

# 'C' FORCE PERSONNEL SUMMARY

## Battle of Hong Kong and Japanese Prisoners of War, 1941 to 1945

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

**Regiment**

The Royal Rifles of Canada

<b>Regt No</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Second Names</b>
E30489	Rifleman	WILBUR	Angus	Frank

<b>Appointment</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Platoon</b>
	C	13

<b>Original Town from</b>	<b>Enlistment Region</b>	<b>Decorations</b>
South Bathurst NB	Eastern Quebec	

<b>Previous Unit</b>	<b>Date of transfer</b>
The Royal Rifles of Canada	

<b>Previous tours</b>	<b>Dates of tour</b>
Valcartier (QC), Sussex (NB), Botwood (NF), Gander (NF), St. John's (NF)	

### 2. TRANSPORTATION - HOME BASE TO VANCOUVER

**Mode of Travel:** CNR Troop Train

**Stations:**

Valcartier Station, QC; 41 Oct 23, 0800 hrs  
Montreal, QC; 41 Oct 23, 1700 hrs; 30 minute stop  
Ottawa, ON; 41 Oct 23, 1900 hrs  
Armstrong, ON; 41 Oct 24; route march  
Capreol, ON; 41 Oct 24; picked up Toronto troops  
Winnipeg, MB; 41 Oct 25, 0600 hrs; route march  
Melville, SK; 41 Oct 25  
Saskatoon, SK; 41 Oct 25, 2100 hrs; Route March  
Edmonton, AB; 41 Oct 26, 0700 hrs  
Jasper, AB; 41 Oct 26. 1600 hrs  
Vancouver, BC; 41 Oct 27, 0800 hrs



E30489 Rfmm AF Wilbur

### 3. TRANSPORTATION - VANCOUVER TO HONG KONG

<b>Troop Ship:</b>	HMCS Prince Robert	
<b>Vancouver, BC:</b>	41 Oct 27, 1200 hr	
<b>Honolulu, Hawaii:</b>	41 Nov 02, 0900 hrs	41 Nov 02, 1730 hrs
<b>Manila, Phillipines:</b>	41 Nov 14, 0930 hrs	41 Nov 14, 1630 hrs
<b>Kowloon, Hong Kong:</b>	Holt's Wharf, Kowloon, 41 Nov 16, 0930 hrs	

### 4. CAMPS BEFORE THE BATTLE

<b>Name of Barracks</b>	<b>Camp</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Nanking Barracks	Sham Shui Po Camp	Kowloon	

**1A. FIELD PROMOTIONS**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Appointment</b>	<b>(Rank and appointment held when left Canada)</b>
Rifleman		

<b>Promotion 1</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Appointment</b>
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**Comments**

<b>Promotion</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Appointment</b>
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**Comments**

<b>Promotion</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Appointment</b>
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**Comments**

## 5. BATTLE INFORMATION

**Date of Capture** 41/12/26

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 01

**Name of location** Lye Mun Gap

**Comments** No 13 Platoon moved to Battle position for one week

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 02

**Name of location** Lye Mun Gap

**Comments** Officers and senior NCOs taken over to Island for daily familiarization of Artillery positions, HQ Routes and other elated matters, ORs bayonet training, drill, route marches, TGET

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 03

**Name of location** Lye Mun Gap

**Comments** Officers and senior NCOs taken over to Island for daily familiarization of Artillery positions, HQ Routes and other related matters, ORs bayonet training, drill, route marches, TGET

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 04

**Name of location** Lye Mun Gap

**Comments** Officers and senior NCOs taken over to Island for daily familiarization of Artillery positions, HQ Routes and other related matters, ORs bayonet training, drill, route marches, TGET

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 06

**Name of location** Lye Mun Gap

**Comments** In the evening, China Command orders a general mobilization and all units to man battle positions. Blackout is ordered for the night.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 07

**Name of location** Lye Mun Gap

**Comments** 1100 hrs Island Brigade Headquarters orders Battalion to STAND-TO.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 08

**Name of location** Lye Mun Area

**Comments** 0750 hrs Notified that Japan had declared war. Received that Japanese had crossed the border. Part of Island Brigade. "STAND TO" ordered at dusk. Reserve platoons to report to 'C' Coy at Lye Mum Area. They form Reserve Coy and Security Force.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 09

**Name of location** Lye Mun Area

**Comments** Daily routine carried out. STAND TO ordered from 0530 hs to 0630 hrs and 1530 hrs to 1930 hrs daily.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 10  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** Hear that Mainland troops are fallen back towards Hong Kong, unable to withstand Japanese attacks. Mainland troops withdraw to island. They are tired and disorganized. HMS Repulse and Prince Rupert reported sunk by Japanese.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 10  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** Warning issued to take necessary steps against possible paratroops landing on the island. All positions worked on and steadily improved. Battalion Commanding Officer starts visiting company areas.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 11  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** Formation of Eastern and Western Brigades. Royal Rifles assigned to Eastern Brigade under Brigadier Wallis. Major-General Maltby visits company area and states he is satisfied with the defence of the area.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 12  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** Lye Mun area bombed. Also increased heavy shelling and mortaring. Daylight movement restricted.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 13  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** Mainland troops evacuating to island. Constant shelling of area destroyed water, light and phone connections destroyed.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 14  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** Enemy planes dropped leaflets. Normal routine. Heavy shelling and bombing of north face of Island.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 15  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** At 0130 hrs 1 section to man the Fort. BnHQ warns Coy enemy concentrating at foot of Devil's Peak. Between 1930 and 2200 hrs enemy staged an attack on Pac Sha Wan Fort. Plt is brought in to man the Fort. Coy to remain in position another 24 hours.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 16  
**Name of location** Pac Sha Wan Fort  
**Comments** Heavy air raids over island. Men showing signs of strain, very little rest and sleep. Plt relieved from Pac Sha Wan Fort. Moves to Lye Mun Gap. Bde and Coy COs visit Coy positions.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 17  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** Sniping behind lines increasing. Heavy shelling of Lye Mun area. Telephone lines tapped.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 18  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** Heavy shelling of Coy area during day. Enemy artillery blew down camouflage nets along island road. Notable increase of local Chinese movement. A party of Chinese passed through Lye Mun Gap proceeding to Sia Wan Fort.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 18  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** Plt ordered to attack Sai Wan Fort from northeast side. Plt ordered back to Tye Mun Barracks. At 2236 hrs Plt along with 15R Plt launch an attack against Fort Sai Ki Wan from cemetery road on east side of the hill.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 18  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** The attack on Sai Wan was successful because it cleared the hillside of enemy. Fort could not be entered because of perpendicular walls. Attacking party withdrew to Cemetery Road at 2359 hrs

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 19  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** At 0001 hrs Japanese attacking repeatedly on all positions. Japanese silhouetted against fires at Sau Ki Wan when they rushed the front. The attack on Sai Wan cost 9 killed.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 19  
**Name of location** Lye Mun Area  
**Comments** At ~0120 hrs Coy retired to a position a km along the Island Road. At 0245 hrs Plt reported clear and were sent to a new position. Other Plts covered the moves to final positions. This move was done several times to evacuate the wounded.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 19  
**Name of location** Indian Battery to Boa Vista  
**Comments** Before daybreak Japanese sent up flares denoting success from left rear. Coy position was held with occasional skirmishes among outposts. At 1020 hrs moved to high ground above Tai Tam Gap.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 19  
**Name of location** Tai Tam Gap  
**Comments** At 1300 hrs Coy moved to Stanley taking up position from Stanley Prison to football field. At 1600 hrs Coy proceeded to Stanley View. Move completed by nightfall.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 20  
**Name of location** Stanley View  
**Comments** Night passed without incident. Coy ordered to Palm Villa to protect gear. Position taken on Notting Hill & Sugar Loaf Hill. Relieved in evening, return to Stanley View.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 21  
**Name of location** Stanley View  
**Comments** At 0630 hrs Coy notified an attempt to reach Wong Nei Chong Gap via Gauge Basin would be made. Coy - Main Body of Advance. 0700 to 0900 hrs spent feeding and passing orders in prep for move.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 22  
**Name of location** Notting Hill  
**Comments** No engagement with enemy until noon. 1200 hrs Jap attacked Notting Hill and Sugar Loaf. Capt WAB Royal took over Palm Villa Vickers machine gun. Sgt Goodenough, Sgt Roberts & Cpl Sannes captured Vickers guns on Sugar Loaf.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 22  
**Name of location** Notting Hill  
**Comments** Three parties were formed to storm Sugar Loaf and retook the position in the afternoon.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 23  
**Name of location** Palm Villa  
**Comments** Midnight 22nd/23rd Coy located at Palm Villa. Mid-morning BdeCO and BnCO agree on withdrawal to new positions.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 23  
**Name of location** Palm Villa  
**Comments** During the day exchange of fire with enemy. 1800 hrs ordered to retire to Stanley Peninsula. 1600 hrs ordered to retire to Stanley Peninsula. At 1700 hrs started thinning out. About 2000 hrs Coy across narrowest of Stanley Peninsula.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 24  
**Name of location** Stanley Village  
**Comments** Bn units in Stanley to be relieved by Middlesex and HKVDC units that night. At 1500 hrs orders dealing with withdrawal to Stanley Fort that evening were given to Coy COs. Middlesex & HKVDC units would relieve Bn units.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 24  
**Name of location** Stanley Village  
**Comments** At dusk Bn personnel in Stanley Village retired to Stanley Fort for rest. Those 'B' Coy personnel at Chong Hom Kok were not relieved and remained in their positions.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 25  
**Name of location** Stanley Fort  
**Comments** ~0230 hrs Bde CO ordered Bn CO to occupy high ground immediately north of the Fort. 'C' Coy was ordered to comply with order. ~0400 hrs Coy was in position. Remainder of Bn obtained their rest and a scratch meal.

**Dates of Action** 41 Dec 25  
**Name of location** North of Stanley Fort  
**Comments** A motor car with a white flag arrives. All firing ceases. Brig CO is informed that an armistice has been in effect since 1500 hrs. A Coy withdraws into the fort at 2200 hrs.

## **6. WOUNDED INFORMATION**

<b>Date Wounded</b>	<b>Type of wound and cause</b>
41/12/25	About 1700 hrs wounded by shell burst, 2000 hrs by a bullet

## **7. DEATH INFORMATION**

<b>Date of Death</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Type of Death</b>	<b>Location of battle death</b>
1963/10/16	42		

**Cause of Death**

## **8. CEMETERY INFORMATION**

<b>Cemetery Name</b>	<b>Grave Number</b>
Bathurst R.C. Cemetery	

  

<b>City</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>Country</b>
Bathurst	New Brunswick	Canada

## **9. GEOGRAPHIC NAME COMEMORATIVE**

<b>Commemorative</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Province</b>
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<b>Latitude - Longitude</b>	<b>Date Named</b>
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**10. HOSPITALS CONVULSISED AT**

<b>a. Hospital</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Country</b>
St. Stephen's College	Stanley, Hong Kong Island	Hong Kong
<b>Type of Facility</b>	<b>Entry Date</b>	<b>Discharge Date</b>
	25-Dec-41	14-Mar-42
<b>Comment</b>		
Hospitalized because of wounds		

<b>b. Hospital</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Country</b>
<b>Type of facility</b>	<b>Entry Date</b>	<b>Discharge Date</b>
	02-Oct-42	10-Jan-43
<b>Comment</b>		
in hospital because of diptheria. Discharged isolation hospital		

<b>c. Hospital</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Country</b>
<b>Type of Facility</b>	<b>Entry Date</b>	<b>Discharge Date</b>
	02-Sep-43	01-Nov-43
<b>Comment</b>		

<b>d. Hospital</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Country</b>
<b>Type of Facility</b>	<b>Entry Date</b>	<b>Discharge Date</b>
	15-Dec-43	
<b>Comment</b>		



## **11. PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS**

- |                                |                           |                                  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>a. Camp Code</b>            | <b>Name of Camp</b>       | <b>Dates of Camp</b>             |
| HK-Sm                          | Stanley Military POW Camp | Capture to 41 Dec 30             |
| <b>Location of Camp</b>        |                           | <b>Company worked for</b>        |
| Fort Stanley, Hong Kong Island |                           |                                  |
| <b>Nature of work</b>          |                           |                                  |
|                                |                           |                                  |
|                                |                           |                                  |
|                                |                           |                                  |
| <b>b. Camp Code</b>            | <b>Name of Camp</b>       | <b>Dates of Camp</b>             |
| HK-Sh                          | Shamshuipo POW Camp       | 42 Mar 14 to 42 Apr 20           |
| <b>Location of Camp</b>        |                           | <b>Company worked for</b>        |
| Kowloon, Hong Kong             |                           |                                  |
| <b>Nature of work</b>          |                           |                                  |
|                                |                           |                                  |
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|                                |                           |                                  |
|                                |                           |                                  |
| <b>c. Camp Code</b>            | <b>Name of Camp</b>       | <b>Dates of Camp<sup>3</sup></b> |
| HK-Np                          | North Point POW Camp      | 42 Sep 26 to 42 Sep 26           |
| <b>Location of Camp</b>        |                           | <b>Company worked for</b>        |
| North Point, Hong Kong Island  |                           |                                  |
| <b>Nature of work</b>          |                           |                                  |
|                                |                           |                                  |
|                                |                           |                                  |
|                                |                           |                                  |
|                                |                           |                                  |
| <b>d. Camp Code</b>            | <b>Name of Camp</b>       | <b>Dates of Camp</b>             |
| HK-Sh                          | Shamshuipo POW Camp       | 42 Sep 26 to 43 Aug 15           |
| <b>Location of Camp</b>        |                           | <b>Company worked for</b>        |
| Kowloon, Hong Kong             |                           |                                  |
| <b>Nature of work</b>          |                           |                                  |
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**e. Camp Code Name of Camp Dates of Camp**  
 JP-To 5B Niigata-Rinko POW Camp 43 Sep 03 to 44 Jan 18

**Location of Camp Company worked for**  
 Niigata-ken, Nakakambara-gun, Ogata-mura, Japan Marutsu, Rinko Coal, Shintetsu

**Nature of work**  
 Stevedore labor at port of Niigata (Marutsu), primarily foodstuffs; mining coal (Rinko Coal ) and labor at a foundry (Shintetsu)

**f. Camp Code Name of Camp Dates of Camp**  
 JP-To 15B Niigata-Tekko POW Camp 44 Jan 18 to 45 Sep 05

**Location of Camp Company worked for**  
 Akiba-dori, Yamanoshita, Niigata City, Niigata, Japan Niigata Ironworks Company

**Nature of work**

**g. Camp Code Name of Camp Dates of Camp**

**Location of Camp Company worked for**

**Nature of work**

## 12. TRANSPORT TO JAPAN

<b>Prisoner Transport Ship</b>	<b>Departure Date</b>	
Manryu Maru	43 Aug 15	
<b>Arrival Port</b>	<b>Arrival Date</b>	<b>Camp Arrival Date and Time</b>
Osaka, Japan	43 Sep 01	

**Comments**

Brief stopover in Taihoku (Taipei), Formosa (Taiwan); then 2 day stopover at northern point for stool tests

### 13. TRANSPORT VEHICLES FROM SOUTH-EAST ASIA TO CANADA

**Transport Vehicle** Train  
**Departing Port** Camp **Departure Date / Time** 45 Sep 05  
**Arrival Port** Tokyo **Arrival Date / Time** 45 Sep 05  
**Comments** Left Tokyo 5B POW Camp

**Transport Vehicle** USS Benevolence  
**Departing Port** Tokyo, Japan **Departure Date / Time**  
**Arrival Port** **Arrival Date / Time**  
**Comments** Convalescing station

**Transport Vehicle** USS Ozark  
**Departing Port** Tokyo, Japan **Departure Date / Time** 45 Sep 08 1200 hrs  
**Arrival Port** San Francisco, CA **Arrival Date / Time** 45 Oct 02, 1200 hrs  
**Comments** Guam (45 Sep 12, 0700 hrs to Sep 16) medical examination, clothing; Honolulu stopover (45 Sep 25 to Sep 26)

**Transport Vehicle** Train  
**Departing Port** Oakland, CA **Departure Date / Time** 45 Oct 04  
**Arrival Port** Vancouver, BC **Arrival Date / Time** 45 Oct 05  
**Comments**

**Transport Vehicle**  
**Departing Port** **Departure Date / Time**  
**Arrival Port** **Arrival Date / Time**  
**Comments**

**Transport Vehicle**  
**Departing Port** **Departure Date / Time**  
**Arrival Port** **Arrival date / Time**  
**Comments**

**14. RECEIVING DEPOTS**

**Receiving Depot**

**Location** Tokyo, Japan

**Dates**

**Nature of stopover**

**Receiving Depot**

**Location**

**Dates**

**Nature of Stopover**

**Receiving Depot**

**Location**

**Dates**

**Nature of Stopover**

**Receiving Depot**

**Location**

**Dates**

**Nature of Stopover**

**Receiving Depot**

**Location**

**Dates**

**Nature of Stopover**

**15. VANCOUVER TO HOME BASE**

**Vehicle**

**Owner**

**Departure Date / Time**

**Comment**

**Arrival Date / Time**

**Comment**