

Herbert R. Foss
WWII Veteran



I was a 16 year old youth who told the recruiting officer that I was 19 years old. This was in Galt, Ontario and I was with five others who misrepresented their ages. We were all accepted in May 1941 and were placed in the Highland Light Infantry of Canada, which was stationed at Stratford, Ontario.

We moved from Stratford to Quebec City and then to Debert, Nova Scotia. It was in Debert, Nova Scotia that we were notified that we were going overseas great news. That night they (the army) placed us on a train and back to Ontario for a few days of embarkation leave with our families and friends.

After a few days (7 days only) we were on a train in Galt, Ontario which sped east on the way to Halifax, Nova Scotia, non-stop.

On the way, the older and wiser men led us young soldiers to believe in their stories which included that when we reached the Pier at Halifax that the army would load us aboard a boat and then take the boat to the deep water and transfer us to an ocean going vessel.

Alas, such was not the case. We marched with our gear from the train through Pier 21 onto a ship that had a East Indian crew. No we did not get off the ship onto another boat but sailed out into the harbour, formed a convoy that headed for England. Our view of Pier 21 was short and brief. Alas Pier 21.

On my return I docked at New York having been aboard the Queen Elizabeth and went direct via train to Galt, Ontario.

