

1944

REMEMBERING HARRY SUTHERLAND QC, RDP, Hon. FRPSL, FRPSC

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO MASTER H. SUTHERLAND



The Registered Air Mail missive addressed to Master H. Sutherland dated NASSAU, BAHAMAS 7 June 1944 with the return address General Post Office, Nassau, Bahamas. On arrival in Toronto, June 9, 1944 the letter passed Duty Free via the National Revenue Postal Branch, Toronto as the large reddish violet cancel indicates. Was the then thirteen/fourteen year old Harry acquiring Bahamian adhesives directly from the Post Office? How resourceful, while still attending Upper Canada College, just a hop, step and a jump from where he lived.

On my part, it would be remiss if Harry Sutherland was not remembered as part of the Philatelic Specialists Society's tribute to Canada 150 celebrations. Lack of space will not allow me to do justice to note all the honours bestowed, organizations served and contributions made in both law and philately - both nationally and internationally would be difficult to duplicate. He was the longest serving President of The RPSC for some 10+ years, its Secretary for some 28 years and legal advisor for about 49 years.

Briefly, the honours bestowed include: Fellow of The RPSC in 1968, Signatory to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1991 and an Honoury Fellow of The Royal Philatelic Society London in 2001 and recognition internationally.

His collecting interests, included Montenegro, Chinese Treaty Ports, Port of Shanghai, German Naval Mail During WW I, 1938 Canada 6¢ Air and a secret thematic collection of trains.

On a personal note, my earliest memories of Harry are from the North Toronto Stamp Club meetings held at the Dewi Sant Welsh United Church during the late 1970s and early 1980s. And when exhibiting he would often use his "*nom de plume*" Pendragon. Also, he would on occasion honour some of his friends with a "*pro bono*" bottle of wine

But, Harry's pride and joy was the formation of the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation in 1975 named after his mentor.