

I have always taken pride in my Battalion, and you men, being under my special charge; I have at all times, spared no trouble to obtain what comforts and concessions I could get, to make you as happy as possible, under existing conditions, and in this, I feel I have, in a measure, been successful, for, notwithstanding all that we have gone through, we have had very many pleasant days and have not fared too badly. I must thank the many friends of the Battalion in Canada and in England for much of this, as, without their help, both in a monetary and material sense, we would not have been so well supplied.

I wish to refer to those members of the Battalion, who, from time to time, have had the misfortune to break the rules and regulations which must be obeyed, though they may be irksome, and those who disobey, must naturally expect punishment, but I have tried to deal with them as leniently as possible and meet you, man to man, rather than judge and criminal, and I trust that in the days to come, that those members will not bear the Battalion, myself, or their Officers, ~~a grave~~ *any ill feeling*

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking you all for the splendid way in which you have backed my Officers and myself up, in everything that we have undertaken, making a record for the 60th Canadian Battalion, which will live for many years in history, and I would ask you to accept the situation that is imposed upon us with the best spirit possible, and determine to do your very best for the new Battalion in which you are to serve, and show them the stuff that we are made of. You will not be alone, as your Officers are going with you, and will, therefore, continue to look after you as they have in the past.

My own future is uncertain, but I can only hope that some day, we shall be together again, and I would ask for nothing better than to have you all back under my command, but, whatever comes, I shall never forget the many happy and glorious days I have spent with the old 60th Battalion.

To the married men, and those who have dependents, I wish to say that they will not be forgotten, but the same friends of the Battalion who are looking after them ~~will~~ *will* continue to do so, no matter where you may be, until the war is over and you return home to Canada.

I would like to read a letter received from the Corps Commander, General Sir Julian Byng (See attached).

There is much more I would like to say to you, but I simply cannot do it, as there is too great a heartache over the breaking up of the Battalion, so I shall just wish you goodbye, and a fervent wish that you may all be spared to come safely through the war and return to your homes and families in the not far distant future.

*Macoskey*

Lieut.-Colonel.

Commanding 60th Canadian Battalion - W.R.C. (BEP).