



# Canadian Military Mail Study Group

## NEWSLETTER

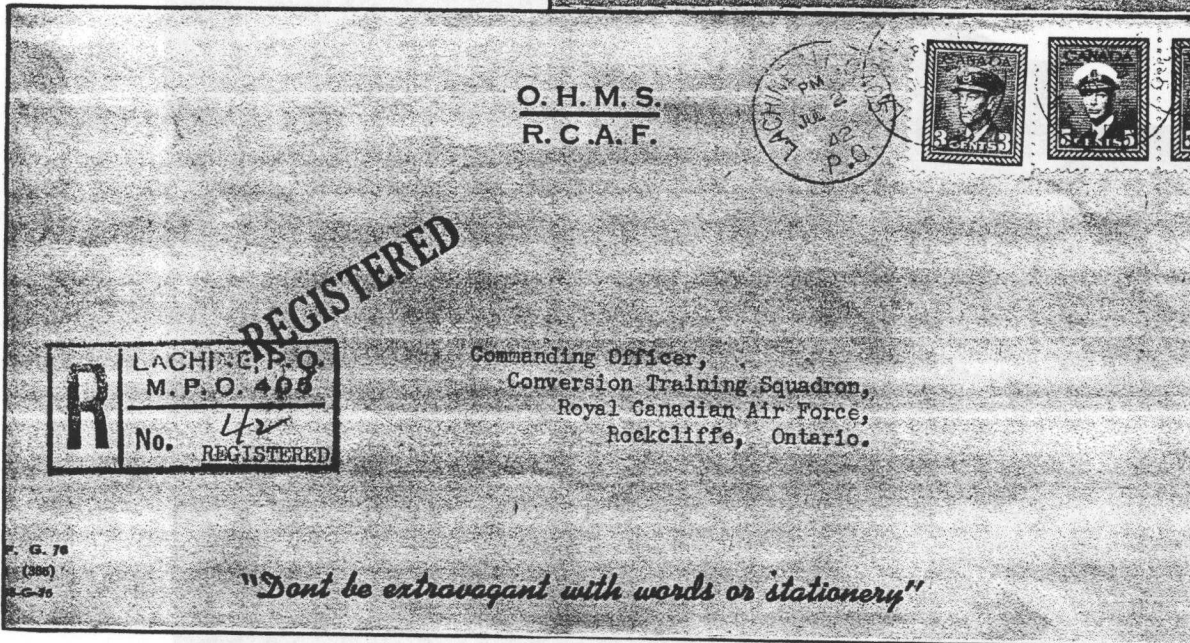
MARCH 2006

NEWSLETTER NO. 174  
Page 849

MPO 405 LACHINE PROOF DATE--

By Doug Sayles

The latest Bailey & Toop catalogue illustrates the 24mm Lachine MPO 405 cds with a date of July 20, 1942;



and gives this as the proof date (M13-195). However, the cover shown above is very clearly dated July 2, 1942. How can this be explained?

We can rule out a clerk's error in setting the dater because the dater marks on the back are consistent with July 2, 1942. The remaining possibilities are that the catalogue proof date is in error, or conceivably, that this is an earlier MPO 405 cds hammer of which no record or proof strike remains. Can anyone add to this information?

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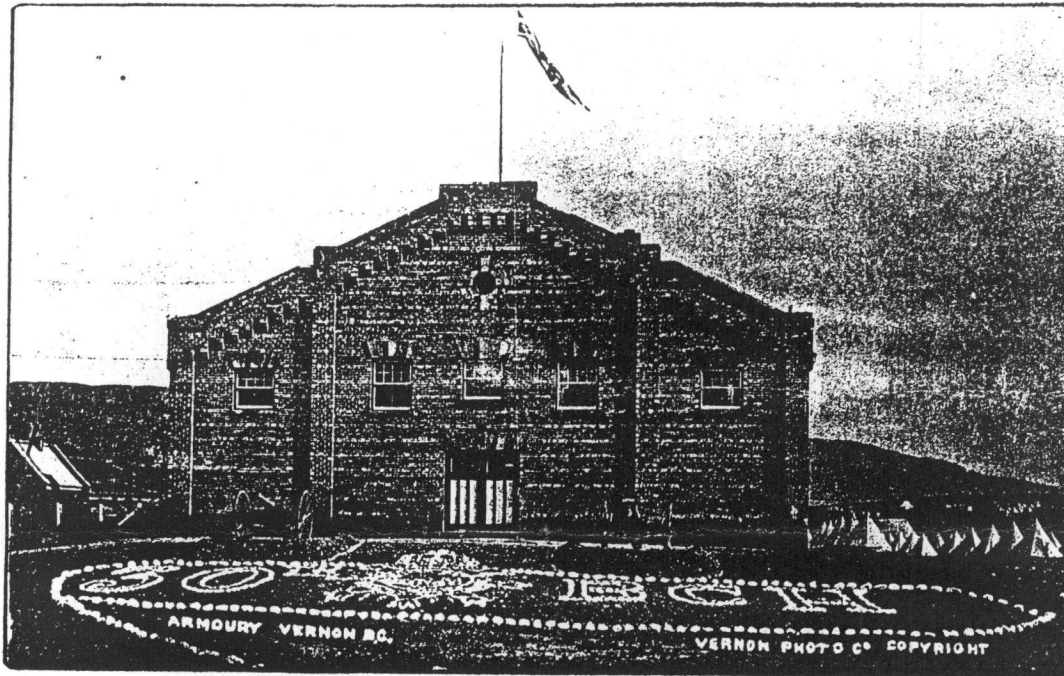
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Page 850

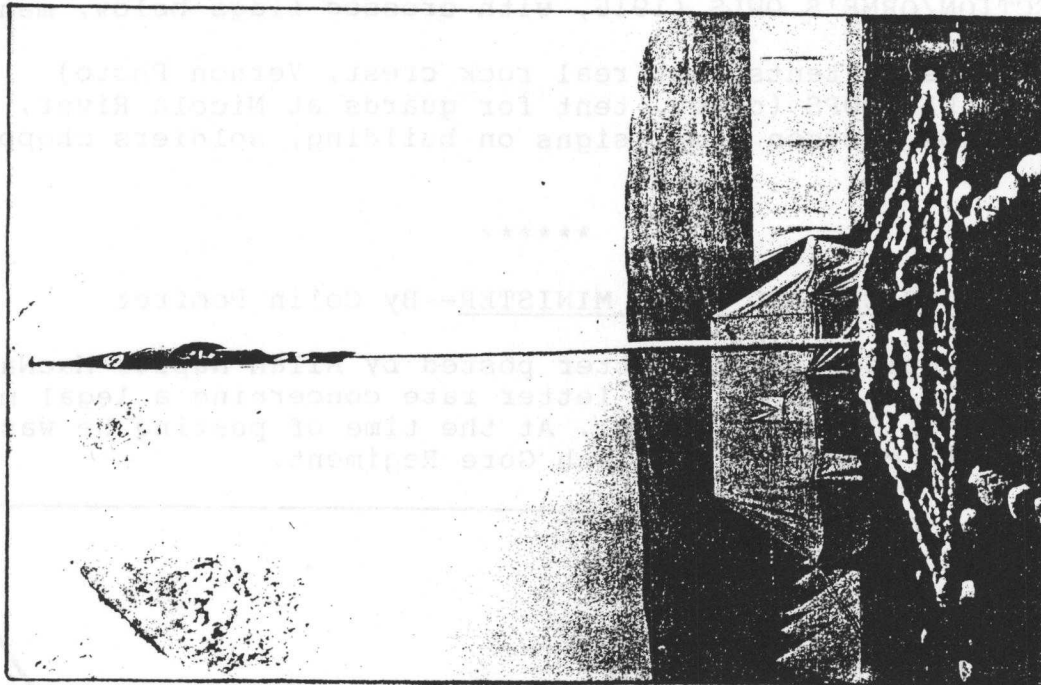
ROCK CRESTS ON POSTCARDS AT CAMP VERNON, 1914-1918--By Ken Ellison

"Rock crests" were whitewashed small rocks placed in front of a battalion's headquarters in a design suitable to the battalion. These designs often showed considerable ingenuity. Some of the photographers included: Vernon Photo Co., Vernon, British Columbia; Harold Smith, Vernon and Vancouver; and Star Photo of Vernon.

A listing of recorded "rock crests" on postcards from Camp Vernon follows after some illustrations.



(Cont'd.)



- Camp Headquarters (1915, plain with pathway around, Vernon Photo)
- As above (1916, as above, building added on to photo?)
- C.A.M.C. Brigade Hospital (1916, tents, Smith Photo)
- Vernon Concentration Camp (1916, elaborate design, Vernon Photo)
- 11th C.M.R./C.E.F. (1916, in front of regiment tent, Vernon Photo)
- 30th B.C. Horse (in front of Armoury, Vernon Photo)
- 47th Battn. C.E.F. (plain design, Vernon Photo)
- 54th Kootenay BN/C.E.F. (1915, plain design, Vernon Photo)
- 62nd Battalion C.E.F. (flag pole centre, plain design)
- 62nd Battalion C.E.F. (closeup of above)
- SIG SECTION/R.M.R. (Rocky Mountain Rangers, 1916, raised, soldiers behind Smith Photo)
- 121 WESTERN IRISH/C.E.F. (121 in maple leaf, front of HQ tent, Vernon Photo)
- as above (1916, part of view of tents, Vernon Photo)
- as above (1916, close up view of crest, Star Photo)
- as above (1916, crest with troops and tents behind, Smith Photo)
- as above (1916, much as above with two solid maple leaves, Smith Photo)
- 131st BATTN/WESTMINSTER (1916, CANADA in maple leaf, below, Vernon Photo)
- as above (1916, as above, Smith Photo)
- as above (1916, as above, Star Photo)
- 158th BATT. C.E.F. D.C.O. (1916, Duke of Connaught's Own Regiment, Smith Photo)
- THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN/158th BATTALION (1916, different design, Star)
- as above (1916, line maple leaf, Vernon Photo)
- as above (1916, solid maple leaf, Smith Photo)
- as above (1916, close up)
- ROCKY MOUNTAIN RANGERS/172/CANADA (1916, full crest, Vernon Photo)
- as above (crest on wood shield, Smith Photo)
- as above (1916, full crest, close up, Smith Photo)

(Cont'd.)

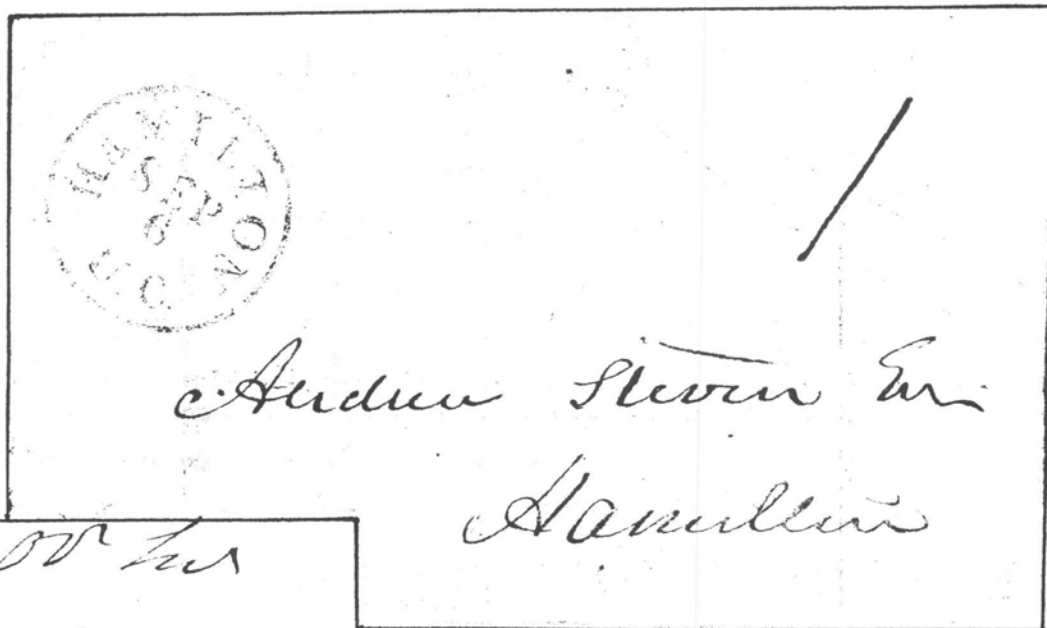
Page 852

- as above (1916, full crest with view, Smith Photo)
- SIGNAL SECTION/ORME'S OWLS (1916, with crossed flags below, men, Smith Photo)
- Y.M.C.A. (signs by tents, not real rock crest, Vernon Photo)
- 102nd R.M.R. KAMLOOPS (crest, tent for guards at Nicola River, 1914)
- 131st BATTALION (Vernon Camp, signs on building, soldiers chopping apples -comic)

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A.N. MACNAB, OFFICER AND PRIME MINISTER--By Colin Pomfret

Here is a stampless folded letter posted by Allan Napier MacNab on September 6, 1839 at the 1d drop letter rate concerning a legal matter in his capacity as Queen's Counsel. At the time of posting he was Lt.Col. and Officer in command of the 4th Gore Regiment.



*from St MacNab*  
*Allan St MacNab*

MacNab enlisted in the Royal Navy as a Midshipman on Sir James Yeo's flagship Wolfe and took part in the raid on Sackett's Harbour and Genesee. In the same year he transferred to the 100th Foot and stormed Fort Niagara on December 18. Following his bravery at Fort Erie and Black Rock, he earned an Ensign's commission in the 49th Regiment.

In 1814 MacNab was in Montreal with a unit formed with veterans of the Peninsula Wars and took part in the march against Plattsburg. He led the advance on Saranac Bridge where General Provost withdrew his forces within sight of victory.

William Lyon MacKenzie, the first mayor of Toronto, had been ejected from a public meeting by MacNab in 1831 and personally became an open

(Cont'd.)

enemy of MacNab's Family Compact. When MacKenzie led an insurrection against the Government in Toronto MacNab, now a Colonel in the 111 Gore Regiment, mustered a force of one hundred men (named the "Men of Gore") and crossed to Toronto in the steamer Traveller, and joined forces with the Government. The rebels were attacked and routed at Montgomery's Tavern on December 7. A few days later MacNab led an expedition to London and arrested Dr. Duncombe and other rebels.

MacKenzie, meanwhile, fled across the Niagara River and set up a rebel government on Navy Island just above the Falls. On Christmas Day of the next year, MacNab left Dundurn for Chippewa with a force of local men on sleds. After firing on Navy Island for some time, MacNab ordered Capt. Drew, R.N., on the night of December 27, to cut out the rebel supply ship Caroline moored on the New York shore. The attack was successful but, unable to control her in the current, they sent her ablaze over the Falls.

For his role in suppressing the Rebellion of 1837 MacNab was knighted by Queen Victoria, although the Caroline affair caused an international incident. His crowning glory came in 1854 when he became Prime Minister of Canada in the MacNab-Morin Cabinet.

#### REFERENCES

Bailey, T. Melville. The History Of Dundurn Castle And Sir Allan MacNab. Hamilton, ON: Hughes & Wilkins Ltd., 1943.

/I was not sure the postmark on the SFL would copy well so I included a sample strike Type Ib from W.S. Boggs, The Postage Stamps And Postal History Of Canada. Lawrence, MA: Quarterman Publications, Inc., 1975, p.567. The date on Colin's item, of course, would read "SEP 6". Ed./

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CFPO 32: KOBE, JAPAN...A FOLLOW-UP--By Willem Put

/In response to Steve's query in the January 2006 Newsletter #173, pp. 846-847, Willem responded with the following. Ed. /

"I noticed Steven Luciuk's article regarding the CFPO-32 in Kobe, Japan and his attempt to satisfy his nagging curiosity with regards to this cancellation.

I am a UN-Forces mail and Korean War (1950-1955) collector myself and as you probably know, Kobe was many times a base port for ships serving in the Korean War. I found [...] one cover in my collection which has the CFPO 32 cancellation. Only one, and sent to a collector as well. Considering my collection usually [carries] more than one of a kind, this indicates that the CFPO 32 cancellation is probably harder to find.

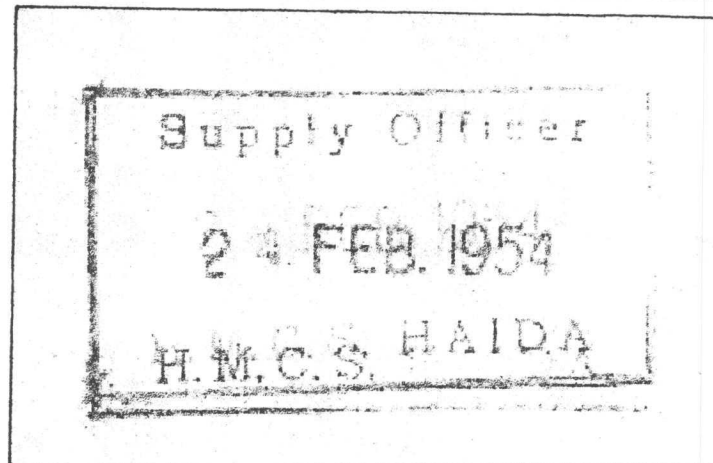
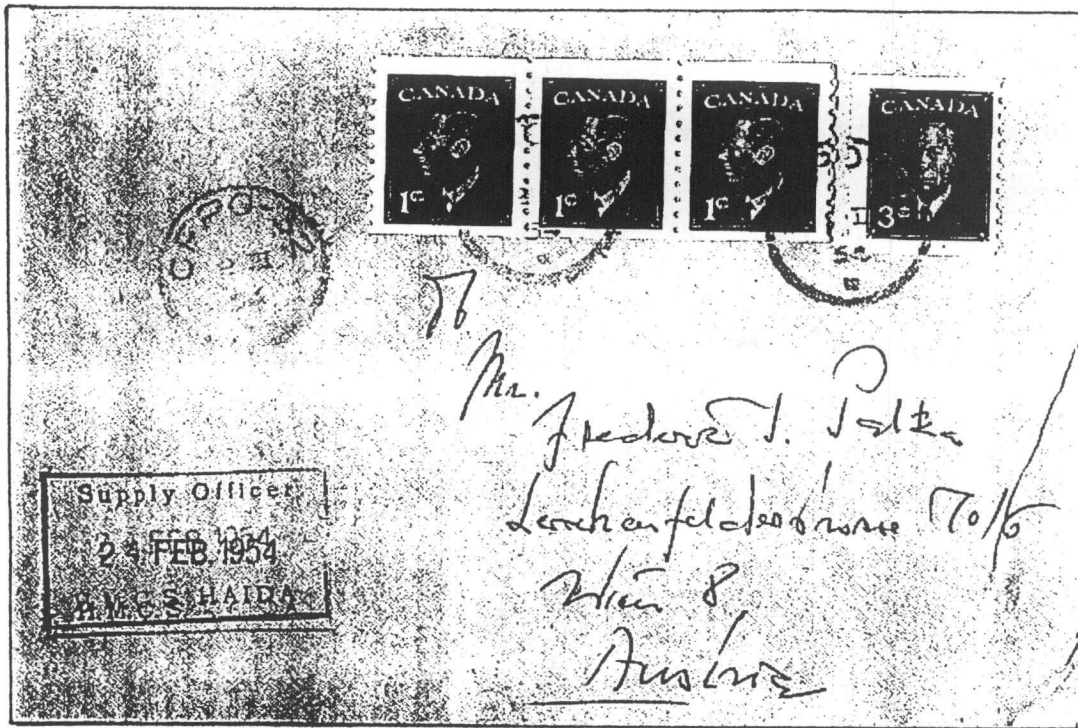
The cover I have originates from the H.M.C.S. Haida. The ship arrived in Korean waters on February 5, 1954 to start its second tour under U.N. Command. The cover I have was sent on February 24, 1954, which can be seen on the cachet of the Supply Officer of the Haida. The cover was franked six cents. The stamps were cancelled in Kobe with the CFPO 32

(Cont'd.)

Page 854

device on March 2, 1954. As mentioned this cover was also sent to a collector, just like Steven Luciuk's samples, but this cover was cancelled on a different date. Also I hasten to add that the cover was addressed to the Austrian collector Frederic Patka, who was well known for his covers but also for the fact that he was never 'faking' covers. Items mailed to him were always genuinely mailed. I am pretty sure, therefore, that these were not favour cancellations done by the post office, but only by the sailor on board Haida (who mailed the cover back to Patka).

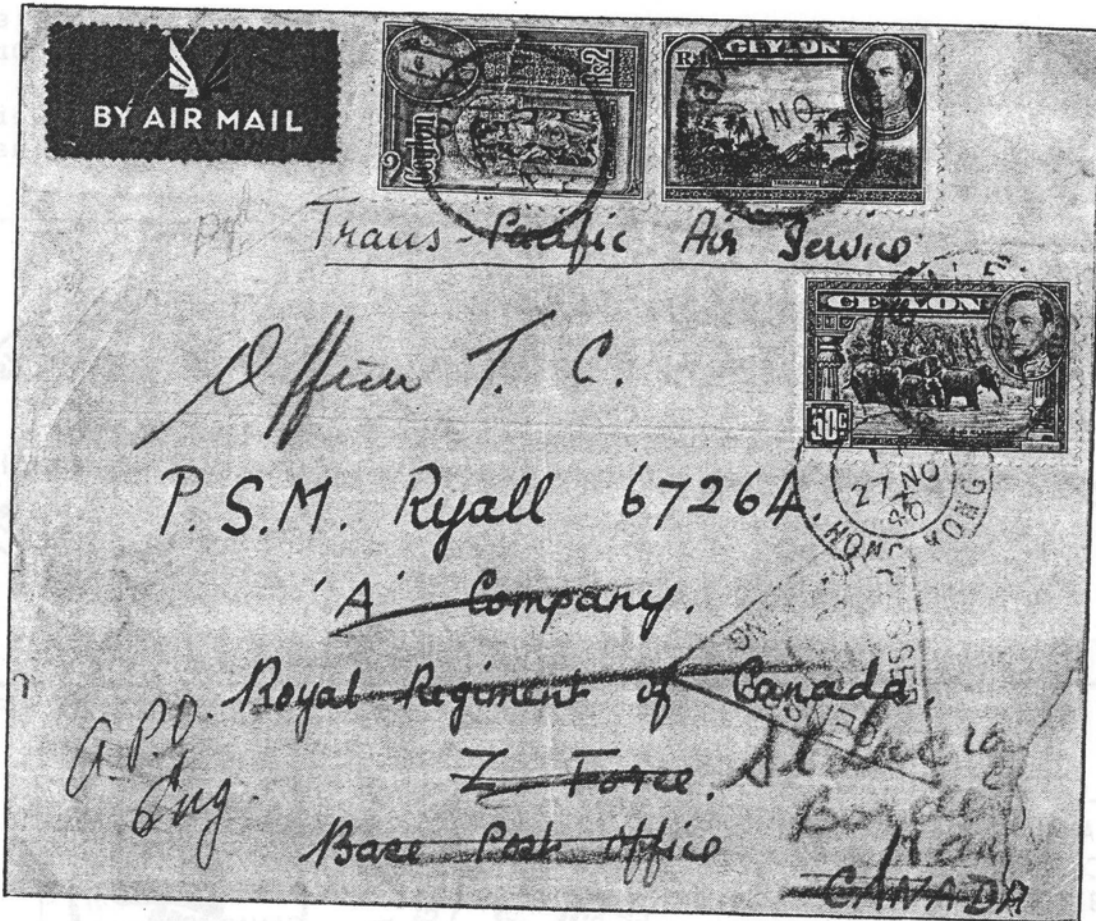
Although this is still not a stampless cover, it confirms in my mind that the CFPO 32 was genuinely in operation. The fact that it was used on ship mail, may indicate that this was not a regular cancellation used in Kobe." /Thanks Willem. Do other members have a CFPO 32 cover from the Korean War and, specifically, is it stampless or do all have some form of "philatelic" connotation (or as Steve diplomatically noted, "collector-inspired")? Ed./



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1940 CEYLON TO HONG KONG TO ICELAND--By Bob Toombs

/Bob sent along this wonderfully-exotic cover. It was sent from Galle, Ceylon on November 11, 1940 to a member of the Royal Regiment of Canada with the Canadian Army's "Z Force" in Iceland. This Transpacific air mail/trans-Himalaya cover was sent via Chungking and thence Hong Kong, Manila, San Francisco to Ottawa. It was then forwarded from the Base Post Office in Ottawa to Iceland, then ultimately the United Kingdom.



Page 856

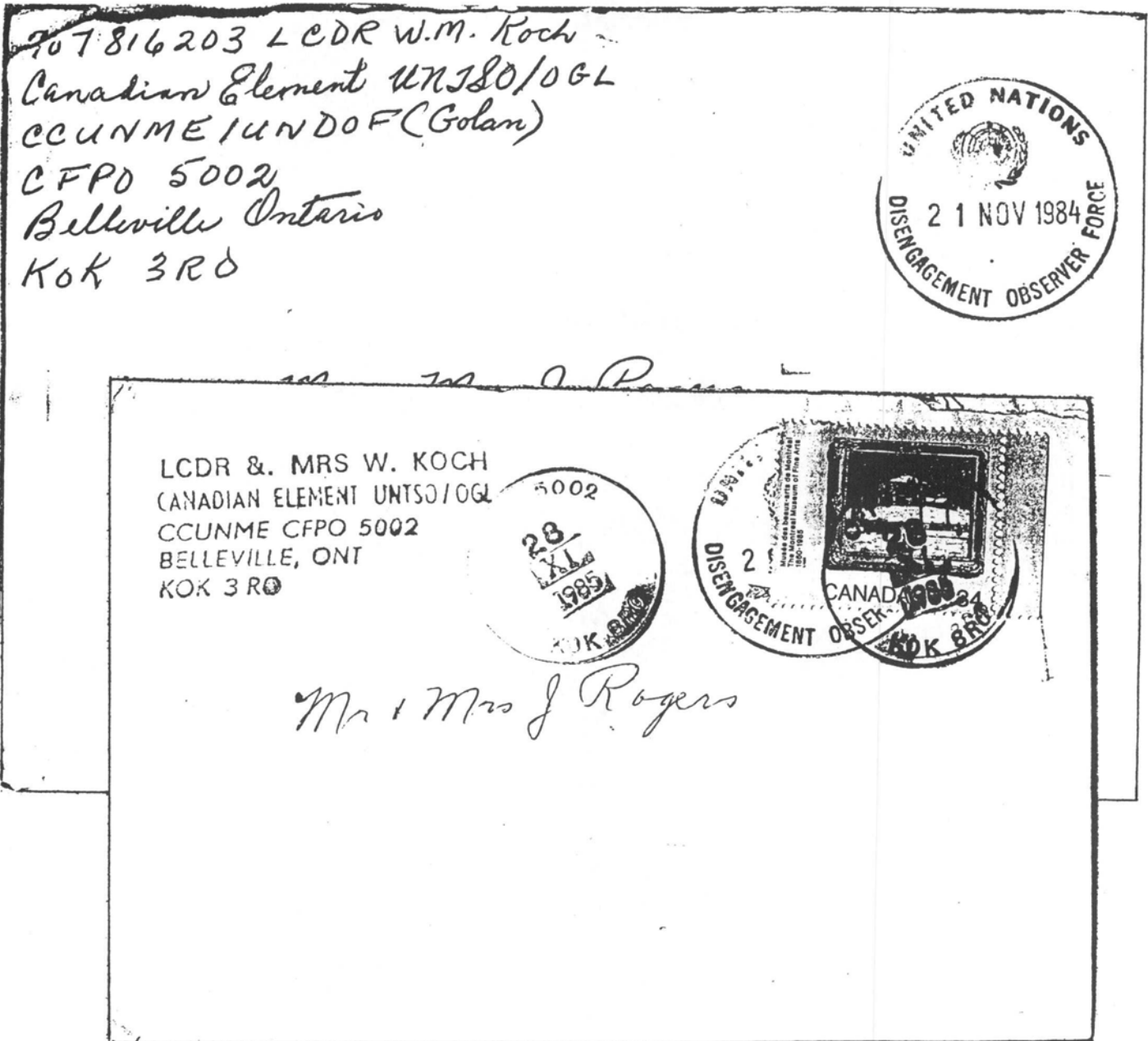
Various daters include: 27 NO/40 (Hong Kong); DEC 13/1940 (Ottawa); JA 10/41 (London); JA 14/41 (FPO 2?, Iceland); JA 17/41 (?).

Members will recall that the Royal Regiment of Canada left Iceland on October 31, 1940. Ed./

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CFPO 5002, UNTSO/UNDOF (GOLAN)--By John Rogers

/Jack passed along these following covers connected with Canada's contribution in the mid-1980's to the United Nations' Supervisory Organization in Palestine/Israel and its Disengagement Observer Force. Note the three different dater types. He also noted that personnel were only allowed three "free" letters per week, so the stamped cover illustrates an unusual "surcharged" item.



(Cont'd.)



Lt Cdr + Mrs W Koch  
 SSO Log UNDOF H.Q.  
 CCUNME CFPO 5002  
 Belleville, Ont.  
 KOK 3RD



Mr + Mrs J Rogers

After a thirty-two year presence that began after the 1973 Arab-Israeli War, Canadian troops have recently ended their tour in the Golan on March 24, 2006. Only four Canadians will remain in the area. More than 12,000 Canadian troops were deployed during the above period. India's Poona Horse will take over Canada's responsibilities with UNDOF. Ed./

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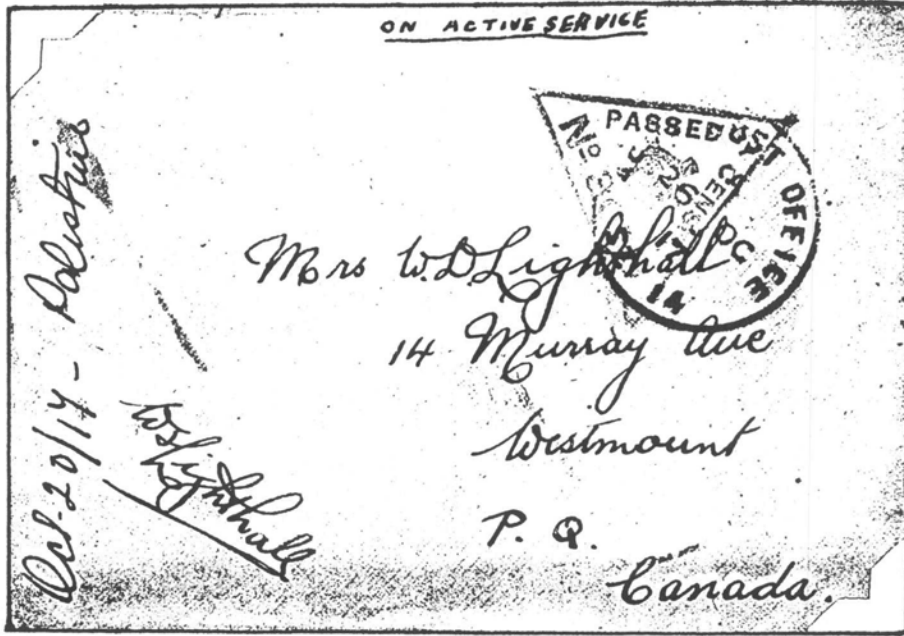
SOME GREAT WAR R.F.C. GEMS--By Colin Pomfret

No. 111 Squadron, Royal Flying Corps, was initially formed at Deir el Belah on August 1, 1917, when a flight of Bristol F2B's was detached from No. 14 Squadron, R.F.C. The Squadron became operational on August 10 and was up to full strength by the end of September.

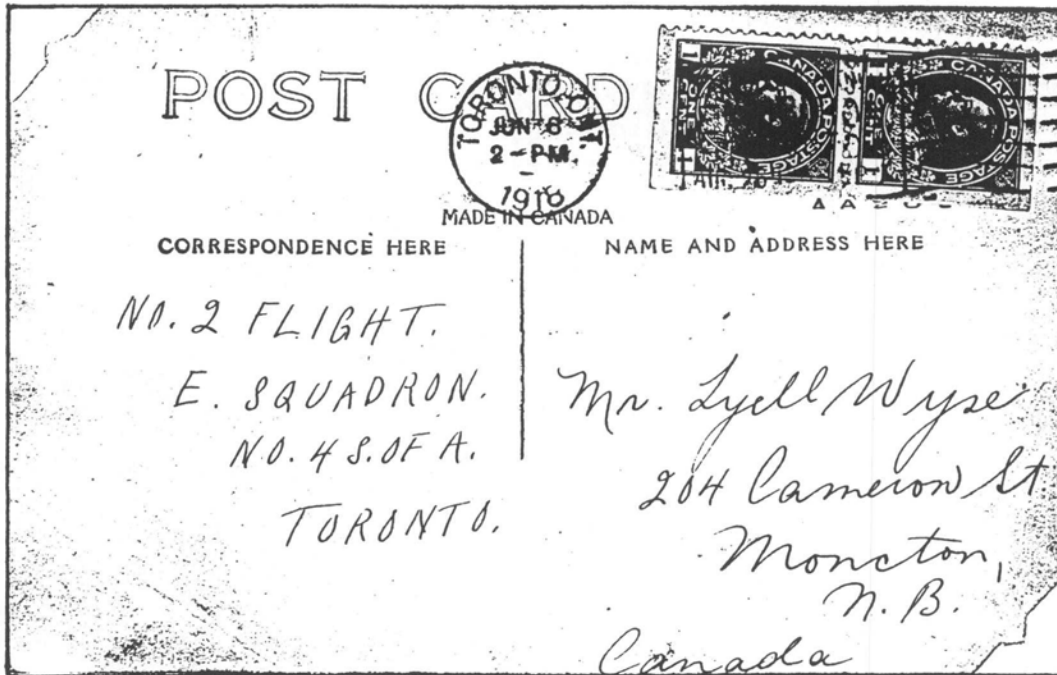
The following cover bears an "APO SZ 14 26 OC/17" datestamp from Deir el Belah, Palestine. It has Censor 3/3050 accorded to the 111th Squadron, R.F.C.

The signature "W.S. Lighthall" is that of Lt. Lighthall, R.F.C.

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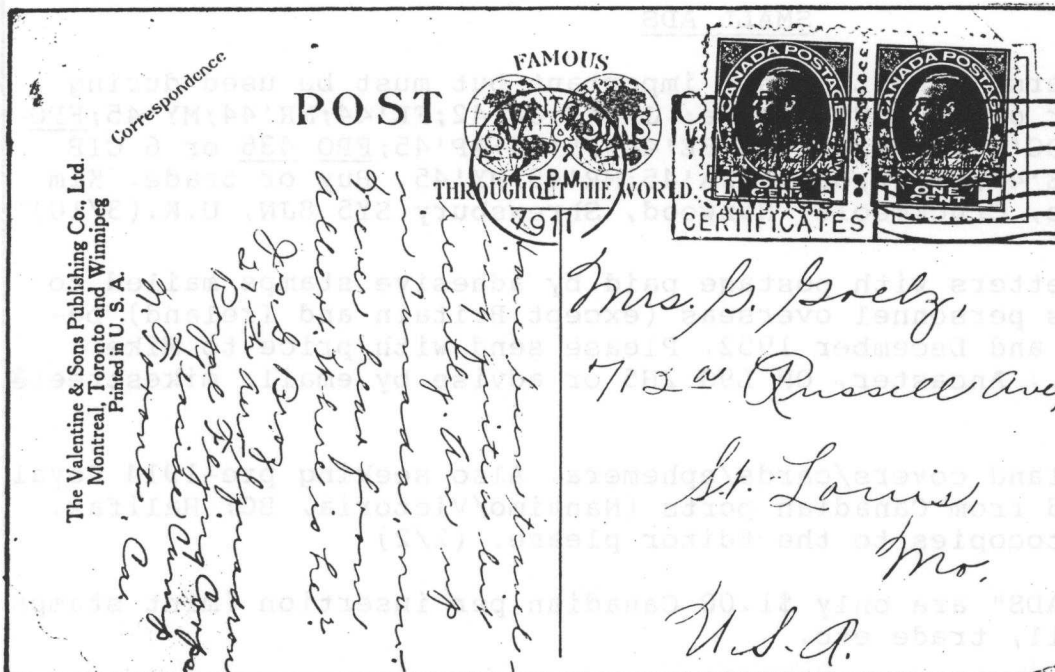


The following card is from No.4 School of Aeronautics based at the University of Toronto. The premises occupied were Burwash Hall, East and South Residences, School of Practical Science, Convocation Hall, and the Thermodynamics Building. Instruction was given in engines, rigging, wireless, machine guns, instruments, and bombs.



Here's a card from Spain dated November 23, 1915 to the Curtiss Aeroplane Company in New York.

The Curtiss Company operated two flying schools in the Toronto area: a land-based one operating from a small airstrip at Long Branch, and a sea-plane school at Hanlon's Point. Later a manufacturing plant was built at 20 Strachan Avenue to produce the Curtiss JN3. The manager was J.A.D. McCurdy. The plant, however, was too small and as a consequence, a \$12,000,000 contract was signed to produce the Curtiss planes at Buffalo. In December 1916, Canadian Aeroplanes Ltd. was formed; financed and operated by the Canadian government. The new company bought out the Curtiss plant and the airfield at Long Branch.



This card is from a member of the U.S. 27th Aero Squadron. He was being trained in Canada by the Royal Flying Corps. Note the return address: "Jos.G. Broz/ 27th Aero Squadron/ Royal Flying Corps/ Leaside Camp/N. Toronto, Can."

Page 860

Dear CMMSG Members:

Another newsletter which, I hope, is of some interest. Thanks again to all contributors....without you it would be difficult! Doug, our Chairman and Treasurer, reports that his updated work of Bailey & Toop is progressing well. Jim Felton wrote to report the sad passing of noted British author, researcher, and collector Frank Daniel on December 13, 2005. Although not a group member, his Great War B.E.F. censor work assisted us all. Jerry Jarnick informed us on a few additions to Dave Hanes' previous article "New CFPO's" (NL#173, Jan.2006,pp.844-845). He noted John Conrad's Canadian Stamp News (Feb.27,2001) article documented CFPO 5033 as operating from Pristina, Kosovo from Sept.11,1999 to Nov.17,1999. Jerry commented that the operating time was less than ten weeks. He also added that CFPO 5058 opened in Kandahar, Afghanistan on Aug.2,2005 in support of OP ARCHER. I apologize for some of the poor quality of the illustrations in Dave's article and a few others. I failed to mention that the previously-sent "Democracy at War" bookmarks from the Canadian War Museum were kindly sent by Rachel Turner, Communications Officer, C.W.M. I hope that members had an opportunity to view the website <http://warmuseum.ca/cwm/newspapers/> (.)

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

--CHRISTOPHER W. GREEN

--BOB INGRAHAM

Good luck to those entering exhibits this year. For those planning on the "big" WASHINGTON 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition, remember that both the Military Postal History Society and the Civil Censorship Study Group will be meeting there. Be sure to attend their respective seminars/information tables etc. Sadly, our study group won't be meeting there but we will have a meeting at BNAPEX in Sudbury, Ontario this fall! Details to follow.

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SMALL ADS

WANTED: WWII FPO covers. Condition not important but must be used during months of: FPO 434 or other 4 CIB usage: JA'42;JU'42;FE'44;MR'44;MY'45;FPO 435 or 5 CIB usage: OC'41;NO'41;OC'43;FE'44;JY'44;AP'45;FPO 436 or 6 CIB usage: AP'41;OC'41;FE'42;MY'42;OC'44;JA'45;MR'45;MY'45. Buy or trade. Kim Dodwell, Middle House, Cruckmeole, Hanwood, Shrewsbury SY5 8JN, U.K.(3/10)

WANTED: Canada Air Letters with postage paid by adhesive stamps mailed to Canadian Armed Forces personnel overseas (except Britain and Ireland) between September 1945 and December 1952. Please send with price to Mike Street, 73 Hatton Dr., Ancaster, ON L9G 2H5 or advise by email: [mikestreet@hwc.org](mailto:mikestreet@hwc.org) (3/10)

WANTED: WWI Newfoundland covers/cards/ephemera. Also seeking pre-1914 Royal Navy ship covers used from Canadian ports (Nanaimo/Victoria, BC; Halifax, NS etc.). Priced photocopies to the Editor please. (2/2)

...Remember, "SMALL ADS" are only \$1.00 Canadian per insertion (mint stamps are ok too). Buy, sell, trade etc.

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