

Saturday Sept 30/6

Dear Mother Dad & Carrie

Well dears. I have my diary up to date now and I will start in where I left off. I will leave out our Trip as it would be impossible to detail all we saw there, I will be able to tell you all about that when I see you.

I hope you are all well and not working too hard. I wish you would show this letter to Louis George, so I would like to hear from her. I am glad you have a capable man on the Gas and hope he keeps them up good. I have not had very much luck with my Camera, I think the films. I got that Borden must have been old stock, I took some at.

God almighty last Sunday and not one of them amounted to anything.

Well dears I guess I had better get along with my story, I am sorry I have to write so small and crowded. But expect this will be pretty long put on your specs. and I guess you will be able to follow me.

Wednesday September 13

arrived Back in Camp at 9³⁰ from our forlough, we were pretty tired so went to Bed smartly, by numbers.

Thursday September 14

up at 5³⁰ a.m. Rall Call at 6 and about a 4 mile route march before Breakfast, @ 7³⁰ we had Breakfast. Partridge Bacon Bread & Tea. over here we do not get any Butter but a mixture called Margerine, It is not Bad. we fight for it now just as if it was the Best ever. Most of our fellows came Back from London Broke, some one found out I had

come as I started a Banking Business
somewhatly. They are all good fellows &
will pay one as soon as they get paid
It is pretty hard getting Back to Drill
and Army Rations again But it must
be done.

Friday September 15

up at 5³⁰ Route March 6³⁰ Breakfast 7¹⁵
I do not know why they give us these
appetizing walks before Breakfast
Because we could easily eat all they
give us without it. I am not com-
plaining But we do not get nearly as
much here as we did "Over one"

Physical drill 9-10, we have a new
Instructor from the Imperial army.
and he is either trying to make us
or break us I feel pretty stiff But
am game for anything, 10-11³⁰

Judging distances and field work.
Dinner at 12 Paraded at 1.15 with
full packs for a route march, we
marched to Thursley Commons, where
all the Trench work is done, we
visited Trenches and had quite an
interesting afternoon distance
3 miles each way, Got Back to Camp
at 4³⁰ Had Supper at 5³⁰, It is a
dreary night and looks like Rain
so I did not leave Hut, went to Bed @

9³⁰ Saturday September 16

up at 5³⁰ march before Breakfast.
7³⁰ Breakfast, Tea. Partridge. Bread &
Bacon. They do not know how to cook
Bacon. They Burn it all up until it is
as dry as paper. Physical drill 9-10
I feel Better to-day and enjoy the
Exercises But they are pretty stiff.

10-12³⁰ Casualty drill, I had charge of the whole Company for a few minutes and got along all jake, Dinner to-day was very poor, we cut the Grass around our Huts, we always have some odd jobs thrown at us on Saturday afternoons left Camp @ 2 pm and walked to Gosdaming and had a good meal which cost 2/6 come home early and was in Bed as usual

9³⁰
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Sunday September 17

up as usual 5³⁰ I think they might let us sleep in a little on Sundays now don't you, when we get up it is just like Midnight Stars & no one etc are very prevalent. Breakfast 7³⁰ Church Parade 9 it was a short service conducted by some English Chaplain Dinner at 12³⁰ Hung around that all afternoon writing etc Tea @ 5 pm. A bunch of us walked to Gosdaming to a Soldiers Concert. That is one thing they know how to do over here, all those who took part were Actors & actresses playing in London, it was certainly a pleasant evening, we got a little wet coming back it rains so long over here, that we never know when to expect it, went to Bed @ 9³⁰ But believe me we had to step to make it.

Monday September 18

up at 5³⁰, Rained all night route on march. Before Breakfast at 7³⁰ Partridge Tea & Bacon 9-10 Physical drill in Rifle Ranges on account of Rain. from 10-12 we had a lecture on Map Reading Dinner @ 12³⁰ Beef, peas, & apples.

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See But they grow tough Beef over
in this country. "Huff said" Had
Casualty drill until 5³⁰ Supper Bread
& cheese. The fellows are pretty sore on
their Rations, we are not getting even
a part of what we are supposed to get.
We walked to Godalming and bought
our supper. I am certainly glad I
brought some extra money with me
or I would starve, it is 8 miles each
way to Godalming and by the time
we walk both ways. and get a
supper it keeps us stepping. In the
Restaurants over here they have a
very poor system and it takes
about a week to get your order.
Nevertheless we got Back to Camp
and in Bed at 9³⁰

Tuesday September 19.

up at 5³⁰ Raining again, no early
march but here is the reason. Breakfast
7³⁰ porridge and 1 Little piece of Burnt
Bacon. If the Rations here do not
get better it looks like a riot to me.

It has cleared up but is Cold &
dreary. Physical drill 9-10 and
outpost duty until noon, Dinner
at 12³⁰ Meat Beans & Spuds. Rained all
day. so we did not have any parades.
wrote some letters and played.

checkers. Deal @ 5³⁰ Norman & Formers
and I went to the moving Picture show
at Din Down. In Bed Before 9³⁰

Just a diversion dont you think
I am keeping good hours here.

Friday September 22

up at 5³⁰ as per, instead of having early
route march, we had some relay
races. Games etc. and believe me it

was certainly hard on us Breakfast
 @ 7 Physical drill from 9-10 Extended
 order and manuevering until noon.
 Packed our Kets and had dinner
 at 12⁴⁵ Parade @ 1.15 which was a 10 mile
 route march It was a hard march
 But is all in the game. got Back @ 4³⁰
 Supper at 5³⁰ I had 2 Stewed figs some
 Bread & Tea. stayed in Hut played
 checkers and went to Bed @ 8 PM.

Saturday September 13

up at 5³⁰ Breakfast at 7 Tea Bread &
 Bacon, got some dry sand and cleaned
 out our Hut. we also cleaned the
 windows and tidied up as we expect
 a Hut Inspection Physical drill
 from 9-10 we had Platoon drill until
 noon. Dinner @ 12³⁰ It was the Best
 dinner we have had for a long time
 Beef. Carrots & spuds. we were issued
 with Mattress Bags to-day.

C. Donaldson, J. Barnard, & Murray & I.
 took the Bus to Guilford which is
 about 9 miles from here, we certainly
 had a good time we walked around
 town and I managed to get a
 couple of old Popular Magazines I had
 not read, we went to a Restaurant
 for our supper and while there
 I disgraced myself. By the way
 Guilford is about the size of St. Thomas^u
 It was a very small Table we had.
 and we were crowded my sleeve
 touched my B & B plate and it touched
 Barnard's Cup of Tea & I turned it
 Right up side down, we had a good.

laugh about it and it did not worry us much. after supper we went for another walk and saw two Red Cross Trains come in they were met by military ambulances and it made a sad looking procession only they seemed jolly enough. In the course of our wanderings we met some people J. Barnard knew, who lived in Godalming they were very nice and invited us down for tea Sunday night. Caught the 8 o'clock Bus. and was in Bed @ 9³⁰ This was quite an enjoyable day.

Sunday September 24

we were awakened. at 2 A.M. There was a Jap Raid on England. we had to get up and dress in the dark, went outside and distinctly heard reports of firing. This is about the third time we have had these Hurry up calls. But none of them have been close to our Camp. It was a nice clear morning and I imagined I saw Japs in every star went to Bed at 3³⁰ and got up again @ 5³⁰ Breakfast at 7 Porridge Bread Tea & Bacon. our Rations have been away about nobody gets enough and it looks like a row to me. if it keeps up. Capt Graham our own Chaplain preached on Christ died for the ungodly, we had H.Q. Inspection at 10³⁰ By Col Robinson then sent some letters Had dinner @ 1³⁰ Beef Spuds. Peas. after dinner Clarence Donaldson J. Barnard & I walked to Godalming By the way you might hear one mention Dano.

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name of wife are Great Lakes and he is certainly a dandy fellow. we met Jim. friends who are Mr & Mrs Hughes. They took us out for a dandy walk. through Country Lanes, we were picking out and wild Berries. The scenery and foliage were Beautiful. They took us Back to supper and this is the time I have been in a Home since I left London, Ontario. we had a good tea and talk about apple pie it is not the same as we get in Canada, There was more apple & less crust. There was Mustard on it and believe me it was fake, after supper we went out in the Back yard & shot at a Target with an air gun. we left there at 8 P.M. and it was by for the most enjoyable time I have spent since I have been in Camp here. I took some pictures But it was dark and they were not, a ny. good. left there went to Bed @ 9³⁰

Monday September 25
up at 5³⁰ Roll Call @ 6 our Battalion is Duty Battalion here this week which means we have to supply guards, fatigue parties etc. in Camp. Had Breakfast at 6³⁰ which you will notice is earlier we had. Porridge Tea & Dried Beef & Bread a bunch of our officers and ad. coms. are away, taking courses. and it makes us pretty busy. we had Physical drill from 9-10 from 10 until noon a lecture on musketry and the care of arms. Had dinner at 12³⁰ some stew & peas & Turnips There were some more Canadian Battalions come in today.

They expect to have 50 thousand Canadians here before they are finished & be paraded again at 2 P.M. with packs and were inspected by Hon. Tom Hughes. it was some inspection we had about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Battalion and our Colonel & Co. usual got Balled up in his commands. Supper at 5 P.M. Bread, Marmalade & Tea. after supper I had a Boxing match with Don, & Beliere one there was some lively stepping, Most of our fellows are broke. They will do almost anything for a penny. Bayley filled my mattress Bag to-day for 3 pence. I went to Bed at 9³⁰ and Beliere one that Straw felt like Feathers

Tuesday September 26

We were awakened again @ 11⁴⁵ another fire fired I did not even get up. It was only a small raid not very much damage done and none of military importance. Breakfast @ 6¹⁵ Fish Partridge Bread & Tea. We had Physical drill in our Hut. Had a lecture on advancing, & night marching from 10³⁰ - 11³⁰. Dinner at 12³⁰ Beef & pudd & Beans The meat to-day was so tough that I should not have even mentioned it. We Had Out, post and General Field Manoeuvring from 2 - 4³⁰ at 5 P.M. Tea Rice Tea Bread Murray Don, Norm & I went down to Godalming Had a dandy Bath in a real Pub. They have a lunch room in connection with the Baths, we ordered our supper to be ready when we

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had finished our Babb. They got our
ardr all sorted up, and we ~~to~~ did not
enjoy our supper very much. Because
we had to do so much fussing to get it
straightened out, I met Rod. Erskine. ^N
he has only been here a few days and
I was surprised to see him. we got
Back at 9 and had to do some fall old
stepping to make it.

Wednesday September 27

up at 5³⁰ Breakfast @ 6⁰⁰ Partridge
Bread & Canned Beef. we have
sit new officers attached to our
Battalion and the one we drew
will have to have his cork cut.
He is certainly efficacious and if he
yells much more we will have
Nervous prostration. we had to
parade with full packs 8 AM & marched
to Thursday commons about 3 miles
away. and found out we should not
have left camp, when we got Back we
had Physical drill and passing
messages until 12. No dinner at all
to-day they gave us 1 Sandwich a
Riot nearly started inth 1 Platoon
But Murray stopped it.

Paraded again at 2 P.M. our new
officer although a Junior is going to
try and remake the 135 Battalion But
Believe me he has some job. we had
advance guard work. I had charge of
a left flank and we got along fine
it started to Rain so we were
called in and given a lecture on it
until 4³⁰ Had a pretty good supper

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But can never seem to get filled up.
on Army Rations I stayed in and
went to Bed at 8 P.M.

Thursday September 28
up at 5 A.M. Breakfast 6. Muster Parade
at 7. we had to stand around until
9. The Parade was for pay office and
every man had to answer his name.
9-10 Physical Drill our new
officer made some awful mistakes
when we were falling in and of course
we were glad. We did extended order
and passing messages. until 12 A.M.
1 Sandwich again for dinner and they
forgot to put the cheese in mine
fell in again at 2 P.M. and had a
lecture on Outposts, Murray and
I had charge of one Bunch and we
made a good showing & knew our
duties and had our men placed
well. We then had a lecture
on reconnaissance, we had charge
of the same Bunch and made
a good report. Came in 5 P.M. &
had a good supper; went over
to Tin Town about 7³⁰ Had sliced
Tomatoes, Boiled Ham, Coffee was
in Bed 9³⁰

Friday September 29
It has been raining all day we
hung around our Hut all morning
got Paid in the afternoon and
collected my debts well dear
& his is as far as I have gone will
write again soon.
Your loving Son & Bro
Bob