

Sunday. December 31/16  
Whitley Camp.  
Surrey.

Dear Mother Father & Carrie.

Received a letter from  
home to-day part written by  
Mother & part by dad, I certainly  
look forward to letters from  
home and they cannot come too  
often for me.

Wednesday. December 27

up as per usual was warned to  
go to the Dentist. but nothing doing  
as they were too busy getting the  
116<sup>th</sup> filed up. fell in with the  
Company and <sup>had</sup> Physical drill.  
Squad Drill, Bayonet fighting,  
and Company Drill it was a hard  
mornings work. after dinner  
paraded with Heavy marching order

where we were digging Trenches. about 7 P.m. Signals were sent up and messages passed etc. got Back about 8 P.m. Murray and I went over to the Y.M.C.A. & had Burns & Luke warm coffee. I was tired so went to Bed early.

Thursday December 28/16.  
 up as per paraded with fatigue caps. ordered to Dunsley which is about 3 miles away in the morning we had Physical Drill, Bayonet fighting and Squad Drill for dinner we had 2 Bully Beef Sandwiches which we had carried with us. in the afternoon we were again digging Trenches. we got Back to Camp about 5 P.m. and as they had Steve Murray and I went to the Bungalow at Div. Down. Come Back to Camp

and went to Bed early.

Friday December 29/16.

up as per Heavy Marching order  
marched through Milford &  
Godalming, Officers & Sergeants  
are Being inspected and if all  
right we will be going to France  
pretty soon, of course we  
expect that any time now.

In the afternoon we had a  
Foot Inspection & Bathing Parade.  
Dressed to go to Godalming But  
as it started Raining I stayed  
in the Hut.

Saturday December 30/16

Bombers were called out, we  
marched to Thursley Commons.  
we are all in Trenches waiting  
our turn <sup>To throw in Bombs.</sup> and you can hear  
Strapnet singing over your head.

I threw one and managed I guess  
 more by good luck than anything  
 else to put it in the pit and was  
 awarded down as a first class  
 Bomber. Murray is also a first  
 class, got Back to Camp about  
 1<sup>40</sup> had dinner and got ready for  
 Godalming where we had supper.  
 Had a good time and got Back  
 about 10 p.m.

Sunday December 31/16.  
 up at 6 A.M. we are Duty Company  
 this week, I have been warned as  
 orderly in Battalion Orderly Room  
 It is certainly a rather job. Keep  
 the fire burning. Running messages  
 etc, ok. I didn't like it at all. But  
 that doesn't matter. It is raining  
 to - night and the lights are out  
 I am writing this by the aid of a  
 candle about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " long.

I am glad to hear you are well  
Murray and I are feeling fine  
so dont worry about us.

Remember me to all  
your loving Son & Brother  
Bob.

P.S. I had to leave  
you & Cora & Paul  
about 3:30



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