

From Capt. Wm. P. E. Ainsworth '16

May 20, 1917.

"The first week of duty is finishing, and in looking back I cannot find a single thing which was not more agreeable than was expected. First, we all had to go to the doctor's and receive two vaccinations, and in injection of antitoxin in the left breast; consequently my arm has a horrible sore on it (it took), and for two days my chest and left arm were very sore.

"Tuesday our regular day started. We arise at 5.15, line up for reveille at 5.30, breakfast at 5.50, and drill from 6.50 until 12, or when we 'mess'. Then we drill from 1.50 until 4.00, ending with an hour's hike until 5.00. We take a shower in ice water (no hot water), have supper at 5.05, and study from 6.30 until 9.30. Lights are out at 9.45. In off moments we make our beds, bathe, take care of our uniform, and learn signalling and orders - all very interesting. Yesterday and to-day (Sunday) I have been walking guard duty (two hours walking, two hours relief, and two hours walking). I am writing this during relief.

"There is a wonderful crowd of men here, mostly college men and Southerners. Dave Ackerman and Harry Blue are in my company (Company 1). We sleep in double-deckers. The fellow I share mine with is a Harvard man named Cox, assistant secretary of the Guarantee Trust Company, and a fine chap. Alongside of me is a Princeton man named Biddle, also a dandy fellow. All considered, they could not have picked a finer bunch of men.

"Now about the food! A sample day runs like this. Breakfast: Oatmeal, scrambled eggs, fried potatoes, coffee, bread, milk, etc. Dinner: Roast Beef, mashed potatoes, and gravy, spinach, side vegetables, bread pudding, coffee or tea. Supper: French toast, stewed tomatoes, jam, salad, fruit or pudding, coffee.

"On Sunday we get a good roast of veal and ice cream. So, you see, the 'eats' are fine, and we get absolutely all we want of them. The cook is a regular army man, and we have half a dozen uniformed 'serving men' in each company. The days are as hot as blazes, but the nights are cool. In fact, last week I sometimes slept with two army blankets and a bathrobe over me."

2nd Training Camp. C.A.C.
Fortress Monroe Va.

June 30, 1917.

Dear Reed:

I received your letter
and am glad to hear that you
and "Friend" are at the shore. It
will do you both lots of good.

Thank "Friend" for the postal.

It is very nice that you have a
chance to get a commission but
hold off and stay where you are.

There are plenty to do the work.

I had to run out just then and
take a look at our aeroplane
passing over the barracks - a big
flying boat affair only about
500 feet up.

We see all kinds of interesting sights every day - new flying machine, search lights, boats and men of war.

The work continues just about the same. We play geometry, trig, and physics; play war games, drill on the guns, attend lectures, watch half an hour swim and wait for Sunday and rest to come.

The hard thing is not being able to see home or any of you there. There is not the excitement of Fort Myer here and that is what makes things go hard. The kind of work we have, to me however more than compensates for the grind.

If we go to France it will

be with heavy field and siege
guns. Some of us will probably
be there by fall. Don't tell
anyone about that however. It
would scare my aunt to death.
She thinks that none of us will
ever leave the country.

Give my best to the "gang"
Tell Dad that I will write him
soon but not to wait for me to
do that little thing.

Wishing you best of luck in
that which you decide to do.

In the bonds,
Pete

2nd Training Co. C.A.C.
Fortress Monroe Va
July 6, 1917

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing a sample of paper of which I wish you could get me 100 sheets at the College supply store or at Reids. I am using it in notebook work and cannot get any down here. If you can get some please let me know how much it is and I will send you a check. Everything is going very

smoothly.

Last evening a german submarine was refuted in the bay. A battleship and several destroyers went out and all shipping was sent up the river. They also had the submarine net ready to close.

Three of our small batteries were manned all night and the search lights swept the bay for miles around but outside of some shooting we heard from the boats nothing happened. I have not heard yet whether they captured anything. The first taste of war.

(3)

We finished our work on
the big gums and are starting
on the smaller ones which
is much less exciting
but necessary nevertheless.

I have had a couple of
gordon peppers at the Champulani
and believe me it is some
food. All you said about it
was true.

Give my best to Friend
and tell her that I thought
of her when they brought me
the big eat.

Thanking you in advance
for the trouble, I am
In the woods

Pete

#6 Quarters
Fort Hancock,
Sandy Hook, N. J.

Dear Reed:

I find in making
arrangements for disposing of my estate
in case anything happens to me that
I have a couple of rather valuable
instruments and one very valuable
book that I would like to leave
to the College as I think they
would be used and appreciated there
more than anywhere else.

There are: One microscope
with several rather fine English made

lenses and Fench slides which I think
are of biological subjects; One
astronomical instrument built like
a sextant, very old and probably
an antique but probably of some
service; a book which was written
in 1662 (or published at that time) about
science in general and a reference in it
about communication by magnetic attraction
which is quite singular.

If you think these things are
a would be in order just drop me a
quiet line.

Regards to all.

I. Y. B.

Peto

February 21, 1918.

Lieut. W. P. Ainsworth,
#6 Quarters,
Fort Hancock, Sandy Hook, N. J.

Dear Pete:

I am sure that the College would greatly appreciate what you mention in your letter. I have spoken to the President and he wishes to thank you for your thoughtfulness and sends his best wishes.

Do not forget to come to see us.

Cordially yours,

Director

ERS/EVH

45 & 47 WALL STREET.
NEW YORK.

May 27/18

My dear Reed

I received
the usual form of Postal
this morning advising
me of the safe arrival of
the ship W^m sailed on
and he requested me
in his last letter to send
you his address when I
had received the postal
It is 57th Artillery C.A.
American Expeditionary Forces
Ch Postmaster N.Y.
Write as often as you
can Earl as Peter
will be pleased I know

to hear from one he
thinks so much of
With regard to the copy
I am sincerely yours

Geo. C. Chittenden

In ~~his~~^{my} letter he said

"I'll send to send any mail
to my new address"

May 29, 1913.

✓
Mr. G. C. Ainsworth,
45 to 47 Wall Street,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Ainsworth:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 27th concerning Pete. I shall most certainly write to him at least once a week and shall also send him our regular college circular which contains the college news. I was mighty sorry that he did not drop up to see me the last time he was in Rahway. This is the only time since he entered the service that he has neglected us and we did not have a chance, therefore, to say good bye to him, however, let us all hope that he may get back again soon and that the old good times will be renewed.

Very cordially yours,

ERS/H


SOLDIERS' MAIL

SOLDIERS MAIL POSTAGE
CAPT. E. W. HAMLEN, O. NECESSARY.

**AMERICAN
RED CROSS**

THIS SIDE FOR ADDRESS ONLY.

Mr. E. R. Silvers
Commerce St.
Rahway
N.J.



I HAVE ARRIVED SAFELY OVERSEAS.

Pete

This card will be held until safe
arrival of the boat on which I sailed.

Somewhere in France.
June 7, 1918.

Dear Reed:

At last I am "over here"
and everything is so peaceful in
the locality where I am situated
that it hardly seems I am in
a country which has been at war
for four years. Of course I am
in a place very many miles from
the firing line which accounts
for the tranquillity. You must
understand, while I receive my own
mail, that I cannot reveal many
things and must deal largely
in generalities in writing you.

(First of all I want to enquire for (2)
"Jueid-wife" and "Mike" I hope both are as
well as ever and suppose "Mike" is growing
every day. Write him for me.

The trip over was wonderful. The
sea was calm and the weather beautiful
all of the way over except for about two
days when it blew up rather rough
and as the seas caught us sideways
the boat rocked to beat the band.

It sometimes rocked so that for
hours if you were sitting on deck you
were looking alternately at the sky
above and at the water beneath you
and unless you braced your steamer
chair you would slide, chair and
all across the deck. Many of
the men were dreadfully seasick
but it did not effect me in the
least, in fact I thoroughly enjoyed
it.

I have often heard what

[3]

a wonderful sight land is after days at sea but never realized it until I saw it at the end of our voyage.

Of our debarking and train trip I may say little except that the scenery was wonderful but in a different way from America. Our beautiful sections as a rule are the wild ones but the beautiful sections of France are often the cultivated ones.

At present our company is billeted in an old French estate surrounded by vineyards. The officers live in the chateau which is a great white stone house with a tile roof (One of the originals from which the millionaires take their plans for their seaside homes)

I have a nice big room with an adjoining second floor parlour. In back there is a terrace with a

peach and rose garden containing a wonderful
pagoda. A brook with a deep swimming
hole runs thru a nearly meadow and
affords the men an opportunity for
bathing. The days are very warm
and the nights cool.

What more could one ask for?

I am very well and very happy
and, I believe, very fortunate.

I will write in the near future
and want you to do that little thing
very often.

Don't forget the letters from
College and the Quarterly.

In the best.

Pete

France.

August 3, 1918.

Dear Reed: I have received several of the College Letters but as yet no real letters from yourself telling me all of the latest gossip. What is the matter? I know that it must be several weeks since I last wrote you but time goes so fast over here that it seems but yesterday. For five weeks none of us received a letter from the U. S.; when they finally arrived however they came in a bunch and we had to knock off for about two days to read them all.

Some time ago I was in a large city near here and who should I meet in the Y.M.C.A. but Alf Ludlow all decked out in his naval uniform and looking very snappy. I made an appointment and dined with him the next day. It was awfully good to see him and get all of the home news just hand. I have not had the chance to get to Base Hospital #8 yet but will chap Looby a line to let

him know that I am here.

We are still located in the same place, living comfortably and working like the devil. Of my work I can say little and as I have so little time to spend in gadding around my letters are bound to be very uninteresting. The war news of the past few weeks has been very good as you of course know. I have talked with men who have been "in" the big drive and some of their stories are wonderful. I wish I could tell them all. I may have a few of my own some day. I have seen many German prisoners. Nearly all of them big shaggy men and well set up but with the face of a machine unlike the Americans or French. Some have long beards a foot long.

How is Edith and Mike. Please give my best to them and also to your mother, May, Cliff, Bobbie and Mildred.

Hoping to hear from you soon.

In the bonds

Pete.

W. Annisworth
1st Lt 57th Art. C.A.C.

This letter also to Elmer G. Bracher '18

October 4
1918

Lieut. William P.E. Ainsworth,
57th Art. C.A.C.
Am. E.F.

Dear Pete:

I have been neglecting you for the past two or three weeks, but we have all been so busy trying to make Rutgers a war college that there has been absolutely no time for anything else, except the immediate work which we are trying to do. Even now there is only the chance for this brief note.

Things have changed so much here that you would hardly recognize the place. The college is now on a distinct war footing, with mess in Winants Hall, all the men quartered in the two dormitories and the three fraternity houses, and no one being permitted to leave the campus without a pass. The Delt house is one of those which has been taken over as a barracks, and there are now 42 men at 77 Hamilton Street; only three of them Delts. Fraternity initiations have been forbidden and no fraternity meetings may be held, so it looks very much as if the chapters will have rather hard sledding. There are now 10 Delts in College, Jimmy Losee, LeCraw, L. Sherwin, Bob Farley, Newall Chase, Carleton Jones, and four freshmen you do not know. We are hoping that enough men will be left when things are adjusted, to start the chapter organization again.

Rahway is going along just about as usual. Mike was a year old yesterday and entertained the family at a dinner party, but this is the only piece of news from home that I can give you. Sometime soon I will try to write more fully.

Yours in the bonds,

France.
Oct. 15, 1918.

Dear Reed: What was my surprise
to receive a couple of letters from you
the last few days. I was glad
to see that you had a few good
days at the seashore with the
wife and son. Has "Friend" taught
the kid to swim yet? I have
been less fortunate in not having
had a swim this year. I expect
however in the future sometime
to more than make up for
the lost time.

According to your letter

the changes at College must ⁽²⁾
be very radical. I am sorry
on account of the fraternity
but otherwise the new routine
must be very interesting

Since the last writing I
have been doing the usual
moving around from place to
place trying to keep up with
a very active war. Yesterday
I went thru what had been
no-man's land a few days before
but is now ours. I had lunch
in an old bocch concrete "pillbox"
which was heated by a "bocch"
"Field Oven". If you could only
see the villages and towns in
this territory. In some cases

all there is to indicate that there ⁽³⁾
ever was a town there is a new
sign by the side of the road. In
others a few walls or a portion of
the church indicate where the
village used to be. Shell-holes
filled with green water, rusty barbed
wire, shells, trenches all tell
of the long struggle. In places
entire forests have been cut
from the hills leaving ~~not~~ a single
visible tree.

I am living in an old French
shed. It is quite dark and
full of rats but we have made
it fairly comfortable. The orderly
stole a stove somewhere and
we are gradually drying the place out.

I have not seen the sun for days
but we are quite used to that at
present.

I suppose you have heard of
my promotion to Captain. Strange
things do happen.

Please give my best to
the Chases, congratulate Lyle, tell
Mill I am sore as hell at being
thrown over, advise "Fried" to chop
for the biggest steak when I get back
and give Mike a kiss.

Write soon

In the bonds
"Pete"

W. M. M. M.
Capt 5th Cav. A.C.

France.
Nov. 14. 1918.

Dear Ned: I have not heard from
you in a long time but
presume that things are going
smoothly as usual. How
was the news of peace, the
abdication of the Kaiser etc
received in the States. I'd
bet there was some demonstration
particularly by those about
to be drafted. Please

saw the headlines of the ⁽¹⁾
N. Y. Evening Journal. They
must have been 14 inches
high.

We are just sitting tight
at present awaiting orders.
We may be sent to Germany
on occupation work or
home. I am hoping for the
latter.

Let me say it was a
great relief to the news when
peace was announced. We
had been under shell
fire for weeks and it seemed

charge to be able to walk
about without a tin hat a gas
mask ^{not} ~~to~~ ^{to} dodge shells at
the cross roads or to drive
at night without lights aff.

I am up on the last front
living in the priests' house in
a village which the Germans did
not have time to destroy.

It seems strange not to live
in a dug-out or in a ruined
village, to have light without
shades but it is very agreeable
needless to say.

Jimmy Layla, lucky dog,
received news of peace, received a
captaincy and was ordered home

the same day. Some luck

I say. I have to go on gathering
a company of 200 men but
I like it just the same.

How is Edith and "Mike"?

Give them both my best
and expect to see me soon.

In the brook
"Tel"

O. Linworth
Capt. 57 Art Coy.

Beaufort, France.

Nov. 22, 1918.

Dear Father:

I am writing my Christmas letter with the hopes that I may be home by that time myself to tell you about things myself. Probably the best thing I can do is simply to give you a brief outline of our stay in France. The censorship rules have been so altered that this is not only possible but invited.

First, let me start with our trip across. We went over with one of the biggest convoys leaving the States. Fourteen transports in all. Our ship was the converted Dutch ship "Ryndam" and we made the first run she made as a transport. I may also state that it was the first ship taken by our Government to make a trip over without a single break-down. As you may well imagine, I spent some time in the engine-room.

We arrived in "Brest" on May 23 and marched to the famous barracks (Pentamasian Barracks) used by Napoleon where we stayed for one day leaving the next for "Libourne" which is close to Bordeaux and in the heart of the wine country. We stayed at Libourne for two months where we received our training and equipment. The guns we received were the French 155 G. P. F. which is equivalent to our six inch gun. It is a very mobile, powerful rifle and probably the most famous gun of the war. These with American Holt tractors, trucks, touring cars and motorcycles constituted our equipment. It was quite a sight to see our outfit on the road - miles of trucks and guns.

After receiving our equipment we went to Camp de Souge which is south of Bordeaux where we held target practice for two weeks. It was here that I made a balloon ascension and here also

that the car I was riding in was hit by shrapnel out on the range. Some boob made a mistake of 90 degrees in deflection and nearly landed the shell in our tonneau.

One day we received hurry up orders to leave for the front. It took five teams to get our regiment up. We got off, after a three day ride and received orders to go into action immediately at the tip of the St. Mehile salient. You never saw such hurry in your life. It so happened that one of our battalions (the first to arrive) after working like dogs got into position only to learn that the infantry had gone clear beyond their range. They never fired a shot in that battle. Before leaving Libourne we had lost one battalion to railway artillery and had been given another that was already at the front. The latter was in the St. Mehile battle and did very good work.

After that job was done we proceeded to the historic field before Verdun. Here we started our party. We had, in the Argonne Offensive, as you have probably read, the hardest job any army ever had. I was in it from beginning to end. The "bosche" divisions were in front of us so thick that it was nearly impossible to write all of their numbers on the map. The country was hilly and wooded and most difficult and costly to fight over. It was during this fight that I took over the Headquarters Company. In the middle of this fight while we were at Eppinonville (West of Montfaucon) that we received a new Colonel who certainly was a fire-eater.

One of his first actions was to move us nearly into the front line trenches at Romogne. One afternoon I started with my company in ten big trucks for our new location. Our road led us across a field in full view of the "bosche" who were about a mile distant. Right in the middle of the field the first truck dropped

into a shell hole. It took three quarters of an hour to get it out and have never been able to figure out why fire was not opened up on us. As it was they did not start until we were off of the road.

In our new location we lived in a little cabin about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ kilometers (1 mile) from the "bosche" for six days. We were shell-ed all of the time and gassed part of the time especially at night. Officers and men were killed. My company lost quite heavily. I had trucks and cars hit. Often at night shell fragments and dirt hit our cabin and we slept with our masks handy.

There was one place in full view of our house where the "bosche" liked to shell and in the evenings we used to sit on the porch, hear the shells come over the hill, whistle over our heads and see them crash down the valley. It was very entertaining.

But when the drive of November 1st started things changed considerably. I shall never forget the barrage our guns let loose that night. I sat in a dug-out we had constructed under the floor of our cabin with a phone glued to my ear keeping in touch with the battalions and our brigade and otherwise trying to run the operations of the regiment.

The sky was just one glare of lights. We had a gun under every bush and when they let loose you would think that all Hell had popped. Fritz suddenly started to leave the territory and he never stopped. I don't blame him a bit for the business end of our fire must have been hell itself.

That was the last big party. We followed Fritz to the place I am at present, near Stenay on the Meuse. When we got here the armistice was signed and we are just sitting tight awaiting developments.

We may be sent to Germany or go home. We are ready and willing for either.

I have not attempted to give you any detail of experiences. Doubtless you get some from my previous letters. This is just a general outline to let you have some idea of where I have been and what I have been doing. The rest will be told when I see you.

I am in excellent health and getting on O. K.

If I do not see you before, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Write soon,

Love

William.

W. Ainsworth,
Capt. 57th Artillery, C. A. C:

From Capt. William P.E. Ainsworth '16

France, ~~Nov.~~

Nov. 22,

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Answer

7

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If I do not see you before, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

69+
From ~~Letter~~ Capt. William P.E. Ainsworth '16

France, Jan. 4, 1919

Dear Reed:

I have written no one for the last month. The reason is that I expected to be home before a letter could up to two weeks ago and since then I have been on the train most of the time. To make up for lost time, let me begin about a month back.

Our regiment made a long run of about 125 miles from the front to the little town of Doulevant about a week after the signing of the armistice. It does not sound far but for a train of trucks, many in poor shape after months of service at the front, and tractors which were equally used up and dragging 155's, it was a long grind. I lived in the Chateau of the Duke at Doulevant for about two weeks, while we refitted the men and made preparations to return to the U. S. Dec. 15th we entrained near Doulevant and left for Brest, arriving there Dec. 18th at night in a cold rainstorm such as one only finds in Brittany. On the 21st all regular officers, except the Colonel, were notified that they would remain in France and to proceed to a town south of Bordeaux, Le Coumeau by name. This put about twelve of us out of the regiment. Four of us went immediately to Paris where we spent Christmas, staying for four days afterwards as well. I enjoyed Paris more than any other city I was ever in. I visited Notre Dame, Napoleon's Tomb and the more popular shows and cafes. ~~It was certainly necessary to watch your step in this town. The women all talk English and do everything but kidnap one. They not only stop one on the street and invite one to spend the night with them but are inclined to argue if you talk to them at all on the subject. It is nothing to be approached half a dozen times on a block.~~ From Paris we went to Bordeaux and, the next day, to Le Coumeau.

II

Le Coumean is an enemy camp of casual officers and men and there was nothing to do at all. Fortunately, we were only there a day when we were ordered to Gondrecourt, near Neufchateau and within 25 kilometers from where we detrained when we first arrived on the front. Here we proceeded, via Paris and here we are at present. It is a fine camp with good accommodations a good V. M. C. A., barbers, etc.

Tuesday I leave for Nice on a leave of about 14 days. I am going by way of Lyon, Marseille and up along the Mediterranean. If possible I am going to Italy and will possibly cover the Pyrenees. When I get back I may be sent to Germany or Russia. ~~I don't know which at present.~~

~~Have you heard from _____ lately? I have not received any letters at all lately and cannot expect any very well with all of the changes in address. At present it is _____~~

~~C. O. B. C.-A. P. O. #703~~

~~C. O. R. D. --- Combat Officers Replacement Depot.~~

~~How did you enjoy Christmas? I didn't enjoy it at all being at Paris and living in a hotel which is the last place to be on Christmas. How did Mike make out?~~

~~I certainly wished that I could have been with you all, and expected to for a while, but am hoping now for next Christmas.~~

I don't know whether I told you or not, but I was in the St. Mihiel drive and in the Argonne drive from Verdun until Nov. 11, the day of the armistice which found us before Stenay. At one time I lived for nine days $1\frac{1}{2}$ 2 kilometer or about 1 mile from the Bosch and, believe me, it was hot. I lost quite a few men from my company and got some experience with gas and aeroplanes. We were at that time in the third line trenches and practically living with the infantry.

~~That seems years ago now. Write when you can and give my best and~~

AMERICAN



ON ACTIVE SERVICE

WITH THE

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

Jan 4 1919

Dear Reed:

I have written
none for the last month.
The reason is that I expected
to be home before a letter
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To make up for lost time
let me begin about a
month back.

Our regiment made a
long run of about 125
miles from the front to
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about a week after the
signing of the armistice.
It does not sound far but
for a train of trucks, many

in poor shape after months
 of service at the front, and
 tractors which were equally
 used up and dragging our 155's
 it was a long grind. I lived
 in the Chateau of the Duke
 at Coullevant for about two
 weeks while we refitted the
 men and made preparations
 to return to the U. S. Dec 15th
 we embarked near Coullevant
 and left for Brest arriving
 there Dec 18 at night in
 a cold rain storm such as
 one only finds in Brittany.
 On the 21st all regular officers,
 except the Colonel, were notified
 that they would remain in
 France and to proceed to
 a town south of Bordeaux,
 Le Courmeur by name. This
 put about 12 of us out of
 the regiment. Four of us went
 immediately to Paris where

We spent Christmas, staying
 for four days afterwards as
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 than any other city I was
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 popular shows and cafes. It
 was certainly necessary to
 watch your step in this town.
 The women all talk English
 and do everything but kidnap
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 on the street and invite one
 to spend the night with them
 but are inclined to argue if
 you talk to them at all on the subj.
 It is nothing to be approached
 half a dozen times on a block.
 From Paris we went to Bordeaux
 and, the next day, to Le Courmeur.
 Le Courmeur is an enormous
 camp of casual officers and
 men and there was nothing
 to do at all. Fortunately

[4]

we were only there a day when
we were ordered to Jondrecourt,
near Neufchâteau and within 25
kilometers from where we detained
when we first arrived in the front.
Here we proceeded, via Paris,
and here we are at present.
It is a fine camp with good
accommodations, a good Y.M.C.A.,
barbers etc.

Tuesday I leave for Nice
on a leave of about 14 days.
I am going by way of Lyon,
Marseille and up along the
Mediterranean. If possible I
am going to Italy and will
possibly cover the Pyrenees.
When I get back I may be
sent to Germany or Russia.
I don't know which at present.
Have you heard from
Pam lately? I have
not received any letters
at all lately and cannot

(5)



ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

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expect any very well with
all of the changes in address.
At Present it is

C.O.R.D. - A.P.O. #403
C.O.R.D. - ~~C.O.R.D.~~ Combat Officers Representative
Hq.

How did you enjoy
Christmas? I didn't enjoy
it at all being at Paris
and living in a hotel which
is the last place to be
on Christmas. How did
Mike make out?

I certainly wished that
I could have been with
you all, and expected to
for a while, but am
hoping now for next
Christmas.

I don't know whether I told you
 or not but I was in the St. Mehel
 drive and in the Argonne drive
 from Verdun until Nov 11 the
 day of the armistice which found
 us before Stenay. At one time
 I lived for nine days $1\frac{1}{2}$ kilometers
 or about a mile from the front
 and believe me it was hot.

I lost quite a few men from
 my company and got some
 experience with gas and aeroplanes.
 We were at that time in the
 third line trenches and
 practically living with the
 infantry.

That seems years ago now.
 Write when you can and
 give my best and delayed
 New Years greeting to all.

In the best

W. A. M. W. O. T. Pete
 Capt C.A.C.

Regulating Station "H."
A. P. O. #758.
Mar. 5, 1919.

Dear Reed:

Yesterday I returned from my first leave at Nice and found awaiting me a huge bundle of mail, including some from you, which had been sent all over France to my various addresses and finally caught up. I cannot realize how big "Mike" must be to walk & talk. The last time I saw him he was such a little fellow. I am afraid he won't recognize me at all.

gazing with the sea a dark blue green
and the snow clad alps in the
distance made a picture I will
never forget. I certainly will come
back to it some day. I went to
Monaco, Monte Carlo and over the
Italian border as far as they would
let me. I met some wonderful French
and Italian girls who danced and
played tennis wonderfully so you
can well imagine I managed to
have a good time. On the way
back I went up through the
French Alps and never expect
to see such scenery again as
long as I live. We went up to

Congratulations on the new home. I
certainly hope you will enjoy it.

I have just finished the most
wonderful two weeks I have ever
put in. I first went to Marseille
where I spent one day and then
on to Nice where I spent eight days
on the shore of the Mediterranean
in climate such as we have
at Florida in the winter. All
I did was sleep, eat, automobile,
dance and play tennis. The
country is simply wonderful.

Huge palm trees, the almond trees
in bloom, the orange trees covered
with fruit, the olive trees green
like the grass. All of this

snow but it was so clear and
dry that it did not feel cold in
the least.

I am back now, however, to
the land again and mud with
a coat of tan entirely out of place
and in wonderful condition to go
back on the job.

Give my best to Friend, Mike
and Dad, if you see him.

In the back
Pete

W. M. M. M.
Capt. C. A. C.

Capt. W. Ainsworth, C.A.C.
American Ex. F.

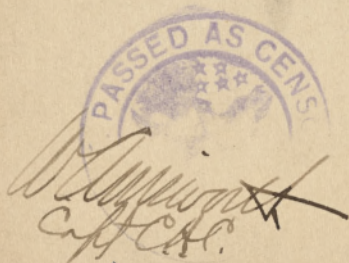
POST CARD



Earl Reed Silvers

Rutgers College

New Brunswick, N. J.



New Address

Regulating Station

A. P. O. 1918

P. Murworth
Capt. C.A.C.



RECEIVED

1918