

## **The Royal Montreal Regiment – A Brief History**

### **HISTORY**

This Reserve Force regiment originated in Westmount, Quebec on 2 November 1914, when an “8 company regiment of infantry” was authorized to be formed. The regiment was designated the 58th Westmount Rifles on 1 December 1914. It was redesignated: The Royal Montreal Regiment on 29 March 1920; The Royal Montreal Regiment (Machine Gun) on 15 December 1936; 2nd (Reserve) Battalion, The Royal Montreal Regiment (Machine Gun) on 7 November 1940; The Royal Montreal Regiment (Machine Gun) on 16 October 1945;6 and The Royal Montreal Regiment on 1 September 1954.

### **The First World War**

The 14th Battalion, which was authorized on 1 September 1914 as the 14th Battalion, CEF, embarked for Great Britain on 27 and 29 September 1914. It disembarked in France on 15 February 1915, where it fought as part of the 3rd Infantry Brigade, 1st Canadian Division in France and Flanders until the end of the war. The battalion was disbanded on 15 September 1920.

The 23rd Battalion, which was authorized on 21 October 1914 as the 23rd Battalion, CEF, embarked for Great Britain on 23 February 1915. It was redesignated 23rd Reserve Battalion, CEF on 18 April 1915, to provide reinforcements for the Canadian Corps in the field. The battalion was disbanded on 15 September 1920.

### **The Second World War**

The regiment mobilized the The Royal Montreal Regiment (Machine Gun), CASF for active service on 1 September 1939. It was redesignated 1st Battalion, The Royal Montreal Regiment (Machine Gun), CASF on 7 November 1940, and converted to armour and redesignated 32nd Reconnaissance Regiment (Royal Montreal Regiment), CAC, CASF on 25 January 1943. It was converted to infantry and redesignated: First Army Headquarters Defence Company (Royal Montreal Regiment), CASF on 12 April 1944; and First Canadian Army Headquarters Defence Battalion (Royal Montreal Regiment), CASF on 5 April 1945. This unit embarked for the Great Britain on 7 December 1939. On 28 July 1944, the company landed in France as a unit of First Canadian Army Troops, and it continued to serve in North West Europe until the end of the war. The overseas battalion was disbanded on 30 September 1945. On 24 May 1944, a sub-unit of the regiment, designated No. 9 Defence and Employment Platoon (Royal Montreal Regiment), CIC, CASF, was mobilized in England. On 27 June 1944, it landed in France as a unit of First Canadian Army Troops, and it continued to serve in North West Europe until the end of the war. The overseas platoon was disbanded on 16 October 1945.

On 1 June 1945, a second Active Force component of the regiment was mobilized for service in the Pacific theatre of operations under the designation 6th Canadian Infantry Division Reconnaissance Troop (The Royal Montreal Regiment), CAC, CASF. It was redesignated the 6th Canadian Infantry Division Reconnaissance Troop (The Royal Montreal Regiment), RCAC, CASF on 2 August 1945. The troop was disbanded on 1 November 1945.

(source: [www.army-armee.forces.gc.ca](http://www.army-armee.forces.gc.ca))