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Post subject: Re: PPCLI Reinforcements Nominal Roll📅 **Posted:** Mon Feb 04, 2013 5:11 pm

online

**Joined:** Sat Apr 09, 2005

10:05 pm

Posts: 6603**Location:** The Matrix, Milton
ON CanadaChris Wight @ viewtopic.php?p=79488#p79488 wrote:

Richard, it seems counter-intuitive but reinforcement drafts went out before the main body did. It would be like we need 200 men immediately send those over now and continue recruiting to replace that number, then when you have replaced that number with new men, you'll be ready to go over. In other words, the reinforcing draft was not really reinforcing the battalion they were originally part of but were merely furnishing men to go to England where they would be absorbed by other units.

Thanks for the clarification Chris (it was in the other topic as posted) as that is very valuable information and it brings me back to this older post on the PPCLI that Peter started. I had always assumed that when my Grandfather Kennedy #51288 went out with the Reinforcing Draft it meant that he went out AFTER the main PPCLI force went out. If I understand what you are saying, they went out BEFORE the main force. Or is it possible that in some instances they also went out to reinforce the parent battalion that was already in the field?

All the PPCLI Nominal Rolls that we have are in a folder on MediaFire here:

<http://www.mediafire.com/?s02hv6n5c7d17>

If I look at this now more closely it appears that the cover of the PPCLI Nominal Roll that my grandfather (JACK) is in is actually marked "Reinforcements" as compared to "Reinforcement Draft". I had probably never differentiated between the two different terms.

The PPCLI University Companies were also marked as "PPCLI Reinforcements" not "Reinforcing Drafts".

If I take this then back to Peter's original question, the PPCLI sailing dates appear to be as follows:

1. PPCLI Originals Battalion: September 27, 1914
2. PPCLI Reinforcements: January 21, 1915

3. PPCLI University Company Reinforcements

- 2nd University Company: June 29, 1915
- 3rd University Company: September 4, 1915
- 4th University Company: November 27, 1915
- 5th University Company: April 5, 1916

That list now matches Al's "Troopship" listing on the Matrix.

PPCLI Royal George 27-Sep-14 Levis Devonport 18-Oct-14

PPCLI Reinforcements Vaderland (Southland) 20-Jan-15 Halifax
Liverpool

2nd Univ Co. Reinforcing PPCLI Northland (Zeeland) 29-Jun-15
Montreal Devonport 9-Jul-15

3rd Univ Co. Reinforcing PPCLI Missanabie 4-Sep-15 Montreal
Plymouth 4-Sep-15

4th Univ Co. Reinforcing PPCLI Lapland 27-Nov-15 Halifax Plymouth
4-Dec-15

5th Univ Co. Reinforcing PPCLI Olympic 1-Apr-16 5-Apr-16 Halifax
Liverpool 11-Apr-16

On the ORBAT for the 4th Quarter of 1914 I have the PPCLI landing in France on December 21, 1914 under British Command. Steve's book (*With the Patricia's in Flanders*) says they entered the line in the St. Eloi sector on January 6, 1915. The book (page 4) also reports they were in Ottawa on August 28, 1914 and that they left Montreal on the Megantic on August 29, 1914 but were taken off at Quebec City and left again on September 27, 1914 on the RMS Royal George arriving the UK on October 14, 1914. That matches Al's troopship list. I had previously missed the part in my analysis that they did not continue sailing from Montreal on August 29, 1914.

If we are agreed on these dates maybe I should add a sheet of paper to each of the Nominal Rolls on the site so that others who download them will have the answer? Easier maybe I will just post a note as a separate file that also mentions this topic on the forum?

☹️ I wonder in how many other places I was misusing the terms "Reinforcements" and "Reinforcement Drafts". ☹️

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When you have eliminated the impossible ... whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1890)

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