



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

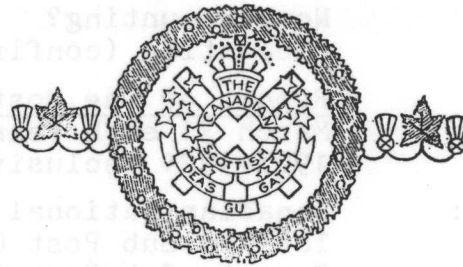


NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2004

NEWSLETTER NO. 167
Page 765

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS-CANADIAN SCOTTISH, 1944



1944

WISHING YOU
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR

FIRST BATTALION
THE
CANADIAN SCOTTISH REG. (AF)

CHAIRMAN/TREAS.: C.D. SAYLES, 25 HOWARD BLVD., WATERDOWN, ON LOR 2H4
(saylesd@aecl.ca)

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

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TORONTO, ONTARIO SUB P.O. "X"--By Susan Sheffield
 [Illustrations by Colin Pomfret and the Editor]

In response to the previous article appearing some time ago in the BNAPS CMMSG Newsletter (Feb.1996, No.122, pp.212-213) entitled "Toronto, Ont. Sub Post Office 'X'," by J.C. Campbell regarding the omission of the sub p.o. in his copy of the Canada Official Postal Guide 1909, I was able to locate the following information.

Names searched: Canadian National Exhibition
 Toronto, Ont. Sub Post Office "X"
 Toronto Sub Post Office X
 Toronto Exhibition Grounds
 Toronto Exhibition
 Exhibition Grounds Toronto
 Xhibition Grounds
 C.N.E.

Status: Non/Accounting?
 Accounting (confirmed)

Source: Report of the Postmaster General for the years ending March 31 each year identified below...
 1907-1921 inclusive

Confirmed: Canadian National Exhibition
 Toronto Sub Post Office X
 Toronto Sub Post Office No.X

1907/1908	Not listed
1909	Listed Canadian National Exhibition, no opening date, accounting office issued 75 money orders, gross postal revenue (blank), salary (blank)
1910	Listed Canadian National Exhibition, issued 97 money orders, gross postal revenue (blank), salary (blank)
1911	Listed Toronto Sub Office X (Canadian National Exhibition not listed), issued 137 money orders, gross postal revenue (blank) salary (blank)
1912	Listed Toronto Sub Office X, issued 154 money orders, gross postal revenue (blank), salary (blank)
1913	Listed Toronto Sub Office No."X", issued 220 money orders, gross postal revenue \$1,294.33, salary (blank)
1914	Listed Toronto Sub Office X, issued 270 money orders, gross postal revenue \$1,023.25, salary (blank)
1915	Listed Toronto Sub Office X, accounting office from December 1, 1914, issued 2,740 money orders, gross postal revenue \$5,987.46, salary (blank)
1916	Listed Toronto Sub Office X, issued 2,866 money orders, gross postal revenue \$9,410.51, salary (blank)
1917	Listed Toronto Sub Office X, accounting office from November 1, 1916 issued 2,825 money orders, gross postal revenue \$11,405.73, salary (blank)
1918	Listed Toronto Sub Post Office X, gross postal revenue \$11,963.39

[Cont'd.]

1919 Listed Toronto Sub Post Office X, gross postal revenue \$9,918.09
 1920 Listed Toronto Sub Post Office X, gross postal revenue \$3,049.41
 1921 Listed Toronto Sub Post Office X, gross postal revenue \$706.00

Ontario Post Offices by Dr. Robert Smith recorded the following information

OFFICE	OPEN DATE	CLOSE DATE	CTY	TOWNSHIP
TORONTO C.N.E.			YRK	YORK
TORONTO SUB "X"		1918-06-20	YRK	YORK
TORONTO SUB "X"	1918-10-16	1919-07-31	YRK	YORK

The above information was not recorded in the PMG reports I viewed. I suspect Canadian National Exhibition may have received a Toronto Sub Post Office number assigned to the C.N.E. Another possibility may have occurred if this location was administered from a numbered or Toronto Street designated post office or Toronto Main.

It is very unusual both C.N.E. and Toronto Sub Post Office "X" are only identified in the reports of Accounting Post Offices. December 1, 1914 is recorded as an official date Toronto Sub Post Office "X" was granted full Accounting Post Office status. No date of closure or opening for either post office is separately or specifically identified in the PMG reports I have viewed during this period.

"X" abbreviated in this format is a very common designation for the C.N.E. Torontonians today use the expression "going to the 'EX'!" This format and name change may have occurred just for that simple reason, and local postal employees and management would have likely referred to the common usage "X" as a nominal designation for the C.N.E.

According to the PMG reports, gross postal revenue is reported for Toronto Sub Post Office "X" after the period identified by Smith. Are these two entirely different postal facilities?

I attempted to cross reference opening dates for numbered Toronto Sub Post Offices with the C.N.E. but became completely bogged down, and could not confirm any possible direct link to a numbered office with the unlisted opening date for the C.N.E. As an alternative, maybe this office may have opened and been listed in the reports of Non-Accounting Post Offices, but this post office was not listed with this status either.

Are there known examples of proof strikes for Canadian National Exhibition or C.N.E./Ont. designation? A Canada Official Postal Guide check of an opening date for Canadian National Exhibition may be recorded and not the "X" designation Colin Campbell originally confirmed as not listed (if, in fact, they are one and the same). Unfortunately I do not have a comprehensive library of these official postal guides.

[Proof strikes below from Bailey & Toop's Canadian Military Postal Markings, Vol.I, p.144.Ed.]



NUMBER: M7-36
 PROOFED: 25 Aug 1910
 SIZE: 23 mm
 RARITY FACTOR: E



NUMBER: M7-37
 PROOFED: 26 Aug 1910
 SIZE: 23 mm
 RARITY FACTOR: E

[Cont'd.]

[Here is a cover and contents from the Editor's collection. The strike of B&T #M7-37 (ie. no period between "Toronto" and "Ont") is dated February 26, 1915. Note the special stationery (red printing) available for soldiers stationed at Exhibition Park. The letter mentions the writer going


BROTHERHOOD **X** OF ST. ANDREW
READING ROOM

19TH BATTALION *P. E. F.*
TORONTO, Feb 26-1915

EXHIBITION PARK
SIGNALERS COMPANY

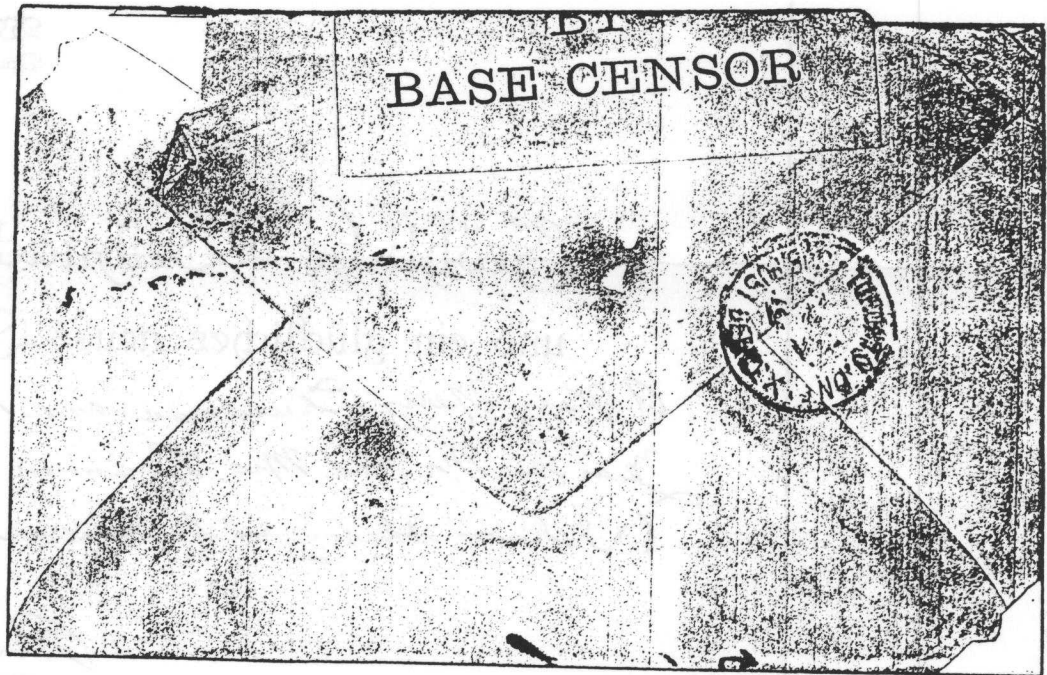
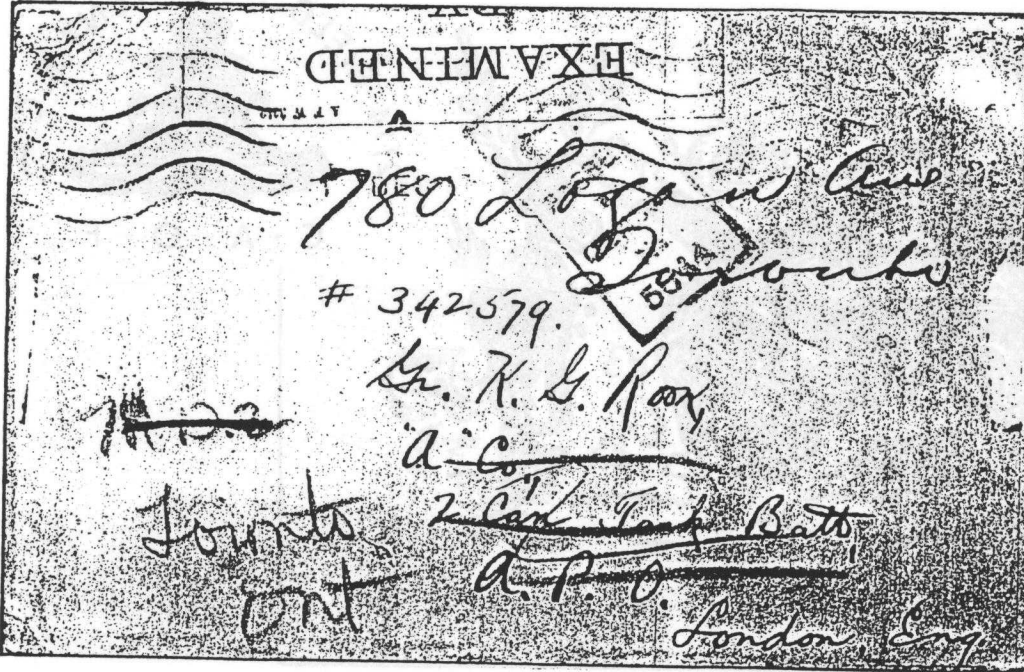
Dear Chum: I received your letter, and was very
pleased to hear of the boys
going to the
Fort Credit
munications
side)

*Mr. G. Thompson,
79 Howland Ave.,
City.*



to Port Credit (on the U.S. side) for training via "Helio" with his counterparts in the Twentieth Signallers. He goes on to mention that some of the Queen's Own, the "Grens" and "Highlands" have contacted spinal meningitis and have been isolated.

Colin Pomfret sent along a late-use cover showing B&T #M7-36 (with the period) dated January 7, 1919. Ed.]



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2/14 FIELD REGIMENT, R.C.A., 1945--By Mike Street

This C.A.O.F. Christmas card from Germany is in red, green, and brown. Note the reindeer's [Rudolph? Ed.] unhappy expression at Santa using a jeep.



Weihnachten 1945
Deutschland

Fröhliche Weihnachten

und ein glückliches neues Jahr!

*A Very Merry Christmas and Happy New
Year to Mr. and Mrs. Bauman and family.
(I know that you'll love one more Bill)*

Proy.

CANADIAN MILITARY HISTORY GATEWAY WEBSITE



[Mike Street sent the following, from Cimon Morin at the Canadian Postal Archives, notifying members of the new Internet website: www.cmhg.gc.ca(.) Thanks Mike and Cimon! Ed.]

Cimon Morin
 Manager / Gestionnaire
 Canadian Postal Archives / Archives postales canadiennes
 Multimedia & Special Collections Branch / Direction des collections
 spéciales et multimedia
 Library and Archives Canada / Bibliothèque et Archives Canada
 Tél.: (613) 996-1199 Fax: (613) 995-6274
 e-mail: cimon.morin@lac-bac.gc.ca <<mailto:cimon.morin@lac-bac.gc.ca>> WEB:
 <<http://www.collectionscanada.ca>>

> -----Message d'origine-----

> De : McKeen Elizabeth
 > Envoyé : Wednesday, June 23, 2004 3:04 PM
 > À : LAC / BAC
 > Objet : Metadata for Canadian Military History Portal / Métadonnées
 > pour le Passerelle pour l'histoire militaire canadienne

>
 >

> We are pleased to announce that the Canadian Military History Gateway was
 > launched June 21st at the following URL:

>

> <http://www.cmhg.gc.ca>

>

> This project is hosted by the Department of National Defence and includes
 > as partners: Library and Archives Canada, Parks Canada, Veterans Affairs,
 > CBC, NFB, DND and the Canadian War Museum. Since November 2003, the LAC
 > Metadata Team has catalogued 4,000 Internet links and over 400 images for
 > the site. Over the summer, the Metadata Team will perform further editing
 > of records and quality assurance in time for the official launch, which is
 > scheduled for September.

"FREE MAIL, C.M.F." FOLLOW-UP--By Robert Toombs

The following is in support, and a follow-up, from the last newsletter's "First Flight of Military Mail: Egypt to Canada" by Doug Sayles (NL 166, p. 756), and relates to free mail, RCAF 168 Squadron-Mailcan, and the Canadian army in Italy. The following AFAL, dated January 5, 1944 is from a private with Canadian Section, G.H.Q., Canadian Mediterranean Force, Italian campaign. Note that the date of the letter coincides with the bloody Battle for the Moro River and Ortona (December 6, 1943 to January 6, 1944), which Canada paid dearly--but won. There were 2,339 casualties (of whom 502 were killed). There were also 3,956 evacuations for battle exhaustion and 1,617 for sickness. All this out of a force of 20,000--the First Canadian Division.

The writer makes no mention of the battle hardships, but he does remark that "...it has been announced that the regular, free, surface mail will be flown to Canada, and as soon as I am sure that the service is operating I'll be using it, and thereby save myself the postage."

[Cont'd.]

ARMED FORCES
AIR LETTER

AIR MAIL

If anything is enclosed in this letter it will be sent by ordinary mail.



Mrs. J.D. Hawthorne,

23 Brookmount Road,

TORONTO 8, Ontario,

CANADA.

Quadorf - letter to 15.

Fold Here

Fold Here

FROM: (Sender's full name and address)
 M. B. 80768,
 Pte. J.D. Hawthorne,
 Canadian Army,
 C.M.F.

Open Here

letter #17

Dear Mother:

Was I tickled to receive your letter of December 8, which arrived today. Gee, but I was glad to know that some of my Italian letters have finally reached you, and I was particularly proud of the way in which you have apparently taken the news of my present location. You say that you were surprised to learn that I am in Italy, but you were no more surprised that we were when we landed. We had it all figured out that we were headed for the other side of the Mediterranean. ### As you say, it will be an education that money couldn't buy, but I imagine that we will appreciate it more in retrospect. However, I'm enjoying it immensely, despite all the grumbling we do about the many inconveniences. ### I have written Ruby and Roy quite a few letters, and they should have had word about as soon as you did. ### I can realize that you wouldn't like the airgraphs as well as the airletters, and I think that the latter are faster, anyway. However, as I mentioned in my last letter, it has been announced that the regular, free, surface mail will be flown to Canada, and as soon as I'm sure that that service is operating I'll be using it, and thereby save myself the postage. ### Jan. 9: I've been trying for five days to find the letter, but it has been impossible as we have worked every night since we landed on the 10th, and when I finished I had no time to go directly to bed. However, we're still better off than most of the boys - in a way, it was a break that Ken Duffal didn't make the grade for overseas as he was really all of more left at home. I hope that the flu doesn't reach epidemic proportions, and that Mrs. West has now recovered, also that Mr. and Mrs. Duffal are on the mend. It's actually so fortunate that you have kept as well - keep up the good work! - If all these parcels arrive at home I'll be able to feed all of 'em!

... I have written Ruby and Roy quite a few letters, and they should have had word about as soon as you did. ### I can realize that you wouldn't like the airgraphs as well as the airletters, and I think that the latter are faster, anyway. However, as I mentioned in my last letter, it has been announced that the regular, free, surface mail will be flown to Canada, and as soon as I'm sure that that service is operating I'll be using it, and thereby save myself the postage. ### Jan. 9: I've been trying for five days to find the letter, but it has been impossible as we have worked every night since we landed on the 10th, and when I finished I had no time to go directly to bed. However, we're still better off than most of the boys - in a way, it was a break that Ken Duffal didn't make the grade for overseas as he was really all of more left at home. I hope that the flu doesn't reach epidemic proportions, and that Mrs. West has now recovered, also that Mr. and Mrs. Duffal are on the mend. It's actually so fortunate that you have kept as well - keep up the good work! - If all these parcels arrive at home I'll be able to feed all of 'em! - If you are speaking to Mrs. Gregory again, give them both my regards, please. So Mrs. Houston has come back to life again. What a wonderful thing to please you again? - Don't worry about me becoming a drunkard. It was the novelty that made me speak of it, I don't want you to know that I know how to stop, when in any situation! - I'm afraid that you have right before your eyes you had pictured the meeting (with Mrs. Hodgins) that never took place - Two more of your letters - those of Dec. 13 & 15 - arrived later on the same day as the one of Dec. 8. ### Here we go again. ###

Joanne and Nancy must be quite interesting now. I wish I could see them. Your programme for Christmas Day sounds a lot like ours was last Christmas; I hope you had a very enjoyable time. Marg has certainly been good to you, in fact, as you say, everyone has been good. ### My airgraph of November 13, #6, was the first that I sent from Italy. ### I imagine that Kay must have enjoyed her birthday party. It was nice of Mrs. Kelly to arrange the party for her, and also to think of you. ### Now that you tell me that my letter to Amy went the rounds of the office, I'm beginning to wonder exactly what I put in it. I imagine that it was Rita Moreau that inquired about me. ### That was nice of Betty to think of sending me a card. If you should be speaking to her again, you might mention that, as you gave her my address in England, it will probably take a while to catch up with me,

#6 C.G.H. (LAVAL UNIVERSITY)--By Jon Johnson

Further to my previous article on Francophone military hospital cancels and cachets [NL#154 (March 2002), pp.610-612. Ed.], I can now add one more. It is from #6 Canadian General Hospital (Laval), Troyes, France. This particular postcard was sent July 27, 1917. Interestingly it was not sent to Canada but is internal French mail. [The hospital was at Troyes from January 18, 1917 to June 20, 1918. Ed.]

L'envoi Hopital Canadien laval 29

CARTE POSTALE

CORRESPONDANCE

Le 27 Juil 1917

Cher Paul

J'ai vu que vous etes toujours en bonne sante. Tant qu'il y a pas de soucis, c'est la meme chose. Et moi aussi je suis en bonne sante. Et je suis content de vous.

Monneur Lebronce

Bois

Rue de Chanciers

Manches

Robert fils L'envoi et Manche

HOPITAL CANADIEN DE TROYES

ADRESSE

LE SERVICE POSTAL

Cher

ALLE


HOPITAL CANADIEN DE TROYES

ADRESSE

LE SERVICE POSTAL

Monneur Lebronce

#10 CANADIAN FIELD AMBULANCE, CHRISTMAS 1918-1919--By Steve Luciuk



A happy Christmas

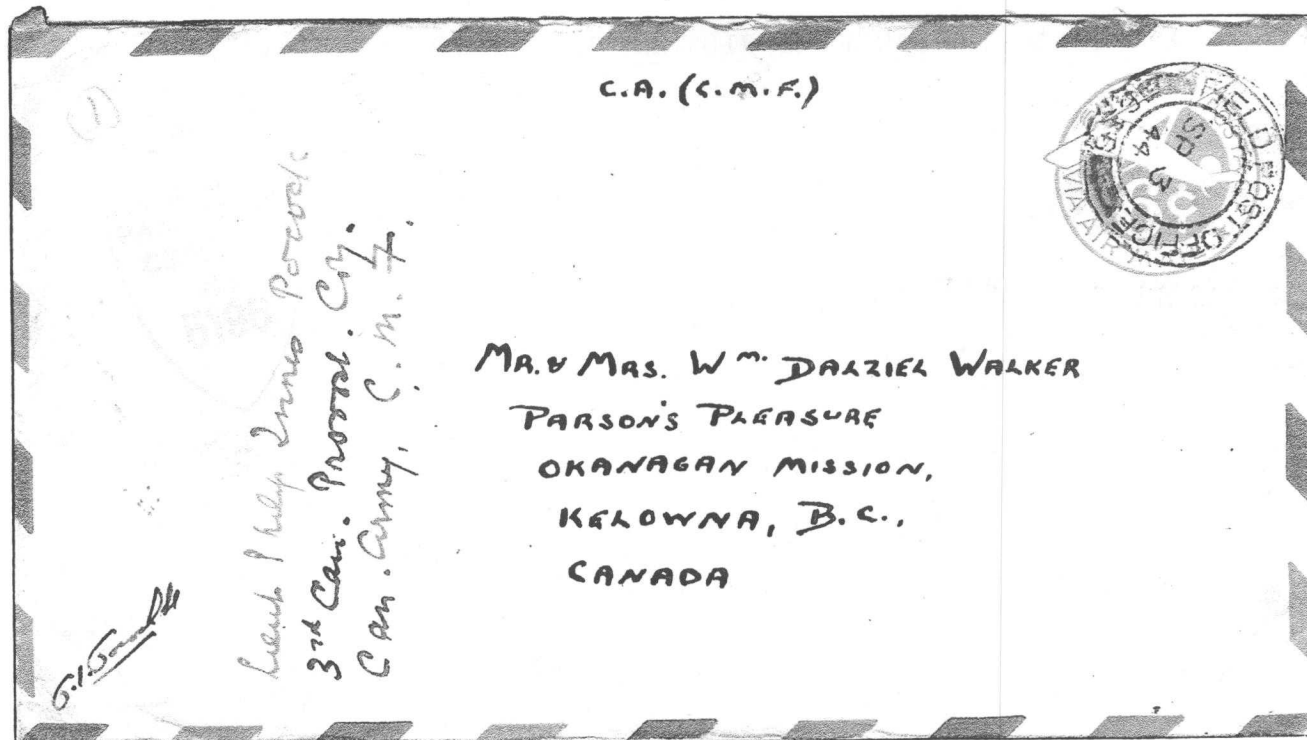
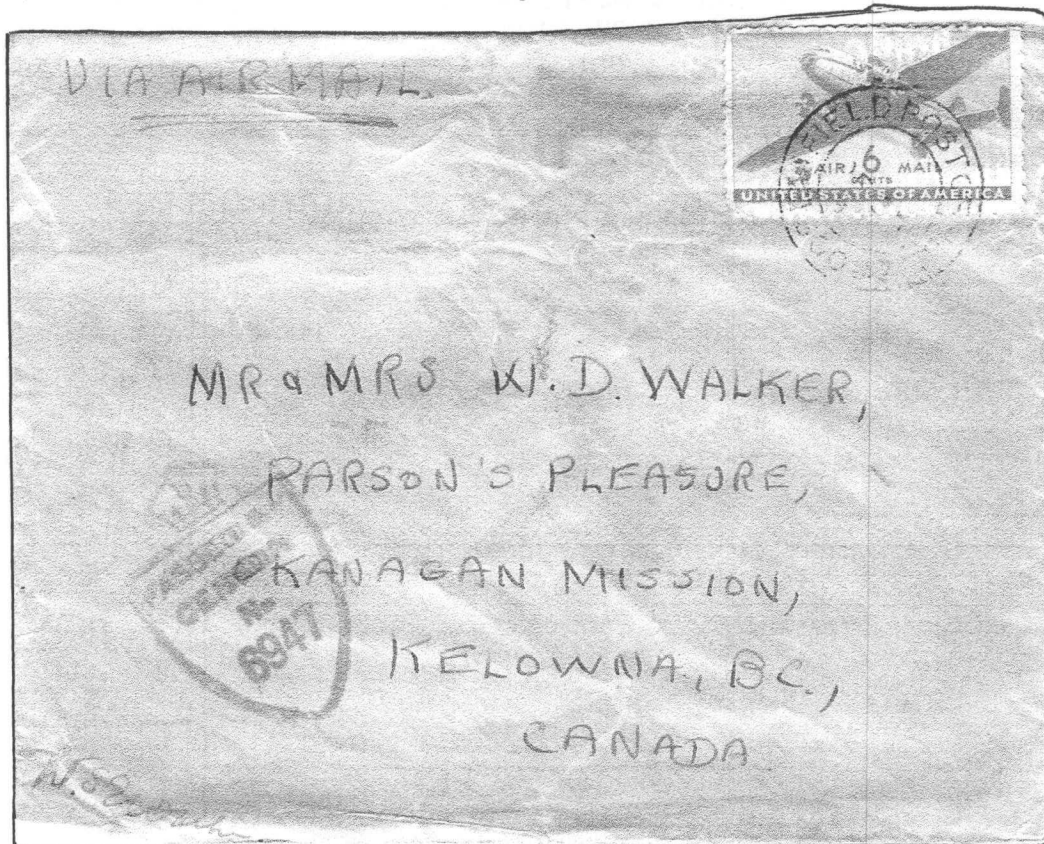
The Members of the
Sergeants' Mess
of
No. 10 Canadian Field Ambulance
send Greetings
and wish you Happiness and Joy
during the Coming Year.

France. *Jud* 1918-19.

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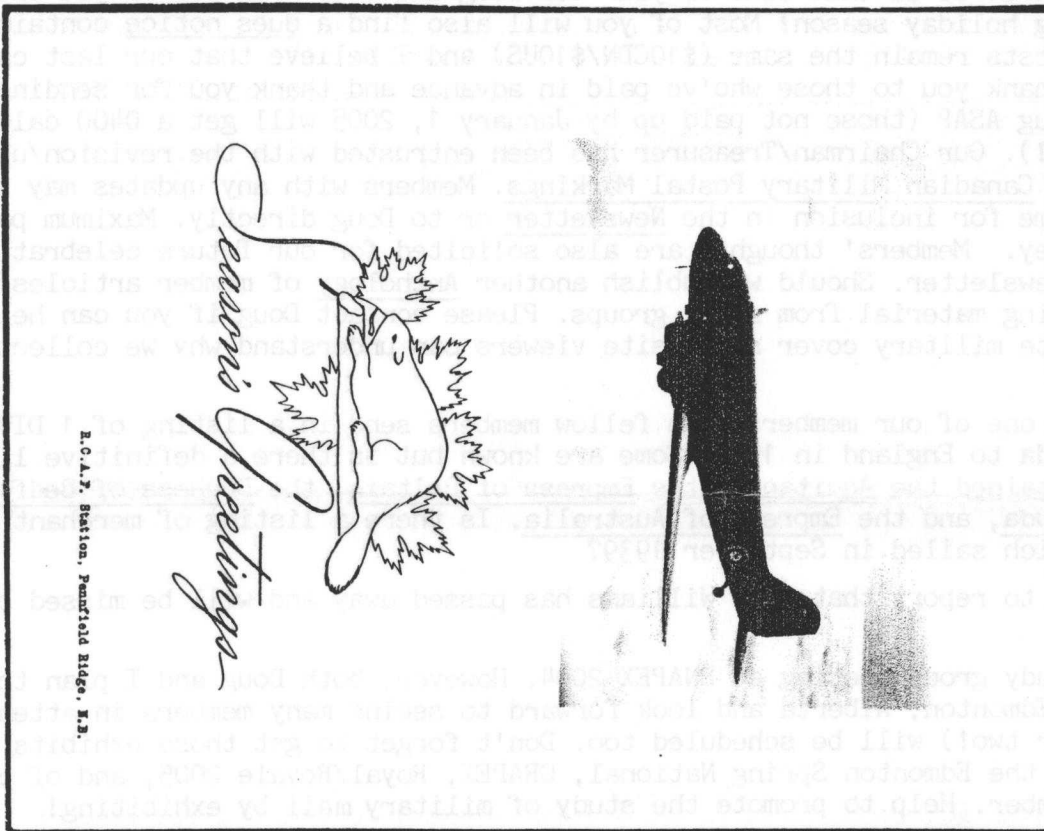
ITALY PLUS SIXTY

Here are two covers from the Italian campaign. The top cover bears the FPO 600/DE 30 44 (FPO SC 415) located at Naples (Avellino).



The bottom cover, from a member of the 3rd Canadian Provost Company, has an FPO 636/SP 3 44 (FPO THC 1) strike. It was sent from the Foligno area.

"SEASON'S GREETINGS", PENNFIELD RIDGE, N.B.--By Steve Luciuk

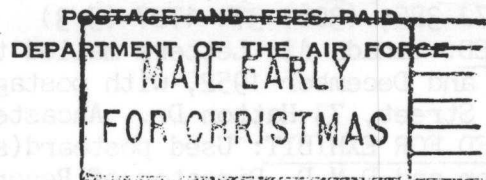


U.S.A.F. IN CANADA--By C.D. Sayles

The following cover [cropped for space.Ed.] emanates from the American base at St. John's, Newfoundland [Pepperell Air Base; closed June 4, 1962.Ed.]. It states "POSTAGE AND FEES PAID". Do any study group members have information on the arrangements made between the U.S. Air Force and the Canadian Post Office about payment for postage in Canada?

HQS 4737TH AIR BASE GROUP
 FINANCIAL SERVICES OFFICE
 UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
 APO 862, N.Y. N.Y.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



Charles E Frosst & Co
 P O Box 247
 Montreal, P.Q. Canada

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Dear CMMSG Members: It is that time of year for Doug and I to wish all of you the very best for the upcoming holiday season! Most of you will also find a dues notice contained within this sending. Costs remain the same (\$10CDN/\$10US) and I believe that our last call was in January 2003. Thank you to those who've paid in advance and thank you for sending along your dues to Doug ASAP (those not paid up by January 1, 2005 will get a 0400 call from the Sergeant Bugler!). Our Chairman/Treasurer has been entrusted with the revision/update of Bailey & Toop's Canadian Military Postal Markings. Members with any updates may send the information to me for inclusion in the Newsletter or to Doug directly. Maximum participation is the key. Members' thoughts are also solicited for our future celebration of the Group's 200th newsletter. Should we publish another Anthology of member articles? The BNAPS website is seeking material from study groups. Please contact Doug if you can help write up that favourite military cover so website viewers can understand why we collect what we do.

A question from one of our members: Can fellow members send in a listing of 1 DIV troopships from Canada to England in 1939? Some are known but is there a definitive listing out there? TC-1 contained the Aquitania, the Empress of Britain, the Duchess of Bedford, the Monarch of Bermuda, and the Empress of Australia. Is there a listing of merchant ships in Convoy HX-1, which sailed in September 1939?

We are saddened to report that H.W. Williams has passed away and will be missed by our group members.

There was no study group meeting at BNAPEX 2004. However, both Doug and I plan to attend BNAPEX 2005 in Edmonton, Alberta and look forward to seeing many members in attendance. A presentation (or two!) will be scheduled too. Don't forget to get those exhibits started/brushed off for the Edmonton Spring National, ORAPEX, Royal/Royale 2005, and of course BNAPEX in September. Help to promote the study of military mail by exhibiting!

Hats off to Canada Post for including some wonderful military-related stamps which we love to see and collect! The recent pair saluting Victoria Cross recipients is a gem (more information next issue). The 2005 programme includes the Battle of the Atlantic; opening of the new Canadian War Museum; and commemorative envelopes for War Brides and the Canadian Artillery.

SMALL ADS

WANTED: Letters to/from William Maitland-Dougall in period 1910-1917. Send photocopy/price required to C.D. Sayles, 25 Howard Blvd., Waterdown, ON LOR 2H4 or email: sayles@aecl.ca (15/18)

WANTED: Non-philatelic Canadian Korean War items. Needed are: CFPO 28 (without dash); CFPO 30 & 32 covers. Also registered covers, military Christmas cards from Korea, and "HUBBA-HUBBA" markings. Appreciate priced photocopies. S.C. Luciuk, 1542 East Heights, Saskatoon, SK S7J 3B5; (306) 374-1727 (3/3)

WANTED: Canada Air Letters mailed to Canadian Armed Forces personnel overseas between June 1946 and December 1952, with postage paid by adhesive stamps. Please send with price to Mike Street, 73 Hatton Dr., Ancaster, ON L9G 2H5 or email: mikestreet@hwc.org (4/5)

NEEDED FOR EXHIBIT: Used postcard(s) of hospital ships (white with red cross). Also nursing sister and D.N.D. Director of Records covers. Jon Johnson, 39 Hillgrove Cresc., SW, Calgary, AB T2V 3K8 or email: jcyjperfins@hotmail.com (4/5)

WANTED: Have postal history collection telling the story of each Canadian Army Brigade overseas during the Second World War; month by month. Have many...have gaps...have traders. I would welcome correspondence from interested members to trade covers and share information. Especially interested in a contact interested in Sicily, Italy, Normandy, N.W. Europe, and training in Britain beforehand. Kim Dodwell, The Middle House, Cruckmeole, Hanwood, Shrewsbury SY5 8JN, England (3/5)

FOR JANUARY 2005: New reports; Korea re-visited; Naval covers; modern MPO's...and more!

☞ MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!