

# 77th OVERSEAS BATTALION

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CANADIAN  
EXPEDITIONARY  
FORCE

OTTAWA



# 77th Overseas Battalion

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**W**HEN the Dominion Government in July 1915, decided to organize the 77th Battalion for Overseas Service the choice for commander of the new unit fell upon Lt.-Col. D. R. Street whose military capabilities had been long demonstrated in his command of the G.G.F.G. and in his untiring devotion to the many duties devolving on him in various capacities in the militia of Canada.

With characteristic energy Col. Street began his recruiting campaign and on Aug. 4th, 1915, his officers reported for duty at the Rockcliffe Camp. The complement of men required was secured in record time and the whole battalion was shortly being instructed and drilled under a staff of competent officers. By special permission the battalion was allowed to identify itself with the Capital, the name "Ottawa" being included in the battalion crest.

The organization of the 77th Battalion has been a labor of love for Lt.-Col. Street and his officers. The corps is one of which they are justly proud, and the individual members of the battalion have learned to respect and appreciate their officers—the whole success of the battalion being attributed to this splendid esprit de corps. And wherever duty calls, wherever the lot of the members of the 77th Batt. be cast, there also will go memories of the organization days on the banks of the majestic Ottawa and of the kindness and co-operation of the whole-hearted citizens of Ottawa and the Ottawa district.



Lt.-Col. D. R. Street



THE SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE 77th BATTALION



From left to right:—Major W. Magwood, O.C. "D" Company; Major E. Woolsey, O.C. "B" Company; Major G. Crawford, O.C. "C" Company; Major and Brevet Lieut.-Col. P. Taylor, second in command; Lieut.-Col. D. R. Street, commanding officer; Major H. Stethen, second major; Major H. Bowie, O.C. "A" Company; Captain D. O'Donahoe, adjutant.



OFFICERS OF THE 77th BATTALION AND OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY AND INSTRUCTION

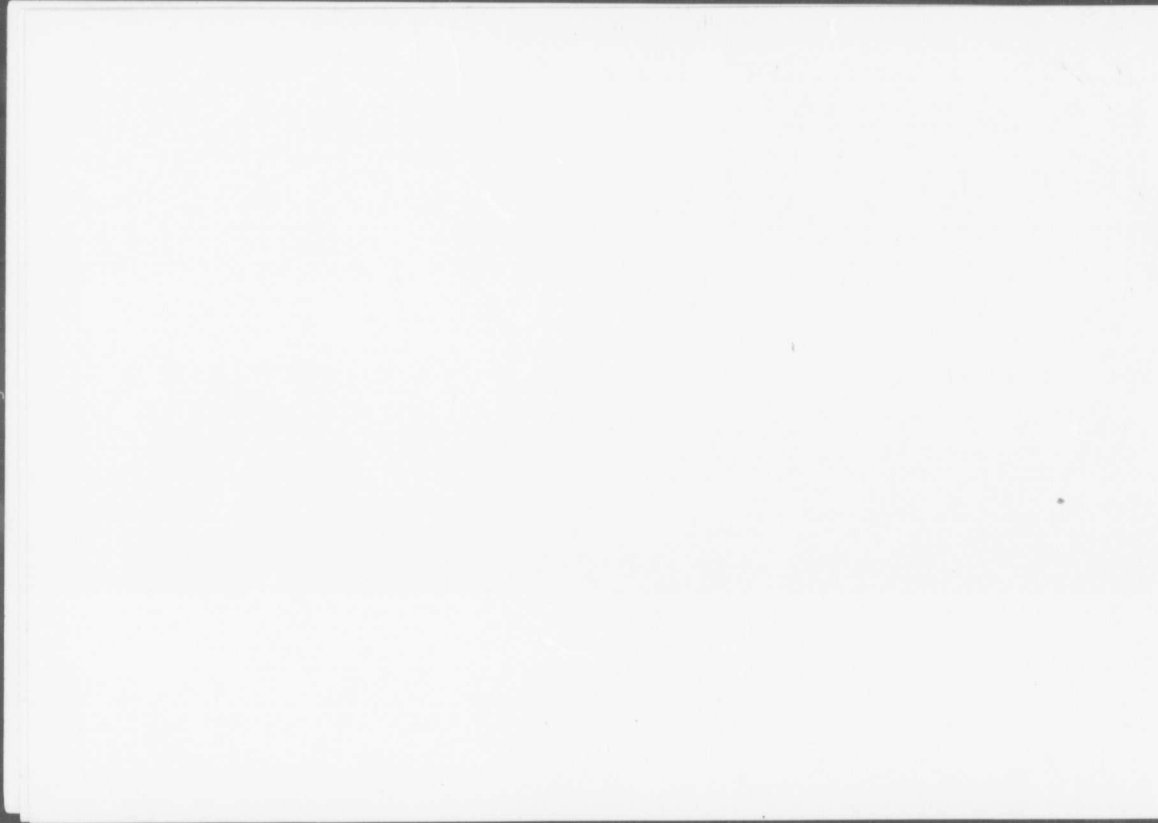


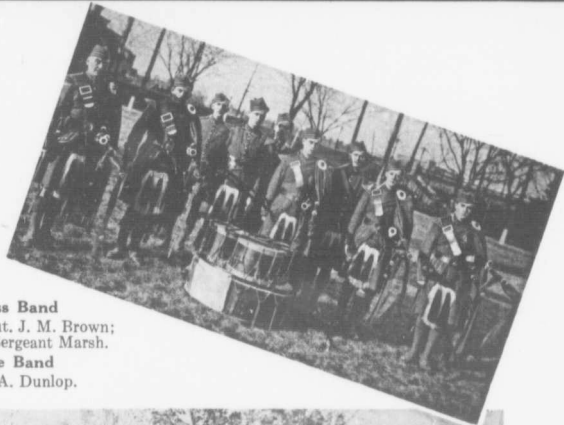
Front Row, left to right:—Captain A. Acres, paymaster; Major G. Crawford; Major E. W. [unclear]; Major W. Magwood; Major and Bt. Lieut.-Col. P. Taylor; Lieut.-Col. D. R. Street, commanding officer; Major H. Stethem; Major H. Bowie; Captain W. Cameron, quartermaster; Captain N. Halkett, medical officer; Captain D. O'Donahoe, adjutant;

Second Row:—Captain F. Partridge; Lieut. F. Hammond; Captain C. Sutcliffe; Lieut. J. Longman; Lieut. G. Macdonald; Captain R. McGee; Lieut. W. Watson; Lieut. A. Burgess; Lieut. W. Wharton; Lieut. S. Hall; Lieut. H. MacGregor; Lieut. H. Hester; Captain J. Foy;

Third Row:—Lieut. J. Burgess; Lieut. G. Gishorne; Lieut. D. Smart; Lieut. C. Carter; Lieut. D. McRae; Lieut. E. Fosbery; Lieut. J. Menzies; Lieut. E. Rainboth; Lieut. J. Cameron; Lieut. J. Bishop; Lieut. G. May; Lieut. R. Matheson; Lieut. J. Huggins;

Fourth Row:—Lieut. J. Harstone, assistant-adjutant; Lieut. W. Dexter; Lieut. G. Beresford; Lieut. G. Shirres; Lieut. F. Phillips; Lieut. H. Northwood; Lieut. A. Bourinot; Lieut. F. Cunningham.





**The Brass Band**  
Band Master, Lieut. J. M. Brown;  
Band Sergeant, Sergeant Marsh.  
**The Pipe Band**  
Pipe-Major A. Dunlop.



**The Bugle Band**—Sergeant-Drummer C. Hill.





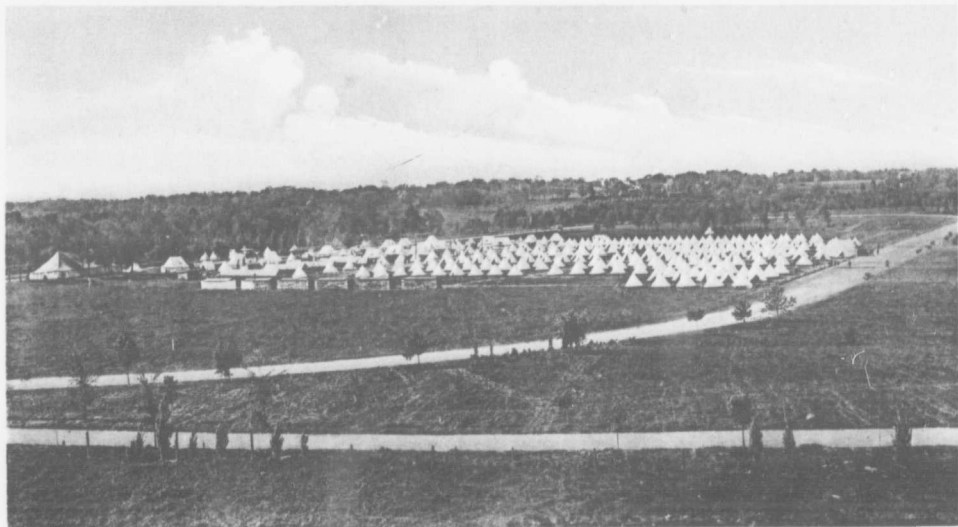


Stretcher Bearer Section under command of Captain N. Halkett, Medical Officer.

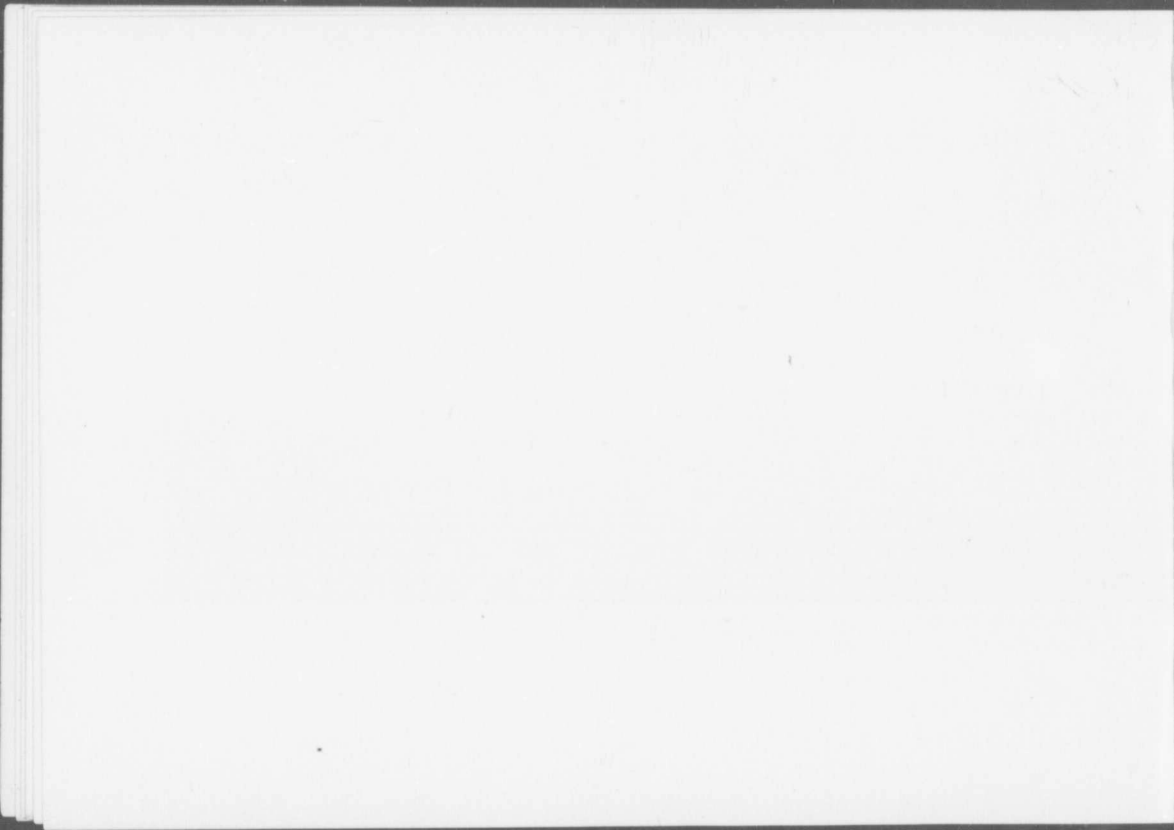


Signalling Section under command of Lieut. J. C. Foy.





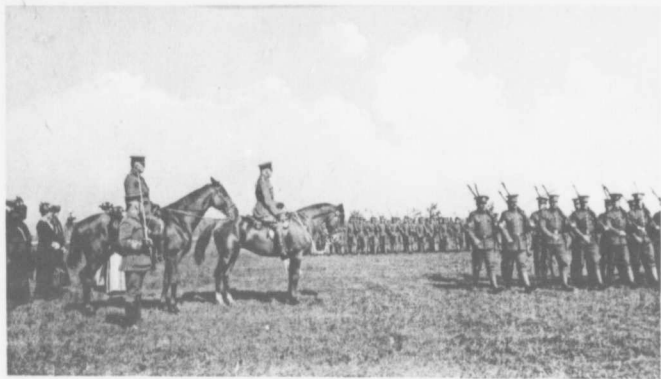
The Camp at Rockcliffe where the 77th Battalion commenced organization on August 4th, 1915. The camp was occupied until November 4th, when the battalion was moved into winter quarters in Ottawa.



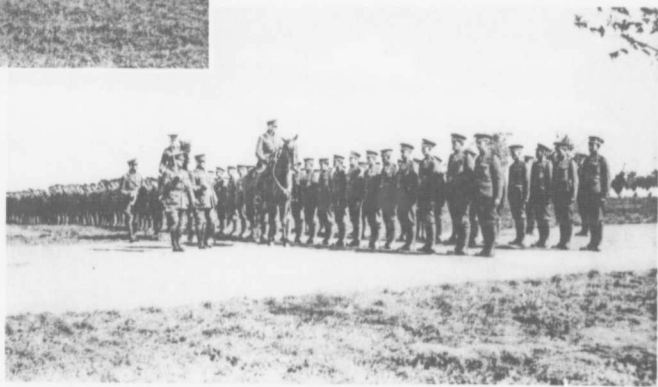


The first inspection of the 77th Overseas Battalion, C.E.F. by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught at Rockcliffe on August 18th, fourteen days after the authorisation of the corps.





H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught inspecting the 77th Overseas Battalion C.E.F. in September, 1915, six weeks after the authorisation of the battalion.









"A" COMPANY

As an illustration of the celerity and efficiency which marked the organization and drilling of the 77th Battalion it may be mentioned that in less than three months from its authorization 250 officers and men were considered sufficiently qualified to go to the front. Five weeks later another draft of 100 members of the battalion was sent to Bermuda to re-inforce the 38th Battalion on garrison duty there.





"B" COMPANY

During its stay at Rockcliffe Camp the 77th Battalion marched in every direction into the country about Ottawa and old and young turned out from the countryside at the echo of the marching songs and cheered the dusty soldiers as they tramped by. To many quiet countrysides the ringing calls of the bugler brought the first call to duty and the calls were never in vain as the splendid recruiting results attained by the battalion amply testify.





"C" COMPANY

The people of the Capital and surrounding districts were so impressed by the behavior and general conduct of the 77th battalion that many evidences of friendship and regard were soon forthcoming. One of the first gifts was a portable kitchen, presented by the citizens of Woodroffe and McKellar Townsite. The citizens of Iroquois, those of Maxville, the Ottawa Dairy Company and Miss Pinhey likewise presented similar kitchens, which, needless to say, are deeply appreciated and are of much practical benefit to officers and men.





"D" COMPANY

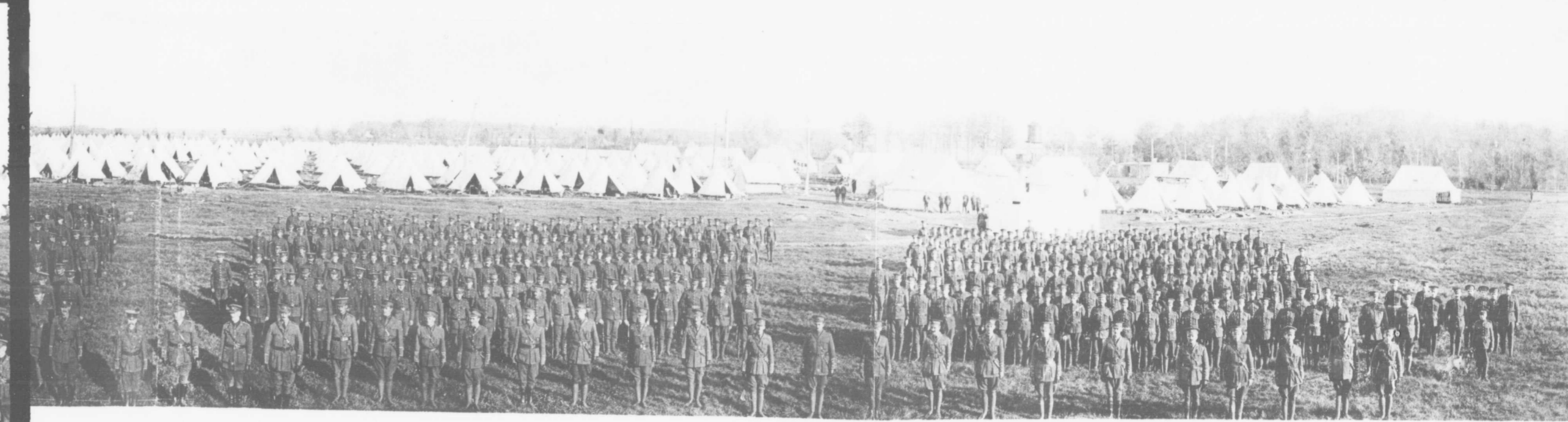
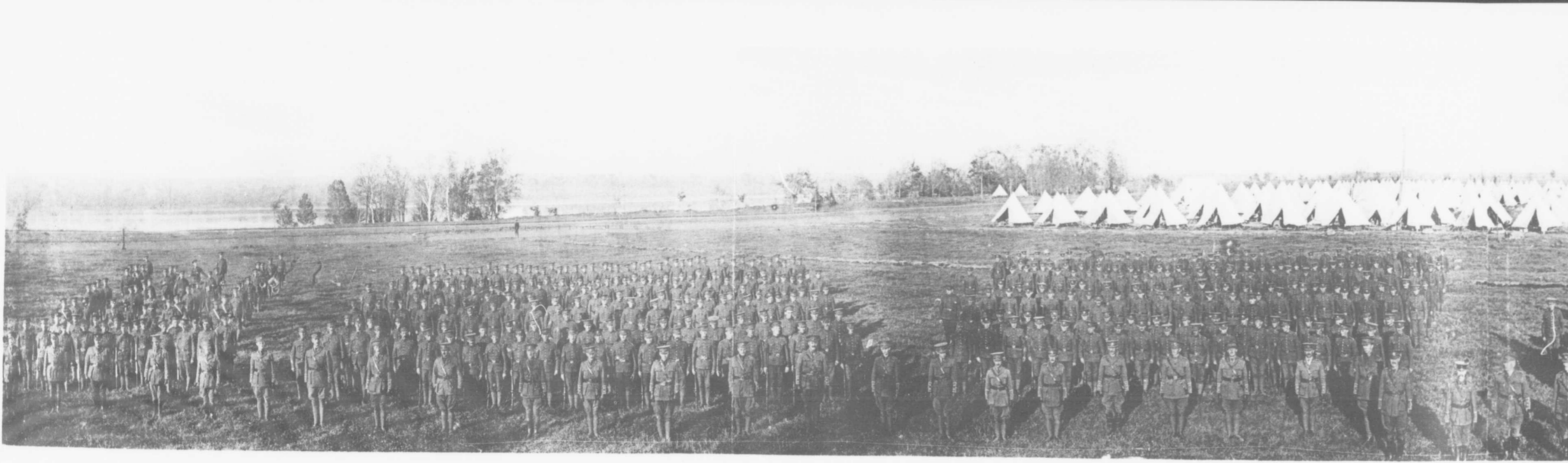
Funds were cheerfully forwarded to the 77th Battalion for the purchase of machine guns by the Ladies of the Victorian Chapter, Daughters of the Empire, Mr. Harry Kuntz, the citizens of Morrisburg, the employees of the Dominion Printing Bureau and the patrols of the Cornwall Canal (59th Regiment). The latter also generously donated funds for the purchase of Kiltie uniforms for the pipe band.

Other gifts included the donation of pipes for the kiltie band from St. Andrew's Society of Ottawa and other friends have provided excellent instruments for the brass and bugle bands. The Women's Voluntary Aid Detachment has been a watchful friend always looking to do kind things for the soldiers of the corps.

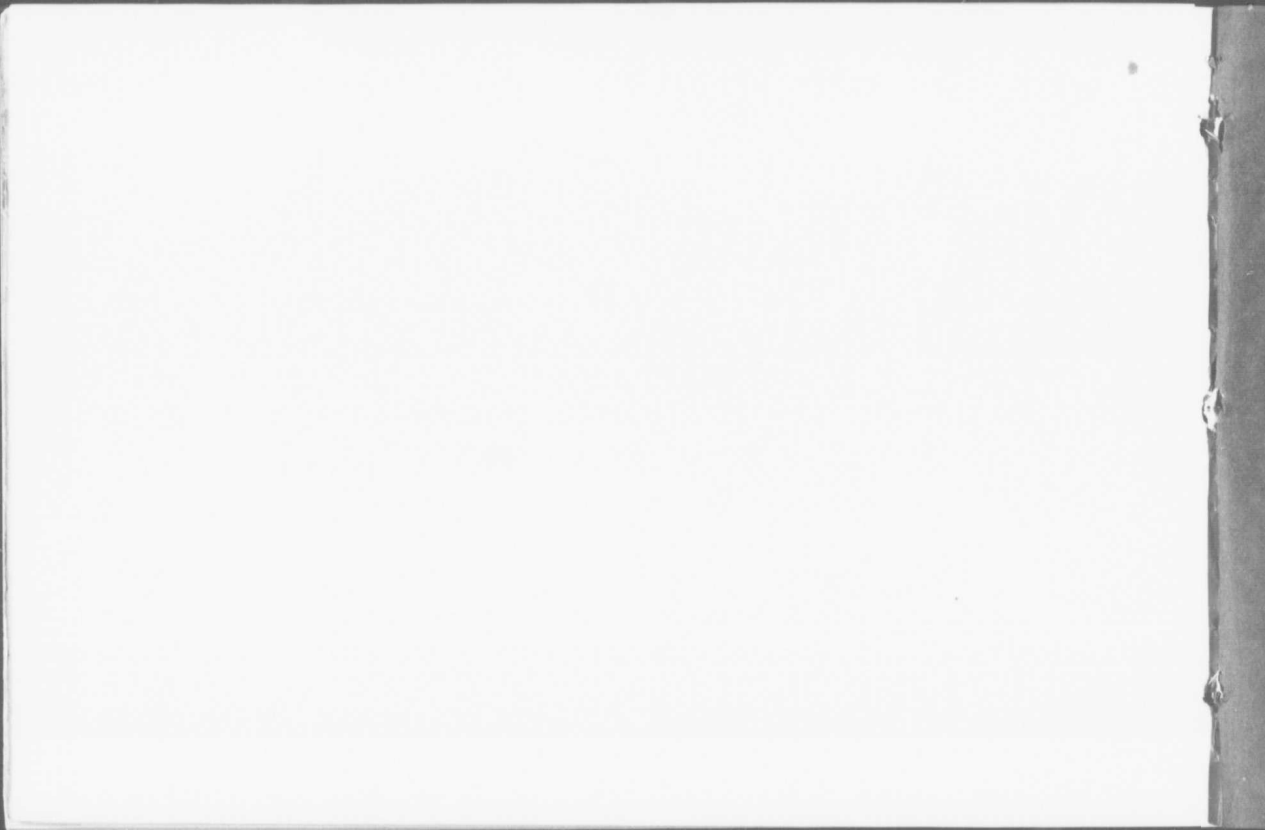


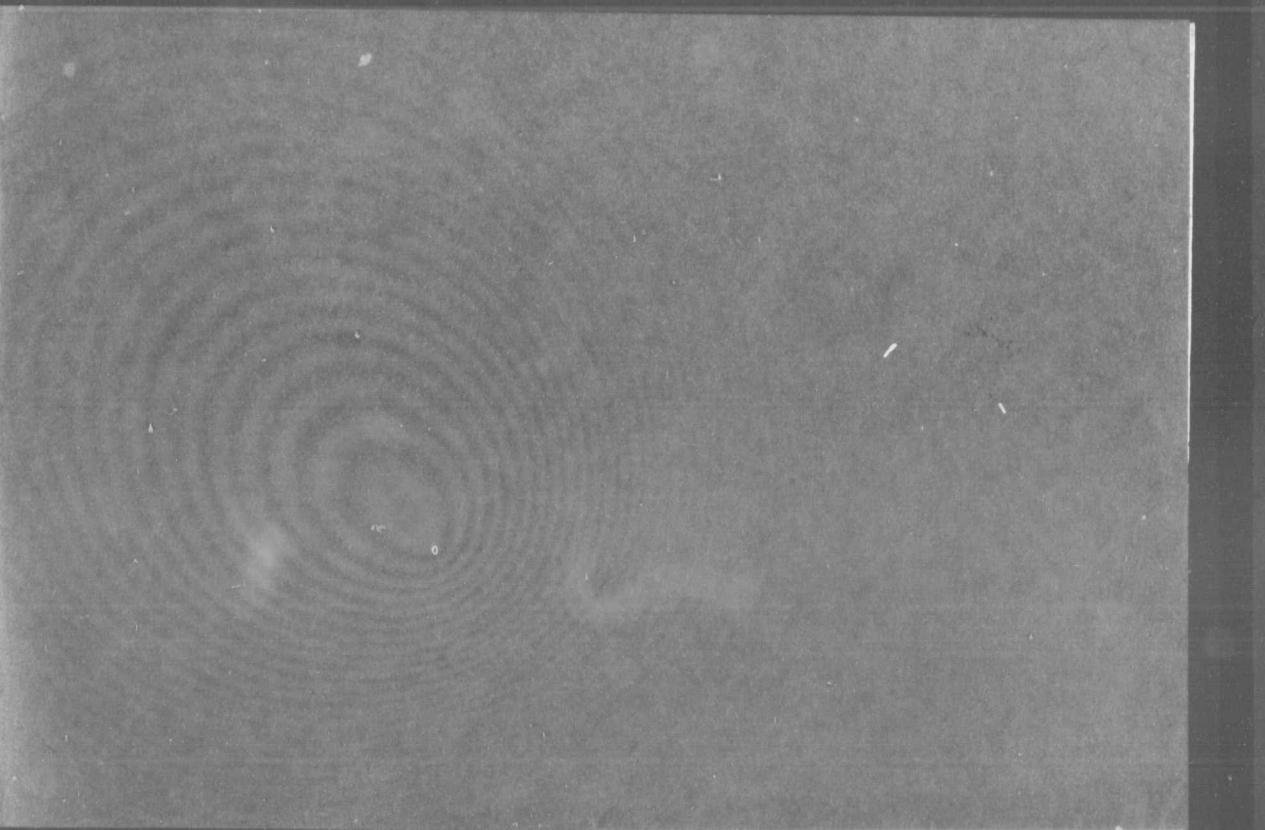






THE 77th OVERSEAS BATTALION AT ROCKCLIFFE CAMP IN OCTOBER





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