

“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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**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

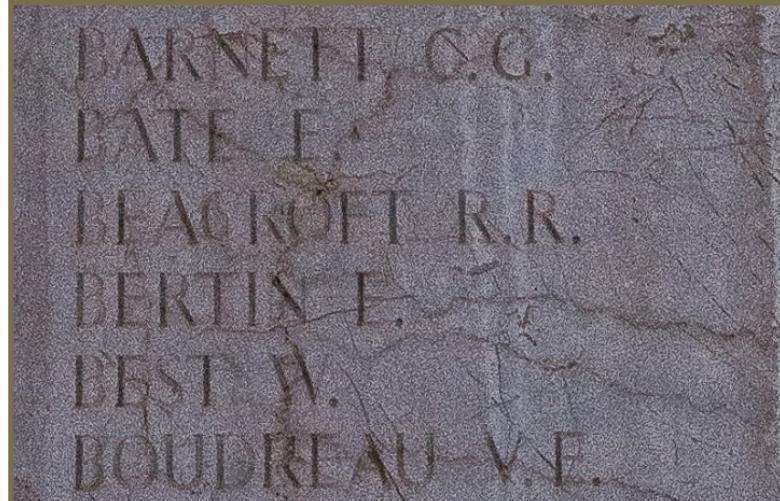


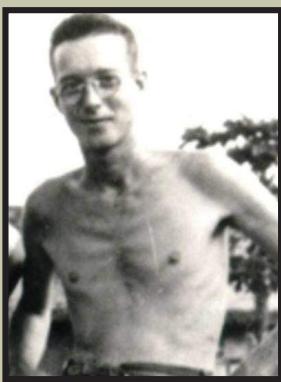
1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

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 NO 102 A.M.S.**

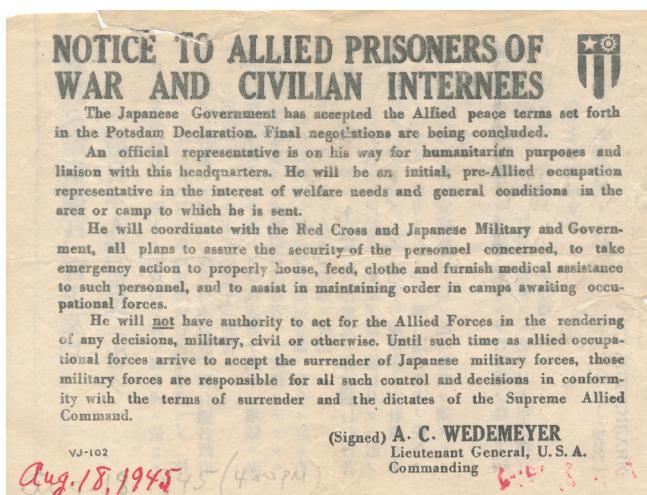
**M.I. 91/API 201261 A**

**WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITAL LETTERS IN PENCIL**

No. B32015 Rank SGT. M. Christian Name LAWRENCE FREDERICK Surname DOWLING  
Decorations PACIFIC STAR, 1939-45 STAR  
Ship (R.N., U.S.N. or Merchant Navy) Unit & Div.  
(Army) R.C.SIGNS. BDE "C" FORCE  
Squadron and Command (R.A.F., A.A.F.)  
Date of Birth 21 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  
(Aircrash 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. Howe RAC	Capt. Bellings, R.C.S.S.
Queen's Road Hosp. HK	3 Sept 42 to 15 Jan 44	Lt. Col. Bowie R.A.M.C.	Capt. Budd, R.A.P.P. Green
Shamshuipo HK.	15 Jan 44 to 9 Sept 45	Major Boone, R.A.C.	C. M. S. Seymour, R.A.P.P. Green

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





## Victor Fehr, B68310

1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

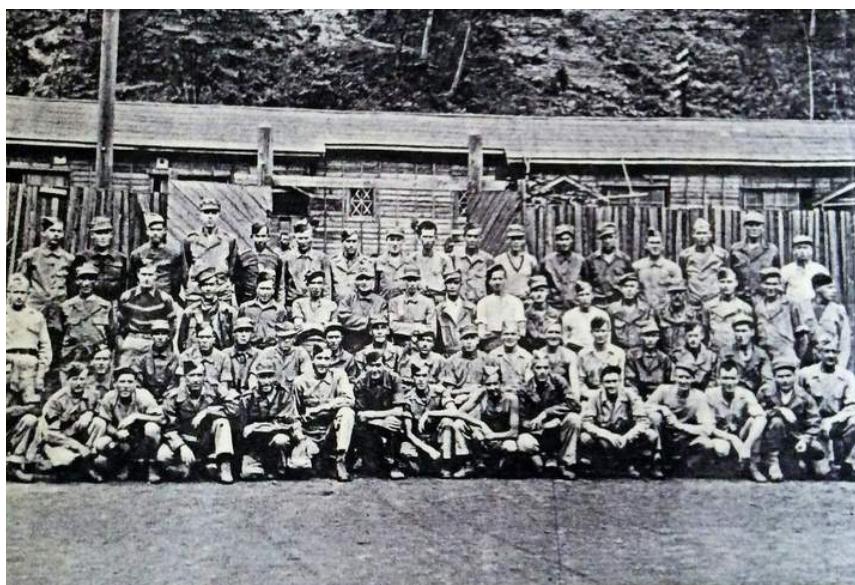
Birth Date: November 12, 1919

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

P.O.W's IN JAPAN, 1945.

VIC FEHR (Winnipeg Rifles)



MANIFEST		Port of Oakland, Calif	Date 10/6/45	Serial No. 1300/26125
Family name <b>FEHR</b>		Given name Victor Oliver		
C.I.T. No. _____		Accompanied by _____		
Place of birth (town, country, etc.) <b>Membrane, Sask., Canada</b>		Caste and subdivision Art of 1924		
Age 25		Yrs. 25	Sex M	Occupation W. D. Canadian Army
Language or exemption English		Race white	Nationality canadian	Read yes Write yes
Last permanent residence (town, country, etc.)				
Name and address of nearest relative or friend in country whence applicant came Niagara Falls, Ontario				
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 In transit to Canada		
Head tax status exempt		Height 6 ft. 1 in.	Complexion fair	Hair br
Sight and date of landing, and name of steamer Oakland Army Air Base, NATS #90398 10/6/45		Eyes br Distinguishing marks NONE 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-448 (Ed. 1941) (O.D. 548) 10-12179				



## 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

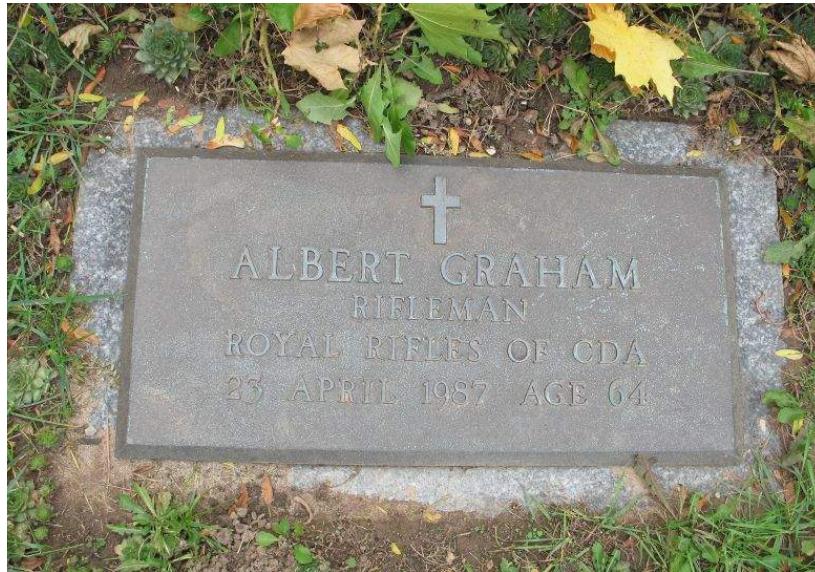
Hong Kong and the Tsurumi and Ohashi camps in Japan

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

MANIFEST		Port of Oakland, California Date 10/3/45	Serial No. 26016		
Family name	Given name	Accompanied by			
GRAHAM	Albert				
Canadian Army P.O.W. repatriated under supervision U. S. Navy					
C.I.V. No. A-679	Place and date of issue	Section and subdivision	Quota country charged		
	Act of 1924		R.P. No.		
Place of birth (town, country, etc.) Niagara Falls, Ont., Canada	Age 22 Yrs.	Sex M	P.V. No.		
		M.			
		S.			
Language or exemptions English	Race	Occupation	Board		
			Write		
	Nationality	Last permanent residence (town, country, etc.)			
	Canadian	Choshi, Japan			
Name and address of nearest relative or friend in country whence alien came					
Ever in U.S. From Yes in 1940		To	Where	Passage paid by	
Destination, and name and complete address of relative or friend to join there Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada					
Money shown	Ever arrested and deported, or excluded from admission			Purpose in coming and time remaining	
				Enroute to Canada	
Head tax status	Height	Complexion	Hair	Eyes	Distinguishing marks
	5 ft. 10 1/2 in.	Medium black	blue	none	
Seaport and date of landing, and name of steamer N.A.T.S. Plane #50848, Oakland Airport, 10/3/45				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-448 (Ed. 1941) (Old 548) 10-12170					





## Harvey Lafferty, B41445



1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

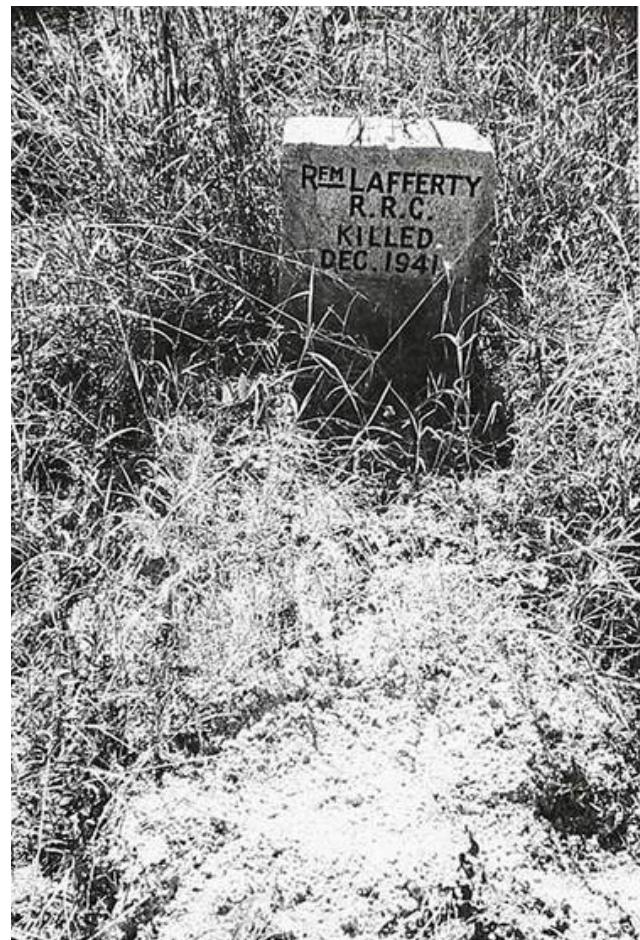
Originally enlisted with the Lincoln and Welland Regiment

Birth date: January 1, 1920

Merritton, Lincoln County

Killed in action: December 25, 1941

Buried at the Sai Wan 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

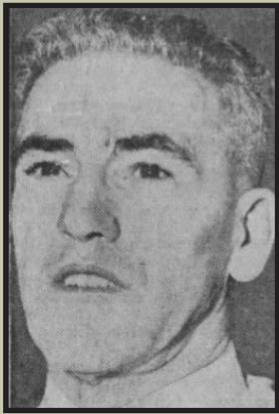
Transported to Japan on the Manryu Maru on August 15, 1943 arriving at Osaka, Japan on September 1, 1943, with a brief stop over at Taipei

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.



B40630 Rfmm N Stepanchuk

## 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.



Souvenirs of their imprisonment in a Japanese prison camp are carried by these Niagara Falls men who arrived in Toronto Thursday morning. Jake Todd, at left, wearing an American Army hat, carries a Japanese sword, and Jud Sunstrum at right has a Jap bayonet. He is also wearing a leather belt which he secured from a Jap. Al Graham is in the centre.



Still wearing the United States army garb issued them when they were liberated from Tokyo prison camps along with what remained of their Canadian uniforms these survivors in top picture of the Hongkong campaign gathered aboard the U.S. transport General Langfitt this morning for their first sight of home shores. Front row, left to right: L/Cpl. Quentl Mulrooney, Douglastown, Que.; Rfmm. C. Pollock, Campbellton, N.B.; Rfmm. Raymond Ross, Cookshire, Que.; Rfmm. John H. Smith, Kenogami, Que. Back row: Rfmm. J. R. Pattingale, Lunenburg, N.S.; Rfmm. Gerald G. Myers, Halifax; Rfmm. Gerald Sunstrum, Niagara Falls; and Rfmm. Eric Ross, New Richmond, Que.

**Today**  
**Overnight**  
**Narragansett**

First page—Six inches  
For The Coop  
Two O'Clock





## 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

MANIFEST		Port of	San Francisco, Cal	Date	9-30-45	Serial No.	25820
Family name		Given name		Accompanied by			
TODD,		John					
<i>A-84-7</i>							
C.I.V. No.	Place and date of issue	Section and subdivision		Quota country charged		R.P. No.	P.V. No.
	Waived	Act of 1924, 3(3)					
Place of birth (town, country, etc.)	Age	Yrs.	Sex	M. S.	Occupation	Resd	
North Falls, Ontario	23	Mos.	m	Single	Canadian soldier		
Language or exemption	Race	Nationality		Last permanent residence (town, country, etc.)			
	English	Canadian					
Name and address of nearest relative or friend in country whence applicant came							
Mother: Sarah Todd; 459 Raymond Road, Stanfords Center, Ont., Canada.							
Ever in U.S.	From	To	Where	Passage paid by			
NC							
Destination, and name and complete address of relative or friend to join there							
<i>Same as above.</i>							
Money shown	Ever arrested and deported, or excluded from admission			Purpose in coming and time remaining			
	DO						
Head tax status	Height	Complexion	Hair	Eyes	Distinguishing marks		
RC	5 ft. 8 in.	fair	bro	blue			
Report and date of landing, and name of steamship							
SF Cal (Alameda Naval) 9-30-45 A1 report							
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-448 (Ed. 1941) 16-1279 (Old 548)							



## 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 1914 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. *5718* DUPLICATE  
ATTESTATION PAPER  
4th VICTORIAN BATTERY  
CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.  
No. 317990  
Folio.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.  
(ANSWERS)

1. What is your name? *Percy Hoarce 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? *86 Capperton Street, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada*
5. What is the date of your birth? *18 Nov. 1891*
6. What is your Trade or Calling? *Machinist - fitter*
7. Are you married? *Yes*
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or not vaccinated? *Yes*
9. Do you belong to the Active Militia? *No*
10. Have you ever served in any Military Forces? *2 years in XIX Regt.*  
2 years in K.I.A. 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-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE? *Yes*

DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, *Percy Hoarce Wilmot*, do solemnly declare that the above answers made to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to be attested 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 then require my services, or until legally discharged.

*Percy Hoarce Wilmot* (Signature of Recruit)

Date *Sept. 7, 1914* 1016 *E. M. Wilmot* (Signature of Witness)

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, *Percy Hoarce Wilmot*, do make Oath, that I will be faithful and bear the Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will as in duty bound honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown and Dignity, against all enemies of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of all the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

*Percy Hoarce Wilmot* (Signature of Recruit)

Date *Sept. 7, 1914* 1016 *E. M. Wilmot* (Signature of Witness)

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE.

The Recruit above-named was exhibited 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 read to the Recruit in my presence.

I do further say that the undersigned Magistrate has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at *St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada* on the *7* day of *Sept. 1914* 1016.

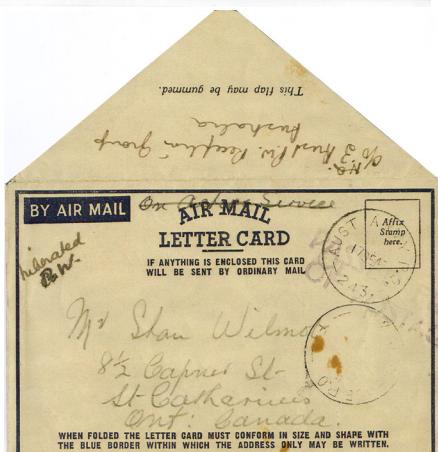
*W. H. Wilmot* (Signature of Justice)

I certify that the above is a true copy of the Attestation of the above-named Recruit.

*W. H. Wilmot* (Signature of Officer)

CAPTAIN

M. P. W. 29  
20 M. 6-15.  
H. Q. 177-38-04





## 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

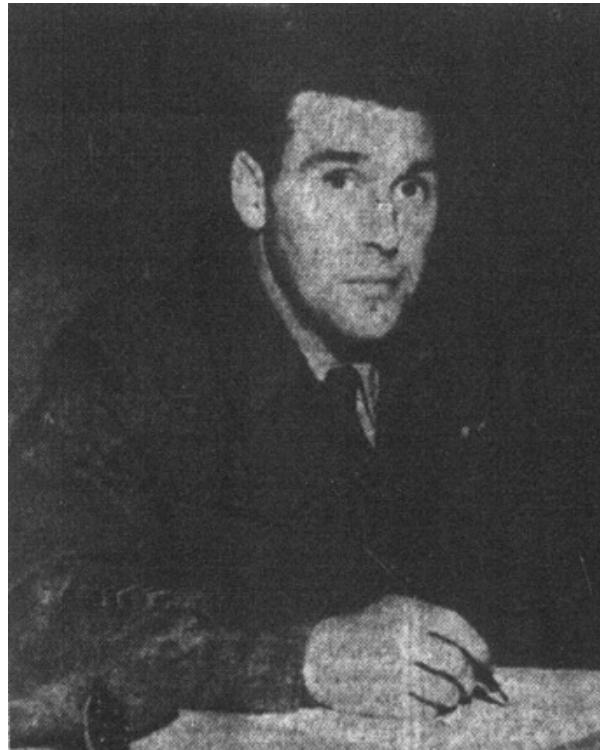
1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

Birth Date: November 18, 1908

Merriton, 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



B45551 Rfmm D Geraghty

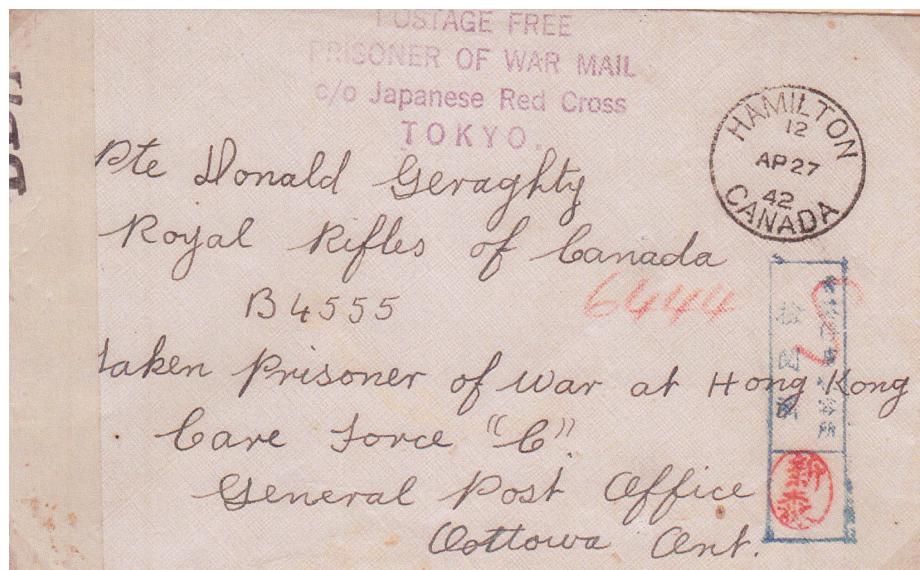
## Donald Geraghty, B45551

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 and 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.





B38357 Rfmm PC Burns

## 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



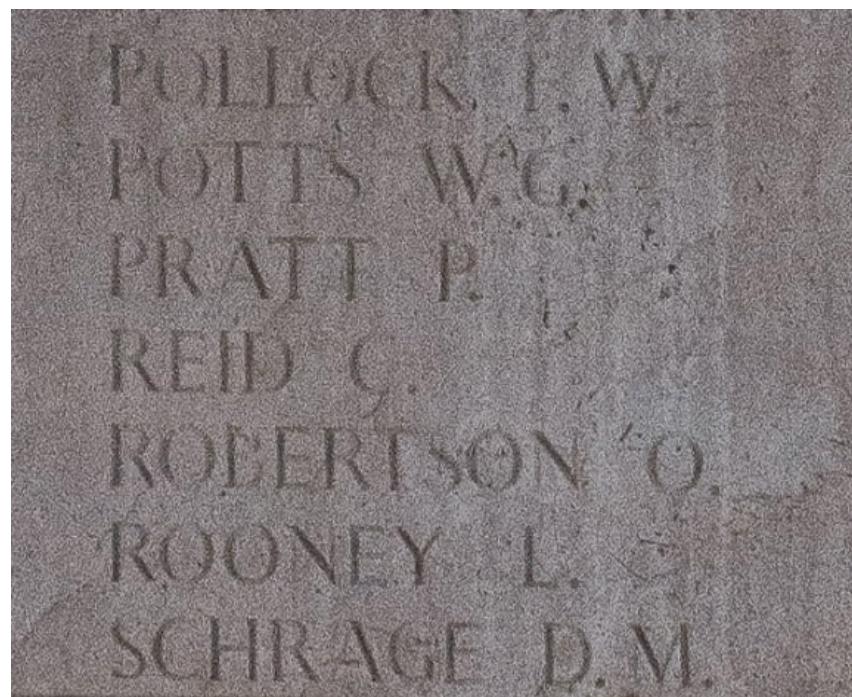
1st Battalion Royal Rifles of Canada

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

B38365 Rfmn DM Schrage





**B38367 Rfmn F Thirlwell**

## **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 HMAT Awanea 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 thus publication.

Virgil, Ontario

Jack Hunter with a photo of HMCS Prince Robert

