



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

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NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2020

NEWSLETTER NO. 238

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CHRISTMAS 1930/NEW YEAR 1931 CASC-8TH DIVISIONAL TRAIN



Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Taylor, V.D. and Officers

Eighth Divisional Train

*Canadian Army Service Corps
Hamilton, Ontario*

Extend the Season's Greetings

Christmas, 1930.

New Year, 1931.

[Cont'd.]

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8th Div. Train.
1944

HEADQUARTERS

LIEUT.-COLONEL A. J. TAYLOR, V.D.,
Officer Commanding
MAJOR W. C. FLETCHER,
Senior Supply Officer
CAPT. W. H. MONTAGUE,
Adjutant
LIEUT. J. B. SMART, C.A.M.C.,
Medical Officer
LIEUT. W. J. RUMNEY, C.A.V.C.,
Veterinary Officer

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT COMPANY

MAJOR M. V. McQUEEN
CAPT. W. H. COPELAND
CAPT. C. E. BULMER
LIEUT. E. A. DeGEER
LIEUT. A. L. FOLLIOTT, M.M.
LIEUT. L. H. SMITH
2nd LIEUT. F. C. ABBOTT

HORSE TRANSPORT COMPANY

CAPT. S. H. COOMBS
CAPT. R. W. PARKE
LIEUT. N. S. MacGREGOR,
D.F.C.
2nd LIEUT. L. W. DIEHL

SUPPLY DETAILS

CAPT. G. G. HOBBS
CAPT. D. McLEAN
LIEUT. E. B. GRASS
LIEUT. W. M. DIEHL
2nd LIEUT. W. V. PATTERSON

THE SEEDS FOR A STORY: AN ENGINEER IN ITALY--By Bill Pekonen

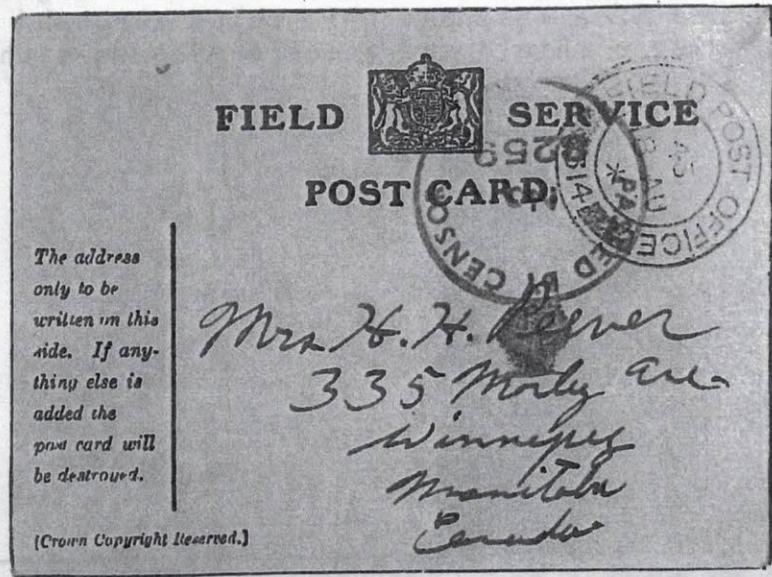
A group of correspondence was acquired several years ago. The letters were addressed to a Mrs. H.H. (Ida) Peever, 335 Morley Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba. The letters were written to his mother by her son whose name was Howard Green. Preliminary research indicates Ida Peever had previously been married to a man with the Green surname. It is possible that Howard had one or more siblings.

This small group was interesting because it contained a Field Service Post Card; an Airgraph Letter; an Airgraph Christmas Card; and two different Air Letter forms. Several of these contain the abbreviation "SPR" believed to be short for Sapper [specifically in the Engineers. Ed.] or Private. It is unusual for a small group like this to appear on the market. It very likely appears that other correspondence to and from this same source may exist elsewhere.

The Field Post Office markings are also part of the story. Perhaps one

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or more members of the Study Group can fill in further information.



43/18 AUG/* Field Service Post Card with PASSED BY CENSOR No.8259 and cancelled by FPO 314. The post card is acknowledging receipt of a letter from his mother dated 27 July 1943. Bailey and Toop (1996) list this #M15-119 cancel as being used in Italy [Agira Area, Sicily. B&T (1985), Ed. E.B. Proud, p.286.Ed.]

NOTHING is to be written on this side except the date and signature of the sender. Sentences not required may be erased. If anything else is added the post card will be destroyed.

[Postage must be prepaid on any letter or post card addressed to the sender of this card.]

I am quite well.

I have been admitted into hospital
 { Sick } and am going on well.
 { wounded } and hope to be discharged soon.
 I am being sent down to the base.

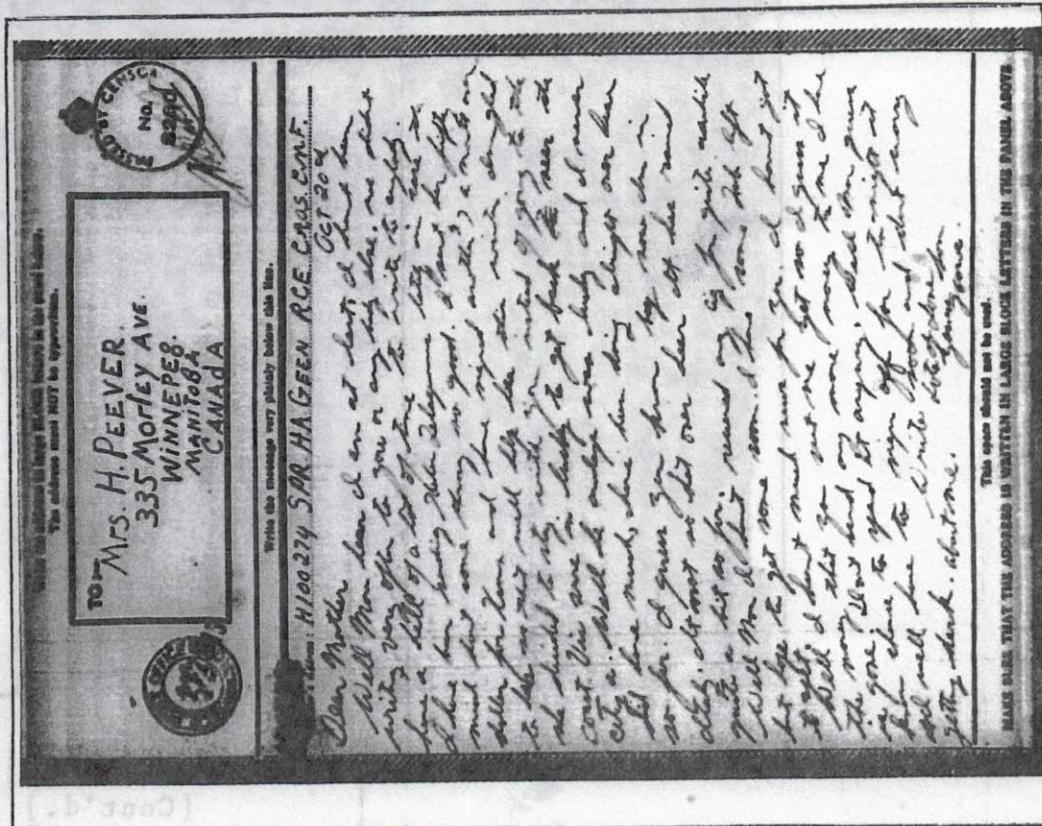
I have received letter dated July 27
 your telegram ..
 parcel ..

Letter follows at first opportunity.

I have received no letter from you
 { lately
 for a long time. }

Signature } H. A. Green
 only }
 Date Aug 16

Form A/2042/7.
 Wt. 1870g/314 45,000M. 7/41. W. & S. Ltd. 51-726. 1023207.

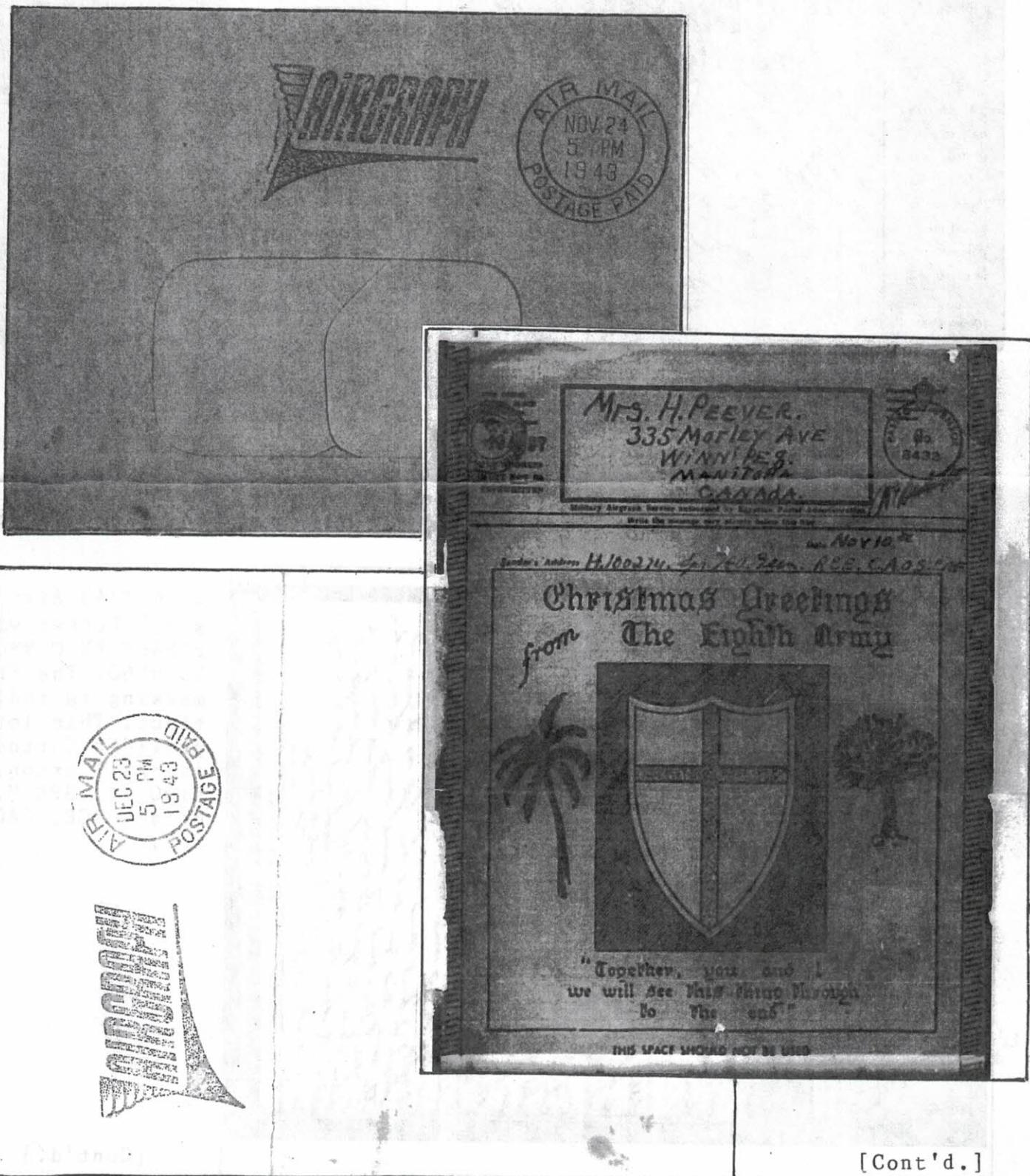


20 OCT/43 Airgraph Letter with PASSED BY CENSOR No.8260. The FPO marking is indistinct. This letter provides further identification as H100274, SPR H.A. Green, RCE, CAOS, CMF.

[Cont'd.]

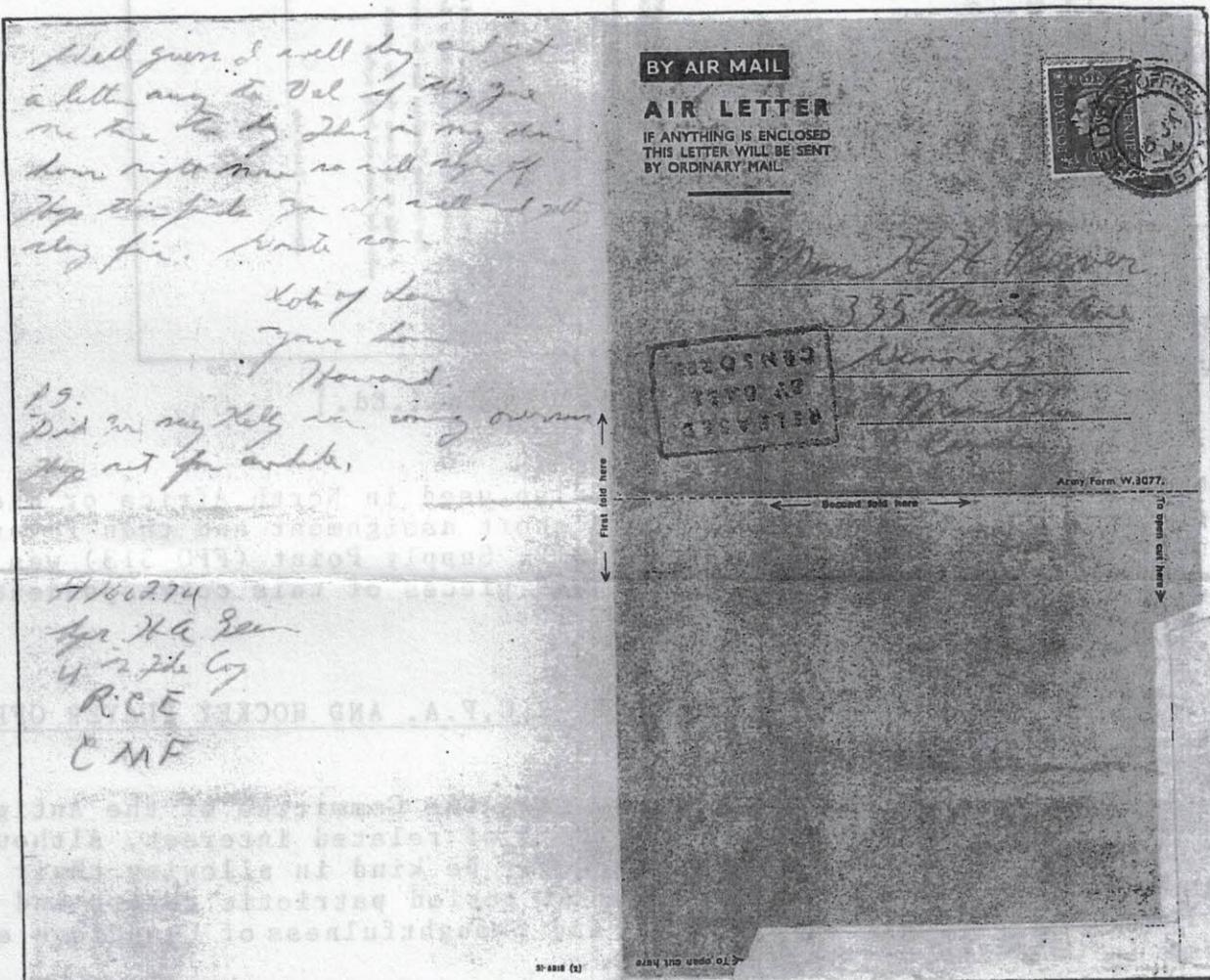
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24 NOV/43 Airgraph and envelope. PASSED BY CENSOR No.8433. The FPO marking is indistinct. This is a Christmas greeting card from the British Eighth Army. The wording "Together, you and I/we will see this thing through/ to the end" below the diagram showing a shield and trees/bushes on either side.



[Cont'd.]

13 JAN/44 Air Letter Army Form W.3077. Blue gray in colour on flimsy air-mail paper. A boxed marking includes the wording "RELEASED/BY BASE/CENSOR 23". FPO 577 which is reported to have been used by the British Army in North Africa. [FPO 577 was allotted to First Army in N. Africa until (6/8/43) then attached to 5 DIV., Sept.43-(until March 44?), History of British Army Postal Service, Vol.III, 1927-1963, p.424, E.B. Proud, Ed., 1982. Proud notes that post-Sept. 1943, FPO 577 was in Italy. Ed.]

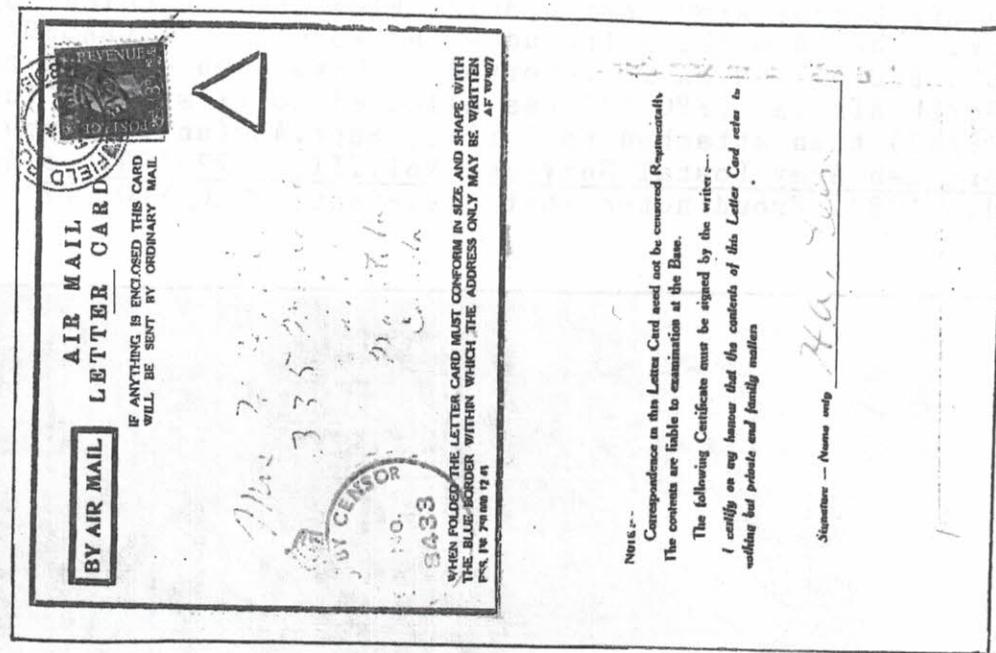


[Reduced to 65% of Original. Ed.]

19 FEB/44 Air Mail Letter Card, AF W3077. Blue printing on white paper. PASSED BY CENSOR No.8433. FPO 313 which was reported by Bailey and Toop (1996) as #M15-119 which also was used in Italy [Ortona Area, B&T (1985), Ed. E.B. Proud, p.286. Ed.]

[Cont'd.]

1. b' 1993



[Reduced to 65% of Original.Ed.]

It is unclear whether FPO 313 was also used in North Africa or did Sapper Green go to North Africa for a short assignment and then return to Italy? [As noted above, 1 CDN INF DIV. Supply Point (FPO 313) was located in Italy. Do other members have pieces of this correspondence? Ed.]

DRIVER WILLARD BORDEN, "E" BATTERY, R.C.F.A. AND HOCKEY PLAYER OFF TO THE ANGLO-BOER WAR--By Hal Kellett

[Hal kindly passed these two items from the Committee of the Antigonish Hockey Club, ca. January 1900 as items of related interest. Although not postal-related, I hope that members may be kind in allowing their inclusion. They, along with examples of period patriotic covers and cards, portray the patriotism, kindness, and thoughtfulness of Canadians at this time in Canadian military history.]

502, Driver Willard Borden, "E" Battery, Royal Canadian Field Artillery, enlisted at Sydney, Nova Scotia on 30 December 1899. He was twenty-two years of age, a clerk, Presbyterian, and single. He was born in Springhill Junction, NS and his next-of-kin was Mrs. Edwin Borden of Pugwash, NS. He was described on his Agreement for Military Service in South Africa as "short, junky, 5'3", 150lbs., dark complexion, black hair, brown eyes, sanguine temperament, and good general health".

Borden was discharged on 9 January 1901. He was entitled to the Queen's South Africa medal with three clasps: Cape Colony, Orange Free State, and Transvaal.

Presumably he was welcomed back by the Antigonish Hockey Club and continued playing with the "hockey boys of Antigonish". Do members have any

[Cont'd.]

postal history related to Driver Borden? Ed.

REFERENCE

[https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/south-african-war-1899-1902/Pages/image.\]](https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/south-african-war-1899-1902/Pages/image.)

Mr. Willard Borden,

2nd. Batt. Royal Canadian Regiment.

Dear Sir:-

The members of the Antigonish Hockey Club have learned with regret of your approaching departure for the seat of war in South Africa.

During your stay in Antigonish you have proved your mettle in many a hard fought game of hockey and if you charge the Boers as fiercely ^{as} _^ your opponents on the ice, we have no doubt that you will "get there" all right.

We hope that you may reap honor and glory in Africa, and ask you to accept the accompanying ring as a souvenir of your connection with the hockey boys of Antigonish.

Yours fraternally,

January 1900.

Dan R. MacLean
W. L. Birmingham
Bellomy

Committee
of
Antigonish
Hockey Club.

[Cont'd.]

Pa

Mr. Willard Borden,

2nd. Batt. Royal Canadian Regiment.

Dear Sir:-

On behalf of the citizens of the Town of Antigonish we ask you, on your departure for the seat of war in South Africa, to accept the accompanying gift, in order that your trip to the Cape may be made as comfortable as possible.

We regret to lose you as a fellow townsmen, but trust that when the war is over, you will return in health and strength, and again take up your abode with us.

We will watch your career as a soldier of the Queen, and we have no doubt that you will do your duty bravely, and bring credit upon the Province and town from which you go forth.

The Town Council has decided to place \$1000. Insurance upon your life, payable to your mother, in case of death.

With fervent wishes for your advancement in your new profession of arms, and for your escape from the perils of the sea, and of battle,

We are,

Yours faithfully,

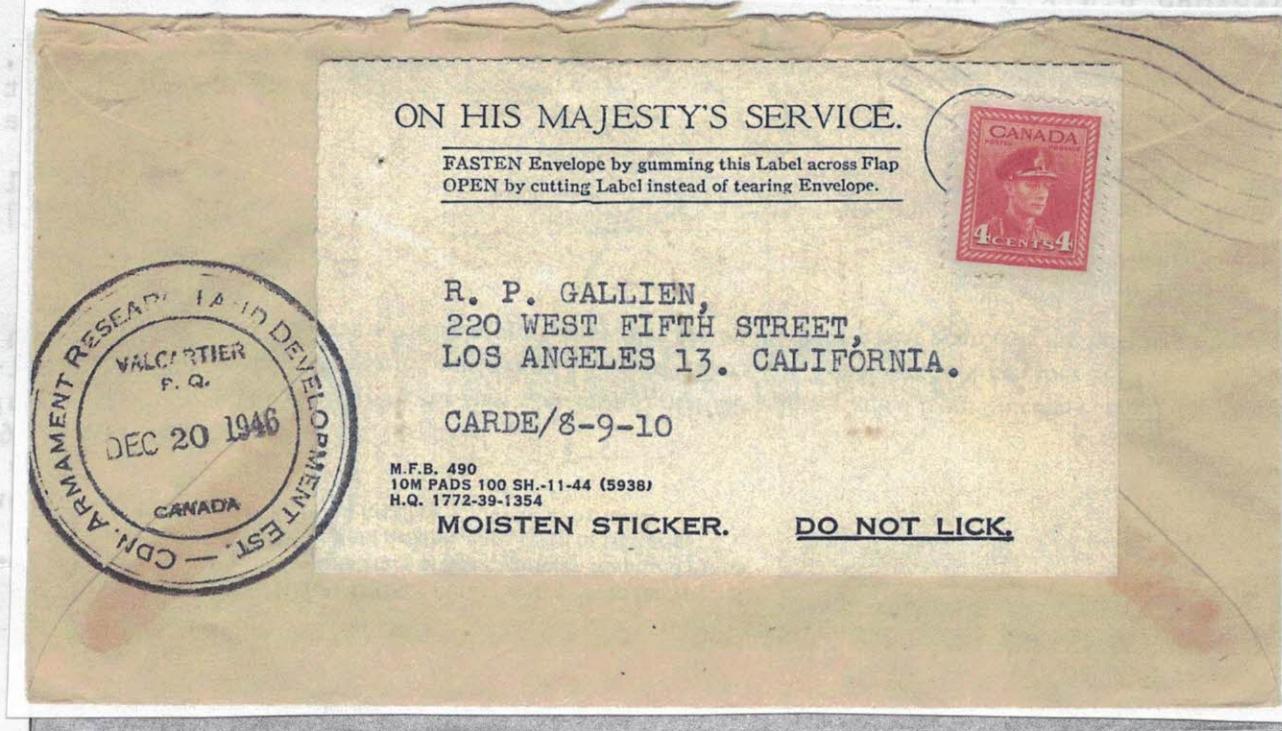
Jan 6th 1900.

D. S. Kinsc
P. B. Floyd
W. P. Cunningham

} Committee.

CANADIAN ARMAMENT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ESTABLISHMENT, VALCARTIER,
QUEBEC, 1946

The National Research Council (NRC) was established in 1916 as the Honorary Advisory Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. In 1925 the NRC was based on a British recommendation to establish military laboratories in Canada but priorities soon turned to more domestic and civilian projects. However, when Major-General Andrew G.L. McNaugh-



[on reverse: M.F.B. 1483/500M-2-46
(8836)/H.Q. 1772-39-1986]

ton became President, the NRC labs were employed in more areas of military research (from medicine and food packaging to weaponry and synthetic fuel research projects). By the start of the Second World War, the NRC was engaged in radar, aviation medicine, gas mask innovation, and military metallurgical experiments and production. McNaughton left to assume operational command within the Canadian Army and Chalmers Jack Mackenzie became acting President and President in 1944.

After the fall of France in June 1940, the NRC established biological and chemical warfare laboratories. Several specialized centres were also established in various locations such as the Defence Research Establishment Atlantic (DREA) by the Royal Canadian Navy in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Canadian Armament Research and Development Establishment (CARDE) was founded in 1945 and located at Valcartier, Quebec. It examined a wide range of military vehicle, armament and weapon systems, command and intelligence communications and technology. Today the Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC), Valcartier Research Centre, just outside CFB Valcartier, still supports the operational needs of the Canadian Armed Forces with additional expertise in Cyber Security, Geospatial Exploitation, Reconnaissance, and Electro-Optic Warfare.

[Cont'd.]

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References

The Canadian Encyclopedia, Vol.III, Second Ed. Edmonton: Hurtig Publishers Ltd., 1988.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Defence_Research_and_Development_Canada

CHRISTMAS U.N.E.F./U.N.D.O.F. UPDATED INFORMATION

Members are referred to Bob Toombs' U.N. Christmas card (NL#237, Dec. 2019, p. 1625). Mike Street has recently noted that the languages within the card are English/French/German (or Austrian)/Finnish/Polish and as Finland pulled out of U.N.D.O.F. in 1993, the probable period of the card is 1974-1993. Bob has also written that the contingent in Israel and Syria was from May 1974 (B&T, 1996, p.858) to at least 1993.[Ed.]

Dear Study Group Members: Happy New Year from your officers Mike and Dean! We both wish you the very best for the coming year. As noted in a previous email, for those without email contact, an award-winning collection (most ex. Bill Robinson) of C.S.E.F. material will be in an upcoming Eastern Auctions Ltd. sale (February?). Contact: (506) 548-8986; 1-800-667-8267; www.easternauctions.com. The cupboard is almost empty for articles and if you don't wish to be "bored" with editorial content please send in whatever you can. Many will be surprised by the quick arrival of this issue and that is primarily due to a supply of material on hand. Until spring, happy collecting!

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: WWII MPO 1314 (Edmonton/Jasper- Army Mountain Warfare School) covers/cards. Sayles #D1880/#D1882 or B&T #M13-487-489. Especially registered; MOTO; overseas destination usage. Contact the Editor at blueputtees@hotmail.com (1/2)

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 (2/3)

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 (6/10)

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 (5/5)
