Joseph Luebben was promoted to Captain before being killed in World War I in France.
If this book is found please send it to "Mr. James S. Aquenberry", Las Cruces, New Mexico, U.S.A.
and gratefully oblige
Joseph Aquenberry
Capt. 16th Infantry
On Dec. 31 1916 I left my home at Las Cruces, New Mexico to begin my life as a 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Army. I went to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas for a three month course.

April 6 1917 I reported at Laredo, Texas to the Commanding Officer of the 37th Inf. for duty. Col. Van Kleeck assigned to A.O. Capt. Sturtevant. Ireport a few days in Laredo. Then 1 month on the target range. Then about twenty day at El Paso. Where I was in command of a detachment and had an extremely difficult time getting provisions. Some white people there. Most almost worshipped me, giving me presents all the time.

On the 28th of May I left for Zepeta by motor truck to Laredo next day. Same night to San Antonio. In route to Douglas, Arizona to join 18th Inf. Accompanied by 1st Lt. Arrived El Paso night of May 31.
and saw the family less George & Dick for two good hours. Arrived Douglas June 1st. Saw Archie Rae & Bob W.

Reported to C. O. 18th for duty. Assigned to Co. K. (Capt. Lemor)

June 2nd left on 5th of 6 sections for Hoboken ft. by way of El Paso, Carmona, St. Joseph, Chicago, Erie ft. Laid over 1 day at Howell N.J. arrived after uneventful trip 3:30 A.M. June 9 Hoboken N.J. Very tiring ride with troops. June 10 stayed on train in R.R. yards until two o'clock P.M. Capt. Lemor leaves me with Co. Marched to dock. Delland joins Co. Sat through with Co. ft. to bed 3:00 A.M.


The "Waterland" is in dock. We lay over in dock until June 13. Ship was not ready & everything is a big mess. We sailed out into the bay and lay there until 12:30 P.M. of June 14th. When we set sail for the trip across the Road. About twenty vessels started out together. They
split letter on. We do not know our destination only we are bound for the warring countries. Admiral Randy is aboard. Major Monroe is in command. Red Cross nurses are aboard the "Finland." As best I can figure out there are 14 troop boats & several destroyers & war vessels.

The division is broken into sections. One section consists of one battleship
3 destroyers 1 collier and the troop ship (1) "Finland" (2) "S. Gallay" (3) "San Jacinto"
Co. K. seems to be a very poor organization. All companies are mostly recruits, received at the last moment and non-Cons. of their 1st enlistment.

Watch in Crow's nest begins 1 officer & four privates in each nest. I go in Crow's nest one hour of every four of daylight. After 1st time up I am not afraid. Felt badly tonight, ate no supper. Can see ten boats of another division.

June 16. Crown next watch was 4 hours.
at one time. 6 hours for me today.
Watch begins 3 A.M. Ends 8 P.M.
School 9:30 -11:00 A.M. 1:00 -2:30 P.M.
4:00 -5:00 P.M. daily except Sunday.
oil lights at night. Life boat drill.
kept busy all day.
June 17-18 Calm: no Change.
June 19. One Destroyer turned back last night
not being able to carry Coal for more
than a radius of 1000 miles.
A woman wife of Corporal Carter lost
was found on board. She was dressed
in soldiers clothes, hair cut and passed
very well for a boy and was hard to
detect in a Crowd. She is given a
Stateroom. Two more are supposed
to be on board but couldn't be
found in this afternoon's search.
Co. K. officers are severely Criticised
and balled out by Maj. Morrow.
We took the same precautions as
the other Companies but she happened
to be hidden away and her husband
was in our Company.
The wake of a torpedo was seen to pass the bow of the Linland and stern of this vessel. It did no harm. U.S. Charleston (battleship) sighted periscope one-half hour later. The Linland got in two shots at a submarine about 8:30 to 9:00 P.M. shots were fired by other vessels. These last were said to be misfired guns.

So far we are nearer the states than Europe. Many officers are very nervous.

June 20

Capt. Tomoh nervous breakdown. Ships doing a great deal of circling & zigzagging. I laughed at this because going to life boat drill. He carries one river tube of water, tire, one life preserver, one 45 pistol, belt, ammunition, first aid packet, one 25 pistol & one big knife.

June 21

Cold wind in Crow's nest, getting colder.

June 22

In Crow's nest 3 A.M. 4:15. Cold, raining & smoky. Ceiling ship brings oil & destroyers. We get wireless items of news every day.
June 23  Calm Weather. Put Erickson N. Co.
dies of diphtheria in ship hospital. Mumps + measles aboard.

Had amateur night with prize for actors. It was very good. N. C. got most of the prize.

Sunday. We got some much needed sleep. Most officers got para typhoid

June 24  Lit destroyers from Europe meet us. One
Knievel & Cook tell us at supper table how they slept with life
preservers tied on the first night. We have a good table. Lt. Dillard, Knievel
Cook, Selby & myself.
We stand by alongside ship drill 1:30-8:30 P.M.
3 A.M. 4 or 4:30 A.M. Daily
Capt. Scamoni returns to duty.
Saw in the Capt. Cabin yesterday a
chart of our zig zag course.
June 26

Hoggy: little rest now, not so much drill.

June 27

13th day since we left the bay. Still cloudy no chance to take pictures. I made last trip in Crows next tonight 6:15 to 9 P.M.

June 28

Arrived safe in dock 2:30 P.M. Went to the home to mother. Beautiful scenery coming along river. Can see poor people cripples & mourners, no young men. We are landing here Saint Nazaire same place from which Lafayette left or going to America to help us in our war. Exercised Co. 6:20 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. went ashore leave. Saw several old friends. Van Kliest & I came back about 10 o'clock. Many are drinking pretty hard. Wynn drunk. All our mail will be censored. Lots of soldiers, marines, sailors here. Not much of a town.

June 29

Havent left ship started unloading this afternoon bought white watch. Two sailors killed in brawls last night.
June 30

Days are very long. Don't get back until after 9 o'clock. Unloading ship today. Pretty tired. Still staying on ship. German & Austrian prisoners here. There are absolutely no French men working in store of Cape here only women. Women do much rough work out of doors along with old men. No young or middle aged men seen. Some Crippled soldiers.

I Censored 65 Company letters this AM. and read many very interesting things.

Hard work & long hours unloading ships. Only snatch meals for me. I leave ship with 50 men for Camp. Rest of Company comes out tonight. Capt Weeks bails meant about ration. No cream. Saus for his doing it same way he did at M.T. slept out here in Camp 1 with all officers in 1 building.

Up at 4:30 AM. Work all day up to 3 P.M. with just 15 min. off for dinner. No rest during daylight. No water for baths, instead of wooden day for Co. of 200 men. Wood 50 cts.
July 3rd

2nd & 3rd Bu. hike 7 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. Very
terrific over hard roads. Men have 1/2 hr.
at noon and bathe in sea. We passed
some very pretty scenery. Lots of beautiful
houses closed. For rent & for sale. Shows
effect of War. Carter's wife who came on our
ship will be sent home back to New York.
People everywhere treat us very nicely.
Today is a life-saving holiday for both
men & officers. We have not been given
a minute to straighten out anything.
Working about 15 hours per day. Company
is in a big mess. We organized it today
never been organized before. General Bundy
ordered to wear coats on all hikes but
took one hike with us yesterday & now
says we can drill without coats. Men
not officers have no time to wash or
straighten out personal affairs. Worked
until 1 P.M. then went to town and
fool about with Van Klat & Selby until
10 O'clock at night. I bought a small Kodak
$10. I took back the wind watch I bought last week. Had dinner at the
Grand Hall. Band played in town circle.
We are in a new camp and they won't give
us any time to straighten out.

Company things in a mighty mess. Took proctor's
outfit again. Airplane & dirigible are
every day. Many prisoners are here.
Expect some day to get out of the army
after this war. We live like a white man
No man will then ball me out even if
I needed much less doing like Capt.
Wells does. I would like to have him
come around me then. Offices from my
home as far as. They have no feeling for the
comfort of the soldier. I receive many
letters every day. Some very interesting. We
get a 2nd lt. Read him badly. Capt. 2 new works
Capt. Dovely when he can't get out of it. Make
out charges against Sgt. Welcat. We have
a very good mess and I guess we'll pay for it
Maj. Robertson (Arrive yesterday will Command 2nd)

Dorset, Capt. Lewis. We'll get our
march. Eat very well, Jan never sick.

Send Catharine home.
July 6

Went on guard at docks at 8 A.M. stayed there until 8 A.M. July 7th. When Montevideo Week relieved us. Caught one Frenchman stealing, met Mr. A.C. Jones 1st officer on S.S. Finland. Had 2 meals on ship. Finland pulled out into bay at night. Slept in pile of hay. Company beginning to get a little bit organized. But still some things are rather disgusting. We are laying the path for other contingents which will follow us.

July 7

March back from dock and hold inspection of Company by Regimental Commander & staff. Melt out deficiency in clothing & other equipment. Company has not any white near what it should have. Men writing almost 100 letters per day which have to be censored. We will move to our new training camp next Saturday. The Red Cross offices of K Co. have an excellent mess. I am feeling...
July 8

Fine physically. Camp is growing rapidly and will probably be in pretty good shape in a few days. My orderly does good work of my staff.

Two more men have applied for the job. The third man was one of them, Dillard "as mess officer" got removed out of town. Consequently I have to stay in Camp a great deal.

Sunday: I celebrated by getting a much needed bath. Took a walk out back of camp. George Brandy is given 30 years for attempted R. I can see when going about over country that it is completely drained of all men who are of any use. Only women and old men and young kids under 14 yrs of age are seen.

But this certainly is a beautiful one. Practically all land around Saint Nazaire is cultivated.

July 9

Rall about Camp all A-1. Hike in afternoon. Capt. Weeks demonstrated new bayonet drill. Four cases of dysentery are just reported in K. Co. C is
July 10

Quarantine. Guards are placed about Company. I hope it won't keep me away from the trenches or keep me from moving away from here one Friday. Under quarantine still only about Barracks, we issue what clothes we can get which is not nearly all we need. Big lack of shoes, overcoat, sweaters, underwear. Pay day, 1K Co. is last I don't know whether or not they'll get it us tonight. Being paid in French Currency.

The barracks the officers are living in are just the same as those the men are in. But the floor, baby roof, trunk, locker suitcase, bundle bedding roll constitute my sole property. I am taking some pictures although against orders, don't know whether these orders are for us or not, but the marines and sailors are taking them openly all the time.

Paid Company last night. Capt. Lecardi got back after I got a good start so I made Co. Collective until about 11:45 P.M. Had a pretty hard time with French change. Tuesday here we bread
July 12

Can be eaten. Chocolates and sweets only on certain days. Only meat on certain days is horsemeat. I spent most of the day in town. Got a horse a little while. Was with Billard & Carley. Both were a "little under" by night I came in by myself. Willoughby relieved. Sgt. Hacker at Sgt. Company still quarantined for diphtheria. Pay day & lots of booze brought in by lunch kids. Grand check for $69.00 to Mother by mail. Took Company to beach for both today. Took some good pictures. Left left yesterday for training camp. 16th yesterday. 26th tomorrow, 18th next day. Mail came today but none for me. Aeroplane & dirigible seen above me every day. Was very sick at the stomach last night. Cramps put me in misery. Also had headaches. Fasted until afternoon. Didn't eat anything until supper. Need a good letter. Rested all day. Men were turned loose today. Fifty-eight now absent. Capt. LeArie can't be bothered
July 14. Today the 19th leaves. I take care of departure from Camp. Nothing has been done toward getting ready. Everything is a big mess. $2,000 at 15 cts. absent. Everybody drunk. Capt. leaves all to me. At that time the first to get Company off. Then police Camp. Pick-up every match & cigarette stub. Have words with Capt. Dressed down at train. Loaded men on train & leave on time 12:40 P.M. Almost everyone drunk & raising hell. Leave men behind drunk & lost Am glad to leave. See many fields of grain going to waste on account of no harvest. Past three months. Men in baggage cars 32 men each car. Offices 1st class cars. No place to sleep. No water or toilet. Trains do not compare with U.S. trains. See beautiful country but shows much neglect of cultivation. Capt 1st rather neglectful of his Company duties. The people along the road treat me fine. Loads & loads of flowers are thrown.
Train, flags, banners, and streamers from all parts of the train. Crowds met us. The treatment is simply wonderful. I suppose the French now look for a quick ending of the war. I hope they don't quit too much for us. The nearer the front we travel the more waste land is seen. More and more fields of ripe grain waiting for want of being harvested. I also notice many very pretty white cattle which I suppose are Frisian. Arrived in Hardcourt about 11 o'clock. Train was unloaded in record time. Men are placed in houses of inhabitants, billeted in barns and haylofts. Many places are not fit for human beings but we'll have to make the best of it. Officers get pretty good quarters. I have a fine room, large, spacious, very pretty back yard, papered walls and ceiling, pictures on walls and mantles, two fire-places. Clouds toward relays and beds built into the walls. Old house but looks fine and is very comfortable. I have had about 3 hours sleep each night for the two nights past, so I am going to lucidly.
July 17

I never saw a more wonderful or beautiful country. Picturesque in all sections. We are now about 30 miles from the firing line and heard guns this morning. Spent most of day making out charges against A.W.O.L's + drunkards. Straightened out Company. Gave them a good talking. P.I. Clark came to see me tonight. We had a "rather sour chat." Still like him very well. Killed 7 I count. 5 miles from here this afternoon. I got several letters when I returned. Makes me feel fine. One from mother, Father, George, Deborah, Diste, Turner & Bob Horton, Margaret B. I like this house + the old lady fine.

July 18

I am disgusted with K.C. I have been for some time but more so now. The Capt doesn't try to do his job at all. It is a very inefficient and undisciplined organization. I believe it is all his fault mainly because he pays no attention to it leaving all work to his Company Subalterns. Picketed around billet all day. Rice found in one billet. Some of the men have very poor places to live in. I have a very good place for myself.
July 19. Can hear dull thunder of big guns every day from here. Company on guard last night and there wasn't much work for me today; I took a much needed bath. I have been trying to talk with the old lady of the house, we can't talk very much as yet, but maybe I'll learn. Sally + Clark came to see me. Billard goes to see French troop. Bill Co.

July 20. I see exhibition by French troops. It is wonderful. Grenade attacks both rifle + hand. French mortars + machine guns. Very interesting shows the applicability of trench warfare; liquid fire, pipes, physical exercise remind me of days of football.

July 21. No plans for the time to come when we go to the trenches. But officers + men have a lot much to learn.

Sunday, July 22. Inspection by Brigade + division Commanders in front of billet; French Gov. give Wine Champagne + Cigars to officers + men. Our great trouble now is drink. Non-com + solders but our high officials say let the men have it. I suppose they think the Company officers ought to be able to handle a band of drunkards as well as sober men. It is an
July 23

awful man job, and quite serious situation at this stage of the game. German aeroplanes twenty-six members are reported raiding American camps. I saw smoke rings of bursted shrapnel fired by French guns at German planes.

Billard on a drink last night, died the A. 777. Capt. Leonce off on school detail. Automatic rifle. I take company out. Starter is late. Some must stay. Come, drink. Lots of drunkeness throughout whole command. Both U.S. high officials & French go 400. Entering it and do nothing to minimize drunkenness. French says probably doesn’t realize what liquor does to the American. Starting six hard physical work today. Aeroplanes can barely be seen high in the air and bombs can be heard and smoke rings seen as result of firing upon hostile air craft.

July 24

Billard take C. out! Hard drill. Finding physical exercise all day

Billard replaces Capt. on school detail, then Randy think there are too many Capt. at school. He wants to change something which has already started.
July 26

French troops demonstrate to our troops in afternoon. Small drill in A. 177. Guards are on guard tonight. I get letter from Mother dated July 30.

Capt. R. holds down A. 177 job until early this A. 177. When he left our squad detail I am left with the Company. Archer tells me, I write several letters today.

July 27

Some hard training everyday. I have plenty of work to do. William Archer goes to Barleyden School but it isn't much use a tool. Organize Co. into 4 platoons. Thrice drill a couple of hours in their formations each day. Changing into different formations. We have a very pretty drill ground by the woods. Held review Saturday. Plan of full equipment. It was extremely hot. Some men were unable to make the drill ground. Of course it was very pleasant in Brooklyn we have too many invalids. Chief official who don't know what a man can do and how to get the most out of men. All they want is good looks and good Clare order drill. Not efficiency and comfort for the men. The latter is the heart of their troubles.
July 29

Aug 4

A particular wish is that all men salute their cars, even if men are busy and can't come around curve at 50 m.p.h. You must recognize the car and salute it before it passes. If you do that, then you get a good mark and your organization is a very efficient one.


Rain Aug 3 and 4. Received telegram home from Grandcourt Aug 4. Cat. got all word to N.M. Van Clif and 3 are over there for a while in the afternoon. I left films there to be printed. There are rumors that we'll be right here all winter and we'll not go in the trenches until spring. Only a few officers got thus far and those who have the pull.

We now have a fine room to drills in instead of under the tree where it is very cool. Weather is cold now one is not warm outside at any time unless working; even with a blanket our Helmets are issued to Co. today I do not like them nearly as well as the French helmet. I suppose we will stay right here for at least for some more. Usually go down and play Billie phonograph with Alphert telly or some one else when Billard is away like today. He drinks so much I want me to drink so much that I dislike going when he is there. George wrote a true story when he wrote "Your age is against you."

Aug. 5-7. Aug. 6 went on right maneuver to see demonstration of light & signals but didn’t see anything. Aug. 6 started work digging in the wrong place. Gun. Bandy came & found it. His order he admitted was very unintelligible. He practically all Co. K. Work Captains get sick Billard & Archer get off for slight excuse but will rat no rest of Co. Stay
Aug. 8.

rate I want play off when work must be done even if i am tired. Faire Wasy Thu 6.7.47th.
rockets fan home yet.
dont like my Co. very well but I guess Ill have to make the best of it. Capt. Lt. Lt. D. U.S. 1st Archer.

One letter from home dated July 10th from Florence. Mighty glad to get it. I start to French Automatic rifle school at Monanges today. The officers of the regiment minus those at school went to see trenches east of Nebreis Woods where I was Monday. They say that Gen. Bundy made a fool of himself by asking foolish questions in comparing rifle and hand grenade. I ate dinner with the French officers. I do not like their way of eating. Takes at least 1 1/2 hrs. to eat a meal. Plenty of wine always. Meal served in Courses. Very slow.

Coffee last. Four hours at home.

French start work at school 7 A.M. 7:30 at 8:30 15 min. rest. Quit at 10. Eat from 11:00 to 1:00. Start work at 2 12. 30 min. rest at 3 quit for day at 4:30.
Dinner is served in courses, one thing at a time. Meat one course, mashed potato another separate course. Wine all through meal. Meal ends with a course of cheese or thus one of coffee. Long time between courses. Plenty to eat but it takes too long to eat it. And two articles of food like meat gravy and potato cannot be eaten together. One must be finished before another is brought in. The French are indeed gay— they want the work to end but they don’t continue to have a merry time while it is going on. Neither do they believe they’re working hard. I hope they do better in the trenches. Several captains and higher U.S. officers have gone to the trenches for observation. I would like very much to go, but am not allowed to do so.

Aug. 11-12

To school at 11.77. To Handcourt in afternoon. Sunday breakfast in bed. Dinner (such) Van Wilt. Alf and I played phonograph in afternoon. I am feeling peculiar tonight—seems like something
Aug. 13

is going to happen or has happened, but I suppose it
is just horse sickness.

To actually News comes today that 2/6 Gen are to
be made in M. 2. The rich + poorer Generals will
be over 45 yrs. of age. Also there is a cleaning
out of officers throughout the Expedition getting
rid of undesirable. Lt + higher ones too. Hurrah!

Same school, very hard rain.

Aug. 14

French holiday; no school; Division Review all troop-
s or 1st expedition. Afternoon off, 2 French officers to dinner.

Aug. 15

bicycled, some chausseur band, fine dinner. Rainy

pretty girls, Horse threw me, chic cocky saddle

rall came off, burned my hands + knees badly.

Aug. 16 - 19

French food, Envoy Friday, left Hauville

Friday night for Paris arrived Sunday at 11

All day, all night, all thru. 1177, left at 12:00

sunday arrived Indeunot this have 1 P.M.
tired first time. Van Whit was

with me. 6000 soldiers of all the Allied

Countries mingling together. It was a great

night. Many many women with the uniformed

men. Some soldiers black + some white and all the

shades between, little + big, good looking + ugly

wounded + physically fit. Every brief, saw the

Tower marking the place where the old Battle

stood.
Aug 20-21

20th I went to a new extended area. My platoon was pretty well turned up after 2 wks. absence. Lt. Dillard had taken my bike & gave it to me. I made the change back & got away with it. Many new generals, who will soon have the opportunity to prove themselves. I hope to get letters from home, let of mail to电流. 21st A.M. I had charge of 3rd Bn. hand quinreads throwing live Grenades from trenches very interesting. Afternoon went through gas chamber at Sommeng. lots of work to do every night, no time to study French at present.

Fatigue in A.M. Nothing in P.M.

Fire in Nordenham Court about 11 P.M. Big noise, awakened by military calling. Six miles were shot down. Couldn't be gotten out, only tried to rush back in & had to lie shot. Cause of fire unknown.

Was supply Co. stahl. Don't know the cause. Recall 3 A.M. Very little sleep.

Aug 22

Drilled, Capt. sick. Dillard forgot to wake up. Sargent Johnson forgot relieved of Co. P.M. Clark put in his place, Saw French Transportation System.
Aug 24-27

Rain now. Walking in coming home. Only officers and clerks went back. Mr. Dillard in charge. I was all I could do to catch up with him as he had the start. Fatigue and drill Capt. Dick. Dillard hanging around. Saturday had Company. Sunday Capt. Dutro in charge. I have nothing in particular to do. Yet letters from home I wrote home.

Greatly progress. Somehow, Hill 301 takes same people say this is the beginning of the end. It may be yet I believe the end of the end is more than one year away.

Things are happening everywhere in the world even here. There is a growing sentiment of dislike between Maj. R. & Capt. one hand & Dillard on the other. The Inspector J. M. Brewer, found the Co. to be insufficient, while I believe it was all Capt. P. fault. He seems secret to place the blame on Dillard. I am in a very peculiar position and must watch every word and action as both sides are playing apparently to me. Much
trouble may be the expected outcome.

Col. McClellan gave a talk to the men and made two very bad statements which will have a bad effect upon the men. They were "While the Verdun battle around 304 hill was going on "I saw only one man running"" and at the front you are no hurrying no shouting of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, attack formations "It is all foolishness." Now we are ordered to drill the men running at top speed in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, formations. Will they take an interest now and work after that statement.

Night of Sept 1st officers of the 18th gave a farewell dinner to the Chassene officers of the 12th battalion. Much wine, Champagne and Cognac. A very good time for everyone. And a memorable dinner took place in the "Ecole de fille" Headquarters. Capt. Lemoni is today attached to the 28th Inf. and Billard sent to school. I am in charge of the Company. Billard has put in for the Aviation Corp. Majr said he wouldn't recommend me that I must be was
needed more men and he wanted all good fighters to stay. Capt. Pike said he was glad I was taking over Co. K. that it needed a better officer.

Sept. 12th we had a demonstration by French Artillery firing over our heads. All officers of high rank went to an observing post. I was left in charge of the regiment. Got along OK, large piece of shell hit tree by my sick. No harm done.

I am now in charge of Co. K. and have a mighty big job on my hands. Another artillery demonstration Sept. 5th very monotonous all day, seeing shells hit ground, trench mortars and indirect machine gun fire. Aeroplane took part. Men nearly famished for water, waiting to fall out all the time.Chances will leave Saturday Sept. 8th for Britten front (perhaps)

German Aeroplane raid over Bills of U. S. troops all along line on night of Sept 4th. One woman injured. Dept
at Soissey reported blown to pieces + three French soldiers killed. Though planes were heard over Houdaincourt as banks were dropped here. Bombing could be plainly heard at other places.

President Poincaré, General Pershing, French minister of war + many infantry generals on both sides received the division Sept 6th + 7th. President Poincaré gave interesting talk to officers.

General orders now call for 120-shot of 30 inch while at rest ship, no smoking except at fellout. Men marched to + from meals. All officers present at reveille + retreat including rank of major.

Weather's getting very cool, caught cold while O.O. Sept 3rd. Dysentery developed in Company, and billet no. 10 placed in quarantine.

May Robertson has my pen. Write Father a letter soonest. Tonight Sept 8th, several officers went to Paris, I could neither afford the time nor money to stayed home. Co. K at Transport
of quarantining, I have Company for one week, but an account of fatigue details I cut have had the entire Co. for drill just one day. To me it seems to be improving rapidly. I can't get any worse so it must either improve or stand still. All officers will now take reviels & retreat including majors. Unit step will be in step +120 steps to the minute. No smoking on hike or except at fallout. All privates & squads will be marched to & from meals unless they live next to the kitchen. A. Co. is doing an immense amount of fatigue.

Sept 8\th. During all this time I have not had time to write anything in this book & consequently much is forgotten since Gen. Duncan took command of this regiment about 16 days ago he has endeavored to run both officers & men crazy. To a certain extent I fear he is succeeding. At any rate I believe the Company affairs will soon have the biggest task of their lives in preventing the men from getting sullen and not doing anything at all. I hope this
will not come about but for it will if the present system is set up. Sept. 14 & 15 it rained all day we were not allowed to give indoor instruction but had to drill outside. One platoon of K Co. was on fatigue cutting wood all last week. Tonight I go on guard with one platoon. There has been almost constant firing on the front in good hearing of this place (suppose at San Meheel) since Sept. 13th. We had a free issue of tobacco yesterday from the N.Y. Line. It was greatly appreciated by the men. One of K Co. men killed a deer, we had provision but wish to say nothing about it. Chinaman driving French motor trucks passed here today. I am the only Co. that has just one officer at present. There is considerable discontent or rather dissatisfaction at present by most everyone concerning the administration of our present higher Commanders. P. I. B.

Tomorrow I must celebrate my 23rd Anniversary.
Sept 16. 23

The British are now instructing us in bayonet combat. It is very good I believe. I hope we soon be able to counteract the disgraceful conduct of Russia.

I have no time to keep my diary daily must try to write a little in this book weekly. We've been working as usual the past week. Bayonet exercise is the Cragens, one week it is close order drill, another Select drill, another target practice, another Bayonet exercise & thus it goes on forever.

Today three Non-Cas are detailed from the Co. to school. One CPL O'Connor just got back last week from bayonet school & this week goes to Anti-Weapon school. Yesterday (Saturday) at 2:00 a Rock Machine was even shot at by Anti-Aircraft guns of Fontainebleau. Reports to have been brought down near Marne, both British in big offensive last week. It is too bad that England France & Italy could not all strike at once but rather one at a time seems to be the system. We drill at 4:45. Nowaday I wear the P.M. for inspection.
Company was paid Wednesday. Five men went absent. I put in five sets of charges. All five men are now in confinement. A commissary has opened up in Nauvoo and sells a few articles. It is a great help. Our kitchen is now complete and in use. Lt. McCutcheon & Sgt. in arrest over case of a runaway court maid. Lt. is in arrest for drunkenness. Lt. Sarnes was relieved of command of Co. A. Lt. St. Clair from Adj. 1st Bn. to Co. C. VGC Lt. Johnson, Mgr. Robinson to Lt. Col. Capt. Leary, Duke, Brewer, Pike, Pease & set to maps. Enlisted men will be allowed to go to Paris beginning next Friday. Ann 0-0-0 today Sunday. Normal drills yesterday. Today Tuesday the 25th we came in as usual. We had demonstrated chemical fire & incendiary bomb. The terrible liquid fire is what from the nozzle of an apparatus which looks like a small vegetable sprayer tank on back of wagon. An exceedingly hot flame shot out about 20 yds & burns up anything.
it comes in contact with by spraying with oil which continues to burn. But the most important thing today is the disgraceful results of someone's efforts in sending our Major (now 27.60) John Robinson back to the State. The excuse which covers this low-down deed is that it is too old for active service. He is the only real soldier in our regiment, the most efficient, the best loved and respected by both men and officers under his command. And by far the best officer we have. It simply shows to me that I have been right in saying that the Army is no place for a Causarower worker. You must be a Creek and Cat or worship your superiors. All that comes before duty to troops or carrying out orders. Do as little work as possible and buy as many drinks as possible for higher officers and you'll succeed in the Army otherwise the sooner you get out the better one is off.

In telling some of the officers and telling others the matter the Major could not
Control himself, and broke down. He knows it is quite work, yet he won't say so; he has a good idea who is doing it but don't mention their names. He blames no one and is speaking with us. But it is a terrible blow on him. He feels that it is a disgrace. It is worse for the 8th Regiment than for anyone else. Any for a officer of equal or higher rank could be better lost than this one. There is not putting it, it is absolutely outrageous at a time like this when good men, not social boozefighters are needed. Every officer in the unit feels as I feel about the matter. I can't express myself very well on the subject.

Sept 25-30, Same routine. Work Major Duke in charge of unit. Our daily program is; rise at 5:30 a.m. stand reveille & repeat it, eat breakfast, sign morning report, do a little paper work, ordinary room made in place, this things was to 7:30 and we have for drill ground, drill until 12:00 clock with about 3 10 min rest. Start at one and work steady arriving home 3 P.M. Orderly
room work + police up. At least 3 day
a week (often more) an office Conference of
1 to 1 1/2 hours duration. Stand retreat at 5:30pm
Eat supper + Talk for about 40 min. Little
more Company Administration. About 7 or
run through and go to my room, study read
or write plan on tomorrow until 9 P.M then
its end of nothing to do until tomorrow.
Wednesday afternoons Saturday's + Sundays
are holiday. Very often we must attend
demonstrations on these days. If not Wed
afternoon is used for necessary work around
Companies. Saturday A. 177. always drill
in the afternoon always an inspection.
Besides this we have reviews, parade, +
demonstration which must take place on
holiday including Sundays. If any
time is left it must be used for
catching up in back work.

Today Sunday we held Competition in
the Br. K Co. Wires. This afternoon we
have Mustre. I've been doing a great
deal of work getting Company reaready for turning in to headquarters.
payrolls made out all that which we with them. Hillard was sedent to Paris on aviation detail. Weather pretty cold at night but hot in the afternoon. No rain. Same routine of work only more of it. Night operations in the trenches on Washington Sector, relieving being relieved. General Duncan still acting in the same old way. Co. K won in Br. Competition and would have beaten everyone in the regiment but Stock fell down in Muskeg only made 25 out of possible 50 and he is a S. Slender. Co. B, won by making records and then won division meet over all other regiments. I slept from Friday night till Sunday noon in Paris and had a fine time. It is raining and is pretty cold. Been raining since Oct. 4. The 1st Bu. are spending a few days on Washington Section of trenches. Night + day. I suppose our turn will come.
Oct 9-14

Our Competition are held on holiday & Sunday in order to be no time.

It has been raining since the 4th day of Oct. Cold, sloppy and very disagreeable. The rain never lets up but keeps falling night & day. I wear Mackinaw under my raincoat and still am cold but mostly from wet. The men have no fires or place to dry off. I have a fire in my room part of the time and the rest of the time I sit in the cold or by the "Old Lady's" fire she is very kind to me. The 1st Bn. departs for trenches Thurs. 3rd Bn. has been preparing to go into trenches on Washington Sector tomorrow. The work hard as it since Friday and now the order is rescinded on account of a review for Gen. Pershing & Marshall Joffre. I am glad I won't have to go. Cook file is busy.

Gen. Pershing doesn't bother much during disagreeable weather. Hope weather doesn't change.

I think we can stand it longer than the Yanks.
Clothing is lacking throughout all camps. Many men have only 1 pair of shoes & are of other items then get wet or dirty and there is no chance to dry or clean them. Some men have only badly mended clothes of shoes with holes in them. I put in letter about clothing.

Rain, & Cold, disagreeable. Work was examined for Captaincy. Saturday. Took Physical Exam. & was asked one question by board consisting of Maj. Debe, Butcher, & Heurt. Question was “do you object to being tried by any member of the board?” “no sir” “That’s all”. And the exam was over.

Lt. Knox of S.R. was assigned to Co. Wednesday and taken away attached to 28th Inf. Saturday. R.F. was Office Hall & Lt. S.R. is attached to Co. He is an old man a Minnesota prof. And I don’t believe he is any good. General Pershing & Marshall gave each staff officer a watch + thret of us a pipe, they shook hand with all officers. The 1st Bull Relief
for the trenches yesterday Sat. Oct 20th and are to the best of my knowledge, the 1st U.S. troops to go into the trenches. I believe we will follow them in about ten days. I hope so, even if it does rain & turn cold. I am on guard today and have been going on every three days for some time. Only 3rd day doing guard. Officers from the 12th U.S. 3R. Camp in the U.S. are beginning to report for duty. A good many of them have had two or three weeks in British schools etc.

Oct. 21-28

This was the week of the big German Air raid on England. The zeppelins were headed toward our billets, that is the four which were shot down. The fifth was lost somewhere near the Mediterranean sea. The French made a big gain on the Alishe. I believe the Germans are preparing for a big Italian offensive. We have been having rain every day and someday cannot go out for drill on account of mud & bad weather.
we are doing guard every 3rd day and lots of fatigue. I was authorized by the Commanding officer to put on Captain's bars and so I am now wearing them. Stoves were put up in billets this week. I have fuel and a good fire now also a good pair of heavy winter boots. Store Duncan is now living in this town but doesn't bother us as much as he did before coming here. Our 1st BN is now in the trenches & the 2nd BN preparing to relieve them. The transport "Antilles" was sunk by a submarine Oct. 17th and several men of German birth and being sent home to soldier in the States in order not to fight their fathers & brothers were lost. (4) nine were from this regiment mostly N.C. O's. We've had no mail now for two weeks, we may have lost other mail. I am sure some of my mail must have gone down on the "Antilles". The "Antilles" made the trip over with the 1st Troop A E F.
She was lying in Dock at St Nazaire also Hoboken by side of the Leeland & Mallory.

As expected and as all indications pointed the Germand & Austrians have started a big offensive on the Italian front and have driven the Italians back over the recently conquered territory. It is a great victory for Germany, it means now that she will certainly be able to hold out much longer. The rumor also comes in tonight that two US transports were sunk in coming over. It means a great loss of life if that rumor is true.

This is Sunday A.M. and I feel that I want to write a little more in this book. I know I've left out a great deal of interest. Capt. Archer has been in the woods cutting wood with his plow for the last week. He was out there once before, and brought in some venison for me. Capt. Leonard since leaving the Co. has been writing letter every few days.
about business he should have attended to before leaving. He sent in 240 J.I.
Unit Equipment Accountability list’ on June 30 ’17 and I had to make that out. He now wants $5 which he paid to the Co. fund, because he is going to have to pay for his rations. I’ll let him have it if I can’t help it otherwise I will not.

I.C. officers now have their mess in the same rooms with us but a separate table. We get along pretty well so far. Van Ufert often eats at my table and is glad to have him although he is hard to ridicule K.C. on every way. I eat at his table once in a while but he shows he is afraid I’ll increase the expense of this mess, so I’ll try and stay away from it. He ridicules K.C. I suppose because he knows I have the best company. Maj. Duke told the U.S. R. that they must have discipline and snap that a good example of it was K.C. He said its former Commander was slow.
the Company a poor one, but now
it was as good as any.

General Sibert yesterday in H Co.
Kenton looked through it this morning
and an English General that there was
a perfect picture of health.

We are having rain all the time now
wet and sloppy. We had no mail for two
weeks but are expecting it today but
then we expect it everyday.

Oct 28th 1863. Have been worked night and day
during this time alone with the Company.
Have had three officers. They stay about
one or two days then are sent some-
where else. Other Companies have three
or four officers. Rain and snow as usual. C. Co.
of the 18th took the 1st German prisoner
a mail carrier who was hanging up in the
wire and lost. Died a few hours afterward.
The 16th Inf. Co. E had the 1st Casualty
a German raid, killed three, wounded
5. Captured 12 out night 710 A.M. 3rd about
3:30 A.M. 3rd Army has occupied Washington sector.
Sunday & Monday. And are now getting ready to depart for the front. Orders are given & countermanded time & again. It was the same way in occupying Washington sector. Never know what to do. It is a continual worry on especially Company Commanders. We don't know what Sundays are work same as any other day.

Gen. Duncan has jumped all over Maj. Finke & Co. Commanders if J.T. Co's saw the only one who escaped. They all have official Communications with concerning method of messing fest. I have now received two 2nd Lt. U.S.R. at the last minute. Mighty poor system.

Going to Wash. Sector last weekend. Concluded a series of orders to go not to go finally at the last minute right before leaving any order came saying we would leave the next day. As yet we have no definite order to go to the front. The order may
Nov. 7-9

We will probably leave Nov. 9th. Drill on the 7th on the 8th we prepared to leave. At retreat order came that we will leave 7 A.M. Nov. 10th. Rainy and cold all day and night. A great amount of unnecessary work is thrown off by the Co. Commanders due to no definite orders. I feel that I can handle the situation at the front very well with my Co. I don't know how it will be as 2d of Reg., 1 Brigade are going but I have a good bunch of men and ought to get along O.K. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd was assigned to me yesterday.

Wrote to mother on the 8th.

Nov. 10-22

On the 10th day of November the 3rd P.M. left for the trenches. We arrived at Euville about 3 P.M. traveling in French motor trucks. At Euville one of my cooks had gotten supper (he went up on rolling kitchen ahead of us) I slept there. Next morning I rode horseback to Barsemont and from there on foot to the front line trenches.
With one officer & one non-com from each platoon I reconnoitered all day arriving back at Einwill at 5:06 P.M. I received an order to go to the trenches next morning 2:11 A.M., Nov. 12th with two platoons. I got no sleep but arrived in the trenches at daybreak. I moved about all day. The trench Sgt. in Command would not allow me to sign for the property because I wouldn't sign for everything including what was not there. Consequently I did not take over the trench property. My men came in at about 8 P.M. and the relief was completed about 11 P.M. The men were very nervous that night, much firing was done and as a Corporal Virgil G. Winnebringer was shot through the head and instantly killed. The bullet passed through his steel helmet & head, blowing out all of his brains. I had to help bury...
him in through the Trenches. It was an awful job. Stretcher could not be used. The men were afraid and so was the doctor. Finally I ordered Pte. Wirth & Levering to carry the body on their shoulders. This was done. The body weighed almost 200 pounds and carrying it through muddy wet trenches, narrow & winding was a hard job. Finally we completed it. I was muddy, bloody & wet. All night I was out in the trenches. In places, up to my knees in water. The men cooled down a great deal next night. I sent out patrols & no shots were fired except by machine guns. Pte. Enderlein patrolled the two popular areas. Nothing was found. Dinner was at 2:30 P.M., supper Midnight & breakfast at 7 A.M. All sleeping was from breakfast to dinner. Men's were carried to the trenches from the kitchen near my dugout in Marmite Cave. The dugouts were very poor resting places.
French left the trenches in a filthy condition. They are very uncleanly & unsanitary. Replaced up as best I could, constructing tuns, drains, slop holes &c. My officers were all new & not much help. I slept on the average of not more than 3 hours a day & had a great deal of care & worry. I felt that just a little mistake of mine would mean the lives of so many men.

About 3:00 PM on the 16th a mortar killed Wog Talley, a piece of the casing going through his helmet & into his brain. A piece of the same shell wounded Saunders. Viole was injured by a grenade which he threw or attempted to throw & adhered to slip & fell in the trench behind him. Corp. Purdue was shot two days later about 6:00 PM through the left arm, flesh wound. Apparently shot by someone in our own unit.
He showed great nerve and pluck after as well as before being shot.
Lt. Shafer's liaison officers from the 2nd Div. was a great help to us. Shells were dropping in our sector most all the time. Our wire was cut and we expected a raid. Many near escapes from shell fire. I sent out patrols and ambuscades every night. "No Man's Land" in front of our sector belonged to K Co. We used no rockets, and while expecting attack they did not come. Gas was hurled at a French battery. Three false gas alarms were given by men in K Co., but all were picked up from I Co. at 11 pm. I Co. received more shelling than K Co. The night of the 19th we were relieved by the French, relief complete at 8 pm. We marched in to Eriville arriving there very sleepy, tired and worn out at 12 pm. We all fell asleep in our tracks, got up at 5:30 am and were soon ready to leave. We
got started in French trucks at 7:35 A.M. The truck I was in was a very poor one, it ran off the road once & we had to get out & walk up several hills. All the trucks arrived long before we did. We got there at about 8 P.M., dark & raining. "B. Co" fed "K. Co. Very good meal. I came to my room & had the first good night's rest since Nov. 8th. Since that time I've been doing paper work, getting straightened out and preparing for the winter. The new U.S.R's reported to the Company. I now have nine and don't know what to do with them. My Co. Clerk was taken away from me up there, I expect to get him back tomorrow. I can't do without him. The new officers seem anxious to learn and I believe they'll do all Right. All officers always say they are mighty glad to get in K. Co. I'm sorry to leave it. Their 1st impression is a good one. When I arrived here I was
greeted with a number of letters and a large box of candy from home. I wrote to mother the next night 21st. Three new Companies (Infantry) are being formed I have some new Coats & Puts to be used in forming it.

Generals & my Colonel visited me in my dugout but as a rule they did not stay long and troubled me very little.

Have been very busy with survey and other paper work. Considerable property was lost in the troubles. The Mexicans stole everything they could lay hands on. I don’t know if they simply wanted souvenirs or if they are natural thieves like the Mexican. They are certainly not as sanitary as the Mexican at home. It has been raining and very slippery weather, some snow + sleet. We rested until Monday that is only had cleaning up policing physical exercise and hauling rock with our platoons.
Monday 26th we started drill. Pretty muddy but still we drill. Sunday 25th one platoon under Lt Roth went out on Wood Cutting detail for one week. Tuesday night went on guard. I and C.B. and have two go. (New officers) got my Co. Clerk back & made him a Corporal. 5 officers in the Company besides myself. 3 1st Lt's & 2 Sergeants. Also two 2nd Lt's attached.

We have been given some lumber & a little material to build stairway and cover the holes in the floors of billets. This will be some improvement anyway. At the best this is going to be a very hard winter on my men. There is no way of heating the billets. We have a stove in each hovel but there is a limited amount of wood and the billets are simply hay lofts and too open to be heated.
I am very comfortable personally and my tent gets wood and
whatches can be had around
here for me, but I had rather
have the inner comfortable than
to be so well fixed myself.

11.28-Dec

Raining, some snow, pretty cold
and disagreeable weather. Co K gave
725/6 to be used for Xmas Children.
All Companies gave something only an
(I go) gave more than K they gave 28/6,
I had been granted a pass for Paris for
this week and, just as I was ready to
leave Friday the pass was revoked owing
to the fact that an open Warfare
movement is to take place tomorrow Dec. 3rd
between the 16th + 18th Inf. Co. of Res. C. O. had to
walk over the ground + discuss movement
with the Colonel. It appears that
open Warfare is to be expected next spring.
I suppose that we cannot get enough
troops over here to really take over a
front in trench warfare and we will
be in behind some big offensives
in the spring ready to follow up any success. Either behind the French or British. For the last day or two all my inactivity seems to have been lost. I do not feel like working but simply like leaving everything aside. However I believe I have everything up to date. The immense amount of work of a Co. C.O. especially office work which must be done plus all drilling and training is beginning to tell on me all. This work is not taken into account by the higher-ups. It is now Sunday noon and as yet no order is issued concerning tomorrow. They do not realize that there is some work and planning necessary in order to have two hundred men ready to move on the minute.

On the morning of the 3rd of July we left here on maneuvers. The 3rd BN was in position ready to fire in 12 min. R.T. Col. in front line. All through the problem the 3rd BN did exceptionally well.
We almost froze all day. Snow on the ground and a cold wind. Our feet pained us dreadfully and swelled until it was almost impossible to put on shoes. We returned to billets at 4:30 P.M. ate supper and to bed. I did not get to bed but did warm my feet. At 7:30 we were told to relieve the 2nd Bn. at 8:00 P.M. This was done. We did outpost work until 12:30. I got in and to bed at 12:30 A.M. My feet were in mighty bad shape. I got up at 3:30 A.M. Could hardly get my shoes on; feet swollen so badly they could hardly walk. At 4:30 A.M., our men had eaten and gone to bed, we were told to retreat out of town toward Benton passing the outer edge of town at 5:30 A.M. We were the only one getting out that soon. This day with snow feet we hiked full field, about four miles cold, dug trenches and then waited in cold and snow for the 16th. After waiting a few hours it came the problem was called off and started home. At Benton 12:30 C.O. Co. C.O. # 134 C.O. fell out and Gen. Duncan criticized the 18th for 1½ hrs. Nothing done for us as we was right. The dynamics all came use the
decision as winning. As a matter of fact the 16th was utterly helpless before us all the time. Col. Hynes of the 16th is one whom favor Gen. Dumont would like to have evidently. Otherwise I don’t know why he would have made so many foolish statements which even officers of the 16th admitted their defeat. I do not believe I could have walked home from here on account of swaller some fort. I should get a horse. Got dinner here and spent the afternoon working on my feet. Slept well this night and started out to drill wed morning was brought in and worked on merry last all day. It was a shame to have used up the men in the cold the way it was done these two days.

During this period in fact since Dec. 2 I have not had time to do my ordinary work much less write in my diary. The weather has been cold & disagreeable. We’ve been hammering and drilling from daylight to dark. Runs at 6 A.M. and it is dark at 6:30 A.M. we
dill until 3 P.M. and attend a lecture until 4 P.M. when it is almost dark. General Duncan is still applying his tactics of trying to make people crazy who are serving under him. The 3rd BN. now has a Maj. Griffith who has served for a few hundred years in the Regular Army and has been in three years with the British over here. It appears to him his business, has been wounded many times and right now cannot use his right arm. I haven't received mail for about three weeks. I am wondering if ships have been sunk.

We maneuver nowadays with blue and overhead steel helmet and gas masks both French and British in trench warfare and only French in open warfare. Officers carry pack the same as the men do. Hillard is now rooming with me. He came in one night after I had gone to bed. He has a bad cold and I suppose I've taken it from him. My throat is raw and pains me a great deal whenever I cough or try to give commands.

Dec. 16 - Dec. 19

I am leaving out a great deal of very interesting events which
should be entered but I have
not time in which to do it. I
tolerate everyone in a while
when I have the opportunity and
that is not often. During the
period under which I am writing,
we've been through some very bad
and trying maneuvers. Through snow
and rain, some men without
gloves and others with wet shoes
and no change, holes in the shoe
to let in the snow and ice. Only
one cold sandwich for dinner
and getting home after dark to strong
fleece and leaving again before light.
Swollen feet so bad that it made it
almost impossible to get shoes on
with less than one-half hours
work also swollen hands. These
maneuvers last for two or three
days at a time and when they are
over there is no rest but only a
continuation of drill and another maneuver.
My hands and feet have been swollen and
giving me trouble. Walking over
the frozen ground keeps a man in misery with all the bones in his feet aching. Then we have our own bullets to the mercy of the troops and we go to some other town stay for two or three nights and return. A great deal of the work is open warfare, something which in my opinion we'll never have use for. Such is the life in France training under Bicorn Whom no one likes. Right now I am in out of a snow storm only because I am O.P. It is easy to order troops out in this kind of weather if you are a high enough officer to not be troubled with getting them out. The Co. Commander is the one who sends high officers "ball him out" because the men are not comfortable and the men all bring their kit to the Co. Commander. So he gets it both ways.

I had one trip to Paris in December.
and had a day or two off and
felt much more like work when
I returned. Late Saturday night
before Xmas we returned from
a maneuver. We could barely
stand on our feet when we arrived
here. They were that sore & swollen.
Sunday we rested because physically
unable to work. Monday we did
so in the A.M., and straighten out
property in the P.M. Tuesday was Xmas
and a holiday. Wednesday a "Field Day"
in the snow & cold, snowed most of
day. Thursday (today) it is snowing
again. [and] O.P. troops were out
drilling in the trenches
Xmas eve, the soldiers gave a Xmas
tree in the Salvation Army but for
the French & Belgian kids (a great
many of them are orphans). It was a
great success. I never saw a happier
bunch of kids in my life. Each of them
received a present of some kind. It
was exactly like a Xmas tree in the
States; speeches making by the kids & ect.
I would not have missed it for two or three days in Paris. Then on Christmas day I at K Co's Mixed together and had a very fine dinner: Turkey, dressing, gravy, nuts, Candy, Apple, two kinds of cake. Every kind of drink which France has, almost every food for dinner: such as butter, mashed potatoes, bread, toast of eat.

Fett Blake, M.S.P. had an open house all day and I enjoyed myself immensely. December two days before Christmas a box of No. A. Tobacco, brand from Richard. I was badly in need of it too. I received a very nice bag of oats from Sauer. A bag of apples from my classmate at school with K M. C., 16, considered in one corner and two sets of Sterling Silver Capt. bars from Fred. So, you didn't forget me even if I didn't send anyone anything. Not very long ago I received a box of Cigar from Doc Michter and a fruit cake from Mr. K. That's said in his letter that she was sending me a fruit cake and mother sending me something else. Has already sent me one or two boxes.
So I have been well treated by the folks at home. All the kind presents I gave was $20 to the old lady there and I am going to send my mother $25 for her birthday and 9 to each. I sent $20 to the church at home.

There is much air which say that we are going to move, and some say we are going direct to the trenches. Today I received notice to requisition for rations which would indicate that we are going to the front. I am pretty busy on orderly room work. On Dec. 20 my C. Clerk got drunk while in the midst of pay roll. I relieved 1st Hacker not only for that reason but for others and because I thought 1st Endorlin would make a better man as 1st. I still have trouble with C. Clerk but expect to relieve him better on. He is very good and working fine now but I can't have anyone to see as he did. He knows how to measure in the C. who knows the job as he does.
but as for that Sgt. Endrich and myself can do the work, Sgt. Wynn is detailed to the intelligence section with seven privates. The Company is always being depleted and broken up in this manner.

Today New Year's day we have a holiday. A pretty good dinner and not very bad weather, although there is snow on the ground, and a little wind blowing.

I received a box from Carrie today with candy and cake in it. On Sunday last I was sent down to the Brigade H.Q. with Capt. Van Hiet and Crosswell to discuss with the staff Aid the disposition of troops or men in a platoon and a Company's formation in attack. Our rations have been short for quite awhile but we've had plenty to eat. But now it is getting shorter and worse. For three days last week there was no meat and again today no meat. Of course we have some bacon to...
substitute but it can't take the place of meat.

Sore and cold, maneuvering in very bad weather. It is hard to see the men stand up under such strain. We go out on such useless drills. One day for instance it warmed up and began raining. We stood out in the rain and wind for two hours then marched those miles through water with floating ice in places up to the knees and up on top of a hill where the wind hit us. Here we stood dripping wet for an hour and then returned to billets. The men had time off but no place to change clothes or eat and warm themselves.

A C. O. O. meeting was called immediately keeping me out until late. I never have time for anything now drilling Sundays and if a holiday
ever rolls around we have a 

General on Special Court meeting.

Last night I was notified today 

would be a holiday and 4-1-1 Court 

meeting. I've been sitting on Court all 

day. Tonight I was notified to be 

ready at 8 A.M. Tomorrow I proceed 

to the front where the for reconnaiss 

ance the 3rd Bn., will have the 

of 1st. Going into the front line trench 

receiving a Moroccan division. 

Also to have everything packed and ready 

to leave here.

I made a reconnaissance of the sector 

to be occupied by Co. K. Living for 2 days 

with the French officer in that sector. It 

was very cold and disagreeable weather. We 

rode to the front in a truck during a blizzard 

and almost froze to death. We waited about 

at different places waiting orders, the truck 

slipped and slid over the slick icy roads and 

the trip was very disagreeable. Trip 

poorly planned. In Beaumont coming back 

the place was shelled and a French interpreter 

"Battle of 18th M. killed by H.E."

Jun 9 - Jul 7
We went home that night through another snowstorm and pretty well frozen. My date may be slightly mixed but I believe they are right. It has been some time and as many happened that it seems a long time.

We worked day and night (knowing all the time) getting ready to leave for the front. On the morning of Jan 15 we set out over frozen slippery roads. A man could hardly stand upon them. Heavily loaded wagons were carrying our supplies. Only two and one-half wagons for 250 men. Two blankets for each man & 2 day rations and a good deal of other stuff on these wagons. I don't understand yet how we ever got so much on the wagons but it was there. We got about 400 yards along the road when Gen. Pershing ordered me to split my Company up among the wagons of the Aряд and try to keep them on the road. From here on we loaded the loaded wagons which were stuck & turned over. Rolling kettles & everything else were going down hills sideways and were kept rightside up.
with great difficulty. We finally reached "Void" after dark a distance of 15-Kilometer
Wet Cold, and just as near give out as
I have ever been. Muscles sore as though
I had just come out of a hard football game.
Mules got down on the road & never got up,
some broke their legs and were shot, others
fell off & were left there. Skinned & bruised.
Wagon after wagon turned over and had
to be righted. We left Void next day
roads began to thaw and travelling was
much easier. We made Hay. St.-Perry
about 1000 P.M. and rested until next
A.M. Co. K. & L. were in this town
and were fighting all the early part
of the evening. In a little French town
Col. Parker complimented Co. K. on their route
the day before with the wagon trains
and also gave a Crois de Guerre to 1st Lt.
Exeter of Co. K. This was the 1st Croix de Guerre
earned by U.S. Man in the War.
Next day 19th Jan. we marched to Caumont
in the woods just past Meud-la-Tour.
We halted here for that night & 18th until
Night of Jan 19th-20th
On the 18th all officers reconnoitered our position in the front line. On the night of Jan 19-20 about 5:30 P.M. Co. K left the woods and proceeded to Maudre, here we met French guides for each platoon and one for Co. H & A, at 11:00 P.M. report "Relief Complete" in F2 (19th sector) was given. Co. H went in on our left at the same time. There were the 1st American troops to go up against the Germans. That is other than for training purposes. Co. K was from 35 to 40 yards on our right and tapering to 150 yds. to our left. Co. on our left from 200 to 300 yds from the enemy. Everything was very quiet the 1st night. The 2nd night Sunday Jan 20 Pot Hite shot Sgt. Hacker through the breast. Wound was against Hacker & he didn't hear Hite's challenge to halt. Wound not serious. Grown & Johnson wounded in a German attempted raid on our right. Germans driven back. 3rd night excitement started on our left in 16th Fy. Red rockets went up and machine guns, artillery five set up from Germans & American Excitement ran down the whole line. I was going
that 1st platoon and everything there was O.K. Both 1st and 2nd platoons encountered red rockets because bombardment was fairly heavy. Green rockets (gas) on our left. The Germans were very nervous and called down barrage. I walked through the entire Company and everything was O.K. Pvt. Harry V. Gardner was killed by shell fire (a shrapnel), his whole head torn away. Shells & Machine Gun bullets were falling pretty thick. All men behaved exceptionally well and were very cool. Everything quiet 1st night. Wiring parties out but driven in. When we came into these trenches they were caved in with mine-wurf er (240mm. motor) and shell fire and knee deep instead places, many places deeper. No rubber boots to. In a great many places we were compelled to walk over the top in full view of the enemy. The German trenches are also in bad condition and they expose themselves. We are not allowed to be aggressive but have to stay quiet. My men are working day and night digging & building trench. If it were not for the warm weather the men would not have been able to stand the strain. As usual
my Co. Clerk is taken away when I need him most. We have a few chills everyday. Beautiful moonlight nights too light for patrol work. Very good weather for this time of year. We came out were relieved on the night of the 26th-27th. I Co received us. I think O.K. did excellent work and there was no kick about our work. I stayed over 36 hours with I Co. They seemed very nervous to me, scared and careless at the same time. Major Griffith came up and found all officers asleep so jumped all over them for it. After the relief we came to Major and rested in support for about five days when the Battalion was relieved and went in Reserve at same place only we worked up in the trenches every night. Maudres is well that to pieces with a few well standing and one or two rooms. I am in one of these rooms and it is some shelter. The Major called me in one night and told me that he had been called upon to pick a 2nd in Command.
He said it was between Capt. Manning and myself, that he picked Capt. Manning because of his two years of experience and aptitude, but he recommended me for any other job. And to the Col. and Gen. Stinnett, I am glad he didn't pick me because I don't want the job but am satisfied with what I have. He said that I had the best company in the war and expected great things of me. I am glad to know he thinks well of me anyway. I Co. was the victim of an attempted raid and one man missing, 2 killed and wounded. Co. A received Co. I in Feb. 7th. This brings me up to Feb. 7th. I'll forget many interesting events, especially two quite heavy bombardments that took place. Lots of packages, candy, mail, etc., have come in while we are here at Morristown. Writing a diary at the end of a month is liable to lack a great deal.
Feb 7, 1917

An month & 4 Fridays ago we went back into the trenches Fz (Feb. 8th) this time the Company did very well work was hard & sleep for anyone at night still the men did well the 1st time who we relieved, had let the trenches run down and became dirty, we improved them & turned them over in good shape. G.D. Woor in Fz they fired practically all the ammo. and we had to bring up more. No one was killed or wounded in the tour, a great deal of patrolling was done & requested at two different times to be allowed to make a raid on a German listening post with some of my men. They ignored the request. Two days before we left the sector Lt. Tomlinson was called back to take charge of a raiding detail. The morning of the night we were to be relieved Feb 10th I was called over the phone and asked if I wanted to take charge of the work of the raid I said
“yes” and turned my Company over to Lt. Pettit & pulled out for Reg. hqrs. I had been told beforehand that I could pull the silent raid which I had requested, everything was ready & then refused.

Well I went back & found the solemnism, Daly & Gallagher with twenty men from each Reg. waiting for meat in Pinkamae woods. We trained & practiced for two weeks and were ready to pull the raid. Col. Porter would not let me handle the whole thing but he took charge of the Engineers detail & test. Consequently my raiding party was ready but the Col. had fell down on his part. The Engineers with the torpedo arrived at 3 min to one (35-38) 3 minutes in which to do work of three hands the artillery came down & we couldn’t go over no breachers enemy wire. Fe had done nothing. We returned & I reported

The Col. took all the blame but let cleverly tried to switch it
onto me. However it didn't work.

Elin Bullard had me up beforehand
and everything came out OK as far as
I was concerned. I was asked if I
wanted to carry out the raid on
another night. "Yes," I said. I asked
for a slightly different plan which
was not granted. Although working
on the same area I was allowed
my own views on the subject.
This time it is a Division not
regimental plan. Wini's got the
Artillery, Lt. Be Bearnard is with
me and a very good French officer Lt.
of the 7th for the Algerian division.

In the line, our brigade is relieved the 2nd
Brigade is in the line only for a day or two
when on the morning of the 11th of March
1918 at 5:30 AM, our barrage came down
we go over at the head of our groups
we creep along near rear of the barrage
of 75's to a distance of 40 or fifty
yards. We enter the German trenches
we search them from every side and
do the limits of the barrage, nothing
is found except paper, Ammu. Jalief, we find out that the 25-9th
reserve 3rd regiment is opposite us, that's what we went to find out but
we wanted Germans and didn't find them. They put a machine
gun on us from one place a slightly wounded two men. Everyone
got back to our trench. One man
was killed back from line by artillery
shell. Thus it was the 1st American
raiding party in Command of an
American officer went over the top,
I have the honor of Commanding the 1st American
raids. We think
to go over the top. Co. K had 2 officers
of this ten, one and we had more men
than any other Company in the
regiment. The 16th Infantry
sent a raid over the evening of
the 11th under Capt. Graves which
was the Second American's work.
I returned from the raid went
straight to写作 crayons to
Cousin with mud from head to foot and reported to Gen. Ballard and made my report. He made me eat breakfast with him. He expressed himself as highly pleased with our work. We had done exactly as planned and ordered. The Germans were not there, it was not our fault.

I left the Woods at 10:00 A.M. That day went to Rennais with my officers. De Baisnard had dinner there. Everyone was very happy. Some disgustingly happy. We came back to Billellet that afternoon past Noudais and saw Mother Grangier. She thanked me very much for a little present my mother had sent her. I then came on to St. Amand where my Bu. had come on March 4th to visit Billellet. Bu. was turned over to me while C.O. went on leave. And I’ve been very busy ever since that time until March 16th. Colonel Griffiths returns and now I am able to catch up slightly.
on my work.
During my training period for the
raid my Company suffered rather
heavily. It was in the line from
Feb 24th to March 1st.
Cape, 12th Oct., 18th Infantry.

With Winters,

By order of Colonel Parker,

Remarks:

Attention to duties.
Supply
President.
Appearance of command.

The report will cover the following:

By Co. Command, other Co. Officers.
By En Comdrs. on staff and Co. Comdrs.

The following monthly reports will be submitted to this office.

Brigade, 10th, 30th Oct.

Headquarters Eleventh Infantry.
Signal Corp, U.S. Army
Telegram

H.A.E. F. HHW 11*91

To General Bullard
For Captains Queenberry
18th Infantry, Marcy

My hearty congratulations on fine work done by you and your men this morning. You and your detachment have set a pace for others to follow.

Pershing 1206 PM

To which we add our congratulations.

Bullard.
Lettus 12/24/17
Sept 4/17 Fred #1 Sister #5
Sept 8/17 Father #1 12/28/17 Mother #12
Sept 9/17 Sister #1 #7
Sept 16/17 Mother #1 11/1/18
Sept 17/17 Fred #2 Father #4 11/11
Sept 23/17 Mother #2
9/23/17 Auntie #1
Sept 29/17 Father #3
Oct 9/17 Mother #4
Oct 14/17 Father #2
Oct 21/17 Mother #5
Oct 21/17 Fred #3
Nov 11/28/17
11/8/17 Sister #1
11/21/17 Mother #6
11/23/17 Florence #1
11/25/17 Father #3
11/29/17 Fred #4
Mother #9
12/7/17 Florence #2
12/9/17 Florence #2
13/12/17 Florence #2
12/14/17 Mother #10
12/23/17 Mother #11
Dec 23. Prowers C. E. C.
Letter sent

Papa
Mama
Uncle

Jeannette 7/24 1-17 A. C. Quinsey
Sarasota, Florida
Hend. 7/23
Sister 7/25
George 7/26
Loretta 7/29
Mather 7/29
Dick 7/27
Florence 8/5/17

Mother 8/12/17

Cards

8/4/17
Sarah
Harry A.
Pete Swuns
Nellie Cott
Dick D.
Doc. Mac
Sheila
Louise McKeown

Aunt Anna

Corinne

Francis [illegible]

[illegible] 9/14

[illegible] 9/14

[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
Jan. 19th - in
Jan 27th - out
Feb 8th - in
Feb 16th - out
Feb 24th - in
March 1st - out

March 4th - to Rest Biletto

Let Houriancourt

Jan 15
Jan 26 - Void

17th Light Rail
Jan 18th - words
11 - 19th in