



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

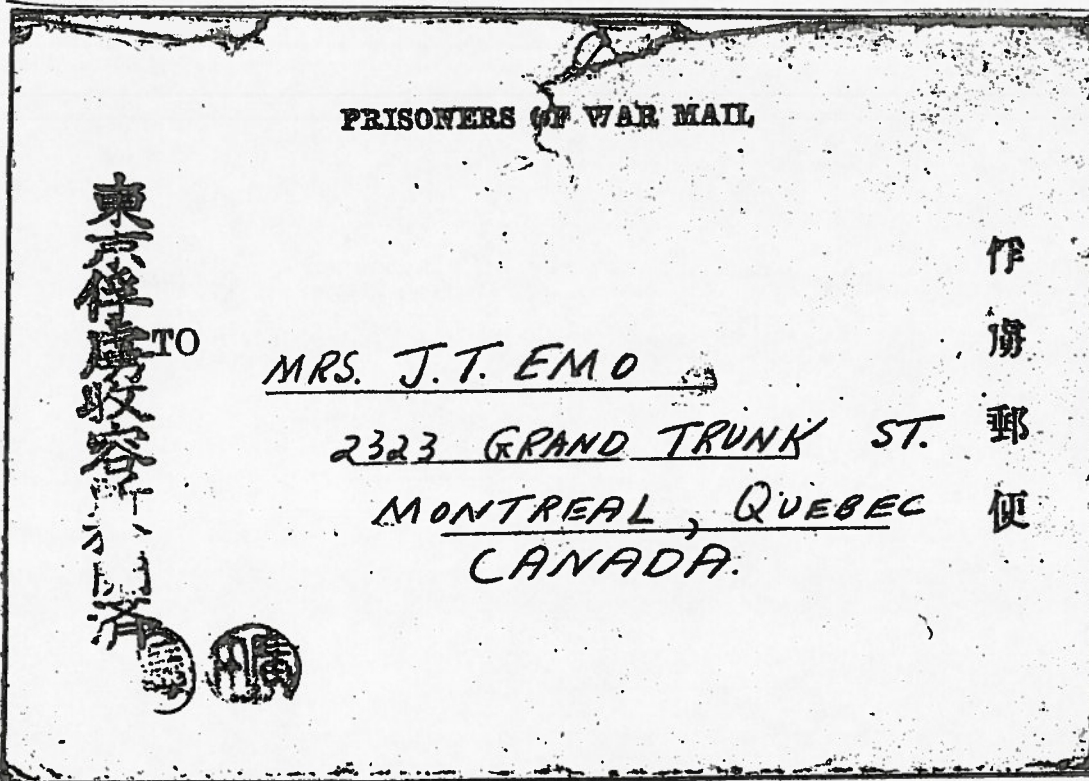
NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2009

NEWSLETTER NO. 191
Page 1051

ONE WHO DIDN'T MAKE IT: A 'FORCE C' CASUALTY--By Robert Henderson

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[Cont'd.]

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

EDITOR: D. MARIO, P.O. BOX 342, STN. MAIN, SASKATOON, SK S7K 3L3



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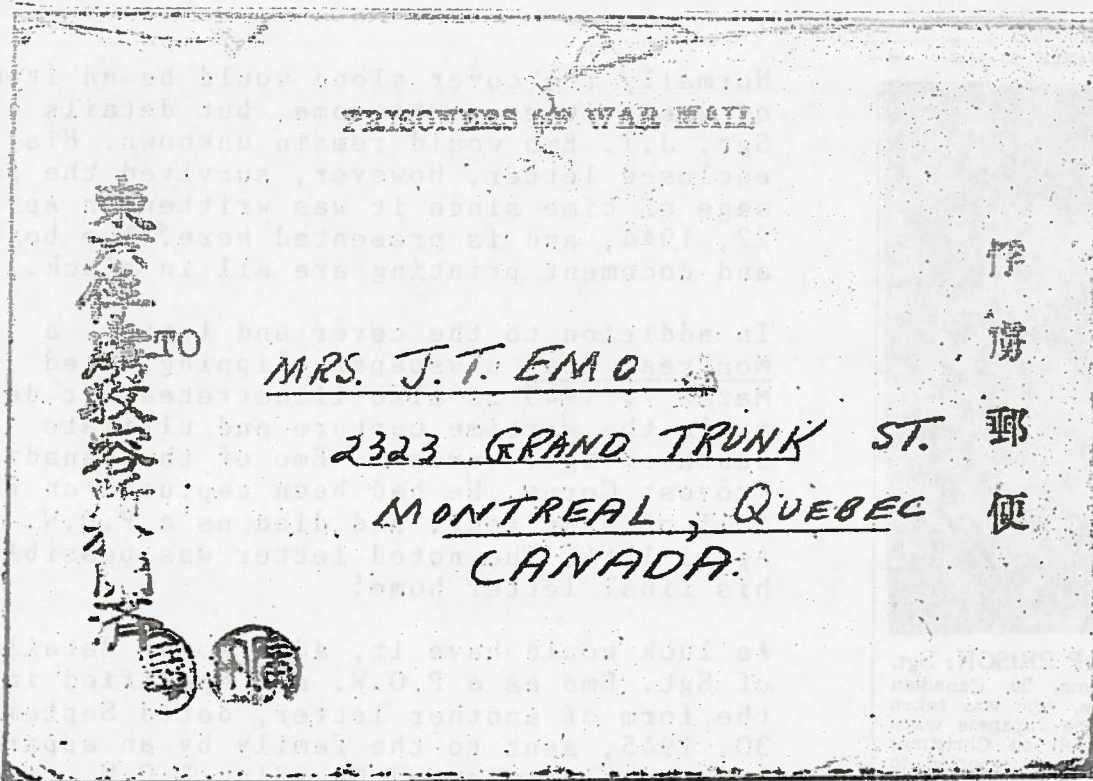
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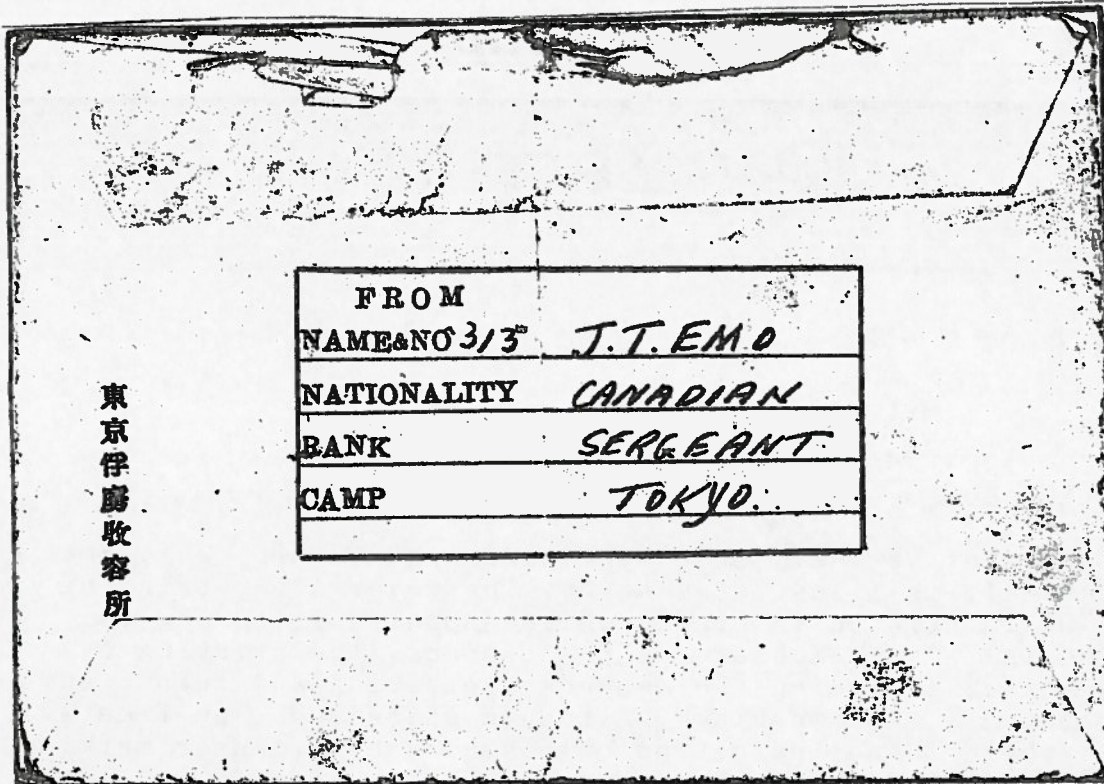


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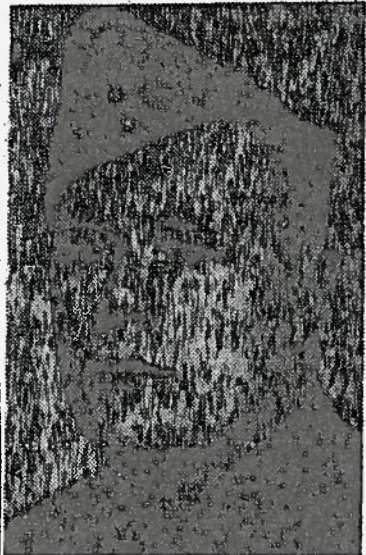
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Page 1052



STAR, FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1945



DIES IN JAP PRISON: Sgt. James T. Emo, 29, Canadian Provost Corps, who was taken prisoner by the Japanese when Hong Kong fell on Christmas Eve, 1941, is now reported to have died in a prisoner of war camp. His wife and two small sons live at 2323 Grand Trunk street, and his mother, Mrs. Mary Emo, lives at 2119 Wellington street. Despite the fact that her husband is reported to have died in April, 1944, information to that effect has only just reached Mrs. E.

Normally the cover alone would be an item of great interest to some, but details of Sgt. J.T. Emo would remain unknown. His enclosed letter, however, survived the passage of time since it was written on April 22, 1944, and is presented here.* The border and document printing are all in black.

In addition to the cover and letter, a Montreal Star newspaper clipping dated March 7, 1945 is also illustrated. It details the wartime capture and ultimate death of Sgt. James T. Emo of the Canadian Provost Corps. He had been captured on the fall of Hong Kong, and died as a P.O.W. in April 1944. The noted letter was possibly his final letter home!

As luck would have it, additional details of Sgt. Emo as a P.O.W. are specified in the form of another letter, dated September 30, 1945, sent to the family by an apparently recently-released Canadian P.O.W., W. Pappas.

The four-page letter, written on Canadian Y.M.C.A. (Active Service) stationery, en-

[Cont'd.]

hances the information about Sgt. Emo and fills in some of the missing details*. This combination of information personalizes the loss of a husband and father--a loss suffered by veterans' families even today.

Many P.O.W. camps in Japan were divided into "groups" for administrative purposes. Each of these groups took the name of the location from which it was governed; though individual camps may have been some distance apart and each of the locations bore their own name.

For example, the Tokyo Group's individual camps included:

Shinagawa, or Inacawa
Yokohama--PA Central
Tokyo Camp
Urawa
Negishi

Hiraoka or Hiraka
Kawasaki
Sumire
Yamashita

[reduced to 75%* Ed.]

	TOKIO No. _____ CAMP
	DATE <u>APRIL 22, 1944</u>
	DEAREST PAT.- I WAS HAPPY TO RE-
	CEIVE SEVERAL LETTERS FROM
	YOU; CLARA AND OTHERS, AND AM GLAD
	TO HEAR YOU ARE ALL WELL. YOUR
	PICTURE ALMOST SHOCKED ME; BUT
	I STILL LOVE YOU AS MUCH AS EVER.
東京 俘虜 收容 所	THE BOYS ARE REALLY LOOKING
	FINE AND THE TWINS ARE VERY
	PRETTY. THE PARCEL WAS EXCEL-

[Cont'd.]

Page 1054

TOKIO No. _____ OAMP
 DATE APRIL 22, 1944

LENT. I HOPE YOU ARE PREPARING
 FOR A FAST LIFE FOR AWHILE AFTER
 I GET BACK AS I CERTAINLY INTEND
 TO MAKE UP FOR ALL THE PRESSURES
 WE HAVE MISSED. I AM PLANNING
 ON A LOT OF BIG THINGS FOR US AND
 PRAY THAT IT WILL BE SOON. SO
 CHINS UP DARLING; I KNOW YOU
 LOVE YOUR JIM AS MUCH AS EVER.
 Jim.

東京伊藤收寄所

SEPT 30 1943

CANADIAN



ON ACTIVE SERVICE

Dear Mr Eno,

A written word to let you know that I received your letter a few days ago. This is really the first opportunity I have had to answer you. A long time ago, in a Japanese Prison Camp, I picked up a diary belonging to Sgt. Eno. Whether it was ~~the~~ yours, away or lost I do not know. But what I did know was that Sgt. Eno was dead. I kept

[Cont'd.]

this diary with the intentions of returning it to his folks — namely his wife. I had read this diary many times in my spare moments and I gathered that Sgt Emo must have had a great love and affection for his wife and family, as his diary was full of idyllic memories of his days back home. I am deeply sorrow to add also that Sgt Emo was a very sick boy from his early captivity till the time that he died! He was suffering from dysentery most of all and a few other milder diseases. I hate to

3
write this, but you want facts. And, the important fact is that I did not know Sgt Emo personally. What I know about him I got from his diary written for a period of 4 months somewhere in 1943. If Sgt Emo had kept a diary from Christmas day of 1941 till the time of his death I do not know. I know that he had a lot of friends in the R.R.C. and I am sure that you will find out better from them news on Sgt Emo. The lad knew that his health was bad so that he might have made some arrangements with his

[Cont'd.]

closest friends on anything that he may have wanted to comment to his folks.

This diary that I speak of was discovered and taken away from me at the time of a search in the Jap Prison Camp. I was beaten up very bad because of it. It also contained bad remarks against the Japanese, so I guess Sgt. Cno must have hated them as bad as I did. Give my heart felt regards to Mrs. Cno (you) for her great love and tell her that she should feel very proud to have had a husband in Sgt. Cno. I remain yours sincerely
Pete Gray

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

--BNAPEX 2009, Kingston, Ontario

The meeting of our Study Group attracted eighteen (18) members--the best attendance by far for many years. The primary discussion concerned how we can celebrate the upcoming 200th issue of our Newsletter. This is definitely something to celebrate--how many newsletters ever get to their 200th issue? Many of our members will recall that the 100th issue was celebrated with the CMMSG Anthology.

Member Mike Street was able to tell us that the Publications Committee has recently reprinted this book to meet demand. I take this to be proof of the continuing value of the information in the Anthology to military collectors.

Most members thought that a second Anthology would be the best way to recognize our 200th anniversary. So here is the challenge: suggest possible titles and topics drawn from your own interests, expertise, and research. Please send suggestions to me at sayles@sympatico.ca or to the postal address on the front of your newsletter.

The rules are very simple: the information should be new, OR the topics should have lasting value to collectors, OR tell an interesting story, OR report research/observation on your specialty. Length is flexible and can range from a single page to a small book. Pete Gray,

1353 Oakdale Rd., Rock Hill, SC USA 29730, has volunteered to take input in any format--including handwritten--and put it into a standard format. Mike Street will provide format specs which will give the new Anthology some uniformity and reduce printers/publishers' difficulties to a minimum.

A particular suggestion made at our meeting was that censor number vs unit/ship lists should be published. I think this is a fine example of new information of lasting value, and information which after publication would lead to many new identifications.

A new Anthology is a huge undertaking and will be successful only if all members pitch in and contribute. As our previous Editor Ken Ellison said as he turned over the reins in Newsletter issue #100--tuum est--it's up to you.

--Membership Lists

CMMSG has published a membership list with addresses every second or third year since the 1970's. Current Canadian "privacy" legislation makes such lists impossible unless each and every member has individually agreed to be so listed. However it appears that if we associate the renewal of membership with the explicit condition that such information will be published, it appears that we are within the law. Naturally there must be an "opt out" option also offered. Also, at the next call for dues (late 2010 at worst), I would also like to be able to document each member's special interests. We are such a small number scattered over a whole continent (never mind our members outside North America), that I think it is important that members with specific collecting interests should be aware of members with like interests and be able to contact them. I propose to proceed on this basis at the time of the next dues call.

MEMBERS WRITE

[Our Australian member, David Collyer, writes in to us concerning the May 2009 (Issue #190) articles:

"I was interested in the article on Telegraph Censorship and particularly 'EFM'. Australians in the Middle East first used this service around 1941. The article is correct in the example. The ones I have seen have the entry typed on tape and then the full message is reproduced below.

In regards to the strike of APO 214, frankly it does not look 'Australian'. I would have expected the text and APO designation to be engraved facing inwards on the edge of the circle. There is an 'Aust. Army P.O. 214' listed in Ted Proud's book on Australian Forces postal services to 1950.

Proud says APO 214:

--Allotted 07/11/42 to New Guinea Force (NGF) but not received until 09/07/43

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Page 1058

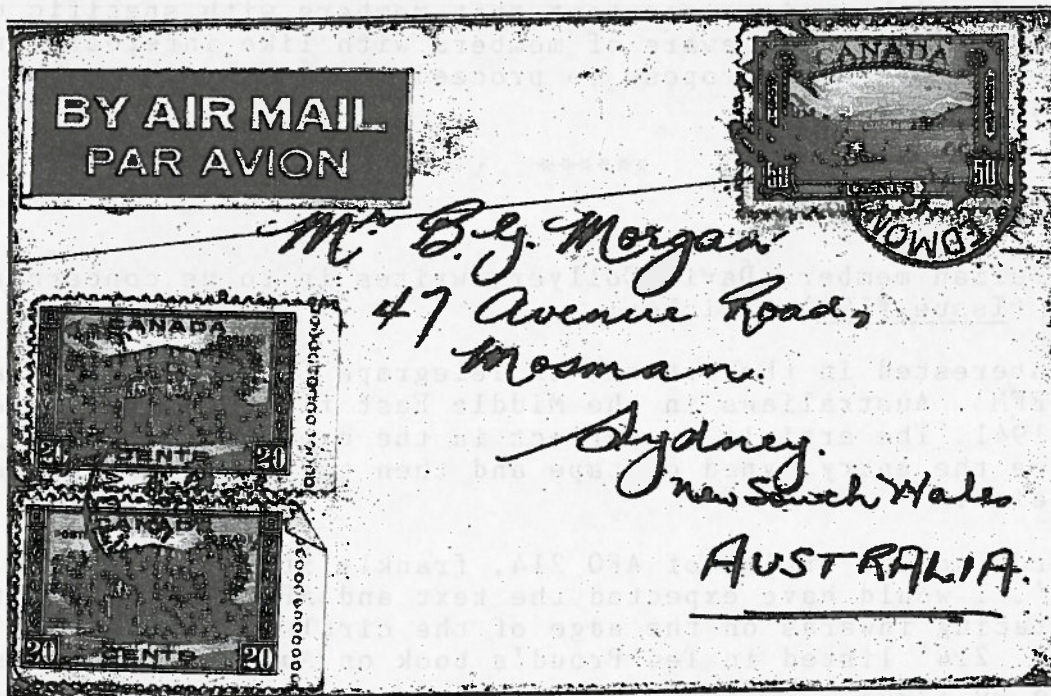
- 5 LofC Postal Unit Bardia Road, Port Moresby (23/04/44-02/10/44)
- Finschhafen APO (from FPO 060) 06/02/45 to 16/08/48
- In reserve 25/10/45 and January 1946
- 8 Base Postal Unit, Japan-34 Inf.Bde 17/02/46 to 18/05/46
- Tokyo-Empire House 21/05/46 to 1950

Proud's book ends in 1950. Yoshimi Ito, BCOF Overprints and British Commonwealth and Indian Military Postal Services in Japan and Korea list Aust. Army P.O. 214 as at Kobe-Tokyo from March 1946 to 1951. P. Collas wrote a book on BCOF/Korea but I do not have immediate access.

If this is 'Australian', I would think that it was a Canadian postal unit working within an Australian Army P.O. in Tokyo. Checking Ito, New Zealand used FPO 222 in Japan so they do not fit. The British? The Indians left Japan in 1947 and did not have an FPO in the 200's. Could it have been a U.S. APO?"]

NO.2 AIR OBSERVER SCHOOL, EDMONTON 1941--By David Collyer

This is an RCAF envelope from Edmonton, Alberta to Sydney, Australia on November 28, 1941, posted home by a member of the Empire Air Training Scheme. No.2 A.O.S. was civilian-operated and used civilian post offices. The franking of 90¢ Canadian prepaid for air from San Francisco to Auckland on FAM 19 by P.A.A. Boeing 314 Clipper.

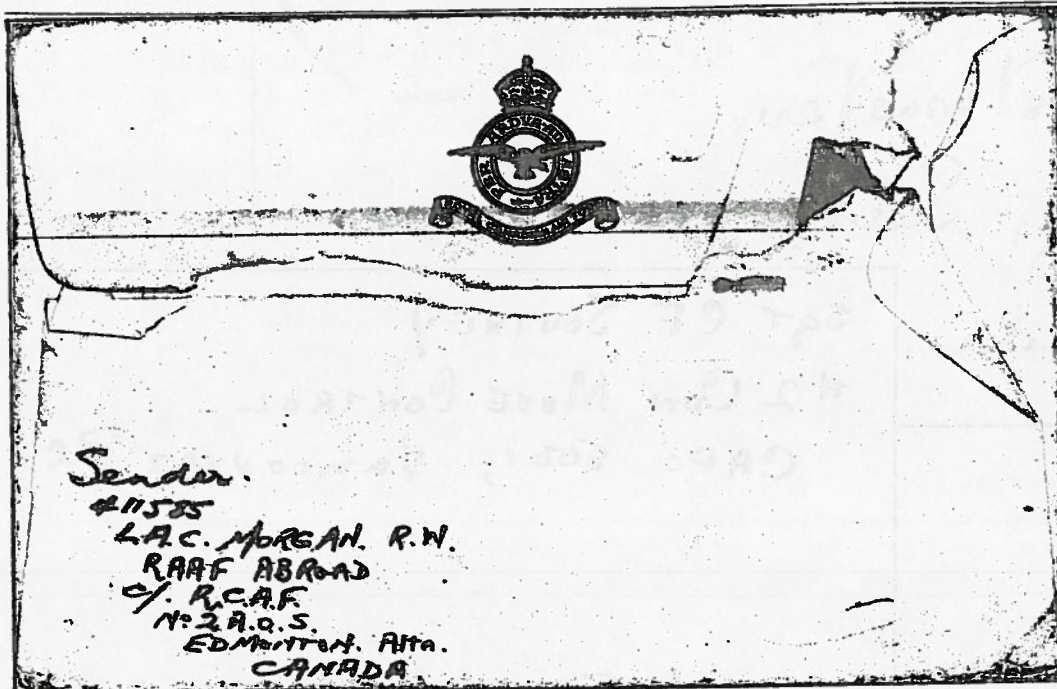


Service to Auckland was called the "ANZAC Clipper" by the Americans, while service to San Francisco was called the "California Clipper" by the Australians. The date of posting of November 28, 1941, means that

[Cont'd.]

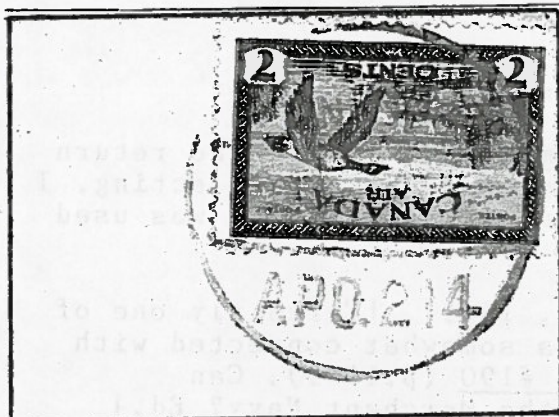
it may have been on the final service into New Zealand. If it missed that service, then it would have been sent to surface as P.A.A. stopped flying past Hawaii from December 7, 1941.

If it did get to Auckland it would have been flown across the Tasman Sea on TEAL (Tasman Empire Airways Limited) and a Short S30 Flying Boat. TEAL had a monopoly on the Auckland-Australia service. Mosman is one of the northern harbour side suburbs of Sydney. The Taronga Zoo is located in this suburb which is connected to Circular Quay by harbour ferry.



CDN. SECT. APO 214, KOREA RE-VISITED--By Doug Lingard

Here is an illustration of another "CDN. SECT. APO 214 APO 214" dated December 11, 1951 (?).



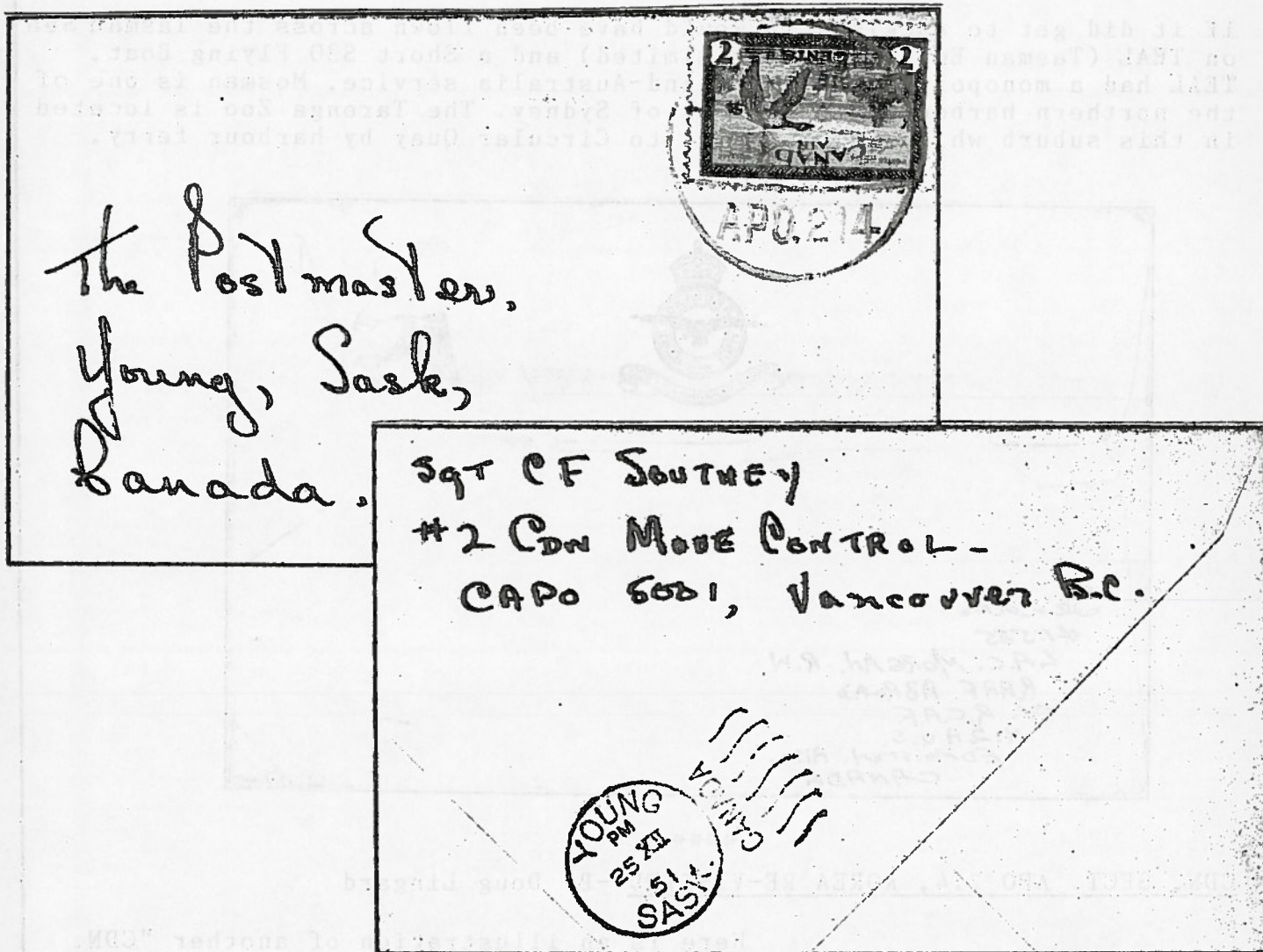
The cover has a "Young, Sask." duplex dated December 25, 1951 (Christmas Day).

Stephenson Stobbs' book, Postmarks Of The Australian Forces: From All Fronts, 1939 To 1953 (Batley, W. Yorkshire, U.K.: Harry Hayes Philatelic Study #21, 1976). ISBN 0 905222 13X, lists Australian Army P.O. 214 with an "unknown" place but in the Korean Campaign from June 1950 (ERD) to November 30, 1952 (LRD). This device seems to be an Australian cancel prepared to

[Cont'd.]

Page 1060

cancel Canadian mail. [Illustrations have been cropped to preserve space.Ed.]



CANADIAN MARITIME MAIL BOXED MARKING, 1945--By Colin Pomfret

The following A.F.A.L. is from S.S. Tweedsmuir Park. Note the return address as "Box 9000, Montreal". In over forty years of collecting, I have never seen this marking previously and, presumably, it was used for Merchant Navy mail.

The Air Letter is headed "In Port, April 8, 1945". [Certainly one of the more elusive naval markings and perhaps somewhat connected with the straight-line marking as seen in Issue #190 (p.1045). Can members provide other examples related to the Merchant Navy? Ed.]

[Cont'd.]

ARMED FORCES
AIR LETTER

AIR MAIL

AGENTS
Post 145
Here

CANADIAN
MARITIME
MAIL

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

TO: Mr and Mrs. N. K. Martin
64 Burlington Rd.
Mimico Ontario,
Canada.

letter No. 15

FROM:
(Sender's full name and address)

M. N. Martin
Tweedsmuir Park
Box 9000 Montreal
Canada

A.B.P.O. 1945 Krag Cancel Enquiry--By Bill Pekonen

Illustrated below is a photocopy of an envelope that I found in one of my files. I looked up the office in Bailey and Toop, Canadian Military Postal Markings (Vol.II) and the book lists an opening date of February 1945*. The cover shows a January 27, 1945 date. Unfortunately the book does not illustrate any related Krag cancels. The purple rubber "RELEASED BY BASE CENSOR/24 JAN 1945" is typical for this period.

Canadian Army Active Forces

Canadian Legion War Services Inc.
Canadian Knights of Columbus War Services
Canadian Y.M.C.A. Overseas
The Salvation Army Canadian War Services

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
A.B.P.O. 1
27 JAN 45

RELEASED
24 JAN 1945
BASE CENSOR

Mrs. J.W. MacMillan,
220 Clarke St.,
Oshawa, Ontario,
CANADA.

CFA 172
40/P&S/2066

[Cont'd.]

Page 1062

The sender, as noted on the cover's reverse, was "B-57493 Cfn [sic] MacMillan, J.W.". Can anyone shed some light on this cover? (*p.433).

Dear CMMSG Members:

Fall will soon be here and another collecting season will be underway (although many of us collect throughout the year!). Our Chairman, Doug Sayles, has sent in a BNAPEX report and members are encouraged to share their thoughts and, of course, articles related to a proposed Anthology for our upcoming 200th issue (which should be scheduled in late 2010 or 2011). It is never too early to begin. Thanks to Pete Gray for his very kind offer to assist our group.

Unfortunately, at the time of publication, the BNAPEX awards were not on the website (or I just couldn't find them), but congratulations are extended to all members who exhibited. I hope to have a listing of the relevant military exhibits for our next issue.

Congratulations are extended to the following: ORAPEX 2009: David Hobden*, "In Defence of the Border 1667-1885: Canadian Military Mails," Gold, Grand Award, E.R. Toop Best Military Postal History Award, BNAPS Best Research BNA Exhibit Award; J.M. Powell, Gold, APS Medal of Excellence (1940-1980), Trajan Publishing Award; "Notes Through Barbed Wire" Silver, "Five Years in Captivity,"; Anthony Fulmes, "Sudan, Postal Services on Operation SAFARI, July 2007-February 2008," Vermeil, APS Medal of Excellence (post-1980), BNAPS Elizabethan Study Group Award, AAPE Creativity Award; ROYAL 2009: C. Pomfret, "Canadian Airmen in the Great War," Silver, (*Non-member).

A very warm welcome is extended to our newest members: Robert Henderson and Maj. Anthony J. Fulmes. Many of you will know Bob as an accomplished author, researcher, and collector of P.O.W. material and artifacts. He had kindly sent in the feature article which, I hope, will be the first of many. Anthony Fulmes is a serving officer in the Canadian Armed Forces and an accomplished exhibitor and military mail collector. Welcome to both!

Our sincere condolences are extended to our former Newsletter Editor J. Colin Campbell, on the loss of his wife Editha on September 9, 2009.

SMALL ADS

Small ads are accepted from members who wish to buy, sell, trade, or? Cost is \$1.00Cdn. per insertion and mint postage at face is fine. Ad copy and payment to the Editor please.

WANTED: Airmail covers from M.P.O. 314 (Kingston, Ontario). Please send details to Chris Hargreaves, 4060 Bath Road, Kingston, ON K7M 4Y4 or email: hargreavescp@sympatico.ca (1/4)

Members who have received their Canada Post Details will have already seen the new "Lest We Forget" stamp. Watch for it October 19, 2009!
