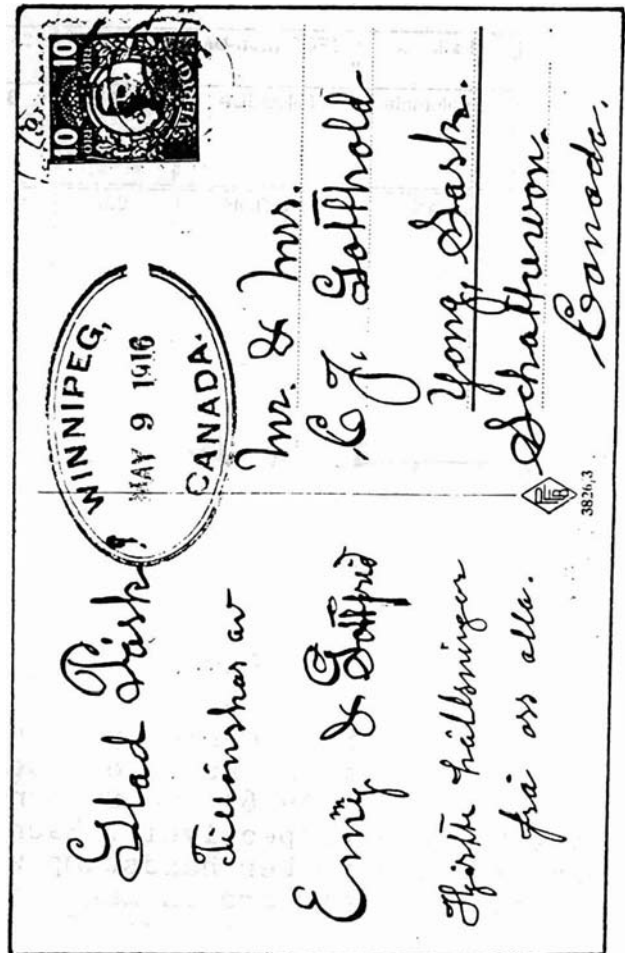
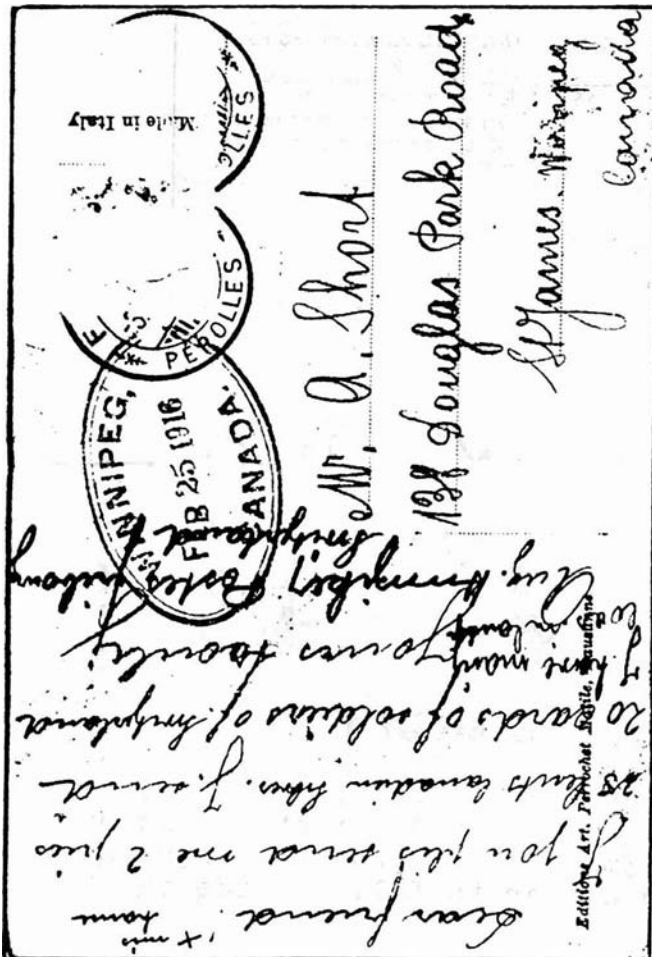
il censorship marking from the Winnipeg Censorship Office? If not, why wouldn't an ordinary circular datestamp, duplex, or machine be used to indicate receipt or transit? Is it just a coincidence that both of these incoming cards from foreign neutrals received the same altered oval hand-stamp in Winnipeg some three months apart?

Young, Sask. is approximately fifty miles south-east of Saskatoon. Saskatoon, Regina, and Moose Jaw all had censorship offices but only Moose Jaw was equipped with a translation staff (Steinhart, pp. 24-25). The office in Winnipeg would certainly have been larger than all three noted and most foreign mail would have travelled there initially.

The message on the Swiss card to Winnipeg is in English so why the "censor's" oval in this case? It is not known if the stamps were removed "officially" or by some dedicated stamp collector.

Collectors and students of Winnipeg or Manitoba postal history may have the answers to many of the above questions. If other foreign neutral cards or covers bear this particular oval dater we may have a clue as to the purpose behind the device. If not, the above hypothesis will simply turn out to be a fascinating coincidence. My thanks to H. Voss for his kind permission to illustrate one of the cards here. [Ed.]

[Reduced to 93%]



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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY FROM THE RED SHIELD SERVICE!--By L.G. Clinton

These Mother's Day greeting cards from the Salvation Army both have a similar format in red on the back. The upper card has the slogan, in green on the front, "On Active Service with the Canadian Troops". British issue stationery, during the Great War, generally referred to "Canadian Troops". This would indicate the card was issued for use during this conflict. The lower card bears the Second World War FPO 636 AP 8/45 [Nijmegen Area, Netherlands as well as a crown/shield PASSED BY/CENSOR/No.7902 (Daynes Type A-600). It's a multi-coloured and quite attractive card. Ed.]

