

158<sup>TH</sup> **THE Duke of Connaught's Own** 158<sup>TH</sup>  
OVERSEAS BATTALION  
**THE REVEILLE**



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## An Open Letter to the Battalion

To  
*The Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the  
Duke of Connaught's Own, 158th (Overseas) Battalion.*

Gentlemen:—

*With this souvenir issue of The Reveille, it gives me extreme pleasure to have the opportunity of expressing to all ranks of the 158th (Overseas) Battalion, The Duke of Connaught's Own, my hearty appreciation of the splendid devotion you have shown to the work in hand.*

*Fresh from the varied walks of civil life, you have caught the true soldierly spirit. The transformation from civil to military life and discipline has been complete, and so far you have done your duty nobly.*

*The end of the first step—the drudgery of our training—has been reached. Your ready response and general desire for fitness and efficiency augurs well for success in the strenuous grind awaiting us at the Concentration Camp, where the second step of our journey to the Front must be completed.*

*Knowing the spirit and devotion of all ranks, I am convinced that when orders are received, all will be well qualified and prepared to assume the heavier and more exacting duties Overseas imposed by the standard of the British Army.*

*Ultimate success will depend entirely upon application and self-sacrifice in devotion to duty: qualities which so pre-eminently characterise the British Service, and which inevitably must give us rank in the estimation, not only of our Canadian officers, but also of the officers Overseas who have done so much already to glorify the British Service; and last, but not least, H. R. H. The Duke of Connaught, whose patronage gives us the distinction of being the Royal Battalion.*

**CHARLES MILNE,**  
*Lieutenant-Colonel.*