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fore we got the Ross rifles. And then we later got the Number 3, Lee-Enfield • the one from the First War, and side arms.. They had been there at South Bar for quite some time without getting passes. The difficulty problem with leave and pass was there was no uniform. The only ones that had uniforms was the regular militia. So when one of these guys was given a pass he would borrow a piece of equipment from this guy and a piece from the other fellow and maybe be among half a dozen when they would get one uniform. When we'd get a man dressed properly we would give him leave • let him go for 24 hours or so. Then I was sent to Point Edward. One of the important things as I saw it was you had to feed them right because it was a monotonous job standing there watching the drift ice and looking for mythical submarines who never entered the harbour. But you still had to look seaward| you'd get choked off by your superiors if you didn't. We were led to believe that anything could happen, especially when the Scharnhorst and a few more of these German ocean raiders got on the prowl • that one of these things could pop in on us. Even if they didn't come in the harbour, they had long-range guns and could engage us at very long distances. So it was felt that the defences of Sydney harbour were quite necessary. And this is the reason we were kept here, we felt, at times I suppose, disgruntled and that we were out of the action. But then again there was the steel plant, there were the coal mines, there were the convoys in the harbour. The navy seemed to take this thing very seriously; they were in and out of here every day. They had minesweepers sweeping the bottom for mines and I don't know if they ever picked anything up. I know that the air force went out there and they dropped bombs; they dropped depth charges, because we used to have to stand-to when there was a military operation of this sort on the move. We wouldn't get the full story. But we were just told to stand-to. I've seen us, below the road, at the gun position for 10 days without changing our clothes. Another time we got an alarm • these alarms used to come at strange times in the morning, 3 and 4 o'clock • when the navy went out. They thought it was a submarine • but what it was was a table floating bottom up and the legs were above the water • and they thought this was periscopes. There were ships sunk • about 4 miles from Low Point lighthouse, so if the enemy was on the bottom there, he could very easily sneak in with a convoy that was coming through the booby gates • so we had to cover these convoys. I remember one Sunday morning about quarter to six • we were in the washroom at South Bar shaving. And I heard a shell approaching from the harbour. With half my face shaved and the other half with lather, I hollered, "Alarm, come on, let's go!" And we went to the gun position and the guns had been loaded and made safe. And there Radiator- & Cylinder Heads CAPE BRETON AUTO RADIATOR PHONE 564-6362 339 Rear Welton Street Sydney, N.S. Newly Renovated Grill at Sydney River| Town and Country RESTAURANT Red and White FOOD STORES Baddeck Port Hawkesbury Sydney River & Glace Bay Port Hawkesbury Speedy Propane FILLING STATIONS: J' B. Benoit, Arichat Robin's, Cheticamp MacGregor's Texaco, Pleasant Bay Prazier's Campground, Baddeck Lloyd Sheares Heating, Fort



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