

## War service a family affair for silver cross mother

GEORGETOWN, Sept. 22 (Special)—Mrs. Barbara Francis, Georgetown, silver cross mother, who lost one son in the Great War, is justly proud of the service record of her family.

Her only surviving son, Edward, who enlisted the day the present war was declared, is a prisoner of war, having been captured by the Germans, while he was participating in the Dieppe raid. He served for a number of years with the Lorne Scots, but enlisted for overseas duty with the Hamilton Light Infantry, going overseas almost immediately.

Mrs. Francis also has four daughters, whose husbands are all serving their country. A few days ago the family received three letters from three different parts of the world. One came from Sicily, one from England, and the other from Germany.

Not to be excelled by her family, Mrs. Francis has accepted full responsibility for the care of her two nephews, Robert and Eric Saunders, who were evacuated from London three years ago. She is a regular worker at the Red Cross rooms and also counsels all her children and grandchildren when they meet with difficulties.

The letter received from England was from Pte. Percy Chaplin, hus-

### Son, Four Sons-In-Law In Service Georgetown Mother Is Justly Proud



Sgt. THOMAS E. GIVEN  
Pte. PERCY CHAPLIN  
Mrs. BARBARA FRANCIS  
Cpl. ALBERT CARTER  
Sgt. DAVID BOWMAN

band of her daughter, Nellie. He enlisted about a year ago with the Lorne Scots. He had served two years previously with the 2nd Irish Regiment.

The letter from Germany was from her son, Edward, prisoner of war. It stated that he was well and attending regular sports activities and managing to survive on his regular soup rations. He stated that parcels were coming regularly from home, although all were somewhat late.

From Sicily came word of her daughter Edith's husband, Sgt. David Bowman, serving with the Saskatoon Light Infantry. He has been overseas for the past two years

with the Lorne Scots and has been transferred to Sicily. Bowman and family reside in Georgetown. He had been in Canada since he was a child and had not seen his family since. Upon arrival overseas he surprised them with a visit.

Another daughter, Lillie, also of Georgetown, who acts as nursemaid to six of the family children had just been notified that her husband, Sgt. Thomas Given, of the Lorne Scots, overseas for the past three and a half years, has been awarded the Canadian Efficiency Medal. He is the fourth local boy to receive the honor.

Sgt. Given witnessed many heavy enemy bombings of England. He came through the heavy nine days and nine nights of German bombings of Liverpool, and sent home pieces of shrapnel as a memento of that horrible experience. He states that he shall never forget nor feel forgiveness for the deaths of so many babies and small children by the indiscriminate bombings of Liverpool.

Cpl. Albert "Nick" Carter, another son-in-law, is serving with the RCAMC and is not stationed at Camp Borden. Mrs. Carter was employed at a Malton war plant during the past summer.

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## Acton vet has no regrets

When Art Ford was overseas he always made a point to address his letters home to two people.

"We weren't allowed to say where we were," Ford said. "We could only say somewhere in France or somewhere in Holland. If you said where you were the censor would take it out. So I started addressing my letters to whoever I was writing to and the censor."

Little jokes like that helped soldiers keep their spirits up.

Ford joined the military in 1940, the day after his 18th birthday. He and Norm Price went to the Guelph recruiting office. When they were asked how old they were Ford told them he was 20, Price said he was 19.

"We'll take you," he said pointing to Ford, "but I want to see your birth certificate."

The next day the two returned and a new recruiting officer signed them both up, no questions asked.

"I didn't have a job so I went over to fight for Canada," Ford said. "Somebody had to do it."

Ford, Price and John Goy, another friend from Acton, were all assigned to the 12th Field Regiment of the RCA.

Though Ford doesn't like to speak about his four years overseas—"I'd rather just forget about a lot of it"—he has no doubt he did the right thing.

"I don't regret it," Ford said. "I got to know a lot of people."

On Remembrance Day, Ford thinks of those he got to know who didn't make it back home.

And though things didn't work out with the censor, Ford's girlfriend Joan, who was the recipient of many of those letters, became his wife shortly after he returned. The couple have three sons and have been married 56 years.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer



ART FORD

# ACTON - ON ACTIVE SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II

### CANADIAN ARMY OVERSEAS

Lt. Bdr. W.C. Jones, A28027  
Gnr. J. Jamieson, A28061  
Gar. J.A. Henderson, A28103  
L. Bdr. J. Nicol, A28139  
Gnr. T. Nicol, 29th Battery (Ha) R.C.A., C.A.S.F., % Base P.O., Canada  
Pte. J. McGeachie, B73037, A. Co., 48th Highlanders, Corunna Barracks, Aldershot, Hants, England (Canadians)  
Pte. Lazenby, H16205, C. Co. 36, C.A.S.F., % Base P.O., Canada  
Pte. P. Purdy, B86185, 1st Division, Petrol Co., % Base P.O., Canada  
Pte. Ivan Martin, B89945, 5th Field Ambulance, Medical Corps, R.C.A. M.C., C.A.S.F., % Base P.O., Canada  
Gar. W.M. Caldwell, 6130, 9th Field Battery, % Base P.O., Canada  
Spr. Hector C. Guthrie, R.C. England, B26115, 1st Car Batt., % Base P.O., Canada  
Sapper S. Gisby, B26163, No. 1 Tunnelling Co., R.C.F., % Base P.O., Canada  
Lieut. T.V. Kenney, 2nd Div. Supply Col., R.C.A.S.C., % Base P.O., Canada  
Pte. R.A. Johnson, B86183, Sec. C., Supply Colymn, 2nd Division, R.C.A.S.C., C.A.S.F., Unit 198, % Base P.O., Canada  
Pte. W.L. Turner, B37586, 11, Q. Coy., Unit 182, R.I.L.I., % Base P.O., Canada  
Pte. Norman Gibson, A27201, 11th Field Amb., R.C.A.M.C., % Base P.O., Canada  
Pte. II, II. Godfrey, No. 2028-L, S.S.I., 7th Corp., Junior Leader School, % Base P.O., Canada  
Capt. Gordon Sutherland, C. Coy., P.P.C.L.I., % Base P.O., Canada  
Corp. Wm. Nicolak, 16185, C. Coy., P.P.C.L.I.  
Pte. Archie Martin, B29943, A. Coy. 5th Field Amb. Corps., C.A.S.F., R.C.A.M.C., % Base P.O., Canada  
Pte. V.H. Brown, B94843, No. 3 (Corp. Provost Coy., C.A.S.F., % Base P.O., Canada  
C.S.M., J.H. Alger, B51522, 2nd Div. Am. Coy, R.C.A.S.C., % Base P.O., Canada  
L.-Cpl. Bend Rutledge, B66841, No. 2 (Cdn.), Provost Co., C.A.S.F., % Base P.O., Canada  
Gnr. F. Near, 28131, C. Battery, No. 1 Can. Artillery, Holding Unit, C.A.S.F., % Base P.O., Canada  
Pte. J.D. Young, B51575, 2nd Div. Petrol, R.C.A.S.C.

Pte. C.A. Tyler, B76738, Toronto Scottish Regt., M.G., Holding Unit, Borden-Hants, England  
Trooper E. Lansborough, B36781, 4th Can. Recc. Squadron, 2nd Canadian Division, Canadian Army P.O., England  
Pte. Wm. J. Cassidy, B8356, No. General Holding Unit, No. 1 Supply Personnel Section, R.C.A.S.C., Canadian Army Overseas

### ON ACTIVE SERVICE, BUT STILL IN CANADA

Gar. G.C. Wallace, A35393  
Gar. A.R. Ford, A35257  
Gar. J. Goy  
Gar. B.A. Patrick, A35282  
Gar. B.D. Hodge, H35391  
Gar. F.H. Taylor  
L.B.D.R. Neil Patrick, A35428  
Gar. P. Kenney, A35292  
Gar. Osbert Pittman, A35339  
Pte. N.A. Price, A35258  
Gar. H. Taylor  
Gar. J. Huard, 16/43rd Battery, R.C.A., C.A.S.F., 12th Canadian Field Regiment, Sussex Military Camp, Sussex, N.B.  
Pte. G.H. Bayliss, A37531  
Pte. J. Cooney, A37183  
Pte. D. Guthrie  
Pte. H.O. Cook, A37582  
Pte. D.I. Close, A37537  
Pte. F.J. Holmes, A37517  
Pte. J. Murphy  
Pte. Ray Hillier  
Pte. John Chisholm  
Pte. R. Cross  
Pte. H. Woods  
Pte. J. O'Rourke, H.L.I. of Canada, Military Cmp, Debert N.S.  
L. Bdr. H. Deforest, A35206, 3rd Can Division, H3, R.C.A., Debert, N.S.  
Bag. C. Byrne, 435412, M.D. No. 1, Westbery Barracks, London, Ont., C.D.A.V. Wing  
Fus. Storey, R.M., A531894, D. Coy, No. 2, R.T.C., Knollwood park, Kitchener, Ont.  
Pte. Gordon Cook, A570030, No. 10 Training Depot, Camp Hospital, Kitchener  
Pte. Ernest Wilson, A570158, No. 10 Training Depot, Camp Hospital, Kitchener  
Pte. Aubrey Gervais, Kitchener  
Pte. Wm. Cripps, C.A.S.F., Kitchener  
Capt. P.W. Pearen, Camp Borden

Pte. H.W. Carnohan, B74660, Btn. Army Tank Bat., Ont. Reg. C Coy 13 Sec., Camp Borden, Ont.  
Pte. P.A. Elliott, B74689, "A" Infantry Advanced Training Centre, C.A.L.A. No. 1 Coy, 48th Highlanders, Hut 23, Camp Borden  
L.Cpt. W.J. Finlay, H1 Co. 48th Highlanders, A11 Advance Training Centre, Camp Borden  
Bug. C. Byrne, A35482, 16/49th Battery, R.C.A., C.A.S.F., 12th Canadian Field Regiment, Sussex Military Camp, Sussex, N.B.  
Pte. W.S. Coleman, B74674, 6th Platoon, 2 I.R.S.C., 48th Highlanders C.A.S.F., Camp Borden  
Pte. Jas. James, B74716, No. 2 L.T.C., No. 1 Coy, 7th Plat., 48th Highlanders, Camp Borden  
Pte. H. Freuler, B435556, C.A.T.C., No. 22, North Bay  
F.G. Hill, A19433, R.C.O.C., T.C., Nickle Bldg., Kingston, Ontario  
Pte. Lawrie Atkinson, A47599, 24th Field Ambulance, Valcartier Camp, Quebec  
Pte. N. Morton, B43066, C. Coy, 15th Platoon, Duff-Hald. P. Rifles, Niagara Camp  
Pte. W.H. Rogers, B74752, Base Depot, Stanley Barracks, Toronto  
Pte. E.C. Varey, B30085, No. 6 Clinic, No. 1 Manning Depot, Toronto  
Cpl. Edward A. Clifford, B83230, 7th Light Field Amb., R.C.A.M.C., Toronto  
Pte. Norman Clements, C.A.S.F., Toronto  
Pte. Gordon Titus, C.A.S.F., Stanley Barracks, Toronto  
Pte. Norman B. Wright, B51606, 1st Batt. Lorne Scots, P.D. & H. Regt.  
Pte. Rob. Anderson  
Pte. Allan Kirkness  
Pte. Bus. Morton, Dufferin-Halimand Rifles, Niagara  
Pte. N. Morton, B13066, C. Coy, 15th Platoon, Duff-Hald P. Rifles, Niagara Camp  
Sergt. Frank Terry, B13076, C. Co., D & H Rifles, Niagara Camp  
Pte. Cecil Wilson, B43040, First Batt. Dufferin-Halimand Rifles, Niagara  
Pte. Norman Clements, C.A.S.F., Toronto  
Pte. Wm. Cripps, C.A.S.F., Kitchener  
Pte. John Gibbons, Princess Louise Argyle and Sutherland Light Infantry, Niagara Falls  
Capt. A.J. Buchanan  
Pte. Harold Skilling  
Pte. William Withers  
Pte. Andrew Wilson, Army Medical Corp.  
Pte. Doug Price, Army Medical Corp.

Pte. Frances Papillon  
Pte. Plunder  
Pte. John Waterhouse with 16 Corp. of Canadian Dental Corps. attached to R.C.A.F.  
Pte. D.G. Ryder, B30101, No. 6 Clinic, C.D.C. No. 1, Manning Depot, R.C.A.F., Toronto  
Pte. Clarke Powers, B30102, No. 6 Clinic, C.D.D., No. 1, Manning Depot, R.C.A.F., Toronto  
Pte. Clifford Dale, H.L.L., Hamilton  
Pte. F.I. Holloway, A17060 A. Co 4, Plat. No. 12 Base Training Centre A.F., Chatham, Ont.  
Gar. K.A. McDonald, B6755, C Battery, R.C.A.T.C., Petawawa Camp  
Pte. Allan Leishman, B36081, C anadian Dental Clinic, R.C.A.F., Trenton, Ont.

### LORNE SCOTS

Pte. George Airdrie  
Pte. Wm. A. Airdrie  
Pte. Ivan F. Bragg  
Sgt. J. Irwin, Lorne Scots, Base Depot  
Pte. Gene Inglis, B31929, B. Co., Hamilton Barracks  
Pte. W.H. Elliott, B-57838 P.D.A.H. Regt. C.A.A., Standard Barracks, hamilton  
Cpt. R. O'hara, B51658, D. Co. Lorne Scots No. 11 Platoon Standard Barracks, Hamilton, Ont.  
Robt. Heatley  
S.A. James  
W.H. Carahan  
Wm. J. Finlay  
L.-Cpl. J.W. Scriven, B71757, Canadian Provost Corps., North Bay, Ontario  
V.A. Wheeler, A/R.R.A., IV, R.C., N. Barracks, Halifax, N.S.  
Len Lambert, H.C.N. Barracks, Howe block, Mess T1, Esquimalt, B.C.  
Gordon Gibbons, H.M.C.S., Neden I Mess, A Block, Fleet Mall Office, Esquimalt, B.C.

### VETERANS' GUARD OF CANADA

Pte. Hugh O'Rourke  
Pte. George McHugh  
Pte. Geo. Lazenby  
Pte. Alex McDonald  
Pte. a. McDonald, B36055, 2C Coy, V.Wet. Gd. of Canada, New Toronto  
Pte. Earl Davidson

### AIR FORCE

Capt. A.J. Buchanan, R.C.A.F.  
John W. Chapman, AC3, R83767, R.C.A.F., Debert, Nova Scotia  
Hector N. Lambert, R83571, No. 31 A.N.S., R.C.A.F., Port Albert, Ont.  
F.G. Turner, L.A.C., R64429, No. S.S.F.T.S. Summerside, P.E.I.  
Sgt. Pilot H.H. Hinton, I.A.C., No. 72327, E.F.T.S., Malton, Ont.  
G.A. Molorn, A.C. No. R85317, R.C.A.F., I.T.S., Regina, Sask.  
Lloyd Miller, A.C.2, No. 2 Headquarters, R.C.A.F., Toronto  
Douglas Smith, AC-2, R70132, No. 6 Repair Depot Military P.O. 303, Trenton, Ont.  
Edward Lloyd Brewley, Wing 1 Squadron 1, R.C.A.F., St. Thomas, Ont.  
Wilson Brewley, No. 1 Bat and Gunnery School, R.C.A.F., Jarvis, Ont.  
Douglas McDonald, R.C.A.F., St. Thomas  
Kenneth Buck, R83372 No. 1 Wireless School, R.C.A.F., Montreal  
Jos. Hurst, AC-2, No. 3 Service Flying Training School, Brantford, Ont.  
Ac-2 Alex Job, R88943, R.C.A.F., Jarvis School  
J.C. Van Goozen, AC2, R6362, 1st Wind, 2nd Sqdn. 19th Eatry, R.C.A.F., St. Thomas, Ont.  
Sgt. Martin Buck, No. 9712, No. 3 SPTS, R.C.A.F., Summerside, P.E.I.  
Bill Watters, R.C.A.F.  
AC2 F.A. Van Wyck, R93320, No. 3 Equip. Depot, R.C.A.F., Moncton, N.B.  
T.E. Watson, AC R93317, Medical Service, T.T.S., St. Thomas, Ont.  
Joe Lasby, R.C.A.F., Aircraft Training School, Galt

### NAVY

H.V. Dron, A2016, AB-AA, L.G. D.E.M.E. H.M.C. Dockyards, Halifax, N.S.

This partial list appeared in *The Acton Free Press* in April 1941 and May 1941. It was found from the microfilms at the Acton Public Library. However, if you know of names missed, please call *The Independent/Free Press* at 905-873-0301 if you would like the names added for future editions.