



# THE NOVA SCOTIA POST

The Monthly Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

June 2025  
Volume 54, Issue 541

## UP AND COMING

**NS Stamp Club** - June 3 (Note change)  
Year End Social and Member's Bourse  
See Page 4

**Valley Stamp Club** - June 7  
Port Williams Community Centre  
Presenter: Mike Mather "Exhibiting  
postal history"

**Moncton Stamp Fair** - June 14  
10 - 3pm, 100 War Veterans Ave,  
Moncton, NB

The Fundy Stamp Club will hold a Silent  
Auction which will run from 10 a.m. to 1  
p.m. and a Live Auction at 1:30 p.m.

**NSSC Stamp Fair** - June 15  
East Dartmouth Community Centre

**South Shore Stamp Club** - June 24  
New Life Christian Church, Elm St.  
Bridgewater, NS

**NOVAPEX 2025** - August 22-23  
Regional Level Exhibition and Bourse

Check out the status of other events at  
[www.rpsc.org/shows.php](http://www.rpsc.org/shows.php) or  
[www.csdaonline.com/shows](http://www.csdaonline.com/shows)

## BODY BAGS POSTSCRIPT

by Marty Zelenietz

Twisted are the paths that we follow. While looking through my Papua New Guinea covers for a particular usage, I found an item that was stamped "Missent to Jakarta." I moved it to my "missent mail" file, and while perusing the covers there, found another misfiled cover, a body bag in disguise.

The item in question is a standard #10 business envelope (Fig. 1) from the United States Postal Service. It originated at the Carol Stream Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC), the sorting plant for the north and west Chicago area. According to the Carol Stream website, as of 2018, the processing centre handled 4 million pieces of mail each day, through a variety of machines with capacities ranging between 32,000 and 36,000 pieces per hour. Postage on the ersatz body bag was paid by a USPS permit imprint.

The cover contained the "victim" (Fig. 2), our RSVP to a cousin's son's Bar Mitzvah. As you can see, the "victim" was an obvious casualty of a sorting machine: badly smudged, totally mutilated, torn open front and back (restored with tape), with the contents similarly lacerated and taped back together. The RSVP clearly showing two Dartmouth Main July 14 2004 hand cancels. The return cover has, on its back, orange machine sorting marks indicating it was handled in Montreal on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

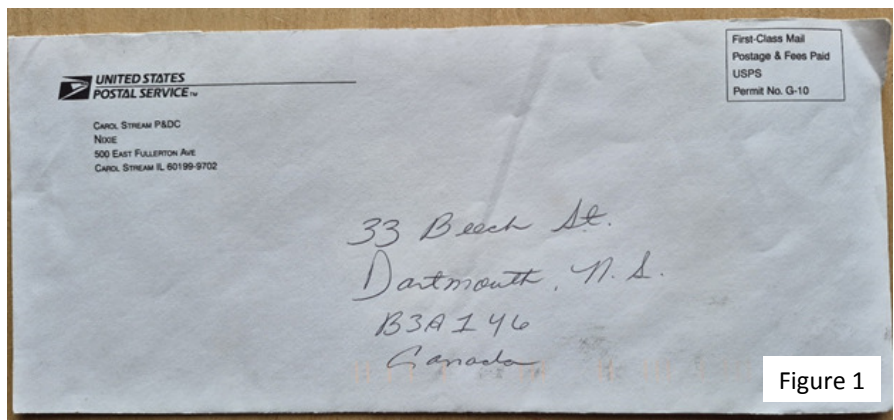


Figure 1

Two things to note. First, the RSVP was probably deliverable with a little effort, as some effort had already been put into "restoring" the item. Second, unlike other damaged items that I've written about, this damaged item did not include an explanation, an apology, or a "We Care" note. The "victim" arrived at its point of origin unheralded and unexplained.



Figure 2

## INSPECTION SERVICE TO MOZAMBIQUE AND BACK

by Gary Steele

Inspection Service  
Dead Letter Office

JAN 31 1947

No. 4

Ottawa, Canada.

Sans-serif, all mixed  
48mm x 37mm,  
No proof known

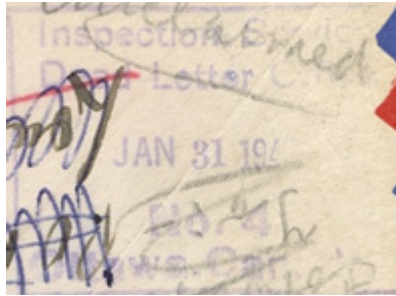


Photo Source:

<https://searcharchives.vancouver.ca/s-s-lake-okanagan-at->

With the Lourenco address crossed out, it was forwarded back to Durban on Nov 29, 1946.

On the front is also a notation African Manganese Co. / Takoradi, West Africa (now Ghana) but no indication of date before or after Durban Nov 29, 1946, or even if it went there other than a possible destination.

Note the pencil marking crossing out the Takoradi address with notations on the back of the cover *Return to Sender / Forward to* and *Unclaimed* with a pencil curve around the Vancouver address suggesting it be returned back to the original sender.

Due to so many notations causing some possible confusion on the cover, this may be why it was sent to the Ottawa Dead Letter Office on Jan 31, 1947 after arriving in Montreal on Dec 28, 1946 from a foreign destination. A Google search shows the house at the return address, 3887 – W. 15th Ave, Vancouver, was built in 1930 but was demolished to be replaced by a larger home after 2022.

<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Park\\_ships](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Park_ships) and <https://navalmarinearchive.com/sbh/canadaships/wwwtwo.html>

**The Nova Scotia Post**

is a publication of the  
Nova Scotia Stamp Club  
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Jane Sodero - Editor  
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<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>  
[webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@nsstampclub.ca)

Nova Scotia Stamp Club meets at 7:30 p.m. on every second Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at the Nova Scotia Museum, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S. The club publishes a monthly newsletter (except summer) released in the first week of the month.

E-Membership is C\$10 per person or C\$15.00 per couple.

Print Membership is C\$15 and C\$22.50. Foreign mailings available at a premium.

Send membership applications to...  
NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks  
102 Birch Bear Run,  
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8



## MAIL OF THE 27TH CANADIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE GROUP

by Jeff Parks

This is a philatelic story in the making, however, what I have uncovered so far has been encouraging to the further development of the postal history of Canada's first military foray into the Cold War.

In 1951, the Canadian government was called upon by its obligations to NATO to provide troops in the defence of Europe against possible aggression from Soviet Russia. Having already committed the 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade (CIB) Group to the Korean Conflict, it was announced on 4 May 1951 that a new brigade (27th CIB Group) would be raised and sent to Germany. Much of the brigade was raised out of Reserve units from across Canada.

In addition to the numerous "Battle" and "Support" Units, the 27th CIB also had "Base" Units that included the No. 2 Base Post Office and No. 2 Line of Communication Postal Unit of the Canadian Postal Corps (CPC). Part of the No. 2 Base Post Office was to remain in Montreal, Canada.

In late September and early October 1951, advance parties were flown and shipped to Europe to establish themselves with the British Army of the Rhine (BOAR) in British controlled West Germany. The move was designated as code word "MIGRAINE".

The main body of the Brigade Group sailed to Rotterdam in six serials at approximately weekly intervals, each being about ten days at sea. The Second Serial moved the largest contingent of the Brigade sailing on the *MV Fairsea* from Quebec City on 12 Nov., landing at Rotterdam on 21 Nov.

Canada Field Post Offices were set up in three locales in Germany: Hanover (CFPO-40 (4 Dec 51), -41 & -42 (8 Dec 51), -44 (31 Jan 52), -45 (6 Mar 1952)); Hohne (CFPO-43 (23 Dec 51));

(Figure 1) was sent to London ON on 19 XII (Dec) 51 with a CFPO-42 (Hanover) postmark. Note that the stamp is British, because Canadian stamps were not available in Europe until 16 Jan 1952. Private T. (Ed) Labadie arrived in Germany on 16 Dec 1951 with the 79 Field Ambulance Unit, Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps, about 3.5 weeks after landing in Rotterdam.

Shortly after their arrival in Germany, the 1 Canadian Base Ordnance Unit sent a detachment back to the United Kingdom to be located with the Base Ordnance Depot (BOD) at Bicester, Oxford-

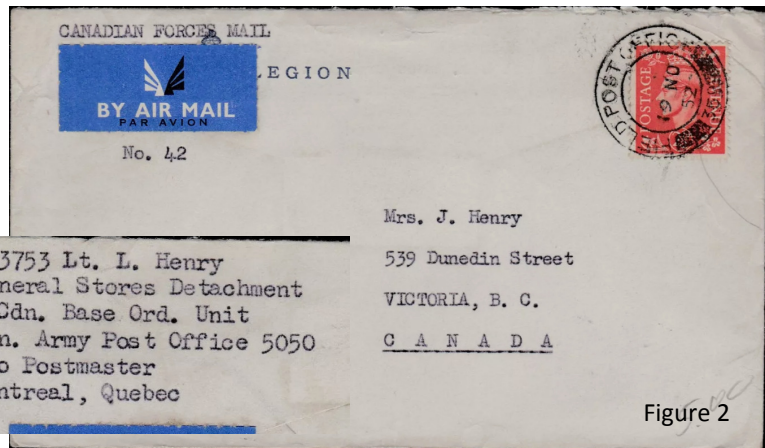


Figure 2

shire. This BOD is a unit of the British Army and therefore it became necessary to place the Canadian detachment under command of the BOD Bicester for operations, but still under command Canadian Army Liaison Establishment (London) for local administration. The cover (Figure 2) is posted from British Army Field Office 359 on 19 NO 1952 to Vancouver, BC. from the General Stores Detachment of 1 Cdn. Base Ord. Unit. Note that the return address (shown) is CAPO 5050 Montreal; however on the front upper left it states Canadian Forces Mail No. 42 which is presumed to mean Field Post Office 42 (CFPO-42). Any return mail to this individual would likely be sent through Montreal to Hanover and then redirected to BPO Bicester.

I acquired this cover (Figure 3) to add to my George VI collection and thus started a study of the markings and where the cover

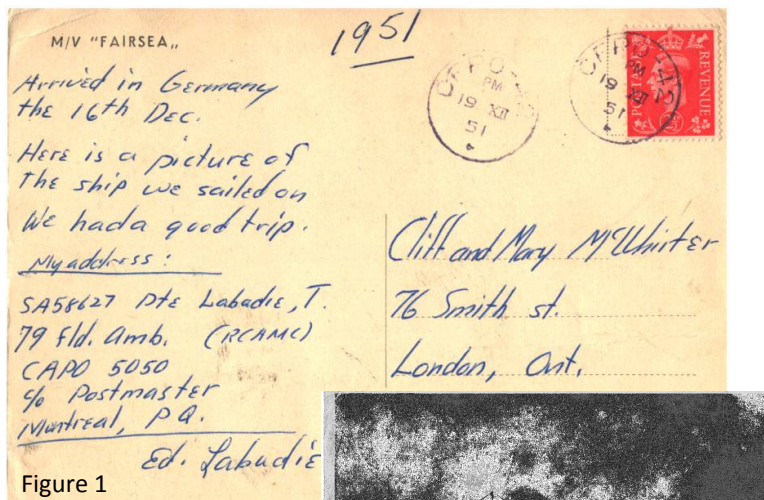


Figure 1

and Herford - Command Postal Depot (CAPO-5000).

A post card of *MV Fairsea*

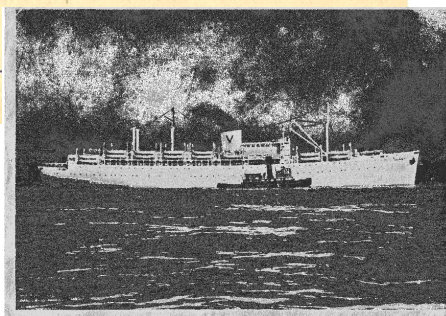


Figure 3

**ORAPEX 2025 - OTTAWA ON MAY 3-4, 2025**

With 30 dealers, over 170 frames of exhibits and meetings or seminars from a dozen special interest societies, ORAPEX was a fantastic show. Three Nova Scotia Stamp Club members contributed four exhibits earning 3 large Golds and 1 large vermeil as well as several special awards. Congratulations to all!

| Exhibitor            | Exhibit Title  | Award         | Special Awards   |
|----------------------|--|---------------|--|
| John Hall            | Marketing the Canadian War Savings Stamps and Certificates of World War II | Large Gold    | RPSC Excellence -Title Page / Synopsis                                     |
| Michael Mather       | Falkland Islands Dependencies 1946 Map Stamps - Oh! What a Mess!           | Large Vermeil | R.D. Michener Most Innovative and Interesting Thematic                     |
| Michael Mather       | London Cancells - Development during the Victorian Period                  | Large Gold    |  |
| Jean Jacques Tillard | Les entiers postaux pêcheur et goéland à SPM 1909-1918                     | Large Gold    | APS Award of Excellence (1900-1940)<br>UPSS Porter Venn Single Frame Award |

**27TH CIB MAIL** CONTINUED...

originated from. The postal rate from European bases to Canada was the same as the Canadian International air mail rate to Germany (15¢), unlike mail from the 25th CIB in Korea, which was free to mail. The cover is postmarked CFPO-40 (Hanover) 22 V (May) 1952 and Air Mail (rubber stamp) to Toronto ON. The backflap gives a return address to HQ (Headquarters) 27 CIB, CAPO 5050 Montreal. Canadian Army Post Office (CAPO) 5050 Montreal shown on all pieces noted herein is where all outbound mail from Canada is collected for

the European Theatre of Operations.

Members of the 27th CIB stayed in the Hanover area until December 1953 when they either returned to Canada or their units joined the replacement brigade as members of the 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade (1 CIB) at Soest, Werl, or Hermer. The CFPO markings were continued in these new areas.

There is a lot more to find and more story to uncover for this brief period (1951-53) in military postal history . Stay tuned!!

Compiled by Jeff Parks

**VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS - SUMMER 2025**

You can register for the event via the host's website. Most of the groups listed have past presentations available to view through their websites, or You Tube. Times listed for the ATLANTIC (ADT) zone.

**Auxiliary Markings Club**

June 10, 8 pm, Douglas Quine "Hiding in Plain Sight: Letter Mail Barcodes, Misdirected Mail, and Modern Postal History".

**British Empire Study Group (BESG)**

June 12, 7 pm, Jean Wang "Smokes for Troops - British and Canadian Tobacco Funds during WWI".

July 12, 7 pm, Chris Dorn "Three Enduring Mysteries of the Cape of Good Hope Triangular Issues, 1853-64."

**Collectors Club of New York**

June 4, 6:30 pm Jere Dutt, "Dahomey: Man Climbing Oil Palm – The Workhorse of Dahomey Definitives".

June 18, 6:30 pm, Matthew Kewriga, "Scandinavian Collectors Club – Danish West Indies Postal History".

**Learning About Stamps Online**

June 17, 9 pm, Bob Thompson, "Stamps of Antarctica".

July 15, 9 pm, Edward Zuckerman, "Disputed Territories on Map

Stamps".

August 19, 9 pm, Jeffrey Shapiro, "An Overview of the German Inflation (1919-1923)".

**Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC)**

June 3, 8 pm, Bob Vogel, Douglas Quine, and David Ball "Philately 101: Collecting the slightly more unusual".

June 9, 8 pm, Stamp Talk: Mirko Zatka, "Specialty Collecting Areas for Modern Canada".

July 14, 8 pm, Stamp Talk: David Foote, "Mutiny on the Bounty".

Sept, 15, 8 pm, Stamp Panel: Jane Soderro and Greg Redner, "An Introduction to Collecting Postal History".

**~~~~~ JUNE CLUB MEETING ~~~~~**

Note the change of date to one week earlier. No auction! We are holding a member's bourse instead. Club members can buy, sell or trade their items (such as stamps, covers, albums, stock books, catalogues, publications or any other philatelic material). Set up at 7 pm. Refreshments to follow the meeting—please bring something such as "sweets or finger foods" for the table to be shared.