

June 2018

ACCESSION OF A BINDER OF ADDITIONAL MATERIALS TO THE P.O. JOHN WATT LENNOX (1920-1943) COLLECTION (Identification and notes on these pages prepared by John Lennox) *John Lennox 1 June 2018*

Many of the newspaper clippings were cut out by members of the Lennox family at the time of their publication in one of the Toronto newspapers. Almost always there is no identification of their origin. Other items, such as the poems, were probably collected by or given to Fannie Lennox.

The hand-printed notes and comments in the album itself and on some of its items were written by Bettie Locke.

page 1: "Air Force Casualties" from October 1943.

page 2: Letter dated 8 September 1943 to John's father, W.J.W. Lennox at his wartime Ottawa address (79 Fourth Ave, Ottawa) updating his son's official casualty status. Upon receipt of this letter, Wilfred Lennox took the train home to Toronto where he broke the news to the assembled family (his wife Fannie, their daughter Bettie, and daughter-in-law Marion) after dinner.

Page 3: Two newspaper articles about John's death and wedding photo of his English tailgunner, Bernard Moody, who was killed with him on May 5. John was initially buried at Lingen-am-Ems and several years later his remains were moved to the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery in Kleve, Germany.

Page 4: Letter to W.J.W. Lennox from N.R. Anderson dated 4 October 1943

Page 5: Letter to Fannie Lennox from H. Edwards dated 23 November 1943

Pages 6-9: Photo portraits of Bernard John Moody, born after his father's death and named for his father and John Lennox. For several years during and after the war, Mrs. Moody and Fannie Lennox corresponded, and Fannie sent Mrs. Moody parcels containing clothes for little Bernard and food.

Page 10: Poem "Beautiful Thought". I assume that this belonged to John's mother or father although I have no evidence.

Page 11: Poem "A Creed." Ditto

Page 12: Mabel Waugh, a Scottish woman from Arbroath who had emigrated to Canada in the late teens or early 1920s, came to work for the Lennoxes in 1922 and soon became a member of the family. She was particularly John's champion and was devastated by his death. Every year on the anniversary of John's death, she put a remembrance notice in one of the Toronto newspapers.

Article "My Death Would Not Mean That Your Struggle in Vain." Note handwritten date - June 1940 - almost three years before John's death.

Page 13: Newspaper article - dated May 5 - describing the air raid in which John was killed. Two other articles.

Pages 14-15: "Saw Whole Buildings Fall..." Newspaper article dated Stockholm 8 June describing Dortmund air raids. I assume that the year is 1943, but that fact would need to be confirmed.

Page 16: "The War Reviewed" dated Wednesday 5 May 1943

Page 17: Newspaper map of Western Europe. Notice sent with Silver Cross to Fannie Lennox

Page 18: Newspaper clippings RE Gray McLeish, later Wing Commander, the brother of John's great friend Alex MacLeish with whom he had trained in the RCAF. Alex McLeish was killed in action at 23 years of age during a Nuremberg raid on 28 August 1943

Page 19: "The Invasion of Heaven"

Page 20: Article and the following printed note in Bettie Locke's hand: "After we received John's trunk with his uniforms and his possessions Mother got a call from a friend. An English pilot had received his commission and didn't have money for a uniform. Their pay was very small so Mother gave him John's uniforms etc. She did keep his trench coat and often wore it as a raincoat." [Note: Under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, trainees were brought to Canada to be taught to fly. Presumably, the English pilot in question had received his instruction and commission in Canada.]

Page 21: Note dated Christmas 1943 to Fannie Lennox from H. Edwards, Air Marshall

Page 22: Commemoration + Document on Mounting and Wearing of Decorations

Page 23: Letter dated 25 March 1944 to W.J.W. Lennox from George Drew

Page 24: Newspaper clippings about Wing Cmdr. John Fauquier [No dates or identification of clippings]

Page 25: Carbon copy of letter dated 15 January 1944 from W.J.W. Lennox to Secretary, Dept. of National Defense for Air

Page 26: Letter dated 15 January 1944 to W.J.W. Lennox from Wing Commander T.K. McDougall.

Page 27-28: Enclosures –

- (i) Roll of Honour, Christ Church, Deer Park, Toronto ;
- (ii) Reports and Financial Statements 1943, Christ Church, Deer Park;
- (iii) Christ Church Deer Park, Consecration of the Church, 18 January 1944
- (iv) Service of Remembrance, Christ Church, Deer Park, 12 November 1944 (2 copies)
- (v) Commemoration Service, City of Toronto, 6 December 1945
- (vi) Service of Remembrance, Christ Church, Deer Park, 9 November 1947 (Fannie Lennox unveiled the War Memorial Tablet)
- (vii) Varia (dated in Bettie's hand "1944"):
 - photo of Grant Cantlay, a friend of Bettie Lennox who enlisted in the RCAF and was killed in Egypt on 3 June 1944 at the age of 25.
 - Construction paper on which is pasted a photo of a Halifax bomber. A fragment of Grant Cantlay's obituary is visible on the verso. Also on the verso is a newspaper account of the ordeal of the only surviving member Commonwealth Air Training Plan Museum, from O.A.C., crashed in Burma on 15 March 1944. He was 22.

Page 29-30: Letter dated 25 July 1945 to Fannie Lennox from Austin Knight, one of the surviving members of John's crew

Page 31-34: Letter dated 25 April 1944 to Fannie Lennox from Gray McLeish, brother of Alex.

Page 35. Newspaper article [August 1944] about death in action of Bruce Wilson, an O.A.C. friend of John.
-Notice sent with John's medals

Page 36-37: Letter dated 31 May 1945 to Fannie Lennox from Joseph Graham, one of John's crew. A brief, vivid account of their last sortie

Page 38: Honour Roll, Christ Church, Deer Park

Page 39: Letter dated 13 November 1964 from G.F.A. Jones to Elizabeth Locke, Bettie's oldest daughter

Page 40: Letter dated 14 April 1995 to Bettie Locke from M.G. Cloutier

Page 41: Colour photos of John's grave taken by Bettie's husband, Parker Locke. Also an earlier black-and-white photo taken in 1963 by an unknown individual.

Page 42: Photocopy of title page of national Book of Remembrance

Page 43: Photocopy of page from Book of Remembrance containing John's name

Page 44-45: Letter dated 31 March 1993, Nijmegen, Holland from John Lennox to his aunt Bettie Locke.

Page 46: Photos taken by John Lennox of the Reichswald Forest Military Cemetery and given to Bettie Locke

Page 47-48: Photos of Christ Church, Deer Park and the War Memorial Tablet taken on May 2, 1993 when members of John's family, including his sister, attended a service in which they marked the 50th anniversary of John's death. The order of service included a memorial notice.

Page 49-54: More photos of the Reichswald Forest Military Cemetery taken by John Lennox

Page 55: Account of raising of the Halifax bomber which was brought to Canada and restored at the RCAF Memorial Museum in Trenton, Ontario where it is now on permanent exhibit. Bettie followed this story quite closely

Page 56: Newspaper clipping RE book on the Halifax bomber

Page 57: Article from Ottawa *Citizen* about "Project Halifax"

Page 58: Stone monuments commemorating the RCAF and John's 405 Pathfinder Squadron. They are located in the memorial park adjacent to the RCAF Museum at Base Trenton

Page 59: The raised Halifax bomber during the restoration process at Base Trenton.

Page 60-61: Unveiling of the Pathfinder Squadron monument. The Pathfinder Squadron blazer crest

Page 62: Letter dated 17 April 1997 to Elizabeth Locke from Debra Drysdale. In the memorial park at Base Trenton there are hundreds of individual stones on the ground with the names of RCAF personnel. Bettie had requested a stone for John. Several years later, a stone for John's older brother Bill, also a P.O. during the war, was installed next to John's so that the two brothers could finally be commemorated together.

Page 63: Blank

Page 64: Battle of Britain Memorial Flight

Page 65: Photocopy of two pages from *They Shall Not Grow Old: A Book of Remembrance*. Compiled by Les Allsion and Harry Hayward. Published by the Commonwealth Air Training Plan Museum. Brandon, Manitoba: [1991]. This volume

lists the names of those killed while on active service with the RCAF. The first page contains the names of John Palmer, an RCAF wireless operator whom John had come to know during his training in England and of Richard ["Dick"] Palmer, his close friend and classmate from his Guelph O.A.C. days. The second page contains the name of "Alex" McLeish, a Flying Officer, whom John had also come to know during training in England.

Page 66: Information and photos about the RCAF Memorial Museum

Page 67: More information about the museum

Page 68: Order of Service programme, Christ Church, Deer Park, 2 May 1993

Page 69-70: Student poems about war

Page 71-72: Brochure – Bomber Command Association