

Doris Wass
English War Bride
Ile de France
November 23, 1944

CANADA'S IMMIGRATION MUSEUM
PIER 21



I am - Doris (Matthews) - Wass & with our three year old son Christopher Wass arrived in Canada aboard the Ile de France, Nov. 23/1944. The war was still on and the Ile de France as being used as a hospital ship. We traveled in convoy, which made for some interesting moments as you can

imagine. Everybody was so good, and very helpful to us. I am still friends with Peggy Gliddon who shared the same cabin with us, and held my head when I was sick-sick. She is the Pres. of the Sask. War Brides.

I am enclosing a picture of Chris and I, waiting in the holding unit Pier 21, the people who met us had just given him the little toy ship he is holding. We continued by train to Qu'appelle Sask, another real experience, where we were met by the Red Cross, and my husband's large family. We stayed with Grandma Wass until my husband came 3 months later.



My husband Sgt. Selwyn Wass K. 7062 R.C. Artillery. He sailed to England on the Monarch of Bermuda with the first Canadian contingent Sept. 1945 on the Nieuw Amsterdam. He was injured in the landing of Sicily and returned in a body brace from neck to hips, pretty grim for a 25 year old. He recalls walking up & down Pier 21 not realizing what the years ahead would hold for him.

We were married Jan. 18/1941 - St. Paul's Church, Haringay, London. We are now into our 56th year of married life, & who said it wouldn't last. Six years after our arrival in Canada we had a baby girl born in Indian Head, Sask. Vale Elizabeth Wass Power. So we produced one Brit. and one Canuck, who are Canadians. * Thank you for the important job that you all are doing, and it is certainly appreciated by those of us, who rested for awhile at Pier 21, & hold a deep affection for the people of Halifax who were so very kind to us.





The first Saskatchewan War Bride Reunion and later reunions

