

ROYAL FLYING CORPS

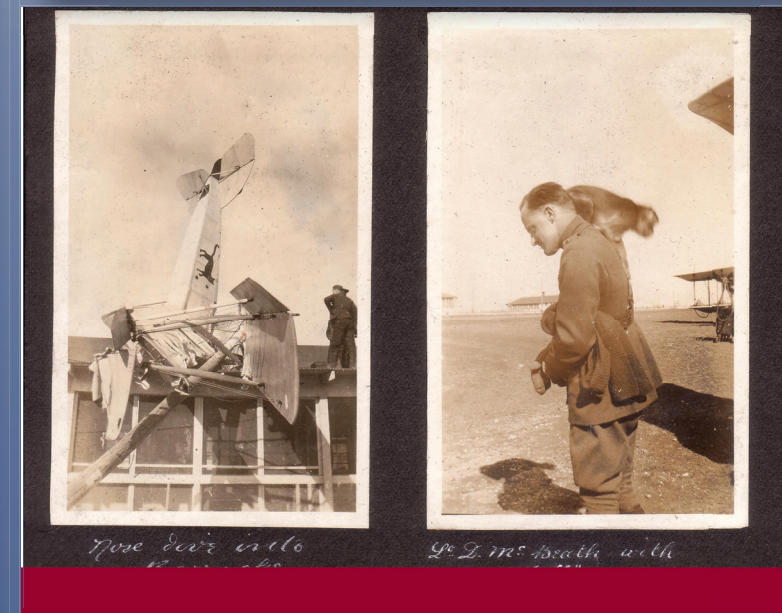
As a result of The Agreement, elements of the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) came to North Texas for the winter of 1917. One of their purposes was to continue training while escaping the Canadian winter. They arrived in November 1917. North Texas was very cold that winter; December 1917 and January 1918 saw several low-temperature records and snow on two occasions. The training continued.



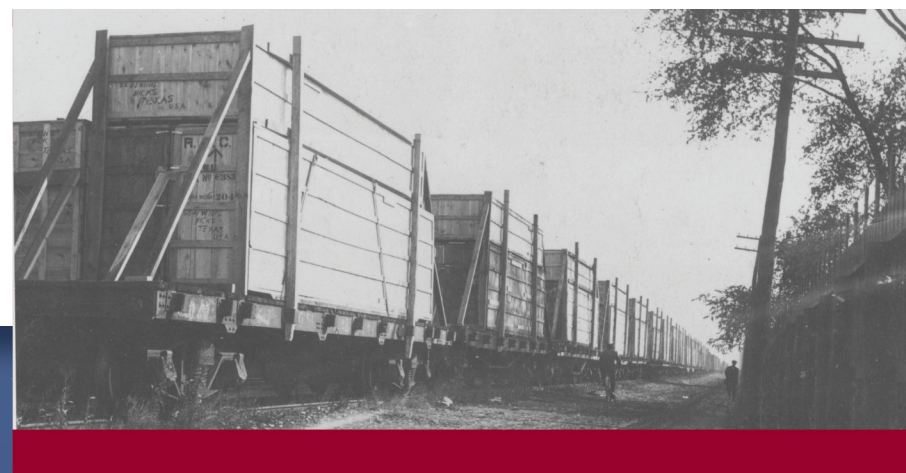
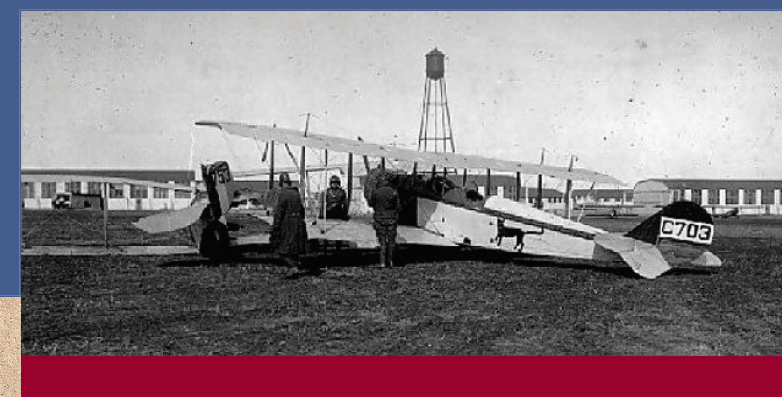
During their time in Texas, they logged 67,000 flying hours; trained 1,552 RFC and 408 Air Service pilots; and trained 1,719 RFC and 2,500 Air Service ground support personnel. The 10 American squadrons which began their training in Canada left Fort Worth for France and England between December 1917 and March 1918.

Following a parade on April 12, 1918, the RFC/RAF returned to Canada. Thirty-nine airmen died due to airplane accidents and other causes. Eleven British, Canadian, and American airmen of the RFC and an infant child, who died at the flying fields around Fort Worth, are buried at Fort Worth's Greenwood Cemetery. An American veteran of the RFC was also buried there in 1975. The site is part of the British Commonwealth Graves System – a piece of Fort Worth which will forever be England. A biennial remembrance service is held on Memorial Day. A Texas Historical Marker is located at the site.

TAKE AWAY: The British air force was known as the Royal Flying Corps, but changed names to the Royal Air Force. Many of those training in Canada during 1917 came to Texas for the winter. Some died while they were here and some are still buried here.



Images, Fort Worth Aviation Museum



CANADIANS TO TRAIN AVIATORS IN TEXAS

LIEUT. DENTON OF ROYAL FLYING CORPS TO SELECT TRAINING SITE AT EARLY DATE.

New York, Aug. 6.—Official announcement was made by the British recruiting mission tonight that Lieutenant H. E. Denton, in charge of recruiting for the Royal Flying Corps, will set to Texas soon to lay out an aviation camp for the Canadians.

"This camp in Texas," the statement said, "will mean still closer cooperation between the aviation societies of the American and British forces and a further standardization of work. The plan is to reproduce in Texas aviation schools like those at Camp Borden, Camp Mohawk, Camp Seaside and Camp Altonair Heights. Lieutenant Denton was responsible for the laying out of the Canadian flying grounds. A large number of the cadets recruited in New York



AVIATION CORPS, MAJOR SCOTT AND STAFF (CANADIAN), CAMP BOWIE. FORT WORTH, TEX.

