



## Canadian Military Mail Study Group

### NEWSLETTER

MAY 2014

NEWSLETTER NO. 214  
Page 1345

#### THE C.E.F. DURING ITS MARCH TO GERMANY AND OCCUPATION ON THE RHINE, 1918-1919--By Colin Pomfret

One of the terms of the signed Armistice called for the establishment of bridgeheads on the East Bank of the Rhine with the British Expeditionary Force sector lying between Bonn and Dusseldorf. The original plan was for the Second Army and Fourth Army B.E.F., to take part in the advance with the Canadian Corps forming part of the Second Army.

The march began on November 18 but due to conditions of terrain, weather, and supply, many difficulties were encountered. On November 24 instructions were received that only the Second Army would take part in the advance and the Canadian Corps would consist of the First and Second Divisions, Corps Headquarters, and the Corps troops.

On December 3, most units were concentrated on the Belgian-German border and on the next day, the First Division crossed at Petit Thier and the Second at Beho. The Canadians crossed the Rhine on December 13 with the First Division Headquarters at Cologne and the Corps Headquarters and Second Division at Bonn.

The First Division started to move to Belgium on January 14, 1919 and the Second Division on January 16 and was completely removed on January 30.

The last unit to arrive in Belgium was the Cyclist Unit on February 6, 1919.

Author Edward Proud states that APO S.52 was the post office used by the Canadian Corps but the reader will note that the Corps troops in Germany used APO S.68 exclusively. The Corps troops left  
[Cont'd.]

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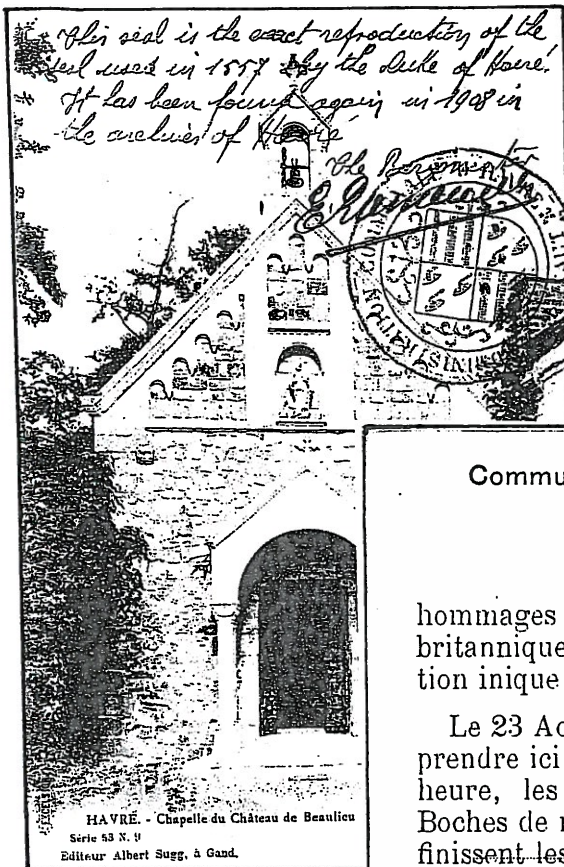
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in Belgium at this time were using APO S.65. The Corps did not use APO S.52 until they were in Belgium after returning from Germany.

This proclamation by the Bourmestre of Havre commemorates the liberation of Havre by elements of the Third Canadian Division. The signing of the Armistice set in motion the occupation of the Rhineland by the Allied armies.



Commune d'HAVRÉ, (Mons) Province de Hainaut. Belgique.

## CARTE POSTALE

Au nom de tous les habitants d'HAVRÉ, nous adressons nos hommages de profonde gratitude aux vaillants soldats des armées britanniques qui ont délivré notre chère commune d'une longue occupation inique et brutale.

Le 23 Août 1914, à 10 h. 1/2, nous avons vu les valeureux Anglais prendre ici contact avec l'ennemi, et le 11 Novembre 1918, à la même heure, les soldats d'une brillante division Canadienne délogent les Boches de notre localité et les refoulent au delà du canal du centre, où finissent les hostilités à la faveur de l'armistice.

Le souvenir des Officiers et Soldats Britanniques est gravé en nos cœurs reconnaissants.

Le Bourgmestre d'Havré,  
E. RANDOUR.

Havré, le 11 Novembre 1918.

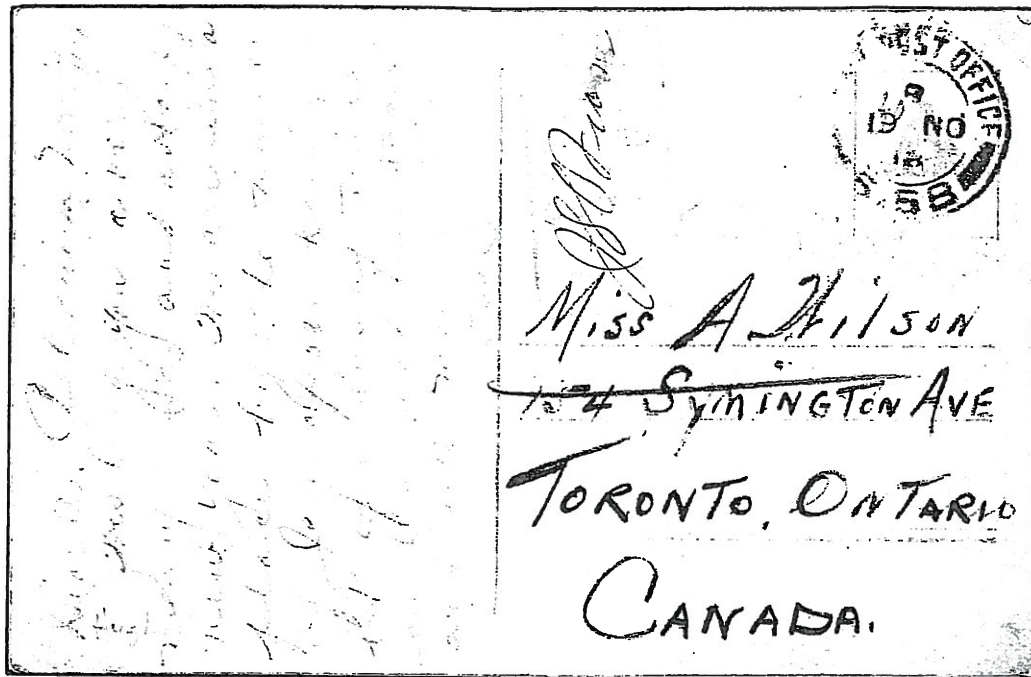
By November 19 all of the Corps troops, with the exception of the 14th Field Ambulance, had assembled in the area of Jemappes.

The following postcard, with APO S.68 dated November 19, 1918, was located at Jemappes, Belgium.

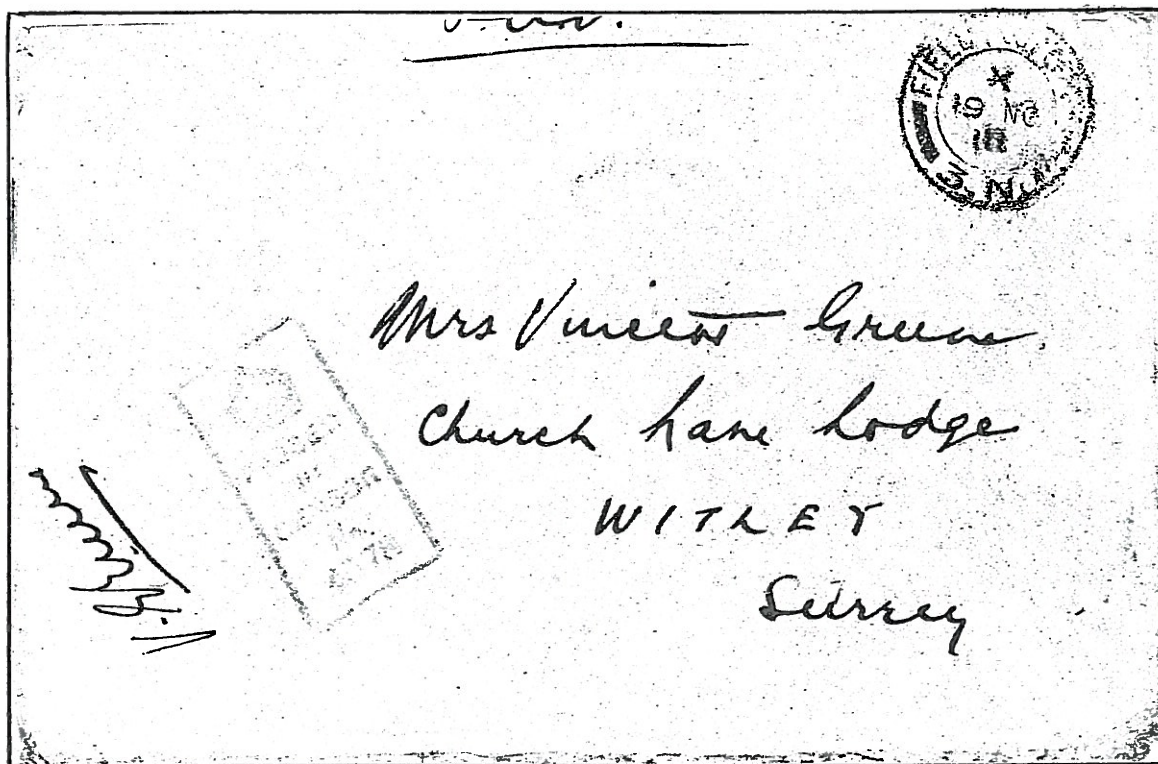
It bears Censor No. 6/2639?, connected with the 7th Canadian Siege Battery and has the signature of Lt. John G.C. Fraser, C.G.A.

[Cont'd.]





The original Field Post Office of the First Canadian Division was 142 and it was replaced by FPO 3.N. FPO 142 appears to have been lost by enemy action prior to September 4, 1918.



The cover above, with the FPO 3.N dated November 19, 1918 is connected with the First Canadian Brigade Headquarters. It has Censor No. 6/4578

[Cont'd.]

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of the 4th Canadian Battalion. It bears the signature of Lt. Vincent Graves Greene, 4th Battalion.

Later in life Lt. Greene would become one of Canada's leading philatelists.

[An obituary of "Vinnie Greene" from BNA TOPICS, Vol. 45 (5), September-October 1988, Whole No. 427, p. 10 is included for members' interest. Lt. Greene, in his own admission, did not do much collecting during the Great War (perhaps for obvious reasons)! Members may wish to read many of his articles throughout BNA TOPICS and especially the very interesting series by Derek Hayter "A Talk With Vincent Greene" in Vol. 45 (No. 4-6, Whole Nos. 426-428). Ed.]

## IN MEMORIAM

### VINCENT GRAVES GREENE

Vincent Graves Greene, OTB, FRPSC, FRPSL, FRNC, signer of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and recipient of the Alfred Lichtenstein award, died on 21 July 1988 at Toronto. He is survived by his sister.

An Emeritus member of BNAPS, 'Vinnie' served as President of the Society in 1959-60 and several terms on the Board of Governors. He was twice host of BNAPEX. Always keenly interested in philatelic literature, he was for many years Chairman of the Editorial Board of BNA TOPICS. He also established the annual Vincent G. Greene Award for the best article or series of articles in TOPICS.

His BNA collections covered a very wide field, from early Canadian Pence issues to Flag cancellations, from Postal Stationery to Military postmarks. The collections were sold at auction by J.N. Sissons in 1975. An acknowledged authority in the areas of Postal History and Proofs and Essays, he served on many international juries, and was Chairman of the Jury at CAPEX '78. He was President of CAPEX '51, and Chairman of both CAPEX '78 and CAPEX '87.

Vincent G. Greene was a major collaborator with Nicholas Argenti in the preparation of the latter's major work on the stamps of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and was a co-author of the follow-up work on the postal history of those provinces.

This important philatelist's name will live

on through the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Foundation, which he founded to further philately in Canada. The foundation is the leading expertization facility for stamps and postal history of BNA, and also publishes important books on BNA philately.

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GREAT WAR INTERNMENT CENSOR MARKING DATE SURVEY--By Dean Mario

[Over the years I had enjoyable conversations with the late J. Colin Campbell, John Frith, and Steve Luciuk regarding these interesting devices and their usage. While informal surveys were conducted among interested collectors, no attempt to actually document dates of usage was ever achieved. Not surprisingly, given some of the results from this preliminary survey, scarcity and rarity factors will require a second look and readjustment for the future.

I have not attempted to record the actual numbers of covers and cards with these markings affixed. I was only interested in the dates when they were used (so two covers with the same date will only have the single date recorded). I've looked at these and documented them for approximately two decades. However that does not imply that I have seen them all and look to members who have such material to report any new dates for future recording. Thank you for your assistance.

For members' reference I have included illustrations and the camp information listings from the updated ground-breaking work by W.J. Bailey and E.R. Toop, Canadian Military Postal Markings Vol. I (Ed. W.J. Bailey. Waterford, MI: C.G. Firby Publications, 1996, pp. 146-154). Steven C. Luciuk's excellent Internment Mail in Canada: 1914-1919 & 1939-1946 (BNAPS Exhibit Series No.21 /Revised Colour Edition, January 2007) was certainly helpful and is highly recommended.

**PRISONER OF WAR AND INTERNMENT CAMPS - WW I**

Camp Location	Camp Dates		Accommodation
	Opened	Closed	
Amherst, N.S.	17 Apr 15	27 Sep 19	Malleable Iron Wks.
Banff/Castle Camp, Alta.	14 Jul 15	Jul 17	Dominion Parks Bldg. Banff; Tents at Castle
Beauport, P.Q.	28 Dec 14	22 Jun 16	Armoury
Brandon, Man.	22 Sep 14	29 Jul 16	Exhibition Bldg.
## Dominion Police, Chief Commissioners Office, Ottawa	(26 Mar 15)		
Edgewood, B.C.	19 Aug 15	23 Sep 16	Bunk-houses
Fernie, B.C.	09 Jun 15	21 Oct 18	Rented premises
Halifax, N.S.	08 Sep 14	03 Oct 16	The Citadel
## Intelligence Office , Halifax Fortress	(07 Apr 17)		Fortress

[Cont'd.]



Camp Location	Camp Dates		Accommodation
	Opened	Closed	
Jasper, Alta.	08 Feb 16	31 Aug 16	Dom. Parks Bldg.
Kapuskasing, Ont.	14 Dec 14	24 Feb 20	Bunk-houses
Kingston, Ont.	18 Aug 14	03 May 17	Fort Henry
Lethbridge, Alta.	30 Sep 14	07 Nov 16	Exhibition Bldg.
Monashee-Mara Lake, B.C.	02 Jun 15	29 Jul 17	Tents/Bunk-houses
Montreal, P.Q.	13 Aug 14	30 Nov 18	Immigration Bldg.
Morrissey, B.C.	09 Jun 15	21 Oct 18	Rented premises
Munson-Eaton, Alta.	13 Oct 18	21 Mar 19	Railway cars
Nanaimo, B.C.	20 Sep 14	17 Sep 15	Prov. Gov't Bldg.
Niagara Falls, Ont.	15 Dec 15	31 Aug 18	Armoury
## Ottawa, Ont.	(17 May 17)		
Petawawa, Ont.	10 Dec 14	08 May 16	Military Camp
Revelstoke-Field, B.C.	06 Sep 15	23 Oct 16	Bunk-houses
Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	13 Jan 15	29 Jun 18	Armoury
Spirit Lake, P.Q.	13 Jan 15	28 Jan 17	Bunk-houses
Toronto, Ont.	14 Dec 14	02 Oct 16	Stanley Barracks
Valcartier, P.Q.	24 Apr 15	23 Oct 15	Military Camp
Vernon, B.C.	18 Sep 14	20 Feb 20	Prov. Gov't Bldg.
Welland, Ont.	(Jul 15)	(Nov 15)	
Winnipeg, Man.	01 Sep 14	29 Jul 16	Fort Garry
6th Div Halifax, N.S.	(28 Apr 15)		
## Mil. Dist. No. 6 Halifax	(01 Sep 16)		

(##--New dates listed below)



1915--MAY 21  
JUN 15  
AUG 12  
NOV 22

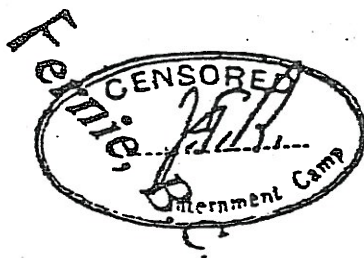
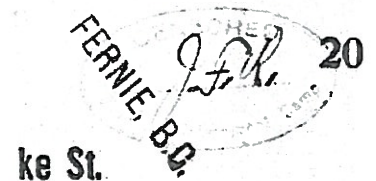
1916--JAN 5  
FEB 17  
MAR 17  
MAY 29  
JUL 12, 26  
AUG 25  
SEP 1  
NOV 18

1917--APR 17  
JUN 11, 29  
JUL 10  
AUG 30  
SEP 4  
NOV 1, 10  
DEC 21

1918--MAR 9, 15  
JUL 3  
SEP 28

[Cont'd.]

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1916--JAN 151916--JAN 12, 211915--JUN 24  
SEP 211915--AUG 21  
(Proof Book Only)1916--OCT 141915--JAN 8  
MAR 8, 11,  
261916--OCT 26 (Lower Case)1916--MAY ?  
(Upper Case, ex.  
Luciuk, p. 29)1915--DEC 191916--FEB 9

[Cont'd.]

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1916--MAY 29JUN 7, 26  
JUL 4  
OCT 71917--APR 7(This marking has also  
been identified with  
no internment usage)(A) 1917--MAY 25  
AUG 211918--APR 30  
JUN 24  
DEC 161919--APR 12(B)\* 1917--SEP 26  
NOV 271918--JUN 14  
AUG 71919--MAR 21(\*No comma after 'censor'  
and different type style)1915--JUN 20  
JUL 16, 22, 28(?)  
SEP(?) 9  
OCT 19  
NOV 101916--JAN 29  
MAR 7  
APR 21  
MAY 19  
JUN 26  
AUG 12  
DEC 14(?)1917--JAN 11  
FEB 24  
MAR 5, 27  
APR 121916--SEP 5  
NOV 111916--MAR 17?  
JUL 15  
AUG 11  
OCT 5

[Cont'd.]





1915--JUL 13, 21  
AUG 21  
DEC 21, 27

1916--MAY 30



1916--NOV 18  
DEC 18

1917--MAR 20  
JUN 15  
AUG 29  
OCT 18  
NOV 29

1918--JAN 21



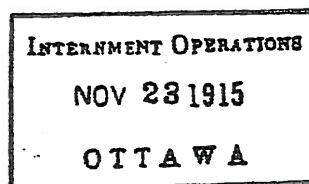
1915--APR 22  
MAY 28  
JUN 12



1915--JUL 22  
1917--MAY 17

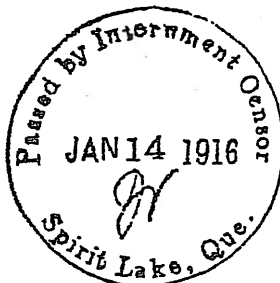


1915--NOV 24°



1915--JUL 21  
NOV 23°

(°On same Duncan, BC garage invoice, ex. J.C. Campbell CMMSG NL #140, p. 403)



1916--JAN 14  
APR 18



1915--JUN 1

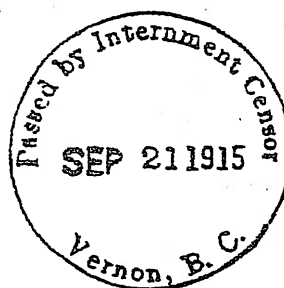
(ex. Sayles, CMMSG NL #143, p. 443)

[Cont'd.]

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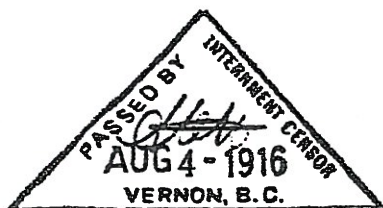
1915--JUL 19<sup>+</sup>

(+Illustration  
should read  
this corrected  
date. Unique  
strike to date)



1915--JUL 20  
AUG 31  
SEP 16, 21

1916--JAN 19, 20  
MAR 13  
MAY 27

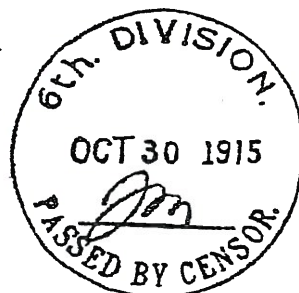


1916--JUL 14  
AUG 4  
SEP 22  
DEC 5

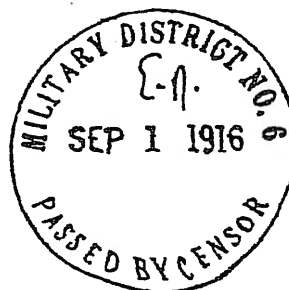
1917--JAN 18, 22  
MAR 3, 26  
APR 11  
MAY 23

1918--DEC 11

1919--SEP 17, 23  
OCT 7



1915--APR 28  
JUL 9, 22  
AUG 25  
SEP 7, 22  
OCT 18, 30



1916--MAY 28  
SEP 1

So what may we conclude from the above? Some markings, like those from Banff, Beauport Armoury, Brandon, Castle, Fernie, Halifax, Kingston (double-ring), Lethbridge, Nanaimo, Ottawa, Spirit Lake, Toronto, and Military District No.6 are still exceedingly rare. There are still many that are either unique or only two or three strikes have been recorded. Most should receive the "Rarity Factor E" ("rare, less than ten strikes known") to use the commonly-accepted rarity scale.

A few, like Morrissey, the Vernon "triangle", and "6th Division" are all still scarce but not as rare as once believed given the updated strike discoveries. Given the popularity of this field, however, most are difficult to find. Amherst, Kapuskasing, and Kingston (single-ring) are still rather commonly found compared to the others.

I shall leave it up to students in this field to determine why some camps' examples are more scarce than others. This is a very interesting area of Canadian military markings from the Great War. I hope that this survey will assist collectors in determining the dates of usage for many of these markings. Again, please have a look at your holdings and report any additional dates different than those above. Thank you and happy hunting! Ed.]

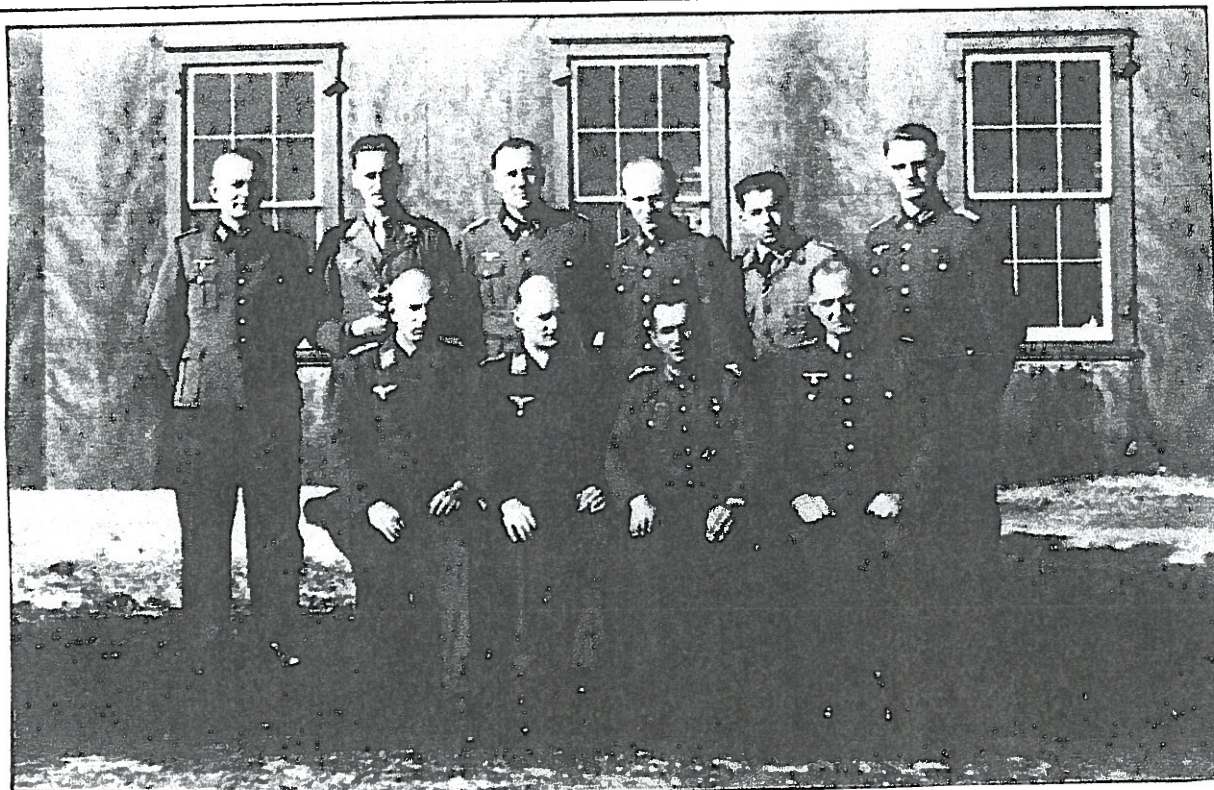
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P.O.W. POSTCARD FROM AUSTRALIA TO CANADA--By Robert Henderson

This sample was noted on the eBay auction site but accompanying details were not included with the scanned pictures obtained. Regretfully, the handstamps and postmark are not fully legible. The top line printed in purple ink appears to read "...BY CAMP COMMANDANT 133 2". The postmark is from Melbourne, Vic., Australia but the date is illegible.

<p><b>SERVICE OF PRISONERS OF WAR</b></p>	<p><b>POST CAI</b></p>	
<p>The address only to be written on this side.</p>	<p>Address Empfänger Destinatar</p>	<p><b>Soldat</b></p>
<p>If anything else is added the postcard will be destroyed.</p>	<p>Name des Suchtame Vor- und Zuname Cognome e Name</p>	<p><i>Rudolf Schempf</i></p>
<p>Nur die Adresse ist auf diese Seite zu schreiben</p>	<p>Street, Strasse Strada</p>	<p><b>German</b></p>
<p>Sollte etwas hinzugefügt werden, so wird diese Postkarte vernichtet.</p>	<p>Suburb, Stadteil Sobborgo</p>	<p><b>Prisoner of War</b></p>
<p>L'indirizzo soltanto su questa parte.</p>	<p>City, Stadt Citta</p>	<p><b>Kanada</b></p>
<p>Se si aggiunge qualsiasi parola la cartolina sarà distrutta.</p>	<p>Country Land Paese</p>	<p><b>EXAMINED BY D. B/ 60</b></p>



[Cont'd.]



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An Australian purple handstamp encloses the words "PASSED/BY/CENSOR/332". A hand drawn blue pencil circle enclosing "21" indicates the card was directed to the Canadian Prisoner of War Camp 21/E at Espanola, Ontario which held "Other Rank" personnel from July 7, 1940 until November 30, 1943. The notation handstamp "EXAMINED BY D.B./60" was placed by a Canadian Censor.

The picture on the front shows ten uniformed P.O.W.'s in the front of a barrack block that appears to be very similar to the type used in Canada. Some of the men appear to belong to the famed Afrika Corps.

I have not been able to ascertain which camp this card is from. [Bob sent along an accompanying listing of some Australian camps but no Camp 133 was indicated. Any ideas? Ed.]

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### Dear Study Group Members:

Another issue at hand to bring us up to speed. A good deal of positive feedback concerning the last issue which was great. The military-theme of upcoming issues of BNA TOPICS and the PHSC Journal is promising. The Editor of the CPSGB's Maple Leaves is also looking forward to an issue dedicated to Great War themes. Now that Canada's role in Afghanistan has officially ended, we are looking forward to seeing some scarcer material from that Theatre. Members know with email, the telephone, Skype etc. all contribute to less "snail mail" to study in our modern world.

Members will recall that I had noted the sale of former long-time member Ged Taylor's military mail holdings. Canada's Draconian customs legislation was a major concern but all is not lost! Work is underway to allow our membership full access with the kind assistance of our friends in the United Kingdom. More details about this when they are available.

Until next time, have a wonderful late spring and keep those articles flowing!

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### SMALL ADS

Small ads from members are always welcome. Buy/Sell/Trade. Only Cdn. \$1 per insertion (or mint Cdn. postage @ face ok). Copy and payment to the Editor please.

WANTED: Camp Hughes, Sewell Camp, Camp Shilo postal history on covers and postcards. Buy, sell, trade. Contact: Darcy Hickson, R.R. #2, Box 24, Brandon, MB R7A 5Y2; (204) 725-0621; or [hicksondj@mts.net](mailto:hicksondj@mts.net) (8/10)

WANTED: All covers/cards related to Great War Newfoundland; Canadian POW's IN Germany (WWI/WWII); Canadians in Gibraltar/Malta during WWII. Contact: The Editor or [blueputtees@hotmail.com](mailto:blueputtees@hotmail.com) (3/5)

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