



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

NEWSLETTER

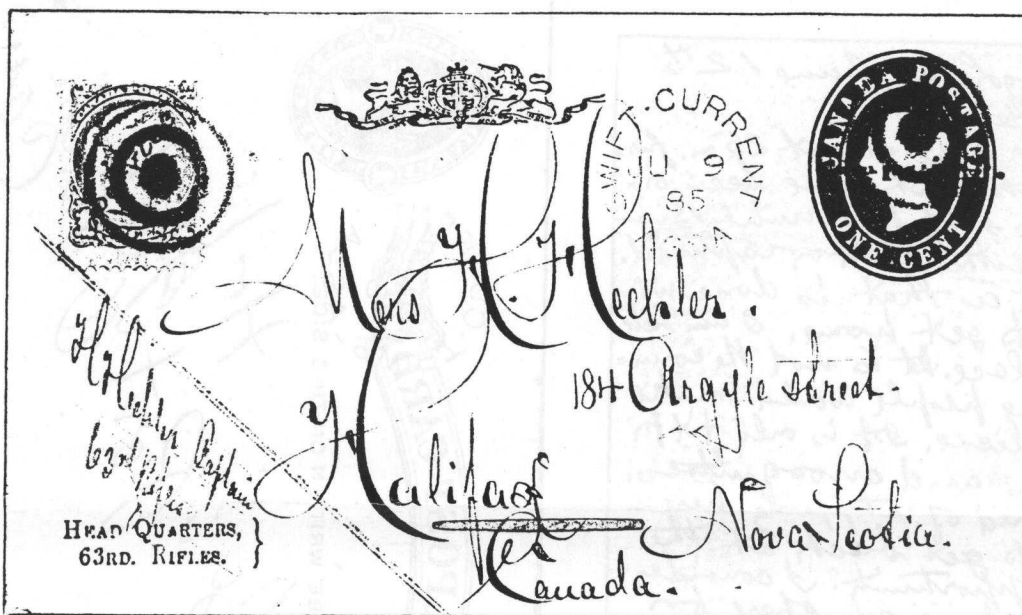
MARCH 2001

NEWSLETTER NO. 149

Page 539

THE NORTH-WEST REBELLION 1885

Members will recognize the two items illustrated in this brief article. They were both sold recently in Robert A. Lee's public sale held on February 24, 2001 ex. Horace Harrison's collection. Each is an important example of the postal history surrounding this conflict.



The above 1¢ Blue First Dominion issue stationery envelope has a 1¢ Small Queen added and bears a concentric ring target cancel. It is, of course, one of Captain Henry Hechler's covers to his wife in Halifax. On the reverse is noted "from Captain H. Hechler/63rd Rifles". The cover paid the required 2¢ "soldier's rate". It sold for \$2600 + 15% buyer's fee.

The following postal card to Port Hope, Ontario is also inter-

[Cont'd.]

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

esting and illustrates, from a historical viewpoint, the frustration of the card's sender with his situation in the Rebellion. The message reads:

"Frog Lake, June 12th

Chere Femme:

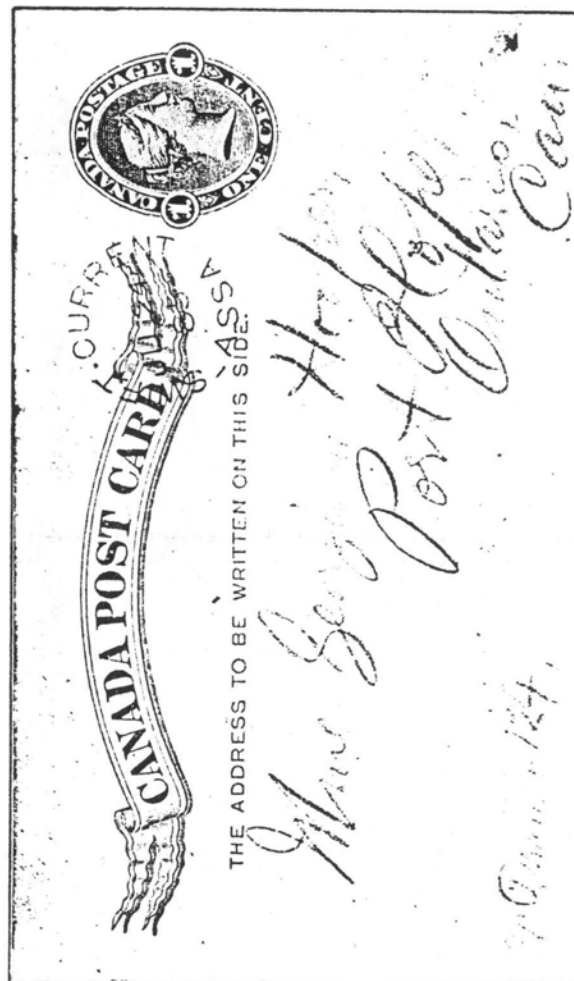
We were about 25 m. further north but have been ordered to stop here until Big Bear is either shot or captured. As soon as that is done we expect to get home. I am sick of this place. It is not the country some people would make you believe. It is only fit for Indians and mosquitoes. I am tired of stopping here & want to get back at the first opportunity. I consider I have done my share for both Queen and Country and if they want soldiers to stop in this country I am not going to be one to ever stop one day longer than I can help. We have had a very hard time lately, and I am thoroughly disgusted with the hardships. By the time you get this I hope to be on the way home.

Love to all XX

Yours ever,

John"

*Frog Lake, June 12th
Chere Femme:-
We were about 25 m. further north but have been ordered to stop here until Big Bear is either shot or captured. As soon as that is done we expect to get home. I am sick of this place. It is not the country some people would make you believe. It is only fit for Indians and mosquitoes. I am tired of stopping here & want to get back at the first opportunity. I consider I have done my share for both Queen and Country and if they want soldiers to stop in this country I am not going to be one to ever stop one day longer than I can help. We have had a very hard time lately, and I am thoroughly disgusted with the hardships. By the time you get this I hope to be on the way home. Love to all XX. Yours John*



[Cont'd.]

Presumably the sender of the card was John Reginald Hooper, who was writing to his wife Mrs. Georgina Hooper whom he had married in 1883.

Hooper was known for his rather "sharp tongue" and ability to "call it like it was". He was vocal after the Rebellion and was involved early on in Canada's organized philately (as was Hechler). Hooper was Secretary pro tem of the first Canadian Philatelic Association, initiated a rival group called the Philatelic Society of Canada in 1891, and consistently blasted early journal editors and rival associations! Perhaps these later years were formulated by the experiences he endured within the Rebellion! The card sold for \$1600 + 15% buyer's fee.

For more on the Rebellion, members are directed to the various pages within the Newsletter along with the excellent article written by Ed Richardson entitled "Canadian Military Postal History: The North-West Rebellion of 1885" in BNA Topics (Vol.42, No.6, Nov.-Dec. 1985, Whole No.410). Ed used the occasion to showcase several of his Rebellion covers in colour within our journal's pages! For more on Hooper and Henry Hechler's philatelic past, consult Ralph Mitchener's "A Centenary of Nationally Organized Philately in Canada" within The Canadian Philatelist (Vol.38, No.3-4, May-June/July-August, 1987, Whole No.220-221).

[Thanks are extended to R.A. Lee for his permission to use the illustrations. Ed.]

Dear CMMSG Members:

Another Newsletter for members' reading and I hope that it contains some items of interest. Bill and I hope that your spring (for most of our members) is going well. A thank you is extended to those who've sent along kudos, articles, suggestions, and dues! These pages could not exist without the support of the members. Regrettably there are a few members who have yet to send Bill the \$10 for 2001. A "please remit" will be included at the end of the issue if dues are still needed. If you've already sent Bill your cheque, just disregard. This is the final warning and failure to remit will result in your being dropped from the rolls. We would all hate to see this so if you still enjoy these issues, kindly send in your 2001 payment please. Thank you.

Members are reminded to review the "small ads" section which may benefit you. If you're seeking something or have something for sale, contact with other members will benefit you enormously! Supporting our many dealer members will also be appreciated.

Canadian military postal history in recent years has become very popular which may not be a total surprise. Auction prices for rare and unusual material is climbing as witnessed by the preceding notes related to the 1885 North-West Rebellion.

You'll find enclosed a pamphlet provided by the Canadian War Museum and it is hoped that this will encourage members to visit the museum while attending BNAPEX 2001 in Ottawa. Although the information only includes events until May, it will provide necessary general information for visitors. Members can access the museum's website or call the toll-free number to gain up-to-date "intelligence". Publication deadlines didn't allow for a later Calendar of Events.

Until next time, good collecting!

"Z FORCE" ROUTINE ORDERS--Here's a copy of the September 19, 1940 Routine Orders from Iceland from my files. It's from Appendix III, "Routine Orders", RG24, C-3, Vol. 13813, National Defence War Diaries, WWII, 1939-46, HQ Z Force, Iceland. Note No. 545 and the reason for runway damage at Reykjavik's Landing Ground! [Ed.]

No. 93.

ROUTINE ORDERS

No. 93..

by

SECURITY.

Major - General H.O. Curtis, C.B.D.S.O.M.C.

Commanding, Alabaster Force.

In the Field.
19th SEPTEMBER 40.GENERAL STAFF.543. MOVE.

Force H.Q. will close at MIDBAEJARBARNASKOLLIN at 1800 hours 21:9:40 and open at ARTUN at the same hour.

544. CENSORSHIP.

All Officers are reminded of the following regulations regarding Censorship.

Censorable Matter which should always be deleted includes:-

1. References to the location, strength or movements of naval, military and air force units.
2. References to armaments, equipment or communications.
3. Rumours, plans and forecasts of future operations.
4. Defeatist views, or unduly pessimistic opinions on local conditions, likely to cause despondency at home, and to encourage the enemy.

Routine Censorship Regulations.

1. Each letter must bear the Sender's name, rank, number and Unit, 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, and only entrusted to a responsible person. Before stamping letters with it he should satisfy himself that the envelopes have been correctly signed, and that the signatures are genuine.
4. Units not in possession of a Censor Stamp should, if possible, arrange for their correspondence to be stamped by another Unit. If this is left to the Post Office officials, uncensored mail may easily be included which the Post Office staff have no means of identifying.
5. Photographs may only be sent if they show no recognisable background, and give no indication of the Unit or place. Each photograph must be signed on the back by the Censoring Officer.
6. Picture postcards may be sent provided that they give no indications which may assist to locate units and that they are enclosed in an envelope.

545. REYKJAVIK LANDING GROUND - USE OF BY M.T.

Reykjavik Landing Ground has been prepared recently to take light aircraft belonging to 98 Sqn R.A.F.

Wooden runways have been prepared but these runways will take 2 ton loads only. No 30 cwt lorries will be driven on to any part of the landing ground, as their weight destroys the runways. Damage has already been caused by 30 cwt lorries taking football teams etc on to the grounds.

J. Heard
Lt. Col.
G.S.O.1.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.546. LOCATIONS.

1 (a) Force H.Q. is moving to Artun on 21st and 22nd September - 'G' with Cipher and C.R.A. staffs on 21st September and A/Q Staff, Control Room and D.A.P.M. on 22nd September.

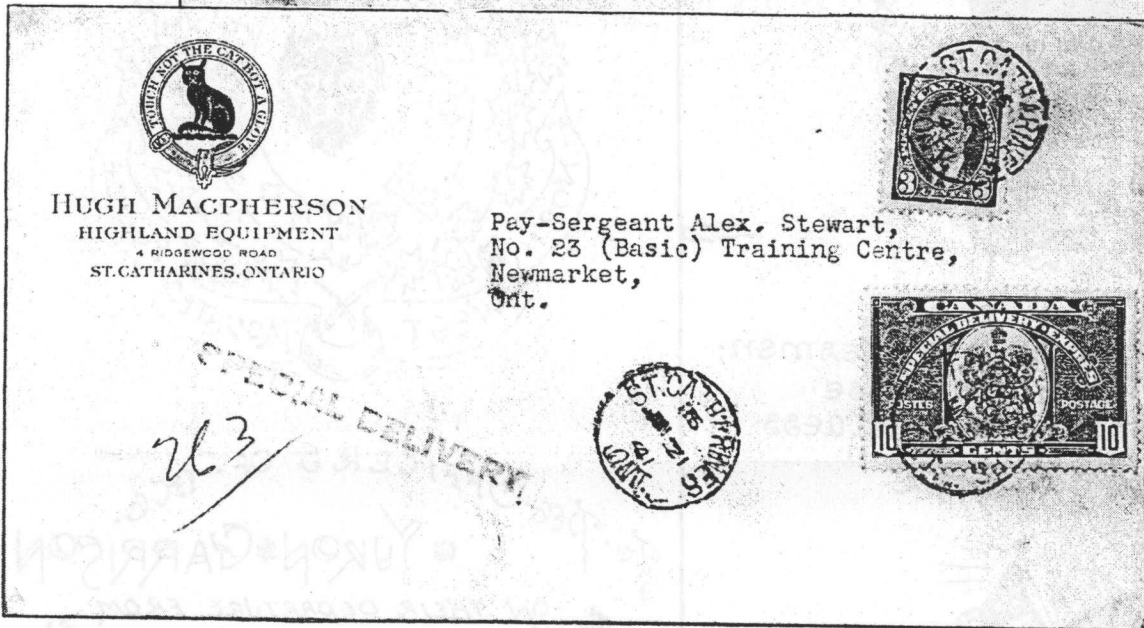
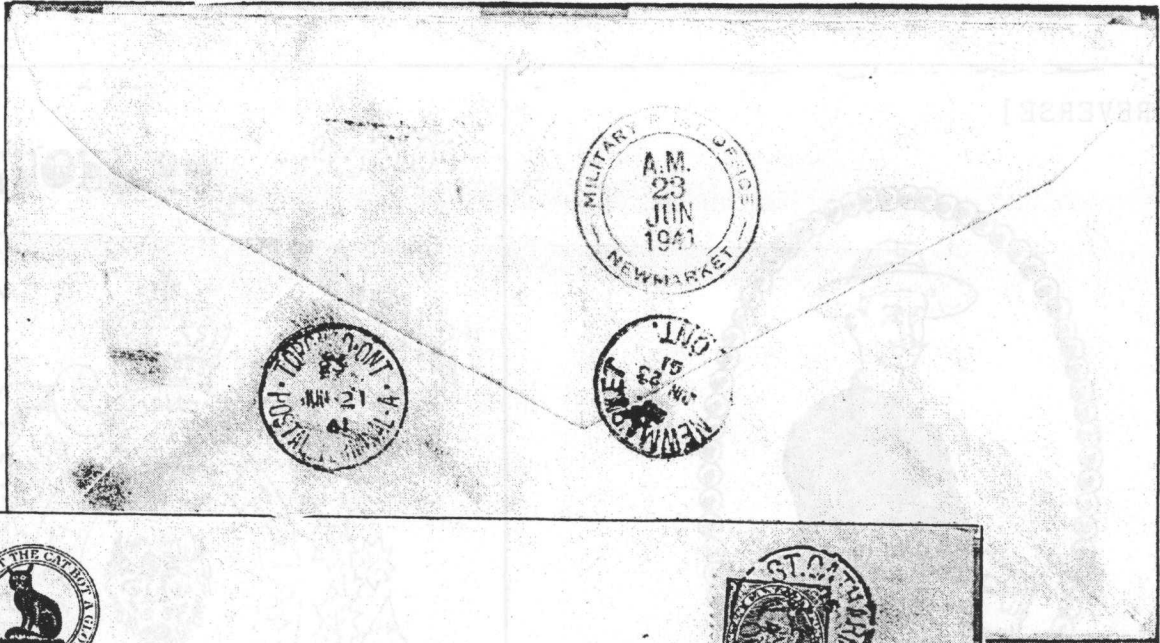
(b) The following are remaining in their present offices -
D.S.T.O., A.D.M.S., 'Q'(M) and Movement Control.

2.(a) Correspondence for 1(a) will be addressed to Force H.Q. Artun, except Traffic Accidents which will be addressed to 'Q'(M) and original requests for Hirings will be addressed above, but all subsequent correspondence of this nature to Hirings.

(b) Correspondence for 1(b) will continue to be addressed as at present.

THE NEWMARKET MILITARY POST OFFICE--By C.D. Sayles

This M.P.O. cancellation (dated April 7, 1943) was originally reported and illustrated in Newsletter #80 [March 1988]. At that time it was previously unknown, and the Guest Editor expressed some doubt as to whether this was really a post office marking or an orderly room hand-stamp. The photocopy image of the cover (at least in my copy) is not really clear, but it appears that the letter was mailed two days



earlier (April 5, 1943) in Ottawa and was forwarded to a Toronto address by affixing an "economy" label to the back of the letter. If this is correct, then the cancel is being used as a transit mark, and this seems to me a genuine postal usage.

Here above is a cover with the same M.P.O. cancel dated June 23, 1941. It is used as a receiver on a special delivery letter. Note that the indicia includes "AM" which the 1943 example does not. There can be no question that this is a genuine postal usage.

Two examples are a slender base for conclusions but it appears that this hammer was used only for the "back room" operations of the Newmarket M.P.O. Can any member provide additional examples?

YUKON FIELD FORCE MENU 1900--Courtesy of Tim Popp

[Members know that anything from the Y.F.F. is scarce. The only two known covers connected with the Force were described in Newsletters #90 (pp. 650-51) and #138 (pp. 385-86). Noted Yukon militaria collector Tim Popp has graciously allowed the inclusion of this coloured "last supper" menu within our pages. Ed.]

[REVERSE]



"Nor Gold or Laws or Statesmen.
Nor bluster, bounc, or noise.
The Key to England's greatness.
Is in old England's boys."



[FRONT]

"SHOULDER TO SHOULDER"

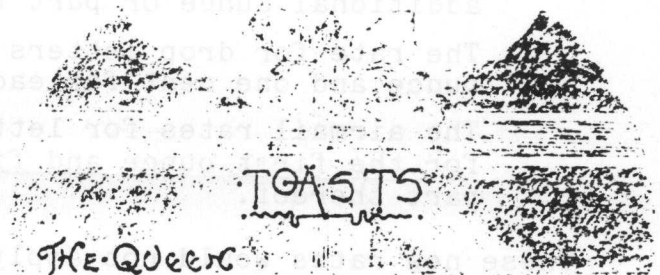


TO THE OFFICERS OF THE
YUKON GARRISON
ON THEIR DEPARTURE FROM
DAWSON

[INSIDE]



Menu
 • BONSSOMME •
 • LAKE-LABRAGE WHITE FISH •
 • FILET OF BEEF AUX TRUFFLES •
 • LEG OF MUTTON •
 • YUKON DUCKS •
 • PLUM PUDDING •
 • ROMAN PUNCH •
 • GRUYERE CHEESE •
 • FRIDAY JUNE 15 1900 •



TOASTS
 THE QUEEN
 GOD BLESS HER
 OUR COMRADES IN AFRICA
 "THOUSANDS MORE ARE READY TO GO AT
 DUTY'S CALL"
 OUR GUESTS
 "HAPPY TO MEET
 SORRY TO PART
 HAPPY TO MEET
 AGAIN!"

CONFUSION REIGNS! SEVEN OR SIX CENTS: WHAT WAS THE CORRECT RATE FOR AIR MAIL LETTERS BETWEEN APRIL 1943 AND NOVEMBER 1943?--By David Whiteley

After Canada declared war on Germany on September 10, 1939, special arrangements for handling Canadian Armed Forces mail were put in train. It was not until July 10, 1940 however, that Canadian troops stationed in Britain were granted the free surface concession rate. Prior to that date, Canadians stationed in Britain were obliged to pre-pay letters at the rate of 2½d for surface mail and 6d for airmail. Postal rates at the outbreak of war for first class domestic locations was three cents for surface mail and six cents for airmail. The airletter rate to most

[Cont'd.]

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overseas destinations was set at ten cents.

Confusion arose in 1943 when the Canadian Post Office increased its postal rates for first class, surface mail drop letters, and regular airmail letters. Postmasters were advised in a supplement to the Official Post Office Guide issued in April 1943 that effective April 1, 1943:

The new rates of postage on all letters except drop letters addressed to places in Canada, the British Empire, Spain, the United States, and all other places in North and South America would be four cents for the first ounce and two cents for each additional ounce or part thereof.

The rate for drop letters would remain at two cents for the first ounce and one cent for each additional ounce or part thereof.

The airmail rates for letters within Canada would be seven cents for the first ounce and five cents for each additional ounce or part thereof.

These new rates would not apply to Canadian Armed Forces personnel serving overseas. It was also noted that the airmail rate from personnel serving with Force "W" at CAPO's 1,2,3,4, and 5 posted in Canada for transmission by air was to be pre-paid at the domestic rate of postage: viz. seven cents for the first ounce and five cents for each subsequent ounce or part thereof.¹

By June of 1943 the Post Office was getting a large number of complaints which prompted it to issue a further explanation at Item Eleven of the June 1943 Supplement. There is the following statement:

Airmail from CAPO's 1,2,3,4, and 5. Complaints have been made to the effect that airmail letters addressed to points in Canada is being rated by the Postmasters in Canada for deficient postage when prepaid at the rate of six cents for the first ounce and five cents for each subsequent ounce or part thereof. Attention is drawn to the fact that airmail rates from the above mentioned CAPO's to Canada has not been increased.

One would have thought that this explanation would have put matters to right but once again in the October Supplement at Item Twelve the Postmaster-General states there have been more complaints and once again reiterates the correct rates as follows:

Airmail rates from CAPO's 1,2,3,4, and 5 to Canada is six cents for the first ounce and five cents for each subsequent ounce or part thereof. The airmail rate on mail posted in Canada for transmission by air to CAPO's 1,2,3,4, and 5 is six cents for the first ounce and five cents for each subsequent ounce or part thereof.

The October Supplement also provided that "[s]imilar rates would also apply to mail from Canada addressed to CAPO 10 (Goose Bay, Labrador). Armed Forces mail from CAPO 10 would be allowed the free concession but civilian mail would pay prevailing rates. Mail to and from CAPO 51 (Vancouver) would be sent at prevailing rates".

Given the six to seven month period during which there was obvious confusion concerning the correct postage rate, I expect there are a number of covers wrongly franked and charged postage due when it was not applicable. I have not seen any such covers myself but I have no doubt

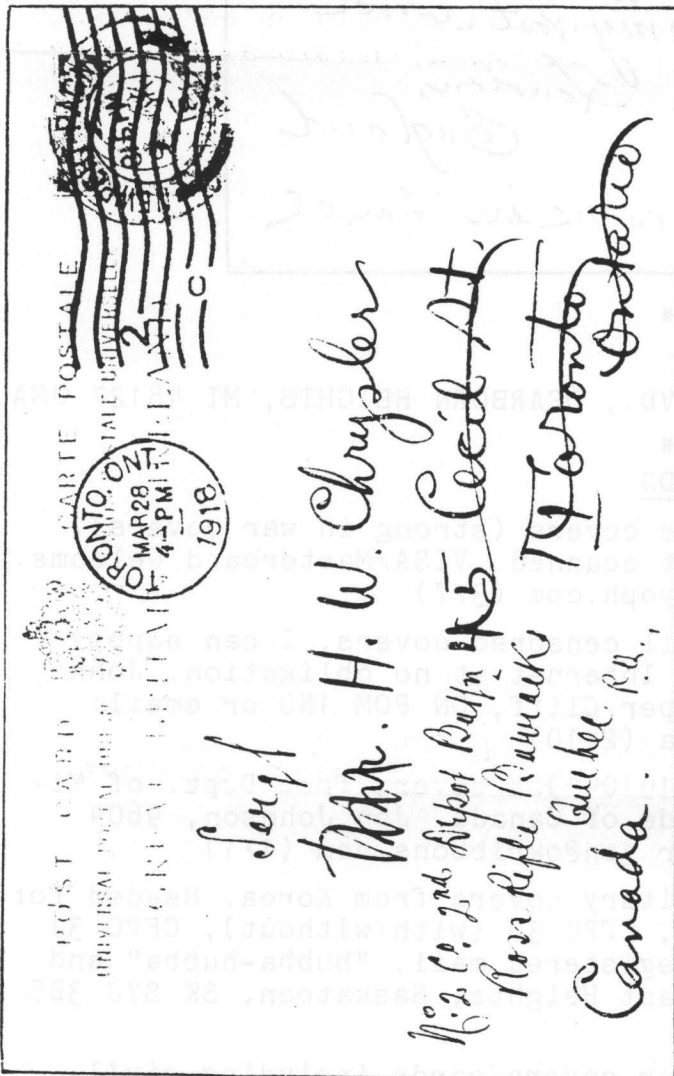
[Cont'd.]

members will probably be able to come up with a few.

¹All of these CAPO's were in Newfoundland: CAPO#1: St. John's; CAPO#2: Gander; CAPO#3: Botwood; CAPO#4: Gander (RCAF); CAPO#5: Torbay. See W.J. Bailey & E.R. Toop, Canadian Military Post Offices to 1986 (Toronto: Unitrade Press, 1987), p. 25. It should also be noted that by 1941, authorization had been granted for the use of Canadian postage stamps at the above CAPO's and CAPO#10 at Goose Bay, Labrador.

WIRELESS TRAINING CENTRE/CDN. RAILWAY TROOP--By James Felton

[Jim sent along these cards from the Great War with interesting Canadian connections.Ed.]



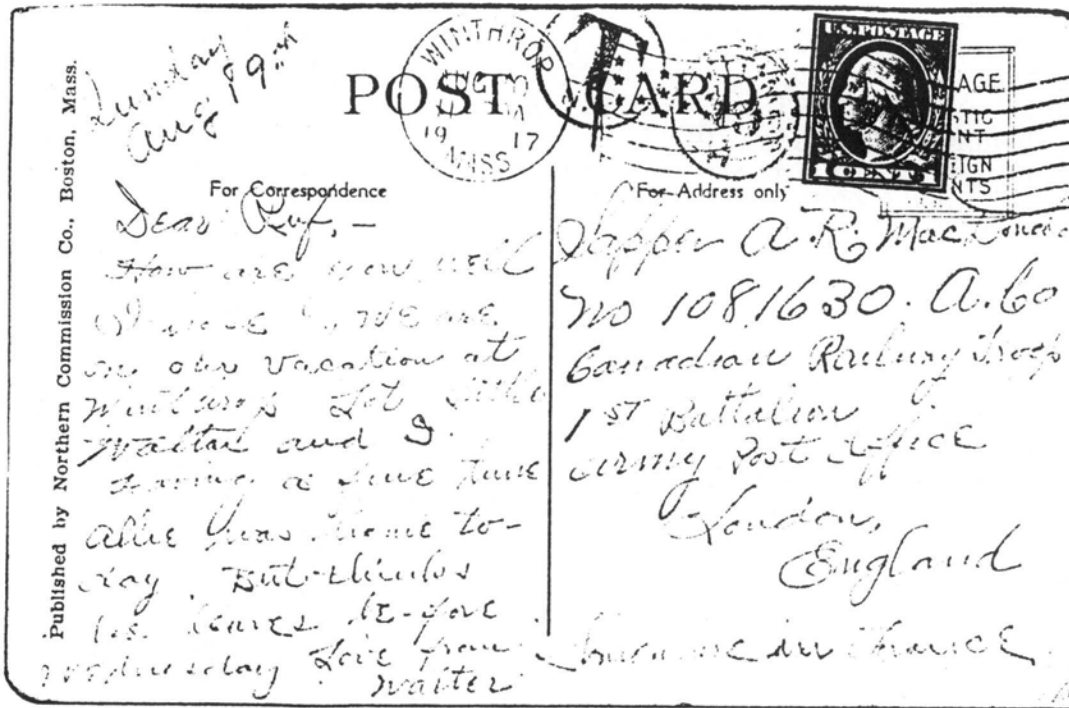
A British U.P.U. card from the Wireless Training Centre to the "Ross Rifle Barracks, Quebec"

Wireless Training Centre
 Royal Engineers
 Newport Pagnel
 Bucks.
 Mar 9.18.
 Dear Herb: -
 Have been up here a week now, at this Imperial wireless school we expect to have 5 weeks up, 3 here and 2 at Fenny Stratford, another school 6 miles from here. They're using us very well indeed here, discipline is easy, food good, and everybody in billets, scattered round the town in private houses. The Chap 3rd with and 3rd truck, a dandy place with fine people who make us feel right at home in every way. The country round here is beautiful, and as spring will soon be along, hope to have some good ramble around. The town is a very quaint, small place, but nearby are Ralsthampton, Bedford, Rugby etc. The course is turning out O.K. quite interesting and this is a real vacation for the ten of us. Hope you're still getting along as well as ever in Toronto in military matters, Best regards to all the family & friends & P.W.

[Cont'd.]

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A postcard from Mass. to a Sapper with the Cdn.
Railway Troop via England to "somewhere in France"



Note the "T"
postage due
marking!

A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO:

SCOTT HANSEN, #208-473 YORKSHIRE BLVD., DEARBORN HEIGHTS, MI 48127 USA

SMALL ADS

FOR SALE VIA THE INTERNET: Worldwide covers (strong in war covers).
Searchable text lists plus every lot scanned. VISA/Mastercard welcome.
Contact L.D. Mayo at: <http://www.mayoph.com> (3/7)

FOR SALE: Canadian military and civil censored covers. I can supply
priced photocopies or scans via the Internet at no obligation. John
Frith, Sudbury Stamps, Box 286, Copper Cliff, ON POM 1N0 or email:
johnfrith.sudburystamps@sympatico.ca (2/10)

HELP NEEDED: Required for exhibit--1910-1924 covers from Dept. of Mi-
litia, Ottawa to destinations outside of Canada. Jon Johnson, 9604
Kalamalka Rd., Vernon, BC V1B 1L3 or jon@okribbons.com (1/1)

WANTED: Non-philatelic Canadian military covers from Korea. Needed for
exhibit are: CFPO 28 (without dash), CFPO 30 (with/without), CFPO 31
(without), and CFPO 32. Also need registered mail, "hubba-hubba" and
other markings. Steve Luciuk, 1542 East Heights, Saskatoon, SK S7J 3B5
or s.f.luciuk@home.com (1/3)

STILL SEEKING: Newfoundland Great War covers/cards including civil
censored and post-war related items (ephemera etc.). Photocopies al-
ways welcome. Contact Dean Mario, Box 342, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3 (1/1)

DUES?: \$10 Cdn. for Canadian members/\$10 U.S. for international mem-
bers. Remit to Bill Bailey if there is an "X" @ right:
Thank you!



2001 Membership

- T.E. Almond, 2 Filbert Dr., Tilehurst, Reading RG31 5DZ, U.K.
- *APS Research Library, Ms. G. Horn, Box 8000, State College, PA 16803 U.S.A.
- W.J. Bailey, #5-8191 Francis Rd., Richmond, BC V6Y 1A5
- K. Barlow, 1055 Ottawa Ave., West Vancouver, BC V7S 2J2
- S.F. Bedwell, Box 206, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4N3
- H. Burgers, 11 Elma St., Gloucester, ON K1T 3W8
- J.T. Burnett, 4515 Arrowhead Dr., S.E., Decatur, AL 35603 U.S.A.
- J.C. Campbell, #303-1260 Raymer Ave., Kelowna, BC V1W 3S8
- *Canadian Postal Archives, C. Morin, 395 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON K1A 0N3
- L. Caron, #403-110 Grand Allee O., Quebec, QC G1R 2G8
- F. Chauvin, 4 Rue de la Rovere, 48005 Mende Cedex, France
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- E.L. Covert, MD, 187 W. 200 S. Ave., Raymond, AB TOK 2S0
- W.R. Curtis, Box 74, Stn. "A", Toronto, ON M5W 1A2
- J.B. Dale, 1160 Meadowlands Dr., #4, Nepean, ON K2E 6J2
- K. Dodwell, The Middle House, Cruckmeole, Hanwood, Shrewsbury, Shrops. SY5 8JN, U.K.
- *J. Daynes (FPHS), 25A Mill Rd., Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex CMO 8PZ, U.K.
- G.T. Douglas, #2106-32nd St., Vernon, BC V1T 5L1
- P.K. Eggett, 6826 Bilberry Dr., Orleans, ON K1C 3R4
- K.V. Ellison, 14600 Middle Bench Rd., Oyama, BC V4V 2C3
- J.-L. Emmenegger, Box 110, CH-1009 Pully, Switzerland
- M. Falls, 575 Virginian Dr., Norfolk, VA 23505-4242 U.S.A.
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- D.B. Kaye, 17131 Coral Beach Rd., Lake Country, BC V4V 1B9
- D. Kelly, 4659 McLaughlin Dr., Courtenay, BC V9N 6J2
- *C.J. LaBlonde (CCSG), 2940 Underwood Point, #5, Colorado Springs, CO 80920 U.S.A.
- R.D. Leith, Box 430, Abbotsford, BC V2S 5Z5
- +D. Lingard, 2425 Blackstone Cresc., Ottawa, ON K1B 4H3
- P.C. Livermore, #100-08 Ascan Ave., Forest Hills, NY 11375 U.S.A.
- J.W. Longbourne, 1961 Southmere Cresc., Whiterock, BC V4A 7B9
- S.C. Luciuk, 1542 East Heights, Saskatoon, SK S7J 3B5
- C. Lutes, Box 738, Stn. "A", Goose Bay, Labrador, NF AOP 1S0
- M. MacDonald, 661 St. Vincent St., RR#3, Barrie, ON L4M 4S5
- I.W. Mackenzie, #2411-420 Gloucester St., Ottawa, ON K1R 7T7
- D.W. Mario, Box 342, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3
- L. Mathews, Box 354, Bracebridge, ON P1L 1T7

[Cont'd.]

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U.K.

J.E. Miller, Box 3005, M.P.P., Kamloops, BC V2C 6B7

R.F. Narbonne, 216 Mailey Dr., Carleton Place, ON K7C 3X9

*National Archives of Canada Library, 395 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON K1A ON3

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B.C. Plain, MD, #802-5750 Larch St., Vancouver, BC V6M 4E2

C. Pomfret, RR#1, Millgrove, ON LOR 1V0

W. Put, Postbus 23175, 3001-KD, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

G.J. Raymond, Bali-Hai, Box 228, Sugarland, TX 77487-0228 U.S.A.

W.G. Robinson, #301-2108 W. 38th Ave., Vancouver, BC V6M 1R9

D. Salovey, 34 Hillside Ave., New York, NY 10040 U.S.A.

P.R. Sanderson, Box 269, Fenelon Falls, ON KOM 1N0

G.H. Sawatzki, 6509 Timothy Court, Orleans, ON K1C 3E8

C.D. Sayles, 25 Howard Rd., Waterdown, ON LOR 2H4

S. Sheffield, Box 67039, Meadowlark P.O., Edmonton, AB T5R 5Y3

S. Shirotori, 2-5-13-401 Soshigaya, Setagaya-Ward, Tokyo 157-0072 Japan

J. Smith, Box 1143, Rocky Mountain House, AB TOM 1T0

R. Stendel, 1041 N. Dee Rd., Park Ridge, IL 60068 U.S.A.

C.A. Stillions, #2010-48th St., N.W., Washington, DC 20007-1552 U.S.A.

H.M. Street, 73 Hatton Dr., Ancaster, ON L9G 2H5

R. Toombs, #1914-148th St., Surrey, BC V4A 6R3

J. Tyacke, 1 Ottawa St., Toronto, ON M4T 2B5

W. Veraart, Pr. Mauritsstraat 13, 1901-CL, Castricum, The Netherlands

C.J.G. Verge, Box 2788, Stn. "D", Ottawa, ON K1P 5W8

Capt. J. Walsh, STh. (Ret'd.), Box 554, Teulon, MB ROC 3B0

J. Wannerton, 8 Pearson Ave., Kelilworth 7700, Cape Province, Rep. of South Africa

J. Watson, Lyngarth, 106 Huddersfield Rd., Penistone, Sheffield S36 7BX, U.K.

O.L. White, Box 860, Stn. "K", Toronto, ON M4P 2H2

W.D. Whitehouse, #39-1750 Pacific Way, Kamloops, BC V2E 2K8

*D. Whiteley, S.G. Reporter, 77 Edmonton St., #605, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4H8

H.W. Williams, #410-2700 McCallum Rd., Abbotsford, BC V2S 6X9

V.L. Willson, Box 10026, College Station, TX 77842-0026 U.S.A.

E.P. Yendall, Canadian Embassy, 23 Starokonyushenny Pereulok, 121002 Moscow, Russian
Federation

*Ex-officio/exchange/archive copy

†Ex-officio & member

(email addresses will be listed in a following issue)

NEW BOOKS--By J.C. Campbell

Colin sent in some notes related to the following new (or perhaps new to us) books: (1) Guardian of the Gulf by Brian Tennyson & Roger Sarty (2000, ISBN 0-8020-4492-1) is an account of submarine warfare on the Atlantic Coast and the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the Second World War; (2) Canadian Squadrons in Coastal Command by Andrew Hendrie (1997, ISBN 1-55125-038-1) tells the story of the flying boat squadrons in 1942-43; anti-submarine operations, 1943; Iceland and No.162 Squadron, 1944 etc. Lists U-boats sunk involving Canadians and details Squadrons 10, 110, 162, 401, 404, 407, 408, 413, 415, 422, and 423. Worth a look!
