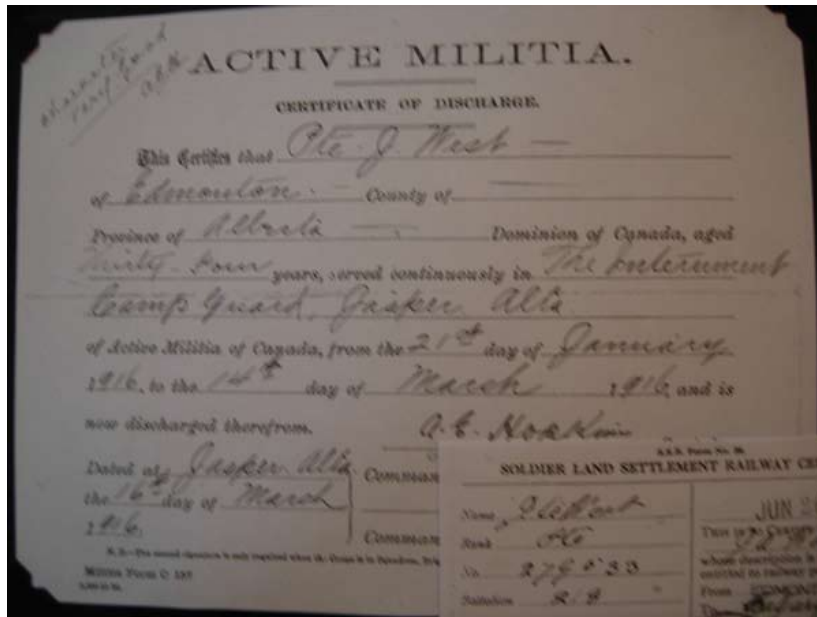


GRAMPA IN THE FIRST WAR - "CHAPTER" 2

Active Militia - Internment camp guard - 1916

Surprisingly after his injury in France, Grampa (Private John West) signed up again, this time with the Canadian Active Militia, serving continuously in the Internment Camp as Guard in Jasper, Alberta from January 1 to March 14th, 1916, when he was discharged. (See the handwritten note in the upper left corner "Character Very Good"). (See also Attestation paper, December 8, 1915)



Internment in Canada

When the First World War began in 1914, there was widespread suspicion in Canada that immigrants from enemy countries – Germany, Austria-Hungary, and later Turkey and Bulgaria– might be disloyal. Labelling them "enemy aliens," the federal government passed regulations which allowed it to monitor and even intern some of these immigrants. Merchant marines and military reservists were also interned. During and immediately after the war, 8,579 enemy aliens were interned as prisoners of war across the country.

The Camps

Women and children were not subject to internment, yet some had little choice and accompanied their male relatives into the camps. Only two, Spirit Lake (pictured) and Vernon, were set up to receive families.

REPORT BY Major A. E. Hopkins,
Commanding Internment Camp,
Jasper, Alta.

ON WORK DONE BY PRISONERS OF WAR DURING THE WEEK ENDING Feb. 26th, 1916.

Monday, 21st.	125 prisoners cutting posts in the bush. 20 " digging water main at Jasper. Remainder of prisoners hauling water, sawing wood, finishing and clearing in and around Camp generally.
Tuesday, 22nd.	125 prisoners cutting posts in the bush. 20 " digging water main at Jasper. Remainder of prisoners building fence gate in Camp, hauling water, sawing wood, finishing and clearing in and around Camp.
Wednesday, 23rd.	125 prisoners cutting posts in the bush. 20 " digging water main at Jasper. Remainder of prisoners building fence gate in Camp, hauling water, sawing wood, finishing and clearing in and around Camp generally.
Thursday, 24th.	125 prisoners cutting fence posts in the bush. 20 " working on pipe line at Jasper. 7 " hauling cinders. Remainder of prisoners hauling water, cutting wood, finishing and clearing in and around Camp generally.
Friday, 25th.	100 prisoners cutting fence posts in the bush. 20 " working on pipe line at Jasper. 25 " repairing Athabasca River Bridge and cutting ice around piers. Remainder of prisoners hauling water, cutting wood, finishing and clearing in and around Camp generally.
Saturday, 26th.	100 prisoners cutting fence posts in the bush. 15 " working on pipe line at Jasper. 25 " repairing Athabasca River Bridge and cutting ice around piers. Remainder of prisoners hauling water, cutting wood, finishing and clearing in and around Camp generally. Prisoners washing their clothing, etc. and cleaning generally.
" " P.M.	
Sunday, 27th.	Sunday routine was observed and some prisoners hauling water and bringing in fire wood for general purposes.

A. E. Hopkins
Major,
Commanding Internment Camp

Name of Camp	Date of Opening	Date of Closing	Description
Montreal, Quebec	13 August 1914	30 November 1918	Immigration Hall
Kingston, Ontario	18 August 1914	3 November 1917	Fort Henry
Winnipeg, Manitoba	1 September 1914	20 July 1916	Fort Osborne & Fort Gary
Halifax, Nova Scotia	8 September 1914	3 October 1918	The Citadel
Vernon, British Columbia	18 September 1914	20 February 1920	Provincial Government Building
Nanaimo, British Columbia	20 September 1914	17 September 1913	Provincial Government Building
Brandon, Manitoba	22 September 1914	29 July 1916	Exhibition Building
Leithbridge, Alberta	30 September 1914	7 November 1916	Exhibition Building
Petawawa, Ontario	10 December 1914	8 May 1916	Militia Camp
Toronto, Ontario	14 December 1914	2 October 1916	Stanley Barracks
Kapuskasing, Ontario	14 December 1914	24 February 1920	Bank Houses
Niagara Falls, Ontario	13 December 1913	31 August 1918	The Armoury
Beausport, Quebec	28 December 1914	22 June 1916	The Armoury
Spirit Lake, Quebec	13 January 1915	28 January 1916	Bank Houses
Sault Ste Marie, Ontario	13 January 1915	29 January 1918	The Armoury
Amherst, Nova Scotia	17 April 1915	27 September 1919	Malleable Iron Works
Monashee-Mara Lake, British Columbia	2 June 1915	29 July 1917	Tents & Bank Houses
Fernie-Morrissey, British Columbia	9 June 1915	21 October 1918	Rented Premises
Ranff-Castle Mountain & Cave & Basin	14 July 1915	15 July 1917	Dominion Park Building at Cave & Basin; Tents at Castle Mountain
Edgewood, British Columbia	19 August 1915	23 September 1916	Bank Houses
Revelstoke-Field-Otter, British Columbia	6 September 1915	23 October 1916	Bank Houses
Jasper, Alberta	8 February 1916	31 August 1916	Dominion Parks Buildings
Muttons-Eaton, Alberta	13 October 1918	21 March 1919	Railway Cars
Valcartier, Quebec	24 April 1915	23 October 1915	Militia Camp