



Artifact 1940-11-
15-a - Letter to
Mrs. Elton
Newman

The Wartime Correspondence of
Harry William Manchester

Harry William Manchester Descendant

REVISION HISTORY

The revision history for this publication and project for this artifact is listed below.

Version Number	Date	Change
1.0	7/27/2025	Original Publication.



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INTRODUCTION

This document captures and publishes one piece of correspondence (hereafter, “artifact”) from the collection of World War Two correspondence of Harry William Manchester, of Essex County, Ontario, Canada. Harry spent six years in the Canadian Army, in Ontario, England, and as a prisoner of war held in Poland; and during that period wrote extensively to his relatives and friends. The extensive correspondence Harry wrote to his sister, Mrs. Elton Newman of Cottam, Ontario, Canada was preserved by her, and constitutes the bulk of this correspondence collection.

As correspondence, this artifact contains a wide variety of properties, which reflect its content, markings, and references.

The purpose of this document is to capture that content, markings, and properties, so that the artifact may survive in this published form or be transferred to another form, and also to preserve the timeline of historical events in the context of Harry William Manchester. Photographic images of the original parts of the artifact are included in this document, and the reader is encouraged to review those images.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This artifact is a letter from Harry William Manchester to his sister, Mrs. Elton Newman of Cottam, Ontario, Canada, that was written and posted from Aldershot, England, on November 15, 1940.

EDITOR’S NOTE

(An editor’s note used to convey editor-related information.)

None

HISTORICAL NOTE

(A note that contains historical-related information.)

None.

RESEARCH NOTE

(A note that contains research-related information.)

None.

ADDITIONAL MARKINGS

(A note that describes additional markings on or within an artifact.)

The front of the envelope contains “C.A.S.F.” handwritten in the upper left-hand corner. The upper left corner of the front of the envelope contains a “YMCA” logo. The reverse of the envelope is stamped “ESSEX SCOTTISH REGT. C.A.S.F. ORDERLY ROOM FOR MAILING”

INFORMATION

(A note used to convey supplemental, ancillary, or other information.)

None.

ANOMALY FLAG

(A note used to record any anomaly with the content or structure of an artifact. Once flagged, the artifact may be researched to resolve the anomaly.)

None.

MISCELLANEOUS DATA

(A note that describes miscellaneous data that does not align with other categories.)

None.

CAVEAT EMPTOR

The editor has endeavored to provide the transcription of content below as an accurate depiction of the spelling, misspelling, grammar and prose of the original artifact, so that original practice and then-common usage is reflected in the transcript. This includes replication of any strikeouts or corrections in the original. However, the editor has had to apply an extensive amount of judgement and interpretation of the content of the original artifact. In the event, some marks on the original artifact may or may not be punctuation marks; they may be the result of dirt or smudges in the original.

In addition, many persons and locations are referenced within the content and markings, and the editor has endeavored to research and fully identify those persons and locations, within the properties associated with the artifact. However, the editor is constrained by “best available information” at the time this document is published.

Reader discretion is advised.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The publisher may be contacted through email on the “Contacts” webpage at www.HarryManchester.com, or at email address: Editor@HarryManchester.com.

All reasonable queries will receive a response.

Transcription of Artifact Content

Aldershot England
November 15/40

Dear Franc:-

Here it is after lights out & I'm sitting up alone writing to you. I have already written to Onn. & Eva & I couldn't go to bed without writing you. After the four nice letters I received from you this morn.

At last our mail came in & I got 14 letters How's that for getting mail eh? I got your 4, 3 from Onn. 1 from Marg. and Charlie, 1 from Wilbur and Gladys, 1 from Josephine Wride in Kingsville 1 from Dot Sweetman, 1 from Mildred Spence, 1 from Chip, & 1 from Pearl. & I was really tickled too. Just imagine going 2 weeks without any mail

I'm sure glad to know your feeling better Sis. I was anxious to hear from you since you had your tonsils out. I hope our mail is never held up again like this.

I haven't received any parcels yet from the Canada Bread. I think Elmer must be crazy or something. The cheque you received Sept. 11 was for the month of August & the one you received Sept 30 was for September. God there's an air raid on & the big guns are cracking away at a plane. It was nice & moonlite last night & the damn d big guns firing & bombs falling kept everyone awake. I suppose it'll be the same to-nite. I just heard a terrible sound & I ran to the door but there was no flash in the sky. I still don't know what it was. Those damned big aircraft guns ring in your ear while your sitting inside as loud as five shotguns all at once. They are 6 & 8 inch guns.

I'll bet you had a good pheasant dinner eh? Onn's dad got three in one day too. I'm glad to hear that Eula has a girl this time Also Lloyd Griffin's

And as many letters as I have written her. I can't imagine what is wrong I sure was glad to hear from Marg & Charlie. Marg says she has a pet goat that Mr. Hope gave her. She's going to send me a picture of it.

I will say hello to Clarence for you he is in the truck drivers now. Johnny & Bob are on their seven days leave. I think they went to Ireland So is Cpl. (Marsh) Healy. I know he went to Ireland. I see Jimmie Bulmer nearly every day & Bill Hiseman too. I am ~~in~~ supposed to be in 12 platoon. But I just haven't been there since we arrived in England I am attached to Battalion Head Quarters for the duties & rations & I'm on police duty. So I don't do any drilling at all. Just escort the detention men (prisoners) to work or wherever they go. I am ~~try~~ trying to get transferred to B.H. 2. So I'll be sure to be on police all the time. This is really a good job. There goes them guns again They really go to your ear drums if anything does.

I'm not on that ship that you sent the picture of. That is another ship that sailed in our convoy tho'

I sorry Marjorie fell off her bic. & hurt herself. Well tell her thanks for the letter anyhow. I haven't received ~~an~~ the 1000 cigs you sent Nor the parcel with the razor blades & don't think I get tired of reading your letters I really enjoy all the letters I get. I wish them cigs would soon come tho' I have a lock on my box in Johnnie & Bob keep these cigs in my box & they left some in it So they have them when they came back off leave. Well I hope mine get here before they get back So I can pay them back cuz' I'm smoking their cigs. I just hate to have to start smoking English Cigarettes.

My hands are starting to chap again. But it's a wonder they didn't start long ago in this climate. I think I'll have to see the M. O. in the morning & see if he has anything good for them.

I well remember last halloween when I came down dressed in Dots' clothes & I went over to Orrence Laramie's party. Gee I haven't heard from Orrence for so long. Onnellee says he said Chatham training with the rest

of the boys. Don't worry about those cigs & that other parcel They'll eventually get here. It takes longer for parcels. especially cigs

I guess I told you about Pat Burling. But I didn't know that Hugh had both his legs off. Neither did anyone else in the regiment. Gee Franc. Who ever told you that.

Poor Pat. He was sick in bed Franc & there were a couple more in the room. But they weren't paying any attention to him. Well I guess he got out of bed. However the rest of the boys heard the rifle go off & they looked around just as he was falling He had a bullet hole just ~~be~~ between the eyes only ½ inch higher & when the bullet came out the back of his head. It made a big hole. They held a court of Inquiry & said it was suicide. I have plenty of socks. But I still need my sweater I told you to send. We don't get many apples over here in what we do get don't seem the same. Jimmie Tweedale has some sent from Essex So if you want to send some it will be all right.

Well here it is 11.30 So I'd better get these lights out. If the orderly officer comes around here. He'd raise old hell. So I will close for now & go to bed. Good nite dear sister & all.

I remain

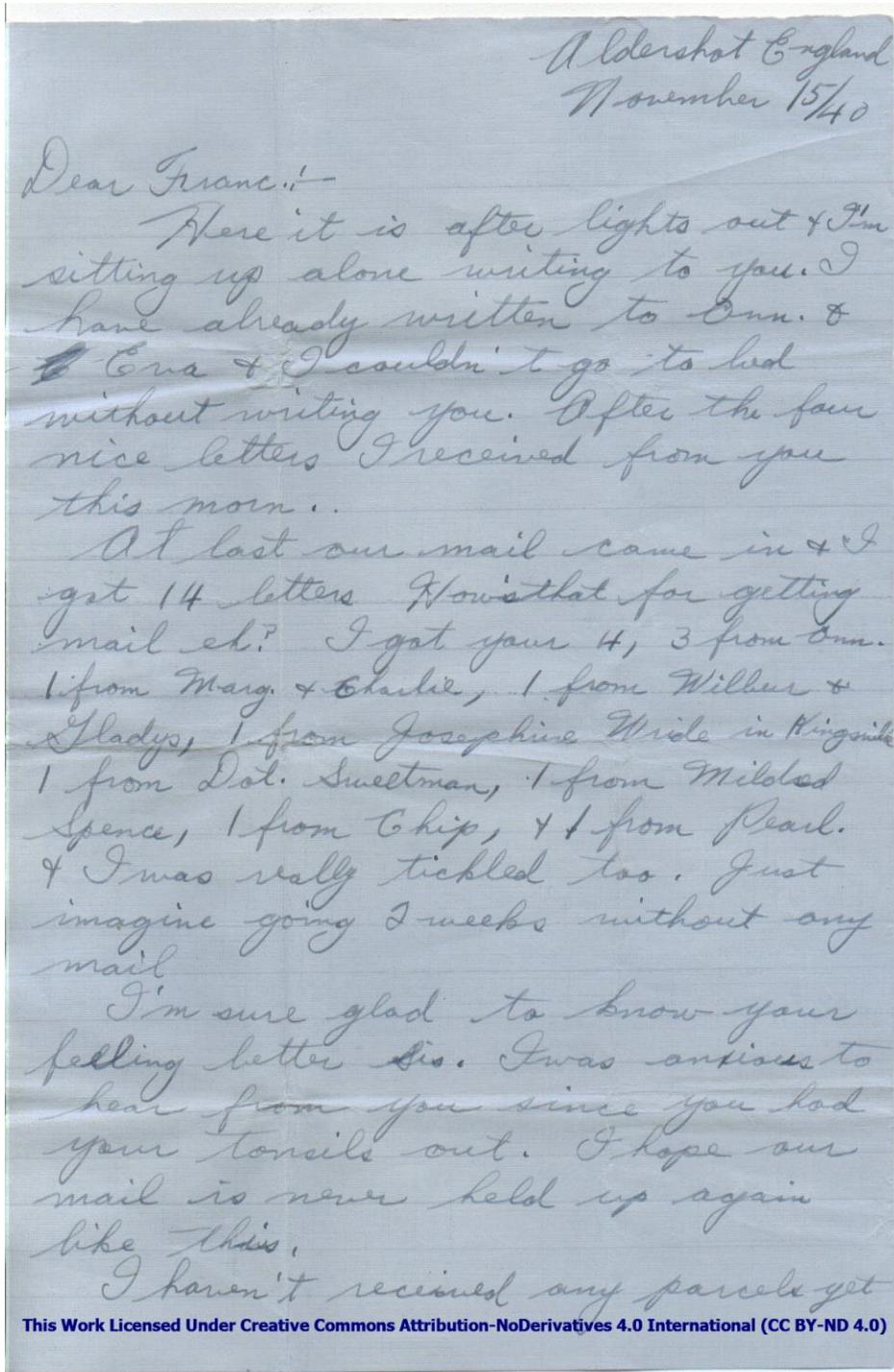
Love & Kisses

Harry

*** End of Transcription ***

Artifact Images

File name: www-Img-1940-11-15-a-01.jpg



File name: www-Img-1940-11-15-a-02.jpg

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from the Canada Bread. I think
Elmer must be crazy or something.
The cheque you received Sept. 11 was
for the month of August & the
one you received Sept. 30 was for
September. God there's an air raid
on & the big guns a cracking away
at a plane. It was nice & moonlike
last night & the damn'd big guns
firing & bombs falling kept everyone
awake. I suppose it'll be the same
to -ite. I just heard a terrible sound
& I ran to the door but there was
no flash in the sky. I still don't
know what it was. Those damned
big air craft guns ring in your ear
while your sitting inside as loud
as five shot guns all at once.
They are six & eight inch guns.
I'll bet you had a good pheasant
dinner eh? Can't dad get three
in one day too. I'm glad to hear
that Cula has a girl this time
also Lloyd Griffin's
I have had no word from LaVene

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File name: www-Img-1940-11-15-a-03.jpg

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And as many letters as I have written
 her. I can't imagine what is wrong.
 I sure was glad to hear from Marg.
 + Charlie. Marg. says she has a set
 goat that Mr. Hope gave her. She's
 going to send me a picture of
 it.

I will say hello to Clarence for you.
 He is in the truck drivers now.
 Johnny + Bob are on their seven days
 leave. I think they went to Ireland.
 So is Capt. (Marsh) Healy. I know
 he went to Ireland. I see Jimmie
 Bulmer nearly every day + Bill Newman
 too. I am supposed to be in
 12 platoon. But I just haven't been
 there since we arrived in England.
 I am attached to Battalion Head
 Quarters for duties + rations + I'm
 on police duty. So I don't do
 any drilling at all. Just escort
 the detention men (prisoners) to work
 or wherever they go. I am trying
 trying to get transferred to B.H.2.
 I will be sure to be on police

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File name: www-Img-1940-11-15-a-04.jpg

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all the time. This is really a good job. There goes them guns again. They really go to your ear drums if anything does.

I'm not on that ship that you sent the picture of. That is another ship that sailed in our convoy tho.

I sorry Marjorie fell off her lie & hurt herself. Well tell her thanks for the letter anyhow. I haven't received ~~an~~ the 1000 cigs you sent yet. Nor the parcel with the razor blades & don't think I get tired reading your letters. I really enjoy all the letters I get. I wish them cigs would soon come tho. I have a lock on my box & Johnnie & Bob. keep these cigs in my box & they left some in it. So they'd have them when they come back off leave. Well I hope mine get here before they get back. So I can pay them back cuz I'm smoking their cigs. I just hate to have to start smoking English

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File name: www-Img-1940-11-15-a-05.jpg

v

cigarettes.

My hands are starting to chafe again. But it's a wonder they didn't start long ago in this climate. I think I'll have to see the M. O. in the morning & see if he has anything good for them.

I well remember last halloween when I came down dressed in Dot's clothes & I went over to Orrence Saramit's party. Gee I haven't heard from Orrence for so long. Cannelle says he's at ~~hathorn~~ training with the rest of the boys. Don't worry about those cigs' & that other parcel. They'll eventually get here. It takes longer for parcels, especially cigs'.

I guess I told you about Pat Burling. But I didn't know that Hugh had both his legs off. Neither did anyone else in the regt. Gee Franc. Who ever told you that.

Poor Pat. He was sick in bed Franc. & there were a couple more in the room. But they weren't

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File name: www-Img-1940-11-15-a-06.jpg

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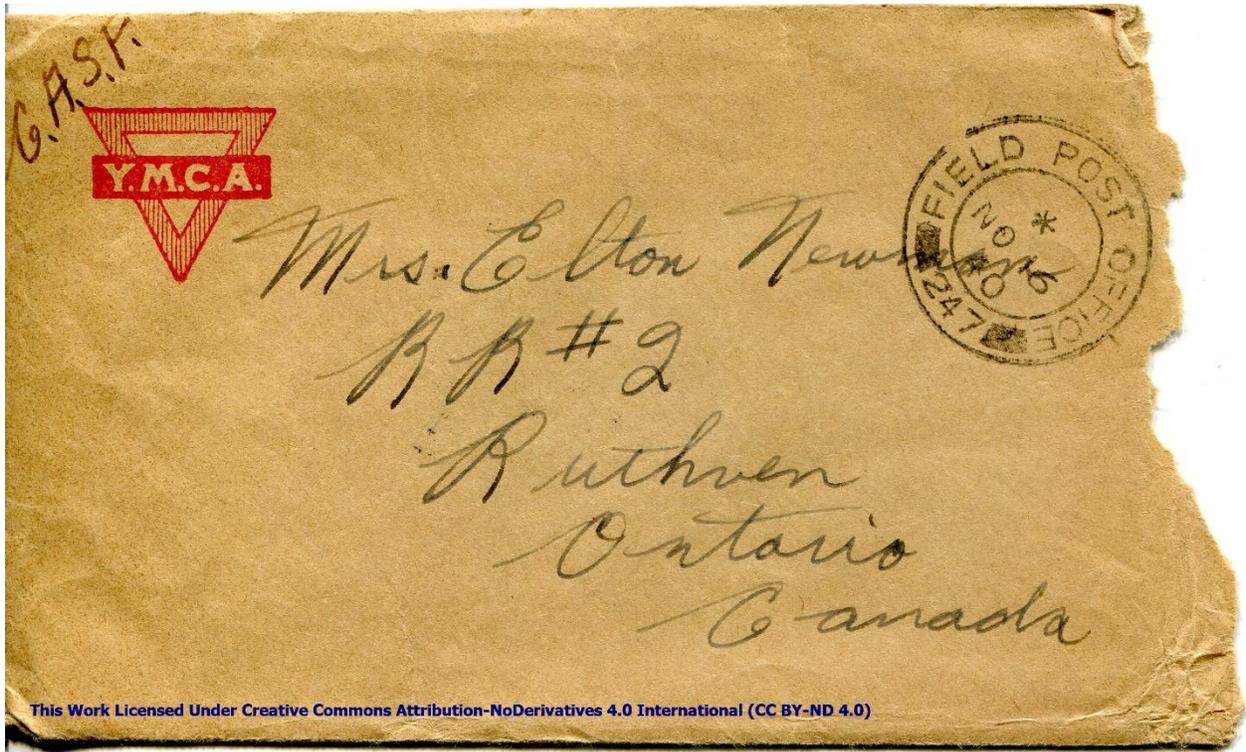
paying any attention to him. Well I guess he got out of bed. However the rest of the boys heard the rifle go off & they looked around just as he was falling. He had a bullet hole just ~~that~~ between the eyes only $\frac{1}{2}$ inch higher & when the bullet came out the back of his head. It made a big hole. They held a court of Inquiry & said it was suicide. I have plenty of socks. But I still need my sweaters. I told you to send. We don't get many apples over here & what we do get don't seem the same. Jimmie Emsdale had some sent from Essex so if you want to send some. It will be alright.

Well here it is 11.30 so I'd better get these lights out. I got the orderly officer came round here. He'd raise old hell. So I will close for now & go to bed. Good Nite dear sister & all.

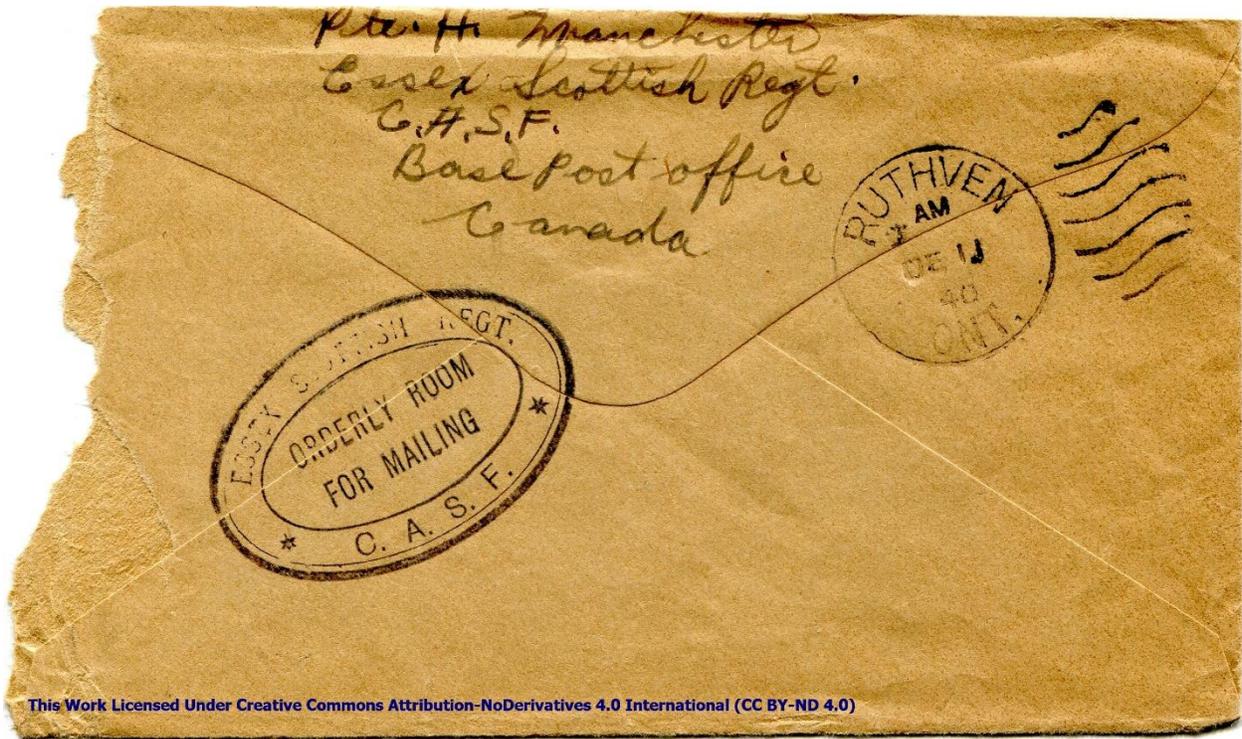
I remain
Your
Harry

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File name: www-Img-1940-11-15-a-07.jpg



File name: www-Img-1940-11-15-a-08.jpg



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Properties

The properties contained within or associated with this artifact are listed below.

ARTIFACT PROPERTIES

Property	Value	DB Field Name
Artifact Record Serial ID	59	art_serid
Artifact Creation Date	11/15/1940	art_createdt
Artifact Date Sequence Suffix	a	art_dt_seq_sffix
Artifact Identifier Seed	1940-11-15-a	art_id_seed
Artifact Title Base	Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman	art_ttl_base
Artifact ID	Art_1940-11-15-a	art_id
Artifact Title	Artifact 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman	art_ttl
Artifact Type	Letter	art_ref_sarttp
Artifact Comment	- None -	art_comment
Artifact Brief Description	Artifact 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman, sent from Aldershot, England, United Kingdom	art_brief_dscrp
Artifact General Description	This artifact is a letter from Harry William Manchester to his sister, Mrs. Elton Newman of Cottam, Ontario, Canada, that was written and posted from Aldershot, England, on November 15, 1940.	art_gen_dscrp
Artifact Origination Locale	Aldershot, England, United Kingdom	art_orign_locale
Artifact Origination Address	Pte. H. Manchester Essex Scottish Regt. C.A.S.F. Base Post Office Canada	art_orign_addr
Artifact Origination Postmark	FIELD POST OFFICE 247 NO 16 40	art_orign_pstrmk
Artifact Destination Address	Mrs. Elton Newman RR #2 Ruthven, Ontario, Canada	art_destn_addr
Artifact Destination Postmark	RUTHVEN AM DE 11 40 ONT.	art_destn_pstrmk
Artifact Transcribed Content		art_trnscribd_ctnt
Artifact Reference To Additional Markings	The front of the envelope contains "C.A.S.F." handwritten in the upper left-hand corner. The upper left corner of the front of the envelope contains a "YMCA" logo. The reverse of the envelope is stamped "ESSEX SCOTTISH REGT. C.A.S.F. ORDERLY ROOM FOR MAILING"	art_ref_addnl_mrkg
Artifact Categories List	1940, November, Letter, Francis Newman, Onn[eliee Reive], Eva [Robson], Marj[orie Manchester], Charlie [Manchester], Wilbur, Gladys, Josephine Wride, Dot (Dorothy) Sweetman, Mildred Spence, Chip, Pearl [Bland], Elmer, Onn's Dad (Lawrence Reive), Eula, Lloyd Griffin, Mr. Hope, La Verne [Woods], Clarence, Johnny, Bob, Marsh Healy, Jimmie Bulmer, Bill Hiseman, Marjorie [Newman], Orrence Laramie, Pat Burling, Hugh, Jimmie Tweedale, Aldershot, England, Chatham [Ontario], Ireland, Kingsville [Ontario], Canada Bread, The Essex Scottish Regiment	art_cat_list
Artifact Content Tags	sister, prisoners, suicide, air raid, court of inquiry, military leave, pheasant dinner, fell off bike, air defense, tonsils removed, Battalion Head Quarters, B.H. 2, cigs, 12 platoon	art_tag_list

ARTIFACT 1940-11-15-A - LETTER TO MRS. ELTON NEWMAN

Property	Value	DB Field Name
Artifact Reference: People	Francis Newman, Onn[ellee Reive], Eva [Robson], Marj[orie Manchester], Charlie [Manchester], Wilbur, Gladys, Josephine Wride, Dot (Dorothy) Sweetman, Mildred Spence, Chip, Pearl [Bland], Elmer, Onn's Dad (Lawrence Reive), Eula, Lloyd Griffin, Mr. Hope, La Verne [Woods], Clarence, Johnny, Bob, Marsh Healy, Jimmie Bulmer, Bill Hiseman, Marjorie [Newman], Orrence Laramie, Pat Burling, Hugh, Jimmie Tweedale	art_ref_people
Artifact Reference: Relationships	sister, prisoners	art_ref_relations
Artifact Reference: Events	suicide, air raid, court of inquiry, military leave, pheasant dinner, fell off bike, air defense, tonsils removed	art_ref_events
Artifact Reference: Locations	Aldershot, England, Chatham [Ontario], Ireland, Kingsville [Ontario]	art_ref_locations
Artifact Reference: Organizations	Canada Bread, The Essex Scottish Regiment	art_ref_organizations
Artifact Reference: Facilities	Battalion Head Quarters, B.H. 2	art_ref_facilities
Artifact Reference: Other	cigs, 12 platoon	art_ref_other
Artifact Associated Artifacts	- None -	art_assocd_artfts
Artifact Record Name	Art_1940-11-15-a_Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman	name
Date Artifact Record Created	2025-07-23	created
Date Artifact Record Modified	2025-07-23	modified
Artifact Permalink	art-1940-11-15-a	art_prmlnk

IMAGE SET PROPERTIES

Property	Value	DB Field Name
Image Record Serial ID	62	img_serid
Image Set ID	ImageSet_1940-11-15-a	img_id
Image Set Version Number	1	img_ver
Reference Artifact ID	Art_1940-11-15-a	img_ref_art_id
Image Set Title	Image Set 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman	img_ttl
Image Set Comment	- None -	img_comment
Image Process Phase	Images Complete	img_ref_siphs
Image State	Image Published	img_ref_sist
Date Last Changed Image Process	2025-07-24	img_proc_dtchng
Description of Components	1 envelope; 3 physical sheets of paper; total of 8 image files.	img_compnts
Number Of Images	8	nbr_imgs
List of Images	www-Img-1940-11-15-a-01.jpg, www-Img-1940-11-15-a-02.jpg, www-Img-1940-11-15-a-03.jpg, www-Img-1940-11-15-a-04.jpg, www-Img-1940-11-15-a-05.jpg, www-Img-1940-11-15-a-06.jpg, www-Img-1940-11-15-a-07.jpg, www-Img-1940-11-15-a-08.jpg	list_imgs

Property	Value	DB Field Name
Image 01 Caption	Artifact 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman, sent from Aldershot, England, United Kingdom - Page 1.	img01_cptn
Image 01 Content Type	Page 1	img01_ctnt_type
Image 01 File Name	www-Img-1940-11-15-a-01.jpg	img01_flnm
Image 02 Caption	Artifact 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman, sent from Aldershot, England, United Kingdom - Page 2.	img02_cptn
Image 02 Content Type	Page 2	img02_ctnt_type
Image 02 File Name	www-Img-1940-11-15-a-02.jpg	img02_flnm
Image 03 Caption	Artifact 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman, sent from Aldershot, England, United Kingdom - Page 3.	img03_cptn
Image 03 Content Type	Page 3	img03_ctnt_type
Image 03 File Name	www-Img-1940-11-15-a-03.jpg	img03_flnm
Image 04 Caption	Artifact 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman, sent from Aldershot, England, United Kingdom - Page 4.	img04_cptn
Image 04 Content Type	Page 4	img04_ctnt_type
Image 04 File Name	www-Img-1940-11-15-a-04.jpg	img04_flnm
Image 05 Caption	Artifact 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman, sent from Aldershot, England, United Kingdom - Page 5.	img05_cptn
Image 05 Content Type	Page 5	img05_ctnt_type
Image 05 File Name	www-Img-1940-11-15-a-05.jpg	img05_flnm
Image 06 Caption	Artifact 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman, sent from Aldershot, England, United Kingdom - Page 6.	img06_cptn
Image 06 Content Type	Page 6	img06_ctnt_type
Image 06 File Name	www-Img-1940-11-15-a-06.jpg	img06_flnm
Image 07 Caption	Artifact 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman, sent from Aldershot, England, United Kingdom - Envelope, Obverse.	img07_cptn
Image 07 Content Type	Envelope, Obverse	img07_ctnt_type
Image 07 File Name	www-Img-1940-11-15-a-07.jpg	img07_flnm
Image 08 Caption	Artifact 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman, sent from Aldershot, England, United Kingdom - Envelope, Reverse.	img08_cptn
Image 08 Content Type	Envelope, Reverse	img08_ctnt_type
Image 08 File Name	www-Img-1940-11-15-a-08.jpg	img08_flnm
Image 09 Caption		img09_cptn
Image 09 Content Type		img09_ctnt_type
Image 09 File Name		img09_flnm

ARTIFACT 1940-11-15-A - LETTER TO MRS. ELTON NEWMAN

Property	Value	DB Field Name
Image 10 Caption		img10_cptn
Image 10 Content Type		img10_ctnt_type
Image 10 File Name		img10_flnm
Image Set Record Name	ImageSet_1940-11-15-a_Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman	name
Date Image Set Record Created	2025-07-27	created
Date Image Set Record Modified	2025-07-27	modified
Image Set Permalink	imageset-1940-11-15-a	img_prmlnk

PUBLICATION PROPERTIES

Property	Value	DB Field Name
Publication Record Serial ID	63	pub_serid
Publication ID	Pub_1940-11-15-a	pub_id
Publication Version Number	1	pub_ver
Reference to Artifact ID	Art_1940-11-15-a	pub_ref_art_id
Publication Title	Publication 1940-11-15-a - Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman	pub_ttl
Publication Comment	- None -	pub_comment
Publication Process Phase	PP-99_Process Complete	pub_ref_spubphs
Product State	Published	pub_ref_sprdst
Publication Work Status	Complete	pub_ref_swrksts
Date Last Changed Publication Process	2025-07-27	pub_proc_dtchnng
Publication Description File Name	Artifact-1940-11-15-a-Description.docx	pub_dscrp_flnm
Publication Initial Date	2025-07-22	pub_initial_date
Publication Version Date	2025-07-27	pub_verdt
Publication Author	Harry William Manchester Descendant	pub_author
Publication Owner	Harry William Manchester Family	pub_owner
Publication Publisher	Harry William Manchester Family	pub_publisher
Artifact Creation Date - ISO 8601	1940-11-11	art_createdt_iso
Publication Date - ISO 8601	2025-07-27	pub_dt_iso
Publication Version Date - ISO 8601	2025-07-27	pub_verdt_iso
Publication Template Name	Artifact_Description_Template3.dotx	pub_tmplt_name

Property	Value	DB Field Name
Publication Template Version	3	pub_tmplt_ver
Publication Record Name	Pub_1940-11-15-a_Letter to Mrs. Elton Newman	name
Date Publication Record Created	2025-07-23	created
Date Publication Record Modified	2025-07-27	modified
Publication Permalink	pub-1940-11-15-a	pub_prmlnk

*** End of Artifact Properties ***

*** End of Document ***