

94th Overseas New Ontario Battalion



August 1916 was a month of uncertainty for the 94th Overseas New Ontario Battalion. As the battalion prepared to leave England for the front, soldiers speculated if they would be kept together as unit or split up as reinforcements to battalions already in the fight. A local soldier's letter home in the beginning of August stated that A Company and nearly all of B Company of the 94th would reinforce the 17th Reserve Battalion while the remaining soldiers would be attached to the 32nd Battalion. Other unofficial sources went on to inform that the high ranking officers in the 94th, such as Lieut. Col. Machin, would return to Canada. However, by mid August newspapers reported that the battalion would instead go to the front as a unit. This news was short lived as newspapers corrected themselves and reported that Lieut. Col. Machin of the 94th would be receiving a staff appointment and would be attached to a new division. That same article stated that the many lieutenants of the 94th would go to the front reinforcing other battalions. The Fort William Daily Times Journal also detailed that the soldiers of the battalion would indeed become reinforcements to other battalions. This information was confirmed to be true the following month.