

MOTOR BATTERY

FOR CONTINGENT

Borden Machine Gun Battery

Officially Authorized From
Ottawa Headquarters

SPLENDID EQUIPMENT

Unit Presented by Montreal
Capitalists One of Best
From Canada—More
Men Needed for 24th

Definite authorization was yesterday given by the Minister of Militia for the formation of the "Borden Battery" for the second Canadian contingent, which has been arranged for by a number of Montreal capitalists, including Messrs. C. B. Gordon, H. Vincent Meredith, Huntly R. Drummond, Arthur Drummond, and Hon. Robert Mackay. The authorization was contained in a letter from Brigadier-General W. E. Hodgins, acting adjutant-general at Ottawa, to Col. E. W. Wilson, commanding the fourth division, with headquarters here. While the battery is generally known as the "Borden Battery," its official title is "Motor Machine Gun Battery, to be commanded by Major E. J. Holland, V.C."

According to instructions from the department at Ottawa, this battery is to be mobilized in the fourth division, under Major Holland. As a matter of fact, recruiting for the battery has been going on for some time, many of the men being brought from the Cobalt mining district and mobilized at the Grenadier Guards' Armory here.

It is expected that this Motor Machine Gun Battery will be one of the best outfitted examples of modern motor war machines that has ever left Canada, and it will prove an especially useful adjunct to the second Canadian contingent, in a war which is so much influenced by motor movement in connection with light artillery.

As authorized, the unit will consist of six armored cars, armed with rapid-fire machine guns, two transport cars, one workshop car, one motor car, and six motor cycles.

The personnel for the detachment will consist of Major E. J. Holland, V.C., in command, with one captain, four subalterns, one warrant officer, one battery sergeant-major, one battery quartermaster sergeant, seven staff sergeants, six corporals, ten drivers (artificers), seven batmen, four wagon men, six cyclists, one workshop foreman artificer, nine fitters and drivers (artificers), and one blacksmith. The force will thus largely be composed of skilled mechanics to handle the modern war machinery, there being twenty-one artificers and twenty-three rank and file, the total strength—officers, N.C.O.'s and men—being sixty.

The armored cars and machine guns for this battery have not yet arrived, but it is expected that they will reach here before long, when the men already got together will start drill with the armored motors and other equipment.

While the equipment, with cars, machine guns and motor cycles, etc., has been provided by Mr. C. B. Gordon and his co-workers, they will be turned over to the Dominion Government, who will supply the corps to handle them, and the whole battery will form part of the next Canadian contingent.

NEED MORE MEN FOR 24TH.

A general medical and other inspection of the 24th "Victoria Rifles" has been going on during the past couple of weeks, with the result that over a hundred men have been dropped from the strength, in order to make sure that no "misfits" shall be taken with the battalion.

As a result of this weeding-out process, Lt.-Col. Gunn is looking for 100 more men for his battalion, and recruits who can qualify for the high standards set up by the battalion commanders will be taken on during the next few days. A sharp standard of physical fitness has been set, but previous military experience is not necessary, as it is figured that the men will get the drill worked into them within a short time if they are otherwise fit. Preference will be given to men who have had experience with other battalions, other things being equal, and it is expected that the regiment will be brought up to strength within a short time. It is likely that the battalion will go forward for service within a few weeks, and men who want to get to the front would do well to apply to Lt.-Col. Gunn without delay.

FIELD OFFICERS' COURSE.

A field officers' course has been arranged at the Halifax Barracks, which will last for two weeks, under Major Papineau. The following Montreal officers have left for Halifax to take the course:

Lieut.-Col. Trihey, 55th Irish Rangers; Capt. Webb and Capt. McRobie, 3rd Victoria Rifles; Capt. Walkem, Capt. Matthewson and Capt. Carsley, 5th Royal Highlanders; Lieut. Hall, 1st Grenadier Guards; Lieut. Schofield, 3rd Victoria Rifles; Lieut. Blackader, 5th Royal Highlanders; Major Brien, 55th Irish Rangers; Lieut. LaFleche, 65th Regiment; Lieut. DeTilley, 85th Regiment.

MAJOR RODDEN, CAMP COMMANDANT.

Major William Rodden, of the 3rd Victoria Rifles, has been appointed permanent camp commandant for the new enemy alien detention camp at Harricnow, 170 miles east of Cochrane, which was recently established by Major W. E. Date. Major Rodden leaves this evening to take up his new command, when he will take with him about 100 enemy prisoners, under a guard from the 5th Royal Highlanders of the composite regiment now in barracks at the old High School Annex.

Col. S. J. Denison, C.M.G., who will command an infantry brigade with the second Canadian expeditionary force, has been appointed O.C. of the second division, with headquarters at Toronto, succeeding Major-General F. L. Lesard, who has been appointed inspector-general of the eastern forces. During Col. Denison's absence on active service he will be seconded by Col. W. A. Logie, of Hamilton.