



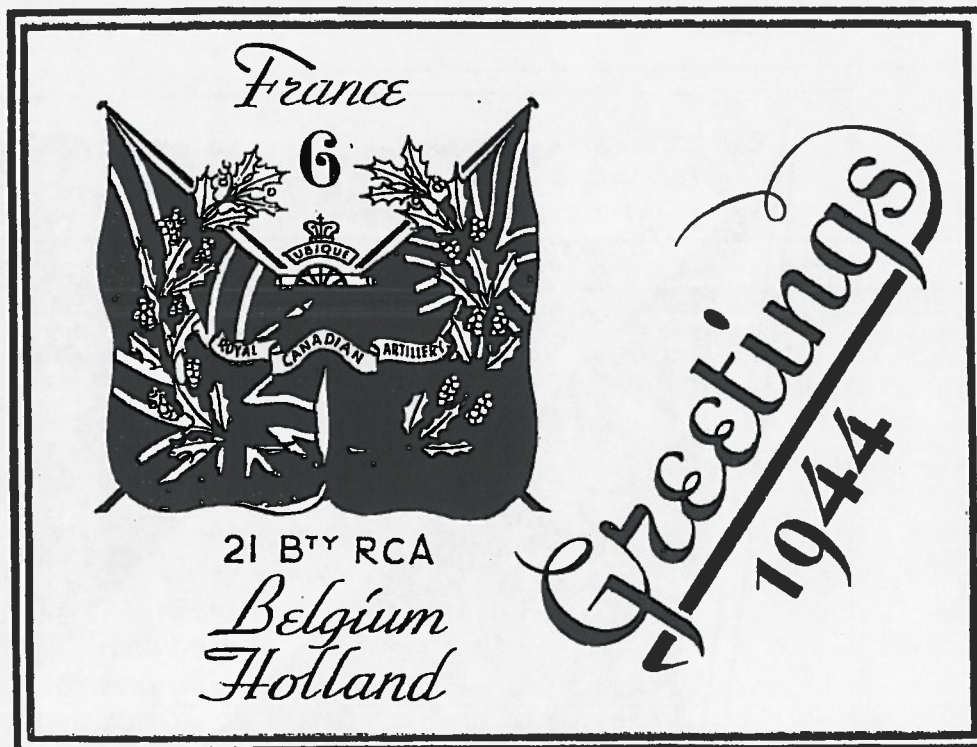
Canadian Military Mail Study Group

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2010

NEWSLETTER NO. 197
Page 1123

SEASON'S GREETINGS, 21 BTY ROYAL CANADIAN
ARTILLERY, 1944--By Robert Henderson



[Cont'd.]

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(sayles@sympatico.ca)

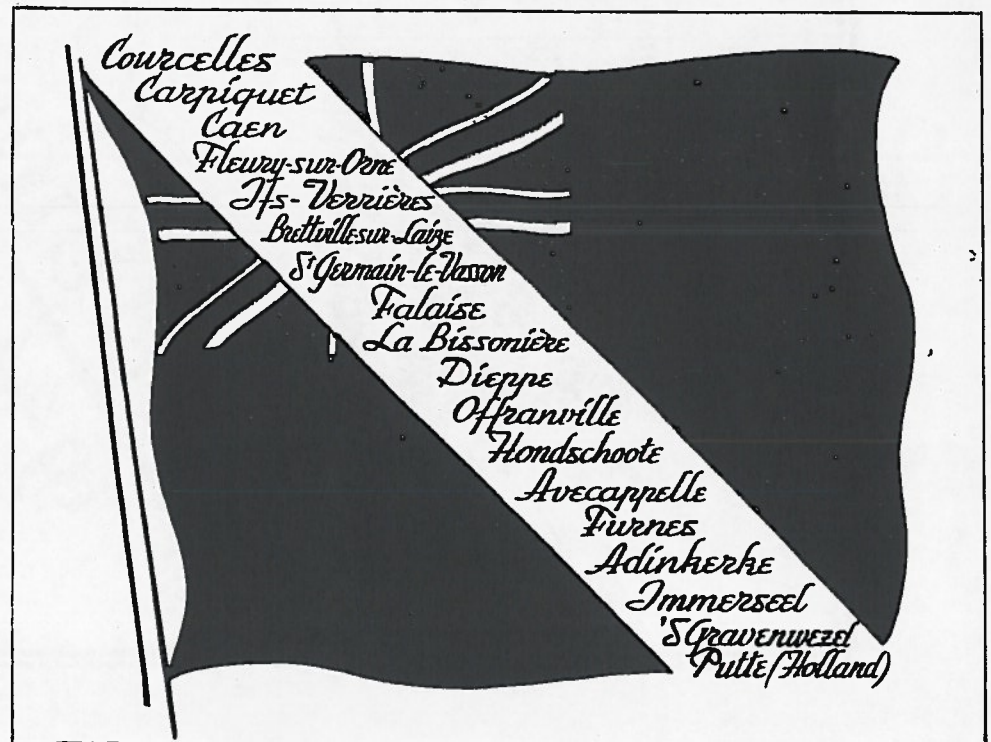
EDITOR: D. MARIO, POST OFFICE BOX 342, STN. MAIN, SASKATOON, SK S7K 3L3
(blueputtees@hotmail.com)

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Dear Wint

With very best wishes
for
A Merry Christmas
and a
Victorious
New Year
Sincerely, Sol

Regards to
your folks.



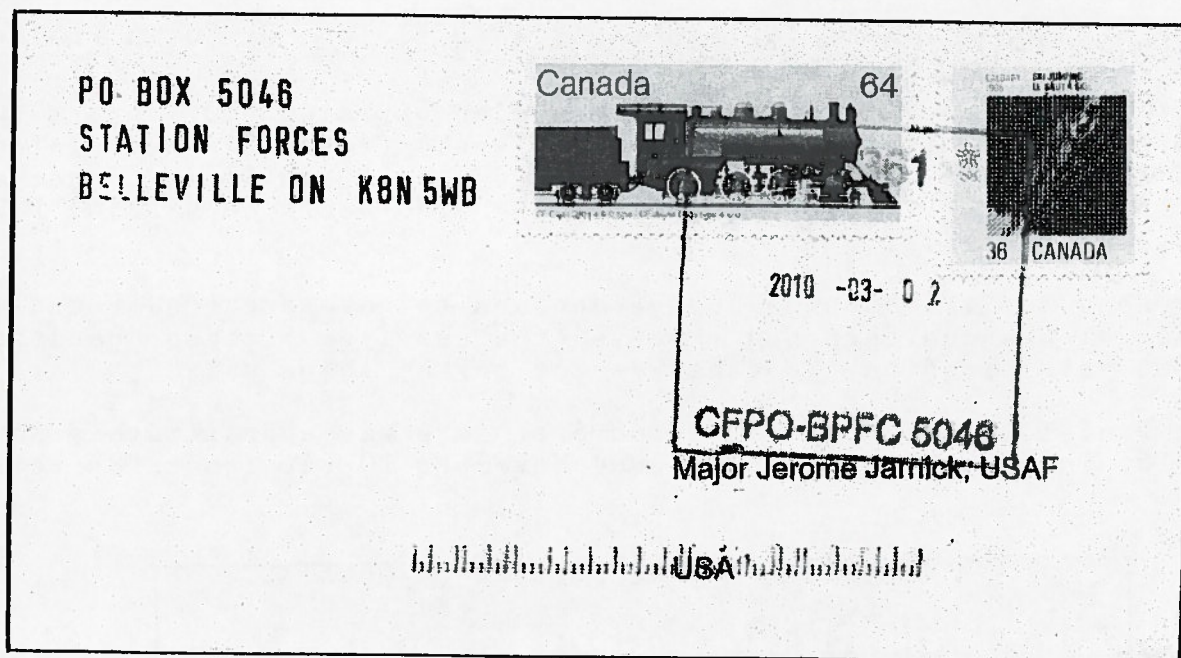
HAITIAN EARTHQUAKE RELIEF--By Jerome C. Jarnick

On January 12, 2010 Haiti was struck by an earthquake measuring 7.3 on the Richter Scale, with the epicenter located about 15 km. from the centre of the capital city of Port au Prince.

According to Red Cross estimates, some three million people were affected.

[Cont'd.]

ted by the quake. A Joint-Task Force Haiti was established, under the command of Brigadier General Guy Laroche to provide emergency relief. The destroyer H.M.C.S. Athabaskan, with a Sea King helicopter detachment, was despatched to Léogâne for the operation. CFPO 5054 was opened to support the task force.



The Disaster Assistance Response Team (D.A.R.T.) was based at the resort city of Jacmel, about 35 km. southwest of Port au Prince. The team was equipped to purify water, provide medical assistance, and provide some engineering aid. CFPO 5046 was opened in Jacmel to support Canadian personnel. The frigate H.M.C.S. Halifax supplied Jacmel by speed boats because of the condition of the port.

At the peak the components of the task force comprised about 2,050 personnel of the maritime, land, and air components divided between Port au Prince, Léogâne, and Jacmel. Air operations were based at Toussaint Louverture International Airport at Port au Prince and the municipal airfield at Jacmel.

CAMP BORDEN REGISTERED PARCEL TAG RE-VISITED--By Mike Street

I believe that Colin Pomfret's registered parcel tag (NL#196, Aug. 2010, pp. 1120-1121) was not for a parcel. According to the notes and comments in BNA Topics (Whole No. 505, Oct.-Dec. 2005, p.70 and references) after approximately 1921 with only a very few exceptions (ballot boxes being one), parcels could not be registered. Colin's item was thus a bag of some sort weighing between one and two ounces which was mailed at the double first class rate (3¢ + 2¢ = 5¢ + 10¢ registration). The item was most likely a souvenir or forget-me-not. Since it was registered, I suspect that it may have been a "sweetheart pin" or something similar.

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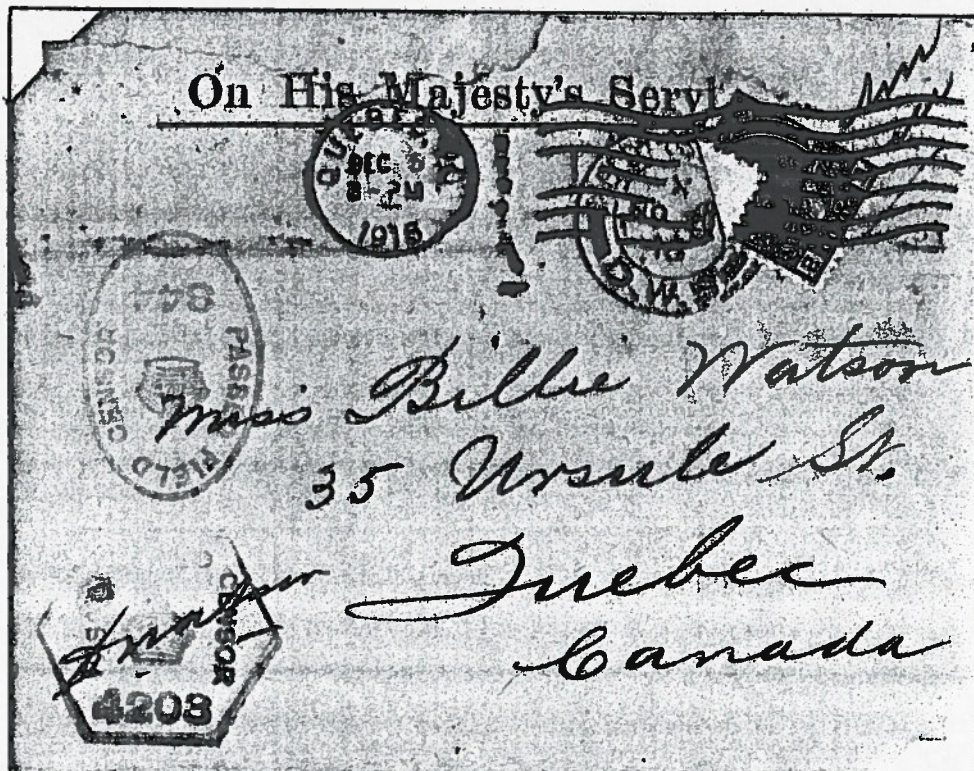
I know that my Dad got one--a "tank" pin set with rhinestones--for my Grandmother when he was at Borden in 1940-1941. [Thanks Mike for the information.Ed.]

UNUSUAL CENSORSHIP FROM THE 4TH CANADIAN DIVISION--By Colin Pomfret

The following cover, from the 4th Canadian Division H.Q., bears two different types of censor handstamps. Type 4 (#4203) is associated with the 54th Canadian Infantry Battalion and Type 5 (#844) is connected with the 4th Canadian Division H.Q. The cover also bears an "F.P.O. D.W.5/X/ NO 21/16" datestamp.

The reason for this unusual usage appears to have occurred because the Divisional Headquarters had received the new Type 5 censor handstamp but had not yet passed on the other device to the lower units.

Frank Daniel states that the witch-over date was approximately November 5, 1916. This cover dates it around November 19 (at least for this Division).



SEASONS GREETINGS

(FROM YOUR STUDY GROUP OFFICERS DOUG AND DEAN!)

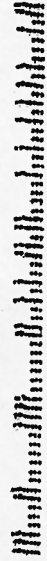
Lt Col RO Accorci
 OP SAFARI
 PO Box 5225 Sth Forces
 Belleuille, ON K8N 5W6
 CANADA

CAPT LM JOHNSTON
 OP SAFARI
 PO BOX 5225 STN FORCES
 BELLEVILLE ON K8N 5W6

MR A D HANES
 CANADA



CENTENARY OF FIRST FLIGHT
 United Nations - 2001
 70c



00101/2304

OPERATION AUGURAL-SAFARI, 2007--By A.D. Hanes

These two covers are samples of mail from OPERATION AUGURAL-SAFARI from the Sudan. They were mailed via the United Nation's Headquarters.

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BAHAMIAN FARE: CHRISTMAS 1944 FROM R.A.F.
#111 OPERATIONAL TRAINING UNIT--By Colin Pomfret



Officers' Mess



ROYAL AIR FORCE

NASSAU, BAHAMAS



Christmas Dinner 1944.



Menu

∴
Hots d'Oeuvres

∴
Chicken Soup

∴
Fried Filet of Cod

∴
Roast Turkey - Stuffing - Giblet Sauce
Vienna Sausage

∴
Brussels Sprouts Green Peas

∴
Roast Potatoes
Celery and Olives

∴
Christmas Pudding Mince Pies

∴
Brandy Sauce Fruit Cake

∴
Assorted Nuts Fresh Fruit

∴
Wine - Coffee - Cigars - Cigarettes



OPERATION PODIUM--By Robert Toombs

Here are some Canadian Forces' covers and datestamps related to their Winter Olympics support service. CFPO 5106 at Jericho (Vancouver) may have opened from January 19 and closed on March 22. CFPO 5107 (Whistler) may have opened on January 20 and closed on March 4.

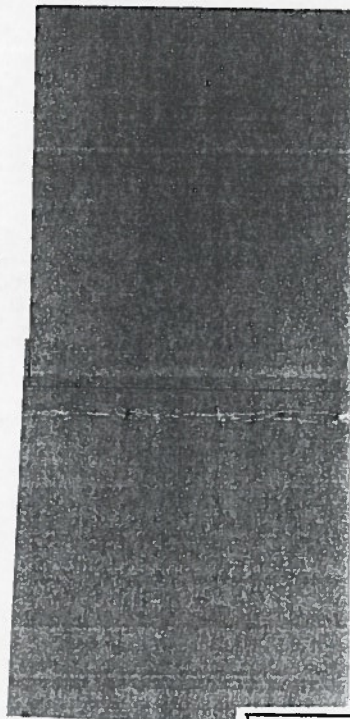
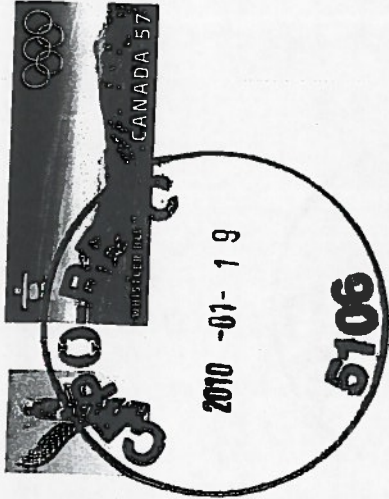
I also saw H.M.C.S. Calgary patrolling the waters between Vancouver and Nanaimo during the Olympics. [Thanks Bob. An attractive set of covers. If

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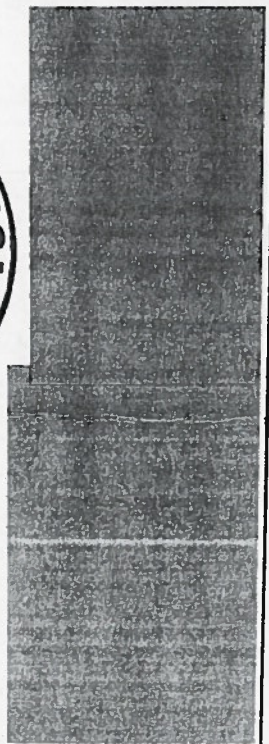
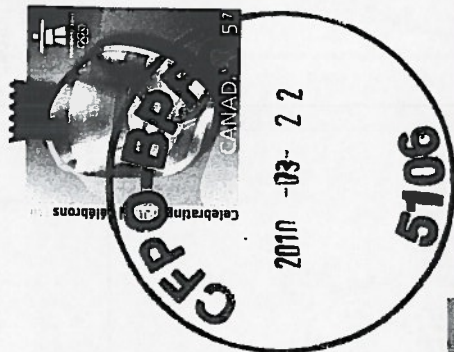
**Operation PODIUM
Canadian Forces
Vancouver 2010
Olympic Support**



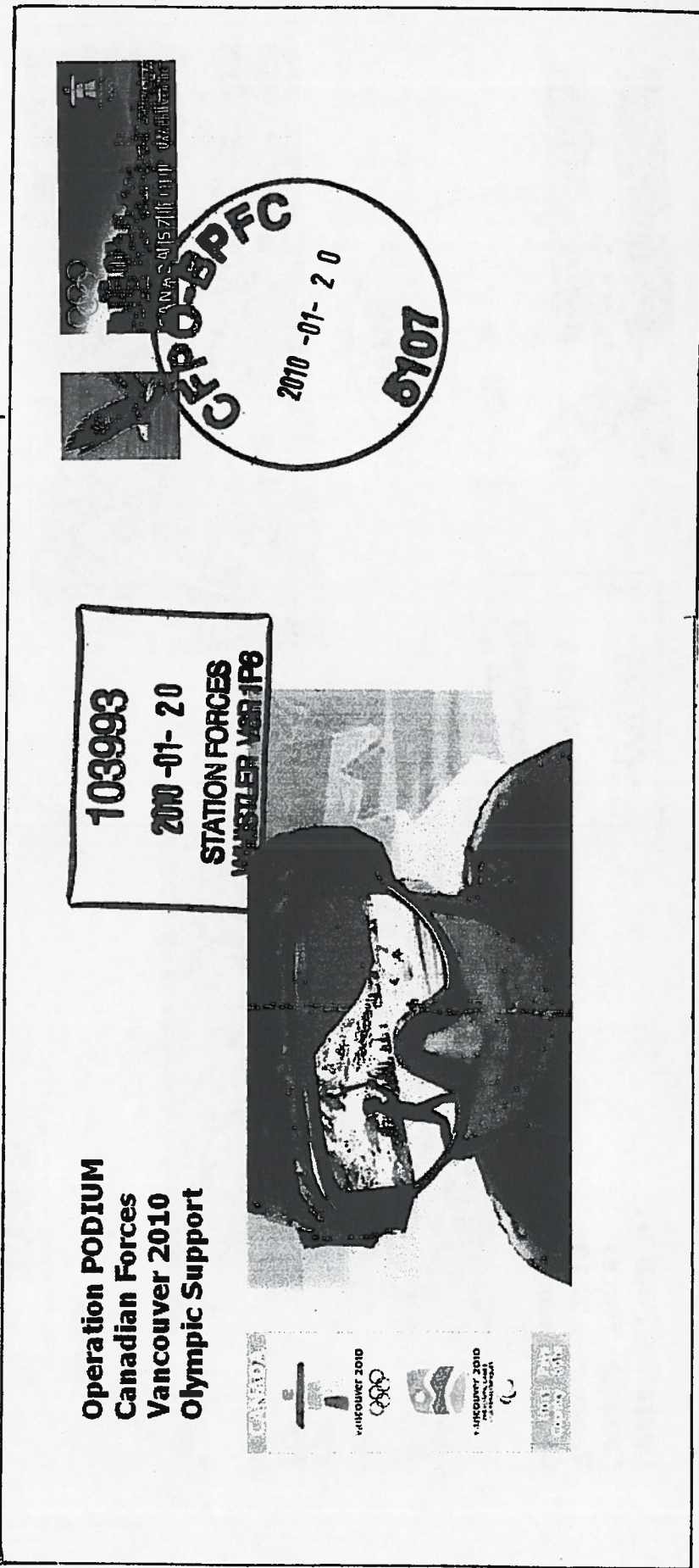
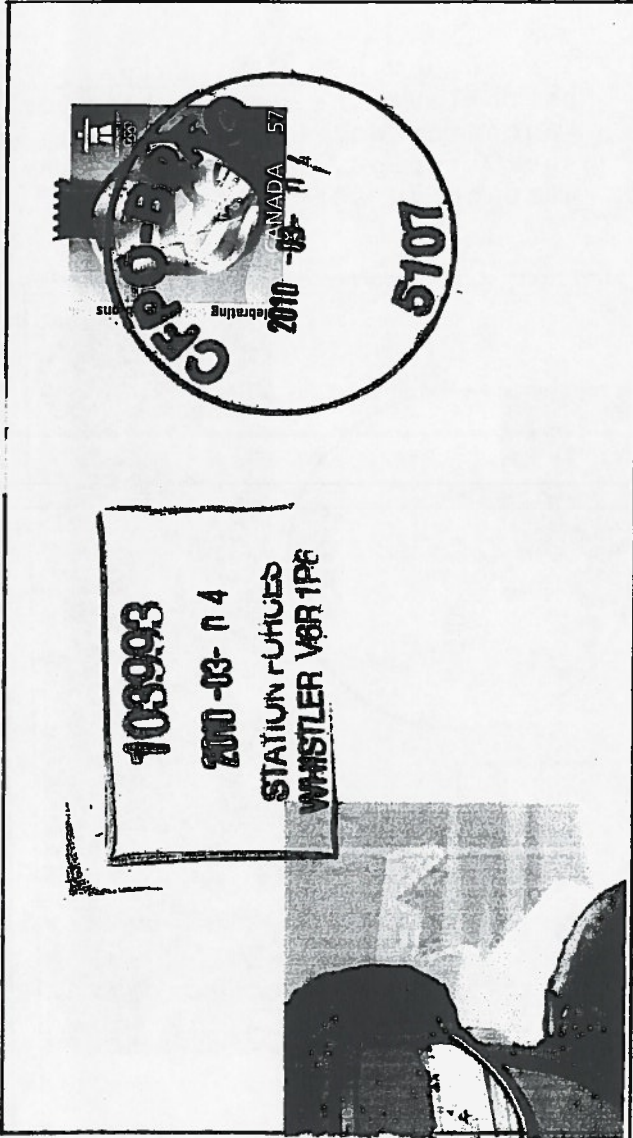
**103985
2010-01-19
STATION FORCES
JERICHO V6R 1P6**



**103985
2010-03-22
STATION FORCES
JERICHO V6R 1P6**



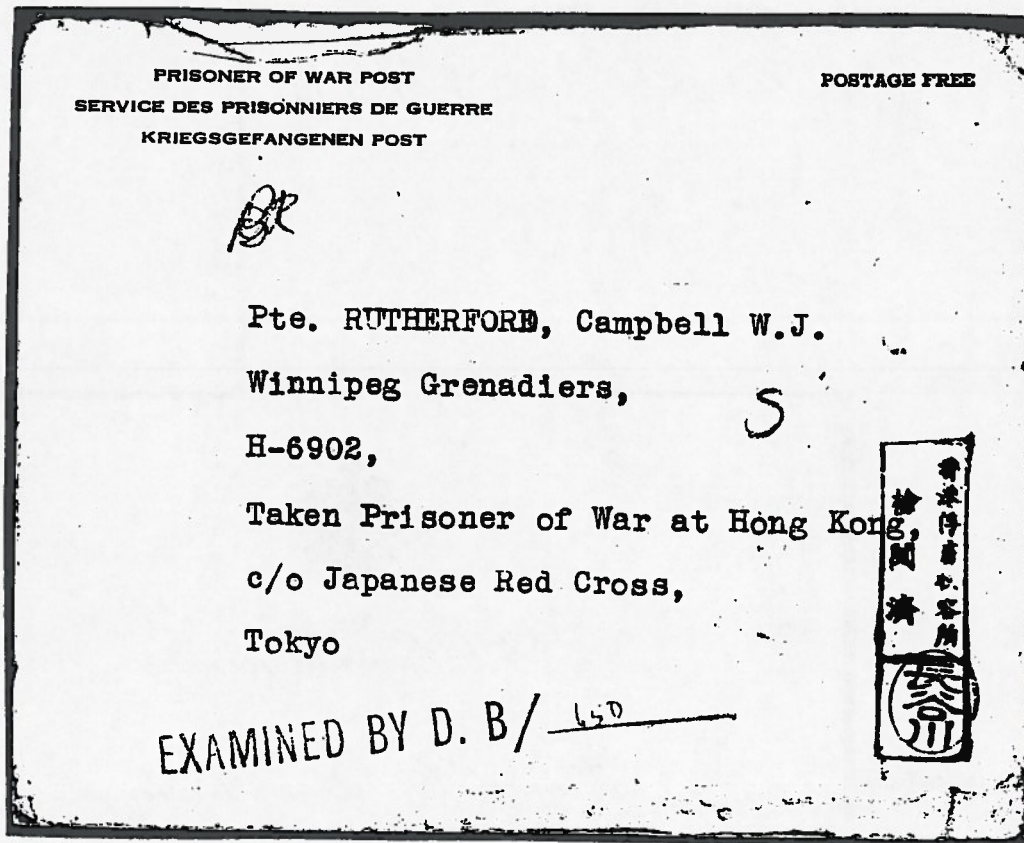
members have a different set of dates, please advise. Ed.]



A SPECIAL ENVELOPE FOR A SPECIAL CARD: 1943
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO FORCE "C"--Robert Henderson

A unique mailing envelope for Prisoner of War Post is presented here, with it having been produced specifically for the Canadian Prime Minister's Office to send 1943 Christmas greetings to Canadians held as prisoners of war--in this case, presumably still being held in Japan.

The colour is off-white, with all printing in black except as noted. A penciled initial is located at the top left of the address. The censor stamp ("EXAMINED BY D. B/" bears an additional "650" in pencil. To the right centre is a blue pencil marked "S" [signifying Sham Shui Po Camp, northwest of Kowloon.Ed.], and the Japanese P.O.W. control stamp or "chop" at the lower right is also in black. The oval, at the bottom of the hash marks, is in the usual red.



With free postage and being directed to the Japanese Red Cross, the Canadian Government no doubt expected a rapid delivery of the above letter to the recipient. Private Rutherford received the card on September 15, 1944; though it would have been intended that he receive it for Christmas 1943.

There can be little doubt that the only reason it was delivered was the source of the letter in combination with using the Japanese Red Cross in the delivery.

It was Private Rutherford's good fortune to survive the war and return

[Cont'd.]

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to Canada after his horrific experience. This card was one of his prized souvenirs from his time as a prisoner. [Members will know, as noted by at least two of our Study Group specialists, Ken Ellison and C. Ron McGuire, that these special Christmas cards were sent to members of "Force C" in 1942, 1943, and 1944. One of Ken's cards, depicted in his The Canadian Army's Hong Kong Story, 1941-1945 (BNAPS Exhibits Series No.8, p.43), had similar delivery delays and the card wasn't received until February 1945 at Oeyama Camp (it too was dated Christmas 1943). Ron's telling "The Postal History of Canada's World War II Hong Kong Field Force," in Stampex Canada Exhibition Programme (Stamp Exhibitions Canada, Inc., Downsview, Ontario, 1982), notes that few of these cards were ever received. One can only imagine the severe psychological effects upon prisoners (among other unspeakable horrors) that delayed or non-existent mail had upon them.Ed.]

FROM THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

SEPT-15-1944



All Canada joins
in
Warmest Christmas Greetings
and good wishes to you

W. L. Mackenzie King

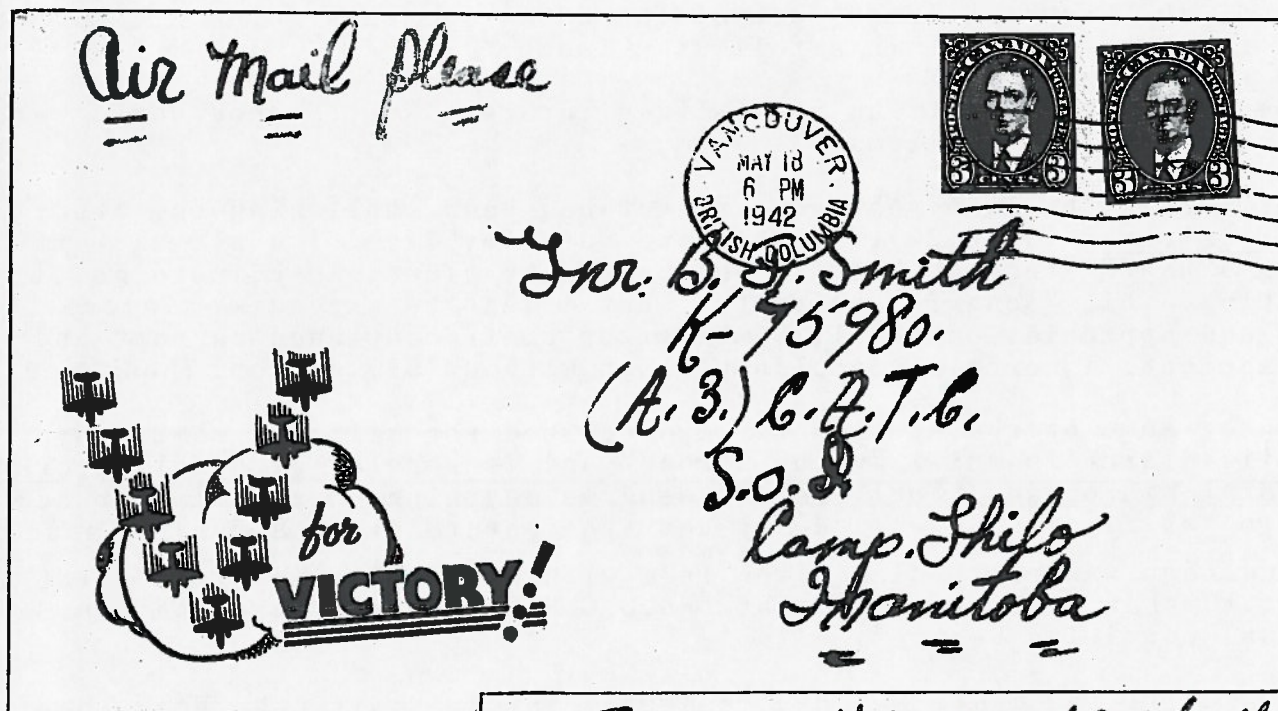
1943

Prime Minister

1942 "S.O.I." ADDRESS: AN ENQUIRY--By Robert Henderson

I'm illustrating a patriotic cover that I've had quite a spell, but I've never been able to ascertain what the fourth line of the address represents. So that is a question for members and any help would be appreciated.

The Regimental Number "K.75980" indicates "Unallotted Infantry, "A.3" is a specific barrack area of Camp Shilo, while "C.A.T.C." represents the Canadian Armoured Training Centre" [Bailey & Toop note it as the "Summer Army Camp.Ed.]. But what does "S.O.(I)" indicate? [Perhaps "Signal Operation Instruction"? Members' help would be most welcome.Ed.]



BNAPEX 2010, VICTORIA, B.C.

Congratulations are extended to the following members (and non-members) who excelled with their exhibits:

- W.G. ROBINSON**, Gold, Sam Nickle Award, "Canadian Participation in the Anglo-Boer War (5 frames); Vermeil, "Canadian Military Postal Presence in Siberia, 1918-1920 (1 frame);
- H. KELLETT**, Vermeil, "Canada's Participation in the Anglo-Boer War, 1899-1902 (4 frames);

[Cont'd.]

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S. LUCIUK, Vermeil, "Remembering the Korean War, 1950-1955" (4 frames);

N. ESCOTT, Silver, "WWII Prisoner of War Camps, Lake Superior" (2 frames) (non-member)

Dear CMMMSG Members:

November is upon us and it is time for the traditional Christmas issue. In keeping with the Remembrance Day thoughts of Canadians at this time of year, I've seen at selected Canada Post Corporation locations a small booklet/packet for sale which buyers can send a postcard to a serving member of the Canadian Armed Forces. There was no space in this issue but I will try to feature it in a following issue.

Welcome to JERRY GLASGO, who specializes in Great War, Second World War, and other "interesting items"!

October marked the 15th year your Editor has been publishing the Study Group Newsletter (NL #120), so this one marks my 77th! I don't know if this is a BNAPS "record" but it must be pretty close. As Editors go, I am getting a bit "long-in-the-tooth", but I want to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to all members for their continued support and encouragement. I certainly couldn't do it without all of you! Thank you.

Judging by some of the auction prices realized for military mail, our specialized area is still "going strong" and is popular with collectors and postal historians. Feel free to send me anything on your latest acquisition or find and I will do my best to feature it in a future issue.

Bob Henderson wanted to clarify an item within his past submission (NL #194, p.1094), and he suspects that "No.3 C.R.C." could represent "No.3 Canadian Recruiting Centre".

C. Ron McGuire, as members know, is deeply involved with the Hong Kong Veteran's Association. He recently wrote to inform me of his attempts to publicize their struggle and sacrifice. He has contacted the War Amps (a few years ago) and has created a special label to use on his mail. I think that it is a great idea and one which members may wish to emulate! Telephone 1-800-250-3030.



REMEMBER
CANADA'S
HONG KONG VETERANS-POW's
1941-1945

SMALL ADS

WANTED: WWII Canadian POW's in OFLAG IVC & Buchenwald covers; F.S.S.F. (Devil's Brigade) covers; WWI Newfoundland cards/covers; Victoria Cross recipient postal history; 19th century Royal Navy & pre-1920 Royal Canadian Navy postal history. Details to the Editor or: blueputtees@hotmail.com (6/6)

WANTED: Sewell Camp/Camp Hughes postal history on postcards and covers. Pre-WWI militia camps and 1915/16 C.E.F. eras. Eagerly seeking registered mail, incoming mail, and EKV, LKV strikes. Darcy Hickson, RR#2, Box 24, Brandon, MB R7A 5Y2; (204) 725-0621; or email: hicksondj@mts.net (4/10)
