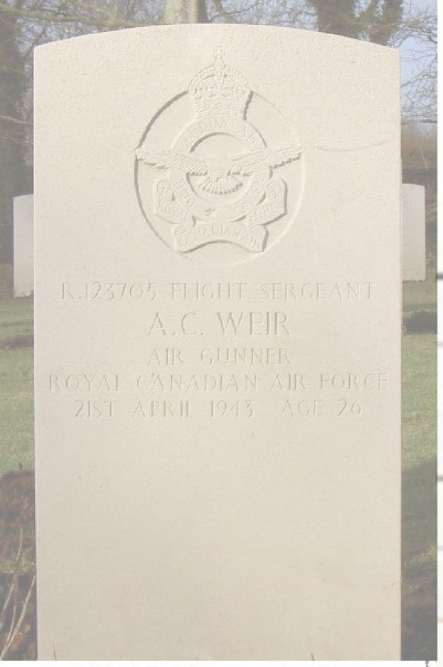
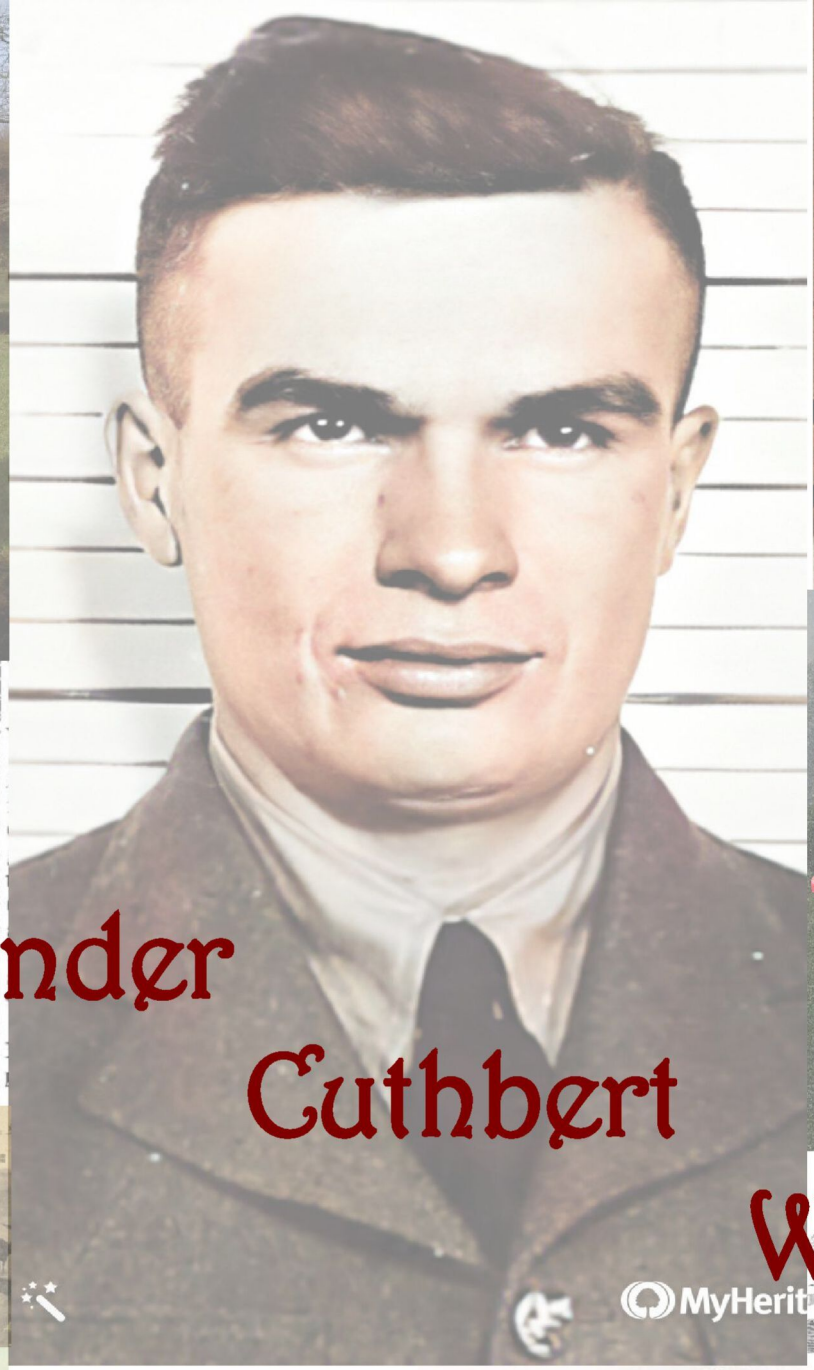




PRESUMED DEAD

Previously Reported Missing On Active Service, Now for Official Purposes Presumed Dead

Cameron, William Wilson, Sgt., R105794; P. N. Cameron (father), Evarts, Alta.

Dellar, Joseph Charles Edward, Sgt., Montreal.

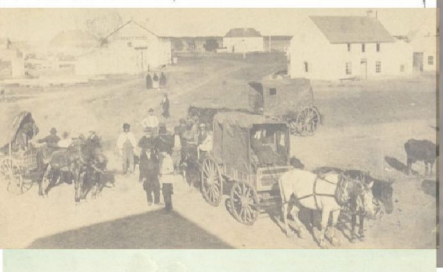
Mitchell, John Arnold, Sgt., Arnprior, Ont.

Rands, H[illegible] Harry Rand[illegible] Alta.

Weir, Alexander Cuthbert, Sgt., R123705; H. P. Weir (father), Minaki Lodge, Minaki, Ont.

Weeden, Gordon H.
Weedon, James F. G.
Weedy, Raymond C.
Weeks, Douglas F. C.
Weeks, Edward Howard
Weeks, William George
Weese, Robert Allen
Wegenast, William A.
Weicker, Carl Heinrich
Weir, Alexander C.
Weir, Ivan Arnold
Weir, James Chapman
Weir, John Emerson
Weir, Robert Norman
Weis, Joseph William
Weiss, Gordon Thomas
Weiss, Ross
Welch, Gordon George

Alexander Cuthbert Weir



The mission church, 1822.

NAME: KIPLING, John PARISH: Stockton-On-Tees ENTERED SERVICE: 1766 DATES: d. 23 Nov. 1794 (B.3/a)

Wife: Hannah [Truthwaite] (A.5/3; John Kipling's Will made 3 May 1793 in Stockton, Co. Durham, Search File)
Son: Thomas (bricklayer in Stockton in 1793) m. Ann (John Kipling's Will made 3 May 1793 in Stockton, Co. Durham, Searc

Brother [in law]: Matthew Truthwaite, Master Gloucester House in 1793, wife Pocathea, whose son Edward was provided for in his will (V 1793 in Stockton, Co. Durham, Search File)

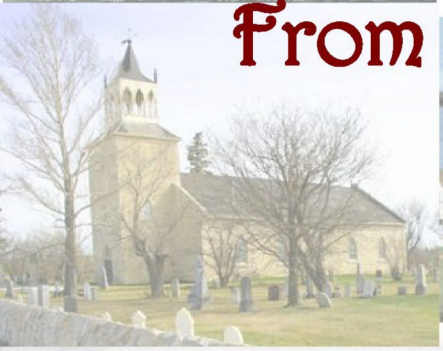
* Commissioned as Master of Gloucester House 30 June, 1778 (B.3/b/15, fo.36d)
* Kipling was struck with strokes in September 1790 and the winter of 1791-1792 (Ellen Cooke, *Fur Trade Profiles*, pp. 3
Appointed Second at Albany 25 May, 1792, under John McNab (A.5/3, fo. 84d)

REFERENCES:
Search Files: Kipling, John (fl. 1772-1794), Gloucester House

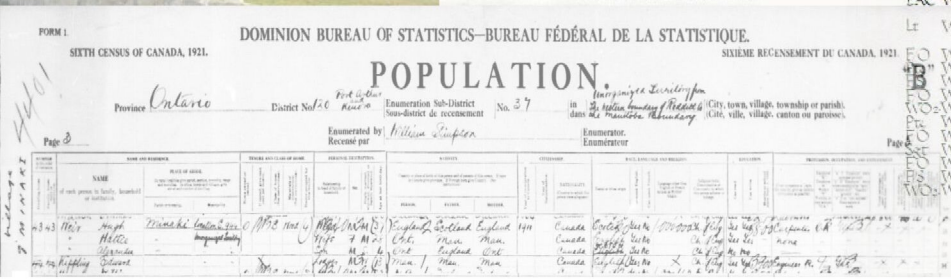
Asick, Norman, 1976, "The Fur Trade in Eastern Canada Until 1870", Vol. 1 & 2; National Historic Parks & Sites Branch, Parks Canada, Ot
Lytwyn, V., 1986, "The Fur Trade of the Little North", Rupert's Land Research Centre, Winnipeg

102 (Ceylon) Squadron

From the Red River to Esbjerg



Minaki Lodge, Minaki, Ontario, Canada.


FORM 1.
SIXTH CENSUS OF CANADA, 1921.
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS—BUREAU FÉDÉRAL DE LA STATISTIQUE.
SIXIÈME RECENSEMENT DU CANADA, 1921.
POPULATION.
Province Ontario District No. 20 Enumeration Sub-District No. 37
Enumerated by
Enumerator.

GROUND WILHELMSHAVEN

PO	Waton, Alvin Bernard	RCAF	
CPO	Watson, Albert Ernest	RCN	
FO	Watson, Calvin	RCAF	
WO2	Watson, Donald Alexander	RCAF	
WO2	Watson, Floyd Bertram	RCAF	
FS	Watson, Herbert George	RCAF	
CPO	Watson, Horace William	RCN	
SO	Watson, Irene	RCAF	
FO	Watson, John Kaye	RCAF	
Pte	Watson, John Ma[illegible]	[illegible]	
Pte	Watson, Norman Russell	[illegible]	
	Watson, [illegible]	[illegible]	
Sgt	Watson, Robert Martin	RCAF	
PO	Watt, Bruce Emmott	RCAF	
WO2	Watt, Douglas Hubert	RCAF	
FO	Watt, Norman Alexander	RCAF	
WO2	Watters, William John	RCAF	
PO	Watterson, Thomas Albert	Kidd	
		RCAF	
FS	Watts, Rae McGee	RCAF	
Gnr	Watts, Raymond Howard	RCA	
Sgt	Watts, Tresge Graham		
	Newcomen	C Pro C	
FS	Waugh, Donald Herbert	RCAF	
Sgt	Waugh, Stanley Earl	RCASC	
FS	Way, Delmar Cyril	RCAF	
WO2	Way, James Oscar	RCAF	
Pte	Way, Samuel	Hast&PER	
Pte	Wayner, Frank Lloyd	Lorn Scots	
WO1	Weakley, Lawrence O'Neil	RCAF	
FS	Wearn, Leslie Allan	RCAF	
LAC	Weatherbee, Harold Douglas		
		RCAF	
Lt	Weatherhead, John Joseph		
		Carltn&YorkR	
FO	Weatherhead, Richard John	[illegible]	
"B"	Weaver, Charles Edward	S[illegible]	
	Weaver, Sylvan Ellwood	[illegible]	
FO	Webb, Cyrus Wilfred	RCAF	
WO2	Webb, Francis Arthur	RCAF	
Pte	Webb, Francis Ross	48Highrs	
FO	Webb, Frederick Vert	RCAF	
Sgt	Webb, Maurice Edgar	RCAF	
FO	Webber, Francis Maxwell	RCAF	
FS	Webber, Rodney	RCAF	
WO2	Weber, Harry Arthur	RCAF	

WO1	Webster, Arthur Robert	RCAF	
Gnr	Webster, James Alexander	RCA	
WO2	Webster, Lloyd Pierson	RCAF	
FO	Weeden, Gordon Herbert	RCAF	
WO2	Weedy, Raymond Cuthbert	RCAF	
LAC	Weegar, Carl McKenzie	RCAF	
FS	Weeks, Edward Howard	RCAF	
FL	Weeks, William George	RCAF	
FO	Weese, Robert Allen	RCAF	
FS	Weir, Alexander Cuthbert	RCAF	
[illegible]	[illegible]arence Robert	LEdmn R	
[illegible]	[illegible]ann Edgar	RCAF	
Gnr	Weir, John William	RCA	
Capt	Weir, Phillip Anton		
		LEdmn R	
FS	Weiss, Ross	RCAF	
PO	Welch, Harry William	RCAF	
PO	Welch, Henry Maxwell	RCAF	
L Cpl	Welch, Norman Francis	Ontrk	
FS	Welch, Robert Thomas James		
		RCAF	
LAC	Welkin, Richard Meredith	RCAF	
PO	Weller, Alan Lewes	RCAF	
Pte	Weller, Allen Kendall	48Highrs	
Pte	Wells, Clarence Ernest		
		Seaforth&C	
Pte	Wells, Joseph John	Seaforth&C	
FS	Wells, Roy Arthur	RCAF	
WO2	Wellwood, Kenneth Douglas		
		RCAF	
Cpl	Welsh, Charles Wilbert	RCAF	
FS	Welsh, Ronald Hanson	RCAF	
FO	Welsh, William Robert	RCAF	
Pte	Wert, Gerald Hugh	Carltn&YorkR	
FO	Wesley, Ralph Eric	RCAF	
Pte	Wess, William	LEdmn R	
Bdr	West, James Lorimer	RCA	
[illegible]	[illegible] William Samuel Henry	[illegible]	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
		RCAF	
FO	Westhaver, Harold Andrew	RCAF	
Tpr	Westlake, Harold Edward	RCD	
WO2	Westman, Robert Morris	RCAF	
PO	Weston, George	RCAF	
FL	Weston, William James	RCAF	
Pte	Weymark, Joseph Henry		
		Hast&PER	

225

Paul B Campbell

Introduction

In early 2020, whilst reminiscing with Jenny Wilson about her father Joe, she told me that he had a memory that Alexander Cuthbert Wilson was partly Indigenous Canadian. Alexander had been a crew mate of both Joe and my uncle, James Kenneth Campbell, and had in fact died with Ken when their Halifax (DT747 DY-P) was shot down over Esbjerg, on the coast of Denmark, as they were heading to Stettin on a bombing raid.

However Joe's memory had deteriorated, and it was possible that this was a false memory. Intrigued, I decided to research Alexander's ancestry as far back as I could.

It was an amazing journey that took me back to the early days of the settling of the wilderness of Canada, to the days of men leaving Britain in the eighteenth century to go and work for the Hudson Bay Company in a region where virtually nobody lived, to the days of men settling down with Indigenous Canadian wives, creating small settlements which became great cities. And at the end of that journey I was to see the heartbreak that disease brought to one family, the family of which Alexander's mother, Hattie Kipling, was a daughter and a sibling.

Now I am in a position to tell the story of Sgt Alexander Cuthbert Weir RCAF, born in Winnipeg, Manitoba on 29th April 1917, died at Saedden, Denmark on 21st April 1943, eight days before his 26th birthday.

And I am also able to answer the question of whether Joe's memory had failed him or not. The answer is not here…….read on!

Paul B Campbell

September 2020

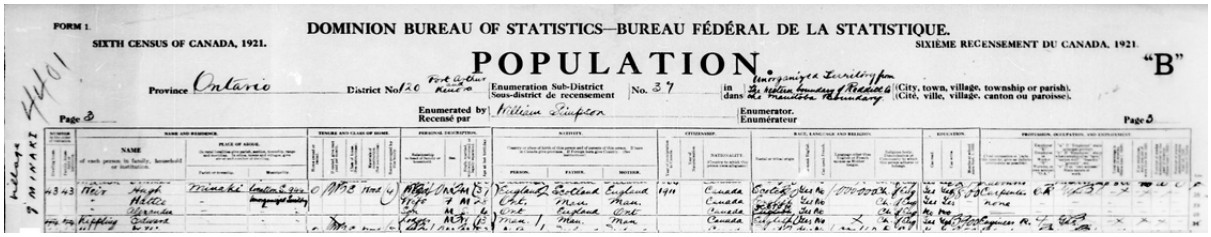
Alexander Cuthbert Weir

Alexander Cuthbert Weir was born on 29th April 1917 in Winnipeg, Ontario to Hugh Phillip Weir and Hattie Kipling.
Hugh, the caretaker and supervisor at Minaki Lodge, and Hattie had been married in Winnipeg a month earlier, on 30th March.*

Place of Marriage: **WINNIPEG** Date of Marriage: **30/03/1917**
GROOM Last Name: **WEIR** Given Names: **HUGH PHILIP**
BRIDE Last Name: **KIPLING** Given Names: **HATTIE**

They appear in the 1921 census at Minaki in Ontario, specifically in the Port Arthur and Kenora district of the Unorganized Territory from the Western Boundary of Redditt to the Manitoba Boundary. The municipality is given as "Location S.944 Unorganized Territory". They lived in a detached, wooden house with four rooms, owned by Hugh.
Hugh was 31 years old, having been born in London,* England to a Scottish father and English mother, and came to Canada in 1911. He gave his employment as a carpenter, working on his own account. Hattie was 28, born in Kenora,* Ontario to Manitoban parents. Alexander, himself, was 4 years old.

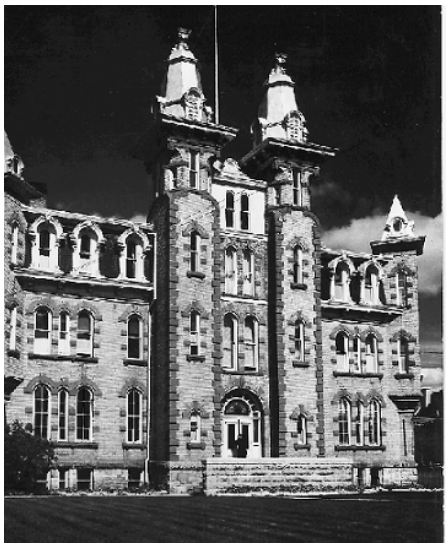
More detail of Hattie's ancestry will appear later, after Alexander's story is complete.


FORM 1. SIXTH CENSUS OF CANADA, 1921. DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS—BUREAU FÉDÉRAL DE LA STATISTIQUE. SIXIÈME RECENSEMENT DU CANADA, 1921.

POPULATION. "B"

Province Ontario District No. 20 Enumeration Sub-District No. 37 in Unorganized Territory

Enumerated by William Simpson

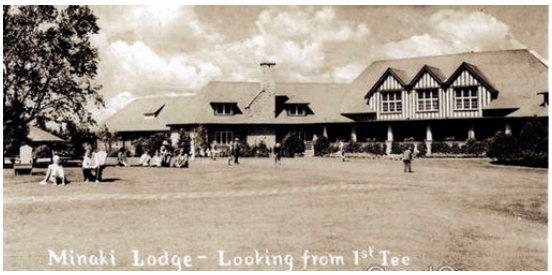


Alexander went to Primary School in Minaki from 1924 to 1932, and from there he went on to St Paul's College High School in Winnipeg until 1936. He coached Rugby, played (Ice) Hockey and spent much time fishing. From 1936 to 1938 he resided there while studying at the Business College in Winnipeg. In 1934, while still at St Paul's, he began working each summer for the Canadian National Railway as a guide at Minaki Lodge, hardly surprising in view of his father's tenure there. In 1939 he began work as a labourer, also for the CNR, with both jobs ending in 1940*.

St Paul's College High School in 1932

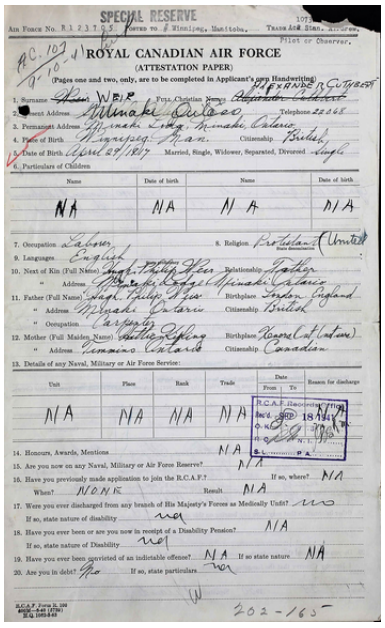
* *Manitoba Vital Statistics*
* *The Attestation Papers of ACW – although he was "not sure" about his mother*

*Minaki Lodge was originally built in 1914, as a rustic resort hotel, by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. It was located on the route of the National Transcontinental Railway where it crosses the Winnipeg River at Minaki, Ontario, between Sioux Lookout and Winnipeg. The two railways went bankrupt and were nationalized as part of the Canadian National Railways. The CNR rebuilt the hotel on a more lavish scale, but it burned down as it was about to open in 1925. It was rebuilt on an even more lavish scale, using Scottish stone masons, Swedish log cutters and English gardeners to build and landscape a soaring granite and log building that opened in 1927. Thirty trainloads of soil were brought from a farm in Manitoba to build a golf course on the rocky land.**

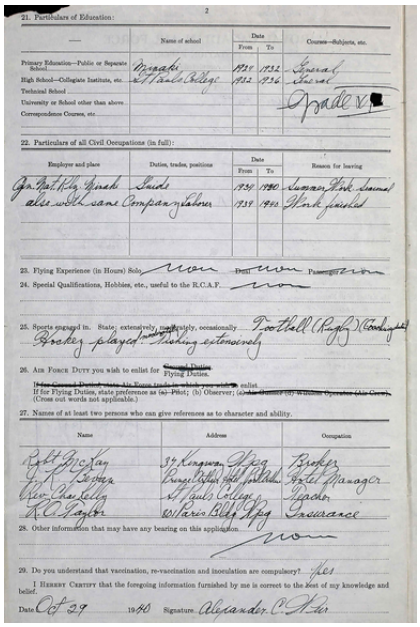


Four Images of Minaki Lodge

On October 29th 1940 Alexander completed an Attestation Paper for the Royal Canadian Air Force, indicating that he wanted to enlist for flying duties as a pilot or an observer, but not an air gunner or wireless operator. He also gave four referees. Interestingly he gave the address of his mother as Timmins, Ontario.


SPECIAL RESERVE

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE
(ATTESTATION PAPER)
(Pages one and two, only, are to be completed in Applicant's own Handwriting)



On October 22nd one of the referees, R.O. Taylor, wrote to the RCAF giving Alexander a positive testimonial and on the 29th his second testimonial was sent by the Head of St Paul's which was again very positive (both shown on the next page).

* ***Wikipedia***

R. O. TAYLOR
801 PARIS BUILDING
WINNIPEG
CANADA

October 22, 1940

Royal Canadian Air Force,
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Sirs:

Re: Alexander C. Weir - Minaki, Ontario

I have known this young man since childhood and can fully recommend him as to character. He has had schooling up to Grade XI and is proficient in mechanical work as well as in other outdoor activities. I have also known his family for twenty-five years and can certify as to the desirable family background. I am sure that if he is admitted into the Force that he would become a very competent member of it.

If, however, there is any specific information which you desire I shall be very glad to submit it to you.

Yours very truly,

R. O. Taylor

T/AD

R.C.A.F. Records Office
Rec'd. SEP 18 1941
O.K. ..... C.B. .....
R.C. ..... N.I. .....
S.L. ..... P.A. .....

St. Paul's College
WINNIPEG
MANITOBA

October 29th.1940

The Officer Commanding
The Royal Canadian Air Force
Winnipeg,Manitoba

Dear Sir;

Alexander Cuthbert Weir attended St.Paul's College High School from 1932 till 1936 in Grades Nine,Ten and Eleven. He afterwards was in residence from 1936 till 1938 while attending Business College in Winnipeg.His application to study and his conduct were very satisfactory.He took a very active part in school life,was a good organizer and fulfilled the duties of manager of the rugby team to the entire satisfaction of all concerned for three years.We are very pleased to give him our recommendation.

J.S.Holland S.J.
Principal

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE
INTERVIEW REPORT

AGE..23.....
HEIGHT..5'.10".....
WEIGHT..155.....

SURNAME.....WEIR.....
CHRISTIAN NAMES.....ALEXANDER..CUTHBERT.....
MARRIED..... NO. OF CHILDREN .....

N.F. ADMINISTRATION.....
TECHNICAL.....
EQUIP./ACCTS.....
FLYING GEN.LIST.....
PILOT.....
OBSERVER....X.....
W.O.AIR GUNNER.....

EDUCATIONAL STANDING:- Number of years 12
High School...XI.....Technical.....Commercial...2..
University (Name and dates of Attendance).....
.....None.....
Standing other Countries.....

FLYING EXPERIENCE:- Total hours
Commercial Hours Solo.....Dual.....
Private " Solo.....Dual.....Passenger.....
NONE
No. Hours & Types during last 2 yrs.....

MILITARY AND OTHER TRAINING:-
.....
.....
NONE
.....

SPORTS:- (What branches)
Football Rugby (Coaching) Hockey.....

HOBBIES: Out door life..Hunting..Fishing..Guiding.....

INTERVIEWING OFFICER'S OPINION AS TO CHARACTER AND SUITABILITY FOR THE SERVICE:-
.....
This man appears to be of Indian boald and has
.....
acted during the last 6 summers as Guide in Kenora
.....
District which created his desire to be an observer. He
.....
appears to be intelligent but on the slow side.....
.....

REFERENCES CHECKED--SATISFACTORY
" " --~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ 1 missing
" ~~XXXXXXXXX~~.
.....

R.C.A.F. Records Office
Rec'd. SEP 18 1941
O.K. ..... C.B. .....
R.C. ..... N.I. .....
S.L. ..... P.A. .....

APPROACH
Confident.....
Nervous.....
Easy.....X.....

CARRIAGE
Upright.....
Medium....X.....
Athletic.....

DRESS
Neat.....
Conservative.....
Clean.....X.....
Careless.....

PHYSIQUE
Medium.....X.....
Heavy set.....
Slender.....

SPEECH
Clear.....
Slow.....X.....
Hesitant.....

RESPONSE
Quick.....
Deliberate.....
Slow.....X.....

MANNER
Alert.....
Confident.....
Sincere.....X.....
Reserved.....
Nervous.....
Overbearing.....
Irresponsible.....

EXCELLENT.....
ABOVE AVERAGE.....
AVERAGE....X.....
BELOW AVERAGE.....

MARK WITH AN X THE DESCRIPTION WHICH APPLIES

CONSIDERED SUITABLE FOR COMMISSIONED RANK?.....No.....
BEST FITTED FOR.....Observing.....
.....

DATE 29-10-40 RECRUITING CENTRE Winnipeg

(W. R. Griffiths) F/O
Signature of Officer

A.F.M.5

Also on October 29th, an interview report was filed at the Recruiting Centre in Winnipeg, which indicated the shortcomings that the Air Force believed Alexander to have.

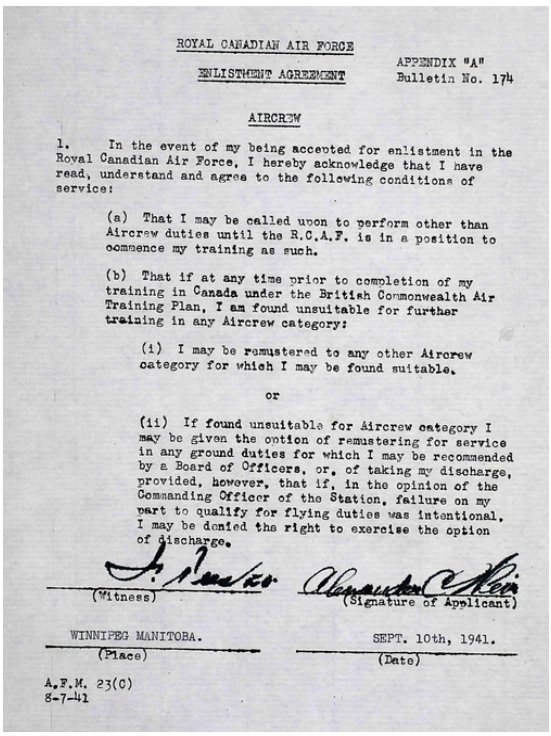
It marked him out as being suitable as an observer, and then assessed his attributes. An easy approach with a medium carriage, clean dress, a medium physique with a sincere manner. However his speech was described as "slow", as was his response. His references were described as satisfactory, and overall, he was described as average.

The written comments note that "This man appears to be of Indian blood" and that "he appears to be intelligent, but on the slow side".

He was not considered suitable officer material and was best fitted for observing due to the six years he spent as a guide at Minaki Lodge.

On November 29th he was given a medical examination that showed him to be in very good health. He stood 5' 7¾" tall, weighed 147lbs (10½ stone), with dark features, brown eyes and black hair. All tests were satisfactory.

On 10th January 1941 Alexander enrolled in the Non-Permanent Active Militia of Canada at #102 Training Centre, being taken onto the strength of 2nd Bn The Lake Superior Regt.



ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

ENLISTMENT AGREEMENT

APPENDIX "A"
Bulletin No. 174

AIRCREW

1. In the event of my being accepted for enlistment in the Royal Canadian Air Force, I hereby acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to the following conditions of service:

(a) That I may be called upon to perform other than Aircrew duties until the R.C.A.F. is in a position to commence my training as such.

(b) That if at any time prior to completion of my training in Canada under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, I am found unsuitable for further training in any Aircrew category:

(i) I may be remustered to any other Aircrew category for which I may be found suitable.

or

(ii) If found unsuitable for Aircrew category I may be given the option of remustering for service in any ground duties for which I may be recommended by a Board of Officers, or, of taking my discharge, provided, however, that if, in the opinion of the Commanding Officer of the Station, failure on my part to qualify for flying duties was intentional, I may be denied the right to exercise the option of discharge.

(Witness) (Signature of Applicant)

WINNIPEG MANITOBA. (Place)

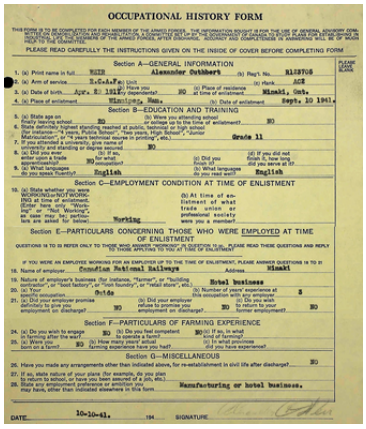
SEPT. 10th, 1941. (Date)

A.F.M. 23(C)
8-7-41

Enlistment Agreement

Alexander eventually signed an Enlistment Agreement for the Royal Canadian Air Force (proper) on September 10th 1941 at the Reception Centre in Winnipeg, which became his official date of enlistment for the duration of the war. From this point on he was R123705 AC2 Alexander Cuthbert Weir RCAF.

The next day, with a subsistence allocation of one day's pay, he was sent on 28 days leave (without pay) until October 8th. The next day he was posted to #2 M.D. (Number 2 Manning Depot) Brandon, Manitoba to commence his basic training. *This was where they learned to bathe, shave, shine boots, polish buttons, maintain their uniforms, and otherwise behave in the required manner. There were two hours of physical education every day and instruction in marching, rifle drill, foot drill, saluting, and other routines.*



OCCUPATIONAL HISTORY FORM

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN ON THE INSIDE OF COVER BEFORE COMPLETING FORM

Section A—GENERAL INFORMATION

1. (a) Print name in full: WEIR Alexander Cuthbert (b) Reg'l No. R123705
2. (a) Arm of service R.C.A.F. (b) Unit (c) Rank AC2
3. (a) Date of birth Apr. 2: 1917 (b) Have you dependants? NO (c) Place of residence at time of enlistment Minaki, Ont.
4. (a) Place of enlistment Winnipeg, Man. (b) Date of enlistment Sept. 10 1941.

Section B—EDUCATION AND TRAINING

5. (a) State age on leaving school NO (b) Were you attending school NO
6. State definite highest standing reached at public, technical or high school (for instance—"4 years, Public School", "two years, High School", junior matriculation, "3 years technical course in printing", etc.) Grade 11
7. If you attended a university, give name of university and standing or degree obtained NO
8. (a) Did you ever enter upon a trade or profession? NO (b) If so, for what? (c) Did you finish it, how long? (d) If you did not finish it, why? did you serve at it?
9. (a) What languages do you speak fluently? English (b) What languages do you read well? English

Section C—EMPLOYMENT CONDITION AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT

10. (a) State whether you were WORKING or NOT WORKING at time of enlistment, using the words "Working" or "Not Working", as case may be; particulars are asked for below: Working (b) At time of enlistment of what trade union or professional society were you a member?

Section E—PARTICULARS CONCERNING THOSE WHO WERE EMPLOYED AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT

QUESTIONS 18 TO 23 REFER ONLY TO THOSE WHO ANSWER "WORKING" IN QUESTION 10.(a)... PLEASE READ THESE QUESTIONS AND REPLY TO THOSE APPLYING TO YOU AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT.

IF YOU WERE AN EMPLOYEE WORKING FOR AN EMPLOYER UP TO THE TIME OF ENLISTMENT, PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS 18 TO 21

18. Name of employer Canadian National Railways Address Minaki
19. Nature of employer's business (for instance, "farmer", or "building contractor", or "foot factory", or "iron foundry", or "retail store", etc.) Hotel business
20. (a) Specify occupation Guide (b) Number of years' experience at this occupation with any employer 2
21. (a) Did your employer promise definitely to give you employment on discharge? NO (b) Did your employer refuse to promise you employment on discharge? NO (c) Do you wish to return to your former employment? NO

Section F—PARTICULARS OF FARMING EXPERIENCE

24. (a) Do you wish to engage in farming after the war? NO (b) Do you feel competent to operate a farm? NO (c) If so, in what kind of farming?
25. (a) Were you born on a farm? NO (b) How many years' actual farming experience have you had? (c) In what provinces did you have experience?

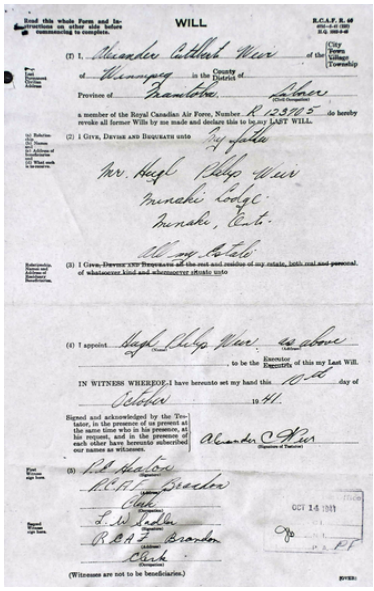
Section G—MISCELLANEOUS

26. Have you made any arrangements other than indicated above, for re-establishment in civil life after discharge? NO
27. If so, state nature of your plans (for example, do you plan to return to school, or have you been assured of a job, etc.) Manufacturing or hotel business.
28. State any employment preference or ambition you may have, other than indicated elsewhere in this form

DATE 10-10-41. 194 SIGNATURE

Occupational History Form

On November 5th and 6th Alexander's details card was completed, and his fingerprints taken (for future identification – if needed).



WILL

(1) I, Alexander Cuthbert Weir of the Town of Winnipeg in the County of Selkirk in the Province of Manitoba, a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force, Number R 123705 do hereby revoke all former Wills by me made and declare this to be my LAST WILL.

(2) I GIVE, DEVISE AND BEQUEATH unto

Mr. Hugh Philip Weir
Minaki Lodge
Minaki, Ont.

(3) I Give, Devise and Bequeath all the real and residue of my estate, both real and personal, of whatsoever kind and whomsoever situate unto

(4) I appoint Hugh Philip Weir as above to be the Executor of this my Last Will.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of October 1941.

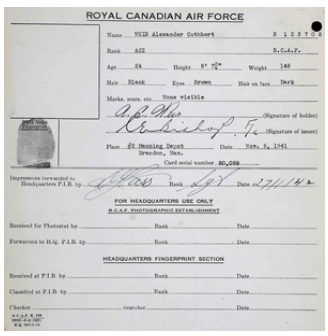
Signed and acknowledged by the Testator, in the presence of us present at the same time who in his presence, at his request, and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses.

Alexander C Weir (Signature of Testator)

(Witnesses are not to be beneficiaries.)

OCT 14 1941

Alexander's Will



ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

Name WEIR Alexander Cuthbert R 123705
Rank AC2 R.C.A.F.
Age 24 Height 5' 7¾" Weight 148
Hair Black Eyes Brown Hair on face Dark
Marks, scars, etc. None visible
(Signature of holder)
(Signature of issuer)
Place #2 Manning Depot Brandon, Man. Date Nov. 5, 1941
Card serial number 80,099

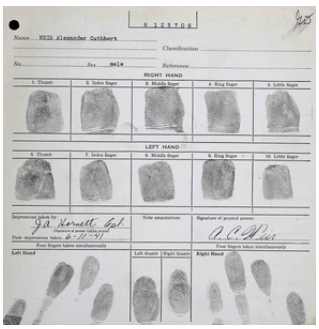
Impressions forwarded to Headquarters P.I.B. by Rank Date

FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY
R.C.A.F. PHOTOGRAPHIC ESTABLISHMENT

Received for Photostat by Rank Date
Forwarded to H.Q. P.I.B. by Rank Date

HEADQUARTERS FINGERPRINT SECTION

Received at P.I.B. by Rank Date
Classified at P.I.B. by Rank Date
Checker searcher Date



R 123705

Name WEIR Alexander Cuthbert
Classification
No. Sex male Reference

RIGHT HAND
1. Thumb 2. Index finger 3. Middle finger 4. Ring finger 5. Little finger

LEFT HAND
6. Thumb 7. Index finger 8. Middle finger 9. Ring finger 10. Little finger

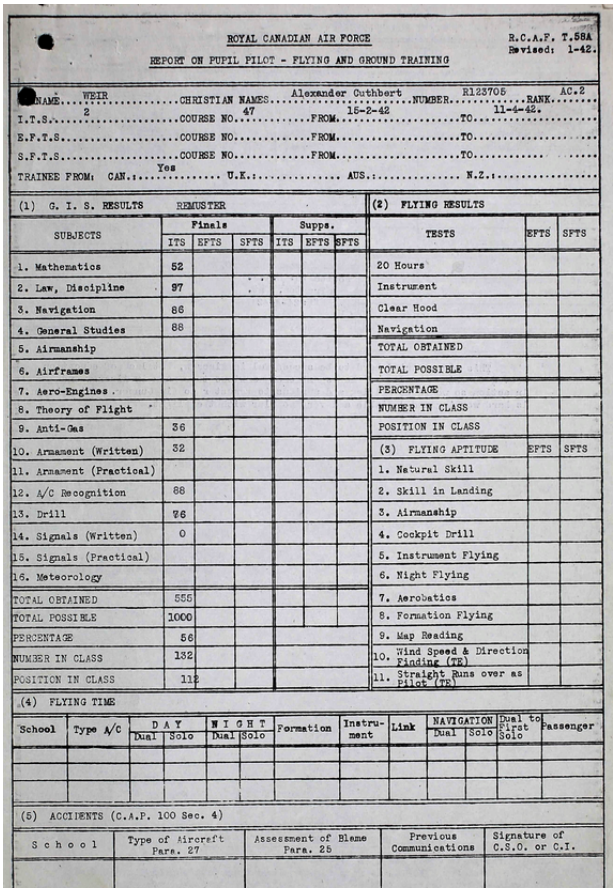
Impressions taken by Note amputations Signature of person
Date impressions taken 6-11-41
Four fingers taken simultaneously Four fingers taken simultaneously
Left Hand Left thumb Right thumb Right Hand

Details Card and Fingerprint Card

*After four or five weeks at the Manning Depot, a selection committee decided whether the trainee would be placed in the aircrew or groundcrew stream. Aircrew "Wireless Air Gunner" candidates went directly to a Wireless School. "Air Observer" and "Pilot" aircrew candidates went to an Initial Training School.** ***Wikipedia***

As Alexander had expressed a preference for becoming an observer, which was recommended following his interview when he joined the Air Force, he was posted to an ITS – but not immediately. It wasn't until almost three months had passed before his basic training ended and so, on 3rd January 1942, he left #2MD. However, once again he did not go directly to an ITS, but to #12 SFTS (Service Flying Training School) just outside of Brandon, where it would be determined if he had the ability to become a pilot. He didn't have to travel far though, as this was just outside of Brandon.

He should have been at #12 SFTS for 16 weeks, but just six weeks later, on February 15th 1942, his training at 12 SFTS came to an end, and on the following day he was posted to #2 ITS (Initial Training School) in Regina, Saskatchewan.



ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE
REPORT ON PUPIL PILOT - FLYING AND GROUND TRAINING
R.C.A.F. T.58A Revised: 1-42.

NAME: WEIR CHRISTIAN NAMES: Alexander Cuthbert NUMBER: R123705 RANK: AC.2
I.T.S. 2 COURSE NO. 47 FROM 15-2-42 TO 11-4-42.
E.F.T.S. COURSE NO. FROM TO
S.F.T.S. COURSE NO. FROM TO
TRAINEE FROM: CAN.: Yes U.K.: AUS.: N.Z.:

(1) G. I. S. RESULTS — REMUSTER

SUBJECTS	Finals ITS	Finals EFTS	Finals SFTS	Supps. ITS	Supps. EFTS	Supps. SFTS
1. Mathematics	52					
2. Law, Discipline	97					
3. Navigation	86					
4. General Studies	88					
5. Airmanship						
6. Airframes						
7. Aero-Engines						
8. Theory of Flight						
9. Anti-Gas	36					
10. Armament (Written)	32					
11. Armament (Practical)						
12. A/C Recognition	88					
13. Drill	76					
14. Signals (Written)	0					
15. Signals (Practical)						
16. Meteorology						
TOTAL OBTAINED	555					
TOTAL POSSIBLE	1000					
PERCENTAGE	56					
NUMBER IN CLASS	132					
POSITION IN CLASS	112					

(2) FLYING RESULTS

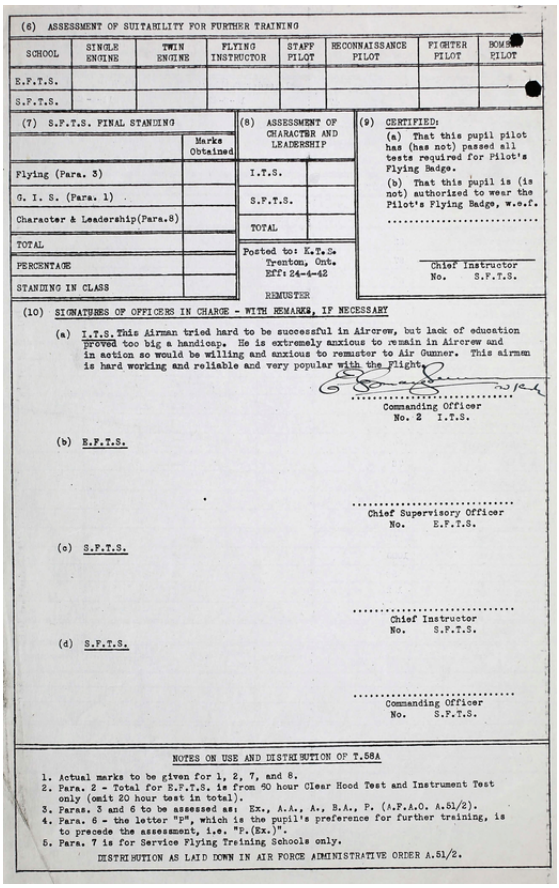
TESTS	EFTS	SFTS
20 Hours		
Instrument		
Clear Hood		
Navigation		
TOTAL OBTAINED		
TOTAL POSSIBLE		
PERCENTAGE		
NUMBER IN CLASS		
POSITION IN CLASS		
(3) FLYING APTITUDE	EFTS	SFTS
1. Natural Skill		
2. Skill in Landing		
3. Airmanship		
4. Cockpit Drill		
5. Instrument Flying		
6. Night Flying		
7. Aerobatics		
8. Formation Flying		
9. Map Reading		
10. Wind Speed & Direction Finding (TE)		
11. Straight Runs over as Pilot (TE)		

(4) FLYING TIME

School	Type A/C	DAY Dual	DAY Solo	NIGHT Dual	NIGHT Solo	Formation	Instrument	Link	NAVIGATION Dual	NAVIGATION Solo	Dual to First Solo	Passenger

(5) ACCIDENTS (C.A.P. 100 Sec. 4)

School	Type of Aircraft Para. 27	Assessment of Blame Para. 25	Previous Communications	Signature of C.S.O. or C.I.



(6) ASSESSMENT OF SUITABILITY FOR FURTHER TRAINING

SCHOOL	SINGLE ENGINE	TWIN ENGINE	FLYING INSTRUCTOR	STAFF PILOT	RECONNAISSANCE PILOT	FIGHTER PILOT	BOMBER PILOT
E.F.T.S.							
S.F.T.S.							

(7) S.F.T.S. FINAL STANDING

	Marks Obtained
Flying (Para. 3)	
G. I. S. (Para. 1)	
Character & Leadership (Para. 8)	
TOTAL	
PERCENTAGE	
STANDING IN CLASS	

(8) ASSESSMENT OF CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP

I.T.S.	
S.F.T.S.	
TOTAL	

Posted to: K.T.S. Trenton, Ont. Eff: 24-4-42
REMUSTER

(9) CERTIFIED:
(a) That this pupil pilot has (has not) passed all tests required for Pilot's Flying Badge.
(b) That this pupil is (is not) authorized to wear the Pilot's Flying Badge, w.e.f.
.....
Chief Instructor No. S.F.T.S.

(10) SIGNATURES OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE - WITH REMARKS, IF NECESSARY

(a) I.T.S. This Airman tried hard to be successful in Aircrew, but lack of education proved too big a handicap. He is extremely anxious to remain in Aircrew and in action so would be willing and anxious to remuster to Air Gunner. This airman is hard working and reliable and very popular with the Flight.
.....
Commanding Officer No. 2 I.T.S.

(b) E.F.T.S.
.....
Chief Supervisory Officer No. E.F.T.S.

(c) S.F.T.S.
.....
Chief Instructor No. S.F.T.S.

(d) S.F.T.S.
.....
Commanding Officer No. S.F.T.S.

NOTES ON USE AND DISTRIBUTION OF T.58A
1. Actual marks to be given for 1, 2, 7, and 8.
2. Para. 2 - Total for E.F.T.S. is from 50 hour Clear Hood Test and Instrument Test only (omit 20 hour test in total).
3. Paras. 3 and 6 to be assessed as: Ex., A.A., A., B.A., P. (A.F.A.O. A.51/2).
4. Para. 6 - the letter "P", which is the pupil's preference for further training, is to precede the assessment, i.e. "P.(Ex.)".
5. Para. 7 is for Service Flying Training Schools only.
DISTRIBUTION AS LAID DOWN IN AIR FORCE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER A.51/2.

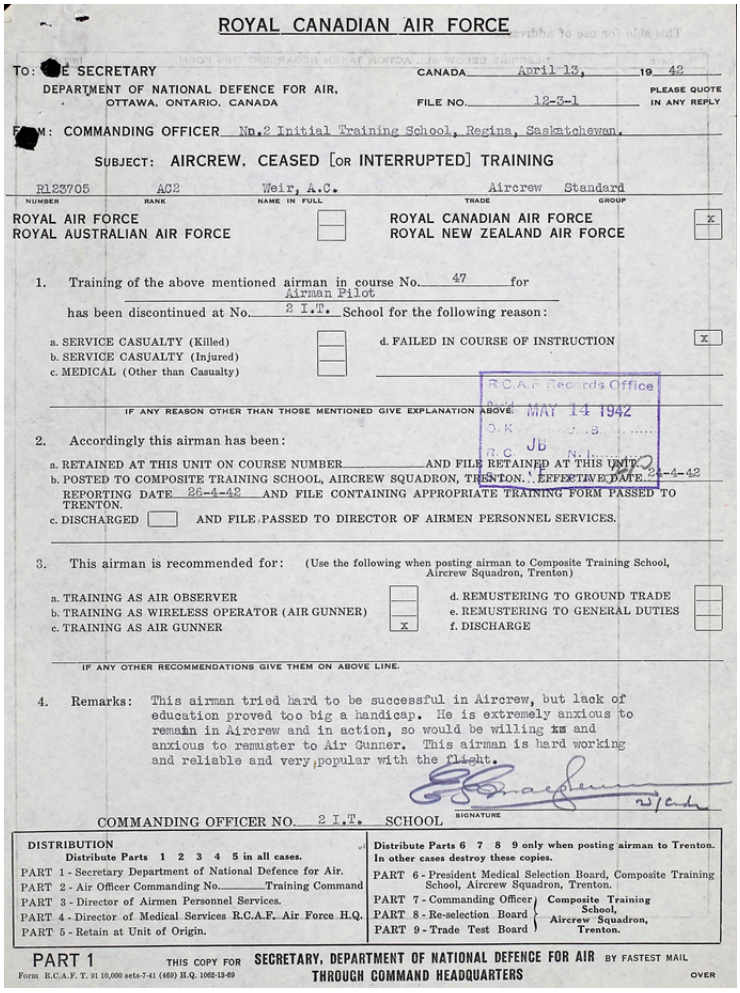
Alexander spent 8 weeks at #2 ITS before this part of his training was "discontinued", the reason for which can be seen in his Pupil Pilot Report above.

* ***Wikipedia***

He studied none of the specific aspects required for a prospective pilot. On the first page it can be seen that in his final tests he scored 52 in Mathematics, 97 in Law & Discipline, 86 in Navigation, 88 in General Studies, 36 in Anti-Gas, 32 in (Written) Armament, 88 in Aircraft Recognition, 76 in Drill, and 0 (zero) in (Written Signals), making a total of 555 out of a total of 1000 – 56%. This put him 112th in a class of 132.

On the second page his commanding officer wrote a brief assessment in section 10

"This airman tried hard to be successful in Aircrew, but lack of education proved too big a handicap. He is extremely anxious to remain in Aircrew and in action so would be willing and anxious to remuster to Air Gunner. This airman is hard working and reliable and very popular with the flight".



ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

TO: THE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE FOR AIR,
OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA

CANADA April 13, 1942
FILE NO. 12-3-1
PLEASE QUOTE IN ANY REPLY

FROM: COMMANDING OFFICER No.2 Initial Training School, Regina, Saskatchewan.

SUBJECT: AIRCREW. CEASED [OR INTERRUPTED] TRAINING

NUMBER	RANK	NAME IN FULL	TRADE	GROUP
R123705	AC2	Weir, A.C.	Aircrew	Standard

ROYAL AIR FORCE [ ] ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE [x]
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE [ ] ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE [ ]

1. Training of the above mentioned airman in course No. 47 for Airman Pilot has been discontinued at No. 2 I.T. School for the following reason:

a. SERVICE CASUALTY (Killed) [ ]
b. SERVICE CASUALTY (Injured) [ ]
c. MEDICAL (Other than Casualty) [ ]
d. FAILED IN COURSE OF INSTRUCTION [x]

IF ANY REASON OTHER THAN THOSE MENTIONED GIVE EXPLANATION ABOVE.

R.C.A.F. Records Office
MAY 14 1942

2. Accordingly this airman has been:

a. RETAINED AT THIS UNIT ON COURSE NUMBER ____ AND FILE RETAINED AT THIS UNIT.
b. POSTED TO COMPOSITE TRAINING SCHOOL, AIRCREW SQUADRON, TRENTON. EFFECTIVE DATE 24-4-42 REPORTING DATE 26-4-42 AND FILE CONTAINING APPROPRIATE TRAINING FORM PASSED TO TRENTON.
c. DISCHARGED [ ] AND FILE PASSED TO DIRECTOR OF AIRMEN PERSONNEL SERVICES.

3. This airman is recommended for: (Use the following when posting airman to Composite Training School, Aircrew Squadron, Trenton)

a. TRAINING AS AIR OBSERVER [ ]
b. TRAINING AS WIRELESS OPERATOR (AIR GUNNER) [ ]
c. TRAINING AS AIR GUNNER [x]
d. REMUSTERING TO GROUND TRADE [ ]
e. REMUSTERING TO GENERAL DUTIES [ ]
f. DISCHARGE [ ]

IF ANY OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS GIVE THEM ON ABOVE LINE.

4. Remarks: This airman tried hard to be successful in Aircrew, but lack of education proved too big a handicap. He is extremely anxious to remain in Aircrew and in action, so would be willing and anxious to remuster to Air Gunner. This airman is hard working and reliable and very popular with the flight.

SIGNATURE

COMMANDING OFFICER NO. 2 I.T. SCHOOL

DISTRIBUTION
Distribute Parts 1 2 3 4 5 in all cases.
PART 1 - Secretary Department of National Defence for Air.
PART 2 - Air Officer Commanding No. ____ Training Command
PART 3 - Director of Airmen Personnel Services.
PART 4 - Director of Medical Services R.C.A.F. Air Force H.Q.
PART 5 - Retain at Unit of Origin.

Distribute Parts 6 7 8 9 only when posting airman to Trenton. In other cases destroy these copies.
PART 6 - President Medical Selection Board, Composite Training School, Aircrew Squadron, Trenton.
PART 7 - Commanding Officer } Composite Training School, Aircrew Squadron, Trenton.
PART 8 - Re-selection Board } Composite Training School, Aircrew Squadron, Trenton.
PART 9 - Trade Test Board } Composite Training School, Aircrew Squadron, Trenton.

PART 1 THIS COPY FOR SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE FOR AIR BY FASTEST MAIL THROUGH COMMAND HEADQUARTERS OVER

Form R.C.A.F. T. 91 10,000 sets-7-41 (469) H.Q. 1062-13-69

On 13th April the C/O of #2 ITS sent the official report to the Department of National Defence indicating that Alexander's training for Airman Pilot had been discontinued because he had "failed in the course of instruction". Accordingly this airman has been posted to Composite Training School, Aircrew Squadron, Trenton, effective date 24th April 1942, reporting date 26th April 1942, with a recommendation for training as Air Gunner.

Thus he was remustered as an Air Gunner and posted to KTS Trenton, Ontario, effective 24th April 1942 and, on 10th April 1942, he was given two weeks special leave.

On 24th April he returned from leave and was, the next day, posted to KTS (Composite Training School) at Trenton, Ontario. He remained there for a month, during which period, on April 30th he was promoted to LAC (Leading Aircraftsman) and his trade recorded as AG. His posting here ended on May 23rd, and the next day he was posted to #2 BGS (Bombing and Gunnery School), Mossbank, Saskatchewan.

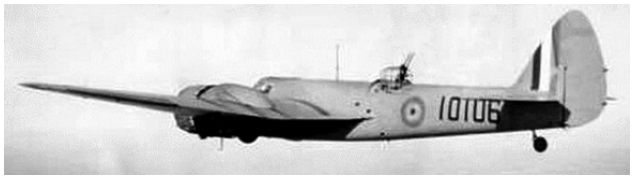
#2 BGS had many amenities: a swimming pool, bowling alley, recreation hall, several canteens and a theatre.
In fact only #2 & #5 BGS had swimming pools, and the reason is rather interesting. Both were relatively isolated and an adequate source of water for firefighting purposes was needed. The RCAF decided that, rather than just building big cisterns, they might just as well build swimming pools (more than likely to the delight of the bombers and gunners.)

Practice in a Turret

Here bomb aimers, air gunners, air observers and wireless operator / air gunners received training in bombing and gunnery techniques.

Handling a Machine Gun

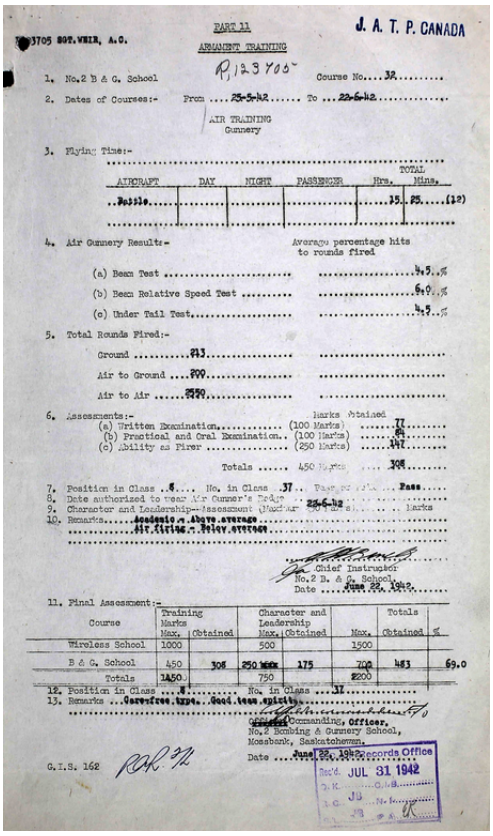
Wireless operator / air gunners undertook a six-week course where they learned to operate machine-guns and hydraulic turrets. The different types of gunnery training were air-to-air drogue, air-to-air tracer demonstration and air-to-ground. #2 BGS operated twin-engined Bristol Bolingbroke aircraft for air-to-air and air-to-ground gunnery training, each equipped with two Browning machine guns in an electro-hydraulic powered Boulton Paul Type C dorsal turret.



*Air to air gunnery involved target drogues towed by Westland Lysanders. The windsock-type drogue was towed 300 feet behind the tug while the student gunner would fire at the drogue from the turret of the other aircraft, the Bolingbroke, flying parallel to it. Usually three trainees would go up at a time, each using bullets coated with a different coloured wax. On inspecting the target this enabled ground crew to determine who was hitting or missing. Air-to-ground gunnery and bombing practice was carried out over nearby Old Wives Lake which had targets representing German submarines.**

The posting to #2 BGS lasted until June 22nd and was Alexander's final training posting in Canada. Having obtained a score of 69% on the course, he was now a fully qualified Air Gunner Specialist, was awarded his Air Gunner's Badge and was promoted to (Temporary) Sergeant.

* *www.jn-dogboys.com*



PART II — J. A. T. P. CANADA

ARMAMENT TRAINING

R/123705 SGT. WEIR, A.G.

1. No. 2 B & G. School — Course No. 32

2. Dates of Courses:- From 25-5-42 To 22-6-42

AIR TRAINING
Gunnery

3. Flying Time:-

AIRCRAFT	DAY	NIGHT	PASSENGER	TOTAL Hrs.	TOTAL Mins.
Battle				15	25 (12)

4. Air Gunnery Results:- — Average percentage hits to rounds fired

(a) Beam Test ..... 4.5 %
(b) Beam Relative Speed Test ..... 6.0 %
(c) Under Tail Test ..... 4.5 %

5. Total Rounds Fired:-

Ground 213
Air to Ground 200
Air to Air 2550

6. Assessments:- — Marks Obtained

(a) Written Examination ..... (100 Marks) 77
(b) Practical and Oral Examination ..... (100 Marks) 84
(c) Ability as Firer ..... (250 Marks) 147

Totals ..... 450 Marks 308

7. Position in Class ..8.... No. in Class ..37.. Passed ..... Passe.....
8. Date authorized to wear Air Gunner's Badge ..... 22-6-42 .....
9. Character and Leadership—Assessment (Maximum ..... Marks
10. Remarks ..... Academic - above average
Air firing - below average

Chief Instructor
No. 2 B. & G. School
Date June 22, 1942

11. Final Assessment:-

Course	Training Marks Max.	Obtained	Character and Leadership Max.	Obtained	Max.	Totals Obtained	%
Wireless School	1000		500		1500		
B & G. School	450	308	250	175	700	483	69.0
Totals	1450		750		2200		

12. Position in Class ..8..... No. in Class ..37.....
13. Remarks ..Carefree type. Good team spirit.

Commanding Officer,
No. 2 Bombing & Gunnery School,
Mossbank, Saskatchewan.
Date June 22, 1942

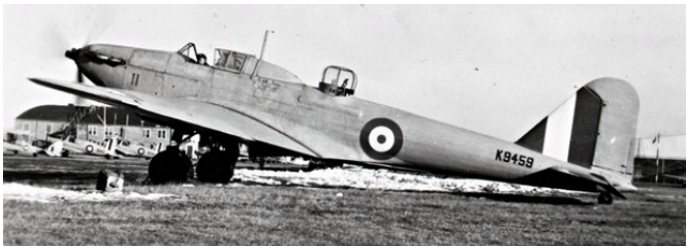
Records Office
Rec'd JUL 31 1942

G.T.S. 162

Alexander's Gunnery Report

This is his final report on his gunnery training. It shows that he completed 15 hours and 25 minutes of flying time in a Fairey Battle, a British single-engine light bomber designed and built by the Fairey Aviation Company between 1936 and 1940. *It was used as bomber at the beginning of the war but proved unsuitable for combat duty and was converted to trainers for the duration of the war.*

*From August 1939, 739 Battles were sent to Canada as bombing and gunnery trainers under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. There were different variations of the plane, the model shown here had a Bristol Type I turret for turret-gunnery training.**



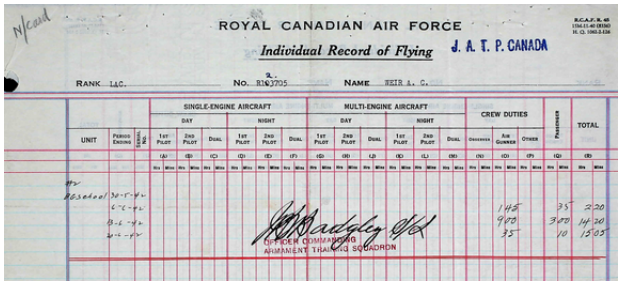
He scored 4.5% on the Beam Test (firing to the side), 6% on the Beam (Relative Speed) Test (as before but with the planes moving at different speeds), and 4.5% on the Under Tail Test (firing downwards past the tail fin). Although these percentages are low they are, in fact, highly respectable.

He fired 213 rounds on the ground during his initial training. Once in the air he fired 200 rounds at a ground based target and 2,550 rounds at a drogue being pulled by a tug plane.

His assessments show that he scored 77% on his written examination, 84% on his practical and oral exam, and 147/250 (59%) on his ability as a firer. He came 8th in his class of 37, passed, and became entitled to wear his Air Gunner's Badge. The remarks made were that he was academically above average, but in Air Firing he was below average.

His final assessment shows that 308/450 training marks and 175/250 on character and leadership, making a total of 483/700 or 69%. Remarks were "Carefree type", "Good team spirit".

His Individual Flying Record (on the right) records that on June 6th he did 1hr 45min of gunnery training, 9 hr on the 13th and 35min on the 20th.



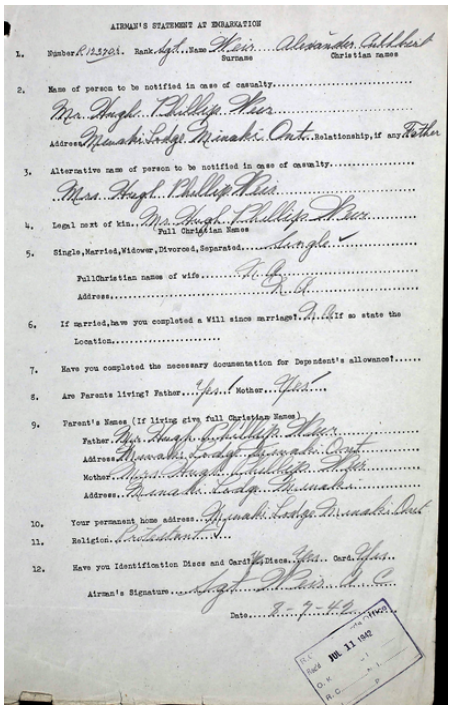
ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE
Individual Record of Flying — J. A. T. P. CANADA

RANK LAC. No. R/123705 NAME WEIR A. G.

UNIT	PERIOD ENDING	SINGLE-ENGINE AIRCRAFT DAY 1st Pilot	DAY 2nd Pilot	DAY Dual	NIGHT 1st Pilot	NIGHT 2nd Pilot	NIGHT Dual	MULTI-ENGINE AIRCRAFT DAY 1st Pilot	DAY 2nd Pilot	DAY Dual	NIGHT 1st Pilot	NIGHT 2nd Pilot	NIGHT Dual	CREW DUTIES Observer	Air Gunner	Other	Passenger	TOTAL
		(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(J)	(K)	(L)	(M)	(N)	(O)	(P)	(Q)	(R)
		Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins	Hrs Mins
Hr																		
Bdschool	30-5-42																	
	6-6-42														1 45		35	2 20
	13-6-42														9 00		3 00	14 20
	20-6-42														35		10	15 05

OFFICER COMMANDING
ARMAMENT TRAINING SQUADRON

* *Ingeniumcanada.org*



AIRMAN'S STATEMENT AT EMBARKATION

1. Number R 135701. Rank Sgt. Name Weir (Surname) Alexander Gilchrist (Christian names)

2. Name of person to be notified in case of casualty.....
Mr. Hugh Phillips Weir
Address Minaki Lodge Minaki Ont. Relationship, if any Father

3. Alternative name of person to be notified in case of casualty.....
Mrs. Hugh Phillips Weir

4. Legal next of kin.. Mr. Hugh Phillips Weir

5. Single, Married, Widower, Divorced, Separated.....Single

Full Christian names of wife.....N.A.
Address.....N.A.

6. If married, have you completed a Will since marriage?.....N.A. If so state the Location.....

7. Have you completed the necessary documentation for Dependent's allowance?.....

8. Are Parents living? Father...Yes... Mother...Yes...

9. Parent's Names (If living give full Christian Names)
Father..Mr. Hugh Phillips Weir
Address..Minaki Lodge Minaki Ont.
Mother..Mrs. Hugh Phillips Weir
Address..Minaki Lodge Minaki

10. Your permanent home address..Minaki Lodge Minaki Ont

11. Religion..Protestant...

12. Have you Identification Discs and Card? Discs..Yes.. Card..Yes..

Airman's Signature..Sgt. A. Weir R.C.A.F.

Date..7-7-42

JUL 11 1942

Statement at Embarkation Form

On 23rd June 1942 Alexander was posted to #1 Y Depot in Halifax, Nova Scotia but was given 14 days embarkation leave, until July 5th, before making his own way there and reporting on the 6th.

#1 Y Depot was an embarkation depot for Air Force personnel heading overseas to Europe where they would be mustered until travel was arranged by ship taking them to Europe.

Having arrived in Halifax, he completed a "Statement at Embarkation" form, which basically consisted of giving his parents' names and addresses several times over. However he did, also, have to sign to say that he had his identification discs and card with him.

He was struck off strength of #1 Y Depot and posted to RAF Trainees Pool (also in Halifax) on 19th July, and the next day embarked on a ship taking him to England.

On July 30th 1942 Alexander disembarked in England and was taken on strength immediately at 3 PRC (#3 Personnel Reception Centre) in Bournemouth as part of intake 428.

Three weeks later, on 21st September, he was posted to 20 OTU (#20 Operational Training Unit) at RAF Lossiemouth in Scotland in preparation for a posting with a squadron. 20 OTU was involved particularly with training night bomber crews using the Vickers Wellington twin engined medium bomber with a crew of five - pilot, wireless operator, bomb aimer, front gunner and tail gunner. He had never flown in anything as large as this before, indeed he had never flown as part of a crew before either, so it was here that he would learn how to successfully cope with both of these new experiences.

Alexander was at 20 OTU for just over three months until, on December 30th 1942, he was posted to 1652 CU (Conversion Unit) RAF Marston Moor at Tockwith, North Yorkshire. Just before he left, on 22nd December, he was promoted to (Temporary) Flight Sergeant.

The fact that it was "temporary" simply means that he was not a regular in the RCAF, but had signed up for the duration of the war.

Halifax Mk II heavy bomber

At 1652 CU he began to prepare for his final posting to a squadron in the four engined Handley Page Halifax heavy bomber, with a crew of seven. Unlike the Wellington, the nose guns of the Halifax were operated by the bomb aimer when needed, and it had a mid-upper turret, which was the position for which Alexander was training.

On 26th February 1943, after two months of training here, Alexander travelled the 25 miles to Pocklington, Yorkshire when he was posted to 102 Squadron.

His first op was on 4th April 1943 when he was in one of eleven bombers detailed to attack Kiel in what was a successful raid.

11 aircraft detailed to attack KIEL . Weather: 10/10 cloud from approx. 3°E throughout whole trip.

4.4.43	W.7912	PILOT	SGT. OLLIVER P.R.	KIEL	2100	0223	Attacked primary target at 19,000 feet heading 170°M TAS 220 10/10 cloud tops 5000 feet. Yellow markers seen on coast, green T.I. at target . Ran up on green, in bomb sight. Many fires round T.I. and also to S.E.
		NAV	SGT. DODDGE G.L.				
		W/Op.	SGT. HUGHES J				
		A/G	SGT. WEIR A.C.				
		A/G	SGT. DOLAN W.T.M.				
		ENG	SGT. MARSH L.				
		BOMB	SGT. WARNER L.				

This was followed on April 10th by a sortie in which thirteen aircraft from 102 attacked Frankfurt. Only twelve took part, with Alexander's plane being "scrubbed".

10.4.43 13 aircraft detailed to attack FRANKFURT. 10/10 cloud vary from 6/10,000 feet. 322

HR. 663	PILOT.	SGT. GRIFFITHS W.A.	-	-	Scrubbed.
	NAV.	SGT. MARSH G.H.			
	W/Op.	F/S. MANSELL J.C.H.			
	A/G	SGT. WEIR A.C.			
	A /G	SGT. WHITE J.			
	ENG.	SGT. SMITH F.M.M.			
	BOMB.	SGT. WILSON J.L.			

April 14th brought a sortie in which twelve aircraft were detailed for an attack on Stuttgart. This was the first time Alexander flew with my uncle, Air Bomber J K Campbell. They did not make it to the target as they had to abandon the "trip" ten miles East of Dieppe when the starboard inner engine was hit by heavy flak and became unserviceable and they returned to base.

14.4.43 12 aircraft detailed to attack STUTTGART. Weather: No cloudat target with good visibility marred only by a smoke haze.

HR. 668	PILOT.	SGT. GRIFFITHS W.A.	STUTTGART	2129	0052	Target not attacked. Trip abandoned 10 miles N. of DIEPPE starboard inner hit by heavy flak u/s. Returned to base.
	NAV.	SGT. MARSH G.H.				
	W/Op.	F/S. MANSELL G.F.H.				
	A/G	SGT. WEIR A.C.				
	A/G	SGT. WHITE B.C.				
	ENG	SGT. SMITH J.				
	BOMB.	SGT. CAMPBELL BOMB.				

Two days later virtually the same crew was in action again when, on 16th April, fourteen aircraft attacked Pilsen in a successful raid. However they spent almost the whole flight in more danger than usual with an unserviceable rear turret, and lost the port inner engine just before landing, which could have been very dangerous.

16.4.43 14 aircraft detailed to attack PILSEN. No low cloud, some industrial haze. 324

DT. 747	PILOT.	SGT. GRIFFITHS. W.A.		2058	0653	Attacked primary target at 8,000 feet heading 040°M 165 IAS Good visibility no cloud. Yellow T.I. markers seen on ETA. Over target white flares seen mostly at 4/6000 feet. Identified works. Works bombed visually, no greens seen but two reds seen on target by rear gunner. Built up area in bomb sight. Rear turret u/s before reaching target, port inner engine failed just before landing.
	NAV	SGT. MARSH G.H.				
	W/Op.	F/L. HINCHCLIFFE J.D.				
	A/G	SGT. WEIR A.C.				
	A/G	SGT. WHITE J.				
	ENG.	SGT. SMITH J.				
	BOMB.	SGT. CAMPBELL J.K.				

So four sorties for Alexander – the first one successful, the second scrubbed, the third aborted due to a flak damaged engine and the fourth, although completed, severely compromised by a u/s rear turret reducing defensive capability by half and an engine failure shortly before landing.

It might be said that the omens were not good!

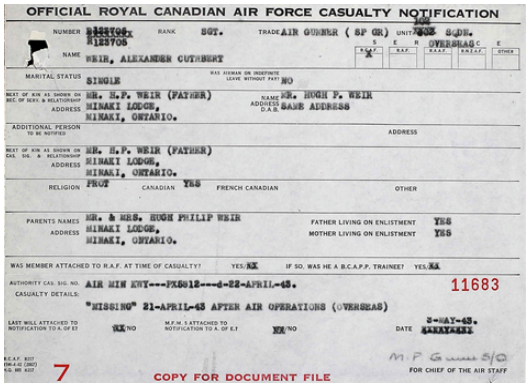
His fifth sortie, with the same crew plus one, was on April 20th. The plus one was TSE Bennett, a pilot from the Royal New Zealand Air Force who was on just his second familiarisation flight as "Second Dickie" (2nd Pilot). Sixteen Halifaxes took off from Pocklington headed for Stettin on a massive raid involving different bombers from many squadrons.

After leaving Pocklington they flew East and descended to less than 400 feet as they approached the Danish coast. Over Esbjerg they were coned by several land and harbour based searchlight batteries, which tracked them by radar and handed them over from one to another. Unable to break free of the lights the pilot WA Griffiths tried every manoeuvre possible, with no success. Sustaining continuous heavy damage the plane, DT 747 code DY-P, went down just outside Esbjerg on the Saedding road. There were no survivors.

20.4.43	16 aircraft detailed to attack STETTIN.		Weather:	No cloud enroute or at the target but patches of sea fog, Danish coast.			326
DT. 747	PILOT	SGT. W.A.GRIFFITHS	As above	2130	-	Aircraft missing nothing heard after take off.	
2nd.	NAVIGT	SGT. T.S.R.BENNETT					
	W/OP.	SGT. W.C.MARSH					
	R/G.	SGT. A.JENKINSON					
	A/G	SGT. A.C.WEIR					
	A/ENG	SGT. B.C.WHITE					
		SGT. J.T.SMITH					
	ENG.	SGT. J.K.CAMPBELL					
	BOMB						

Twenty nine other airmen were shot down and killed in the region that night, and on 30th April they were all buried together in a common grave, many of them known by name but unidentifiable, and therefore unable to be given a grave of their own. They were buried in Fovrfelt Cemetery, the service being taken by a German field pastor and full military honours provided by the Wehrmacht.

On May 3rd a Casualty Notification form was completed in which he was officially listed as "Missing", and on August 18th he was "Officially Presumed Dead".



OFFICIAL ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE CASUALTY NOTIFICATION

NUMBER R123705 RANK SGT. TRADE AIR GUNNER (SP GR) UNIT 408 SQDN. OVERSEAS

NAME WEIR, ALEXANDER CUTHBERT

MARITAL STATUS SINGLE WAS AIRMAN ON INDEFINITE LEAVE WITHOUT PAY? NO

NEXT OF KIN AS SHOWN ON REC. OF SERV. & RELATIONSHIP MR. H.P. WEIR (FATHER) ADDRESS MINAKI LODGE, MINAKI, ONTARIO. NAME MR. HUGH F. WEIR ADDRESS D.A.R. SAME ADDRESS

ADDITIONAL PERSON TO BE NOTIFIED ADDRESS

NEXT OF KIN AS SHOWN ON CAS. SIG. & RELATIONSHIP MR. H.P. WEIR (FATHER) ADDRESS MINAKI LODGE, MINAKI, ONTARIO.

RELIGION PROT CANADIAN YES FRENCH CANADIAN OTHER

PARENTS NAMES MR. & MRS. HUGH PHILIP WEIR ADDRESS MINAKI LODGE, MINAKI, ONTARIO. FATHER LIVING ON ENLISTMENT YES MOTHER LIVING ON ENLISTMENT YES

WAS MEMBER ATTACHED TO R.A.F. AT TIME OF CASUALTY? YES XX IF SO, WAS HE A B.C.A.F.P. TRAINEE? YES XX

AUTHORITY CAS. SIG. NO. AIR MIN ENT---PX5012---d-22-APRIL-43. 11683

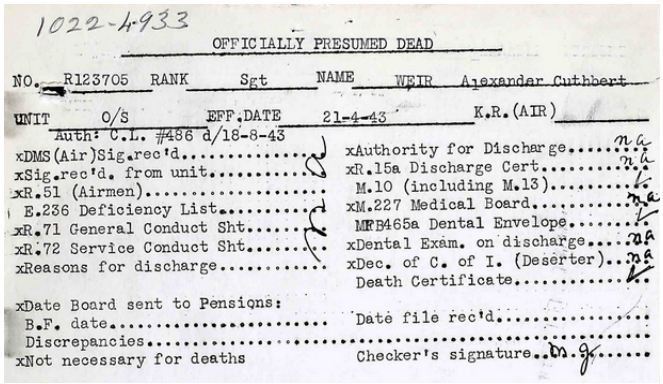
CASUALTY DETAILS: "MISSING" 21-APRIL-43 AFTER AIR OPERATIONS (OVERSEAS)

LAST WILL ATTACHED TO NOTIFICATION TO A. OF E? XX NO M.F.M. ATTACHED TO NOTIFICATION TO A. OF E? XX NO DATE 3-MAY-43.

M. F. Gunne S/O FOR CHIEF OF THE AIR STAFF

7 COPY FOR DOCUMENT FILE

Casualty Notification – "Missing"



1022-4-933

OFFICIALLY PRESUMED DEAD

NO. R123705 RANK Sgt NAME WEIR Alexander Cuthbert

UNIT O/S EFF.DATE 21-4-43 K.R.(AIR)

Auth: C.L. #486 d/18-8-43

xDMS(Air)Sig.rec'd.....
xSig.rec'd. from unit.....
xR.51 (Airmen).....
E.236 Deficiency List.....
xR.71 General Conduct Sht.....
xR.72 Service Conduct Sht.....
xReasons for discharge.....

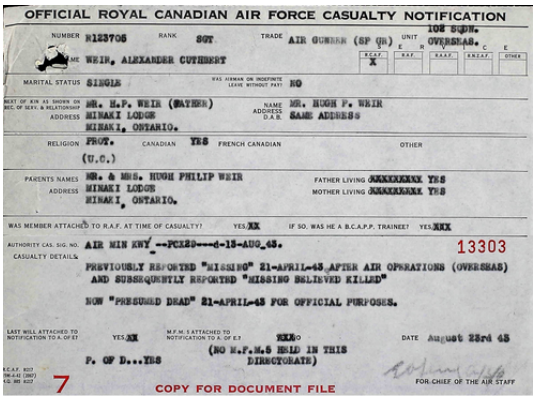
xAuthority for Discharge.....
xR.15a Discharge Cert.....
M.10 (including M.13).....
xM.227 Medical Board.....
MFB465a Dental Envelope.....
xDental Exam. on discharge.....
xDec. of C. of I. (Deserter)..
Death Certificate.....

xDate Board sent to Pensions:
B.F. date.....
Discrepancies.....
xNot necessary for deaths

Date file rec'd.....
Checker's signature.....

Officially Presumed Dead

On August 28th a further Casualty Form changed his status from "previously reported missing" and "subsequently reported "missing believed killed" to "presumed dead" for official purposes. A death certificate was completed.



OFFICIAL ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE CASUALTY NOTIFICATION

NUMBER R123705 RANK SGT TRADE AIR GUNNER (SP GR) UNIT 408 SQDN. OVERSEAS.

NAME WEIR, ALEXANDER CUTHBERT

MARITAL STATUS SINGLE WAS AIRMAN ON INDEFINITE LEAVE WITHOUT PAY? NO

NEXT OF KIN AS SHOWN ON REC. OF SERV. & RELATIONSHIP MR. H.P. WEIR (FATHER) ADDRESS MINAKI LODGE MINAKI, ONTARIO. NAME MR. HUGH F. WEIR ADDRESS D.A.R. SAME ADDRESS

RELIGION PROT. CANADIAN YES FRENCH CANADIAN OTHER (U.C.)

PARENTS NAMES MR. & MRS. HUGH PHILIP WEIR ADDRESS MINAKI LODGE MINAKI, ONTARIO. FATHER LIVING XXXXXXXXX YES MOTHER LIVING XXXXXXXXX YES

WAS MEMBER ATTACHED TO R.A.F. AT TIME OF CASUALTY? YES XX IF SO, WAS HE A B.C.A.F.P. TRAINEE? YES XX

AUTHORITY CAS. SIG. NO. AIR MIN ENT --PX2R3---d-18-AUG-43. 13303

CASUALTY DETAILS: PREVIOUSLY REPORTED "MISSING" 21-APRIL-43 AFTER AIR OPERATIONS (OVERSEAS) AND SUBSEQUENTLY REPORTED "MISSING BELIEVED KILLED"

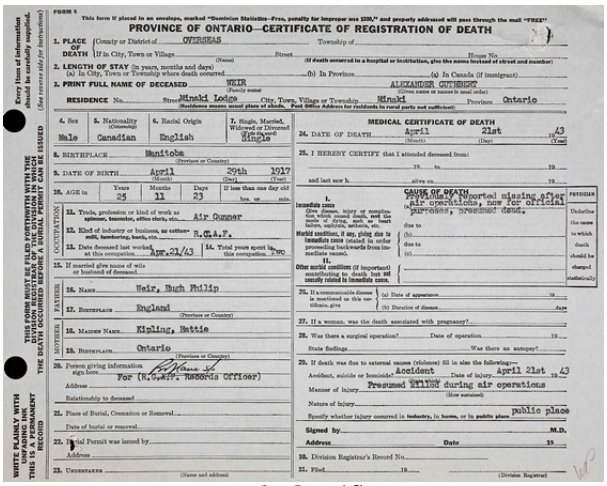
NOW "PRESUMED DEAD" 21-APRIL-43 FOR OFFICIAL PURPOSES.

LAST WILL ATTACHED TO NOTIFICATION TO A. OF E? YES XX M.F.M. ATTACHED TO NOTIFICATION TO A. OF E? XXX NO (NO M.F.M.S HELD IN THIS DIRECTORATE) DATE August 22nd 43

P. OF D...YES

7 COPY FOR DOCUMENT FILE FOR CHIEF OF THE AIR STAFF

Casualty Notification – "Presumed Dead"



FORM 5

This form if placed in an envelope, marked "Dominion Statistics—Free, penalty for improper use $100," and properly addressed will pass through the mail "FREE"

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO—CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF DEATH

1. PLACE OF DEATH (County or District of OVERSEAS Township of ... If in City, Town or Village ... Street ... House No.
2. LENGTH OF STAY (in years, months and days) (a) In City, Town or Township where death occurred ... (b) In Province ... (c) In Canada (if immigrant)
3. PRINT FULL NAME OF DECEASED WEIR (Family name) ALEXANDER CUTHBERT (Given name or names in usual order)

RESIDENCE No. ... Street Minaki Lodge City, Town, Village or Township Minaki Province Ontario (Residence means usual place of abode. Post Office Address for residents in rural parts not sufficient)

4. Sex Male 5. Nationality (Citizenship) Canadian 6. Racial Origin English 7. Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced (Give the name) Single

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

24. DATE OF DEATH April (Month) 21st (Day) 43 (Year)
25. I HEREBY CERTIFY that I attended deceased from: ... 19... to ... 19... and last saw h... alive on ... 19...

CAUSE OF DEATH

I. Immediate cause (Give disease, injury or complication which caused death, not the mode of dying, e.g., heart failure, asthenia, anemia, ...) due to (b) ... due to (c) ...
Probably reported missing after air operations, now for official purposes, presumed dead.
II. Other morbid conditions (if important) contributing to death but not causally related to immediate cause. ...

26. If a communicable disease is mentioned on this certificate, give (a) Date of appearance ... (b) Duration of disease ... days
27. If a woman, was the death associated with pregnancy?
28. Was there a surgical operation? Date of operation ... 19... State findings ... Was there an autopsy?
29. If death was due to external causes (violence) fill in also the following:— Accident, suicide or homicide Accident Date of injury April 21st 19 43 Manner of injury Presumed killed during air operations (Give minimum) Nature of injury ... Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place public place

Signed by ... M.D. Address ... Date ... 19...
30. Division Registrar's Record No.
31. Filed ... 19... (Division Registrar)

PHYSICIAN: Underline the cause to which death should be charged statistically

OCCUPATION: 10. AGE in Years 25 Months 11 Days 23 If less than one day old hrs. or min. 11. Trade, profession or kind of work as spinner, teamster, office clerk, etc. Air Gunner 12. Kind of industry or business, as cotton-mill, lumbering, bank, etc. R.C.A.F. 13. Date deceased last worked at this occupation Apr.21/43 14. Total years spent in this occupation ...Yrs.

15. If married give name of wife or husband of deceased ...

FATHER: 16. Name Weir, Hugh Philip 17. Birthplace England (Province or Country)

MOTHER: 18. Maiden Name Kirling, Hettie 19. Birthplace Ontario (Province or Country)

20. Person giving information sign here For (R.A.F.F. Records Officer) Address ... Relationship to deceased ...

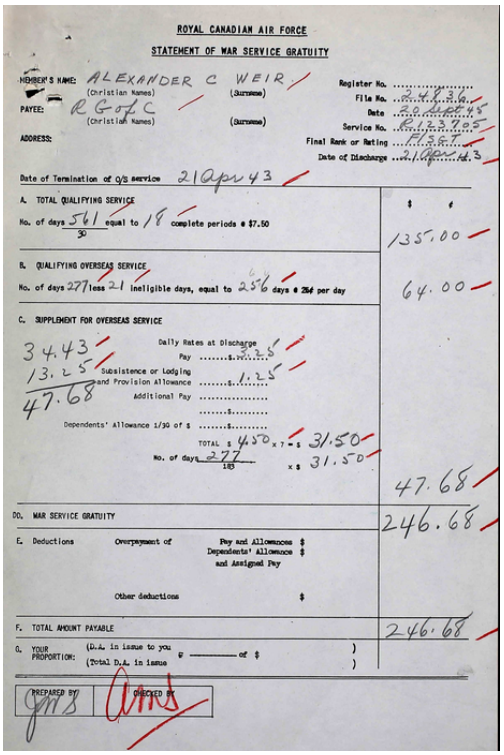
21. Place of Burial, Cremation or Removal ... Date of burial or removal ...
22. Burial Permit was issued by ... Address ...
23. Undertaker ... (Name and address)

Every item of information should be carefully supplied. (See reverse side for instructions)

THIS FORM MUST BE FILED FORTHWITH WITH THE REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS IN THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE DEATH OCCURRED BEFORE A BURIAL PERMIT CAN BE ISSUED

WRITE PLAINLY WITH INK. THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD

Death Certificate



ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

STATEMENT OF WAR SERVICE GRATUITY

MEMBER'S NAME: ALEXANDER C WEIR (Christian Names) (Surname)

PAYEE: R Gore (Christian Names) (Surname)

ADDRESS:

Register No. .....
File No. 24836
Date 20 Sept 45
Service No. R123705
Final Rank or Rating F/S
Date of Discharge 21 Apr 43

Date of Termination of O/S service 21 Apr 43

A. TOTAL QUALIFYING SERVICE — $ ¢
No. of days 561 / 30 equal to 18 complete periods @ $7.50 — 135.00

B. QUALIFYING OVERSEAS SERVICE
No. of days 277 less 21 ineligible days, equal to 256 days @ 25¢ per day — 64.00

C. SUPPLEMENT FOR OVERSEAS SERVICE
Daily Rates at Discharge
Pay .....$ 3.25
Subsistence or Lodging and Provision Allowance .....$ 1.25
Additional Pay .....
.....$.....
Dependents' Allowance 1/30 of $ .....$.....
TOTAL $ 4.50 x 7 = $ 31.50
No. of days 277 / 183 x $ 31.50 — 47.68

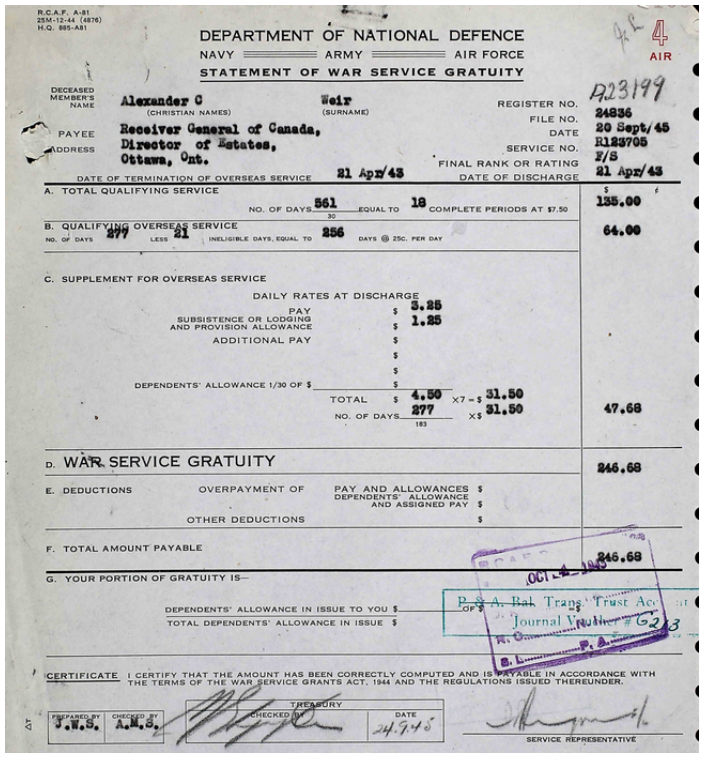
DD. WAR SERVICE GRATUITY — 246.68

E. Deductions — Overpayment of — Pay and Allowances $ — Dependents' Allowance and Assigned Pay $ — Other deductions $

F. TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE — 246.68

G. YOUR PROPORTION: (D.A. in issue to you) (Total D.A. in issue) of $

PREPARED BY J.W.S. CHECKED BY A.M.S.



R.C.A.F. A-81
25M-12-44 (4876)
H.Q. 885-A81

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
NAVY — ARMY — AIR FORCE
STATEMENT OF WAR SERVICE GRATUITY

4 AIR

DECEASED MEMBER'S NAME: Alexander C (CHRISTIAN NAMES) Weir (SURNAME)

PAYEE: Receiver General of Canada, Director of Estates, Ottawa, Ont.

ADDRESS

REGISTER NO. A23199
FILE NO. 24836
DATE 20 Sept/45
SERVICE NO. R123705
FINAL RANK OR RATING F/S
DATE OF DISCHARGE 21 Apr/43

DATE OF TERMINATION OF OVERSEAS SERVICE 21 Apr/43

A. TOTAL QUALIFYING SERVICE — $ ¢
NO. OF DAYS 561 / 30 EQUAL TO 18 COMPLETE PERIODS AT $7.50 — 135.00

B. QUALIFYING OVERSEAS SERVICE
NO. OF DAYS 277 LESS 21 INELIGIBLE DAYS, EQUAL TO 256 DAYS @ 25c. PER DAY — 64.00

C. SUPPLEMENT FOR OVERSEAS SERVICE
DAILY RATES AT DISCHARGE
PAY $ 3.25
SUBSISTENCE OR LODGING AND PROVISION ALLOWANCE $ 1.25
ADDITIONAL PAY $
$
$
DEPENDENTS' ALLOWANCE 1/30 OF $ $
TOTAL $ 4.50 x7 = $ 31.50
NO. OF DAYS 277 / 183 x$ 31.50 — 47.68

D. WAR SERVICE GRATUITY — 246.68

E. DEDUCTIONS — OVERPAYMENT OF — PAY AND ALLOWANCES $ — DEPENDENTS' ALLOWANCE AND ASSIGNED PAY $ — OTHER DEDUCTIONS $

F. TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE — 246.68

G. YOUR PORTION OF GRATUITY IS— OF $
DEPENDENTS' ALLOWANCE IN ISSUE TO YOU $
TOTAL DEPENDENTS' ALLOWANCE IN ISSUE $

OCT 4 1945
P.S.A. Bal. Trans. Trust Acc.
Journal Voucher # 623

CERTIFICATE I CERTIFY THAT THE AMOUNT HAS BEEN CORRECTLY COMPUTED AND IS PAYABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE WAR SERVICE GRANTS ACT, 1944 AND THE REGULATIONS ISSUED THEREUNDER.

PREPARED BY J.W.S. CHECKED BY A.M.S. TREASURY CHECKED BY DATE 24.9.45

SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

On September 20th 1945 a Statement of War Service Gratuity was drawn up. This shows that Alexander's total qualifying service was 561 days, equal to 18 periods of 30 days at $7.50 per period – a total of $135.

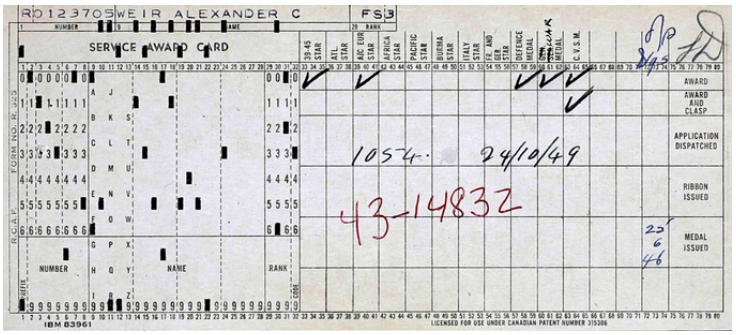
In fact simple arithmetic arrives at 18.7 periods, which means that he was short changed by $5.25 – or if they had been slightly more generous to a citizen who died on active service for his country and called it 19 periods, $7.50.

Of this service, 277 days had been overseas although 21 of those were ineligible, leaving 256 days for which he was entitled to an extra 25c per day – a total of $64.

Then there was a supplement for overseas service at a daily rate of $3.25 pay and $1.25 subsistence equal to $31.50 per week. However the total due was not calculated using the number of weeks, but using a 183rd fraction of the number of days. Hence the total was 277/183 x $31.50 or $47.68.

So his total War Service Gratuity came to $246.68, which is the equivalent of $3,657 in 2020 or £2,115.

Alexander became eligible for the following medals at the end of the war:-



R123705 WEIR ALEXANDER C F/S

SERVICE AWARD CARD

39-45 STAR, ALL STAR, AIR EUR STAR, AFRICA STAR, PACIFIC STAR, BURMA STAR, ITALY STAR, F.E. AND EGY. DEFENCE MEDAL, WAR MEDAL, CVSM, C.V.S.M.

AWARD — AWARD AND CLASP — APPLICATION DISPATCHED — RIBBON ISSUED — MEDAL ISSUED

1054 24/10/49

43-14832

23 6 46

1939-45 Star
Air Crew Europe Star
Defence Medal
War Medal
CVSM and clasp
(Canadian Voluntary Service Medal)

1939-45 Star

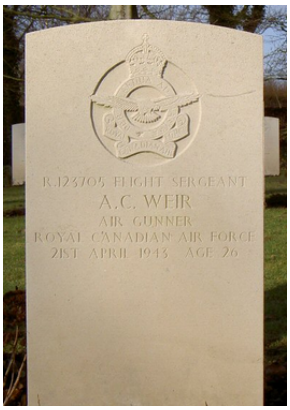
A/C Europe Medal

Defence Medal

War Medal

CVSM Medal & Clasp

Alexander Cuthbert Weir died at the age of 25 years 11 months and 23 days, just a week short of his 26th birthday.



He is remembered in **Fovrfelt Cemetery**, Esbjerg, Denmark.

He is also remembered on the **Bomber Command Memorial Wall** at Nanton, Alberta

Also remembered in the **Book of Remembrance** in the Memorial Chamber of the Peace Tower in Ottawa.

And at the **International Bomber Command Centre** in Lincoln, England

The Ancestry of Alexander Cuthbert Weir

Alexander Cuthbert Weir

The matter of Alexander's ancestry came about in the following way. Bomb Aimers **Joe Wilson** and **Ken Campbell** both knew him in 102 Squadron. Joe was due to go on the Stettin raid on April 20th, but had to pull out as severe impetigo rendered him unable to fit his oxygen mask tightly to his face. So Ken, my uncle, went in his place and died with Alexander and the other six members of the crew.

James Kenneth Campbell

During my investigation into Ken's time in the RAF I posted various things online, which were seen by Joe's daughter **Jenny**, and she made contact with me. She invited me to a 102 Squadron reunion where I met her and Joe, and we have been in contact ever since. One of the things that Jenny told me was that Joe had said to her that there was, apparently, indigenous Canadian blood somewhere in his roots and she wondered if this was true, or if her father was mis-remembering.

Joseph Wilson

With parents Hugh Phillip Weir and Hattie Kipling it seemed unlikely, but then I received ACW's service record from **Clare Wilson**, another member of the 102 Squadron Association. Clare is the great niece of **Ronnie Mather**, another crew man with whom Ken flew and who appeared together with him in a newspaper article.

GLASGOW MAN'S LUCKY CHARM

2000 Ki

The sergeant boasting the white elephant lucky charm hails from Glasgow, his admirer from Widnes. They are members of the Ceylon Squadron which has been doing yeoman service over Germany, particularly with relish in the great Berlin, Essen and Kiel raids. They say their elephant is white, not pink.

Ronnie Mather

Looking through the records I noticed one early document, a report from Alexander's initial interview, where a comment noted that "This man appears to be of Indian blood".

So I decided that I really ought to do some investigating and try to discover Alexander's heritage. The results are contained in the following pages.

John Kipling (Senior) was born on April 27th 1724 at Barmingham, in Stockton on Tees. He married Hannah Healey on 3rd March 1762 at Ferry Fryston when he was 38 and she was 28, Hannah having given birth to a son Thomas the previous year. This was possibly a "shotgun wedding", so it is perhaps not surprising that within two years John left Hannah and Thomas in Stockton, sailed for Canada to work for the Hudson Bay Company, and entered their service at Albany in 1766, working as a carpenter and sawyer. In 1777 he was sent up the Albany River to found a base deeper in Indian Territory to improve trade. This was named Gloucester House, and the next year he was commissioned as its Master, a position he held until 1791.

NAME: KIPLING, John PARISH: Stockton-On-Tees (A.30/5, fo. 3d-4) ENTERED SERVICE: 1766 DATES: d. 23 Nov. 1794 (B.3/a/96, fo. 9)

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year*	Position	Post	District	HBCA Reference
1766-1788	Carpenter, Sawyer	Albany	Albany	A.30/1, fo. 1d-2; A.30/5, fo. 3d-4
1778-1791*	Master	Gloucester House	Albany	A.6/13, fo. 2, 70, 94d, 121; Lytwyn 1986: App. A
1791-1792*	i/c for E. Jarvis	Albany	Albany	A.11/5, fo. 172-176d
1792, Sept.-1793, Sept.	Home and back in *King George* III			C.1/394, 395
1793-1794	Second	Albany	Albany	A.5/3, fo. 84d; A.30/5 fos. 30d-31
1794, 23 Nov.	Struck with "Apopletick fitt" at Albany, 18 Nov. 1794; died 23 Nov., 5:30 PM, buried 25 Nov. (B.3/a/96, fo. 8d-9)			

*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May

Wife: Hannah [Truthwaite] (A.5/3; John Kipling's Will made 3 May 1793 in Stockton, Co. Durham, Search File)
Son: Thomas (bricklayer in Stockton in 1793) m. Ann (John Kipling's Will made 3 May 1793 in Stockton, Co. Durham, Search File)

Brother [in law]: Matthew Truthwaite, Master Gloucester House in 1793, wife Pocathea, whose son Edward was provided for in his will (Will made 3 May 1793 in Stockton, Co. Durham, Search File)

\+ Commissioned as Master of Gloucester House 30 June, 1778 (B.3/b/15, fo.36d)
* Kipling was struck with strokes in September 1790 and the winter of 1791-1792 (Ellen Cooke, *Fur Trade Profiles*...pp. 30-32)
Appointed Second at Albany 25 May, 1792, under John McNab (A.5/3, fo. 84d)

REFERENCES:
Search Files: Kipling, John (fl. 1772-1794), Gloucester House

Anick, Norman, 1976, "The Fur Trade in Eastern Canada Until 1870", Vol. 1 & 2; National Historic Parks & Sites Branch, Parks Canada, Ottawa.
Lytwyn, V., 1986, "The Fur Trade of the Little North", Rupert's Land Research Centre, Winnipeg

Prior to beginning his employment with the HBC John married Nancy (the name usually given to unknown native women), a Cree or Objibwa native, and a son John (Junior) was born at Fort Albany in 1774.

Further children were George (1780), Jack Ram (c1788), Marguerite (Margaret) (1791), and Thomas Pisk (c1792), although the last three may well have been born to several other native women.

The family lived in the Red River Settlements in Rupert's Land, a huge area given to the HBC by King Charles II in 1670.

On 25th May 1792 he was appointed Second at Albany, but in September, after suffering his second stroke in as many years, John returned to England on the ship "King George III". He made his way back to Stockton where he made his will on 3rd May 1793.

He returned in September 1793 but just over a year later, on 18th November 1794, he was struck with an "Apopletick fitt" and died at 5:30pm on the 23rd. He was buried on the 25th at Albany Fort, Hudson Bay, Rupertsland.

So John Kipling (Junior), born in 1774 at Fort Albany in Ruperts Land, was a half blooded native – described in one source as a "half breed voyageur in the HBC".

In 1793 he began his career with the HBC as a labourer-steersman and was one of a group of HBC men who established Brandon House in the Red River Valley, and by 1797 he moved there permanently. Around that time he married a Salteuse Indian woman named (*no surprise*) Nancy, and they had several children including John (Jack) (c1796), Thomas (c1800), George (c1805), Edward (c1807), Peter (1812), and Jane (c1815).

In 1810 he was assigned to Brandon House, but over the next few years he was assigned to Pembina, the East Winnipic District, and Portage La Prairie (where he was rated "Sober, honest and can steer a boat").

According to HBC reports he arrived at Manitoba House from Brandon on May 29th 1816 with seeds, letters and his family. This was fortunate for them as on June 1st Metis (offspring of French fathers and Native mothers) soldiers pillaged Brandon. That same year he fell from a horse at the company's post of Portage des Prairies on his way to a posting at Halkett House, where he could only work as an interpreter due to his disability.

In 1817 he was sent back to Manitoba House where he continued to work for a few years as an interpreter, (being described as a "cripple"), until he was retired by the company.* In 1819 The HBC noted that he was "not so good as he has been but still of a great deal of service at a house, or for hunting".

Having left HBC on 13th April 1821, he became a "freeman" in the Red River Settlement living in St Andrew's Parish.

Red River Settlement in 1817

Red River summer view 1822

* *http://www.redriverancestry.ca*

He was found in the HBC 1827 Red River Census. He was aged 61 (probably an error as he was 51), born in Rupert's Land. He had 1 woman, 2 sons (+16), 1 son (-16), 2 daughter (-15), 1 house, 1 horse, 1 cow, 1 calf, 1 canoe, and 2 acres.

No. of Family	No. of Lot	Names	Ages	Religion	Country	Provinces	Unmarried	Num. of Women	Sons above 16	Sons under 16	Daughters above 15	Daughters under 15	Houses	Barns	Stables	Horses	Mares	Bulls	Cows	Oxen	Calves	Sheep	Carts	Ploughs	Harrows	Boats	Canoes	Dung	Hay	Pr.
110		Thos Peck Kipling	55	Protestant	Rupert's Land	1	.	1	.	1	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
111		John Kipling	61	D°	D°	1	.	1	2	1	.	2	1	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	.	.

The woman would be Nancy, the two sons over 16 would be George (22) and Edward (20), and the son under 16 would be Peter (14). The two daughter (note daughter is singular) under 15 is a puzzle as one would be Jane (12), but John only had one daughter. A possible explanation the second 'daughter' may in fact have been George's future wife Isabella Landry, who was very young at the time.

No. 19 Page 3.

Kipling John,
Died at Fort Garry,
Burial on Sept.29,1825(S.J.)
age 30 yrs.old.
By Rev.David Jones
St.Johns
RED RIVER

The mission church, 1822.

Two years previously John and Nancy's son John (Jack), who was born in 1796, died at Fort Garry and was buried at St John's Church, Red River on 29th September 1825 aged 30.

Kipling, Margaret, of Red River
marriage, 18 December 1827
to John Lyons, a Half-Breed of same place
By: Rev. William Cockran
Witnesses: William Robert Smith
Donald Gunn
St. John's, Red River

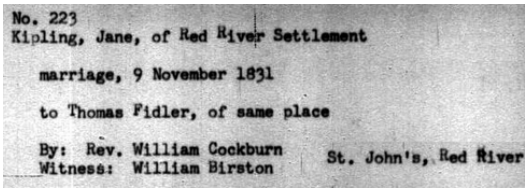
On 18th December 1827, their daughter Margaret married a "half breed", John Lyons, at St John's.

No. of Lot	Names	Ages	Religion	Country	Province	Unmarried	Women	Sons above 16	Sons under 16	Daughters above 15	Daughters under 15	Houses	Barns	Stables	Horses	Mares	Bulls	Cows	Oxen	Calves	Sheep	Carts	Ploughs	Harrows	Boats	Canoes	Land Cultivated	Land Uncultivated	5
																											A. R.P.	A. R.P.	
1	John Kipling	56	Protestant	Native	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1			

John and Nancy were recorded again in the 1828 census. This time John's age was given (almost) correctly as 56. It was noted that he had 1 woman and 1 son over 16 living with him (probably Edward), no other sons or daughters, and he now only had his house, a horse and a canoe. Most strikingly, in the column labelled "Country" the enumerator has written Native, reflecting the fact that his mother was an Indian. Eldest son George married Isabella at St John's on November 20th 1828.

No. 163. Page 56.

Kipling George of Red River Setlement,
& Isabella Landry ~~wife~~ married at
Red River Settlement on November 20,1828(S.J.)
By Rev.William Cockran
PresentPeter Pruden
Donald Gunn
St. Johns
RED RIVER


No. 223
Kipling, Jane, of Red River Settlement

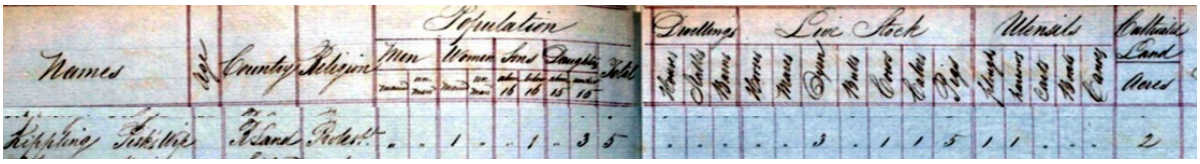
marriage, 9 November 1831

to Thomas Fidler, of same place

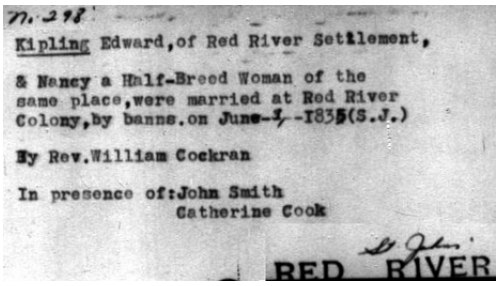
By: Rev. William Cockburn
Witness: William Birston St. John's, Red River

Their daughter Jane married Thomas Fidler at St John's on 9th November 1831.

At some point between the 1828 and 1831 censuses John's brother Thomas Pisk died. In the 1830 census his wife is shown to be raising one boy under the age of 16 and three girls under 15. She had been left with 3 oxen, a cow and a calf, 5 pigs, a plough, a harrow and 2 acres of land.



On June 3rd 1835 John and Nancy's son Edward married Nancy, a "half breed woman", at St John's.


n. 298
Kipling Edward, of Red River Settlement,

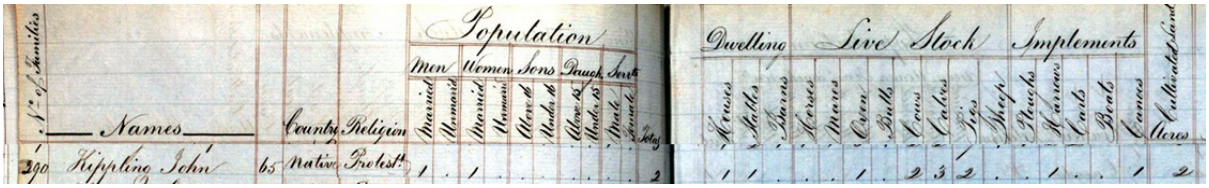
& Nancy a Half-Breed Woman of the same place, were married at Red River Colony, by banns. on June-3-1835 (S.J.)

By Rev. William Cockran

In presence of: John Smith
Catherine Cook

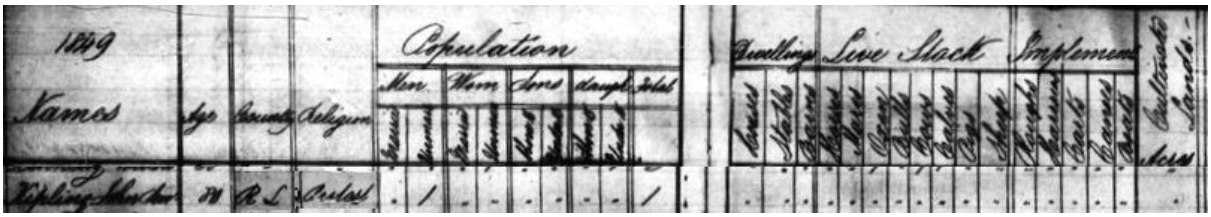
RED RIVER

John appeared regularly in the Red River census throughout the years. In 1840 he and Nancy were recorded as having a stable, an ox, 3 cows and 2 calves, 2 pigs, a harrow, a canoe and 2 acres of land. This was virtually unchanged in 1841.



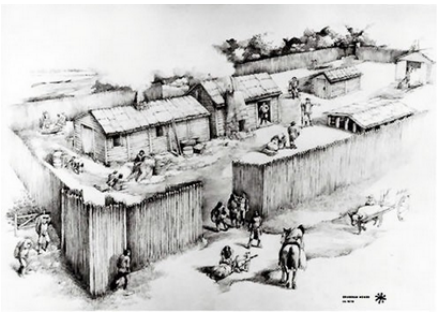
However, in 1843 he was living alone, so Nancy had died during the intervening period.

The last census in which John appeared was in 1849. Aged 80 and living alone, he died soon after, c1850.



So George Kipling, born c1805 at Brandon House, was ¾ Native Canadian.

On Sep 21st 1819 George, just 14, was engaged as a labourer along with his crippled father (John) to work in Dauphin House.



Brandon House c1810

By 1827 the John and his family had settled in St Andrews Parish, Red River where they were recorded on the census that year.. George would have been in his early twenties.

No. of Family	No. of Pol.	Names	Years Age	Religion	Country	Provision	Manufactures	Number of Men	Sons above 16	Sons under 16	Family Daughters above 15	Daughters under 15	Building Houses	Barns	Stables	Live Stock Horses	Mares	Bulls	Cows	Oxen	Calves	Sheep	Implements of Husbandry Carts	Ploughs	Harrows	Boats	Canoes	Land Crop Acres	R.	P.
110		Thos. Peak Kipling	55	Protestant	Rupert Land	1	.	1	.	1	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
111		John Kipling	61	D°	D°	1	.	1	2	1	.	2	1	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	.	.

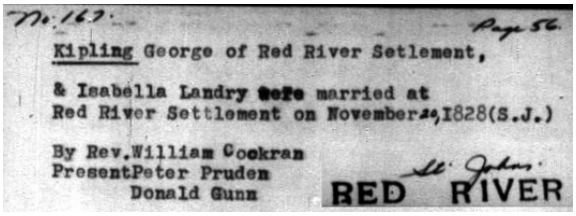
There were two sons over the age of 16 living with John and Nancy, who would be George and Edward, and Peter was the son under 16. Two daughters under 15 are also recorded, but Jane was the only daughter they had. It is likely, therefore, that the other daughter was Isabella Landry, who George was soon to marry.

Isabella was born c1812 to Baptiste and Margaret Landry. According to Isabella's Scrip affidavit, she stated that Baptiste was a half-breed and Margaret was an Indian woman.* Hence Isabella herself was ¾ indigenous blood.

In early 1828 George and Isabella had a daughter Susannah, who was baptised on 25th February 1828.

Baptisms, solemnized in the territories of the Hon. Hudson's Bay Co. 1827 1828

When baptised	Child's Christian name	Parents Christian	Surname	Abode	Quality, Trade or Profession	By whom the ceremony was performed
February 25th 725.	Susannah Daughter of	George and Isabella	Kipling	Red River	Settler	D. T. Jones



No. 167. Page 56.

Kipling George of Red River Setlement,

& Isabella Landry ~~wife~~ married at Red River Settlement on November 20, 1828 (S.J.)

By Rev. William Cockran
PresentPeter Pruden
Donald Gunn

St. John's RED RIVER

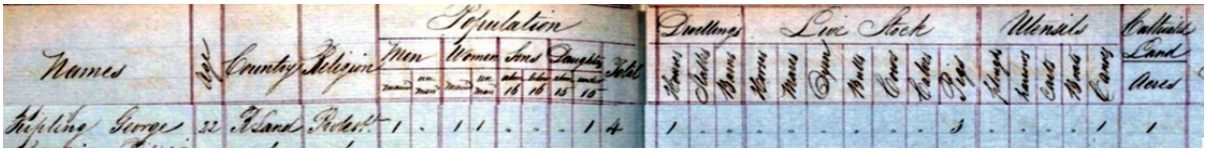
On November 20th 1828 George and Isabella were married in St John's Church (now St John's Cathedral in the city of Winnipeg).*

In the 1830 census George is recorded as having his own house in which were living two women and a daughter under the age of 15. He also had two pigs, a canoe, and 2 acres under cultivation. We know that one woman and the daughter were Isabella and Susannah, but thanks to the enumerator we also know that the other woman was Isabella's mother Margaret.

Number of Family	Names		Age	Country	Religion	Population Men above 15	Men under 15	Women	Sons above 15	Sons under 15	Daughters above 15	Daughters under 15	Dwellings &c Houses	Stables &c	Barns	Live Stock Horses	Mares	Bulls	Cows	Oxen	Calves	Pigs	Utensils Carts	Ploughs	Harrows	Boats	Canoes	Cultivated Land Acres	R.	P.	Remarks
129	Kipling	George		Rup. Land	Protestant	1	.	2	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	1	2	.	.	Her mother-in-law lives at his house

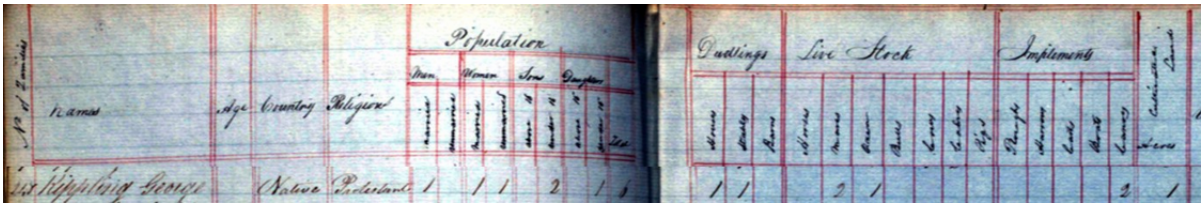
* *redriverancestry.ca* * *Library and Archives Canada*

In the 1831 census George, aged 22, is again recorded as having four people in his household, but because the section for women is split into married and unmarried we know that the other woman is unmarried – so we have himself and Isabella, an unmarried woman and a daughter, Susannah, under the age of 16. It seems likely that Baptiste Landry has died, leaving Margaret "unmarried".

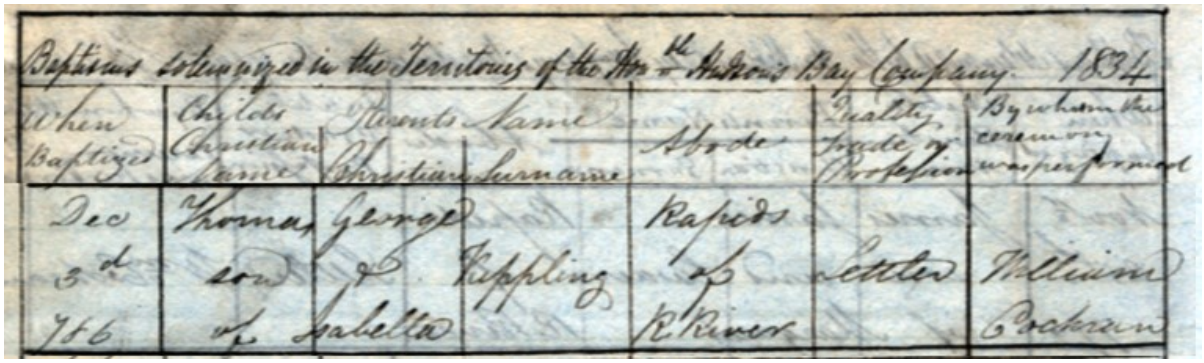


By 1832, Margaret Landry had left, but there were still 4 in the household. George and Isabella now had a son under 16, the latest addition to their family born in 1831, **Edward**.

In 1835 the census showed that he had a house and stable, 2 mares, an ox, 2 canoes and 1 acre of land under cultivation. Living with George and Isabella were four other people. Three of those were Susannah, Edward and Thomas, who was born on 10th November 1834 and baptised on December 3rd. The final member of the household was an unmarried woman, so it is likely that Margaret has returned.



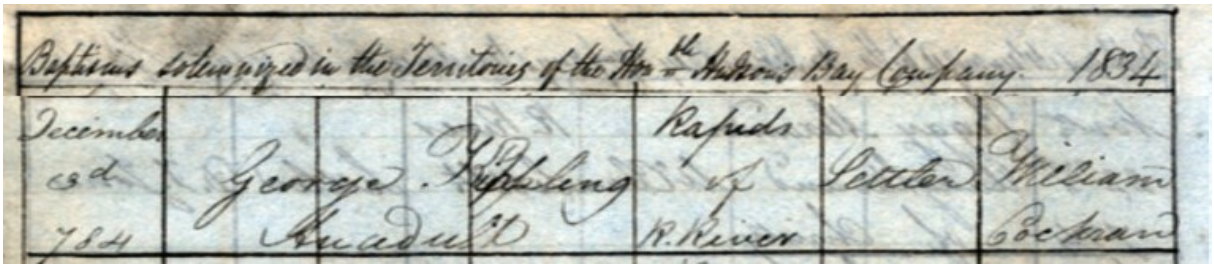
On December 3rd 1834 Thomas was baptised.



When Baptized	Child's Christian Name	Parents Name Christian	Surname	Abode	Quality, Trade or Profession	By whom the ceremony was performed
Dec 3d 1834	Thomas son of	George & Isabella	Kippling	Rapids of R. River	Settler	William Cockran

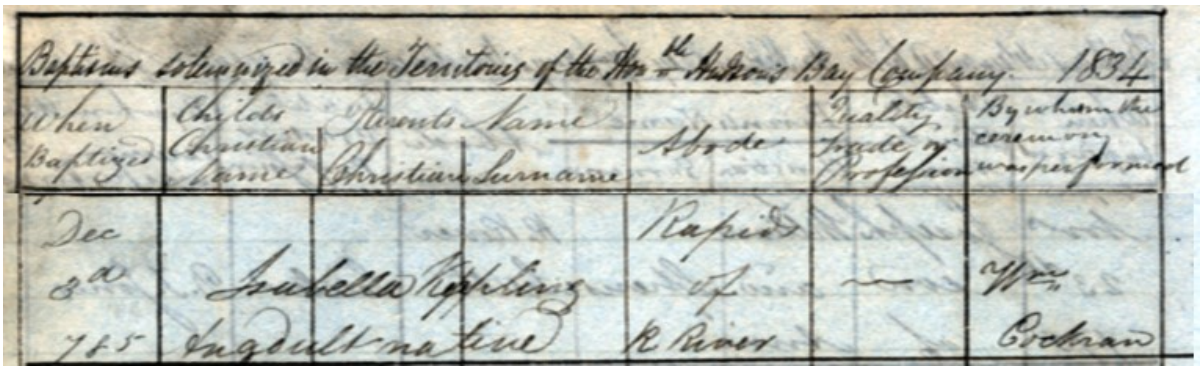
The baptismal entry indicates that George was a settler, and confirms that he no longer worked for the HBC. It also gives a bit more detail on where in the Red River Settlement he was living – at the Rapids of Red River.

In fact not only was Thomas baptised, but his mother and father were too.



Baptisms solemnized in the Territories of the Hon.ble Hudson's Bay Company. 1834

December 8d 1834	George Rupling Acadian			Rapids of R. River	Settler	William Cochran



Baptisms solemnized in the Territories of the Hon.ble Hudson's Bay Company. 1834

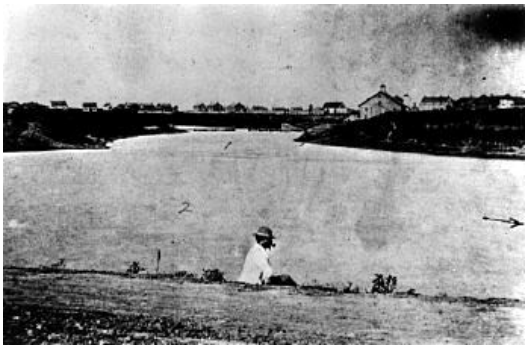
When Baptized	Child's Christian Name	Parents Name Christian	Surname	Abode	Quality, Trade or Profession	By whom the ceremony was performed
Dec 8d 1835	Isabella	Rupling	Ingdult native	Rapids of R River	—	Wm Cochran

Unfortunately I have been unable to find a baptism for Edward, the great grandfather of Alexander Cuthbert Weir.

At the beginning of 1838 a third son, George (junior), was born and he was baptised on January 16th of that year.

Baptisms solemnized in the territories of the Hon: Hudson's Bay Comp.y in the year 1838 149

When baptized	Child's Name	Parents Names Christian	Surname	Abode	Quality or Profession	By whom baptized
Jan.y 16th 1838	George son of	Geo: & Isabella	Rupling	Red River Settlement	Settler	Wm. Cockran 2nd Chaplain.



Red River Settlement c1840

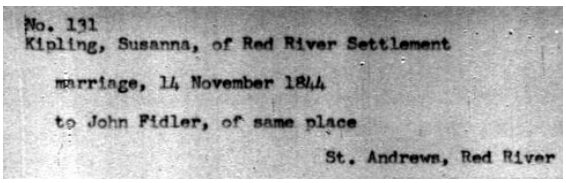
In early 1842 a second daughter, Mary, was born, and she was baptised on February 22nd of that year*.

She appeared on the 1843 census, in addition to Susannah, as the second daughter under the age of 15. Also with George and Isabella were their three sons Edward, Thomas and George, all under 16. George was doing quite well by now, having a horse, a mare, 2 oxen, a cow, 3 calves, 2 pigs, a plough, a harrow, a cart and 3 acres of land under cultivation.

No. of Families	Names	Age	Country	Religion	Population: Men married	Women married	Sons under 16	Sons above 16	Daughters under 16	Daughters above 16	Total	Dwellings: Houses	Stables	Barns	Live Stock: Horses	Brood Mares	Oxen	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Implements: Ploughs	Harrows	Carts	Pickets	Carpenter's Tools	Remarks &c
978	Rippline George		R. Land	Protest	1	-	1	-	-	3	-	2		1	1	-	1	2	2	-	1	2	2	-	1	1	1	-	1	3

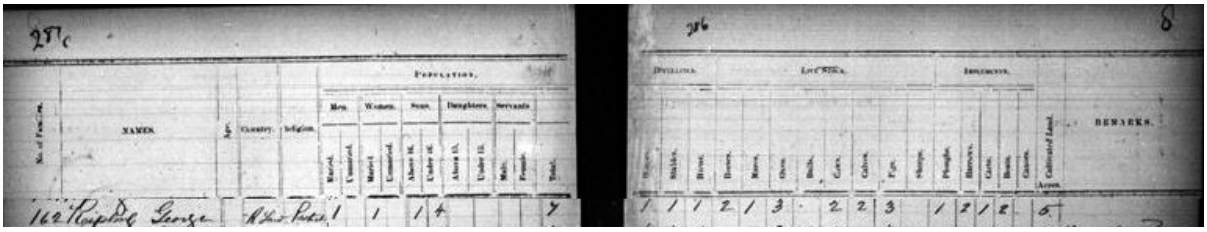
* redriverancestry.ca

In the following year, on 14th November 1844 eldest daughter Susannah married John Fidler at St Andrew's Church, Red River.


No. 131
Kipling, Susanna, of Red River Settlement
marriage, 14 November 1844
to John Fidler, of same place
St. Andrews, Red River

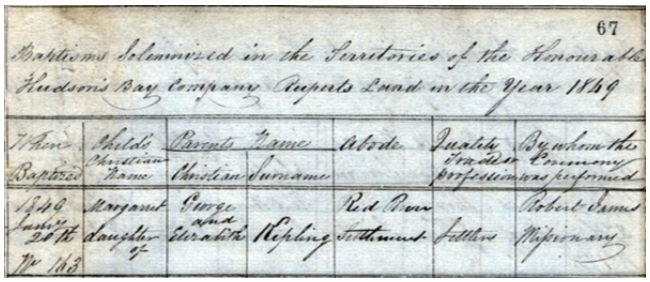
In 1846 two significant events occurred. A fourth son, John, was born. He was baptised on February 18th, just two days after his little sister Mary was buried, aged 4*.

These three events were implicitly recorded in the census for 1846, when George was shown to have four sons under the age of 16 living at home (*who the over 16 son recorded on the page was I do not know*), but no daughters – since Susannah was now living with John Fidler and Mary having died.



Above—Red River Settlement by Paul Kane c. 1848 (Royal Ontario Museum).

In January 1849 George and Isabella welcomed another daughter into the family and Margaret was baptised on January 20th.


67
Baptisms Solemnized in the Territories of the Honourable Hudson's Bay Company Rupert's Land in the Year 1849

When Baptized	Child's Christian Name	Parents Christian	Name Surname	Abode	Quality Trade or Profession	By whom the Ceremony was performed
1849 Jan. 20th No 183	Margaret	George and Elizabeth	Kipling	Red River Settlement	Settler	Robert Ramsay Missionary

It looked as if 1849 was going to be a good year for George and Isabella. Not only had they welcomed a new daughter into the family, but the census return showed that George's assets were increasing.

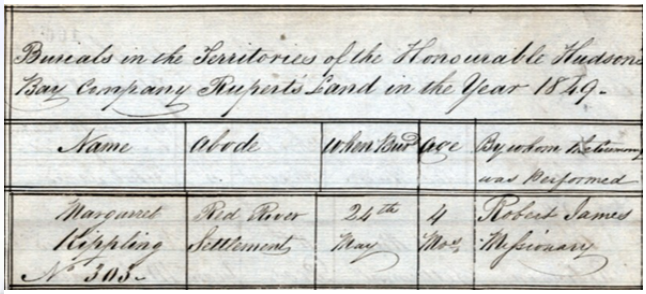
He was recorded as having 2 stables, 2 horses and a mare, 3 oxen, 2 cows and 4 calves, a plough, a harrow, 2 carts, a canoe, and now had 8 acres under cultivation.

(*I cannot explain the recording of two daughters under the age of 15. I can only suggest it is an error as, including Isabella and the four boys, it gives a total of seven people* ***without*** *including George himself*).

* *redriverancestry.ca*

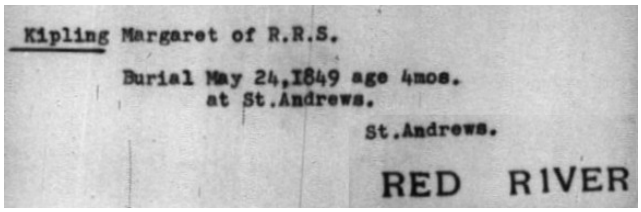
However, in May tragedy struck the family again when Margaret died at the age of four months.
She was buried at St Andrew's Church on 24th May 1849.

St Andrew's Church – completed in 1849



Burials in the Territories of the Honourable Hudson's Bay Company Ruperts Land in the Year 1849.

Name	Abode	When Buried	Age	By whom the Burial was Performed
Margaret Kipling No 305.	Red River Settlement	24th May	4 Mos	Robert James Hepburn

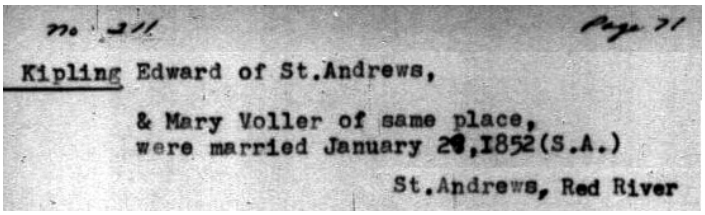


Kipling Margaret of R.R.S.

Burial May 24,1849 age 4mos.
at St.Andrews.

St.Andrews.

RED RIVER



No. 211 Page 71

Kipling Edward of St.Andrews,

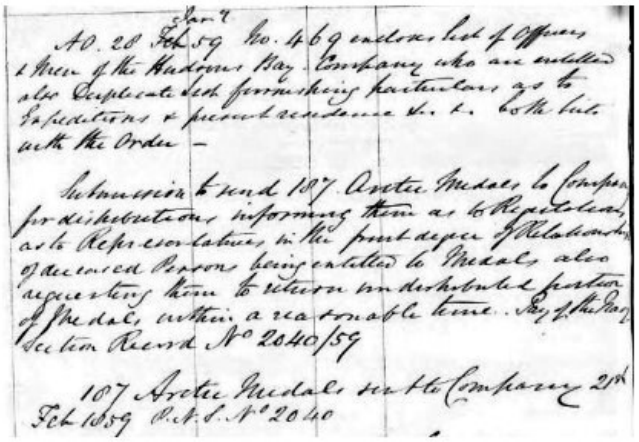
& Mary Voller of same place,
were married January 29,1852(S.A.)

St.Andrews, Red River

On January 29th 1852 George's son Edward married Mary Voller (a.k.a. Waller) at St Andrew's Church.

George was awarded the Arctic Medal in 1959, as was his brother Edward*.

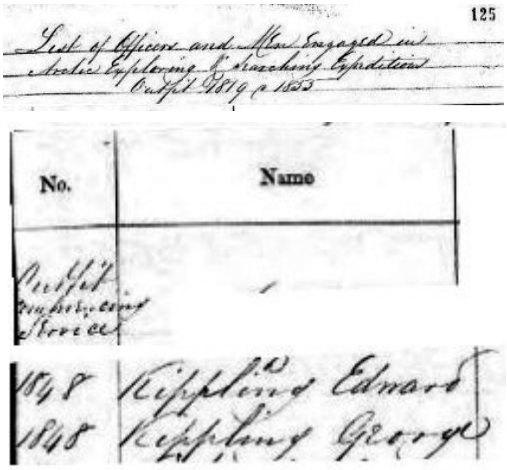
The Admiralty issued the Arctic Medal in 1857 for several expeditions, including the expedition to discover the fate of Sir John Franklin and his crew who were lost while looking for the Northwest Passage in 1847, "Her Majesty having been graciously pleased to signify her commands that a Medal be granted to all persons, of every rank and class, who have been engaged in the several Expeditions to the Arctic Regions, whether of discovery or search, between the years 1818 and 1855, both inclusive".



No. 20 Feb 59 Jan 7 No. 469 enclosing list of Officers & Men of the Hudsons Bay Company who are entitled also Duplicate lists furnishing particulars as to Expeditions & present residence &c. &c. both lists with the Order –

Submission to send 187 Arctic Medals to Company for distribution informing them as to Regulations as to Representatives in the first degree of Relationship of deceased Persons being entitled to Medals also requesting them to return undistributed portion of Medals, within a reasonable time. By Sec. Section Record No 2040/59

187 Arctic Medals sent to Company 25th Feb 1859 O.N.S. No 2040



125

List of Officers and Men Engaged in Arctic Exploring & Searching Expeditions Outfit 1819 to 1855

No.	Name	Outfit Embracing Service
1848	Kipling Edward	
1848	Kipling George	

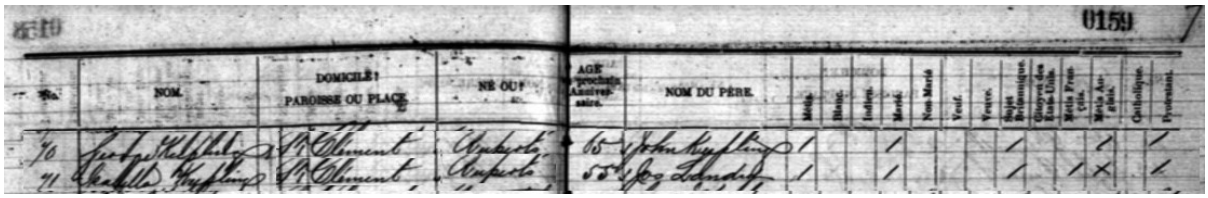
* *www.kipling.one-name.net*

In 1860, George guided US scientists to The Pas to view a total eclipse. He was described as the "best guide in the country. He was a fine, straight, honest-looking wiry sharp featured fellow of about fifty-five years, with a short grizzly beard, and long black locks tinted with grey. Good-natured and full of merriment he wore a flat, pan-cake like Scotch cap set jauntily on one side of his head, a red flannel shirt, and a pair of trousers, shaped like a long bag, with very short legs".*

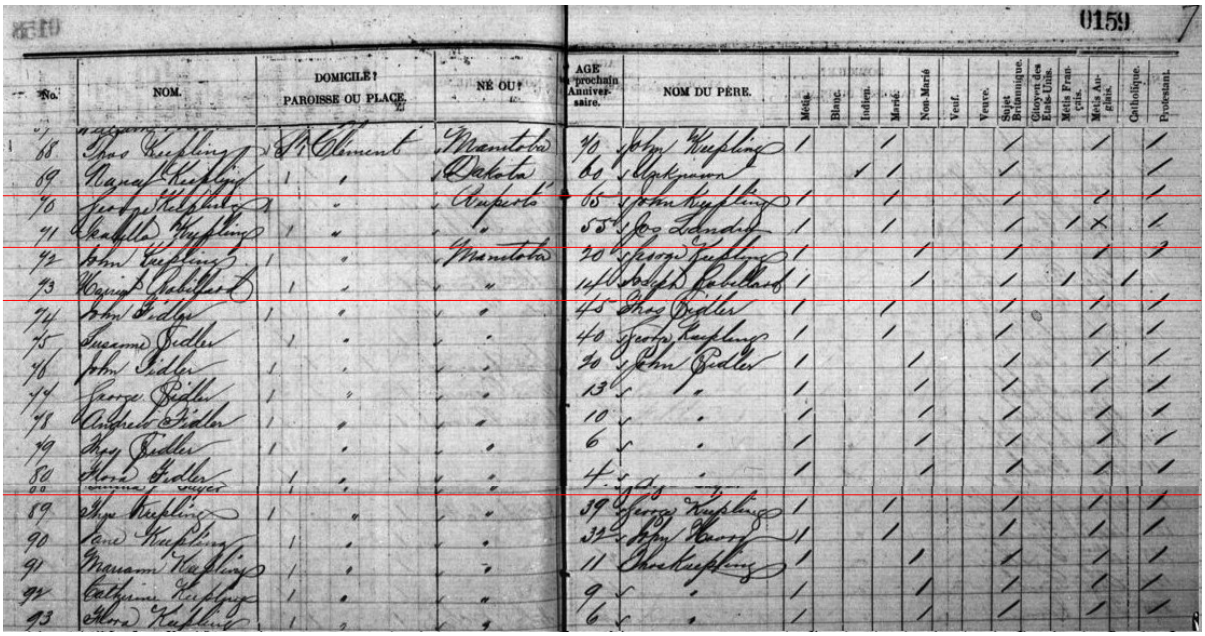
{Olive Knox, Viewing the Eclipse, 1860, The Beaver, Summer 1954}

In 1864 he was at Fort a la Corne, where he was hardly regarded favourably. "Our staff is miserable, the only tripper being old George Kippling who is used up already" and "kipling arrived, brought nothing. He is a useless old fellow".*

In the 1870 census of Manitoba, George 65 and Isabella 55 were living in the parish of St Clement. He confirmed that his father was John.
This was the first census since the province of Manitoba came into existence, and it requested accurate information of ethnicity. We can see that both George and Isabella were Metis, with George being English Metis and Isabella being French Metis. This indicates that they were both "half-breed", with George having an English parent and Isabella a French parent.



Also living in St Clement were a large number of other family members.



* *www.kipling.one-name.net*

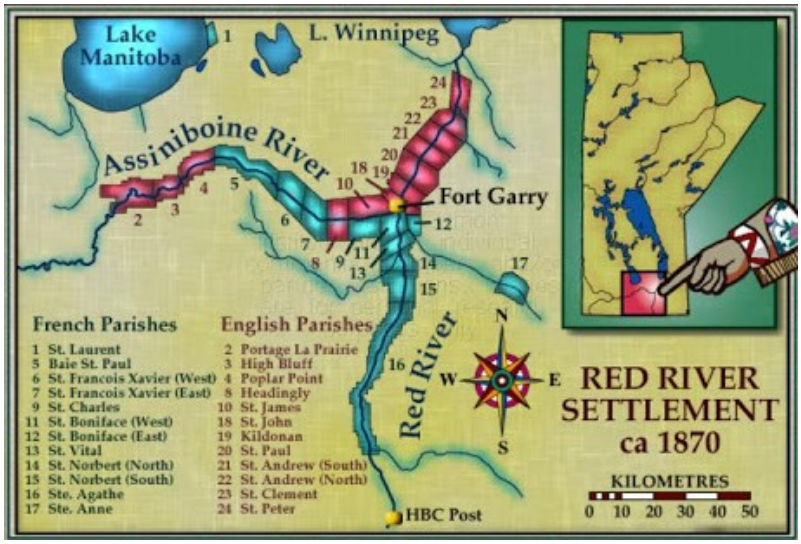
68 & 69 Thomas Kipling, 70, (brother of George), English Metis and his wife Nancy, 60, born in Dakota, Native Indian.

70 & 71 George Kipling, 65, English Metis and Isabella, 55, daughter of Baptiste Landry (Joseph here), French Metis.

72 & 73 John Kipling, 20, (son of George), English Metis, unmarried but appears to be living with Harriet Robillard, 14, daughter of Joseph Robillard, French Metis, unmarried.

74 – 80 John Fidler, 45, English Metis and Susanne, 40, (daughter of George, English Metis.
Their children, John 20, George 13, Andrew 10, Thomas 6 and Flora 4, all English Metis.

89 – 93 Thomas Kipling, 39, (son of George), English Metis and his wife Jane, 32, (daughter of John Houry), English Metis.
Their children, Mariam 11, Catherine 9 and Flora 6, all English Metis.



This map shows the Red River Settlement c1870.

The parish of St Clement, where many of the Kipling families were now living, is number 23 on the map, close to lake Winnipeg.

The parish of St Andrew is "next door", numbered 22 and 23.

The parish of St John is number 18, adjoining Fort Garry.

In 1873 the Red River Settlement (or Colony) officially became the city of Winnipeg.

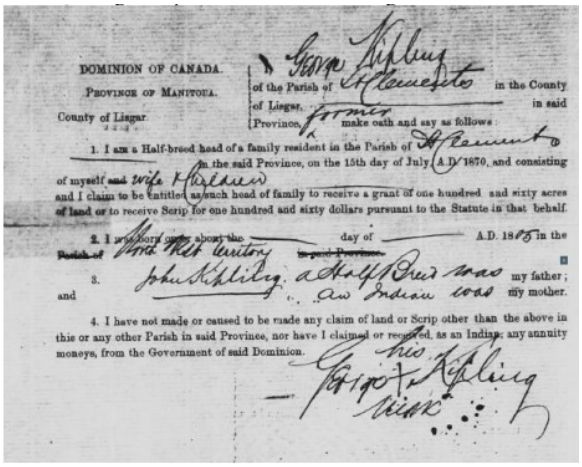
1872 Red River Settlement

1873 Winnipeg

During negotiations with the Métis peoples over the transfer of land from the Hudson's Bay Company to Canada, the Canadian government ceded 1.4 million acres to Métis/Half-breed families residing in the territory at the time of the land transfer. This was called the "Northwest Halfbreed Scrip.

Scrip was a term used to describe a certificate or voucher establishing the bearer's right to "something". In this case the voucher was for 160 acres of land or $160.

On July 9th 1875, both Isabella & George applied for their Half-breed Scrip, and George accepted $160 in lieu of land rights. Below are documents relating to George's claim. He only knew his year of birth, giving it as 1805 in the North West Territory, and described himself as a farmer. He gave his father's name as John Kipling and described him as a Half Breed, but he did not know his mother's name, stating only that she was an Indian. He made his mark as he was unable to write even just his name. The scrip was issued a year later, on July 30th.



DOMINION OF CANADA.
PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.
County of Lisgar.

I George Kipling of the Parish of St Clements in the County of Lisgar, in said Province, farmer make oath and say as follows:

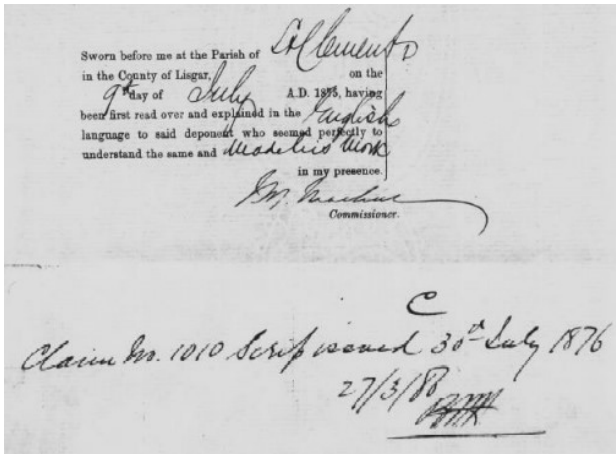
1. I am a Half-breed head of a family resident in the Parish of St Clements in the said Province, on the 15th day of July A.D. 1870, and consisting of myself ~~and wife~~ Hardlen and I claim to be entitled as such head of family to receive a grant of one hundred and sixty acres of land or to receive Scrip for one hundred and sixty dollars pursuant to the Statute in that behalf.

2. I was born ~~some where the~~ day of A.D. 1805 in the ~~Parish of~~ North West Territory ~~in said Province~~.

3. John Kipling a Half Breed was my father; and an Indian woman was my mother.

4. I have not made or caused to be made any claim of land or Scrip other than the above in this or any other Parish in said Province, nor have I claimed or received, as an Indian, any annuity moneys, from the Government of said Dominion.

his
George Kipling
mark



Sworn before me at the Parish of St Clements in the County of Lisgar, on the 9th day of July A.D. 1875, having been first read over and explained in the English language to said deponent who seemed perfectly to understand the same and Made his mark in my presence.

Commissioner.

C

Claim No. 1010 Scrip issued 30th July 1876
27/3/88

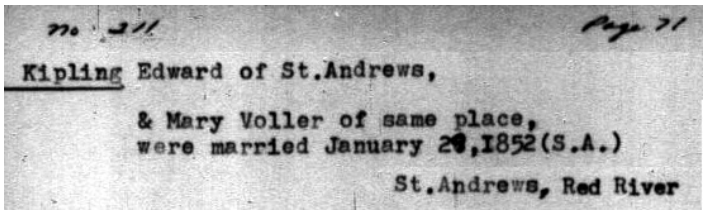
Just two years later, on Nov 29th 1878 George died. He was buried in Mapleton St Clements Anglican Cemetery located at the south end of Selkirk, R.M. of St. Andrew's, Section 3 Row 18. His headstone reads:

In Memory of
George Kippling
Died November 29th 1878
Aged 76 yrs
Blessed are the dead who
die in the Lord

So Edward Kipling, born in November 1831 at the Red River Settlement, to George Kipling and Isabella Landry, was ***¾ indigenous Indian***.

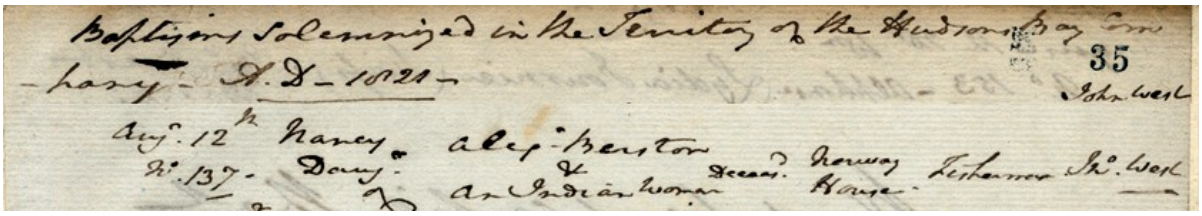
We know that in 1849 Edward was living with his family, where he was recorded as the son over the age of 16 – he was, in fact, 17 or 18.

On January 29th 1852 he married Mary Voller (a.k.a. Waller), the daughter of James Voller and Nancy Birston, at St Andrew's Church.

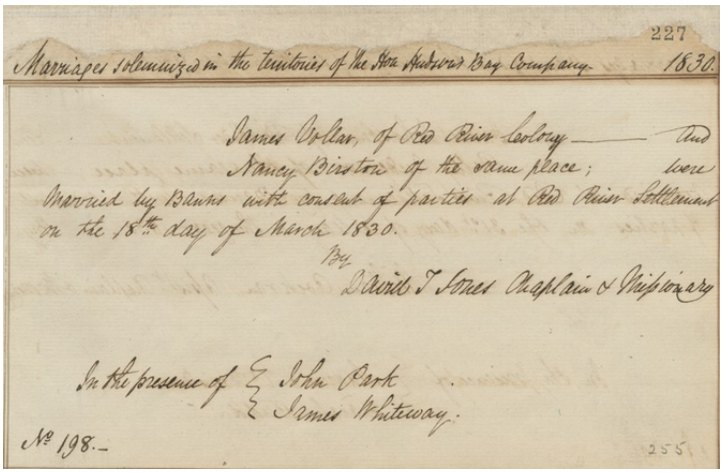

no. 211 Page 71
Kipling Edward of St.Andrews,
& Mary Voller of same place,
were married January 29,1852 (S.A.)
St.Andrews, Red River

Nancy had been born in 1805 at Norway House to Alexander Birston, a Scot from Ronaldsay, Orkney, and a First Nation woman – so she was a half-breed. Alexander was a voyageur, working for the HBC.*

She was baptised at Norway House, at the age of 16, on August 12th 1831 by which time her father, described as a fisherman, had been dead for two years. Her name was given as "Nancy or Dory".


Baptisms solemnized in the Territory of the Hudson's Bay Company – Nancy – A.D. – 1821 –
35
John West
Aug. 12th Nancy or Dory – Alex. Birston & an Indian woman – Norway House – Fisherman – John West
No. 137 –

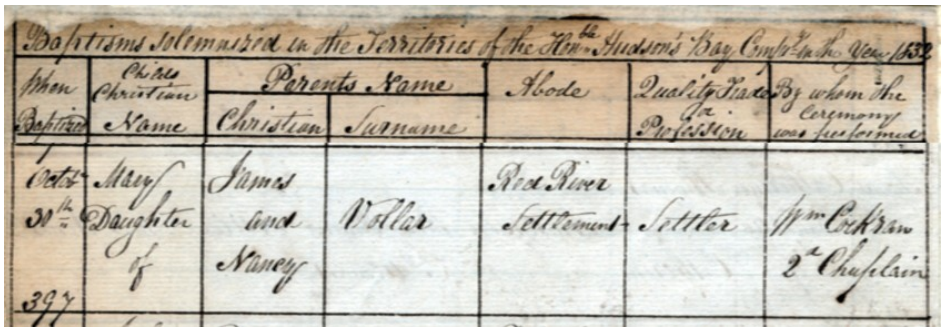
James Waller was born c1800 in England. It is not known when he arrived at Red River.*


227
Marriages solemnized in the territories of the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company. 1830.
James Voller, of Red River Colony — and
Nancy Birston of the same place; were
married by Banns with consent of parties at Red River Settlement
on the 18th day of March 1830.
By
David T. Jones Chaplain & Missionary
In the presence of { John Park
James Whiteway.
No 198.
255

James and Nancy were married on March 18th 1830 at St John's Church.

Mary was born on September 25th 1832.*

She was baptised on October 30th 1832.


Baptisms solemnized in the Territories of the Hon. Hudson's Bay Comp. in the Year 1832

When Baptized	Child's Christian Name	Parents Name: Christian	Parents Name: Surname	Abode	Quality, Trade or Profession	By whom the Ceremony was performed
Octr 30th	Mary Daughter of	James and Nancy	Voller	Red River Settlement	Settler	Wm Cockran 2d Chaplain
397						

* *redriverancestry.ca*

So Edward was ¾ native and Mary was ¼.

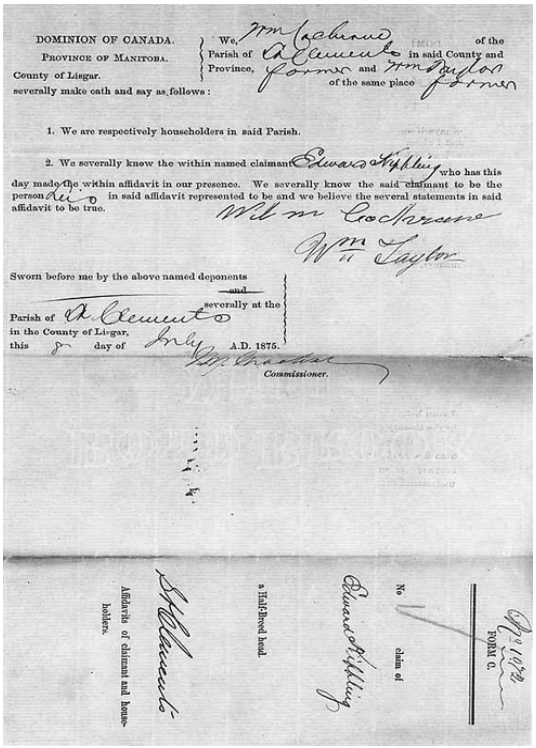
Following the marriage of Edward and Mary in 1852, archival material is hard to come by. There are no more Hudson Bay Company censuses, nor are there any HBC baptism, marriage and burial records.

However, it is known that they had a son, also named Edward, born on

10th January 1855	according to the 1901 censuses
7th August 1857	according to his Metis Scrip affidavit

I have been unable to trace Edward and Mary on the 1870 census of Manitoba, nor the 1871 census of the rest of Canada.

On July 8th 1875, Edward swore an affidavit in support of his claim for the Metis Scrip. In the claim he described himself as a farmer living in the parish of St Clement's with his wife and children. As head of the family he was claiming 160 acres of land, or Scrip for $160. He gave his date of birth as November 1831 in the parish of St Clement's, his father as George Kipling, a halfbreed and his mother as Isabel Landry, also a halfbreed. He was literate enough to be able to sign his own name (*which many claimants were unable to do*).



DOMINION OF CANADA.
PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.
County of Lisgar.

We, Wm Cochrane of the Parish of St Clements in said County and Province, farmer and Wm Taylor of the same place farmer severally make oath and say as follows:

1. We are respectively householders in said Parish.

2. We severally know the within named claimant Edward Kipling who has this day made the within affidavit in our presence. We severally know the said claimant to be the person he in said affidavit represented to be and we believe the several statements in said affidavit to be true.

Wm Cochrane
Wm Taylor

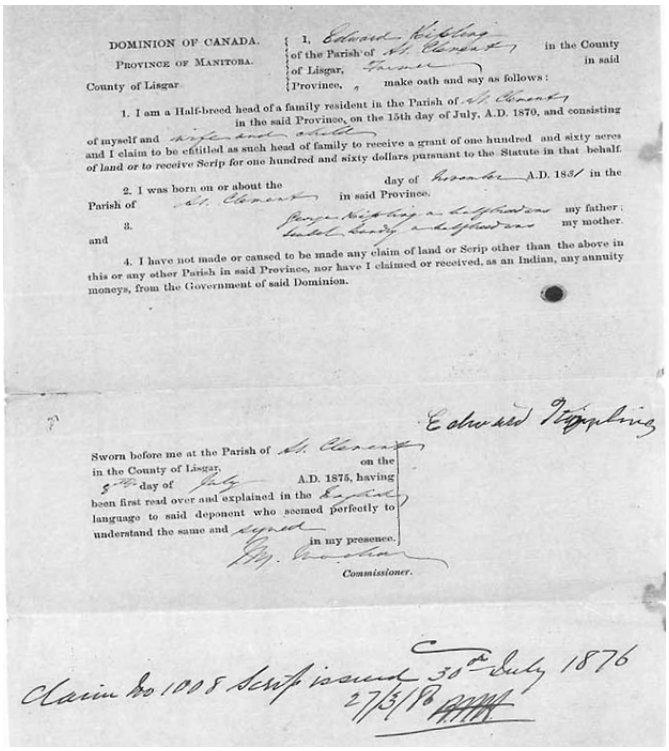
Sworn before me by the above named deponents and severally at the Parish of St Clements in the County of Lisgar, this 8 day of July A.D. 1875.

Commissioner.

No 1 claim of Edward Kipling a Half-Breed head.

Affidavits of claimant and householders.

Exp 1878
FORM C.



DOMINION OF CANADA.
PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.
County of Lisgar

I, Edward Kipling of the Parish of St Clements in the County of Lisgar, in said Province, farmer make oath and say as follows:

1. I am a Half-breed head of a family resident in the Parish of St Clements in the said Province, on the 15th day of July, A.D. 1870, and consisting of myself and wife and children and I claim to be entitled as such head of family to receive a grant of one hundred and sixty acres of land or to receive Scrip for one hundred and sixty dollars pursuant to the Statute in that behalf.

2. I was born on or about the 7th day of November A.D. 1831 in the Parish of St Clements in said Province.

3. George Kipling a half-breed my father; and Isabel Landry a half-breed my mother.

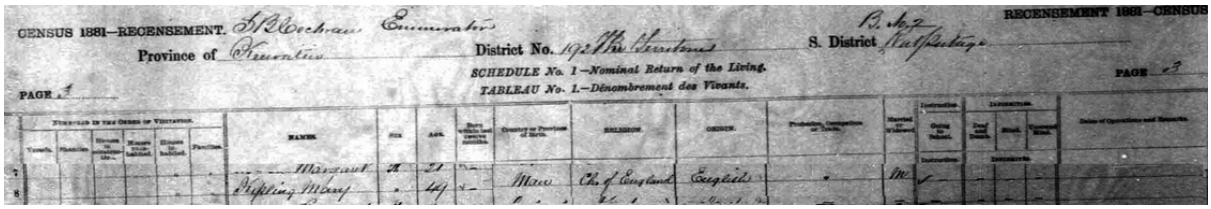
4. I have not made or caused to be made any claim of land or Scrip other than the above in this or any other Parish in said Province, nor have I claimed or received, as an Indian, any annuity moneys, from the Government of said Dominion.

Edward Kipling

Sworn before me at the Parish of St Clements in the County of Lisgar, on the 8th day of July A.D. 1875, having been first read over and explained in the English language to said deponent who seemed perfectly to understand the same and signed in my presence.

Commissioner.

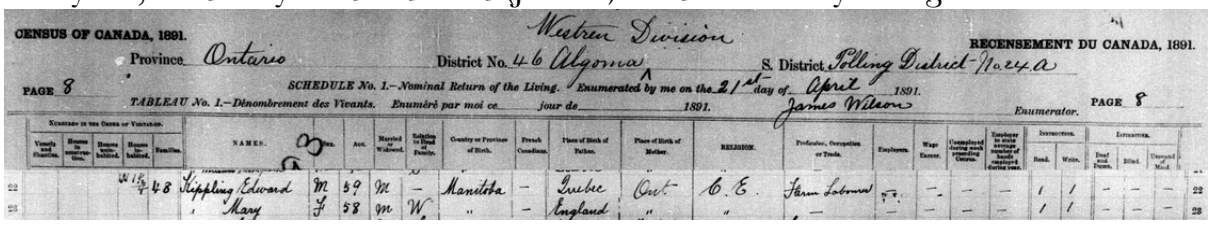
Claim No 1008 Scrip issued 30th July 1876
27/3/80


CENSUS 1881—RECENSEMENT. RECENSEMENT 1881—CENSUS
Province of Keewatin District No. 192 S. District Rat Portage
SCHEDULE No. 1—Nominal Return of the Living.
TABLEAU No. 1.—Dénombrement des Vivants.
PAGE 3

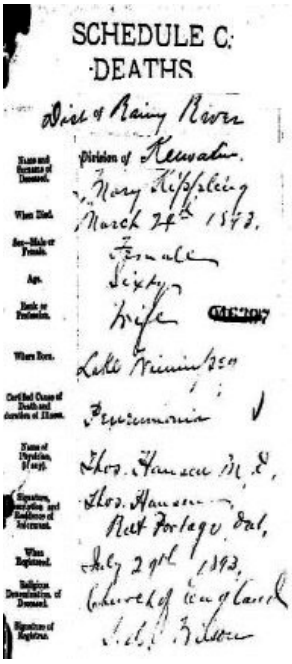
In 1881 Mary was 49 and living with her son Edward (junior) and his wife in Rat Portage, Keewatin in The (Northwest) Territories. She classed herself as married indicating that, although he was not living there, Edward (senior) was alive – somewhere. Aged 50, it is possible that he was out in the wilds hunting or working and so missed the census.

The province of Keewatin was formed in 1876, encompassing most of Manitoba and Northwest Ontario. The district ceased being an independent territory in 1905 and was returned to the Northwest Territories.

In the census of 1891, taken on April 21st, they were still living in Keewatin (South), in district 46, the Western Division of Algoma. Edward was 59, Mary 48, and they had Edward (junior) and his family living with them.

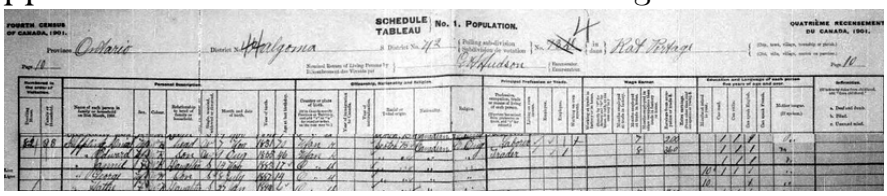

CENSUS OF CANADA, 1891. RECENSEMENT DU CANADA, 1891.
Province Ontario District No. 46 Algoma Western Division S. District Rolling District No. 24 a
SCHEDULE No. 1.—Nominal Return of the Living. Enumerated by me on the 21st day of April 1891.
TABLEAU No. 1.—Dénombrement des Vivants. Enumeré par moi ce jour de 1891. James Wilson Enumerator.
PAGE 8

He described himself as a farm labourer and, rather strangely, that his father (George) had been born in Quebec, while his mother (Isabella Landry) had been born in Ontario. Mary's father John was correctly born in England, but she also said that her mother (Nancy Birston) was born in Ontario.

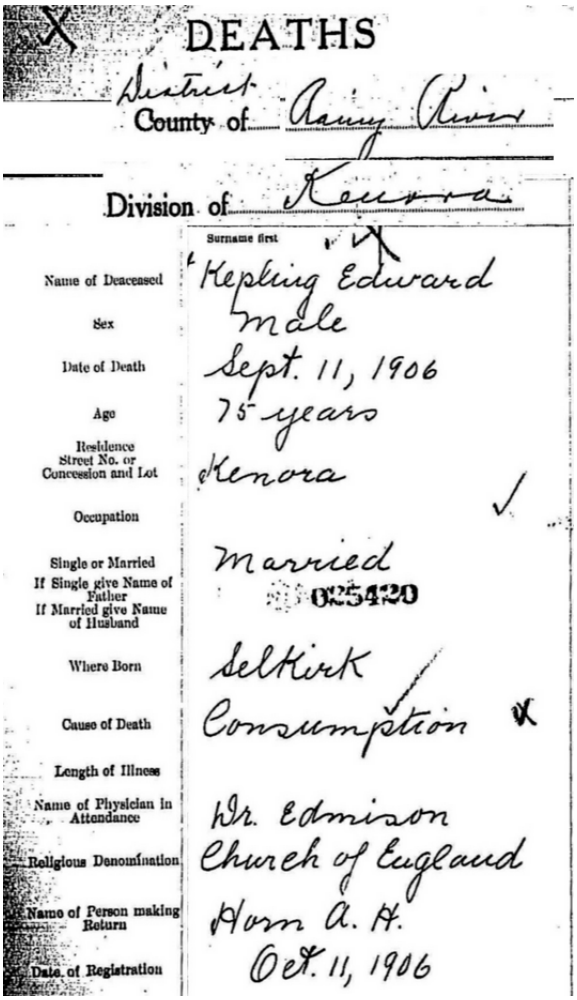

SCHEDULE C.
DEATHS
District of Rainy River
Division of Keewatin.
Mary Kipling
March 24th 1893.
Female
Sixty
Wife
Lake Winnipeg
Pneumonia
Thos. Hanson M.D.
Thos. Hanson
Rat Portage Ont.
July 29th 1893.
Church of England

On 24th March 1893 Mary Valler Kipling died in Rainy River, Keewatin, aged 60. The cause of death was pneumonia, and the informant was her doctor in Rat Portage.

In 1901 Edward, now a widower, was still living with his son and family. He gave his date of birth as 7th November 1871, his profession as labourer, and his racial origin as Scotch B (Scottish Breed). His colour was recorded as WR (White/Red) indicating a mix of European and Native Canadian. Strangely, his first name appears to have been written as something like "Dainel".


FOURTH CENSUS OF CANADA, 1901. SCHEDULE No. 1. POPULATION. TABLEAU QUATRIÈME RECENSEMENT DU CANADA, 1901.
Province Ontario District No. 46 Algoma Rat Portage

On September 11th 1906, Edward Kipling died in Rainy River, Kenora. He was aged 75 and the cause of death was consumption. His place of birth was given as Selkirk, which was in the Red River Settlement, thus confirming that this was, indeed, "our" Edward.
The record states that he was married, although presumably this was to indicate that he had once been married, but was now a widower – as opposed to never having been married.



DEATHS

District
County of Rainy River

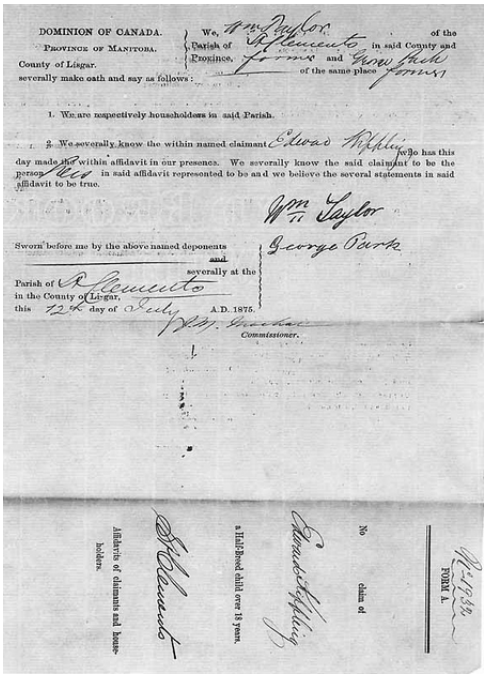
Division of Kenora

Surname first	
Name of Deceased	Kepling Edward
Sex	Male
Date of Death	Sept. 11, 1906
Age	75 years
Residence Street No. or Concession and Lot	Kenora
Occupation	
Single or Married If Single give Name of Father If Married give Name of Husband	Married 025420
Where Born	Selkirk
Cause of Death	Consumption
Length of Illness	
Name of Physician in Attendance	Dr. Edmison
Religious Denomination	Church of England
Name of Person making Return	Horn A. H.
Date of Registration	Oct. 11, 1906

His name is inscribed on a commemorative memorial for unmarked graves in Lake of Woods Cemetery in Kenora.

The town of Rat Portage was renamed in 1905 by using the first two letters of itself (ra) *and the neighboring towns of Keewatin* (Ke) *and Norman* (no) *to form the present-day City of Kenora.*
Kenora / Rat Portage, is a small city situated on the Lake of the Woods in *Northwestern Ontario, close to the Manitoba boundary, and about 125 miles east of Winnipeg.*

Alexander Cuthbert Weir's grandfather, **Edward** Kipling (Junior), had a father who was ¾ native and a mother who was ¼ native, thus making his bloodline half native Canadian.
He was born on August 7th 1855 at Fort Garry in the Red River Settlement, and baptised on September 9th at St Andrew's Church.



DOMINION OF CANADA.
PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.
County of Lisgar.

We, Wm Taylor of the Parish of St Clements in said County and Province, farmer and Geo Park of the same place farmer severally make oath and say as follows:

1. We are respectively householders in said Parish.

2. We severally know the within named claimant Edward Kipling who has this day made the within affidavit in our presence. We severally know the said claimant to be the person Rec in said affidavit represented to be and we believe the several statements in said affidavit to be true.

Wm Taylor
George Park

Sworn before me by the above named deponents and severally at the Parish of St Clements in the County of Lisgar, this 12th day of July A.D. 1875.

W.M. Inkster
Commissioner.

No. 7642
FORM A.

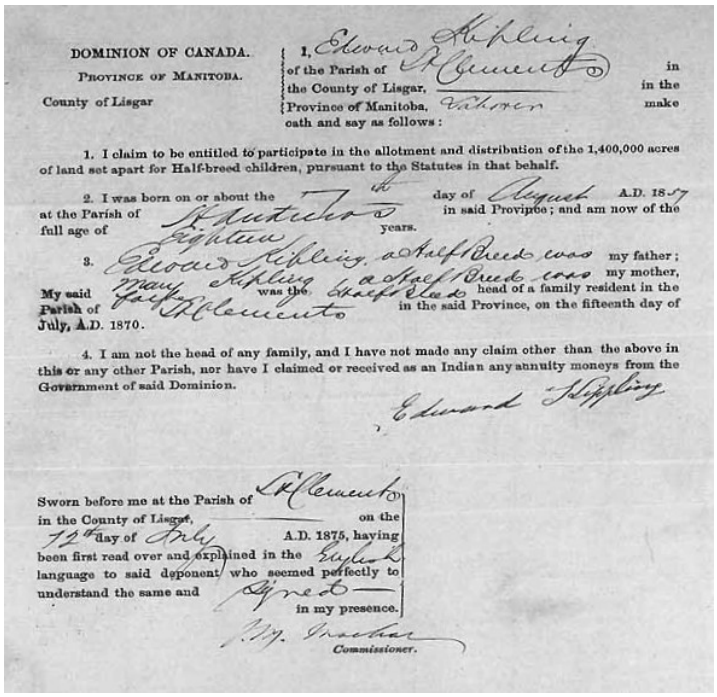
Affidavit of claimants and householders.

St Clements

Edward Kipling

a Half-Breed child over 18 years.

No claim of



DOMINION OF CANADA.
PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.
County of Lisgar

I, Edward Kipling of the Parish of St Clements in the County of Lisgar, in the Province of Manitoba, farmer make oath and say as follows:

1. I claim to be entitled to participate in the allotment and distribution of the 1,400,000 acres of land set apart for Half-breed children, pursuant to the Statutes in that behalf.

2. I was born on or about the 7th day of August A.D. 1857 at the Parish of St Andrews in said Province; and am now of the full age of Eighteen years.

3. Edward Kipling a Half Breed was my father; Mary Kipling a Half Breed was my mother, My said Parish of St Clements was the Half Breed head of a family resident in the Parish of St Clements in the said Province, on the fifteenth day of July, A.D. 1870.

4. I am not the head of any family, and I have not made any claim other than the above in this or any other Parish, nor have I claimed or received as an Indian any annuity moneys from the Government of said Dominion.

Edward Kipling

Sworn before me at the Parish of St Clements in the County of Lisgar, on the 12th day of July A.D. 1875, having been first read over and explained in the English language to said deponent who seemed perfectly to understand the same and signed in my presence.

W.M. Inkster
Commissioner.

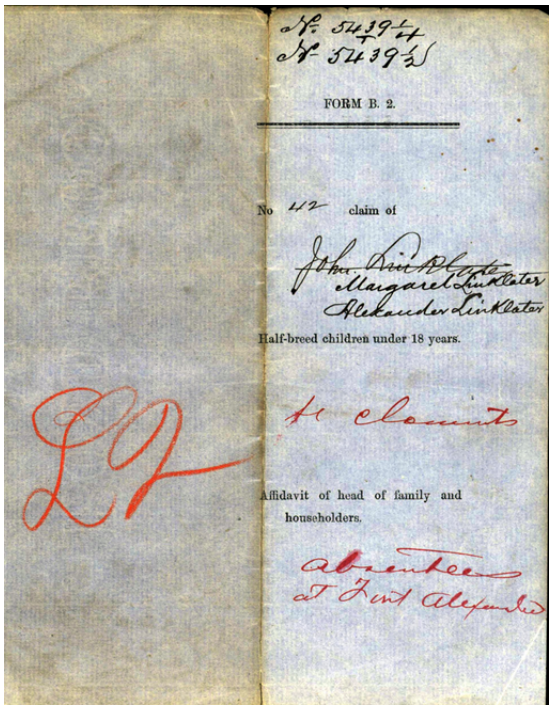
An example of "Scrip" to the vakue of $20

On July 12th 1875 he swore an affidavit in support of his claim for the Metis Scrip. In the claim he described himself as a labourer living in the parish of St Clements with his wife and children. As head of the family he was claiming 160 acres of land, or Scrip for $160. He gave his date of birth as "on or about" August 7th 1857 in the parish of St Andrew's, stating that he was of the full age of 18 years, his father as Edward Kipling, a halfbreed and his mother as Mary Kipling, also a halfbreed. He signed his name, spelling it Kippling rather than Kipling.

He married Margaret Linklater c1876-80 – she had been born c1860-2 to John Linklater.

Unfortunately I have been unable to find a record for either the birth of Margaret Linklater or her marriage to Edward.

However, there is a record of John Linklater's claim for Metis Scrip for Margaret. It was made on September 6th 1875 in the parish of St Clements.



FORM B. 2.

No 42 claim of

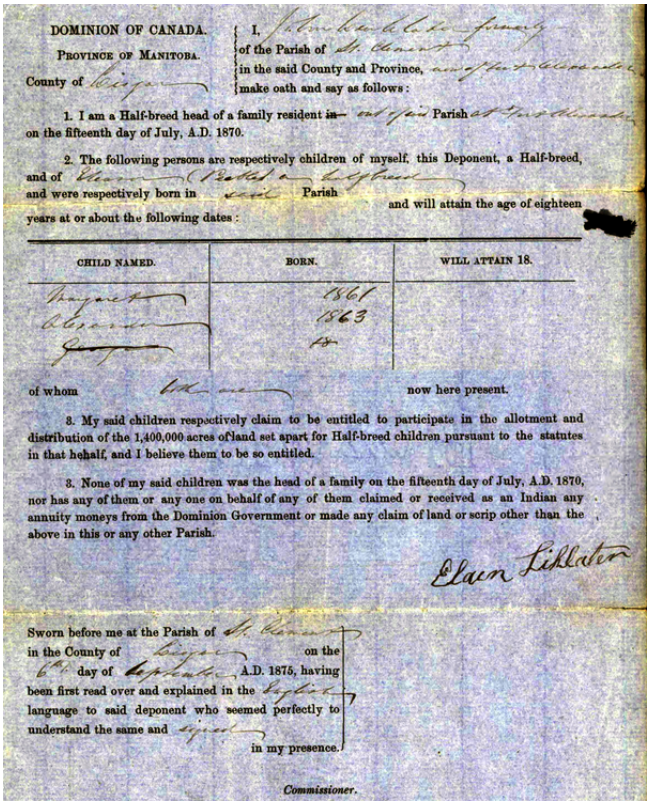
Margaret Linklater
Alexander Linklater

Half-breed children under 18 years.

St Clements

Affidavit of head of family and householders.

absentee at Fort Alexander



DOMINION OF CANADA.
PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.
County of Lisgar

I, John Linklater formerly of the Parish of St Clement in the said County and Province, now of Fort Alexander make oath and say as follows:

1. I am a Half-breed head of a family resident ~~in~~ out of said Parish at Fort Alexander on the fifteenth day of July, A.D. 1870.

2. The following persons are respectively children of myself, this Deponent, a Half-breed, and of Eleanor (Peebles) a halfbreed and were respectively born in said Parish and will attain the age of eighteen years at or about the following dates:

CHILD NAMED.	BORN.	WILL ATTAIN 18.
Margaret	1861	
Alexander	1863	
George	18	

of whom both are now here present.

3. My said children respectively claim to be entitled to participate in the allotment and distribution of the 1,400,000 acres of land set apart for Half-breed children pursuant to the statutes in that behalf, and I believe them to be so entitled.

3. None of my said children was the head of a family on the fifteenth day of July, A.D. 1870, nor has any of them or any one on behalf of any of them claimed or received as an Indian any annuity moneys from the Dominion Government or made any claim of land or scrip other than the above in this or any other Parish.

Elaen Liklater

Sworn before me at the Parish of St Clement in the County of Lisgar on the 6th day of September A.D. 1875, having been first read over and explained in the English language to said deponent who seemed perfectly to understand the same and signed in my presence.

Commissioner.

The claim begins by saying "I John Linklater, formerly of the Parish of St Clement, in the County and Province now of Fort Alexander, make oath as follows: 1) I am a Half-breed head of a family resident out of said parish of Fort Alexander on the 15th July 1870 (the date applicable to Metis claims). 2) The following persons are respectively children of myself, this deponent, a Half-breed, and of Eleanor Peebles, a halfbreed, and were respectively born in said Parish, and will attain the age of 18 years at or about the following dates:"

No dates are given, but the children's names are – Margaret, born 1861 and Alexander, born 1863 – "of whom both are now here present".

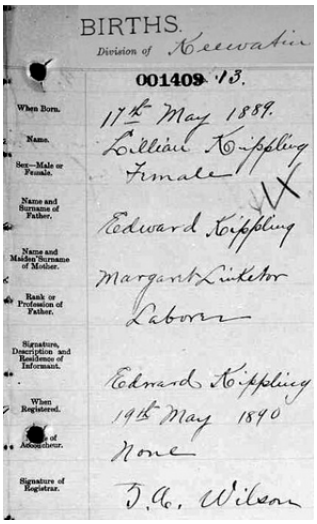
At the end of the claim the affidavit has been signed, not by John, but by Eleanor who could just about scratch a signature that looks like Elain Liklater.

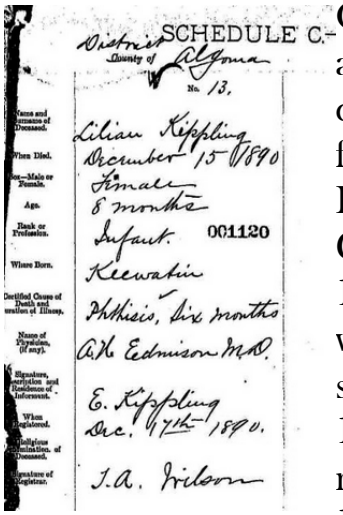
So John had brought his wife and children, aged 12 and 14, from Fort Alexander to St Clements – a distance of about 45 miles.

The affidavit suggests that both of Margaret's parents were half-breed, which would make her a half-breed also.

In 1881 Edward was living with Margaret and his mother Mary, his father not being at the residence at the time of the census, nor being found anywhere else as he was probably away trapping. Edward gave his age as 26 and occupation as a labourer. Margaret gave her age as 21.

CENSUS 1881—RECENSEMENT. Province of District No. S. District
RECENSEMENT 1881—CENSUS.
SCHEDULE No. 1—Nominal Return of the Living.
TABLEAU No. 1.—Dénombrement des Vivants.
PAGE
NAME. SEX. AGE. Country or Province of Birth. RELIGION. ORIGIN. Occupation. Married or Widowed. Instruction. Deaf and Dumb. Blind. Idiotic or Insane.
Edward M 26 Mary Ch. of England English Labourer M
Margaret F 21
Mary 44


BIRTHS.
Division of Keewatin
001409 13.
When Born. 17th May 1889.
Name. Lillian Kippling
Sex—Male or Female. Female
Name and Surname of Father. Edward Kippling
Name and Maiden Surname of Mother. Margaret Linkletor
Rank or Profession of Father. Labourer
Signature, Description and Residence of Informant. Edward Kippling
When Registered. 19th May 1890
Signature of Registrar. D.A. Wilson


SCHEDULE C.
District of Algoma
No. 13.
Names and Surnames of Deceased. Lilian Kippling
When Died. December 15 1890
Sex—Male or Female. Female
Age. 8 months
Rank or Profession. Infant. 001120
Where Born. Keewatin
Certified Cause of Death and duration of Illness. Phthisis, six months
Name of Physician. (if any). A.H. Edmison M.D.
Signature, Description and Residence of Informant. E. Kippling
When Registered. Dec. 17th 1890.
Religious Denomination of Deceased.
Signature of Registrar. J.A. Wilson

On November 14th 1883 Edward and Margaret's first child, a daughter Jane (Jennie), was born followed by another daughter Dora in 1884/5. Their first son, George, was born on July 8th 1887. Another daughter, Lillian, was born on May 17th 1889, but sadly she died on 15th December 1890. Her age was incorrectly recorded as 8 months – she was 18 months old. The cause of death was Phthisis, from which she had been suffering for six months.

Phthisis is another name for Pulmonary Tuberculosis or TB of the lungs. A hundred years ago it caused the deaths of more Canadians than any other single disease.

The 1891 census throws throws up a problem concerning the family though. There appear to TWO versions!

Because of the vast area to be covered, the census date is nominal – it was simply not possible for the enumerators to cover their districts within a day, or even a week. Hence although the census began on April 6th, it was not completed on the same day.

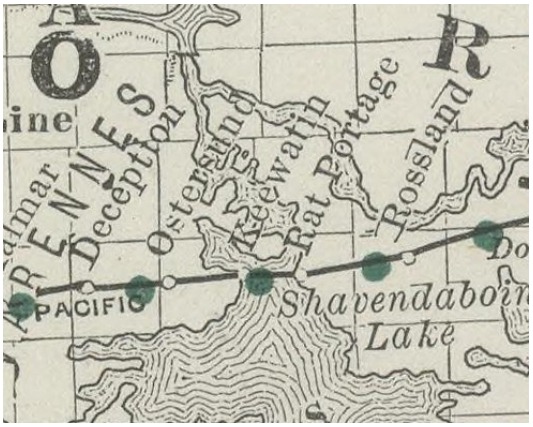
However, not only are there two census returns for two different days, they are also in slightly different locations and, even more of a problem, they record a slightly different family of people!

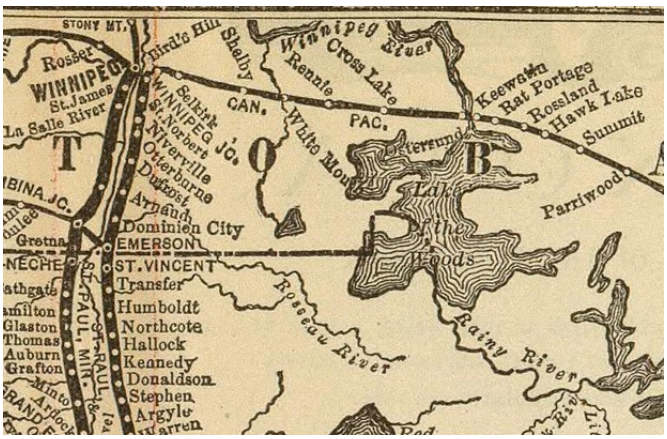
Census Record 1
Enumerator **James Wilson** Date **21st April 1891**
Province **Ontario** District No. **46** **Algoma Western Division**
Sub District **Polling District Number 24a (Keewatin South)**

Census Record 2
Enumerator **Andrew Alexander** Date **30th April 1891**
Province **Ontario** District No. **46** **Algoma Western Division**
Sub District **Polling District Number 22 (Rat Portage East)**

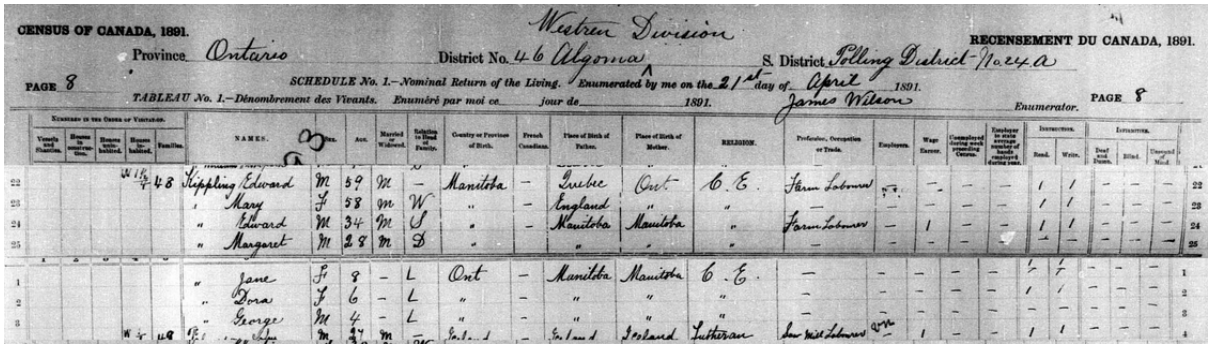
The only solution that I can imagine to solve this problem is:-

Keewatin and Rat Portage were neighbouring towns. If there was some confusion between the enumerators about where exactly the boundaries of their responsibilities lay it is possible that they both recorded the same household. Also, as the households were recorded nine days apart, it is possible that Edward (senior) and Mary were elsewhere and unrecorded on April 30th.





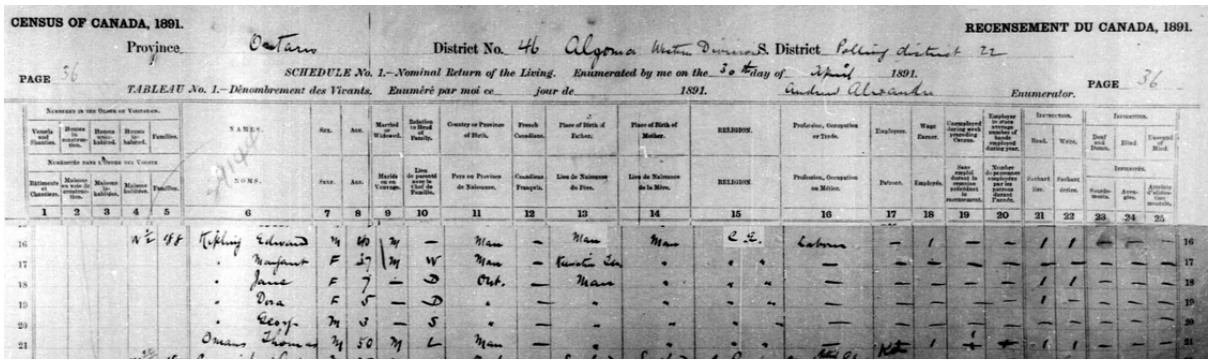
Maps from 1886 showing the proximity of Keewatin and Rat Portage to each other


CENSUS OF CANADA, 1891. RECENSEMENT DU CANADA, 1891.
Province Ontario District No. 46 Algoma Western Division S. District Polling District No. 24a
PAGE 8 SCHEDULE No. 1.—Nominal Return of the Living. Enumerated by me on the 21st day of April 1891. James Wilson Enumerator. PAGE 8
TABLEAU No. 1.—Dénombrement des Vivants. Enumeré par moi ce jour de 1891.

	NAMES.	Sex.	Age.	Married or Widowed.	Relation to Head of Family.	Country or Province of Birth.	French Canadian.	Place of Birth of Father.	Place of Birth of Mother.	RELIGION.	Profession, Occupation or Trade.	Employer.	Wage Earner.	Employed during week preceding Census.	Employer in some business of trade employing other employees during census week.	Read.	Write.	Deaf and Dumb.	Blind.	Unsound Mind.	
22	Skipping Edward	M	59	M	—	Manitoba	—	Quebec	Ont	C. E.	Farm Labourer	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	22
23	" Mary	F	58	M	W	"	—	England	"	"	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	23
24	" Edward	M	34	M	S	"	—	Manitoba	Manitoba	"	Farm Labourer	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	24
25	" Margaret	M	28	M	D	"		"	"	"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
1	" Jane	F	8	—	L	Ont	—	Manitoba	Manitoba	C. E.	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
2	" Dora	F	6	—	L	"	—	"	"	"	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
3	" George	M	4	—	L	"	—	"	"	"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
4	[illegible]	M	27	M	—	England	—	England	England	Lutheran	Farm Labourer	[illegible]	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	4

Census 1 (above) shows Edward (senior) 59 and Mary (Voller) 58, Edward (junior) 34 and Margaret (Linklater) 28, and their three children Jane 8, Dora 6 and George 4.

Both men gave their profession as farm labourers, although only Edward (junior) was recorded as a wage earner. The children were recorded as lodgers as the census did not record grandchildren as such. Column 4 tells us that their house was wood and had 1½ rooms upstairs & 4 downstairs.


CENSUS OF CANADA, 1891. RECENSEMENT DU CANADA, 1891.

Province Ontario District No. 46 Algoma Western Division S. District Polling district 22

PAGE 36 SCHEDULE No. 1.—Nominal Return of the Living. Enumerated by me on the 30th day of April 1891. PAGE 36

TABLEAU No. 1.—Dénombrement des Vivants. Enuméré par moi ce jour de 1891. Enumerator.

	Names	Sex	Age	Married or Widowed	Relation to Head of Family	Country or Province of Birth	Place of Birth of Father	Place of Birth of Mother	Religion	Profession, Occupation or Trade	Employer	Employed	Unemployed	Read	Write	Deaf and Dumb	Blind	Insane or Idiot
16	Kipling Edward	M	40	M	—	Man	—	Man	Man	C. E.	Labourer	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
17	" Margaret	F	37	M	W	Man	—	Ontario	"	"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18	" Jane	F	7	—	D	Ont.	—	Man	"	"	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
19	" Dora	F	5	—	D	"	—	"	"	"	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
20	" George	M	3	—	S	"	—	"	"	"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21	Owens Thomas	M	50	M	L	Man	—	"	"	"	[illegible]	1	1	—	—	1	1	—

Census 2 (above) does not have Edward (senior) or Mary recorded. It shows Edward 40 and Margaret 37, and their three children Jane 7, Dora 5 and George 3. Here Edward's profession was given simply as a labourer.

The major differences between the census records are:-

Their ages – although the children's ages differ by a year, that is a common occurrence in censuses. More problematical are the significant differences in the ages of Edward and Margaret, 34 & 28 as opposed to 40 & 37.

The place of birth of Margaret's father – in the first she gave Manitoba, but in the second she gave what looks like "Keewatin In".

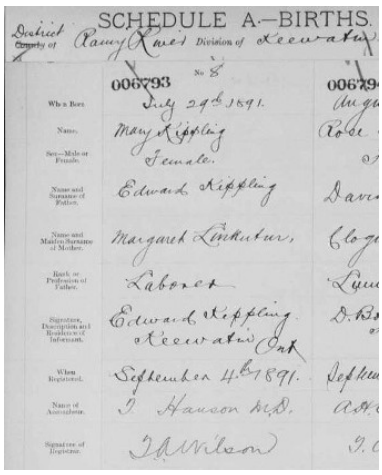
These differences suggest that they are, indeed two different families.

However:-

1 In the 1881 census, the only Edward Kipling (or similar spelling) ***anywhere*** *is Edward (junior), aged 26, living with his mother Mary (who is married, not widowed)and wife Margaret.*

2 In the 1891 census, the only Mary Kipling of the correct age for Edward's mother is the one found at Keewatin South.

3 What is the chance of two families both consisting of parents with the same names and exactly three children, also with the same names and respective ages within a year of each other?

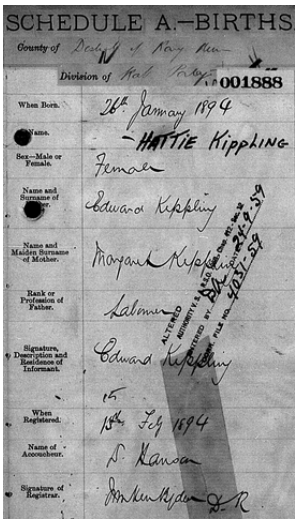

SCHEDULE A.—BIRTHS.

District Rainy River Division of Keewatin No. 8

	006793	006794
Where Born	July 29th 1891.	Aug
Name	Mary Kipling	Robe
Sex—Male or Female	Female.	
Name and Surname of Father	Edward Kipling	Dav
Name and Maiden Surname of Mother	Margaret Lindsay	Clo
Rank or Profession of Father	Labourer	Lum
Signature, Description and Residence of Informant	Edward Kipling Keewatin Ont	D. B
When Registered	September 4th 1891.	Sept
Name of Accoucheur	J. Hanson M.D.	A.D
Signature of Registrar	J. A. Wilson	J.

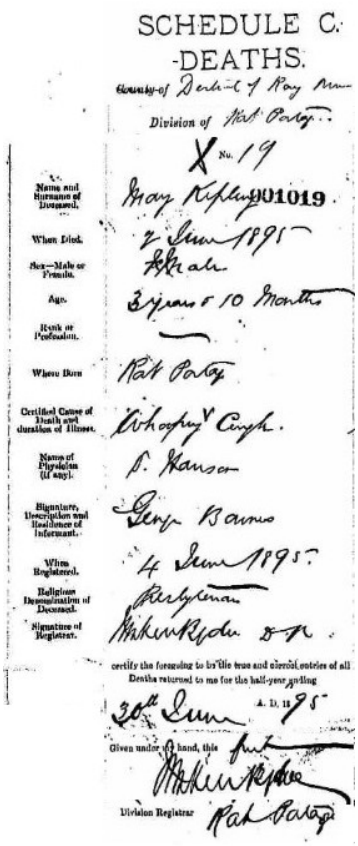
On July 29th 1891 a daughter Mary was born at Keewatin in Rainy River District as it was then called, and on January 26th 1894 another daughter, **Hattie** the mother of ACW, was born at Rat Portage also in Rainy River District.

This shows how easily Keewatin and Rat Portage were interchanged.


SCHEDULE A.—BIRTHS

County of Rainy River Division of Rat Portage No. 001888

When Born	26th January 1894
Name	HATTIE Kipling
Sex—Male or Female	Female
Name and Surname of Father	Edward Kipling
Name and Maiden Surname of Mother	Margaret Kipling
Rank or Profession of Father	Labourer
Signature, Description and Residence of Informant	Edward Kipling
When Registered	15th Feb 1894
Name of Accoucheur	J. Hanson
Signature of Registrar	[illegible] D.R.



SCHEDULE C.
-DEATHS.

Division of Rat Portage

No. 19

Mary Kipling 001019

2 June 1895

Female

3 years 10 months

Rat Portage

Whooping Cough.

S. Hanson

Geo. Barnes

4 June 1895

Presbyterian

I certify the foregoing to be the true and clerical entries of all Deaths returned to me for the half-year ending

30th June A. D. 1895

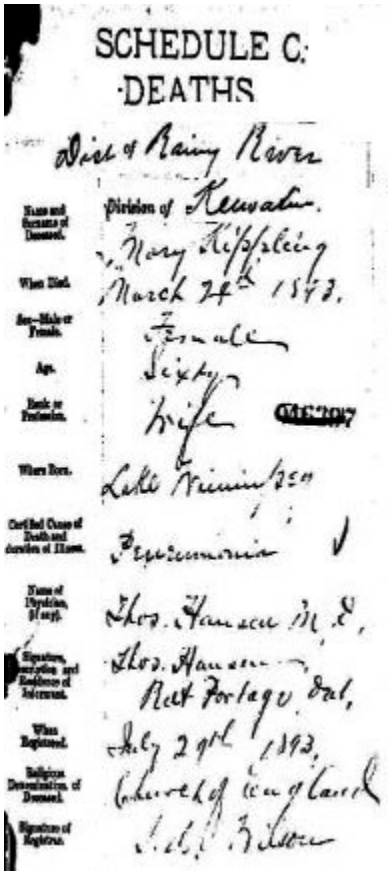
Given under my hand, this

Division Registrar

In between the birth of Mary and Hattie, Edward's mother, Mary (Voller) died from pneumonia on 25th March 1893, aged 60.

Sadly Mary became the second daughter of Edward and Margaret to die when she succumbed to whooping cough on 2nd June 1895, aged just 3 years and 10 months.

Note – her place of birth, given as Keewatin at the time, was now given as Rat Portage, another example of the way the two were interchanged.



SCHEDULE C.
-DEATHS

Dist of Rainy River

Division of Keewatin.

Mary Kipling

March 24th 1893.

Female

Sixty

Wife

Lake Winnipeg

Pneumonia

Thos. Hanson M.D.

Thos. Hanson

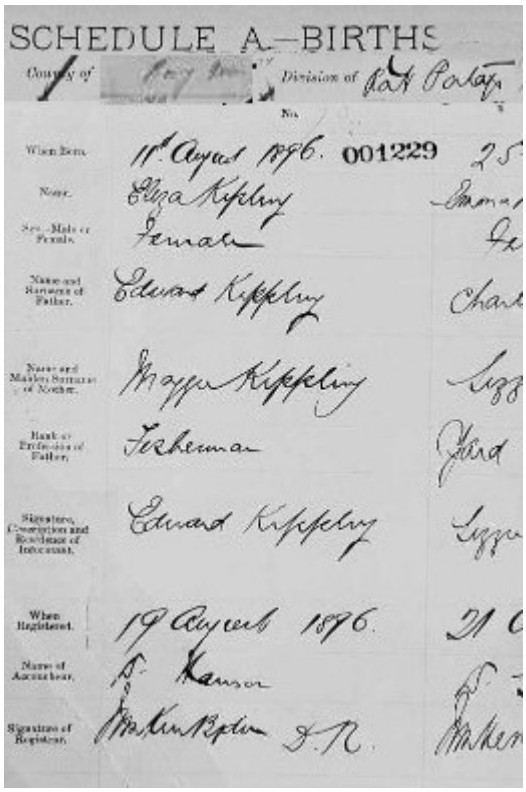
Rat Portage Ont.

July 29th 1893.

Church of England

A. E. Wilson

A new addition was made to the family just over a year later when, on August 11th 1896, another daughter Eliza was born in Rat Portage. At the time Edward was working as a fisherman.
However, in a devastating turn of events Margaret died less than three weeks later (possibly due to complications) on August 30th*, and less than three weeks after that tragedy Eliza became the third daughter lost when she died, aged just one month, on September 17th. She is buried in the Lake of The Woods cemetery.*



SCHEDULE A—BIRTHS

Division of Rat Portage

11th August 1896. 001229

Eliza Kipling

Female

Edward Kipling

Maggie Kipling

Fisherman

Edward Kipling

19 August 1896.

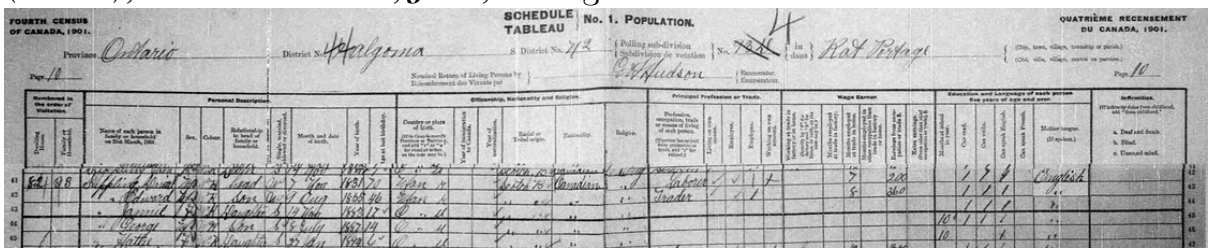
S. Hanson

Then on October 5th 1900 yet another tragedy struck Edward as he struggled to raise his remaining four children alone, when Dora died from scrofula – tuberculosis of the neck lymph nodes.*

* *Find A Grave has her named as Elizabeth*

* *Canadian Great War Project*

So by the time of the 1901 census, death had taken a huge toll on Edward's family. In the space of ten years he had lost his daughter Lillian (1890), his mother (1893), daughter Mary (1895), his wife (1896), daughter Eliza (1896), and daughter Dora (1900). The family now consisted of Edward (senior), Edward himself, Jane, George and Hattie.



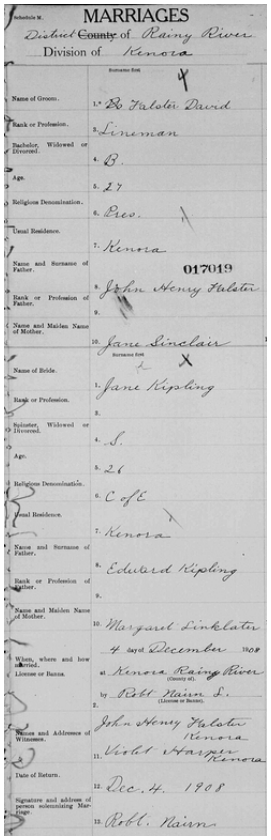
The Kipling household comprised 70 year old widower Edward (senior), 46 year old widower Edward (junior), 17 year old Jannie, 14 year old George and 6 year old Hattie.

Edward (senior) was employed as a labourer, working from home. He had worked for seven months and had earned $200 that year. It was noted that he could read and write.

Edward (junior) was employed as a trader, working from home. He had worked for eight months and had earned $360 that year. He too could read and write.

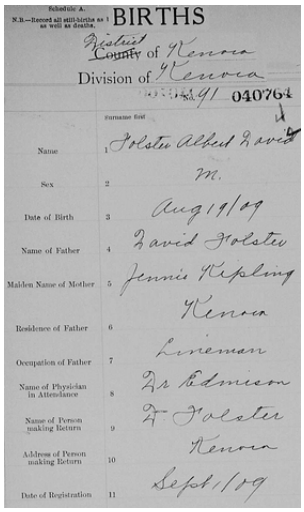
Jannie (Jane) was not working, as the eldest girl she would now be responsible for running the household and looking after the two younger children.

George and Hattie were at school, both of them attending for ten months of the year.

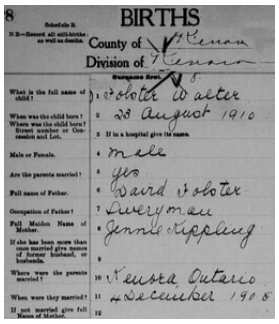


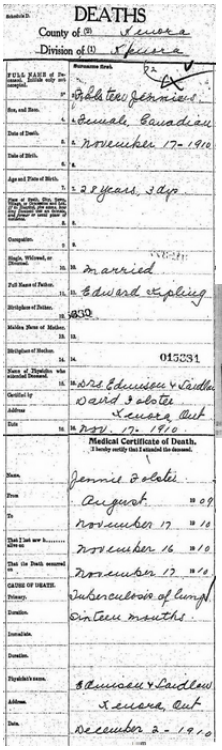
Their racial/tribal origin was recorded as ScotchB (Scotch Breed), and their colour as WR (White Red). Both of these "classifications" indicate that there was Canadian Indian blood in their ancestry, namely their father's, although since the original settler in Canada, John Kipling, was English it should have been recorded as EnglishB.

On December 4th 1908, Jane married David Folster in Kenora, Rainy River and on August 19th 1909 Jane gave birth to a son, Albert David. A year later Walter was born on August 23rd 1910.



Kenora had been formed by the amalgamation of the three neighbouring towns of Keewatin, Norman and Rat Portage in 1905.

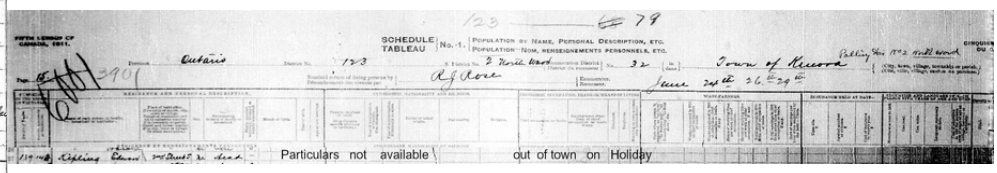



DEATHS
County of (2) Kenora
Division of (3) Kenora

Surname first: Schlotter Jennie
Sex, and Race: Female Canadian
Date of Death: November 17-1910
Date of Birth:
Age and Place of Birth: 28 years 3 days
Occupation:
Single, Widowed, or Married: Married
Full Name of Father: Edward Kipling
Birthplace of Father: Ontario
Maiden Name of Mother: 839
Birthplace of Mother:
Name of Physician who attended Deceased: 015231
Certified by: Drs Edmison & Laidlaw
Address: David Schlotter Kenora Ont
Date: Nov. 17. 1910

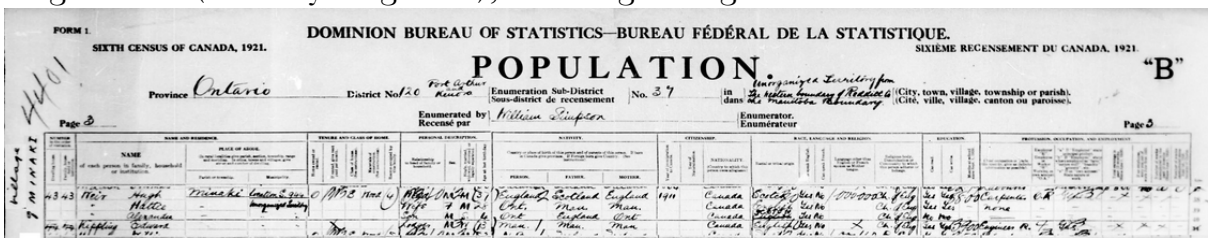
Medical Certificate of Death.
I hereby certify that I attended the deceased.
Name: Jennie Schlotter
From: August 1909
To: November 17 1910
That I last saw it alive on: November 16 1910
That the Death occurred at: November 17 1910
CAUSE OF DEATH.
Primary: Tuberculosis of lungs
Duration: Sixteen months
Intercurrent:
Duration:
Physician's name: Edmison & Laidlaw
Address: Kenora, Ont.
Date: December 2-1910

But fate had not yet finished with Edward as, just over a year later a fifth of his daughters died. On November 17th 1910, after a long illness, Jane succumbed to tuberculosis of the lungs at the age of 28 years and 3 days. She had been suffering from the disease for sixteen months, from August 1909 to November 1910, indeed from the time of Albert's birth.


SCHEDULE TABLEAU No. 1. POPULATION BY NAME, PERSONAL DESCRIPTION, ETC. POPULATION: NOM, RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS, ETC.
Ontario
Town of Kenora
Kipling Edward
Particulars not available
out of town on Holiday

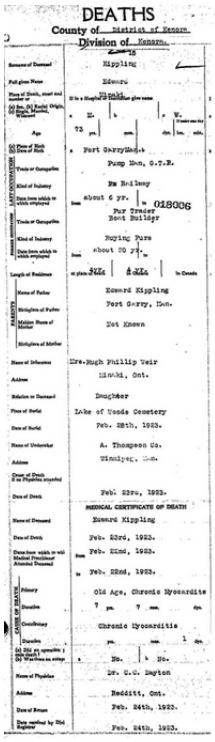
The following year Edward was recorded on the census for Kenora. However there are very few details besides his residence, which was 2nd Street South. The reason for this, written very faintly, is that along with 8 members of the Fraser family, 3 of the Penny family and Mr & Mrs McLennon, he was "out of town on holiday".

By 1921 Edward had gone to live with his daughter Hattie and her family, consisting of husband Hugh and son Alexander. His age was given as 73 and he was still working, his occupation being recorded as Engineer R (Railway Engineer), working with gas.


FORM 1. SIXTH CENSUS OF CANADA, 1921.
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS—BUREAU FÉDÉRAL DE LA STATISTIQUE.
SIXIÈME RECENSEMENT DU CANADA, 1921.
POPULATION. "B"
Province Ontario District No. 20 Enumeration Sub-District No. 37
Enumerated by Recensé par William Simpson
Enumerator. Enumérateur
Page 3

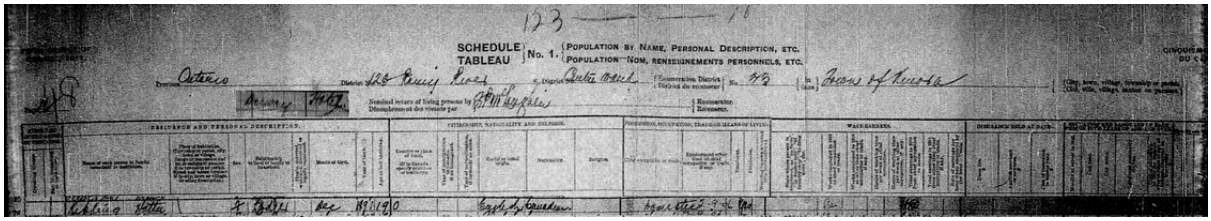
On February 23rd 1923, Edward died in Minaki, Kenora district, at an age that was given as 73 but was closer to 68. His father's name was recorded as Edward with place of birth as Fort Garry, Manitoba, which was in the Red River Settlement. His own birthplace was also given as Fort Garry, and his last occupation was given as Pump Man for the Grand Trunk Railway (GTR) for whom he had worked for the previous six years. *My best guess, taking into account that "gas" in the previous census probably meant gasoline, and his age is that Edward's job had been filling up the vehicles owned by the GTR.* Prior to that he had worked as a boat builder and fur trader for about 20 years. According to Hattie, who gave this information, Edward had lived at his current address for the past 4 years. Cause of death was "old age and chronic myocarditis", from which he had suffered for 7 years and 7 months.

He was buried five days later in the Lake of the Woods cemetery, Kenora.


DEATHS
County of District of Kenora
Division of Kenora

Surname of Deceased: Kipling
Full given Name: Edward
Sex: M.
Age: 73 yrs.
Place of Birth: Fort Garry, Man.
Trade or Occupation: Pump Man, G.T.R.
Kind of Industry: Rw Railway
Date from which in which employed: about 6 yr.
Trade or Occupation: Fur Trader Boat Builder
Kind of Industry: Buying Furs
Date from which in which employed: About 20 yr.
Length of Residence: 4 yrs.
Name of Father: Edward Kipling
Birthplace of Father: Fort Garry, Man.
Maiden Name of Mother: Not Known
Birthplace of Mother:
Name of Informant: Mrs. Hugh Phillip Weir
Address: Minaki, Ont.
Relation to Deceased: Daughter
Place of Burial: Lake of Woods Cemetery
Date of Burial: Feb. 28th, 1923.
Name of Undertaker: A. Thompson Co.
Address: Winnipeg, Man.
Date of Death: Feb. 23rd, 1923.
MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
Name of Deceased: Edward Kipling
Date of Death: Feb. 23rd, 1923.
Date from which or will Medical Practitioner Attended Deceased: Feb. 23rd, 1923.
Primary: Old Age, Chronic Myocarditis
Duration: 7 yr. 7 mo.
Contributory: Chronic Myocarditis
Duration: 1 yr.
Name of Physician: Dr. C.C. Dayton
Address: Redditt, Ont.
Date of Return: Feb. 24th, 1923.
Date received by Chief Registrar: Feb. 24th, 1923.

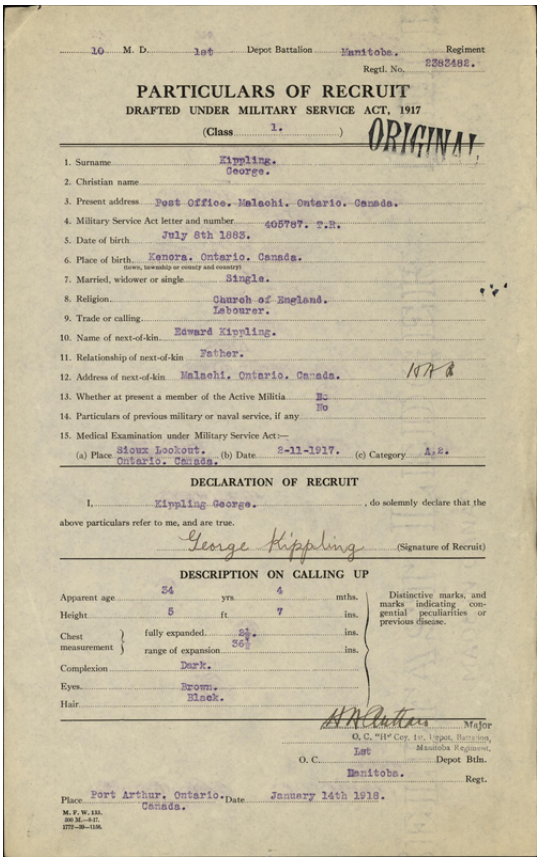
So Hattie Kipling's parents Edward and Margaret were both half-breed, thus making Hattie half-breed also.



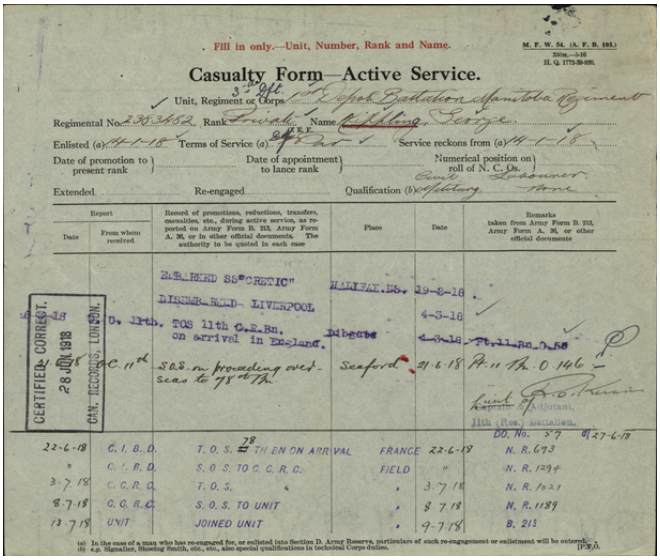
The census tells us that in 1911 she was living in Kenora.
She was living, along with many others, at the Derry Hotel, which seems too have been more a lodging house than a hotel. She said that she was born in December 1901, although her date of birth was actually January 26th 1894 – perhaps she did not want to admit that she was living independently aged just 17.
She could read and write, and gave her occupation as a domestic, but appears to have replied "no" to the question about if she was an employee. She had clearly been working since the age of 16 because she stated that she had 52 weeks in 1910 and had earned $480 in that time. That would be worth $14,000 or £7,700 in 2020.

On 30th March 1917 Hattie married Hugh Philip Weir, the caretaker and supervisor at Minaki Lodge, Minaki, Kenora in Winnipeg, Manitoba.*

On 29th April 1917 Hattie gave birth to her son, Alexander Cuthbert in Winnipeg, Ontario.*



Hattie's only surviving sibling, her brother George, enlisted in the Canadian Army on January 14th 1918.
On 19th February he boarded the SS Cretic and sailed for England.

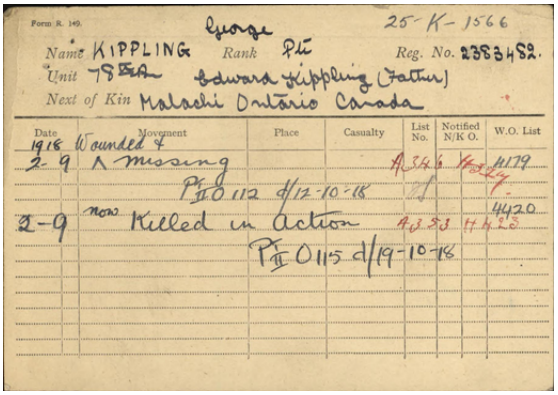


* *Manitoba Vital Statistics*

On June 21st he was posted to France, where he joined the 78th Battalion Canadian Infantry the next day. After training, he was posted to his unit on July 9th.

In the first four days of September the Canadians attacked the Canal du Nord, taking more than 6,000 prisoners and inflicting heavy losses on the German Army.

Sadly, during the fighting George was reported wounded and missing. Shortly afterwards it was confirmed that he had been killed in action, aged 31. His time at the front had lasted less than two months.

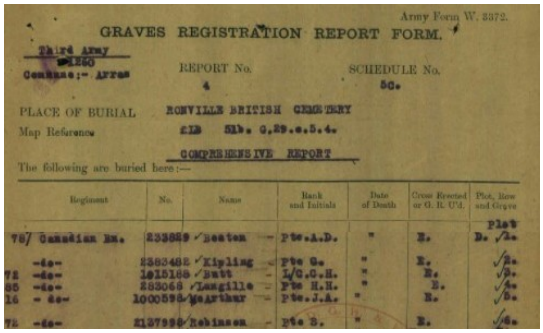

Form R. 149.

Name KIPPLING George Rank Pte Reg. No. 2383482.

Unit 78 Bn Edward Kippling (Father)

Next of Kin Malachi Ontario Canada

Date	Movement	Place	Casualty	List No.	Notified N/K O.	W.O. List
1918	Wounded & missing			A.346		4179
	Pte O 112 d/12-10-18					
2-9	now Killed in Action			A.333		4420
	Pte O 115 d/19-10-18					


Army Form W. 3372.

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

Third Army

Command:- Arras

REPORT No. 4 SCHEDULE No. 50.

PLACE OF BURIAL RONVILLE BRITISH CEMETERY

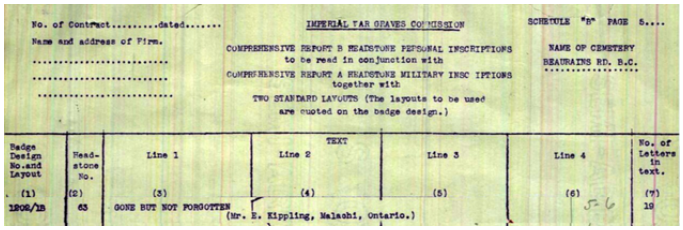
Map Reference 51b. G.29.a.5.4.

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

The following are buried here:—

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave
78/ Canadian Bn.	233859	Beaton	Pte.A.D.	"	E.	Plot D. /2.
-do-	2383482	Kipling	Pte G.	"	E.	/2.
72 -do-	1015188	Batt	L/C.C.H.	"	E.	/2.
85 -do-	233068	Langille	Pte H.N.	"	E.	/2.
16 -do-	1000598	Arthur	Pte.J.A.	"	E.	/2.
72 -do-	2137920	Robinson	Pte S.	"	E.	/2.

Edward chose the simple inscription to be engraved at the foot of the headstone.


No. of Contract.....dated.....

Name and address of Firm.

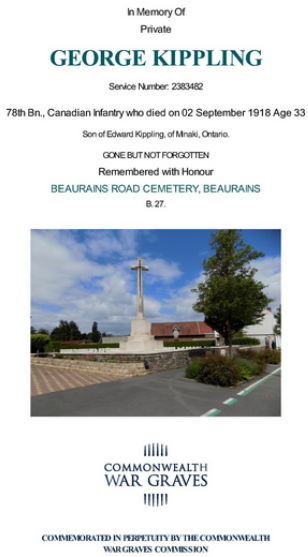
IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT B HEADSTONE PERSONAL INSCRIPTIONS to be read in conjunction with COMPREHENSIVE REPORT A HEADSTONE MILITARY INSCRIPTIONS together with TWO STANDARD LAYOUTS (The layouts to be used are quoted on the badge design.)

SCHEDULE "B" PAGE 5....

NAME OF CEMETERY BEAURAINS Rd. B.C.

Badge Design No. and Layout	Head-stone No.	Line 1	Line 2	Line 3	Line 4	No. of Letters in text.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1908/18	63	GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN	(Mr. E. Kipling, Malachi, Ontario.)			19


In Memory Of

Private

GEORGE KIPPLING

Service Number: 2383482

78th Bn., Canadian Infantry who died on 02 September 1918 Age 33

Son of Edward Kippling, of Minaki, Ontario.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Remembered with Honour

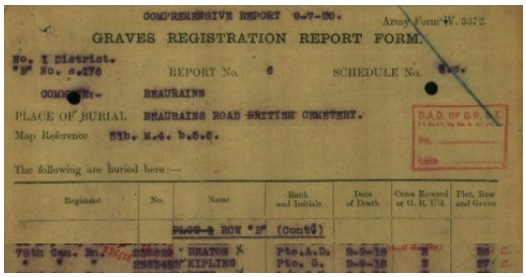
BEAURAINS ROAD CEMETERY, BEAURAINS

B. 27.

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES

COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

George was originally buried in a concentrated cemetery, Ronville, before being moved to the Beaurains Road Cemetery on the southern outskirts of Arras, north of the village of Beaurains.


COMPREHENSIVE REPORT 9-7-20. Army Form W. 3372

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

No. 1 District. "F" No. 6.176 REPORT No. 6 SCHEDULE No. 110.

COMMUNITY:- BEAURAINS

PLACE OF BURIAL BEAURAINS ROAD BRITISH CEMETERY.

Map Reference 51b. M.4. b.5.5.

D.A.D. OF G.R.U.

The following are buried here:—

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave
		PLOT 2 ROW "F" (Cont'd)				
78th Can. Bn.	233859	BEATON	Pte.A.D.	2-9-18	E	26
	2383482	KIPPLING	Pte. G.	2-9-18	E	27

So Hattie was left a the sole survivor of seven children, all of whom her father Edward had outlived.

And as we know, Hattie went on to outlive her own son Alexander too.

Hattie lived for 30 years after Alexander's death until she died in Jan 1973. She is buried in the Kippling family plot in the Lake of the Woods Cemetery, Kenora.

And the answer to Joe Wilson's conundrum? Well Hattie was a half blood and Philip was English, so Alexander was one quarter indigenous Canadian.

* *Images from Commonwealth War Graves Commission*

The Events and Aftermath of the Night of 20th/21st April 1943

By 1943 RAF heavy bombers were launching raid after raid on Germany's infrastructure. Operating at night, due to heavy losses sustained during the initial daylight raids, the number of aircraft involved was becoming larger by the week.

On the 20th April 1943, 102 Squadron was tasked with providing 16 Halifaxes to join 323 other aircraft for a raid on Stettin. One of the 16 was Halifax DT 747, codenamed DY-P, crewed by:- Pilot, Sgt **Wilfred Ambrose Griffiths** RAFVR – 2nd Pilot, Sgt Pilot **Thomas Samuel Eric Bennett** RNZAF – Navigator, Sgt **Wilfred Charles Marsh** RAFVR – Wireless Operator, **Sgt Arnold Jenkinson** RAFVR – Air Gunner, **Alexander Cuthbert Weir** RCAF – Air Gunner, Sgt **Bertram Charles John White** RAFVR – Flight Engineer, Sgt **James Thomas Smith** RAFVR – Air Bomber, Sgt **James Kenneth Campbell** RAFVR.

The crew's regular air bomber, **Joe Wilson**, had developed severe eczema on his face and was unable to secure his oxygen mask properly, so he had been stood down, and Ken Campbell was detailed to take his place. Second "Dickie" Eric Bennett was making only his second trip since joining the squadron.

20.4.43	16 aircraft detailed to attack STETTIN.	Weather:	No cloud enroute or at the target but patches of sea fog, Danish coast.			326
DT. 747	PILOT SGT. W.A.GRIFFITHS 2nd. PILOT SGT. T.S.E.BENNETT N/Op. SGT. W.C.MARSH W/Op. SGT. A.JENKINSON A/G SGT. A.C.WEIR A/ENG SGT. B.C.WHITE BOMB SGT. J.T.SMITH BOMB SGT. J.K.CAMPBELL	As above	2130	-	Aircraft missing nothing heard after take off.	

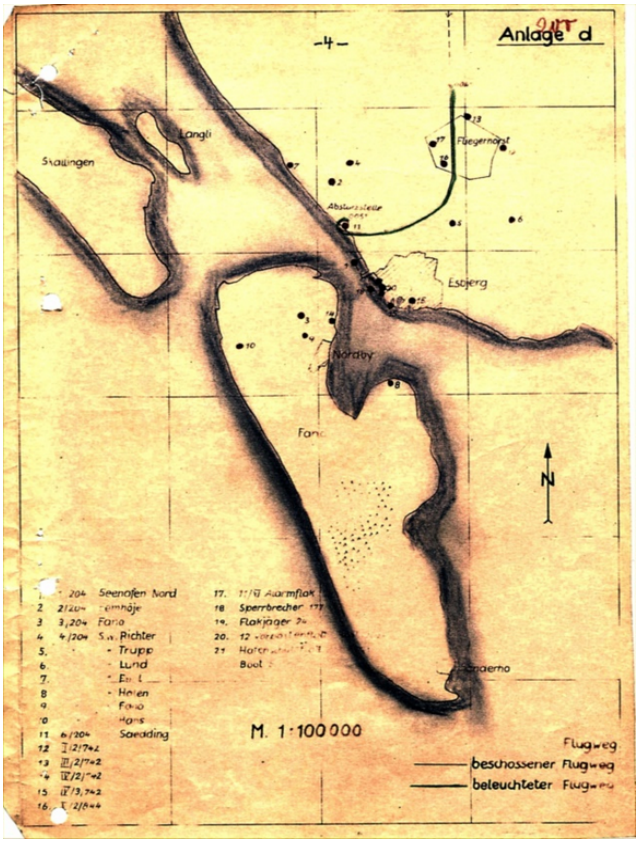
At 21:30, DT 747 rumbled down the runway and took off from Pocklington. They headed east over the North Sea toward the Danish coastline. Over Denmark they would turn south-east towards Stettin, and attack from the north. In their collective wisdom, Bomber Command had come up with a new idea to beat the German GCI (*Ground Controlled Interception – Fighters controlled by Radar*) – this was to be a low level trip.

The route to Stettin would take aircraft over the North Sea at 3,000 to 5,000 feet, then, before crossing the Danish coast, 1 Group's Lancasters would descend to 1,000 feet, 6 Group's Halifaxes would go down to a breathtaking 500 feet or less, and 4 and 5 Group's Halifaxes and Lancasters would cross Denmark on loose orders of 'as low as possible'. All groups would climb in the final stages across the Baltic and none of them were to bomb at above 12,000 feet, then they would all descend to minimum height until well on the way home. The eighty-six Stirling crews who would accompany this force would also be required to fly as low as safety allowed, then at Drasser Point north-east of Rostock they would break away to attack the Heinkel works as the rest flew on to bomb Stettin.

The article on the left (***courtesy of Clare Wilson***) gives an idea of Bomber Command's planning. 102 Squadron was part of 4 Group. They were ordered to descend to "as low as possible" ***before*** crossing the Danish coast. Since 6 Group were ordered to go down to "a breathtaking 500 feet or less", the presumption must be that 'as low as possible' was even lower than that!

After crossing the heavily defended Danish coast they were to continue at their allocated level until they were crossing the Baltic Sea. At this point they were to climb to no more than 12,000 feet, deliver their bombs and head home, again at minimum height.

Approaching the Danish coastline, Air Gunners Bob White (tail end Charlie in the rear turret) and the Canadian Alexander Weir (in the mid-upper turret) were scanning the skies on the lookout for enemy night fighters, while Wireless Operator Arnie Jenkinson was listening for any radio traffic and Pilot Wilf Griffiths was concentrating on ensuring the aircraft was flying at the right height, in the right direction and at the right speed. (*As the pilot, he was the Captain of the plane, and as such "outranked" and was responsible for everyone else aboard*). Navigator Marsh was busy checking and replotting the course, with the aid of Ken Campbell who, whilst not needed on Air Bomber duty, was using his Observer's qualification to spot landmarks that would help him with his task (*as Marsh had to maintain a high level of concentration for virtually the whole flight*). Eric, as 2nd Dickie, and Flight Engineer Smith were also keeping an open eye on the skies (*unless Griffiths needed help or Smith needed to make adjustments to the various systems*).



German map showing flak battery and searchlight positions, and the flight path of DT 747 DY-P

However, on the ground the drone of the engines was heard and DY-P was spotted at 00:47 flying over Esbjerg Airbase (now occupied by the Luftwaffe) at a height of 150m from the north-east. Immediately flak batteries (*and there were many of them*) opened fire, and searchlights were deployed to light up the plane. Soon they were coned by at least two radar guided searchlights, enveloping the cockpit in a blinding glare. As well as the flak batteries, machine guns opened fire, and the plane was passed on from searchlight to searchlight, unable to escape no matter what manoeuvres Griffiths might try. (*Now that the plane was caught by the lights, it was not only possible to track its course but also its speed, allowing the next set of lights and flak to be ready to lock onto it).*

Griffiths turned to the west while White and Weir did all they could to shoot out the searchlights, but they and the flak followed them. Five batteries, including two heavy batteries, were now firing at them and as Griffiths wheeled to the north, two flak ships in the harbour also joined in.

Flak over Esbjerg – night of 20/21st

DT747 DY-P was hit directly several times by flak. As Griffiths attempted to gain height two more direct hits were made. Four minutes later (*which must have seemed like four years to the crew if they were still alive*) DT747 DY-P crashed. The crew, if not killed by the explosions from the flak, died instantly.

When I first discovered that the plane was spotted by the Germans flying at a height of 150m, I wondered.....WHY?

Thanks to Clare Wilson I now know that it was on the orders of Bomber Command that 4 Group flew at this height over the Danish coast.

But what I still cannot rationalise is why the course they were following took them ***directly over the Luftwaffe base at Esbjerg****, one of the most heavily defended parts of the Danish coast due to the fact that it was an important port. Perhaps the sea fog mentioned in the ORB, combined with a slightly miscalculated wind speed or direction, put them off course.....whatever it was, we will never know.*

The morning of the 21st April was a scene of carnage on the Hjertingvej road at Saedding, three and a half miles north of the port of Esbjerg on the west coast of Denmark.

Official German Photographs of the Crash Site

The Crash Site As It Is Today From Almost The Same Spot

R.A.F. MEN BURIED IN DENMARK

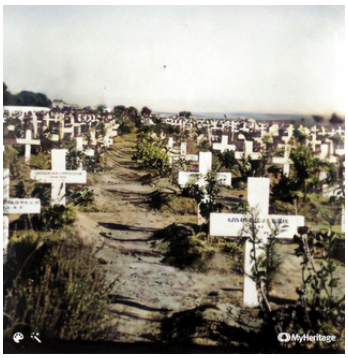
Thirty-seven R.A.F. men, stated to be members of crews of 'planes that crashed over Southern Jutland on April 20, when Stettin and Rostock were raided, have been buried at Fourfeld Gravlund, Denmark, according to Danish newspapers reaching here, says a Stockholm message.

The remains of the 37 crewmen who died in the area on that night were, as we know, buried in Fovrfelt Cemetery, close to the crash site, as was reported in the Gloucestershire Echo on 7th May 1943.

Fovrfelt Gravelund (Cemetery)

The mass grave filled in, covered with flowers

The burial of the 37 aircrew on 30th April 1943. Photos taken from either end of the trench. Note the villagers, flowers on the coffins and the Wehrmacht guard of honour

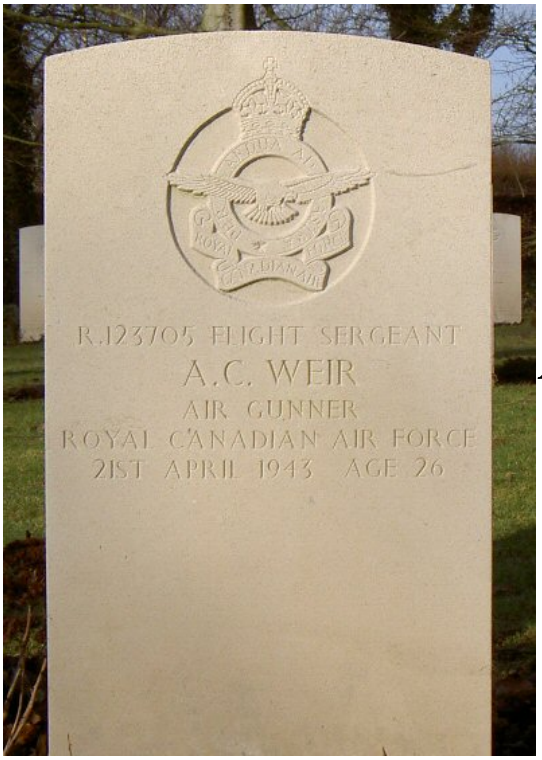


Original crosses at Fovrfelt

Communal Cross for the five crew who were never identified

Crosses on the right
J T Smith
J K Campbell
A Jenkinson
B C V White

A service at the graveside



Alexander's grave

To the right

Arnie Jenkinson's mother laying flowers at her son's grave in 1946

Thomas Bennett was the father of the plane's second pilot TSE (Eric) Bennett who was on only his second familiarisation operation with 102 Squadron, never having actually flown with a crew of his own. He received the following letter from the New Zealand Air Secretary regarding eye-witness accounts of the aftermath of the crash:-

5/3/2830 PRS.

17th January, 1947.

Mr. T. Bennett,
51 Waterloo Rd.
LOWER HUTT.

Dear Mr. Bennett,

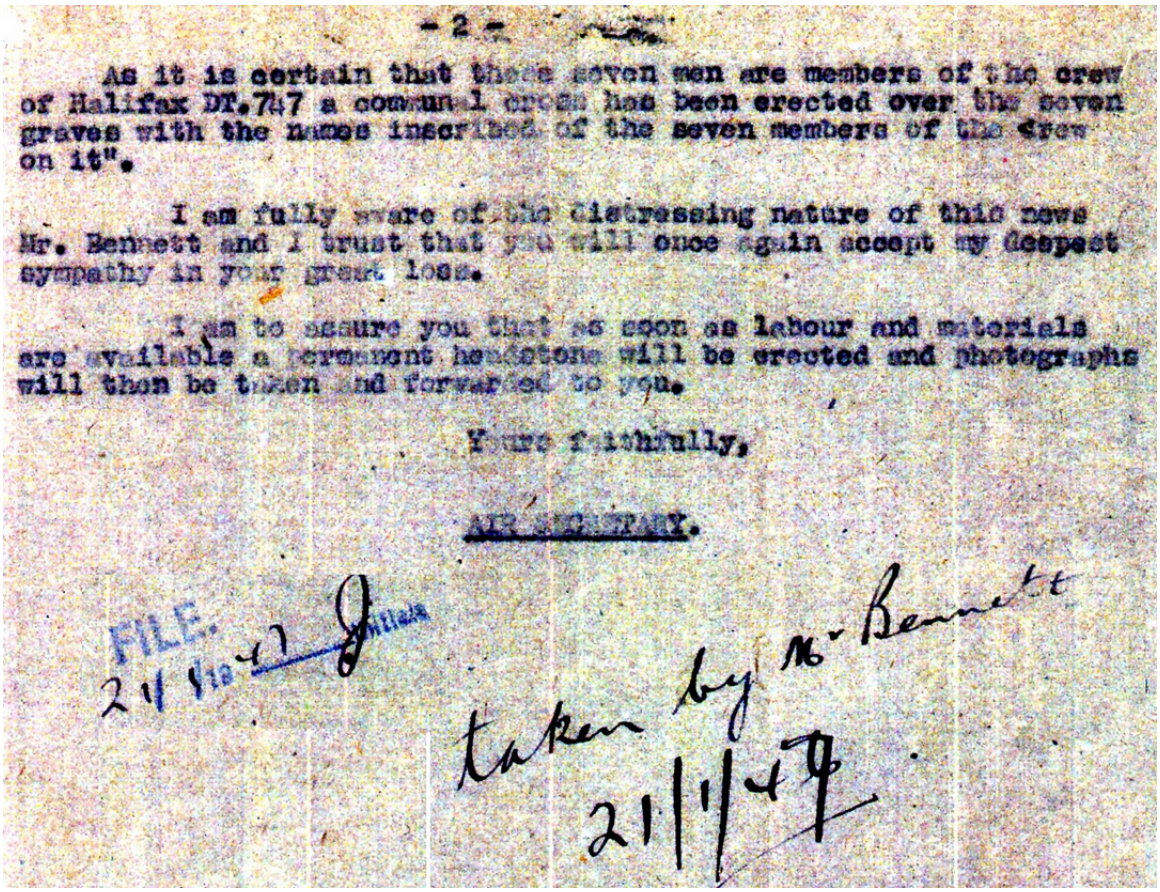
Further to my previous correspondence concerning your son, Sgt. Thomas Samuel Eric Bennett, I have to advisethat additional information has now been received. This is in the nature of a report from the Missing Research & Enquiry Service and the following is an extract made by the Investigating Officer.

"As instructed I proceeded to Esbjerg to investigate the crash of Halifax DT.747. I found that the aircraft crashed at 1254 a.m. on the 21st April, 1943, 2½ kilometers north west of Esbjerg about 100 yards from the nearest building and admidst heavy German defences. The aircraft caught fire while still in the air and all the bombs did not explode on impact but nevertheless it was spread over a wide area on both sides of the road. When the Danish police and air Defence people arrived at the scene of the crash shortly afterwards they found charred pieces of bodies on both sides of the road and two bodies in the aircraft. Although many people from Esbjerg saw the wreck in the following days we had to advertise in all the local newspapers to obtain this evidence.from eye witnesses:

Mr. Charles Jorgensen of Norregade 28, Esbjerg, saw the Germans arrive with a truck and 7 coffins on the 23rd or the 24th April. They loaded the bodies into coffins when they were taken to the Fourfeldt Cemetery for burial.

Mr. T.O. Jensen of the Ambulance Corps was on guard when the Germans removed the wreck on the 25th April, 1943, and he said that there was one dead airman and part of the body of another lying there when the wreckage was removed. These were taken away in two coffins. The seven coffins from this crash are buried in the Fourfeldt Cemetery in this order:-

Sgt.Smith (identified)	Plot A	Row 10	Grave	No.	9
Unknown	"	"	"	"	10
Unknown	"	"	"	"	11
Sgt.Weir (identified)	"	"	"	"	12
Unknown	"	"	"	"	13



- 2 -

As it is certain that these seven men are members of the crew of Halifax DT.747 a communal cross has been erected over the seven graves with the names inscribed of the seven members of the crew on it".

I am fully aware of the distressing nature of this news Mr. Bennett and I trust that you will once again accept my deepest sympathy in your great loss.

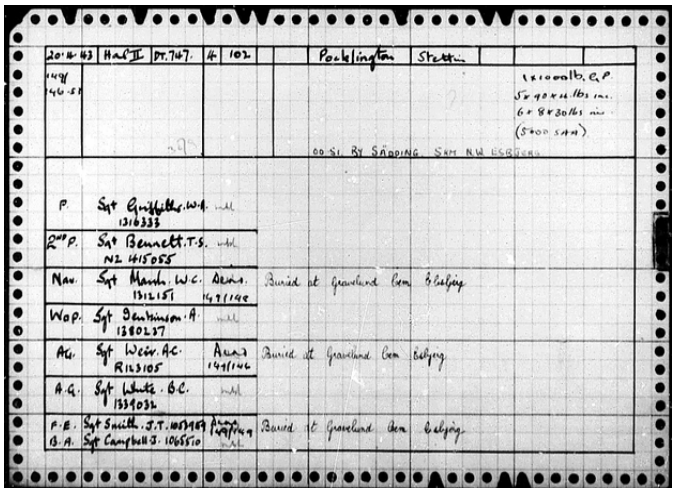
I am to assure you that as soon as labour and materials are available a permanent headstone will be erected and photographs will then be taken and forwarded to you.

Yours faithfully,

AIR SECRETARY.

FILE. 21/1/47

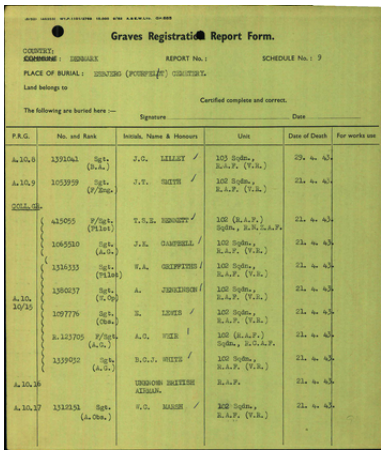
taken by Mr. Bennett 21/1/47



20.4.43	Hal II	DT.747.	4	102			Poelsington	Stettin	
1441 146.51									1x1000lb. G.P. 5x40x4.4lbs inc. 6x8x30lbs inc. (5400 S.G.M.)
							CO SI. BY SANDING. SAM N.W. ESBJERG		
P.	Sgt Griffiths. W.A. 1316333								
2nd P.	Sgt Bennett. T.S. NZ 415055								
Nav.	Sgt Marsh. W.C. 1312151		Aus. 1471149		Buried at Grauerland Cem Esbjerg				
W.op.	Sgt Dentinson. A. 1380237								
A.G.	Sgt Weir. A.C. R123105		Aus 1441146		Buried at Grauerland Cem Esbjerg				
A.G.	Sgt White. B.C. 1339032								
F.E. / B.A.	Sgt Smith. J.T. 1051169 / Sgt Campbell J. 1066510		Pilot /		Buried at Grauerland Cem Esbjerg				

As can be seen from the bottom of the first page of the letter and the Bomber Command Loss Card, it was believed at the time that Alexander's body had been identified and buried in grave 12.

However, it later transpired that this was not the case, and only Marsh and Smith have their own graves – the six others are buried in a communal grave.



Graves Registration Report Form.

COUNTRY: DENMARK

COMMUNE: REPORT No.: SCHEDULE No.: 9

PLACE OF BURIAL: ESBJERG (FOURFELT) CEMETERY.

Land belongs to

Certified complete and correct.

The following are buried here :—

Signature Date

P.R.G.	No. and Rank		Initials, Name & Honours	Unit	Date of Death	For works use
A.10.8	1391041	Sgt. (B.A.)	J.O. LILLEY	103 Sqdn., R.A.F. (V.R.)	29. 4. 43	
A.10.9	1053959	Sgt. (F/Eng.)	J.T. SMITH	102 Sqdn., R.A.F. (V.R.)	21. 4. 43	
COLL. GR.						
	415055	F/Sgt. (Pilot)	T.S.R. BENNETT	102 (R.A.F.) Sqdn., R.N.Z.A.F.	21. 4. 43	
	1065510	Sgt. (A.G.)	J.K. CAMPBELL	102 Sqdn., R.A.F. (V.R.)	21. 4. 43	
	1316333	Sgt. (Pilot)	W.A. GRIFFITHS	102 Sqdn., R.A.F. (V.R.)	21. 4. 43	
	1380237	Sgt. (W.Op)	A. JENKINSON	102 Sqdn., R.A.F. (V.R.)	21. 4. 43	
A.10. 10/15	1097776	Sgt. (Obs.)	H. LEWIS	102 Sqdn., R.A.F. (V.R.)	21. 4. 43	
	R.123705	F/Sgt. (A.G.)	A.C. WEIR	102 (R.A.F.) Sqdn., R.C.A.F.	21. 4. 43	
	1339032	Sgt. (A.G.)	B.C.J. WHITE	102 Sqdn., R.A.F. (V.R.)	21. 4. 43	
A.10.16			UNKNOWN BRITISH AIRMAN.	R.A.F.	21. 4. 43	
A.10.17	1312151	Sgt. (A.Obs.)	W.C. MARSH	102 Sqdn., R.A.F. (V.R.)	21. 4. 43	

In Memory Of
Flight Sergeant

ALEXANDER CUTHBERT WEIR

Service Number: R/123705

102 (R.A.F.) Sqdn., Royal Canadian Air Force who died on 21 April 1943 Age 26

Son of Hugh Philip and Hattie Kipping Weir, of Mineki, Ontario, Canada.

Remembered with Honour
ESBJERG (FOURFELT) CEMETERY
Coll. grave A. 10. 10-15.

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES

COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH WARGRAVES COMMISSION

What follows are the official German documents relating to the shooting down of Halifax DT747 DY-P and its eight crew. A translation is on the following page.

Anlage zu Abschnitt. Bfn. Betr. 6 2291 - 24/4 1943

- 1 -

GEHEIM

Anlage a)
Anlage 2
zu Nr. 431
Muster 2, Flak-Art.

Flakuntergruppe Esbjerg (Truppenteil) — Esbjerg, den 21.4.1943. (Ort, Datum)

Anlage zu B.Nr. f 282/43
vom 24. 4. 43

Abschußmeldung

1. Zeit (Tag, Stunde, Minute) und Gegend des Absturzes 21.4.1943, 0051 Uhr
2,5 km nördlich Esbjerg (Saedding)
Höhe: 100 m
2. Durch welche Einheit ist der Abschuß erfolgt? Flakuntergruppe Esbjerg
3. Flugzeugtyp des abgeschossenen Flugzeuges: "Halifax"
4. Staatsangehörigkeit des Gegners: Engländer
Werknummern bzw. Kennzeichen +
5. Art der Vernichtung Maschine stürzte brennend ab auf Land
a) Flammen mit dunkler Fahne, Flammen mit heller Fahne
b) Einzelteile weggeflogen, abmontiert (Art der Teile erläutern), auseinandergeplatzt
c) zur Landung gezwungen (diesseits oder jenseits der Front, glatt bzw. mit Bruch) 100 %
d) jenseits der Front am Boden in Brand geschossen
6. Art des Aufschlages (nur wenn dieser beobachtet werden konnte):
a) diesseits oder jenseits der Front
b) senkrecht, flachem Winkel, Aufschlagbrand, Staubwolke
c) nicht beobachtet, warum nicht? +
7. Schicksal der Insassen (tot, mit Fallschirm abgesprungen, nicht beobachtet)
8. Gefechtsbericht:
Die Einheiten haben neben dem Gefechtsbericht des Batteriechefs über folgendes zu berichten:
a) Tag 21.4.1943 } des Abschusses
b) Uhrzeit (Radiozeit) 0051 Uhr
c) Flugrichtung des Zieles (nach Flugmelderose): siehe Gefechtsskizze - Anlage d)
d) Stellung der Batterie (des Zuges) (Koordinaten, Kartenblattangabe): +
e) Schießverfahren Vernichtungsfeuer
f) Feuerart und Munitionseinsatz: Aufstellung siehe Rückseite
g) genaueste Angaben über das Verhalten des Zieles beim Abschuß (»Begriffsbestimmungen« genau beachten):
s. Gefechtsbericht - Anlage b)
h) Verhalten eigener Jagdflugzeuge (Schilderung der Angriffe der Jägeranzahl!) +
i) Beteiligung weiterer Flakeinheiten (auch des Heeres und der Kriegsmarine) siehe Anlage f)
j) Wetterlage am Ziel (Wolken, Sonnenstand usw.) siehe Gefechtsbericht - Anlage b)
9. Zeugen (namentlich aufführen)
a) Luft +
b) Erde: Oberfähnrich M.A. Horland - siehe Anlage c)

Schuitzpl.
(Unterschrift)
Leutnant M.A. und Auswerteoffizier.

Zu Ziffer 5-7 ist Zutreffendes zu unterstreichen.

Bestell-Nr. 7148 (1.) Wehrmachtformular-Druckerei u. Verlag A. u. H. Hofbauer, Düsseldorf, Düsselstr. 29, Ruf 14394 u. 18004

SECRET **Annex (Appendix) a**

Flak Subgroup Esbjerg Esbjerg, 21.4.1943

Attachment No f383/43
From 24.4.43

Statement

1. Time (day, hour, minute) and location **21.4.43, 0051 hours, 2.5 km north of Esbjerg (Saedding)**

Height **100m**

2. By which unit was the shooting done? **Flak Subgroup Esbjerg**

3. Type of aircraft shot down **"Halifax"**

4. Nationality of the enemy **English**

5. Type of destruction **Machine crashed burning to the ground**
   a) **Flames with a bright colour**
   c) **100% broken**

6. Type of hit (only if this can be observed)
   b) **Impact blaze**

7. Fate of the occupants **dead**

8. Action/Battle/Combat Report

As well as the combat report of the battery chiefs, units must report the following
   a) Date **21.4.1943**
   b) Time of the downing **0051 hours**
   c) Flight direction of objective **See battle sketch – appendix (d)**
   e) Shooting Procedure **Destruction fire**
   f) Type of fire and munitions **Set up see overleaf**
   g) Detailed information about the behaviour of the target during the shooting down **Battle report – appendix (b)**
   i) Participation of the other flak helpers (i.e. of the Army and Navy) **See appendix (b)**
   j) Weather situation at the target (cloud, position of the sun etc) **See battle report – appendix (b)**

9. Sign (name, rank)
   b) Heritage (*p.p.?*) Brigadier M.A. Harland – **see appendix (c)**

(M.A. = Munitionsanstalt – Munitions Establishment)

Christoph

Leutnant M.A. and Evaluation Officer

198

Anlage b)

Gefechtsbericht

21. April 1943

Wetter: 0051 Uhr Bedeckung: 9/10, Wolkenhöhe: 1000 m
Sicht a.B.: 20 km, Wind: SW 2

Um 2308 Uhr wurde von der Flakuntergruppe Alarm gegeben. Im Verlauf dieses Alarmes überflog eine 4 mot. Feindmaschine vom Muster "Halifax" aus NO kommend in ca. 150 m Höhe den Fliegerhorst Esbjerg, wurde dort von dem SW. "Flugplatz" aufgefasst und um 0047 Uhr von den 2 cm und 3,7 cm Waffen der Luftwaffe (2./742, 2./844 u. Alarmflakbatt.11/XI) unter Feuer genommen. Die Scheinwerfer der 4./204 "Richter" u. "Halen" fassten das Ziel neu auf und übergaben es an die SW. "Trupp", "Lund", "Emil", "Fanö" und "Hans". Die Feindmaschine wurde mit MG-Feuer der SW. "Trupp" und "Lund" beschossen und drehte nach Westen ab. Sofort nach Neuauffassen des Zieles durch die SW. eröffnete die 10,5 cm Batt. "Femhöje" das Feuer. Gleichzeitig wurde die Feindmaschine von den Stellungen Seehafen-Süd (2./742) u. Seehafen-Nord (1./204), dem Flakzug Saedding (6./204) und von der schweren Batt. "Fanö" mit 2 cm, 3,7 cm und 10,5 cm Waffen bekämpft. Der im Hafen liegende Sperrbrecher 177 und der Flakjäger 24 griffen wirksam in die Bekämpfung der Feindmaschine ein. Die Schüsse lagen gut am Ziel und es wurden Treffer in der Maschine, in einem der linken Motoren und ein bedeutender Feuerschein beobachtet. Die Maschine versuchte an Höhe zu gewinnen, wurde aber von neuen Salven erfasst und stürzte um 0051 Uhr fast senkrecht auf die Strasse Esbjerg-Hjerting bei der Stellung Saedding ab. Unter Entwicklung einer hohen Stichflamme brannte die Maschine vollständig aus. Sämtliche Besatzungsmitglieder kamen bei dem Absturz ums Leben.

Munitionsverbrauch:

70	Schuss	10,5	cm
15	"	8,8	cm
385	"	3,7	cm
1368	"	2	cm
450	"		MG

Schwistopl.
Leutnant M.A. und
Auswerteoffizier.

Appendix b)

Battle Report

21 April 1943

Weather: 0051 hours Covering 9/10 Cloud height 1000m Visibility 20km
Wind SW 2

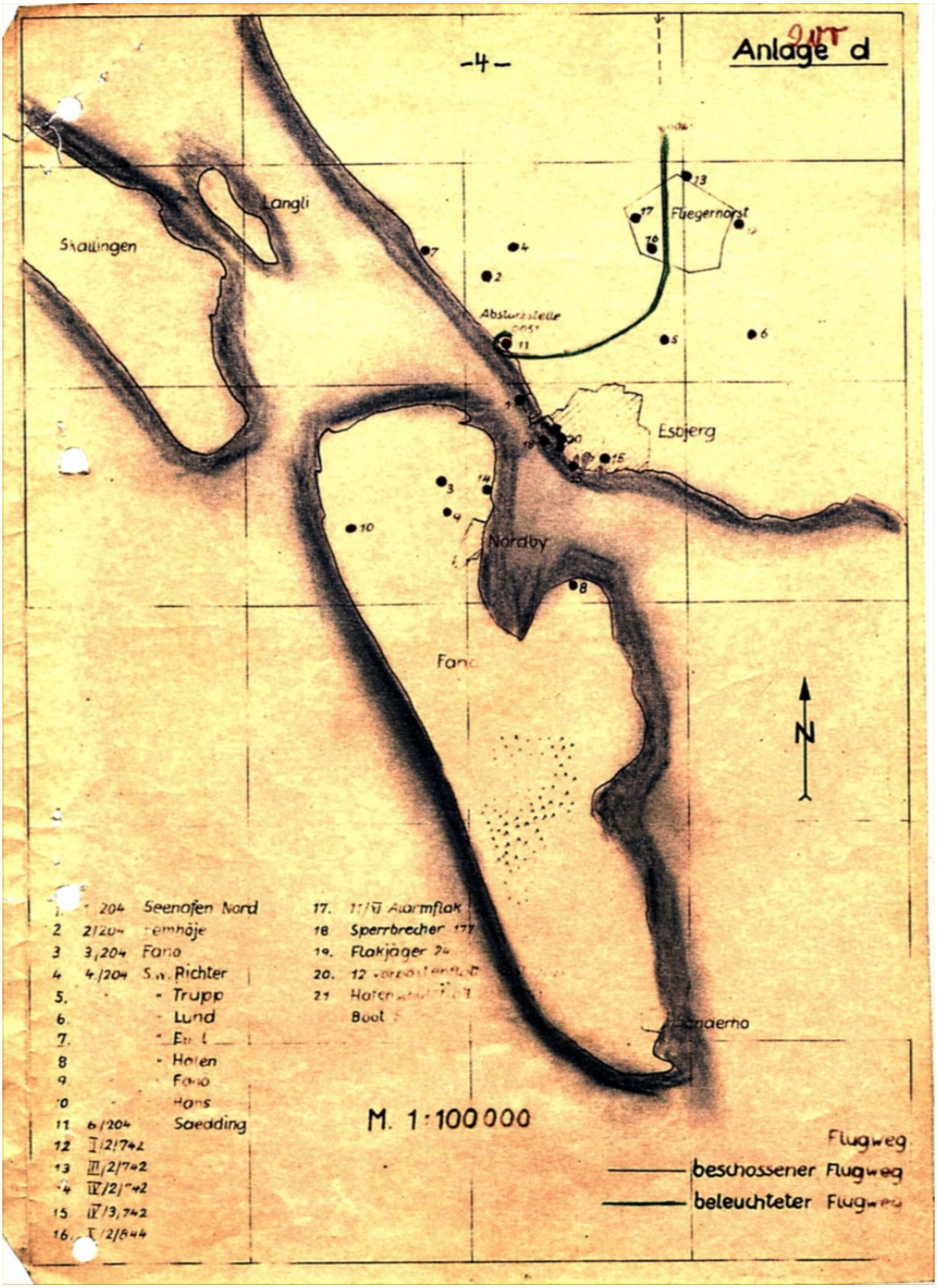
At 2308 hours, the flak sub-group gave the alarm. In the course of this alarm, a 4-engined enemy machine of the type "Halifax" came from the North at a height of about 150 m, flew over the Esbjerg air base, and at 0047 hours was there taken under fire from the SW. Airfield by the 2 cm and 3.7 cm weapons of the Air Force (2/742, 2/844 and alarm battery 11/XI). The searchlights of the 4/204 "Richter" and "Halen" reacquired the target and handed it over to the SW (searchlights) "Trupp", "Lund", "Emil", "Fano" and "Hans".
The enemy machine was shot at with MG fire from the SW (from searchlights) "Trupp" and "Lund" and turned west. Immediately after reacquiring the target in the SW, the 10.5 cm battery "Femhoje" opened fire. At the same time the enemy machine was fired on by the positions South Seaport (2/742) and North Seaport (1/204), the flak train Saedding (6/204) and the heavy battery "Fano", with 2 cm, 3.7 cm and 10.5 cm weapons. The Sperrbrecher 177 (*a minesweeper/anti-aircraft ship*) and the Flakjager 24 (*anti-aircraft boat*), lying in the harbour, were effective in attacking the enemy machine. The shots were well on target and the machine was hit in one of the left engines, and a significant blaze observed. The machine tried to gain height, but was hit by new salvos and crashed at 0051 hours almost perpendicular to the road from Esbjerg to Hjerting at Saedding. A massive fire developed and the machine burned out completely. All crew members died in the crash.

Munitions Consumption

70 shots	10.5cm
15	8.8cm
385	3.7cm
1368	2.0cm
450	MG

Christoph

Leutnant M.A. (Munitionsanstalt – Munitions Establishment)
Evaluation Officer



Map showing the path taken by DT 747 DY-P as it was attacked by machine guns and flak batteries

attached to d)

- 5 -

201

zu Anlage d)

Absturzstelle der "Halifax"

Crash site of the "Halifax"

With typical German bureaucracy, a breakdown of how many shells, and of what calibre, were fired by which batteries.

Kommandant im Abschnitt dänische Westküste
7 MAJ 1943
B. Nr. G 3207 Anl. -/-

Admiral Dänemark
B.Nr.G7571/43 A II

Stabsquartier, den 3/5.43.

Geheim!

-2891-

An Kommando der Marinestation der Nordsee — Wilhelmshaven
nachr.: Flugabwehrkommando Dänemark — Aarhus
Kommandant im Abschnitt dän. Westküste — Esbjerg
Flakuntergruppe — Esbjerg
(zu Flakugr.Esbjerg G 383/43 v.24/4.43 nur an F.A.K.Dän. und Adm.Dän.)

Betr.: Abschuß einer Feindmaschine am 21/4.43 bei Esbjerg.
Vorg.: ohne.

Anliegend werden Abschußmeldung, Gefechtsbericht, Zeugenaussagen, Gefechtsskizze, Lichtbild der Absturzstelle der Feindmaschine, Stellungnahme der Flakuntergruppe Esbjerg sowie Stellungnahme des F.A.K. Dän. mit der Bitte um Kenntnisnahme vorgelegt.

Aus den Unterlagen geht hervor, daß der Absturz der "Halifax" am 21/4.43 0051 Uhr 2,5 km nördlich Esbjerg (bei Saedding) auf den Beschuß durch Marine-Landflak, Luftwaffenflak und Bordflak zurückzuführen ist.

Der Munitionsverbrauch für die beteiligten Dienststellen stellt sich wie folgt dar:

	2 cm	3,7 cm	MG	10,5cm	8,8cm
Mar.Landflak	478	156	380	70	
Luftw.Flak	734	171	70		
Sperrbracher 174		30			15
Flakjäger 24	20	28			
12.Vp.Fl.Boot 1202	76				
HSFl.Esbjerg Boot 8	60				
Summe:	1368	385	450	70	15

Wv. 2775.

In total, 2,288 projectiles, ranging from heavy machine gun bullets to 4” shells, were fired.

Entgegen der Stellungnahme des FAK Dän. wird gebeten, in erster Linie den Abschuß den beteiligten Marineeinheiten der Flakuntergruppe Esbjerg zuzuerkennen, zumal h.E. der Absturz letzten Endes auf den Beschuß des 3,7 cm Flakzuges bei Saedding (Seite 4 Anl.D Punkt 11) zurückzuführen ist. Vorgeschlagen wird, bei der Flakuntergruppe Esbjerg der Marine- und Luftwaffenflak je 50% Beteiligung zuzubilligen.

Außerdem wird gebeten,

dem Sperrbrecher 177
dem Flakjäger 24
dem Vp.Boot 1202 und
dem Boot 8 der HSFl. Esbjerg

eine Mitbeteiligung zuzuerkennen und der Flakuntergruppe Esbjerg einen Abschußwimpel zu verleihen.

Der Kommandeur der Flakuntergruppe Esbjerg hat das Schießen der schweren Flakbatterie "Femhöje" noch abzustoppen versucht. Der Flakuntergruppenkommandeur ist von K.i.A. unterrichtet worden, daß das Schießen einer schweren Flakbatterie auf ein Flugzeug bei 100 m Flughöhe flatechnisch nicht richtig ist.

Für den Admiral Dänemark
Der Chef des Stabes

A translation of the above document appears on the next page.

Commander in Danish West-coast Section

Admiral : Denmark Headquarters
3/5/1943

Secret!

By The Command of the Naval Station of the North Sea
Wilhelmshaven

To Anti-Aircraft Command Denmark Aarhus
Commander in the West Coast section Esbjerg
Flak subgroup Esbjerg

Subject Shooting of an enemy machine
Previous without (*no previous report*)

Concerning the shooting report, battle report, testimonies, combat sketch, photo of the crash site of the enemy machine, opinion of the Flak subgroup Esbjerg and opinion of the Anti-Aircraft Command Denmark submitted with the request for information.
It is clear from the documents that the Halifax crash on 21/4.43 0051 hours, 2.5 km north of Esbjerg (near Saedding), is the result of naval land-launch, air-force and shipboard-flak fire.

The consumption of ammunition for the departments involved is as follows

	2cm	3.7cm	MG	10.5cm	8.8cm
Naval Land Flak	478	156	380	70	
Airforce Flak	734	171	70		
Sperrbrecher 177 (AckAck Ship 177)		30			15
Flakjager 24 (Ack Ack Boat 24)	20	28			
12 Verposten Flak Boot (Flak Ship) 1202	76				
HSF1 Esbjerg boat 8	60				
Total	1368	385	450	70	15

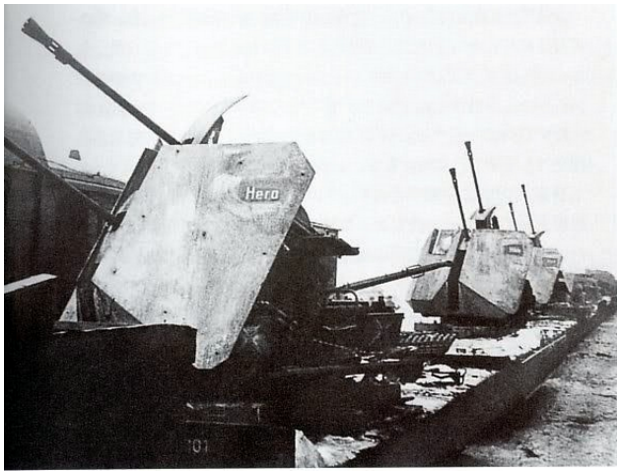
Contrary to the opinion of the FAK Denmark, it is requested that the firing of the participating naval units of the Flak subgroup Esbjerg be granted primarily, especially as H.E. The crash is ultimately due to the shelling of the 3.7 cm flak train at Saedding (page 4 Anl.D [*Appendix D*] point 11 ***see map***). It is proposed to grant each 50% stake in the Flak Subgroup Esbjerg to the Navy and Air Force Flak.

It is also requested

The lock breaker 177
The Flakjager 24
The Vp Boat 1202 and
The boat 8 of the HSF1. Esbjerg
To grant a co-participation and to give the flak subgroups Esbjerg a shooting pennant.

The commander of the Flak subgroup Esbjerg has tried to stop the shooting of the heavy anti-aircraft battery "Femhoje". The commander of the Flak subgroup has been informed by K.i.A that the shooting of a heavy anti-aircraft battery on a plane at 100m altitude technically is not correct.

So basically a little argument about who should get the credit for shooting down DT 747, with the decision by the top man going to the 3.7cm flak train at Saedding.
A flak train was, as the name suggests, a flak battery mounted on a flatbed that could be easily moved to wherever it was needed on the railway.



A 3.7 cm Flak Train

A German "Flak Kill" Pennant

The rest of the batteries were not left out as they earned themselves a "shooting pennant"!!!

The final paragraph says that the commander at Esbjerg tried to stop the heavy flak battery "Femhoje" from firing at the aircraft – (it was responsible for the 70 '10.5cm' shells.)

The KiA (Commander of the Danish West-Coast Section) told him that doing so, when the plane was only at a height of 100m was technically wrong.

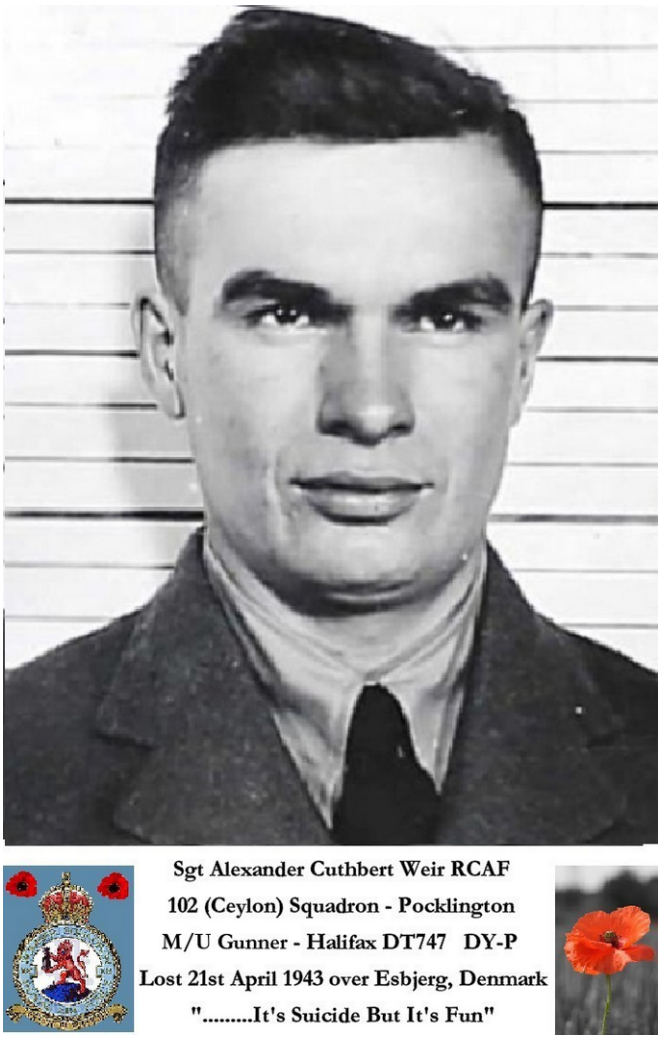
The use of the word "technically" makes me think that he was less concerned about the crew being blasted at point blank range by heavy artillery than he was about wasting large calibre shells that should have been saved for planes flying at a much higher altitude.

8. f) Feuerart und Munitionseinsatz:

1./M.Flak.A.2041 Hochfeld-Nord	478	Schuss	2 cm
2./M.Flak.A.2041	46	"	10,5 cm
3./M.Flak.A.2041	84	"	10,5 cm
4./M.Flak.A.2041			
Scheinwerfer Trupp	80	"	MG
" Lund	300	"	MG
5./M.Flak.A.2041 Buedding	156	"	3,7 cm
2.lei.Flakabt.742 (Luftw.)			
II. Zug	60	"	3,7 cm
III.Zug	48	"	3,7 cm
IV. Zug	63	"	3,7 cm
3.lei.Flakabt.742 "			
IV. Zug	204	"	2 cm
2. lei.Flakabt.8441 "			
V. Zug	340	"	2 cm
Alarmflakbatterie 11/XI	190	"	2 cm
"	70	"	MG
Sperrbrecher 177	15	"	8,8 cm
"	30	"	3,7 cm
Flakjäger 24	28	"	3,7 cm
"	20	"	2 cm
12. Vorpostenflott.: Boot 1202	76	"	2 cm
Hafenschutzflottille Esbjerg: Boot 8	60	"	2 cm

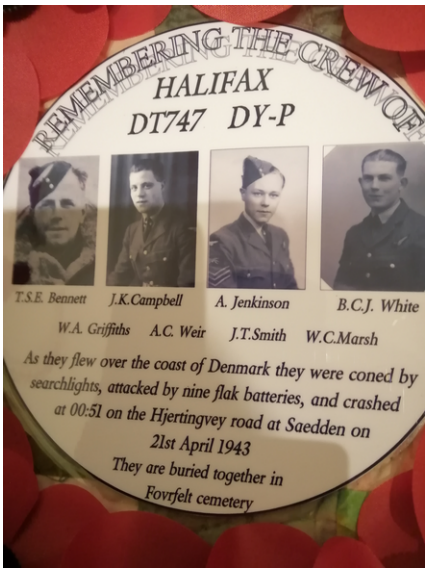
The above information also had to be included in the report. Basically it is the same information as in the table seen 2 pages before this. The difference here is that the Naval and Airforce ammunition usage has been apportioned to the individual flak batteries. So, 1/M Flak A 2041 up to 6/N Flak A 2041 are Naval (including the MGs at searchlights 'Trupp and Lund). The Flak Division (Flakabt. - Flakabteilung) and the Alarm Flak Battery are Airforce. At the bottom of the list it also gives the full version of the Acronym HSFl in the same table. "Hafenschutzflottille" Esbjerg Boat 8 – "Harbour Protection Flotilla".

BOMBER SQUADRON
102
ROYAL AIR FORCE
TENTATE ET PERFICITE
A. Jenkinson
T.S.E.Bennett
102 (Ceylon) Squadron
Pocklington
Yorkshire
Halifax DT747
DY - P
B.C. White
A.C. Weir
and
W.A. Griffiths
W.C. Marsh
J.T. Smith
Killed in action on 21st April when their plane was hit multiple times by flak, and crashed at 00:51 on the Hjertingvej road at Saedden, near Esbjerg, as they crossed the Danish coastline.
They are buried together in Fovrfelt Cemetery
J.K. Campbell


Sgt Alexander Cuthbert Weir RCAF
102 (Ceylon) Squadron - Pocklington
M/U Gunner - Halifax DT747 DY-P
Lost 21st April 1943 over Esbjerg, Denmark
".....It's Suicide But It's Fun"

262

REMEMBERING THE CREW OF
HALIFAX
DT747 DY-P


REMEMBERING THE CREW OF
HALIFAX
DT747 DY-P
T.S.E. Bennett
J.K.Campbell
A. Jenkinson
B.C.J. White
W.A. Griffiths
A.C. Weir
J.T.Smith
W.C.Marsh
As they flew over the coast of Denmark they were coned by searchlights, attacked by nine flak batteries, and crashed at 00:51 on the Hjertingvey road at Saedden on 21st April 1943
They are buried together in Fovrfelt cemetery