

PART 5

DIVISIONS

1st DIVISION

1st Division Headquarters
1st Canadian Division Unit of Supply (CASC)
1st Divisional Cyclist Company
1st Battalion, Canadian Machine Gun Corps
1st Canadian Divisional Mortar Group
1st Divisional Ammunition Sub-Park
1st Canadian Division Ammunition Park (CASC)
1st Divisional Artillery

Brigades

1st Infantry Brigade

1st Infantry Battalion
2nd Infantry Battalion
3rd Infantry Battalion
4th Infantry Battalion

2nd Infantry Brigade

5th Infantry Battalion
7th Infantry Battalion
8th Infantry Battalion
10th Infantry Brigade

3rd Infantry Brigade

13th Infantry Battalion
14th Infantry Battalion
15th Infantry Battalion
16th Infantry Battalion

Reinforcing battalions

9th Infantry Battalion
11th Infantry Battalion
12th Infantry Battalion
17th Infantry Battalion

6th Infantry Battalion was converted to the Cavalry Depot December 1914
(Please see Canadian Cavalry for further details)

1st DIVISION 1914 - 1918

The First Canadian Contingent numbering around 33,000 personnel sailed for England in a single convoy on October 3rd 1914. The contingent comprised of 17 Infantry Battalions plus supporting artillery and lines of communication troops. Plans called for a Canadian Division of four infantry brigades each of four infantry battalions, with one in reserve. The 1st Brigade with the 1st, 2nd 3rd and 4th Battalions, the 2nd Brigade with the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Battalions the 3rd Brigade with the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Battalions and the 4th Brigade with the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th Battalions and the 17th Battalion as a reserve.

Each infantry battalion sailed with approximately 10% over the establishment of the 1026 man battalions, the surplus to act as reserves. After arrival in England the Divisional establishment was reorganized to match that being used by the British Army, the number of infantry brigades reduced from four to three. The 1st Brigade retained its 1st, 2nd 3rd and 4th Battalions, the 2nd Brigade with the 5th, 7th 8th and 10th Battalions and the 3rd Brigade with the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th Battalions. This change created a surplus of five battalions. The 6th Battalion was redesignated as the cavalry depot and the other four were designated as reserve battalions. The 9th Battalion becoming the reserve battalion for the 1st Infantry Brigade, the 11th Battalion for the 2nd Infantry Brigade, The 3rd Infantry Brigade being assigned two reinforcing battalions the 12th Battalion reinforcing the 14th Infantry Battalion and the PPCLI, and the 17th Battalion reinforcing the three 13th, 15th and 15th Highland Battalions.

Regimental numbers

Each unit, or component of the CEF was assigned a block of regimental numbers. Each soldier on being attested into the Canadian Expeditionary Force was given a regimental number within one of these number blocks. The regimental numbers blocks for the 1st Division were 'corrected' after a practical numbering system was instituted soon after February 1915. Soldiers of the Permanent Force (Regular Army) serving in the CEF were also assigned a new CEF number. The attestation papers for other ranks of the CEF are available at the Government of Canada Archives web site and can be searched by name or regimental number. The regimental number of each soldier remained with him for the duration of the war. The rank and unit found on the WWI medals being the rank and unit at time of death or demobilization. In the vast majority of instances the vast bulk of the 260 CEF Battalions were broken up and used as reinforcements. In the CEF 'wastage' the name given to casualties, ran at 10% for infantry and 5% for the artillery per month for the duration of the war.

Badges

The Montreal Daily Mail reported on the 18th September 1914 "The Minister of Militia announced the Canadian Troops are to preserve their identification in Foreign Service. The units will be named the 1st Battalion Canada, 1st Field Battery Canada etc. The Cavalry and Permanent Force will retain their distinctive names. The badges used in the South African Campaign will again be used. The Maple Leaf will be the emblem badge, Canada will be worn on the shoulder."

On arrival in England in October 1914 command of the 1st Contingent was given to British Lt. General E.A.H. Alderson. According to the War Diary of the 3rd Brigade "Rain all day. General Alderson met officers and stated he proposed to do away with all distinctive badges of the battalions of the 1st Division and substitute numerals only. Strong protests from all C.O's. Lieutenant-Colonel Currie of the 15th Battalion told him that if he took any such step he "would be up against public opinion in Canada.". The proposal was quickly abandoned General Alderson gave verbal authority that the battalions could if they chose adopt battalion cap badges at unit expense. By as early as November 25th 1914 Brigadier General R.E.W. Turner the Commanding Officers of the 3rd Infantry Brigade reported that badges were being made for the 13th, 14th and 15th Battalions, apparently the four militia highland regiments comprising the 16th Battalion initially continuing to wear their militia pattern badges. It appears that various makers submitted designs or proto-types including Hicks and Son Ltd' Gaunt, Dingley, and Reiche of jeweler located in the town of Folkstone on England's South coast, later changing the name to Reid in the wave of anti German sentiment of WWI. Cap badges are noted with makers marks Reiche, Reigh, or just 74 Tontine St.

Folkstone. It is believed that as a jeweler the firm did not have the heavy presses necessary to strike large quantities of badges and these were likely struck under licence possibly by J.W.Tiptaft & Son of Birmingham which by 1917 would become the main supplier of badges to the CEF. Tiptaft does not appear to have been included in the original submission of badge designs. The records of the Canadian Military Headquarters in London, including those pertaining to badges were unfortunately destroyed in 1917 when the building caught fire.

When assembled at Camp Valcartier in August 1914 the infantry units of the 1st Contingent, Canadian Expeditionary Force were designated as 'Provisional Battalions of Infantry'. Prior to sailing for England in October 1914 the designation was altered to 'Infantry Battalions'. Later in Canada, the designation 'Overseas Battalion' was promulgated at Militia Headquarters, Ottawa under Militia Order 293 of June 7th 1915. "In correspondence and documents having reference to the units of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, these units are in future to be designated as "Overseas" Squadron, Battery, Battalion etc.,". None of the battalions of the original 1st Contingent used the designation 'Overseas' as part of their badge designs. Infantry Battalions slated for the 2nd Division most still in Canada as of this date appear to have been ordered to incorporate the word 'Overseas' as an integral element of the design but drafts proceeding to England prior to this date are noted without the word 'Overseas', see 24th and 51st Battalions for examples.

Sweetheart or souvenir badges

Sweetheart or souvenir badges were very popular amongst wives and mothers with husbands and sons serving with the CEF. These were produced both in Canada and England in various materials including gold, silver and often with elaborate multi-colour enamels. T.E. Eaton's stores sold a series of cap size badges as souvenir pieces, mostly fitted with pin fasteners but occasionally with lugs. These are believed to have been produced by Caron Bros. Montreal. Geo. H. Hemsley also offered cap and collar badge sets as souvenirs these offered in a variety of finishes not necessarily those worn by the battalion.

Formation patches

The introduction of identifying coloured formation patches was discussed in August 1916. The tentative colours selected for the three divisions in the field being red for the 1st Division, blue for the 2nd Division and white for the 3rd Division. These patches were introduced in September 1916. Initially being worn sewn on the back 1-inch below the collar. Within days of being introduced the colour of the 3rd Division was changed from white to black. The units of the 2nd Division were given permission to move the patches to the sleeves within days as presumably the 1st and 3rd Divisions patches were also moved at this time.

THE 1st CANADIAN DIVISION

The establishment of the 1st Division was set at Salisbury Plain just prior to its sailing for France, this taking place over a four night period in mid February 1915. All units having disembarked by February 15th 1915.

1st Division Headquarters

The 1st Division comprised a divisional headquarters of 111 All Ranks regimental numbers block 48001 -48500; and three infantry brigades each of four infantry battalions plus Lines of Communication (Corps) troops and artillery.

1st Division formation patches introduced 1916



1st Infantry Brigade Headquarters bar worn above divisional patch



2nd Infantry Brigade Headquarters bar worn above divisional patch



3rd Infantry Brigade Headquarters bar worn above divisional patch





1st Division Band

Details of the numbers and dress is currently unidentified the only distinctive badges yet identified are a large die cast silver maple leaf cast silver 'ribbon' worn on a large white leather pouch.



450-17-100 Pouch Cast silver Maple leaf and 'First Canadian Division' motto ribbon. Not marked

1st Division Pipes and Drums

In addition to a brass band the 1st Division also had pipes and drums. Numbers of personnel and any distinctive dress has not been currently identified.

1st Canadian Division Unit of Supply (CASC) circa 1916/17



'Made up' example. Genuine patch has a black felt shamrock sewn onto the red 1st Division patch. (A

genuine example of this formation patch was held in the Major John Waring collection.)

1st Divisional Cyclist Company

Authority was issued on September 14th to form a cyclist company for inclusion in the 1st Contingent this raised from volunteers at the Cyclist Depot. Five officers and 78 OR's were selected forming the 1st Canadian Division Cyclist Company this sailed with 1st Contingent in October 1914 with five officers and 88 other ranks being billeted at Bustard Camp, where they were to spend the next four months under canvas. In December 1914 the establishment of the 1st Divisional Cyclist Company in England was increased by adding 200 more personnel these being obtained from volunteers in England. The Cyclist Company of the 1st Divisional Mounted Troops sailed for France on the 8th February 1915 with a total of eight officers and 195 OR's (and two horses). The additional troops formed the Canadian Reserve Cyclist Company at the British Army Cyclist Depot at Hounslow attached to the British Army Cyclist Corps. The 1st Divisional Cyclist Company was disbanded under General Order 208 of November 15th 1920.

(Please see Canadian Cavalry for further details)

CANADIAN MACHINE GUNS IN WWI

Three different Machine Gun elements served in the CEF. The Motor Machine Guns, Light Machine Gun and Heavy Machine Gun each being under separate commands with different roles and different weaponry.

Battalion Machine Gun Sections (Later Brigade M.G. Sections)

On the outbreak of WWI the Canadian armed forces had a total of 35 Maxim (these obsolescent), three Vickers, three French Laird Monty Dagaille and two Colts, the RNWMP also had three Vickers. An outstanding order for 50 Vickers was in place but never delivered to Canada as all output from the factory was requisitioned by the British Government. On its formation in 1914 the prescribed complement for each CEF Battalion was for two machine guns and to meet this need an order was placed with Colt to purchase 50 guns in September 1914 and a further order for 250 in October 1914. The first contingent sailed with the 20 guns that Colt could provide. After the arrival of the first Contingent in England the complement for each battalion was increased from two to four machine guns. A further request to Vickers for 30 Light Machine Guns to meet the shortfall was made but could not be filled. The Company offering instead 30 Maxims which were declined. Only an additional 51 Colts were shipped to England before the 1st Division sailed for France in February 1915.

Each Infantry Battalion had a Light Machine Gun Section armed with Hotchkiss and later Lewis Guns and brigade heavy machine gun sections armed with the Vickers machine guns. These evolving into Brigade Machine Gun Companies and eventually Divisional Machine Gun Battalions these in 1917 being grouped under overall command of the Canadian Machine Gun Corps. Unauthorized M.G. brigade badges were adopted in 1916 these being replaced with authorized patterns after the inception of the Canadian Machine Gun Corps.

The Canadian Machine Gun Depot was formed at Seaford Camp in May 1916 from the 86th Machine Gun Battalion CEF. The 86th Battalion was raised with headquarters at Hamilton Ontario effective December 22nd 1915 and sailed for England May 22nd 1916 where on its arrival was reorganized to form the Canadian Machine Gun Depot. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 86th Infantry Battalion was officially disbanded effective September 1st 1917 under General Order 82 of 1918. The Canadian Machine Gun Depot acted as a training depot for the Lewis and Hotchkiss light machine guns operated by the Light Machine Gun Section of each infantry battalion. Also the Vickers heavy machine guns operated by the Canadian Machine Gun Companies later the CMGC and the Motor Machine Gun Brigades. In addition the Canadian Machine Gun Depot served as the reserve unit for the 1st and 2nd Motor Machine Gun Brigades and the Canadian Machine Gun School, a sub unit of the Canadian Machine Gun Depot, and the Reserve unit of the Canadian Machine Gun Corps reinforcing the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Machine Gun Battalions as well as the Machine Gun Squadron of the Canadian Cavalry Brigade.

The Canadian Machine Gun Corps 1917 - 1918

The Canadian Machine Gun Corps was organized in France April 16th 1917 bringing all Canadian machine gun units under its command; this authorized under Routine Order 558 of February 22nd 1917. A machine gun depot having been organized at Seaford in England on January 4th 1917. In September 1917 the machine gun companies were detached from the Infantry Brigades and redesignated as Divisional Machine Gun Companies each under command of a Lieutenant-Colonel at this time the personnel of each machine gun battalion was increased to eight Officers and 1100 OR's. In January 1918 an additional machine gun company was added to the compliment of each of the machine gun battalions these usually being formed with an echelon withdrawn from the existing machine gun companies with additional personnel from disbanded infantry battalions or from the Machine Gun Pool.

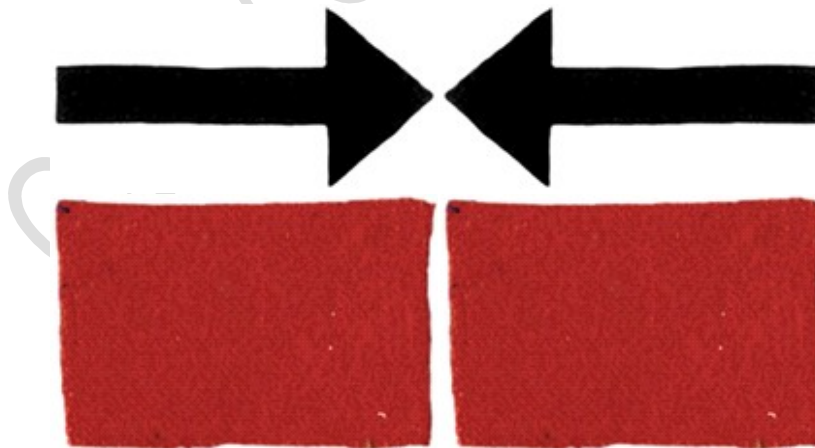
In 1918 the Divisional Heavy Machine Guns were organized into four battalions each of four companies with four batteries each of eight machine guns. Each Battalion was under command of a Lieutenant-Colonel the batteries being self contained in regards to transportation and command. The Machine Gun Battalions were not authorized by General Order but organized under the Order In Council P.C. 2067 of August 6th 1914. All were disbanded under General Order 209 of November 15th 1920. Initially the heavy Machine gun was an integral part of the Infantry Battalion but the role was changed as with the increase in numbers and the development of tactics. By 1918 each of the Machine Gun Battalions were under the nominal command of a Divisional Headquarters. During active operations the Battalion Commander served at Divisional HQ, the Company Commanders at Brigade Headquarters with Companies attached to Infantry Brigades or Battalions as necessary.

Additional 1st Division Machine Gun Company added in 1917

13th Machine Gun Company, 1st Division January 1917 - March 27th 1918

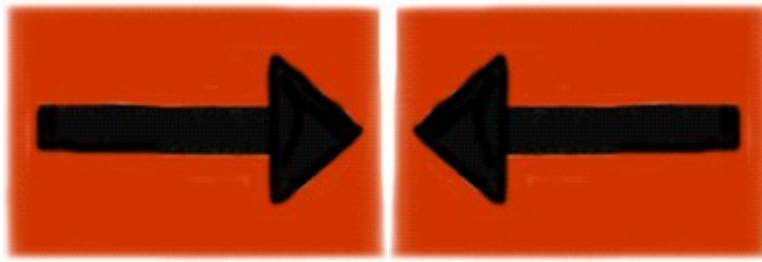
The 13th Canadian Infantry Machine Gun Company was formed in January 1917 at Floringham under command of Major J. Kay (48th Highlanders) by taking sections from the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Machine Gun Companies of the brigades of the 1st Division.

Formation patches worn between January 1917 - March 1918 (Black arrows worn above red divisional patch)



On March 27th 1918 the 1st, 2nd, 3rd Companies and 13th Machine Company were amalgamated as the 1st Battalion, Canadian Machine Gun Corps.

1st Battalion, Canadian Machine Gun Corps Formation patches worn between March 1918 and November 1918 (Black arrows sewn on red divisional patch)



(Please see below for other Battalion MG Sections, Companies & Brigades)

Brigade Trench Mortar Batteries

Infantry Brigade Light Trench Mortar Batteries Introduced December 1915

A letter from GHQ of December 15th 1915 authorized the formation of two light trench mortar batteries, equipped with 2 inch Stokes Mortars, for each Infantry Brigade in Canada's three Divisions. (The 4th Division was formed in England in April 1916 from units already there or soon to arrive from Canada.) The Light Trench Mortars batteries were organized within the brigade structure from trained infantry personnel and not the gunners of the medium and heavy trench mortar batteries of the Divisional Artillery. It appears that January 1st 1916 a number of light trench mortar brigades were almost immediately created for each of the three infantry divisions as War Diaries exist from January 1st to February 29th 1916 listing entries for these short lived mortar batteries. Each of these under command of a lieutenant and conforming with the number of an infantry battalion in the 1st, 2nd or 3rd Infantry Divisions, the 14th Battalion in the 1st Division (14th Canadian Light Mortar Battery under command of Lieutenant H.C. Higginbotham (30th Wellington Rifles, 34th Bn.CEF). 2nd in the 2nd Division (the 25th Trench Mortar Battery formed in December 1915 initially under command of Lieutenant W.S. Tuck (HQ staff CFF, later R.M. Fair.) There are War Diaries from December 18th 1915 to March 31st 1916 showing the designation being changed to the 5th Light Trench Mortar Battery September 29th 1916. (Captain Fair was killed in action September 6th 1916) The 35th Battalion in the 2nd Division (35th Canadian Light Mortar Battery) no commanding officer listed; and the 46th Battalion in the 3rd Division (46th Canadian Light Mortar Battery). Under command of Lieutenant W.E. McIntyre (8th RRC, 23rd Bn.CEF.) These light mortar battery designations were apparently rendered defunct February 29th 1916 when number/letter/number designations were authorized. Another GHQ letter (9th September 1916) authorized that the two brigade batteries be combined, taking the brigade number for the new battery designation. The establishment apparently increasing the officer commanding, a captain with four section officers (Lieutenants) each with 60 other ranks. These being raised from infantry within each brigade therefore no regimental numbers blocks were used.

The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916. In September 1916 these being designated Light Mortar Trench batteries. Initially trench mortar batteries were numbered only a single war diary for the 53rd Trench Mortar Battery is currently identified. (This number does not match with the 53rd Infantry Battalion this being absorbed into the reserve unless a battery was formed from personnel of this battalion.). In March 1916 number/letter/number battery designations were adopted. 'C' designations being used for light trench mortar batteries, 'X' and 'Y' for medium (4.7 to 6-inch) and 'Z' (9.5 inch) heavy. On the 1917 reorganization the war diaries for the Light Trench Mortar Batteries cease presumably after this their operations being included in the Infantry Brigade War Diaries. The previous letter/number designations becoming V/#. C for heavy trench mortars and X/#. C and Y/#. C for Medium Trench Mortar Batteries.

Canadian Divisional Mortar Groups (Medium and Heavy) Trench Mortar Batteries

The medium and heavy batteries were combined under the designation the 1st Canadian Divisional Mortar

Group March 1st 1916, the first War Diary entry being March 3rd 1916. Apparently like the light trench mortar batteries the medium batteries were numbered before March 1916 although no War Diaries are known for these with the exception of the 53rd. Number/letter/number battery designations were used from the beginning of March 1916. 'C' designations being used for light trench mortar batteries, 'X' and 'Y' for medium (4.7 to 6-inch) and 'Z' (9.5 inch) heavy. Initially a 'W' designation appears in the organizational chart of the 2nd Canadian Divisional Trench Mortar Group. The medium and heavy trench mortar batteries retained the 'X', 'Y' and 'Z' designations for the duration of WWI. The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Mortar Trench batteries in September 1916.

1st Canadian Divisional Mortar Group (Medium and Heavy) March 1916



V/1.C Heavy Trench Mortar Battery. (Four 9.45" Guns)
X/1.C Medium Trench Mortar Battery . (Six 6" Newton guns.)
Y/1 C Medium Trench Mortar Battery. (Six 6" Newton guns.)

1st Canadian Division Ammunition Park 1914 - 1915 (CASC)

The 1st Canadian Division Ammunition Park was formed at Valcartier under command of Major A. de M. Bell and arrived in England with the 1st Contingent October 14th 1914 with 16 Officers and 455 other ranks arriving in France February 7th 1915. The unit had five commanding officers between 1914 and April 1918 when the 1st Divisional Ammunition Sub Park was absorbed into the Mechanical Transport Company.

1st Divisional Ammunition Sub-Park 1915 - 1918 (CASC)

The 1st Canadian Division Ammunition Sub-Park was formed April 8th 1915 under command of Major M. Moore. A further six taking command until April 14th 1918 when the 1st Canadian Division Ammunition Sub-Park was absorbed into the 1st Divisional Mechanical Transport Company the establishment being reduced to six officers and 232 other ranks with 83 lorries.

1st (Divisional) Ammunition Support Park (Red shell on black patch)



On April 14th 1918 the Canadian Corps Ammunition Park and the four Divisional Ammunition Sub-Parks were amalgamated under Headquarters Canadian Corps (Mechanical Transport) Column under command of Major F.T. McKean. (Also listed as C.O. is Major J.G. Parmlee but this appears to be when Major McKean was away on leave.) The designation of the 1st Divisional Ammunition Sub-Park becoming the 1st Divisional Mechanical Transport Company.

Artillery

Please note these are the initial field artillery and brigade designations on sailing for the United Kingdom. Over the course of the war a number of major reorganizations of the divisional artillery took place. The size and number of guns per battery changed a number of times. During WWI a number of batteries and field brigades were disbanded or shuffled between divisions. In 1920 when the CEF was disbanded the remaining units officially disbanded artillery units under G.O. 191 November 1st 1920 though many of the units by then had little connection with the batteries as originally raised.

Regimental numbers

Each unit, or component of the CEF was assigned a block of regimental numbers. Each soldier on being attested into the Canadian Expeditionary Force was given a regimental number within one of these number blocks. The regimental numbers blocks for the 1st Division were 'corrected' after a practical numbering system was instituted soon after February 1915. The corrected numbers being used below.

Headquarters Corps Artillery

Headquarters Corps Artillery was formed September 22nd 1914. at Valcartier under command of Brigadier General H.E. Burstall with five officers and 40 other ranks but this number reduced to five officers and 23 other ranks on sailing for England. Headquarters Corps Artillery had overall command of the 1st Divisional Artillery comprised of Headquarters, a Divisional Ammunition Column,, a Heavy Battery and Ammunition Column. Three Field Artillery Brigades each with a Headquarters and three six gun Field Artillery Batteries. The 1st Divisional Artillery sailed with the 1st Contingent in October 1914.

Headquarters Corps Artillery. Regimental numbers block 40001 - 40049

Howitzers

On the outbreak of WWI in August 1914 Canada had insufficient 4.5 inch Howitzers to form a howitzer brigade for the 1st Division the few available guns being assigned to the Canadian Heavy Brigade. From its introduction into France in April 1915 the 1st Divisional Artillery was provided by the British 118 (Howitzer) Brigade RFA this comprising of the 458th and 459th (Howitzer) batteries. This unit was withdrawn from the Canadian Artillery in the 1916 spring reorganization the guns, horses and equipment of the British brigade being turned over to the Canadian Artillery.

1st Heavy Battery (60 pounders) 1914 - 1917

The 1st Heavy Battery CA Authorized under Privy Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General Order) was formed September 22nd 1914 under command of Major F.C. Magee at Montreal with two

sections both from the Montreal Heavy Battery with four 60 pounders. The ammunition column was raised at Quebec City. The battery sailed with the 1st Contingent in October 1914 and to France February 11th 1915. The 1st Heavy Battery, like the 2nd, served with the British Army until early 1917 when the 1st and 2nd Heavy Artillery Groups commenced operations with the CEF in France. 1st Division 1st Heavy Battery and Ammunition Column regimental numbers block 43501 - 43500

1st Divisional Artillery

1st Divisional Artillery Headquarters

The 1st Divisional Headquarters was organized at Valcartier August 31st 1914 with five officers and 37 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel E.W. B. Morrison on sailing for England the Headquarters 1st Divisional Artillery comprised of eight officers and 138 other ranks.

1st Divisional Ammunition Column

The 1st Divisional Ammunition Column was organized at Valcartier in August 1914 being formed with 11 officers and 326 other ranks September 22nd 1914 under command of Lieutenant-Colonel J.J. Penhale who remained in command until demobilization in 1918. The 1st Divisional Ammunition Column sailed for England with the 1st Contingent with an establishment of 7 officers and 594 other ranks.

1st Divisional Ammunition Column. Regimental numbers block 43501 - 45000

1st Divisional Field Artillery Brigades

On formation the (1st) Divisional Artillery included three field artillery brigades, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd each of these with three six gun batteries. In November 1914 after arrival in England the composition was altered to four batteries each of 4 guns.

1st Artillery Brigade Headquarters (Regimental numbers block 40001 - 41049)

The 1st Artillery Brigade Headquarters was formed in September 1914 with five officers and 37 other ranks sailing for England with the 1st Contingent with an establishment of five officers and 23 other ranks.

1st Artillery Brigade (Regimental numbers block 40050 - 41000)

The 1st Artillery Brigade was organized in August 1914 with 33 officers and 897 other ranks under command of Major C.H.L. Sharman. The 1st Brigade CFA sailed for England with the 1st Contingent with an establishment of 16 officers and 609 other ranks.

1st Battery C.F.A. Authorized under Order in Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General Order), being raised from the Non-Permanent Force 2nd Battery (Ottawa) and the 34th Battery (Bellville) under command of Major L.C. Goodeve with six officers and 236 other ranks. The battery sailed for England aboard the Saxonia with the 1st Contingent in October 1914. Regimental numbers block 40050 - 41000. In November 1914 the two gun section from Bellville was detached. The four gun 1st Battery C.F.A. under command of Major C.H.L. Sharman arrived in France February 12th 1915. In 1917 absorbing a two gun section from the disbanded (2nd) 47th Battery serving as a six gun battery in the 1st Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery for the duration of WWI. The 1st Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

2nd Battery C.F.A. Authorized under Order in Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General Order) being raised from the Non-Permanent Force 23rd Battery (Ottawa) and the 34th Battery (Bellville) under command of C.H. Maclaren with six officers and 213 other ranks aboard the Saxonia. The battery sailed for England with the 1st Contingent in October 1914. Regimental numbers block 40050 - 41000. In November 1914 the two gun section from Bellville was detached. The four gun 2nd Battery C.F.A. arrived in France February 12th 1915 In the March 1917 reorganization of the Divisional Artillery the 2nd Battery was converted to the **2nd (Howitzer) Battery**. By July 1917 the battery had become a six gun battery by absorbing a two gun section from the 49th Battery. Five howitzer batteries the 80th through the 84th were

formed in England in January authorized by G.O. 11 of February 1917 all being disbanded almost immediately. None of the regimental numbers blocks assigned to these batteries being used. Of these four howitzer batteries the 80th was immediately disbanded and sections assigned to the 54th Battery and the 81st (Howitzer) Battery. The 82nd being absorbed by the 9th and 48th (Howitzer) Batteries. The 2nd (Howitzer) Battery served in the 1st Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery for the duration of WWI. The 2nd Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

3rd Battery C.F.A. Authorized under Order in Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General Order) being raised from the Non-Permanent Force 8th Battery (Gananoque) and the 5th Battery (Kingston) under command of Major R.H. Britton with three officers and 140 other ranks. The battery embarked for England aboard the Saxonica September 29th with the 1st Contingent in October 1914. Regimental numbers block 40050 - 41000. In November 1914 the two gun section from Kingston was detached. The four gun 3rd Battery C.F.A arrived in France February 12th 1915. In 1917 absorbing a two gun section from the disbanded (2nd) 47th Battery then continuing to serve in the 1st Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery as six gun battery for the duration of WWI. The 3rd Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920 and served in the 1st Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery for the duration of WWI. The 3rd Battery C.F.A was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

1st Artillery Brigade Ammunition Column

1st Artillery Brigade Ammunition Column was organized in September 1914 with four officers and 124 other ranks on sailing for England with the 1st Contingent with an establishment of three officers and 210 other ranks

1st Brigade Artillery Depot

The 1st Brigade Artillery Depot formed in November 1914 from the two gun section detached from the from the 1st Battery CFA on the reduction from six to four gun batteries.

2nd Artillery Brigade Headquarters (Regimental numbers block 41001 - 41049)

The 2nd Artillery Brigade Headquarters was formed in September 1914 with six officers and 34 other ranks sailing for England with the 1st Contingent with an establishment of six officers and 39 other ranks.

2nd Artillery Brigade (Regimental numbers block 41050 -42000)

The 2nd Artillery Brigade CFA was organized at Valcartier in August 1914 with 26 officers and 815 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel J.J. Creelman. The 2nd Brigade CFA sailed for England with the 1st Contingent with an establishment of 17 officers and 593 other ranks.

(1st) 4th Battery C.F.A. Authorized under Order in Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General Order) being raised from the Non-Permanent Force 3rd Battery (Montreal) and the 22nd Battery (Sherbrooke) The battery sailed for England with the 1st Contingent in October 1914 assigned to the 2nd Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery under command of Major G.H. Ralston with six officers and 190 other ranks aboard the Invernica. Regimental numbers block 40050 - 41000 (Please note the regimental numbers blocks must have been assigned after November 1914 but before February 1915.) After arrival in England two gun (Sherbrooke) section was detached the 4th Battery becoming a four gun battery. In December 1914 the artillery brigades were reorganized from six to four gun batteries. Before the 1st Divisional Artillery sailed for France February 11th 1915 the 4th Battery was renumbered the 7th Battery and reassigned from the 1st to 2nd Brigade prior to sailing for France February 15th 1915. Please see the (2nd) 7th Battery C.F.A. below for continuation. The 4th Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

(2nd) 4th Battery C.F.A. Formed in November 1914 in England from the detached Bellville sections from the 1st and 2nd Batteries. The 4th Battery C.F.A arrived in France as a four gun battery February 12th 1915 serving in the 1st Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery still under command of Major G.H. Ralston. In March 1917 the battery absorbed a two gun section from the 49th Battery and additional personnel from the 54th Battery then serving as a six gun battery for the duration of WWI. The designation '4th Battery C.F.A.' was officially disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

5th Battery C.F.A. Authorized under Order in Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General

Order) being raised from the Non-Permanent Force 21st Battery (Montreal) and the 17th Battery (Sydney). The battery sailed for England with the 1st Contingent in October 1914 under command of Major E.G. Hanson with six officers and 199 other ranks aboard the Ivernia. Regimental numbers block 41001 - 42000. In November 1914 the 17th Battery (Sydney) section was detached. The 5th Battery, 2nd Artillery Brigade sailed for France as a four gun battery February 11th 1915. In March 1917 the battery absorbed one section from the disbanded 8th Battery. CEF and additional personnel from the disbanded 54th Battery. Serving as a six gun battery for the duration of WWI. The 5th Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

6th Battery C.F.A. Authorized under Order in Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General Order) being raised from the Militia 19th Battery (Moncton) and the 17th Battery (Sydney). The battery sailed for England under command of Major H.G. McLeod with six officers and 190 other ranks aboard the Invernia. In November 1914 the 17th Battery (Sydney) section was detached. Regimental numbers block 41001 - 42000. The 6th Battery, 2nd Artillery Brigade sailed for France February 11th 1915 as a four gun battery. In March 1917 the battery absorbed one battery from the disbanded 54th Battery and one from the 48th Battery then serving as a six gun battery for the duration of WWI. The 6th Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

(1st) 7th Battery C.F.A. (See 11th Battery CFA below). Regimental numbers block 41001 - 42000 Authorized under Order in Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General Order) being raised from the Non-Permanent Force 4th Battery (Hamilton) and the 7th Battery (St.Catharines). The battery sailed for England with the 1st Contingent in October 1914 under command of Major A.G.L. McNaughton with 5 officers and 191 other ranks aboard the Manitou At Shorncliffe in England in November 1914 the 7th Battery (St Catharines) section was detached. . Before sailing for France February 11th 1915 the 7th Battery was renumbered the 10th Battery serving as a four gun battery reassigned to the 3rd Brigade on the expansion of the field artillery brigades from three to four prior to the 1st Divisional Artillery. Please see the 10th Battery C.F.A. below for continuation. (The official designation '7h Battery C.F.A.' was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.)

2nd Artillery Brigade Ammunition Column

2nd Artillery Brigade Ammunition Column was organized in September 1914 with three officers and 143 other ranks sailing for England with the 1st Contingent with an establishment of three officers and 210 other ranks.

2nd Brigade Artillery Depot

The 2nd Brigade Artillery Depot formed in November 1914 from the two gun section detached from the from the 2nd Battery CFA on the reduction from six to four gun batteries. from one two gun section from the 7th Battery.

3rd Artillery Brigade Headquarters (Regimental numbers block 42001 - 42049)

The 3rd Artillery Brigade Headquarters was formed in September 1914 with five Officers and 36 other ranks sailing for England with the 1st Contingent with an establishment of seven Officers and 43 other ranks.

3rd Artillery Brigade (Regimental numbers block 42050 - 43000)

The 2nd Artillery Brigade CFA was organized at Valcartier in August 1914 with 35 Officers and 1,069 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel J.H. Mitchell. The 3rd Brigade CFA sailed for England with the 1st Contingent with an establishment with 18 Officers and 592 Other ranks.

(1st) 7th Battery C.F.A. (See 11th Battery CFA below). Regimental numbers block 41001 - 42000 Authorized under Order in Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General Order) being raised from the Non-Permanent Force 4th Battery (Hamilton) and the 7th Battery (St.Catharines). The battery sailed for England with the 1st Contingent in October 1914 under command of Major A.G.L. McNaughton with 5 officers and 191 other ranks aboard the Manitou At Shorncliffe in England in November 1914 the 7th

Battery (St Catharines) section was detached. . Before sailing for France February 11th 1915 the 7th Battery was renumbered the 10th Battery serving as a four gun battery reassigned to the 3rd Brigade on the expansion of the field artillery brigades from three to four prior to the 1st Divisional Artillery. Please see the 10th Battery C.F.A. below for continuation. (The official designation '7h Battery C.F.A.' was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.)

(2nd) 7th Battery C.F.A. In November 1914 on the 7th Battery being renumbered the 10th Battery and reassigned to the 3rd Brigade it was replaced by the renumbered 4th Battery CEF this now designated the 7th Battery C.F.A still under command of Major A.G.L. McNaughton. less the two gun section from the 22nd Battery (Sherbrooke). The 7th Battery sailed for France on February 11th 1915 assigned to the 2nd Brigade on the expansion of the field artillery brigades from three to four. In March 1917 the battery absorbed a two gun section from the disbanded 8th Battery serving as six gun battery for the duration of WWI. (The official designation '7th Battery C.F.A.' was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.)

(1st) 8th Battery C.F.A. Authorized under Order in Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General Order) being raised from the Non-Permanent Force 9th Battery (Toronto) and the 6th Battery (London). The battery sailed with the 1st Contingent as a six gun battery in October 1914 under command of Major S.B. Anderson with five officers and 191 other ranks aboard the Grampian. Regimental numbers block 42001 - 43000. In November 1914 the 6th (London) Battery was detached. The 8th Battery was redesignated as the 11th Battery and reassigned to the 3rd Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery prior to sailing for France as four gun battery February 11th 1915. Please see the 11th Battery C.F.A. below for continuation. The 8th Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.)

(2nd) 8th Battery C.F.A. A new second 8th Battery was formed in the UK from the Militia 6th (London) and 19th (Moncton) Field Battery to replace the original 8th Battery in the 2nd Brigade (this being redesignated the 11th Battery reassigned to the 3rd Brigade). The (2nd) 8th Battery sailed for France as a four gun battery on the 11th February 1915 as a component of the 2nd Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery serving in the 2nd Brigade still under command of Major S.B. Anderson until June 1916 when on reorganization of the Canadian Artillery the battery was transferred to the 12th Brigade. In the March 1917 reorganization of the Divisional Artillery the 8th Battery was disbanded with one section being absorbed into the 5th Battery the second into the 7th Battery these serving as six gun batteries for the duration of WWI. (The official designation '8th Battery C.F.A.' was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.)

9th Battery C.F.A. Authorized under Order in Council P.C. 2067 August 6th 1914 (not under General Order) being formed at Toronto being raised August 14th 1914 at Cobourg, Ontario from the Non-Permanent Force 14th (Midland) and 7th (St. Catharines) Batteries CFA. Regimental numbers block 42001 - 43000. The battery sailed for England with the 1st Contingent in October 1914 under command of Major E.A. MacDonald with five officers and 175 other ranks aboard the Grampian with one officer and 20 other ranks aboard the Caribbean. After arrival the two gun 7th Battery was detached and reassigned to the newly formed 12th Battery, 3rd Brigade. The 9th Battery sailed for France February 11th 1915 assigned to the 3rd Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery. In July 1916 the 9th Field Battery was converted and redesignated the **9th (Howitzer) Battery** Under Major Burgoyne. According to the War Diary in the March 1917 reorganization of the Canadian Artillery the 9th (H) battery initially remained as a four gun battery but shortly thereafter absorbed a two gun section from the disbanded 82nd (Howitzer) Battery. On the 3rd Brigade being reassigned to the 4th Divisional Artillery. The battery served in the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division for the duration of WWI. The 9th Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

3rd Artillery Brigade Ammunition Column

The 3rd Artillery Brigade Ammunition Column was organized in September 1914 with five officers and 355 other ranks sailing for England with the 1st Contingent with an establishment of four officers and 245 other ranks.

3rd Brigade Artillery Depot

The 3rd Brigade Artillery Depot formed in November 1914 from the two gun section detached from the from the 3rd Battery CFA on the reduction from six to four gun batteries.

Reorganization of the Divisional Artillery November 1914

In England on November 17th 1914 orders changing the establishment of the (1st) Divisional Artillery being altered from three artillery brigades each of three six gun batteries to three brigades of four 4 gun batteries. To complete the new establishment a number of batteries were shuffled block the artillery brigades and three new batteries formed from the two gun sections made surplus on the change from six to four guns. In Canada December 1914 the proposed 2nd Divisional Artillery batteries in formation, the 10th, 11th and 12th Batteries, were renumbered the 13th, 14th and 15th Batteries CFA.

10th Battery CFA was created in England November 1914 as a four gun battery by the renumbered 7th Battery CEF (less the 7th Battery (St. Catharines) this being reassigned to the newly formed 12th Brigade). The 10th Battery sailed for France February 11th 1915 assigned to the 3rd Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery. Under command of Major W.B.M. King. In March 1917 the 10th Battery absorbed a two gun section from the disbanded 49th Battery. In July 1917 the 3rd Brigade was reassigned to the 4th Division the 10th Battery serving as a six gun battery in the 3rd Brigade, 4th Divisional Artillery for the duration of WWI. The 10th Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

11th Battery CFA was formed in England in November 1914 as a four gun battery by the renumbered the 8th Battery CEF (less the 19th Battery (Moncton) and reassigned to the 3rd Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery this prior to sailing for France as four gun battery February 11th 1915 under command of Major H.G. Carscallen (later H.D.G. Crerar). In March 1917 the 11th Battery absorbed a two gun section from the 54th Battery. In July 1917 the 3rd Brigade was reassigned to the 4th Division the 11th Battery serving as a six gun battery in the 3rd Brigade, 4th Divisional Artillery for the duration of WWI. The 11th Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

12th Battery CFA was formed in England on December 12th 1914 with the two gun section from the 5th Battery (Kingston) detached from the 3rd Battery and the 7th Battery (St. Catharines) detached from the 7th Battery. The 12th Battery as a four gun battery sailed for France February 11th 1915 under command of Major W.B. McTaggart assigned to the 3rd Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery. In March 1917 the 12th Battery absorbed a two gun section from the disbanded 49th Battery. In July 1917 the 3rd Brigade was reassigned to the 4th Division the 12th Battery serving as a six gun battery in the 3rd Brigade, 4th Divisional Artillery for the duration of WWI. The 12th Battery C.F.A. was disbanded under G.O. 191 of November 1920.

Reorganization of the Divisional Artillery May/June 1916

A major reorganization of the Canadian Field Artillery took place between May and June 1916. The composition of each artillery brigade previously comprising of three field and a howitzer battery to four mixed brigades each of three field and a Howitzer battery these all four gun batteries a fourth Artillery Brigade, the 12th, was added to the establishment at this time. During this reorganization the Brigade Ammunition Columns were deleted and absorbed into Divisional Ammunition Columns.

1st Divisional Artillery July 1916

On the reorganization of the Canadian Divisional Artillery on July 6th 1916 the 2nd Field battery was converted to a howitzer battery, in the 2nd Brigade a new howitzer battery, the 48th, was formed by taking one section from the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Batteries. In the 3rd Brigade the 9th Battery was converted to a Howitzer Battery. All initially being four gun batteries.

1st Battery C.F.A.

2nd (Howitzer) Battery C.F.A.

3rd Battery C.F.A.

4th Battery C.F.A.

2nd Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery July 1916

5th Battery C.F.A.

6th Battery C.F.A.

7th Battery C.F.A.

48th (Howitzer) Battery C.F.A. The new 48th (Howitzer) Battery was created for inclusion in the 2nd Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery by taking one sections from each of the 5th, 6th 7th and 8th Batteries.

3rd Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery July 1916

10th Battery C.F.A.
11th Battery C.F.A.
12th Battery C.F.A.
9th (Howitzer) Battery C.F.A.

Additional 12th Brigade, 1st Divisional Artillery formed in England in July 1916

The 12th Brigade Canadian Field Artillery was formed under command of Lieutenant-Colonel S.B. Anderson June 21st 1916 with three field Batteries howitzer support being provided by Imperial batteries. Upon the reorganization of the CFA in 1917 the 12th Brigade was disbanded March 20th 1917 and its batteries re-distributed.

The War Diary of the 12th Brigade states the unit was organized in France in June 1916 by taking the 8th Battery from the 2nd Brigade, the 47th Battery from the 1st Brigade and the 49th Battery from the 3rd Brigade. The second two made surplus on the reorganization of the Divisional Artillery. The batteries temporarily remaining with their original brigades until the 12th Brigade first went into action July 15th 1916.

8th Battery C.F.A. from the 2nd Brigade served in 12th Brigade until March 1917. On disbandment in the 1917 reorganization of the Divisional Artillery the batteries were distributed to the 5th and 6th batteries, 2nd Brigade.

47th Battery C.F.A. A newly formed battery from surplus guns from the 1st Brigade. On disbandment in the 1917 reorganization of the Divisional Artillery the batteries were distributed to the 1st and 3rd Batteries.

49th Battery C.F.A. A newly formed battery from surplus guns from the 3rd Brigade. On its disbandment in the 1917 reorganization of the Divisional Artillery the batteries were distributed to the 4th and 2nd (Howitzer) Batteries.

(Conterminously 47th, 48th and 49th Batteries had been formed in Canada for inclusion in the 4th Divisional Artillery.)

Reorganization of the Divisional Artillery March 1917

In March 1917 a major reorganization of all Divisional Artillery took place within the armies of the Commonwealth forces due to the losses of experienced officers in the 1916 Somme offensive. The number of artillery brigades in each Divisional Artillery was reduced and the number of guns in each battery increased from four to six. In the 1st and 2nd Divisional Artillery the number of brigades was reduced from four to three. In the 3rd and 4th Divisional Artillery the number of brigades was reduced from four to two. In the 1st Divisional Artillery the 12th Brigade disbanded and its batteries redistributed.

Composition of the 1st Divisional Artillery 1917 - 1918

1st Divisional Headquarters
1st Divisional Ammunition Column
1st Artillery Brigade
2nd Artillery Brigade
3rd Artillery Brigade

1st Division Reinforcing Battalions

9th Provisional Battalion (as of the 3rd September 1914)

The 9th Infantry Battalion was raised at Camp Valcartier Quebec almost exclusively from the 101st Edmonton Fusiliers (1,247 All ranks) with just a small additional contingent of 77 all ranks from Ottawa, the battalion being authorized under General Order 142 of July 5th 1915. The 101st Regiment (Edmonton

Fusiliers) later contributed to the 65th, 138th, 194th, and 202nd Battalions. The 9th Battalion sailed with the 1st Contingent October 3rd 1914 under command of Lieutenant-Colonel S.M. Rogers (Reserve Officers List), with a strength of 44 officers and 1101 other ranks. After the arrival of the 1st Contingent in England the proposed structure of the 1st Division was changed from four to three infantry Brigades, the 4th Infantry Brigade being deleted from the Order of Battle the four surplus battalions being designated as reserve and training battalions. Of the 17 Infantry Battalions forming the 1st Contingent the 6th Battalion became a Cavalry Depot while the 9th, 11th, 12th and 17th Battalions became training and reserve battalions for the three Infantry Brigades of the 1st Canadian Division. The 9th Battalion was assigned the reserve and training battalion for the 1st Infantry Brigade, the 11th Battalion for the 2nd Infantry Brigade, the 12th Battalion for the 14th Infantry Battalion and later the PPCLI, and the 17th Battalion for the 13th, 15th and 16th Highland Battalions. Effective September 15th 1915 the 9th Battalion was designated as the 1st Training Brigade serving in this capacity until January 3rd 1917 when the 1st Training Brigade was disbanded. In January 1917 the 9th Battalion became the nucleus for the 9th Reserve Battalion, this one of two reserve battalions formed in January 1917 to supply reinforcements to the CEF battalions from Alberta serving on the Western Front. In September 1917 the 9th Reserve Battalion was absorbed by the 21st Reserve Battalion this becoming the sole reinforcing battalion for the Alberta Regiment. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 9th Battalion was disbanded effective September 15th 1917 under General Order GO 82 of 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 9th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 18001 - 19500.

The other ranks of the 9th Battalion arrived at Camp Valcartier wearing the larger 19 x 37 mm Militia shoulder numeral as a cap badge along with the General Service maple leaf pattern collar badges. Whilst at Camp Valcartier the officers received permission from Sir Sam Hughes, the Minister of Militia, to wear their 101st Edmonton Fusiliers badges. These were presumably worn until sailing or just after arrival in England.

9th Infantry Battalion (October 3rd 1914 - September 15th 1915)

The 101st Edmonton Fusiliers

Other ranks



139-11-102 Cap Gilding metal. Militia shoulder numeral worn on cap. Marked W. Scully Montreal

Officers

139-11-104 Cap Brown OSD . Not maker marked

139-12-104 Collar Brown OSD. Flat back not maker marked

OVERSEAS

After its arrival in October 1914 General Alderson gave verbal authority that the battalions of the 1st Division could adopt battalion cap badges at unit expense if they so desired. It would appear that various makers were invited to submit designs and known examples had been produced by Hicks and Son Ltd by as early as January 1915. Other makers awarded contracts to supply cap badges to the battalions of the 1st Contingent include Gaunt, Dingley and Reiche of jeweler located in the town of Folkstone on England's South coast later, this firm later changing the name to Reid in the wave of anti German sentiment of WWI. Cap badges are noted marked Reiche, Reigh, or just 74 Tontine St. Folkstone. It is believed that as a jeweler the firm did not have the heavy presses necessary to strike large quantities of badges and these were

likely struck under licence by another maker. Unfortunately the records pertaining to badges were destroyed in 1917 when fire broke out at Canadian Military Headquarters in London.

In addition General Alderson gave verbal authority for all 17 infantry battalions to adopt C over numeral collar badges for other ranks. The manufacturer of the first of these was Elkington & Co. two further issues of 'Elkington' pattern collars were made. The first issues, of which there are three distinct varieties, were produced by Ellington & Co. The 'Elkington' patterns are referred to as NCOs badges in the Charlton Catalogue but in fact are just the earlier patterns, many survivors of the 1st and 2nd Divisions rising to become NCOs over the duration of WWI.

Elkington Type 1. Have copper wire lug fasteners which are attached at the top of the letter 'C' and bottom of the numeral. This pattern was worn by the original troops of the 1st Division.

Type 2. An additional order for another 500 sets of collar badges was placed in March 1915 presumably for the use by the reinforcements of the 1st Division after its losses in the second Battle of Ypres in April 1915. Collar badges were also ordered for the battalions of the 2nd Division as they arrived from Canada. The second pattern can be identified by the placement of the narrow brass wire lug fasteners which are attached on the 'bar' separating the letter 'C' from the number and bottom of the numeral. This pattern was worn by the early reinforcements for the 1st Division and the original troops of the 2nd Division.

Type 3. A third order for C over numeral collar badges was placed likely in the late summer of 1915 for both 1st and 2nd Divisions. This pattern has small flat cut sheet metal lugs fasteners noted in brass, copper and white metal and like the type 2 with the lugs attached on the central and bottom 'bars' These collars were worn by reinforcements for the 1st and 2nd Divisions.

Manufacturer's samples or proto-type 9th Battalion badges by 'Reiche' later Reid.



509-11-102 Cap Proto-type copper overlay on brown maple leaf not maker marked



509-11-104 Cap Proto-type wm overlay on gilding metal leaf not maker marked

Counterfeit



509-11-105 Cap Counterfeit

Detail of overlay



The overlay is too small for the maple leaf (a feature of pressure casting) note the tang visible at the bottom of the 'Canada' ribbon. The jewels in the band of the crown are uneven not a straight line and the large jewel at the top of the crown is not aligned displacing the cross at the top of the Tudor Crown.

Unidentified manufacturer's sample or proto-type 9th Battalion cap badge.

A second proto-type cap badge is pictured in the Charles B. Tout-Hill collection assembled after WWI and an example is also illustrated in 'Over the Top' by John F. Meek. This pattern cap badge has a white metal overlay on a very pointed maple leaf. (The overlay extending below the Leaf.) The unusual pointed maple leaf is unique to this badge no other similar badges being noted. The maker at present being unidentified.



509-11-106 Cap Proto-type wm overlay on gilding metal maple leaf

At least one die for the overlay of the 9th Battalion proto-types exists and re-strikes have been produced. These are encountered both mounted on 'incorrect' pattern maple leaf cap badges and also fitted with lugs and offered as collar badges.

Collar Badges

Type 1. Other ranks by Elkington & Co. Not maker marked.



509-12-108 Collar Brass. Elkington & Co. (Type 1)

Other ranks Elkington Type 2. Not maker marked.

509-12-110 Collar Gilding metal C over 9, Elkington & Co. (Type 2) (Not reported but may exist)

Shoulder titles

Cloth titles were produced for a number of the battalions of the 1st Contingent. Photographs extant show these worn on the Canadian seven button tunic so it is likely they were worn only prior to the 1st Division sailing for France in February 1915, all are extremely rare. As the 9th Battalion remained in England this title may have continued in wear for a short time.



509-22-112 Cloth Title Red lettering woven through khaki worsted

9th Battalion (1st Training Brigade) September 15th 1915 - January 3rd 1917)

Other ranks Elkington Type 3. Not maker marked.



509-12-114 Collar Gilding metal C over 9, Elkington & Co. (Type 3)

With the formation of the 2nd Division in the summer of 1915 the number of training and reserve battalions was increased from four to seven, the 23rd, 30th, 32nd Battalions being assigned as the reserve and training battalions of the 2nd Division's 4th, 5th and 5th Infantry Brigades each of these with four infantry battalions. On the formation of the 3rd Division in England in late 1915 the number of reserve and training battalions was increased from seven to eighteen these being grouped into four Training Brigades, this number being increased to 13 by the end of 1917 when the Training Brigades were disbanded being replaced with Reserve Battalions.

At the end of 1915 a realignment of the reserve and training battalions took place with each of these now supporting just two battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. The 9th Battalion reinforcing the 10th and 49th Battalions. During this period of its operations the 9th Battalion absorbed the 51st, 63rd, 65th, 138th and the 145th Battalion this raised in Nova Scotia on their arrival from Canada.

Shoulder strap numerals and titles

Some documentary evidence indicates that a number of infantry battalions mounted 'C' over numerals on the shoulder straps or after their adoption moved the General Service maple leaf collar on to the shoulder straps. A sharply worded 1st Divisional Routine Order (RO) 1378 of November 8th 1915 reads "On the collar they will wear the badge C/1: C/2 and nothing else. On the shoulder strap CANADA only will be worn.". This is in contradiction to the directive issued in Canada, Militia Order No.164 of 29th March 1915, listing 'Canadian Expeditionary Force - Clothing and Equipment. Badges- cap 1, collar, prs 1. Shoulder- Canada prs 1, Initials sets 1, Numerals- sets 1.'.

Routine Orders of May 25th 1916 states that battalion numerals and 'INF' titles are listed as being available for issue in both England and France. It does not appear that these were adopted for use in France, or if so only on a limited basis. It is likely that the majority of 1st Division battalions adopted regimental pattern titles in place of the three part: numeral, designation, and 'Canada' nationality titles.

Although they exist It is as yet undetermined if the shoulder numeral '9' was worn by the 9th Battalion. These could also have been worn by the 6th Battalion.



509-14-116 Numeral Brown finish. By 'P.W. Ellis & Co. Ltd. Not maker marked

509-14-118 Numeral Brown finish. By Birks not maker marked. Flat cut sheet copper lugs



509-14-120 Numeral Brown finish. By Caron not Maker marked



509-14-121 Numeral Gilt lacquer. Officers? By Caron not Maker marked



509-14-122 Numeral Theatre made collar incorporating Caron Bros numeral '9'

A number of battalions serving in England and France adopted regimental pattern titles in place of the three part numeral, designation, and 'Canada' nationality title. A single pattern of shoulder title is known for the 9th Battalion but the period of its use has not been determined. The manufacturer is believed to be J.R. Gaunt the badges not maker marked.

Other ranks



509-14-124 Title Brown finish. Not maker marked

Officers



509-14-126 Title Natural brass. Not maker marked

In January 1917 a new territorial system was instituted whereby a Home District Regiment in Canada supplied recruits to newly formed reserve and training battalions in England which in turn sent reinforcements to the Front as required. The 9th Reserve Battalion was formed in January 1917 under command of Lieutenant-Colonel. W.C.G. Armstrong, from the 55th Battalion (Calgary) this having arrived in England in July 1916 merging with the 9th Battalion in January 1917. Effective September 1917 the 9th Reserve Battalion was absorbed into the 21st Reserve Battalion this becoming the sole reinforcing battalion for the Alberta Regiment, this authorized under General Order 77 of May 15th 1918 and supplying reinforcements to the 10th, 31st, 49th and 50th battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. During this period of its operations between January and September 1917 the 9th Reserve Battalion absorbed a draft from the 151st Battalion and the 209th Battalion. The 9th Infantry Battalion was disbanded effective September 15th 1917 under General Order 82 of 1918. The Alberta Regiment was disbanded under General Order 213 of November 15th 1920.

'C' over '9' Collar badges by Tiptaft



509-12-128 Collar Brass. By Tiptaft not maker marked



509-12-130 Collar Brass.. Maker marked 'Tiptaft B'ham'

The 9th Battalion did not adopt regimental pattern cap badges. Modified General List maple leaf pattern badges are known but it is currently undetermined if these were worn during WWI or post WWI 'made up' badges by collectors trying to complete numerically designated cap badge collections.

Other ranks



509-11-132 Cap Caron Bros numeral mounted on GS maple leaf cab badge.



509-11-134 Cap Brass numeral mounted on Ellis Bros GS maple leaf cap badge



509-11-136 Cap White metal cut sheet numeral mounted on Geo H. Lees & Co. 1915 cap badge



509-11-138 Cap 3/4-inch militia numeral mounted on GS maple leaf cap badge

Officers



509-11-140 Cap GM numeral mounted on cast UK maker GS maple leaf cap badge

Cast metal with numeral overlay. This pattern is similar in style and fabric to the unique officers badge of Lieutenant-Colonel Stevenson worn while in command of the Fort Garry Horse in 1918.

11th Provisional Battalion (as of the 3rd September 1914)

The 11th Infantry Battalion was a composite battalion formed in August 1914 at Camp Valcartier Quebec under authority of Privy Council Order 2067 of August 5th 1914 authorized under General Order 142 of 1914. The 11th Battalion comprised of volunteers from militia regiments from Military Area 10 which at this time encompassed both Manitoba and Saskatchewan. (Military District 13, Saskatchewan was established in 1917) The 11th Battalion was formed from contingents of the following Militia Regiments. 52nd Regiment (Prince Albert Volunteers) (150), 60th Rifles of Canada (294), 95th Regiment (Saskatchewan Rifles) (171), 100th Regiment (Winnipeg Grenadiers) (471), 105th Regiment (Saskatoon Fusiliers) (255), plus a small detachment of 21 personnel from Humboldt, Saskatchewan. The 11th Battalion sailed with the First Contingent October 3rd 1914 with 45 officers and 1119 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel R. Burritt (100th Winnipeg Grenadiers).

The 'corrected' regimental numbers block for the original contingent of the 11th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 21001 - 22500.

OVERSEAS

11th Battalion (Training and Reserve) October 1914 - December 1915

After its arrival the 11th Infantry Battalion was declared surplus to divisional requirements and was

designated as one of four Reserve and Training Depot for the 1st Canadian Division. (The 6th Battalion having been converted to the Cavalry Depot.) The 11th Battalion was designated the reserve and training battalion for the 2nd Infantry Brigade serving in this capacity until the formation of the 3rd Division at the end of 1915.

No cloth shoulder titles are currently reported for the 11th Battalion.

The first order for regimental cap badges for the 11th battalion was placed with J.R. Gaunt This issue is not maker marked and can be identified by having a wreath of 15 raised maple leaves per side, the motto ribbon is framed.

Other ranks



511-11-102 Cap

Natural gilding metal finish, not maker marked

Officers



511-11-104 Cap

Brown finish. Not maker marked

Other ranks

Other ranks Elkington Type 1. Not maker marked.

511-12-106 Collar badge Gilding metal

Other ranks Elkington Type 2. Not maker marked.



511-12-108 Collar badge Gilding metal. Lugs on bars

11th Battalion Training and Reserve 1916 - 1917

Between May of 1915 and December 1915 the 11th Infantry Battalion served as the reinforcing battalion for all four battalions of the 2nd Infantry Brigade. On the arrival of the 2nd Canadian Division the number of reinforcing and training battalion was increased from four to seven. In January 1916 on the formation of the 3rd Division the number of reinforcing and training battalions was again increased this time to 18 battalions these being realigned to more closely conform to the various Military Districts in Canada from which the Infantry Battalions were raised and supplying reinforcements to just two infantry battalions. The 11th Battalion becoming the reinforcing Battalion for the 8th and 27th Battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. (The 11th Battalion, training and reserve also supplied reinforcements to the 78th Battalion, 4th Canadian Division after its arrival in France in August 1916.) During this period of its operations the 11th Infantry Battalion absorbed the 45th, 61st 90th Battalions.

Other ranks

511-11-110 Cap Natural gilding metal, not maker marked

Other ranks Elkington Type 3. Not maker marked.

511-12-112 Collar Gilding metal C over 11, Elkington & Co. (Type 3)

Shoulder strap titles & numerals

Some documentary evidence indicates that a number of infantry battalions mounted 'C' over numerals on the shoulder straps or after their adoption moved the General Service maple leaf collar on to the shoulder straps. A sharply worded 1st Divisional Routine Order (RO) 1378 of November 8th 1915 reads "On the collar they will wear the badge C/1: C/2 and nothing else. On the shoulder strap CANADA only will be worn." This is in contradiction to the directive issued in Canada, Militia Order No.164 of 29th March 1915, lists 'Canadian Expeditionary Force - Clothing and Equipment. Badges- cap 1, collar, prs 1. Shoulder- Canada prs 1, Initials sets 1, Numerals- sets 1.'.

Routine Orders of May 25th 1916 states that battalion numerals and 'INF' titles are listed as being available for issue in both England and France. It does not appear that these were adopted for use in France, or if so only on a limited basis. It is likely that the majority of 1st Division battalions adopted regimental pattern titles in place of the three part: numeral, designation, and 'Canada' nationality titles.

Although reported to exist It is not known if shoulder numerals were worn by the 11th Battalion

511-14-114 Numeral Copper. Maker marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co. Ltd. 1915'

511-14-116 Numeral Copper. Maker marked Birks 1915. Flat cut sheet copper lugs

511-14-118 Numeral Gilding metal. By Caron Bros. Montreal. Not Maker marked

Badges by F.J. Reiche

Other ranks



511-11-120 Cap

Pickled finish. Flat back. Not maker marked

Officers

Flat back maker marked F.J.R. & Son 74 Tontine St, Folkstone



511-11-122 Cap

Gilding metal. Lugs. maker marked F.J.R. & Son 74 Tontine St, Folkstone

511-12-122 Collar

Matching collars are not currently reported

11th Reserve Battalion 1917

In January 1917 the 11th Infantry Training and Reserve Battalion was redesignated the 11th Reserve Battalion under command of Lieutenant-Colonel P. Walker as the reinforcing battalion for the 27th Battalion and 78th Battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. (The 11th Battalion, training and reserve also supplied reinforcements to the 78th Battalion, 4th Canadian Division after its arrival in France in August 1916.) During this period of its operations the 11th Reserve Battalion absorbed the 100th, 197th, 200th, 221st and 223rd Infantry Battalions.

Badges by Tiptaft. Not maker marked

The cap badges have a shallow wreath of 14 maple leaves per side, the motto ribbon is unframed.



511-11-124 Cap Brown finished gilding metal, not maker marked



511-12-124 Collar Brass small 'C' over '11'. Maker marked 'Tiptaft B'ham'

Officers.



511-11-126 Cap Wm overlay on Coppered gilding metal, not maker marked

511-12-126 Collar Copper finish on gilding metal not maker marked

In October 1917 the 11th Reserve Battalion was absorbed by the 14th Reserve Battalion becoming one of two reinforcing battalions for the Manitoba Regiment (authorized under General Order 77 of April 15th 1918.). The other being the 18th Reserve Battalion The 11th Infantry Battalion created under GO 142 of 1914 was disbanded effective October 12th 1917 under General Order GO 82 of 1918.

For further details please see Garrison and Reserve section

12th Provisional Battalion (as of the 3rd September 1914)

The 12th Battalion was a composite battalion formed in August 1914 at Camp Valcartier Quebec under authority of Privy Council Order 2067 of August 5th 1914 authorized under General Order 142 of 1914. The 12th Battalion comprised of volunteers from militia regiments from both Quebec and the Maritime provinces. Cavalry volunteers were provided from the 29th New Brunswick Dragoons (17), and the 35th PEI Light horse (11), and the following infantry regiments: 4th Regiment (Chasseurs) (41), 8th Regiment

(Royal Rifles) (368), 9th Regiment (Voltigeurs de Quebec) (29), 17th Regiment de Levis (7), 18th Regiment (Franc-Tireurs du Saguenay) (3), 53rd (Sherbrooke) Regiment (107), 54th Regiment (Carabiniers de Sherbrooke) (113), 61st Regiment de Montmagny (6), 62nd Regiment (St. John Fusiliers) (140), 64th (Chateauguay and Beauharnois) Regiment (23), 67th Regiment (Carleton Light Inf.) (30), 71st (York) Regiment (160), 73rd (Northumberland) Regt. (76), 74th Regiment (The New Brunswick Rangers) (73), 80th (Nicolet) Regiment (1), 82nd Regiment (Abgweit Light Infantry) (31), 83rd (Joliette) Regiment (26), 84th (St Hyacinth) Regiment (12), 85th Regiment (12), 89th (Temiscouta and Rimouski) Regiment (15), and the 92nd (Dorchester Regiment) (9). The Battalion sailed with the First Contingent October 3rd 1914 with 45 officers and 1028 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel H.F. McLeod (71st York Regiment).

The regimental numbers block for the 12th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 22512 - 24000.

OVERSEAS

After its arrival the 12th Infantry Battalion, like the 9th, 11th and 17th was declared surplus to divisional requirements and was designated as one of four infantry Reserve and Training depot battalions. (The 6th Battalion had also been declared surplus and was converted into the Cavalry Depot.) Initially the 12th Infantry Battalion served as the reserve and training battalion for the 14th Infantry Battalion (Royal Montreal Regiment) and the PPCLI, this serving with the British Army until the end on 1915.

12th Battalion (Training and Reserve October 1914 - 1915

After its arrival in October 1914 General Alderson gave verbal authority that the battalions of the 1st Division could adopt battalion cap badges at unit expense if they so desired. It would appear that various makers were invited to submit designs and known examples had been produced by Hicks and Son Ltd by as early as January 1915. Other makers awarded contracts to supply cap badges to the battalions of the 1st Contingent include Gaunt, Dingley and Reiche of jeweler located in the town of Folkstone on England's South coast later, this firm later changing the name to Reid in the wave of anti German sentiment of WWI. Cap badges are noted marked Reiche, Reigh, or just 74 Tontine St. Folkstone. It is believed that as a jeweler the firm did not have the heavy presses necessary to strike large quantities of badges and these were likely struck under licence by another maker. Unfortunately the records pertaining to badges were destroyed in 1917 when fire broke out at Canadian Military Headquarters in London.

Sample cap badges by Reiche



512-11-102 Cap

Bronze leaf with wm numeral overlays pointed stem with 'large' CANADA



512-11-104 Cap Gilt leaf with wm numeral overlays pointed stem with 'large' CANADA

Sample cap badges by Hicks

512-11-106 Cap White metal. With small 'Hicks & Sons London' maker tab

Officers

512-12-108 Cap Sterling silver. Reported but not confirmed

512-12-108 Collar Sterling silver. Reported but not confirmed

Cloth shoulder title

Cloth titles were produced for a number of the battalions of the 1st Contingent. Photographs extant show these worn on the Canadian seven button tunic so it is likely they were worn by the 1st Division prior to sailing for France in February 1915, that of the 12th Battalion in England possibly longer.



512-22-102 Cloth Title Red lettering woven through khaki worsted attributed to Hicks

In addition to allowing the adoption of battalion pattern cap badges General Alderson gave verbal authority for all 17 infantry battalions to adopt C over numeral collar badges for other ranks. The manufacturer of the first of these was Elkington & Co. two further issues of 'Elkington' pattern collars were made. These 'Elkington' patterns were referred to as NCOs badges in the Charlton Catalogue but in fact are just the earlier patterns, many survivors of the 1st and 2nd Divisions rising to become NCOs over the duration of WWI.

Type 1. Elkington & Co.

Elkington Type 1. Have copper wire lug fasteners which are attached at the top of the letter 'C' and bottom of the numeral. This pattern was worn by the original troops of the 1st Division.

512-12-110 Collar Gilding metal. Lug fasteners. By Elkington & Co. not maker marked

Type 2. Elkington type. Maker not confirmed

Type 2. An additional order for another 500 sets of collar badges was placed in March 1915 presumably for the use by the reinforcements of the 1st Division after its losses in the second Battle of Ypres in April 1915.

Collar badges were also ordered for the battalions of the 2nd Division as they arrived from Canada. The second pattern can be identified by the placement of the narrow brass wire lug fasteners which are attached on the 'bar' separating the letter 'C' from the number and bottom of the numeral. This pattern was worn by the early reinforcements for the 1st Division and the original troops of the 2nd Division.



512-12-112 Collar Gilding metal. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Type 3. Elkington type. Maker not confirmed

Type 3. A third order for C over numeral collar badges was placed likely in the late summer of 1915 for both 1st and 2nd Divisions. This pattern has small flat cut sheet metal lugs fasteners noted in brass, copper and white metal and like the type 2 with the lugs attached on the central and bottom 'bars' These collars were worn by reinforcements for the 1st and 2nd Divisions.

512-12-114 Collar Gilding metal. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Badges by Dingley

The cap badge by Dingley not maker marked with a pointed maple leaf with large numerals and small 'CANADA'. Long lug copper lug fasteners. This cap badge is often encountered with the darkened finish polished off the numeral '12' and 'Canada'

Other ranks



512-12-116 Cap Blackened finish on white metal. Marked Dingley B'ham

Officers



512-12-118 Cap

Brown OSD finish on white metal. Marked Dingley B'ham

Shoulder strap numerals and titles

Some documentary evidence indicates that a number of infantry battalions mounted 'C' over numerals on the shoulder straps or after their adoption moved the General Service maple leaf collar on to the shoulder straps. A sharply worded 1st Divisional Routine Order (RO) 1378 of November 8th 1915 reads "On the collar they will wear the badge C/1: C/2 and nothing else. On the shoulder strap CANADA only will be worn." This is in contradiction to the directive issued in Canada, Militia Order No.164 of 29th March 1915, lists 'Canadian Expeditionary Force - Clothing and Equipment. Badges- cap 1, collar, prs 1. Shoulder- Canada prs 1, Initials sets 1, Numerals- sets 1.'.

Routine Orders of May 25th 1916 states that battalion numerals and 'INF' titles are listed as being available for issue in both England and France. It does not appear that these were adopted for use in France, or if so only on a limited basis. It is likely that the majority of 1st Division battalions adopted regimental pattern titles in place of the three part: numeral, designation, and 'Canada' nationality titles.



512-14-120 Numeral

Copper. Maker marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co. Ltd. 1915'



512-14-122 Numeral

Copper. Maker marked Birks 1916. Flat cut sheet copper lugs

512-14-124 Numeral

Gilding metal By Caron Bros. Montreal. Not Maker marked

Type 1 shoulder title (1915/1916) Numeral '12' with no upper 'bar' braised over a brass 'CANADA' title

512-14-126 Title

Natural brass. J.R. Gaunt not maker marked



512-14-128 Title

Type 2 shoulder title (1916)

Badges by Tiptaft

Other ranks



512-11-130 Cap

Brown finish. Not maker marked



512-12-132 Collar

Brown finish. Not maker marked

Officers(?)



512-11-134 Cap

Dark brown finish. Marked Tiptaft

12th Battalion Training and Reserve January 1916 - July 5th 1916

On the formation of the 2nd Division in the summer of 1915 the number of training and reserve battalions was increased from four to seven, the 23rd, 30th, 32nd Battalions being assigned as the reserve and training battalions of the 2nd Division's 4th, 5th and 5th Infantry Brigades each of these with four infantry battalions. On the formation of the 3rd Division in England in late 1915 the number of reserve and training battalions was again increased from seven to eighteen. At this time a realignment of the reserve and training battalions took place with each of these now supporting just two battalions serving with the Canadian

Corps on the Western Front. The 12th Infantry Brigade, training and reserve supplying the 14th Battalion, and on paper the PPCLI which was reinforced by University Companies. Effective July 5th 1916 the 12th Infantry Battalion, training and reserve ceased as such to exist, being absorbed by the 23rd Battalion, training and reserve. Although moribund the 12th Infantry Battalion was carried on the establishment of the CEF until being disbanded under GO. 109 of 15th September 1920.

Badges by Tiptaft

‘Overseas’ large crown pattern



512-11-136 Cap

Dark brown finish. Marked Tiptaft

‘Overseas’ Small crown pattern



512-11-138 Cap

Dark brown finish. Marked Tiptaft



512-12-1408 Collar

Brass. Lug fasteners. By Tiptaft not maker marked

For further details please see Garrison and Reserve section

17th Provisional Battalion (as of the 3rd September 1914)

The 17th Infantry Battalion was a composite battalion formed in August 1914 at Camp Valcartier Quebec under authority of Privy Council Order 2067 of August 5th 1914. The battalion was raised from units of Military Area 6 (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island). This one of two, the second being the (first) 18th Battalion, formed from surplus troops over and above those assigned to the first 16 infantry battalions, these each being around 1031 + 20% for base details etc. On September 27th prior to the 1st Contingent sailing for England the Provisional 18th Battalion was disbanded and its 10 officers and

356 other ranks absorbed into other units. The 17th Battalion which included a sizable group of volunteers from the 94th Victoria Regiment (Argyll Highlanders) sailed with the First Contingent October 3rd 1914 under command of Lieutenant-Colonel S.G. Robertson (78th Pictou Highlanders), with a strength of 44 officers and 624 other ranks. Effective September 1st 1915 command of the 17th Infantry Battalion (Training and reserve) was taken over by Lieutenant-Colonel D.D. Cameron, the Commanding Officer of the 78th Pictou Highlanders of Canada, allied with the Seaforth Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs, The Duke of Albany's Regiment).

The regimental numbers block for the 17th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 46001 - 48000.

The 17th Reserve Battalion was assigned a second block of regimental numbers for personnel assigned to the regiment after its arrival in England but less than 100 numbers of the block were actually used. The second regimental numbers block is 169001 - 171000

OVERSEAS

17th Battalion (Training and Reserve) October 1914 - 1917

The 17th Battalion sailed with the First Contingent with 44 Officers and 624 OR's after arrival in England the battalion was designated as a Training and Reserve battalion to provide reinforcements for the 13th, 15th and 16th Highland Battalions serving with the 1st Canadian Division on the Western Front serving in this role until April 1916. With the formation of the 2nd Division an additional three infantry battalions were designated as Reserve and Training battalions these being the 23rd, 30th and 32nd Infantry Battalions. These three battalions were the first of the 2nd Division's to reach England, this in February 1915, and were almost immediately sent to France to make up for the losses suffered by the 1st Division at the 2nd Battle of Ypres. As additional battalions over and above those assigned to the 2nd Canadian Division arrived from Canada they were designated as Training and Reserve Depots.

In England the 17th Battalion wore General Service Maple leaf pattern cap badges until the fall of 1917. (Some unconfirmed reports state the battalion may have adopted UK Seaforth Highlanders cap badges.) When after considerable lobbying the Canadian Government finally provided funds from the public purse to purchase regimental pattern cap and collar badges for the battalions of the CEF. After the introduction of the regimental pattern badges in 1917 these were worn only by the permanent establishment of the Reserve Battalion and not by the personnel assigned to the battalion as reinforcements, these being issued with battalion badges on arrival of their assigned battalion in France.

After the arrival of the 1st Contingent in England in October 1914 General Alderson granted verbal permission for the CEF battalions to purchase regimental cap badges at unit expense and 'C' over numeral collar badges at Government expense. The first issue was made by Elkington & Co. Two further similar issues of these early pattern collars were purchased one in March 1915 a third in the late summer of 1915. Although similar in style it is currently undetermined by whom these collars were made.

Other ranks



517-12-102 Collar Brass by Elkington & Co. (Type 1)



517-12-104 Collar Brass. Elkington pattern. (Type 2)



517-12-106 Collar Brass. Elkington pattern. (Type 3)



517-12-108 Collar Theatre made cut sheet brass

Shop made cut sheet brass 'C' Over '17' collar badge and shoulder titles the period of manufacture is at present undetermined but likely in 1916.

Some documentary evidence indicates that a number of infantry battalions mounted 'C' over numerals on the shoulder straps or after their adoption moved the General Service maple leaf collar on to the shoulder straps. A sharply worded 1st Divisional Routine Order (RO) 1378 of November 8th 1915 reads "On the collar they will wear the badge C/1: C/2 and nothing else. On the shoulder strap CANADA only will be worn." This is in contradiction to the directive issued in Canada, Militia Order No.164 of 29th March 1915, lists 'Canadian Expeditionary Force - Clothing and Equipment. Badges- cap 1, collar, prs 1. Shoulder- Canada prs 1, Initials sets 1, Numerals- sets 1.'

Shoulder strap titles & numerals

Routine Orders of May 25th 1916 states that battalion numerals and 'INF' titles are listed as being available for issue in both England and France. It does not appear that these were adopted for use in France, or if so only on a limited basis. It is likely that the majority of 1st Division battalions adopted regimental pattern titles in place of the three part: numeral, designation, and 'Canada' nationality titles.

517-14-110 Numeral Coppered. Maker marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co. Ltd. 1915'. (Not reported)

517-14-112 Numeral Coppered. Maker marked Birks 1916. Flat cut sheet copper lugs

517-14-114 Numeral Gilding metal. By Caron Bros. Montreal. Not Maker marked. (Not reported)

With the formation of the 3rd Canadian Division in the winter of 1915 the number of reserve and training battalions was set at 18 at which time there was a realignment of the original reserve and training battalions these now conforming to regional areas of Canada with each training and reserve battalion reinforcing just

two of the 36 Battalions serving on the Western Front. At this time the 17th Battalion was assigned as the reinforcing battalion for the 13th and 85th Battalions serving in France, and after its arrival from Canada in October 1916, the 185th Battalion. This remained in England assigned to the 15th Infantry Brigade, 5th Division until February 1918 when plans for sending the fifth Canadian Infantry Division to France were finally abandoned. The 5th Divisional Artillery and the 5th Machine Gun Brigade proceeded to France but the remaining 11 Infantry Battalions were ordered to send a drafts of 100 men each to the battalions in the field, these being increased from approximately 1000 to 1100 other ranks and the remainder absorbed into the Reserve Battalions.

17th Reserve Battalion 1917-1918

In January 1917 the 17th Infantry Battalion absorbed the remaining personnel of the 113th, 179th, and 193rd Battalions under the designation the 17th Reserve Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel D.D. Cameron retaining command. (Throughout WWI Lieutenant-Colonel D.D. Cameron was listed as the Commanding Officer of the 78th Pictou Highlanders of Canada.) However his tenure lasted only until February 12th 1917 when command of the 17th Reserve Battalion was taken over by Lieutenant-Colonel W.H. Muirhead who was to retain command until the end of the War. (Lieutenant-Colonel W.H. Muirhead was previously the CO of the 219th Battalion).

Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son

Other ranks



517-11-116 Cap White metal. Not maker marked



517-12-116 Collar White metal. Not maker marked



- 517-12-118 Collar Brass small 'C' over '17'. Maker marked. Tiptaft
- 517-12-118 Collar Brass small 'C' over '17'. Not maker marked.

Officers

- 517-11-120 Cap Sterling silver. Hallmarked 'J.W.T.' (J.W. Tiptaft)
- 517-12-120 Collar Sterling silver. Hallmarked 'J.W.T.' (J.W. Tiptaft)



- 517-11-122 Cap Die cast brown OSD finish. Flat back. Not maker marked



- 517-12-122 Collar Die cast brown OSD finish. Flat back. Not maker marked

During 1917 the 17th Reserve Battalion absorbed the 245th Battalion on its arrival from Canada and in April 1918 the 185th Battalion on it being released from the proposed 5th Division which was broken up for reinforcements. In May 1917 the 17th Reserve Battalion absorbed the 25th Reserve Battalion becoming the sole reinforcing battalion for the Nova Scotia Regiment, authorized under General Order 77 of April 15th 1918, supplying reinforcements to the 25th and 85th Battalions and the Royal Canadian Regiment serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. The Nova Scotia Regiment was disbanded under General Order 213 of November 15th 1920.

Counterfeit cap badges

The cap badges pictured below are counterfeits these offered for sale on the United Kingdom eBay site.

Note the lack of sharpness and blurred detail, 'off metals' and extra metal around the design this not found on the original die struck example.



517-11-124 Cap

Pressure cast brass.



517-11-126 Cap

Pressure cast silver.

For further details please see Garrison and Reserve section