



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

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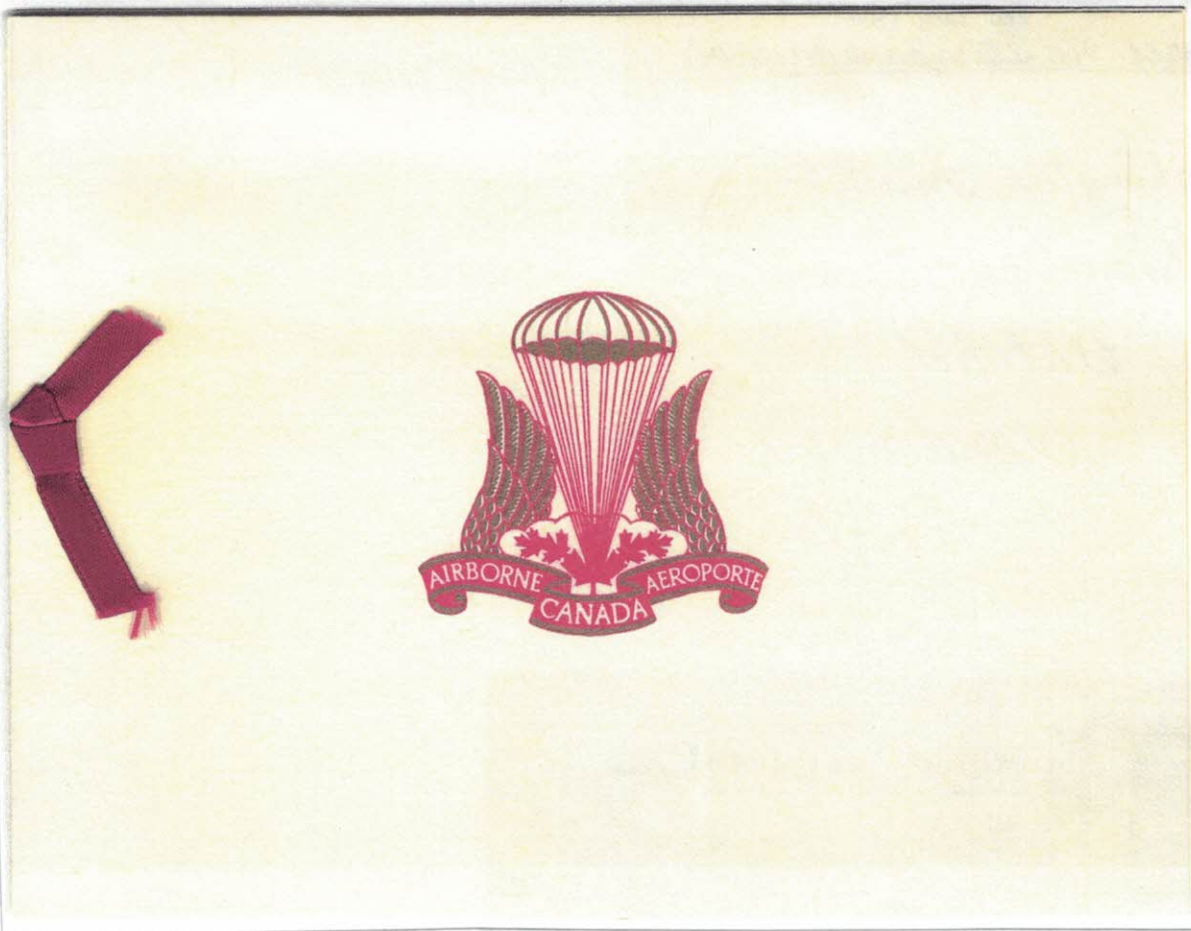
NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019

NEWSLETTER NO. 237

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CANADIAN AIRBORNE REGIMENT, CFB PETAWAWA CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



[Cont'd.]

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From the Colonel of the Regiment,
Regimental Commander and All Ranks

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season

Joyeux Noël et Heureuse Année

*The Canadian Airborne Regiment
CFB Petawawa*

*Le Régiment Aéroporté du Canada
BFC Petawawa*

CMMSG SEMINAR AT BNAPEX 2019 OTTAWA--CMMSG CHAIRMAN MIKE STREET

Present: Anthony Fulmes, Chris Hargreaves, Jon Johnson, Peter McCarthy, Mike Powell, Wayne Schnarr, C.A. Stillions, Mike Street, Dick Wilson

The members present voted to thank Dean Mario for his continued work as Editor of the CMMSG Newsletter.

C.A. Stillions asked for help with an unusual Second World War Newfoundland CAPO Special Delivery cover. The envelope carries two 3¢ Queen and one 10¢ Salmon stamps. C.A. can't figure out why there wasn't a 20¢ stamp paying the then current Newfoundland Special Delivery rate instead of the 10¢ value. It also leads to a question: were CAPO post offices in Newfoundland using Newfoundland postal rates or Canada postal rates? Any member who can help is asked to contact C.A. through the Editor [C.A. has also recently written on pre-war Newfoundland special delivery rates to the U.S.A. See his "Newfoundland to Fiji," BNA Topics, Vol.76 (2), Whole No. 559, April-June 2019, pp.50-51. A related bit of information follows this report but, unfortunately, not military related.Ed.].

Mike Street gave an update on the current work on Doug Sayles' Canadian Military Postmark catalogues. Mike is gathering images, mainly

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from eBay and collectors' emailed scans, and occasionally from dealers' stocks, of military cancels that are not in Doug's Volume 2--the World War II era--or Volume 3--the post-WWII era. The discussion focused on various ways to make this information available, with on-line versions a likely option.

The speaker for the seminar was Wayne Schnarr, who has spent much of the last two years gathering the images and information needed to complete Doug Sayles' Volume 1; essentially all markings from the colonial period up to 1936 which was unfinished at the time of Doug's passing. Wayne's presentation, "Canadian Military Mail Markings Volume 1 Catalogue: Some Pleasant Surprises, Frustrations and an Update", described some of the interesting items he has found and/or discovered along the way. Among them: new markings from the Department of Militia and Defence (DMD) before 1920, updates to Militia Camp and Other Military Post Offices in Canada from 1909 to 1941, a previously-unknown Tracing postmark from Military HQ in Ottawa, several new Military District Markings and Unit Markings specifying postal activity. A significant discovery is that some of the numbered Field Post Office cancellations had multiple hammers, identifiable from the size and shape of the numbers themselves.

An important addition to Volume 1 over Doug Sayles' initial plan will be an up-to-date table of known Great War military censor numbers, with identification of the censoring officer(s) where readable and including the censor data gathered by the late John Frith. So far over 1,140 censor numbers have been identified.

Wayne has invested a lot of time and effort in Volume 1 and says he is still having fun and hopes to finish the work by late 2020. It is likely that when complete, Volume 1 will be put on-line and there will also be a print edition.

[Many thanks Mike and thanks to the members for their continued support. Thanks too to Wayne for making his presentation and we are all looking forward to seeing his finished tome in the coming year. As noted, here's an excerpt from the Newfoundland Post Office Circular, Thursday 25 March 1937, noting the Special Delivery rate to the U.S. to support C.A.'s argument. Now, do members have information related to this special delivery service from a CAPO during wartime?Ed.]

25th March, 1937

75

E. United States Domestic Air Mail

Most of the important towns in the U. S. A. are connected by air routes. The air postage for correspondence intended for transmission by the domestic air mail routes of the U. S. A. is 6 cents for each ounce or fraction thereof plus the ordinary postage.

Special Delivery. The payment of an additional fee of 10 cents in addition to the ordinary and air postages will provide prompt delivery at the office of address and is recommended to expedite delivery in cases where arrival is scheduled for Saturday, Sunday, holiday or week days after the last delivery by Letter Carrier.

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CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS FOR TROOPS AT HAVRE--By Wayne Schnarr

[Wayne sent in the following Great War-period (undated) censor regulations which members may find interesting.Ed.]

CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS

Instructions for Troops Landing at Havre.

Officers are requested to communicate the following instructions to all under their Command.

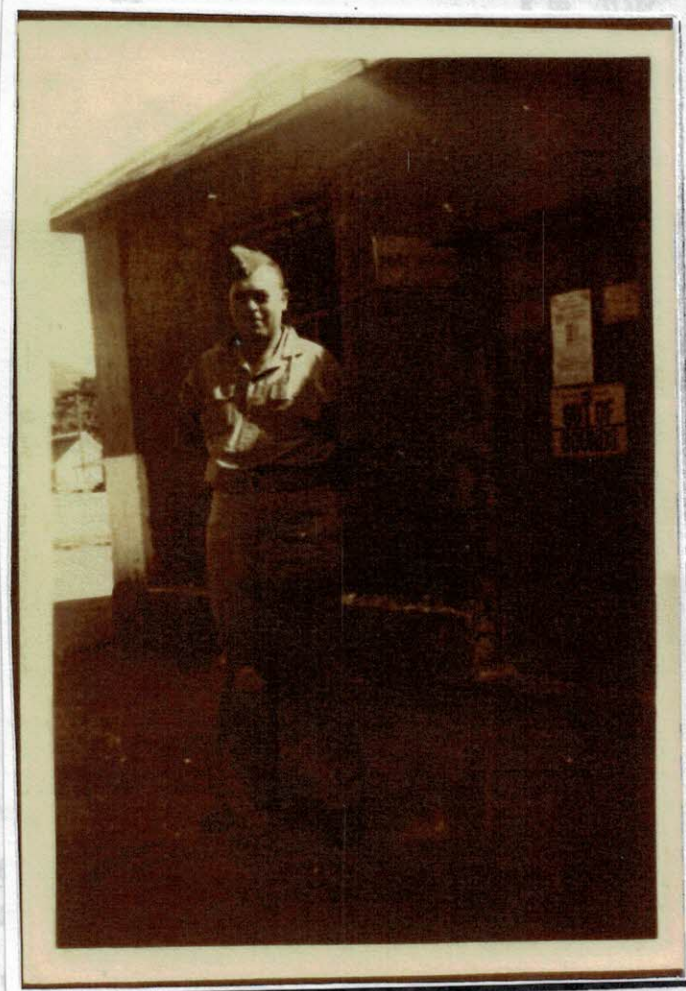
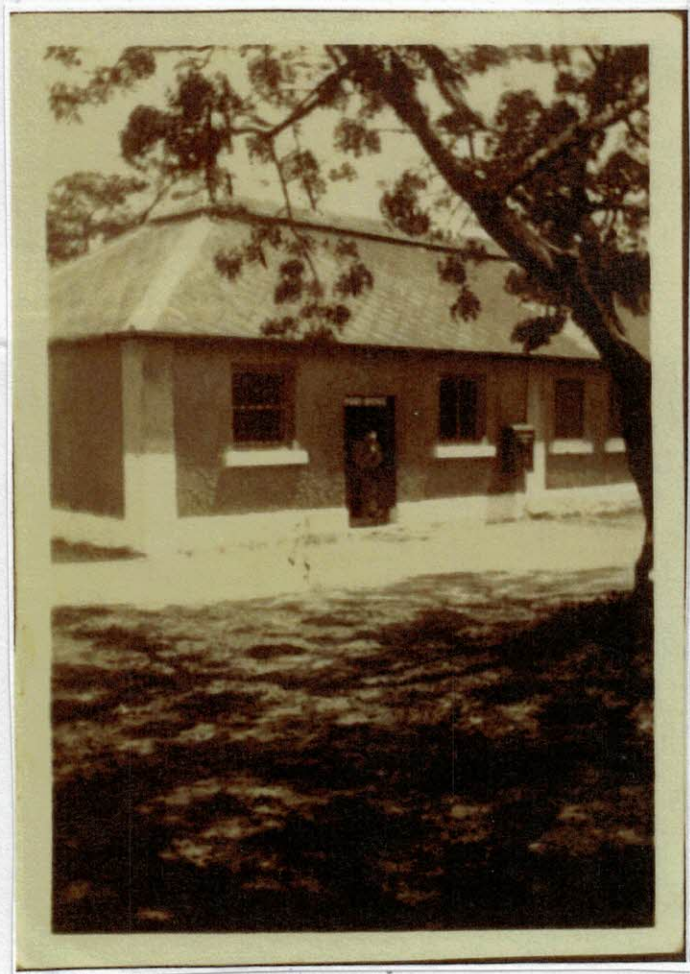
- I. Troops landing at Havre and proceeding by train within 48 hours of arrival should not mention the name of Havre.
- II. It is strictly FORBIDDEN TO MENTION:—
 - a. The name of the Transport.
 - b. The number or composition of troops arriving.
 - c. Any movements of troops.
 - d. Any names of places in France, but if the unit remains at HAVRE over 48 hours it is permissible to mention this Base.
- III. All letters and post cards must be read, and the envelope franked in bottom left hand corner by an officer who should not sign his rank and who becomes responsible that they contain no forbidden matter. Franked letters should be sealed down and not returned to the writers.
- IV. A Military Post Box will be found in the proximity of each Landing place.
- V. It is strictly FORBIDDEN TO POST LETTERS etc., IN THE FRENCH CIVIL POST-BOX.
- VI. ON NO ACCOUNT should letters, post cards, or parcels, be given to any member of the ship's crew or other person FOR POSTING IN ENGLAND. Any infringement of this rule will be treated as a serious offence.
- VII. NO STAMPS are required on letters under 4 oz. in weight, or on post cards addressed to ENGLAND or any portion of the British Empire.
- VIII. Private telegrams can be sent to the Censor's Office at the Bourse, Place Sadi-Carnot, Havre, for censoring. Such telegrams must be written throughout in block letters. No abbreviated addresses are allowed. The sender's surname must be incorporated in the message, and his name, rank & corps must be written at the foot for reference only.
- IX. CAMERAS ARE NOT ALLOWED.

(Signed) M. WELCH,
Lt. Colonel
A.A. & Q.M.G.

"Y" FORCE (JAMAICA) POST OFFICE AND FORD "TINY" MARTYN--By Hal Kellett

[Hal kindly lent these two photos below (enlarged). I apologize if the images don't reproduce in black and white. The reverse of the first photo notes "'Y' Force Post Office, Up Park Camp, Jamaica". The second photo's reverse notes "F.D. Ford 'Tiny' Martyn, Postal Orderly, Wpg. Grenadiers, in front of 'Y' Force Post Office, Up Park Camp, Jamaica".

F.D. Ford Martyn would also travel with the Winnipeg Grenadiers when it formed part of Force "C" to Hong Kong. He was taken prisoner by the Japanese but would survive the horrific treatment from his captors and return to Canada. His diary and other ephemera resides in the Canadian War Museum and some members may have covers to/from him in their collections.Ed.]




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1945 WAR PRISONERS' AID OF THE Y.M.C.A. CHRISTMAS GREETINGS--By Robert Henderson

Here is a sample of an extremely rare Christmas card issued in 1945 for POWs in Canada provided by the War Prisoners' Aid of the Y.M.C.A. Canadian Office.

Printed in green on white, the message translates as: "I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year". The reverse side has a 1946 calendar. The donor, a Walter Tiemann of Germany, had been a prisoner of war in Canada, and spent time at Medicine Hat Camp 132 and Monteith, Ontario, Camp 23. He died in Germany on 10 April 2018.

Walter Tiemann
 (21a) Leberichs Vest
 Lienerer Straße 109



**EIN FROHES WEIHNACHTSFEST
UND EIN GUTES
NEUES JAHR
WÜNSCHT IHNEN
DIE**

**WAR PRISONERS' AID OF THE Y.M.C.A.
CANADIAN OFFICE**

1946 JANUARY 1946 S M T W T F S 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31							1946 JULY 1946 S M T W T F S 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31						
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FPO 3.B 1ST CANADIAN DIVISION-3RD BRIGADE (SECURITY PHASE 1 FEBRUARY TO 30 JUNE 1917) RE-VISITED--By Neil Ritchie

I wrote recently [CMMSG NL#235, May 2019, pp. 1591-1593.Ed.] about a civilian cover posted through the CEF Field Post system and asked a number of questions. Well as luck would have it, I spotted a second cover on Ebay and this has provided more clues.

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The first cover was posted at FPO 2.B as previously shown:



The second cover was posted on 23 May 1917 at FPO 3.B and is addressed to the same person. I can now decipher the writing as "Mr. Henry Hunt, 10 Powlett Place, Chalk Farm, London NW1". In the 1915 Post Office Directory he is listed as living then at 23 Powlett Place and classified as a "cycle maker".



This cover is "censored" by Private James Henry Bain, d.o.b. 14 June 1891, who served with the 87th Battalion, part of 11th Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. He had received the Military Medal for Gallantry in the Field for his action during the attack on Vimy Ridge 9 April and received it on 30 May. He was reported missing 14 August 1917.

This letter had been accepted by the 3rd Brigade's Postal Clerk and charged the 1 oz. Empire rate of 2d and cancelled FPO 3.B.

Examining the 3rd Infantry Brigade's War Diary entry for 23 May shows that they were stationed at Chateau de la Haie (nicknamed "Valcartier Camp") for training. The best supposition, so far as can be made, is that the letter writer was a military contractor providing support and training. The person he was writing to was in the cycle manufacturing business and could have been a cycle supplier.

B.E.F. Field Service Regulations laid down that "private correspondence of...civilians employed by or accompanying the army was permitted to be

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sent through the Army Postal Service and such personnel were forbidden to use the French Civil Post". It is interesting to note that Major Murray, Assistant Director of Postal Service of the Canadian Postal Corps, didn't ratify that the C.E.F. followed the B.E.F. postal regulations until late 1918. So how they dealt with any civilian's private correspondence I have yet to determine. With over four years of Major Murray's War Diary to go through it could take some time to find out (if ever). However as this is only the second cover I have ever seen and no one has come forward with any other examples, it must have been a very rare occurrence or we may have just been unlucky that they have not survived. [A lucky find indeed Neil with that second cover. For context and members' information, here is a section from A. Kennedy and G. Crabb's The Postal History of the British Army in World War I: Before and After--1903 to 1929, Epsom, Surrey: G. Crabb, 1977, p. 26.Ed.:]

USE OF THE ARMY POSTAL SERVICE BY CIVILIANS

Field Service Regulations laid down that private correspondence of Officers, Soldiers, Foreign Attaches and Civilians employed by or accompanying the army was permitted to be sent through the Army Postal Service and such personnel were forbidden to use the French Civil Post. In practice however, the French Post Office accepted correspondence from French and British Military personnel to military addresses without payment for postage. It was therefore impolite to refuse to accept letters from French civilians addressed to British troops and though this was not encouraged, such letters were accepted and treated as uncensored mail. With regard to the use of the Army Postal Service by civilians for correspondence addressed to all parts, the facility was at all times limited to those who could legitimately be regarded as coming within the scope of the instructions laid down in Field Service Regulations, and specific authority had to be obtained in doubtful cases. In June 1915 authority was given for workmen employed by Army Contractors to use the A.P.O. Personnel employed by the Red Cross Society, St. Johns Ambulance and St. Andrews Ambulance Societies were granted the same facilities as were the Y.M.C.A. and kindred associations. There were also certain voluntary hospitals which were allowed to use the A.P.O. in the early days of the war, also certain associations having a semi military character in Paris, such as The Friends War Victims Relief Committee and British Soldiers Families Committee.

BNAPEX 2019 PALMARES

Congratulations are extended to Charles Livermore for his exhibit "Thanks for the Smokes" which was awarded a Vermeil medal and the Canadian Military Mail Study Group Award (for best military exhibit). Congratulations also to member A. David Hanes' The Postal History of Camp Borden, 1916-2016 as the recipient of the E.R. "Ritch" Toop Memorial Award (for best literature in 2018). Congratulations to all other members for their non-military-themed displays.

IN MEMORIAM

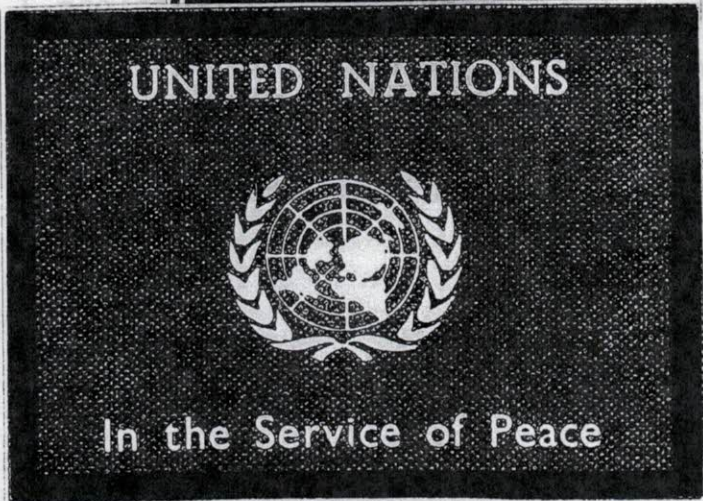
We were greatly saddened to learn of the passing some months' previous of former member Ed. A. Harris, OTB, FRPSC and Robert A. Lee, OTB. Ed was a long-time BNAPS volunteer, holding several offices in the society. Bob accomplished similar yeoman service and, of course, assisted many of our collections through his auctions. I had the pleasure to meet them

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both over the years. They will be greatly missed. Condolences to their family and friends. Fitting online tributes can be viewed at www.bnaps.org [.]

U.N.E.F. I OR II, MIDDLE EAST, POST-1964--By Robert Toombs

[Bob sent along the following and remarks that the card, with the "new" Canadian flag can be dated. However, given U.N.E.F. I (1956-1967) and U.N.E.F. II (1973-1979) occurred, it is unclear which Emergency Force it is associated with.Ed.]



SEASON'S GREETINGS
 FROM
 CANADIAN CONTINGENT
 UNITED NATIONS DISENGAGEMENT
 OBSERVER FORCE

R.D. [unclear]
 66
 60

Season s Greetings
Joyeux Noël Et Bonne Et Heureux Année
Frohe Weihnachten und ein glückliches Neues Jahr
Rauhallista Joulua
Wesotych Swiat l Szczesliwego Nowego Roku

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MEMBERS' ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to **J. Michael Powell** who qualified at the Omaha, Nebraska August 2019 APS StampShow for the APS World Series of Philately for his "The Great War Internment Camps of Canada" (PHSC 2018 Symposium); **Jon Johnson's** Large Silver for his WWI Canadian Army Nursing Sisters Serving Overseas at the 16th New Zealand National Philatelic Literature Exhibition in Christchurch on 28-29 September; **Lee Dowsley's** Gold and the Lester Small Award (Best Display of Foreign Material) at VICPEX #80* on 5-6 October; and **Alan Baker** for his successful showing of British Commonwealth Air Training Plan material at the joint meeting of the U.K. Forces Postal History Society and the King George VI Collectors Society on 19 October. Kudos gentlemen! (*Lee's exhibit was on POWs).

Dear Study Group Members: It is that time of year for Mike and I to wish members a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year and 2020! I want to thank members for their support and appreciate the material sent along to fill these pages. It bears repeating that without you, this newsletter would not exist. Financially we are doing well and our bank balance (before this edition is printed and mailed) stands at \$1,055.33. A warm welcome is extended to new member **Harold Krische**. He specializes in Canadian WWII POW camp mail (especially prisoner mail to/from 16 Duerstein St., Buffalo, NY); real photo camp postcards; and rejected, returned, or re-directed markings.

Remember that military exhibits, for those so inclined, will be sought for upcoming shows in 2020. A single-frame (and literature) international exhibition, CAPEX 22 in the Greater Toronto Area, is now being planned as a four-day event in mid-June 2022. A bourse is planned as well. There are many members who have/will have quality award-winning displays so keep an eye open for future developments.

That's all for now. Once again Seasons' Greetings and have a Happy New Year!

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: Correspondence from/to Alfred Jeremiah Stuckey No.374, Pte., 2nd CMR--Boer War period/Lt./Capt., 1st South Africa Infantry-Great War period. He was from the Vernon, BC area; Hechler and other related 1885 N.W. Rebellion ephemera (not "unofficial" stationery); WWII Newfoundlanders in British Forces. Contact the Editor at blueputtees@hotmail.com (1/5)

WANTED: Sewell Camp and Camp Hughes postal history on cover, postcard, money orders, what have you? Buy, sell, trade. Darcy Hickson, Brandon, MB. Call (204) 724-2028 or email: darcy@hickson.ca (5/10)

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 Nuremberg War Crimes Trials; Canadian POW's in Buchenwald/Colditz (Oflag IVC) and Stalag Luft III escapers; Canadians in Gibraltar; WWI Newfoundland. Contact the Editor at blueputtees@hotmail.com (4/5)
