

Canadian Military Mail Study Group

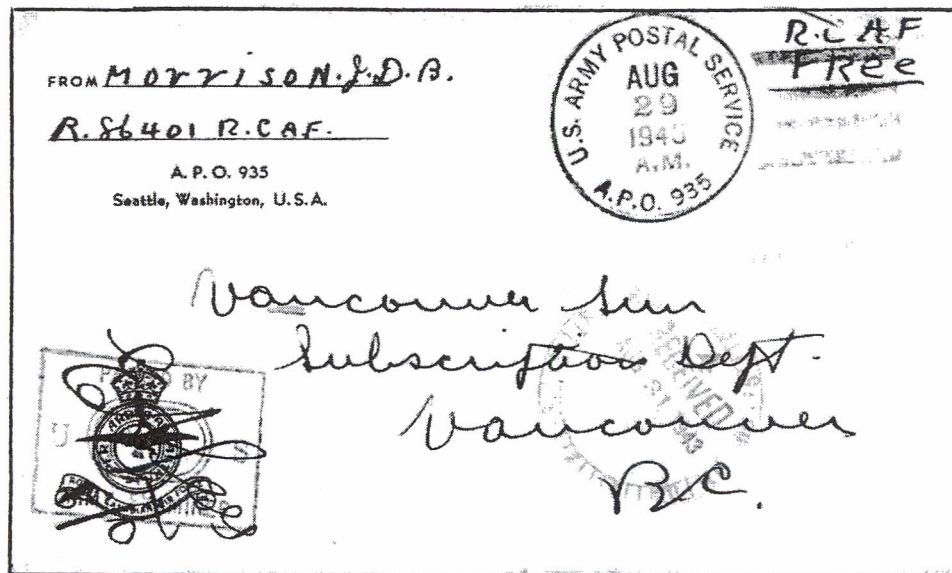
NEWSLETTER

MAY 2015

NEWSLETTER NO. 219
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RCAF "Y" WING, ANNETTE ISLAND, ALASKA--By Jerome C. Jarnick

When Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japanese Navy on December 7, 1941, the United States military became concerned that Alaska would be invaded and occupied by the enemy. Significant steps were taken to establish defences in the territory. Prince Rupert, British Columbia, was an important port and rail head for supplying Alaska. Annette Island, while in Alaska's Southern Panhandle, was well positioned to protect Prince Rupert. As part of defensive posture, the Royal Canadian Air Force provided two wings.



Free franked cover to Vancouver. U.S. Army censor handstamp, but censored and signed by an RCAF officer.

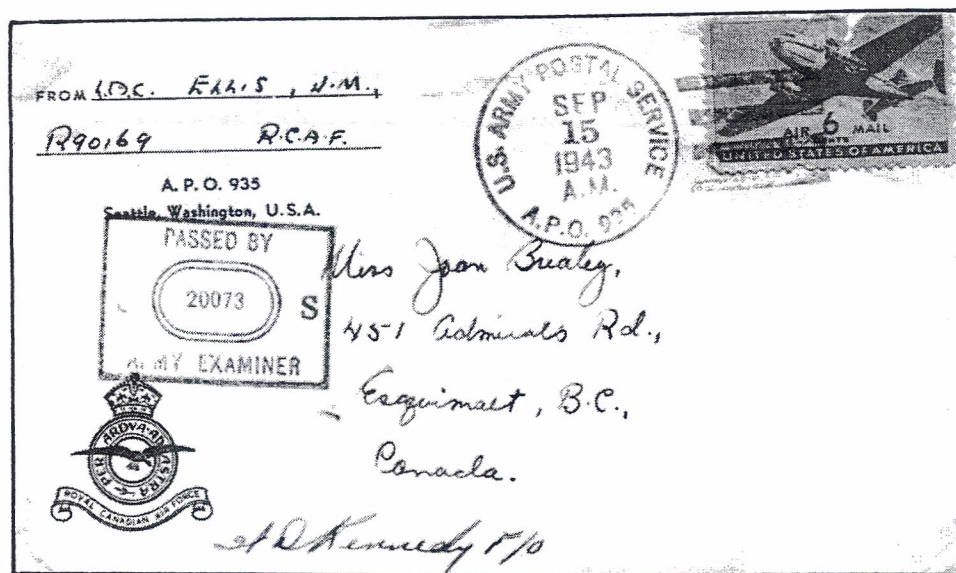
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CHAIRMAN: T.B.A.

EDITOR/TREASURER: DEAN MARIO, P.O. BOX 342, STATION MAIN, SASKATOON, SK S7K 3L3
(blueputtees@hotmail.com)

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RCAF no. 115 Bomber Reconnaissance Squadron, consisting of fourteen Bristol Bolingbroke aircraft, arrived on Annette Island on May 5; the first Canadian forces to enter U.S. territory to assist in its defence. Small detachments of light and heavy anti-aircraft and an airdrome defence company of the Canadian Army were later added to the Annette Island force for the protection of the RCAF squadron. By June the squadron had been reinforced by No. 118 Fighter Squadron and its Kittyhawk aircraft, which the Americans had designated the P-40. The two squadrons constituted "Y" Wing. Although based in Alaska, they remained under the RCAF Western Air Command control with their principal task to defend the approaches to Prince Rupert.



Cover bearing a U.S. airmail postage stamp from an RCAF member to Esquimalt. Censored by an RCAF Pilot Officer

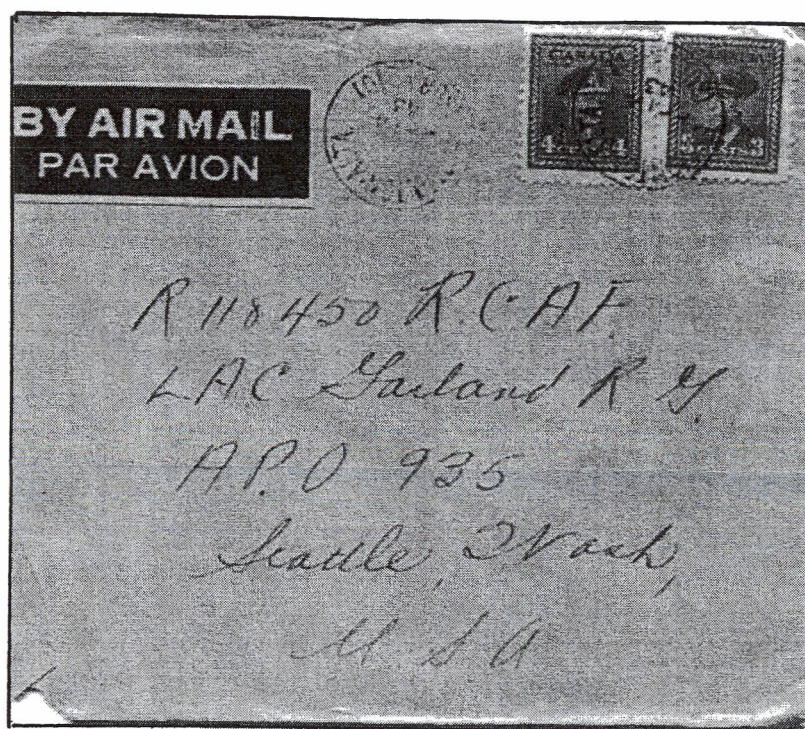
One problem with stationing Canadian forces on American territory involved the payment of customs duties on their equipment and supplies. The problem was neatly solved by the American Secretary of State Cordell Hull, who designated all personnel of the Canadian units as "distinguished foreign visitors"; thereby granting them free entry of goods.

When the Japanese had been cleared from the Aleutians in August 1943, Canada withdrew its air forces. The two squadrons at Annette Island were replaced in August 1943 by No. 149 Bomber Reconnaissance and No. 135 Fighter Squadrons. But by the end of the year these squadrons, together with the accompanying Canadian Army defensive detachments, had returned to Canada.

Postal services were provided for the Canadian forces through U.S. Army Post Office 935. Canadian military personnel were granted the same mailing privileges enjoyed by American forces, including the free franking privilege for surface letters. Special services, in-

[Cont'd.]

cluding air mail, required payment of postage.



1943 cover from Edmonton to a serving RCAF member
at APO 935 (Annette Island)

BNAPEX 2015, SEPTEMBER 11-13, RAMADA PLAZA, NIAGARA FALLS

This year's annual exhibition and convention will be held at the beautiful city of Niagara Falls, Ontario. I will not be able to attend but, if members allow, I wish to remain in the positions of Editor/Treasurer. Study Group member Jon Johnson, OTB has kindly agreed to chair the meeting; ably assisted by our Interim Chairman Mike Street, OTB, FCPS.

We also have a programme. Mike Powell has also kindly agreed to share some of his stunning treasures and will speak on "Interned in Canada: WWI Prisoner of War Camps in Canada".

The meeting will be from 1600-1700 on Saturday September 12, 2015 in Meeting Room A. Congratulations are also extended to Mike for his **Gold** and the **PHSC E.R. Toop Award** for the best military postal history exhibit at Ottawa's ORAPEX in May. Mike's exhibit was "Interned in Canada".

Study Group business will include the selection of a new Chairman. Duties are not onerous and will include acting as a liaison with BNAPS, chairing (if possible) study group meetings at BNAPEX, providing contact information for our group etc. If interested please contact Mike Street, 73 Hatton Dr., Ancaster, ON L9G 2H5 or Peter MacDonald, Vice-President Study Groups, 1264 Sherman Dr., Ottawa, ON K2C 2M8.

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LITTLE NORWAY/1944 O.A.T. TO SWEDEN--Norwegian War and Field Post Journal (Messrs. Kjell Nilson and John Torstad, No.1/2015 (76)/March'15)

Alan Warren kindly sent these two articles in from the above journal. With the kind permission of Editor Knut Arveng, these Canadian-related articles are reproduced for members. While my Norwegian is a bit weak, I am sure that members can decipher most of the relevant information--arguably the covers are wonderful! Alan denotes that the Little Norway cover was sent via London to someone in the Norwegian Legation in Stockholm. It was then returned back to London with the Swedish postage attached. The other item was sent from Canada to someone in Uppsala, Sweden where it was then forwarded to the Norwegian garrison in Mauritzberg, Sweden. The journal looks interesting. Interested members can view: <http://www.warandfieldpost.com/> (no space). Thanks are extended to all!

Little Norway

För någon vecka sedan var jag och en god vän på Stampex i London. Denna gång gjorde jag ett trevligt inköp till en av mina samlingar, se bilden nedan:



När man studerar brevet noggrant så kan brevets väg över haven tolkas lite olika. Jag vore tacksam om även ni läsare ville ägna brevet en tanke och ge mig återkoppling om ni tror att jag missförstått något, hör av er är ni snälla till kjell.nilson@axxess2.se.

Så här är min analys:

1. Detta är ett brev som sändes med luftpost från Toronto-Little Norway den 25 september 1942 till Herr Löjtnant Mathiesen i Stockholm.



[Cont'd.]

2. Brevet var underfrankerat med 10 cent därför slogs en kanadensisk lösenstämpel 100 centimes på brevet
3. Innan brevet lämnade Kanada så censurerades det av censor **DB/C. 35**
4. På vägen till Stockholm passerades London där brevet fick sin röda O.A.T. som är av typ 1 enligt Murray Heifetz
5. När brevet ankom Stockholm eftersändes det tillbaka till London: R.N.A.F. (F.F.K.) – Kingston House, Prince's Gate – London S.W.7
6. I Stockholm sattes en luftpostetikett typ 5 på brevet och det svenska luftpostportot 40 öre för en vikt mellan 5 och 10 gram erlades, denna avgift gällde mellan 420506 och 450228
7. Väl tillbaka i London blev brevet censurerat igen av censor 1116
8. Var och hur lösenavgiften betalades framgår inte

Detta var vad jag tror man kan läsa ut av brevet. Förutom att det är ett riktigt pigtjusröbjekt, stuepike tror jag det heter på norsk, så kan det passa i många samlingar. T.ex. om man samlar:

- Eftersändning
- Kanada
- Lösen
- OAT
- Luftpost
- Studsbrev
- Posten & Kriget

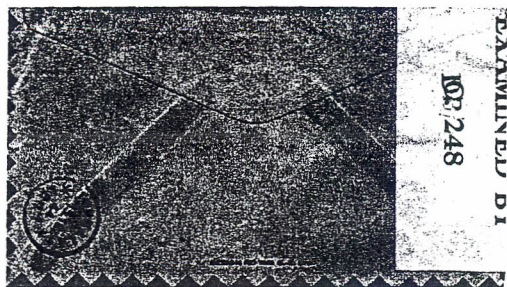
I mitt fall kommer den att finnas i mitt exponat The Swedish Mail & the War 1939-1948.

Kjell Nilson

Brev fra Canada 1944 til den norske
forlegningen Mauritzberg i Sverige av John Torstad



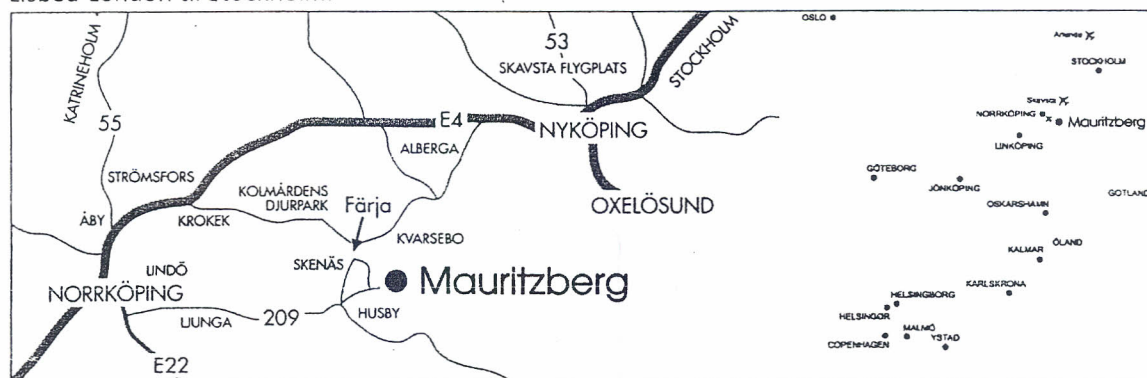
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Et av våre medlemmer kan vise frem en interessant luftpostforsendelse fra Canada til Sverige høsten 1944. La oss se litt nærmere på forsendelsen og analysere hva stempler, påskrifter og sensur-remsen kan fortelle oss.

Forsiden og baksiden av brevet til Mauritzberg

Konvolutten er frankert med 2 x 20 cents frimerker og stemplet med et canadisk 8 streker rist-stempel. Et slikt stempel ble brukt av postkontoret i tilknytning den norske flygerutdanningsleiren «Little Norway» i Gravenhurst nær Muskoka. Da brevet er uten avsender kan en ikke med full sikkerhet si at det er postlagt i «Little Norway», men mye tyder på det, spesielt når avsendernavn og adresse mangler. På konvoluttens forside er det også påført med hånd av avsender «Written in Norwegian», som underbygger avsenders tilhørighet. Brevet er adressert til en nordmann med adresse Uppsala (flyktning og student?) og omadressert til «Norsk forlegning Mauritzberg, Östra Husby. I tillegg er det på adressesiden håndskrevet bak navnet «11403» som sannsynligvis er et tildelt flyktningenummer, samt «B-elev 6». Sistnevnte påskrift kan være en betegnelse som ble brukt i Mauritzberg for rask indentifisering for utlevering av brevet. Brevet er påsatt en canadisk sensurremse med teksten «Examined by / C. 248». Over teksten C. 248 er det stemplet «DB /», som er identifikasjonen for Canada. Sensuren er gjort ved sensurkontoret i Ottawa. I tillegg er det stemplet med et stort oval stempel i rød farge: O.A.T = Onward Air Transmission. Dette stempelet indikerer videreforsendelse med fly og er påsatt i England. På baksiden er brevet stemplet Uppsala 13.12.44, som verifiserer at brevet er fra høsten 1944. Postrute med flyg har vært via New York-Lisboa-London til Stockholm.



Mauritzbergs slott

Den norske forlegningen Mauritzberg er identisk med Mauritzberg slott i Östra Husby sogn (nuværende Norrköping kommune), ved Bråviken i Östergötlands län. Her etablerte de norske eksilmyndigheter en radio-utdanning og utdanning av «Havnepoliti» eller kystartillerister – som pågikk til slutten av april 1945. Våpentrening ble igangsatt i januar 1945. Opplæringen gikk delvis i regi av den svenske marine og kystartilleri, som bidro både med offiserer og utstyr. I perioden 1944/45 ble det utdannet

1334 kystartillerister ved Mauritzberg. Mellom 400 og 600 mann ble fløyet til Storbritannia og tilført de væpnede styrkene der.

[Cont'd.]

Er det noen som kan tilføre brevet mer informasjon, så setter redaktøren pris på tilbakemeldinger.

Kilder:

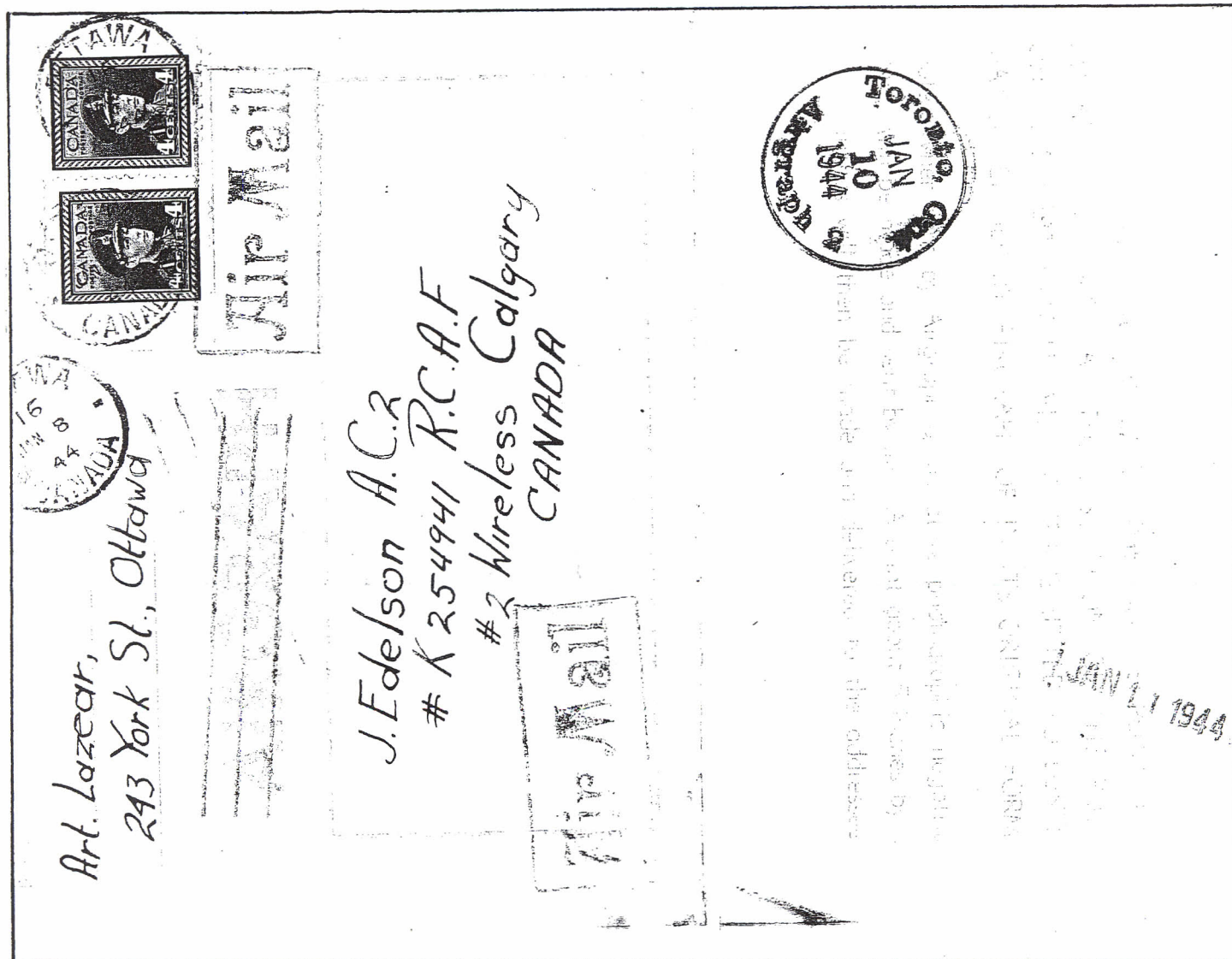
PLU. Postlägenheter till utlandet 1940-1945, Kungliga Generalpoststyrelsen, Sverige

Karl U. Sanne (1981): Norsk eksilpost 1940-1945, Norsk Filatelistforbund

Anders Johansson (2007): Den glemte armè. I skyggen av hjemmefronten. N.W. Damm & Søn

TORONTO AIRGRAPH 2 ADDITIONAL REPORT--By David Hanes

[Dave sent along another report of this postmark to accompany those shown in NL#218, NL#216, and NL#213, This example appears to be the earliest date so far recorded. Thanks Dave! Ed.]



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IN MEMORIAM

It is my sad duty to convey to members the passing of our Study Group Chairman Hendrik "Henk" Burgers on May 25, 2015. Our deepest condolences have been expressed to Helen and the Burgers Family. He will be greatly missed.

BURGERS, Hendrik "Henk" (Retired Captain RCE) – Passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on Monday May 25, 2015 at the age of 71. Henk was a Renaissance man; an officer, a successful entrepreneur, a brilliant linguist, an award winning philatelist and an avid gardener. Loving husband of Helen for nearly 40 years. Beloved father of Paul, Nicole Hepworth (Jim), Sharon Steinberg (Mike Wadham) and Abigail Steinberg (Adam Edwards). Proud grandfather of Anthony, Patrick and Sara. He will also be missed by his mother Mina, sisters Marianne Brown (Hugh), Diesje Henderson (Bob), brother Ed (Barb), nieces, nephews, cousins and other family members. Predeceased by his father Evert.



Henk's parents emigrated to Canada from Velp, Netherlands with their four children in 1960. Two years later Henk joined the Royal Canadian Engineers Regiment and began a career that saw him posted to, among other places: Lahr, Germany; Cairo, Egypt; Alert, NWT; Chicoutimi, PQ; North Bay/Thunder Bay, ON; Chilliwack, BC and Ottawa, ON, where he ended his 20-year military career as a Captain.

After retirement from the Army, Henk, who was fluent in five languages, started a very successful translation business which he continued until 2001. Henk and Helen moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON in 2002 and he finally took full retirement in 2014.

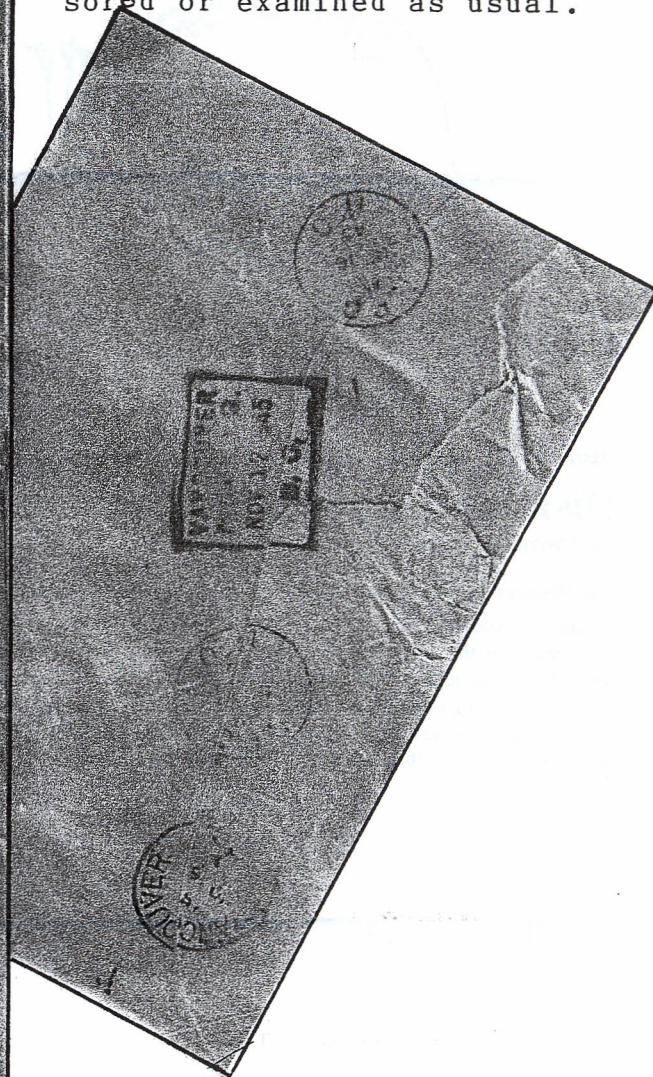
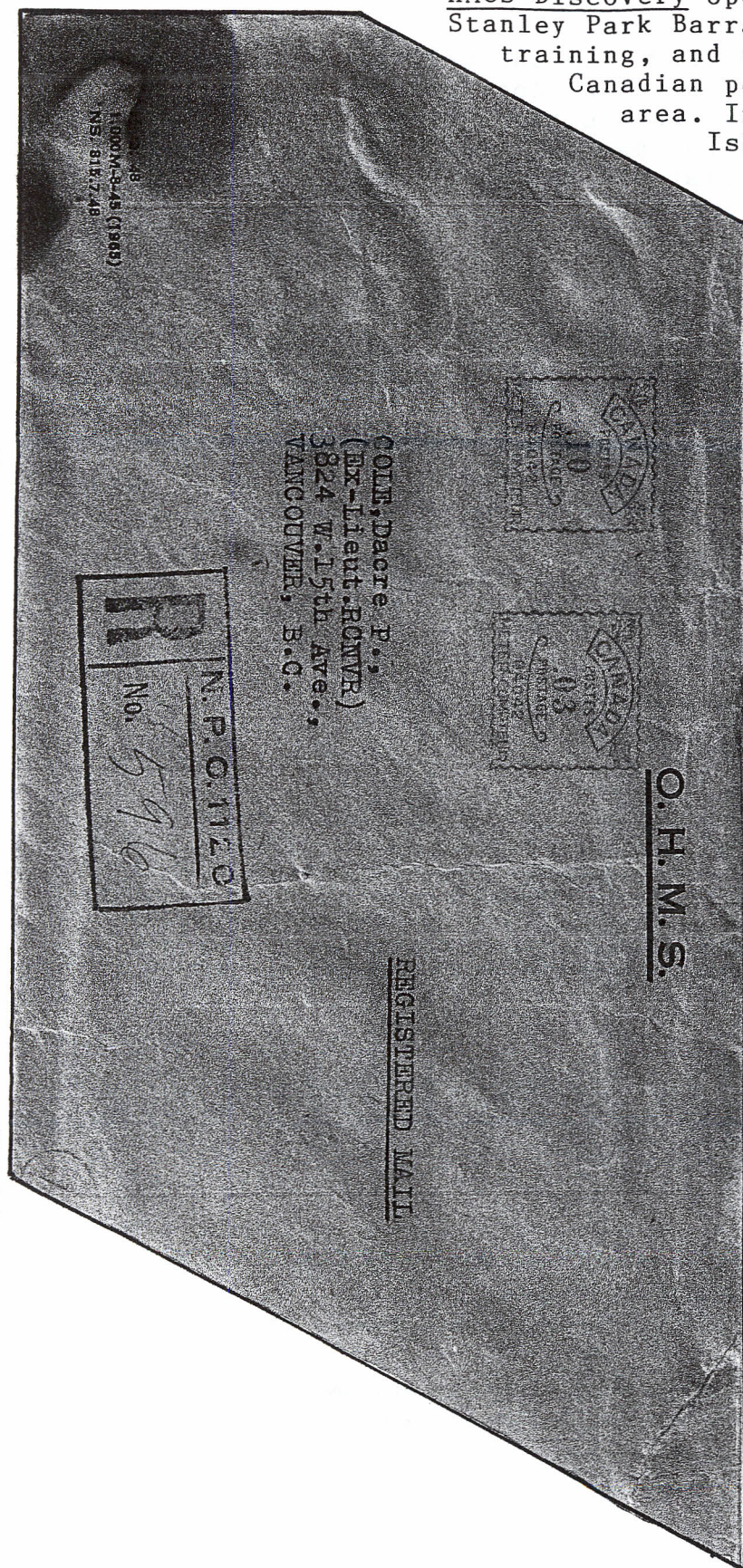
Henk, a member of several philatelic groups, joined BNAPS in 1978. In 1992-94 he was Editor of the Newsletter of the Canadian Military Mail Study Group, and at his passing was chairman of the group. He started exhibiting his "Canadians in Russia: The Last Contingent of WWI" at Royal/Royale 2004 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where it received Gold. After improving the exhibit he showed it again at BNAPEX 2009 SEAWAYPEX in Kingston, Ontario where it received Gold and the Sam Nickle Award for the best Military Mail exhibit. After further improvements, at BNAPEX 2011 in North Bay, Ontario, the exhibit won Gold, the Horace W. Harrison Grand Award, and the Sam Nickle Award for the second time. At BNAPEX 2012 in Calgary, Alberta Henk's second exhibit, "Canadians in World War I: The First Contingent" won Gold and his third Sam Nickle Award. Henk also found time to prepare several articles for *BNA Topics* and received the E.R. (Ritch) Toop Award for the best article, book or other publication on Canadian Military Mail in 2010. Henk's philatelic friends will miss his ready smile and pleasant personality.

- The Burgers Family with additions by Mike Street

REGISTERED HMCS DISCOVERY, NPO 1120: NEW LISTING--By
Lee Dowsley

HMCS Discovery opened on November 1, 1941 at Stanley Park Barracks. She handled recruiting, training, and the discharge of all Royal Canadian personnel in the Vancouver area. In 1944 she moved to Deadman's Island in Stanley Park. This

NPO 1120 unlisted registered marking is on a cover dated November 16, 1945 to Vancouver, B.C. It was not censored or examined as usual.

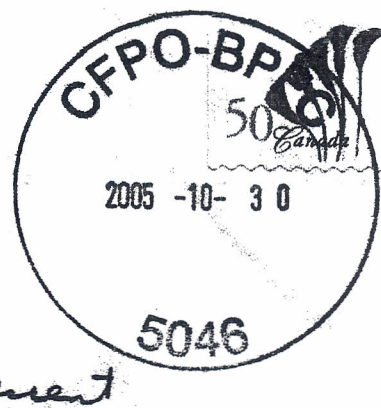


NPO 1120 opened at HMCS Discovery on June 15, 1944 and closed on March 2, 1946.

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DISASTER ASSISTANCE RESPONSE TEAM (D.A.R.T.), PAKISTAN--By A. David Hanes

[These two strikes below, from CFPO 5045 and CFPO 5046 (in red and black respectively) were submitted by Dave and document D.A.R.T.'s usage of the larger CDS devices. The mission was short-lived, from October to December 2005. An interesting edited passage from Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disaster_Assistance_Response_Team) follows.Ed.]



Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Disaster_Assistance_Response_Team&oldid=600053391"

Disaster Assistance Response Team

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART)** (French: *Équipe d'intervention en cas de catastrophe (EICC)*) is a rapidly deployable team of 200 Canadian Forces personnel. It provides assistance to disaster-affected regions for up to 40 days. DART's headquarters is in Kingston, Ontario.^[1] DART was created by the Canadian government in 1996 in the aftermath of the inadequate response to the 1994 Rwandan genocide, when Canada's aid arrived after the peak of a cholera epidemic. The government determined that it would be of the utmost importance in many disasters if it was able to rapidly deploy a group of people until long-term aid arrived. DART has an annual budget of CAD \$500,000, although during specific incidents Parliament can choose to temporarily allocate millions of dollars to DART to fund their response effort. For example, Operation Torrent, the aid mission to Turkey in the wake of the 1999 earthquake which left 17,000 people dead, saw CAD \$15 million used by DART in the response.

Goals

DART has four goals:

1. To provide basic medical care: To serve, with its medical platoon of 40 staff, up to 250 outpatients and 10 inpatients per day. Although the medical station will not perform surgery, it treats minor injuries and attempts to prevent the spread of disease. The aid station includes a laboratory, a pharmacy, limited obstetrics services and rehydration and a preventative medicine section.
2. To produce safe drinking water: Water purification staff can produce up to 50,000 liters of drinking water a day, as well as chlorinating local wells and monitoring water supplies.
3. To repair basic infrastructure: Engineers can fix roads and bridges, repair electrical and water supply systems and build refugee camps.
4. To make communications easier: DART sets up facilities to make communications easier between everyone involved in the relief effort, including the afflicted country, non-governmental organizations and UN aid agencies.

[Cont'd.]

Organization

The team consists of:

- a military engineering platoon with 37 personnel (field and construction engineers)
- a medical platoon with 40 personnel (doctors, nurses and medical corps staffers) who operate an aid station
- a defence and security platoon with 45 personnel (military police and soldiers who guard camps and support DART operations)
- a logistics platoon with 20 personnel to provide maintenance, transportation and supplies
- a headquarters platoon with 45 personnel who oversee operations and co-ordinate DART's response with other countries and aid organizations

The Canadian government decides whether or not to send DART after a request from a country or the United Nations. Typically, upon a request from the government of the affected country, the Canadian government will dispatch its three person Strategic Support Team (SST). The SST members are from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Department of National Defence (DND). For all DART missions DFAIT is the lead department representing the Government of Canada. The SST will assess the situation and submit its recommendations back to the Government (of Canada), who will decide if the DART can or cannot be of assistance. If it agrees to provide assistance, it will dispatch an additional group of nine personnel who will make preparations to receive the remainder of the team into the affected area. They usually stay for a minimum of 40 days.

Critiques

Although DART's goals may be well intended there have been critiques of this program. It is costly, which comes with the nature of military intervention. Furthermore, although it does align with the Canada's foreign policy of the three Ds (defense, diplomacy, and development) it does not help with the global health inequity.^[2]

Operation Plateau (Pakistan), 2005

DART responded to the 7.6 on the Richter scale 2005 Kashmir earthquake of October 8, 2005. On October 14, three days after a nine member Canadian delegation left to assess the situation, Prime Minister Paul Martin announced that DART would be going to the Muzaffarabad region of Pakistan. The reconnaissance team arrived on October 16, the main force two days later. By December 9 all DART personnel had returned to Canada.

DART distributed 500 tonnes of humanitarian aid supplies and purified and distributed 3,811,535 litres of drinking water.^[3]

The team also provided medical treatment for 11,782 people, including:

1. 7,000 who received care from mobile medical teams airlifted by helicopter to their isolated communities.
2. 2,637 who received care at the DART clinic in Gahri Dupatta.
3. 2,145 who were immunized against a variety of contagious diseases.

The value of the operation as well as its cost-effectiveness was criticized for its excessive emphasis on technological solutions rather than on broader local primary-care needs - a type of criticism that Canada's emergency response has received as early as its relief operations in 1985 following the Mexico City earthquake and more specifically in regards to the belated deployment of DART in 2004 to the Asia-Pacific tsunami disaster (see Operation Structure (Sri Lanka), 2004). It is suggested that rapidly deploying human resources in order for health to reach victims in the shortest possible time would have been the most efficient and most cost-effective form of response.^[4]

Notes

1. ^ CBC News (2010-01-13). "Disaster relief: Canada's rapid response team" (<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2010/01/13/f-disasters-military-dart.html>). Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Retrieved 2010-01-13.
2. ^ Spiegel, Jerry (2011). *Canadian foreign aid for global health: Human security opportunity lost*. London. p. 77.
3. ^ DND/CF | Backgrounder | Operation PLATEAU: The DART deployment in Pakistan (http://www.dnd.ca/site/newsroom/view_news_e.asp?id=1796)
4. ^ Jerry M. Spiegel & Robert Huish (2009): Canadian foreign aid for global health: Human security opportunity lost, Canadian Foreign Policy Journal, 15:3, 60-84

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- http://www.thememoryproject.com/peace_cforces_dart.cfm
- http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/Newsroom/view_news_e.asp?id=301

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Dear Study Group Members: We are all deeply saddened by the loss of another wonderful military postal historian and extend to Henk's family and friends our sincere condolences. Our Study Group will require a new Chairman so please see details noted previously. Thanks are extended to Mike Street, OTB, FCPS for volunteering to act as our Interim Chairman. Congratulations are extended to member **Hal Kellett** for his Silver, the BNAPS Best "2-4 Frame" Award, and the Ritch Toop Best Military Award of the PHSC for his exhibit "The Military in Canada" at the Edmonton 2015 Spring National Show in March. The June 2015 issue of the B.C. Postal History Newsletter (Vol.24(2), Whole No.94) contained an excellent article by Tracy Cooper entitled "World War I Civil Censorship in British Columbia". See http://spideroak.com/browse/share/Andrew_Scott/Backissues for more information. Our "Small Ads" are back so if you wish to buy, sell, or trade it is a great way to connect with military specialists!

We currently have (prior to this issue) \$464.39 in our Group's bank account. Issues tend to run between \$140-\$150 depending upon mailings. We have encountered a minor glitch in terms of email announcements but I will try to get these out in the coming weeks. Thank you very much for your kind attention upon arrival.

Military postal history continues to command good prices for rare and exotic material. Brian Grant Duff's Vancouver's All Nations Stamp and Coin*sold a November 28, 1864 Seaman's rate cover (1d) from Esquimalt, B.C. to Bristol, England for \$2,750! While the weekly auctions are not strong in military items, you never know: www.allnationsstampandcoin.com (.)(*ex. Gerald Wellburn Collection, Sale #1000, February 21, 2015).

SMALL ADS

Looking for something? Have something for sale? Why not try our small ads? Buy/Sell/Trade. Still only \$1 per issue (Canadian stamps @ face ok). Copy and payment to the Editor please.

WANTED: Collector is looking for CFPO 5106/POCON 103985 and CFPO 5107/POCON 103993 cancelled covers used in conjunction with the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Purchase or trade. Please contact Kon Sokolyk at kwsokolyk@yahoo.com (1/5)

FOR SALE: Henk Burgers' Canadian Siberia Expeditionary Force (CSEF) Grand Award exhibit and other military collections. For more information and details contact R.F. Narbonne, OTB, FRPSC, Greenwood Stamp Company, 136 Morphy St., Carleton Place, ON Canada K7C 2B4; telephone (613) 257-5453 or toll-free 1-800-247-5619 (1/1)

WANTED: Japanese Canadian Nisei volunteers and non-Japanese Canadians in WWII Intelligence Service Far East. Especially seeking Japanese Language School (S-20) drafts, interpreters, war crimes units etc. in South East Asia Command; Canadians associated with Nuremburg War Crimes Trials; Canadian POW's in Buchenwald/Colditz (Oflag IVC) and Stalag Luft III escapees; Canadians in Gibraltar/Malta; WWI Newfoundland. Contact the Editor at blueputtees@hotmail.com (1/5)

WANTED: Veterans' Guard covers from WWII. Please send photocopies/scans with price to Hal Kellett, #412-106 Armistice Way, Saskatoon, SK S7J 2H4 or telephone (306) 374-4282; email: hkstampsandcovers@shaw.ca (1/1)
