

Harold Albert Russell

Canadian Expeditionary Force

1st Brigade Canadian Field Artillery

Regimental No. 43768

World War I

Born: 19 April 1888

Died: 15 August 1917

Place of Birth: Bay Roberts, Newfoundland

Parents: Isaac and Elizabeth Ann Russell

Harold was twenty-six (26) years old when he enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF). The date was September 25, 1914, and the location was Valcartier, Quebec.

Harold's enlistment documents provide a record of Harold physically and other personal information about him as recorded in 1914. Physically, Harold stood 5' 8" tall, weighed 165 lbs, was of fair complexion and

had brown hair with blue eyes. He gave his occupation/trade as sailor, had tattoos on both forearms and was Methodist by faith.

The information provided below comes directly from his service record. It provides a timeline of events by date, event and location of the day to day life experienced by Harold while in service:

- 1. 24 Sep -1914: Enlisted at Valcartier.
- 2. 12 Feb 15: Embarked on board the S.S. Rosetti
- 3. 27 Feb 15: Absent for 10 days and forfeited 14 days pay
- 4. 27 Jul 15: Absent again for 5 days and forfeited 8 days pay
- 5. 25 Sep 15: To #3 CCS (Casualty Clearing Station
- 6. 29 Sep 15: To #22 general hospital at Camiers
- 7. 29 Sep 15: To #9 Stationary hospital at Havre
- 8. 20 Oct 15: Discharged
- 9. 31 Oct 15: TOS (taken on strength) of 1st DAC (Divisional Ammunition Column)
- 10. 18 Nov 15: Rejoined unit from hospital
- 11. 22 Nov 15: Granted leave from 09 Jan 16 to 18 Jan 16
- 12. 16 Feb 1916: To #4 Station Hospital (St. Omer)
- 13. 14 Feb 1916: Attached to Canadian Engineers (France)
 Returned to unit
- 14. 08 Mar 1916: To Canadian Base Depot
- 15. 30 Apr 1916:" Tried and convicted of disobeying a lawful order and sentenced to 2 years hard labour"
- 16. Sentence of 2 years commuted to 3 months.

- 17. 21 Aug 1916: Posted to 12th Bde (Brigade) CFA (Canadian Field Artillery)
- 18. 13 Sep 1916: Admitted to #29 general hospital
- 19. 10 Oct 1916: Discharged
- 20. 31 Mar 1917: TOS (taken on strength) from 12th Bde CFA
- 21. 18 Apr 1917: Admitted to #3 Canadian Field Ambulance
- 22. 23 Apr 1917: Discharged
- 23. 19 Aug 1917: Killed in action

Here is the actual newspaper entry from the local paper called the Guardian:

"Friday, January 11, 1918: No. 43768 driver HAROLD A. RUSSELL of the First Brigade Canadian Field Artillery, son of Mr. Isaac Russell, Country Road, was killed in action while serving his gun at Loos, France, August 15th, 1917, a shell explosion in the gun pit. He was buried with Military Honors, August 16th in the Noeux-les-Mines Communal Cemetery."