

# **“C” FORCE VOLUNTEERS OF THE NIAGARA PENINSULA**

**By Gene M. Labiuk**

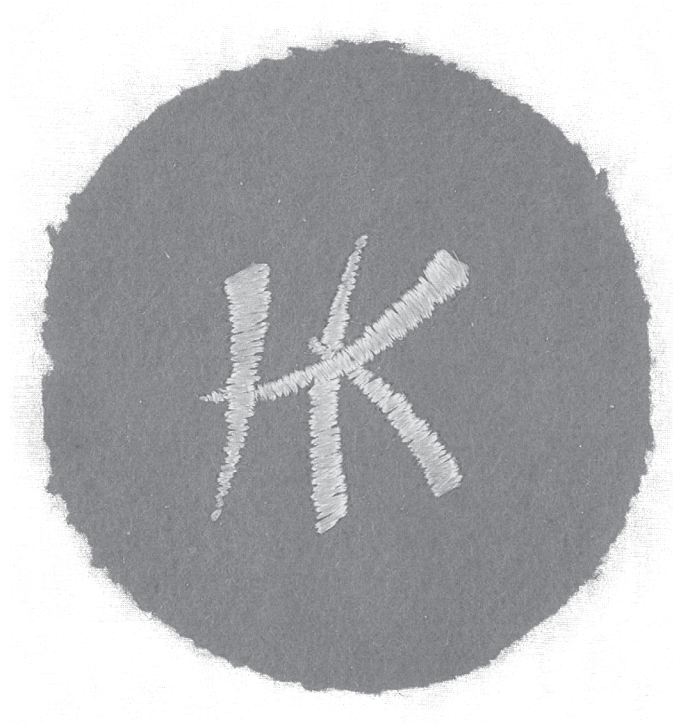


**PUBLISHED BY THE NIAGARA MILITARY MUSEUM,  
NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO, CANADA, © 2023**

**PUBLICATION No. 2**

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**By Gene M. Labiuk**



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NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO, CANADA, © 2023**

**GRAPHICS BY MAE ANN CAMACHO  
Mississauga, Ontario**

**PUBLICATION No. 2**

**FUNDED BY DELTA BINGO, NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO AND OLG**

# **PREFACE**

In September of 2019 the Niagara Military Museum had displayed an exhibit entitled “C” Force The Hong Kong Story. This exhibit told the story of the contribution that Canada and its military had made for the defence of Hong Kong.

The first panel of the exhibit dealt with the men who had volunteered from the Niagara Peninsula for combat duty. Upon enrollment they were unaware that they were volunteering for the defence of Hong Kong (“C” Force). These infantry volunteers were enrolled into the Royal Rifles of Canada regiment which was stationed at the time in Quebec City.

The Niagara Military Museum was aware that this exhibit would not be an eternal exhibit and one day must be taken down, so it was decided that we should publish a book in which we give tribute and forever keep the memory of these volunteers for their service.

This publication shows the names and relevant information of these courageous men from the Niagara Peninsula who are all gone, but will never be forgotten for their valour and sacrifice.

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We would like to thank the Hong Kong Veteran's Commemorative Association (HKVCA) for supplying and allowing us to use the information supplied on each soldier's web page. More information on the HKVCA can be found on [www.hkvca.ca](http://www.hkvca.ca).

We would especially like to thank Gray Scrimgeour for his time in editing this publication.

And a thank you to Delta Bingo, Niagara Falls, Ontario and OLG for the funding of this project.



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## Soldiers from the Counties of Lincoln and Welland



### Ronald Beacroft, B87858



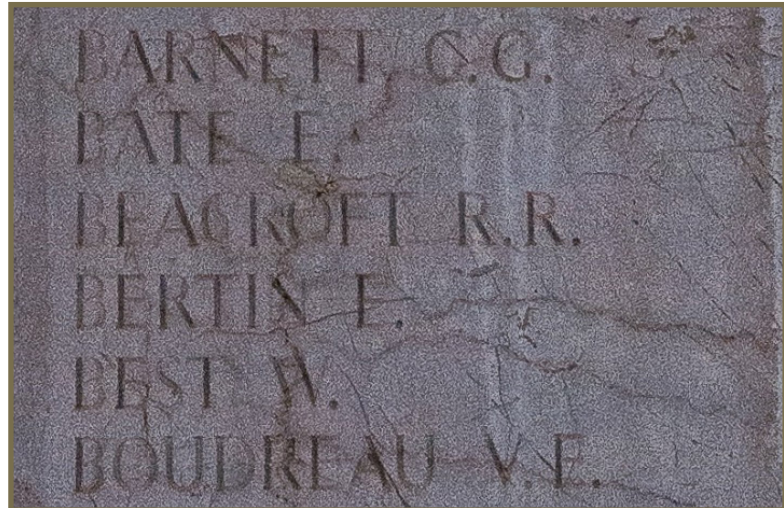
1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

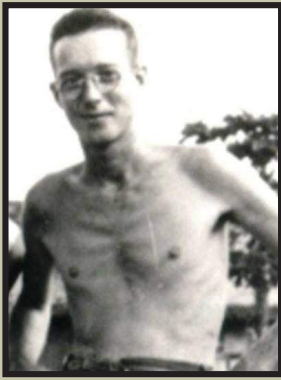
Originally enlisted with the Dufferin & Haldiman Rifles,  
transferred to the Lincoln and Welland Regiment

Birth date: October 10, 1910

Killed in Action: December 19, 1941, at the Battle of Lye Mun Gap

Ronald Beacroft's name is engraved on the Sai Wan Memorial





## Lawrence (Larry) Dowling, B32015

Royal Canadian Corps of Signals

Birth date: July 26, 1919

St. Catharines, Lincoln County

Prisoner of War at the Shamshuipo Camp

Larry Dowling enlisted July 15, 1941. Larry originally enlisted with the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. He was sent to Hong Kong with Brigade Group that accompanied the two regiments. He passed away on August 11, 1993 at Vancouver, British Columbia. He is interned with his wife Isabelle at Victory Memorial Park in Surrey, B.C.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**BLOCK**  
NOMINO  
A.M.S.

M.I. 9/JAP/ 201261 A

**WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITAL LETTERS IN PENCIL**

No. B32015 Rank SGT-MN Surname DOWLING  
 Christian Names LAWRENCE FREDERICK Decorations PACIFIC STAR, 1939-45 STAR  
 Ship (R.N., U.S.N. or Merchant Navy) Unit & Div. (Army) AG-Sigs, BDE "C" FORCE  
 Squadron and Command (R.A.F., A.A.F.)  
 Date of Birth 26 JULY 1919 Date of Enlistment 15 JULY 1941  
 Private Address and Telephone No. 4 ALICE AVE, ST. CATHARINES, ONT. 4871-W  
 Place and Date of Original Capture 25 DECEMBER 1941 HONG KONG  
 (Aircraft R.A.F. to give place and date of a/c crash).

1. What camps, detachments or hospitals were you in? Give dates and names of the British Camp Leaders, Detachment (or Block) Leaders or, in the case of hospitals, the Senior British Medical Officers.

Camp or Hospital.	Dates.	Camp Leader.	Detachment or Block Leader (If any).
North Point HK	30 Dec 41 to 3 Sept 42	Lt. Col. Hume RAC	Capt. Bellings, R.C.S.
Prisoner Road Hong Kong	3 Sept 42 to 15 Jan 44	Lt. Col. Dowie RAC	Lt. Budd, R.C.S.
Shamshuipo H.K.	15 Jan 44 to 9 Sept 45	Major Boone, R.C.S.	Lt. W.S. Scrymgeour, R.C.S.

2. ESCAPES OR ATTEMPTED ESCAPES. (Additional paper will be supplied on request if required).  
 (a) Give full description and approx. date of each attempt you made to escape, showing how you left the camp, and



**NOTICE TO ALLIED PRISONERS OF WAR AND CIVILIAN INTERNEES**

The Japanese Government has accepted the Allied peace terms set forth in the Potsdam Declaration. Final negotiations are being concluded.

An official representative is on his way for humanitarian purposes and liaison with this headquarters. He will be an initial, pre-Allied occupation representative in the interest of welfare needs and general conditions in the area or camp to which he is sent.

He will coordinate with the Red Cross and Japanese Military and Government, all plans to assure the security of the personnel concerned, to take emergency action to properly house, feed, clothe and furnish medical assistance to such personnel, and to assist in maintaining order in camps awaiting occupational forces.

He will not have authority to act for the Allied Forces in the rendering of any decisions, military, civil or otherwise. Until such time as allied occupational forces arrive to accept the surrender of Japanese military forces, those military forces are responsible for all such control and decisions in conformity with the terms of surrender and the dictates of the Supreme Allied Command.

(Signed) **A. C. WEDEMAYER**  
 Lieutenant General, U.S.A.  
 Commanding

VJ-102  
 Aug. 18, 1945 (4:00 PM)







## Victor Fehr, B68310

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: November 12, 1919

Niagara Falls & Fort Erie, Welland County

Prisoner of War at the Shamshuipo Camp in Hong Kong and the Tsurumi and Ohashi camps in Japan

Transported to Japan on the Tatsuta Maru on January 19, 1943 arriving at Nagasaki, Japan on January 22, 1943 and boarded a train for Tokyo and then another train to the Tsurumi Camp

When Victor was liberated in Japan, his trip began home via the United States Navy, Naval Air Transport Service, Japan to Hawaii to Oakland, then by train to British Columbia.



Victor Oliver Fehr Winnipeg Rifles P.O.W. Camp Japan 1945  
Born November 12, 1919 Died May 16 1976



<b>MANIFEST</b>		Part of Oakland, Calif		Date	10/6/45	Serial No.	1300/26125
Family name		Given Name		Accompanied by			
FEHR		Victor Oliver					
Canadian Army POWs from Japan - Repatriating to Canada							
C.I.N. No.	Place and date of issue	Section and Subdivision	Quota country charged	E.P. No.			
A-47-1		Act of 1924		P.V. No.			
Place of birth (town, country, etc.)	Age	Yrs.	Sex	M. S. X.	Occupation	Read	yes
Wentburn, Sask., Canada	25	Mon.	m		W. D. Canadian Army	Write	
Language or exemption	Race	Nationality	Last permanent residence (town, country, etc.)				
English	white	Canadian					
Name and address of nearest relative or friend in country whence applicant came							
Ever in U.S. From To Where Passage paid by							
No.							
Destination, and name and complete address of relative or friend to join there							
Niagara Falls, Ontario							
Money shown	Ever arrested and deported, or excluded from admission			Purpose in coming and time remaining in transit to Canada			
Head tax status	Height	Complexion	Hair	Eyes	Distinguishing marks		
Exempt	6 ft. 1 in.	fair	br	br	none		
Support and date of landing, and name of ship	Can. Im. Identification card No.						
Oakland Army Air Base, NATS #90398	10/6/45						
Records by	Previously examined at	Date	Previous disposition	Present disposition, P. I.	Arrived by		
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF POWER, Immigration and Naturalization Service. Form I-440 (Ed. 1941) 10-12279 (10-1-540)							



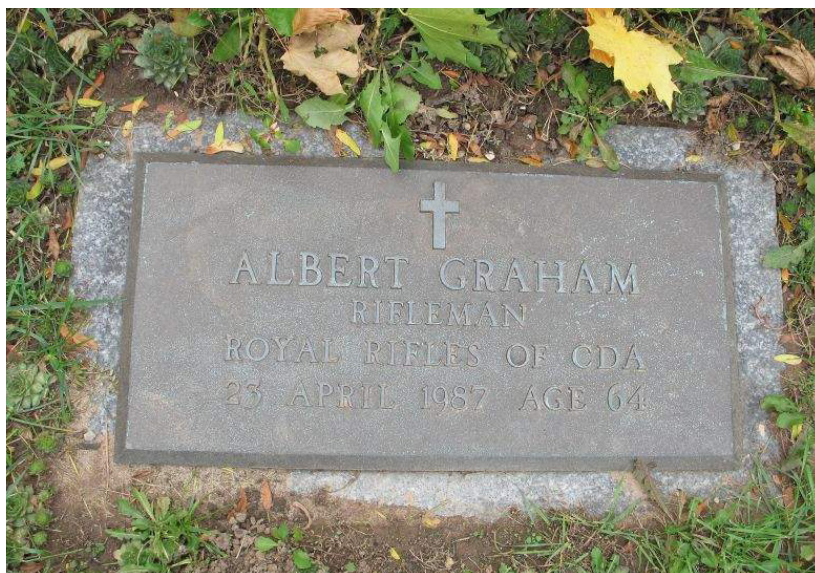


## Albert Graham, B40622

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada  
 Originally enlisted with the Lincoln and Welland Regiment  
 Birth Date: December 25, 1922  
 Niagara Falls, Welland County  
 Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong and the Tsurumi and Ohashi camps in Japan  
 Transported to Japan on the Tatsuta Maru on January 19, 1943 arriving at Nagasaki, Japan on January 22, 1943 and boarded a train for Tokyo and then another train to the Tsurumi Camp

When Albert (Red) Graham was liberated in Japan, his trip began home via the United States Navy, Naval Air Transport Service, Japan to Hawaii to Oakland, then by train to British Columbia. Albert passed away on April 23, 1987

<b>MANIFEST</b>		Part of <u>Oakland, California</u> Date <u>10/3/45</u>		Serial No. <u>26016</u>	
Family name <u>GRAHAM</u>		Given name <u>Albert</u>		Accompanied by	
Canadian Army P.O.W. repatriated under supervision U. S. Navy					
C.I.V. No. <u>A-647</u>	Place and date of issue	Section and subdivision	Quota country charged	R.P. No.	
Place of birth (town, country, etc.) <u>Niagara Falls, Ont., Canada</u>	Age <u>22</u> Yrs.	Sex <u>M</u>	M. <u>X</u> W. <u>D</u>	Occupation	Read
Language or occupation <u>English</u>	Race	Nationality <u>Canadian</u>	Last permanent residence (town, country, etc.) <u>Ohashi, Japan</u>		
Name and address of nearest relative or friend in country whence applicant came					
Ever in U.S. from <u>Yes</u> in <u>1940</u>		To	Where	Passage paid by	
Destination, and name and complete address of relative or friend to join there <u>Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada</u>					
Money shown	Ever arrested and deported, or excluded from admission		Purpose in coming and time remaining <u>Enroute to Canada</u>		
Head tax status	Height <u>5 ft. 10 1/2 in.</u>	Complexion <u>Medium</u>	Hair <u>black</u>	Eyes <u>blue</u>	Distinguishing marks <u>none</u>
Seaport and date of landing, and name of steamship <u>N.A.T.S. Flare #50848, Oakland Airport, 10/3/45</u>			Con. Im. (identification card No.)		
Records by	Previously examined at	Date	Previous disposition	Present disposition, P. I.	Arrived by
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Immigration and Naturalization Service. Form I-445 (Ed. 1941) (Old 545) 10-12170					







## Harvey Lafferty, B41445



1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

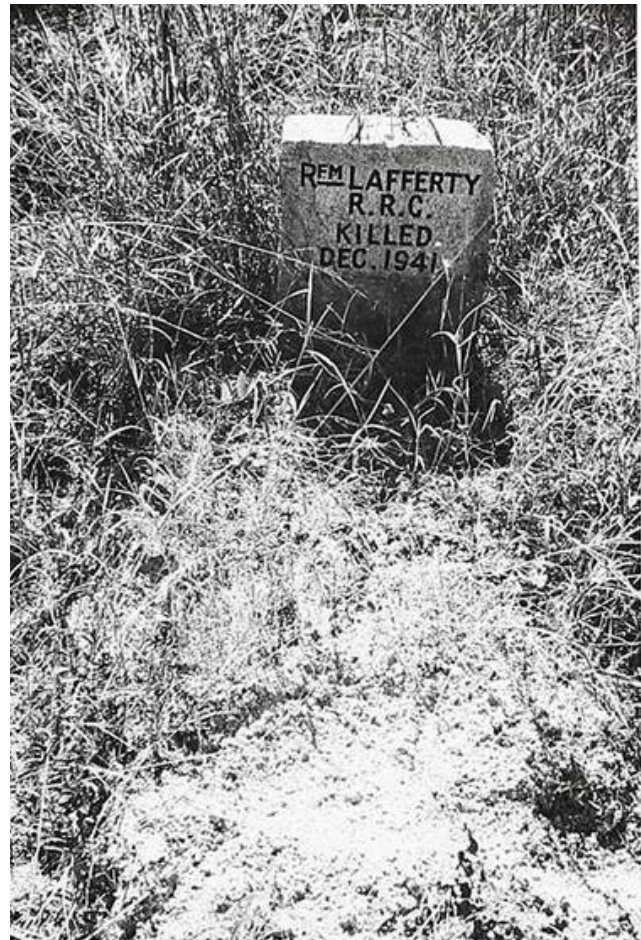
Originally enlisted with the Lincoln and Welland Regiment

Birth date: January 1, 1920

Merritton, Lincoln County

Killed in action: December 25, 1941

Buried at the Sai Wan War Cemetery







## James Mortimer, B41307



1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Originally enlisted with the Lincoln and Welland Regiment

Birth date: June 1, 1921

Dundalk, Ontario

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong and the Niigata-Rinko camp in Japan

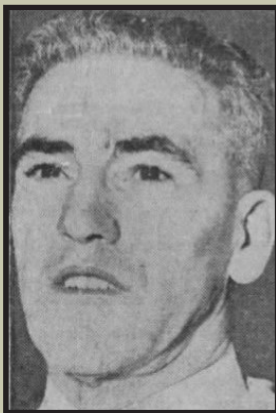
Transported to Japan on the Manryu Maru on August 15, 1943 arriving at Osaka, Japan on September 1, 1943, with a brief stop over at Taipei

Died as a POW from frostbite & exposure, beri-beri on March 7, 1944. Interned at Yokohama War Cemetery

### J. L. MORTIMER

Dundalk, March 6—Rfm. James L. Mortimer, 22, died more than a year ago in a Japanese prison camp, according to information received from the International Red Cross. His parents, who now reside at Galt, were residents of Dundalk when their son enlisted in 1940 in the Lincoln and Welland Regiment. He had transferred to the Royal Rifles for the Hong Kong expedition and was taken prisoner with other Canadian and British soldiers at Christmas, 1941. His parents had received a number of letters from him, among them a recent undated letter and card, stating he was well and hoped to see them soon.

Besides his parents, he leaves an only sister, Irene, all of Galt.



## **Jack Porter, B40638**

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth date: Unrecorded

Niagara Falls, Welland County

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong



## Arthur Randall, B40750

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth date: July 23, 1920

Port Colborne, Welland County

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong, and Nigata-Rinko and Nigata-Tekko camps in Japan

Transported to Japan on the Manryu Maru on August 15, 1943

arriving at Osaka, Japan on September 1, 1943, this included a brief stop over at Taihoku, Taipei

Arthur Randall also served with the Canadian army in the Korea War.

Passed away on July 20, 1982. Interned at Orillia, Ontario





## **Harold Smith, B40918**

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth date: March 6, 1921

St. Catharines, Lincoln County

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong, and Nigata-Rinko and Nigata-Tekko camps in Japan

Transported to Japan on the Manryu Maru on August 15, 1943 arriving at Osaka, Japan on September 1, 1943, this included a brief stop over at Taihoku, Taipei

Passed away on June 5, 2009 in St. Catharines. Interned at Pleasantview Memorial Gardens in Fonthill, Ontario.





## Nicholas Stepanchuk, B40630

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada  
Originally enlisted with the Lincoln and Welland Regiment  
Birth Date: December 22, 1917  
Port Colborne, Welland County  
Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong and the Tsurumi and Yumoto camps in Japan  
Transported to Japan on the Tatsuta Maru on January 19, 1943 arriving at Nagasaki, Japan on January 22, 1943 and boarded a train for Tokyo and then another train to the Tsurumi Camp

Passed away on December 3, 1987. Interned at Overholt's Cemetery in Port Colborne





## Gerald Sunstrum, B68309

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Originally enlisted with the Royal Regiment of Canada

Birth Date: September 16, 1917

Niagara Falls, Welland County

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong and the Tsurumi camp in Japan

Born September 16, 1917 at Mattawa, Ontario. Gerry originally enlisted with the Royal Regiment of Canada and when volunteers were requested for combat duty he re-enlisted with the Royal Rifles of Canada. In 1943, Gerry was taken from Hong Kong and was assigned to Camp 3D at Kawasaki, a suburb of Yokohama. After a while he was transferred to Coalyard Camp a short distance away where he remained until the end of the war. Upon liberation Gerry was transferred to an American Hospital ship in Tokyo Bay and then placed aboard the British aircraft carrier HMS Benevolent for transport to the Philippines where he would undergo further medical treatment and orientation to the free world. Gerry came home to Canada aboard the American ship USAT General Langfitt arriving at Gordon Head Reception Centre on Vancouver Island. He travelled home on a troop train to Toronto where he spent a few additional weeks convalescing at Chorley Park on Christie Street. Upon arriving back home at Niagara Falls he was employed with Ontario Hydro when he retired in 1982. He was married to his wife Doris for 58 years and had two children a son and a daughter. Gerry passed away at the age of 100 years on November 29, 2017 and is interned at Fairview Cemetery in Niagara Falls, Ontario.





10 VICTORIA Thursday, Oct. 4, 1945

## Set Foot On Friendly Shore For First Time In Four Years



This is the way Esquimalt harbor looked to Canadian soldiers-survivors of Hongkong as they saw home-shore for the first time in four years from the decks of the American transport General Long, Wednesday. Unhindered by their experiences in Japanese camps they believed to the mildest welcome ever given a ship entering Esquimalt.



At Gordon Head Reconvalescent Centre, Wednesday afternoon, the Canadian sold how gambling games were forbidden in the Japanese prison camps and how the Canadians were shipped when caught playing poker. Enjoying their first game for a long time and with Japanese money as stakes are: Hiram, C. G. Myers, Hiram, Raymond Rose, Hiram, J. L. Pettibone, Hiram, Eric Ross, Hiram, Gerald Sutherland, Eric, Riley Driessen.



British survivors of Hongkong were lost no time at Gordon Head Reconvalescent Centre before they were out of their safe arrival at the Red Cross. Hiram, C. G. Myers, Hiram, Raymond Rose, Hiram, J. L. Pettibone, Hiram, Eric Ross, Hiram, Gerald Sutherland, Eric, Riley Driessen.

## Atomic Bomb Won't End War, Declares Crerar

Winnipeg, Oct. 12 (UPI)—Gen. C. D. G. Crerar, former army and air force commander, said the atomic bomb is no silver bullet that will end the war. He said the war is not a military matter but a political one. He said the war is not a military matter but a political one. He said the war is not a military matter but a political one.



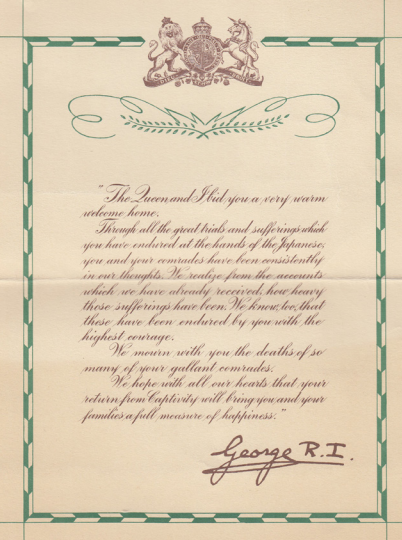
At municipal building in St. Catharines, Wing Chief. Located by Myron W. J. McDonald and signs the city's Book of Days. At right is Mrs. Burdell who flew to Japan for husband from Japanese prison camp.



Survivors of their imprisonment in a Japanese prison camp are greeted by their Winnipeg friends who arrived in Toronto Thursday morning. Jack Todd, at left, was an American Army soldier, a Japanese soldier and J. Sunstrum at right has a Japanese soldier. He is also a soldier but which he secured from a Japanese soldier.

## Police Puzzled as No One Comes Forward to Claim Man's Body

Kokoro, Oct. 11 (UPI)—The police and the city of the unidentified corpse (person) of a man who died in the Japanese prison camp.



"The Queen and I had you a very warm welcome home. Through all the great trials and sufferings which you have endured at the hands of the Japanese, you and your comrades have been consistently in our thoughts. We realize from the accounts which we have already received, how heavy those sufferings have been. We know too that these have been endured by you with the highest courage. We mourn with you the deaths of so many of your gallant comrades. We hope with all our hearts that your return from captivity will bring you and your families a full measure of happiness."

George R.I.

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS  
FIFTH REPLACEMENT DEPOT  
AFO 711

14 September 1945

SUBJECT: Orders (Recovered Military Personnel - Project J)

To : See Distribution.

1. Pursuant to authority contained in par 7 Cir 19 GRQ AFAC 9 Jul 45 for named male military personnel (POW) recovered from enemy custody by & MOS unknown WP United States O/S 15 Sep 45 by first available Govt Water 7, RUA to Port Commander San Francisco for further instructions. Final destination personnel listed in this par Canada.

No	Grade	Name	Serial No
1.	Lt Col	MULPOCK, Quentin	27381
2.	Rfn	MEYERS, Gerald G.	F35280
3.	Rfn	PATINALL, James R.	F34683
4.	Rfn	POLLOCK, Coleman	E30342
5.	Rfn	FRIESTON, Riley	H41303
6.	Rfn	ROSS, Eric	E29953
7.	Rfn	ROSS, Raymond	E29343
8.	Rfn	SMITH, John H.	E30121
9.	Rte	STEPHENS, John	H4138
10.	Rfn	SUNSTRUM, Gerald	B68309

2. Above personnel after processing at port. Port Commander will make necessary inderment for further P and any monetary allowances. Personnel records will accompany personnel. Rations will be furnished aboard ship. FOS. EDOMS will be arrival date. TYN TONT. Appropriate A-501-431 or 432-02-03-212/60423.

By Order of COL SMITH:

OFFICIAL: *Don F. Thomann*  
DON F. THOMANN  
Capt AUS  
Asst Adj Gen

DON F. THOMANN  
Capt AUS  
Asst Adj Gen

DISTRIBUTION:  
5 - HQ, Washington 25, (Cae Bp) - via Airmail  
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4 - CINCPAC  
2 - CG, POFeb  
6 - CG, AFRESFAC  
2 - CG, Rptl Comd  
4 - AG Records, AFAC  
5 - Port Comdr  
10 - Ea pers or 5 ea pers and 50 Cpt Record O  
40 - D-pot File

RECORDED

Canadian Army

This is to certify that

Private R68309  
NAME IN FULL  
Gerald SUNSTRUM

Served on Active Service with the  
Canadian Army

From 31st July 1941 and is now discharged from  
the service under Routine Order #1029 (10) by reason of  
UNABLE TO MEET THE REQUIRED MILITARY PHYSICAL STANDARDS

on the 3rd day of September 1946

Particulars of Active Service

Number of occasions wounded. Once. Theatres of Service. Canada, United Kingdom  
Hong Kong

Orders, Decorations, Medals, Mentions and Commendations awarded during above Service  
39-45 Star, Pacific Star, War Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal  
A Clasp

SEP - 3 1946  
DATE FOR OFFICER COMMANDING  
FOR 2 District Depot C-4  
Commanding Officer  
Lt. Beard Map.

Description of the holder on reverse side. Should this certificate become lost, no duplicate can be obtained. Any alterations render it null and void.

CANADA

AIR LETTER  
PAR AVION

LIBERATED  
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PRISONER OF WAR MAIL  
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B.68309.R.F.M. Sunstrum G.  
Royal Rifles of Canada  
Canadian L.P.W.  
Base Post Office  
Canadian Postal Corps  
Headquarters Ottawa Ont

SEP 13 1945





## John Todd, B40690

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Originally enlisted with the Lincoln and Welland Regiment

Birth date: October 23, 1922

Stamford Centre, Welland County

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong, and at the Nigata-Rinko camp in Japan

Transported to Japan on the Manryu Maru on August 15, 1943 arriving at Osaka, Japan on September 1, 1943, this included a brief stop over at Taihoku, Taipei

<b>MANIFEST</b>		Part of <u>San Francisco, Cal</u>		Date <u>9-30-45</u>	Serial No. <u>25820</u>
Family name <u>TODD,</u>		Given name <u>John</u>		Accompanied by	
<u>A-84-7</u>					
C.I.V. No.	Place and date of issue <u>waived</u>	Section and subdivision Act of 1924: <u>3(3)</u>		Quota country charged	R.P. No.
Place of birth (town, country, etc.) <u>North Falls, Ontario</u>	Age <u>23</u>	Yrs. <u>23</u>	Sex <u>M</u>	Occupation <u>Canadian soldier</u>	Read <u>Write</u>
Language or exemption	Race <u>English</u>	Nationality <u>Canadian</u>	Last permanent residence (town, country, etc.)		
Name and address of nearest relative or friend in country whence applicant came <u>Mother: Sarah Todd: 459 Dymond Road, Stamford Center, Ont. Canada.</u>					
Ever in U.S.	From <u>NC</u>	To	Where	Passage paid by	
Destination, and name and complete address of relative or friend to join there <u>as above.</u>					
Money shown	Ever arrested and deported, or excluded from admission <u>no</u>			Purpose in coming and time remaining	
Head tax status <u>NC</u>	Height <u>5 ft. 8 in.</u>	Complexion <u>fair</u>	Hair <u>bro</u>	Eyes <u>blue</u>	Distinguishing marks
Report and date of landing, and name of steamship <u>SF Cal (Alameda Naval Air) 9-30-45 Airplane</u>					Can. Im. identification card No.
Records by	Previously examined at <u>San Francisco</u>	Previous disposition	Present disposition, P. I.		Arrived by
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Immigration and Naturalization Service. Form I-448 (Ed. 1941) (Old 348) 16-12,70					



## Percy Hoarce Wilmot, B40839

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Originally enlisted with the Lincoln and Welland Regiment

Birth date: November 18, 1891

St. Catharines, Lincoln County

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong

Born November 18, 1891 at London, England. Emigrated to Canada and settled in St. Catharines, Ontario. He served with the Canadian Army in the First World War and enlisted when Canada declared war in 1939 with the Lincoln and Welland Regiment, and then volunteered for a special combat mission. He was severally wounded in Hong Kong and underwent medical treatment upon coming home. He came home from the Philippines aboard the HMS Glory. Percy was married to his wife Agnes and had two children a son and a daughter. He passed away on October 17, 1967 and is interned at the Victoria Lawn Cemetery at St. Catharines, Ontario.



Card No. 2/5/16  
**DUPLICATE**  
**ATTESTATION PAPER**  
**4001 OVER-SEAS BATTERY**  
**CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.**  
 No. 317990  
 Folio.

**QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.**  
 (ANSWERS)

1. What is your name? Percy Wilmot  
 2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born? London, England  
 3. What is the name of your next-of-kin? Mr. Agnes Wilmot (wife)  
 4. What is the address of your next-of-kin? 186 Church St., St. Catharines  
 5. What is the date of your birth? 18 Nov. 1891  
 6. What is your Trade or Calling? Machine fitter  
 7. Are you married? Yes  
 8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? Yes  
 9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia? Yes  
 10. Have you ever served in any Military Force? 2 years in XIX Regt.  
 11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement? Yes  
 12. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the Canadian Over-Sea Expeditionary Force? Yes

Percy W. Wilmot (Signature of Man.)  
E. M. Wylie (Signature of Witness.)

**DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.**  
 I, Percy W. Wilmot, do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements by me now made, and I hereby engage and agree to serve in the Canadian Over-Sea Expeditionary Force, and to be attached to any arm of the service therein, for the term of one year, or during the war now existing between Great Britain and Germany should that war last longer than one year, and for six months after the termination of that war provided His Majesty should so long require my services, or until legally discharged.

Percy W. Wilmot (Signature of Recruit)  
E. M. Wylie (Signature of Witness)

Date Feb. 7 1916

**OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.**  
 I, Percy W. Wilmot, do make Oath, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will as in duty bound loyally and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown and Dignity, against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of all the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

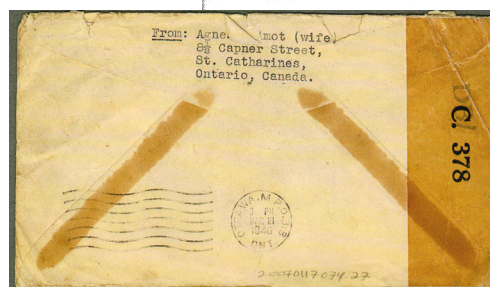
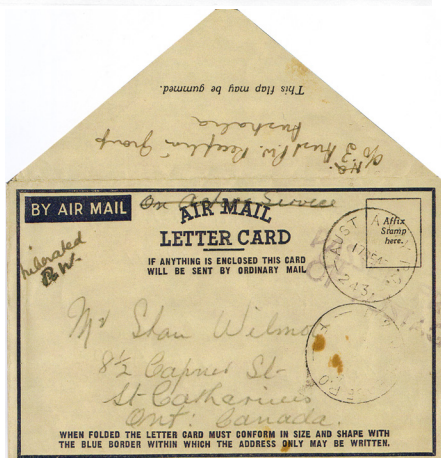
Percy W. Wilmot (Signature of Recruit)  
E. M. Wylie (Signature of Witness)

Date Feb. 7 1916

**CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE.**  
 The Recruit above-named was questioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.  
 The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.  
 I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me, at St. Catharines this 7 day of February 1916.  
W. H. Wylie (Signature of Justice)

I certify that the above is a true copy of the Attestation of the above-named Recruit.  
E. M. Wylie (Signature of Officer)  
 CAPTAIN

M. P. W. 25.  
 200 M. P. 1.  
 H. Q. 1775-28-401.





## **Peter Wing, B317**

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Originally enlisted with the Royal Canadian Dragoons

Birth Date: July 31, 1920

Welland, Welland County

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong and the Tsurumi and Ohashi camps in Japan

Transported to Japan on the Tatsuta Maru on January 19, 1943 arriving at Nagasaki, Japan on January 22, 1943 and boarded a train for Tokyo and then another train to the Tsurumi Camp

Interned in Welland, Ontario



## **Walter Young, B38369**

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: November 18, 1908

Merritton, Lincoln County

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong and the Tsurumi and Yumoto camps in Japan

Transported to Japan on the Tatsuta Maru on January 19, 1943 arriving at Nagasaki, Japan on January 22, 1943 and boarded a train for Tokyo and then another train to the Tsurumi Camp and later Yumoto Camp





## Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada



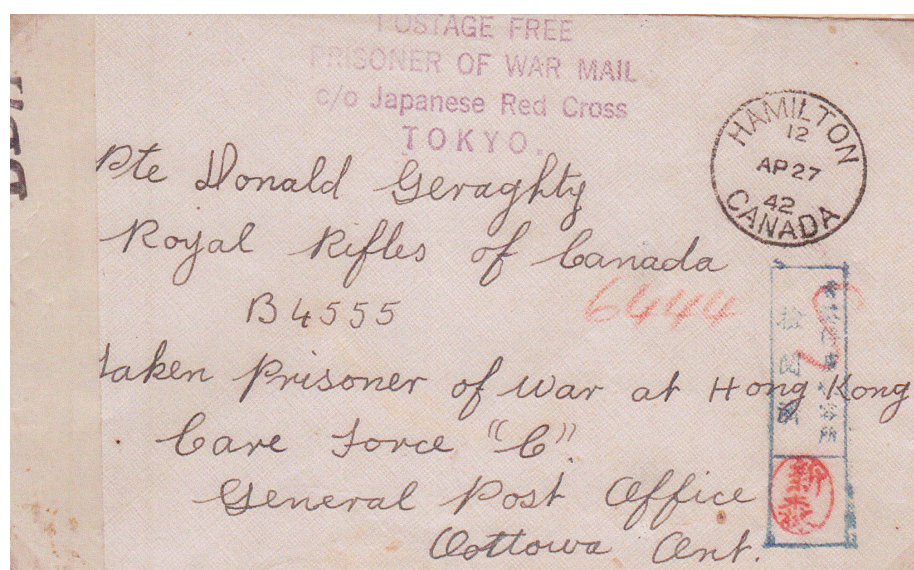
**Donald Geraghty, B45551**

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: December 31, 1923

Hamilton, Ontario

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong





## Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Regiment



### Edward Bolton, B38358

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: March 28, 1913

Oshawa, Ontario

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong abd at the Omine camp in Kawasakimachi, Japan. Transported to Japan on the Tatsuta Maru on January 19, 1943 arriving at Nagasaki, Japan on January 22, 1943 and boarded a train for Omine camp

Family members of Rifleman Edward Bolton at a street naming ceremony in Oshawa which was named after him.

Ed Bolton passed away on April 4, 2000.





## **Frank Bowerbank, B38342**

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: May 2, 1897

Oakville, Ontario

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong

Veteran of World War I

Interned at Woodland Cemetery, Hamilton, Ontario.





## Peter Burns, B38357

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: March 1, 1921

Wentworth, Ontario

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong

Died January 19, 1985, interned in Millgrove, Ontario



**FIRST OF HONG KONG PRISONERS HOME—** Rfmm. Peter C. Burns, 24, son of Mrs. Agnes Burns, 137 Whitney avenue, was taken prisoner with the Royal Rifles at Hong Kong, Christmas day, 1941. Arriving home early to-day, he was rushed to City Hall by representatives of the Civic Reception Committee for an official welcome by the Mayor. The photograph, taken in the Mayor's office, shows, left to right: Miss Rose Ann Forsythe, Rfmm. Burns, and his mother.





## Robert Fleming, B38364

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: August 9, 1921

Toronto, Ontario

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong

Robert Fleming in white shirt POW 1942

Passed away June 7, 2006





## Ronald Gover, B38359



1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: January 8, 1921

Killed in action, January 19, 1944, buried at Sai Wan War Cemetery

Died of tuberculosis while in POW captivity on January 19, 1944,  
interned in Sai Wan War Cemetery in Hong Kong

Memorial marker in the South Park Cemetery in Elgin County, Ontario.







## **Donald Innes, B38350**

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: May 2, 1925\*

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong and at the Fukoka camp in Japan

Transported to Japan on the Tatsuta Maru on January 19, 1943 arriving at Nagasaki, Japan on January 22, 1943 and boarded a train for Tokyo and then another train to the Tsurumi Camp and later Yumoto Camp.

\*Donald lied about his birth date on his enlistment papers stated the year was 1922.  
Donald passed away in 1982, and is interned at a cemetery in Timmins, Ontario.







## Russell Poag, B38160



1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: February 2, 1910

Caledonia, Ontario

Killed in action, December 25, 1941, buried at Sai Wan War Cemetery





## David Schrage, B38365

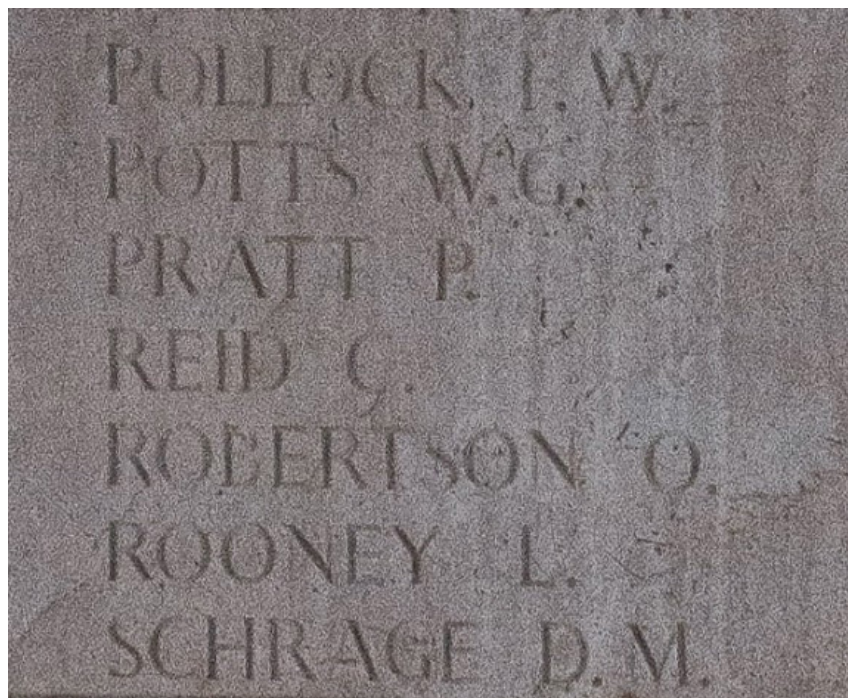


1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: October 6, 1903

Blalykanien, Tampool, Poland

Died October 31, 1941 en route to Hong Kong, suffered with complications from diabetes and heart failure. David Schrage name is engraved on the Sai Wan Memorial





## **Frederick Thirlwell, B38367**



1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: August 31, 1904

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong and at the Yoshima camp in Japan

Transported to Japan on the Naura Maru on April 29, 1944 arriving at Moji, Japan on May 27, 1944, with a brief stop over at Formosa, went through Nagasaki and Hiroshima before arriving at Yoshima Camp





## Percy Weaver, B38362

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: January 1, 1920

Haliburton, Ontario

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong and at the Narumi and Tateyama camps in Japan

Transported to Japan on the SS Soong / Toyama Maru on December 15, 1943 arriving at Moji, Japan on January 4, 1944.

Arrived at Takao, Formosa on December 20, 1943 and transferred to the Toyama Maru on December 30, 1943.

Percy passed away on June 4, 1981 in Toronto and is interred at the Pine Grove Cemetery in Port Perry, Ontario





## **Lawrence Wilson, B38366**

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: February 23, 1916

Blind River, Ontario

Prisoner of War at Stanley, North Point and Shamshuipo camps in Hong Kong and at the Tsurumi camp in Japan

Transported to Japan on the Tatsuta Maru on January 19, 1943 arriving at Nagasaki, Japan on January 22, 1943 and boarded a train for Tokyo and then another train to the Tsurumi Camp.

Lawrence passed away on November 13, 1983 at Toronto, Ontario.

## HMCS Prince Robert



### Jack Hunter

HMCS Prince Robert was the escort ship for the HMAS Awatea which took "C" Force to Hong Kong. And, upon the Japanese surrender the Prince Robert was the 5th ship of the British Pacific Fleet to enter Hong Kong and was immediately recognized by the Liberated Canadian POWs.

Jack Hunter of Virgil, Ontario was a sailor aboard the Prince Robert which brought some of the Canadians out of Hong Kong to Manila, Philippines and later brought some of them home to Canada. With this in mind and Jack being a Niagara Peninsula native we have decided to pay tribute to Jack in this publication.

Virgil, Ontario

Jack Hunter with a photo of HMCS Prince Robert

