9-12-1917

Dorothy Hornberger First World War Correspondence #01

Clarence Lindstadt
After Five Days Return to
STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Young Men's Christian Association
Y. M. C. A. Bldg.
DES MOINES, IOWA

HEADQUARTERS
Y. M. C. A.
War Work Council
for Men in
Army and Navy

SEP 14
12- M
1917

Miss Dorothy Honberger
1022 E. 13th St.
Davenport, Ia.
Dear Dorothy,

I received your most welcome letter this afternoon, and Grant tells me that you was certainly overjoyed to hear from me. I am feeling very good, and you tell me to tell her that everybody at your place is in the best of health. I sure am glad to hear it.

I had almost given up hope of getting any mail, until I received your letter, but now I am quite hopeful that ever Dorothy, every day. I've been singing and hoping for news from home and you, and when the mail man came twice a day, we would
run to meet him then we the anxious moments but every time I would turn away with a lump in my throat as ever I always would receive one or most letters. You can't imagine how hungry we are for news even a post card. Everybody man conde and then the boys are in a very good mood until that time.

There is really no news reaches us unless sent from home and relatives and we have lots of time to read to ourselves and think of home.

Now lastly in regard to sending my packages to you as you mentioned if your letter I want to say that I would certainly be overjoyed to receive them and thank you a million times in advance but don't go into extra time to do so I know you girls and your men are always busy and right have the time it up.

I have written home asking if they would send me some magazines to read because a man with a bookshelf becomes suddenly very popular.

The questions you have asked me to answer we all very easily answered and I'll try and make you as interested as possible in them. This is our present day program.
Our Program

6.30 Reveille
7.00 Breakfast
8.00 March practice
9.30 Setting up exercises
10.15 customs and courtesies of the service
12.00 Dinner
1.30 Inspection of the Soldier
3.00 Signaling
5.30 supper
9.30 Lights out and Taps.

We are up all night, and usually tired and quiet as a mouse.

This surely is a fine place to be, just like a city, and every thing portrays militarism throughout the camp, and when at night one lies awake, you can...
heart as away on the hills where the
different companies are encamped.
The regular now and then at intervals
which adds a bit of romantic and ad-
venturous feeling to the whole situation.
I do hope that you can come
all of you, and view this great
encampment, and see how well
our Uncle Sammal has thought
of his citizens and the fate each
individual receives. Given
the greatness about it all.

Beside your most welcome letter
I received one from a young lady
friend, and one from home, and
I also received a small bible from
a gentleman in W. Burlington Iowa,
which I have never met, but which
never lessens my gratitude toward
him, I would like to meet him,
and thank him in person, which
it denied me. I shall express my
most heartfelt thanks through mail.

How about my assignment to
the Supply company. I may add
that this may not be permanent,
as some of the boys already have
been changed to the trench and
hose gun crew in other words the "Suicide Squad". I may be transferred any
time.

The duty of the Supply Co as
I have been able to gather him
different sources, is to take care of ammunition and such material necessary for fit-in guns. We do not supply clothing to others, for there are supply offices that have charge of that. Our officers which are drilling us say that we have it off the rest of the boys for the heavy artillery is a branch of the service where everyone rides, always clean cut gentlemen, and in fact the best behaved of them all. The surge are glad of that. Wherever the guns go, we follow and supply the gunners so you may read in set that we are a part of the fighting machine.
I am very anxious to see service, and hope I may go with the first crew that goes. We have inspection of our quarters every day, and our quarters are clean as a pin, both inside and out.

By the way, I received word from home to the effect that they are going to have a hot old time down at Pott. this coming Saturday night for the draft. They say we are to come up here the 19th of Sept. The district board there has asked our general, if we could come home and join the good time, so our Capt. has informed us moving so we can go home and you. Money we can be allowed to stay to come to town. I am going to try very very hard to come to town. If I can make it I will surely go to town and when I get there will write you up some day. I might get in some. I hope to see you all in the very near future.

I am going to get my picture taken soon and will send you one if you like.

All our boys except me and two others, got their shot in the arm and
side this morning, and I want
to say that three days quite a few
sick gentlemen here now.
I receive mine tomorrow
morning, and I think I'll
make out alright. I hope so.
If you should come, you
and Mary, and your Pa,
just ask where the Supply Co.
397th Battalion is, and you
will surely find me.
We are having a day of rest
today, and you should see
with a letter for Congressman
you. Before you'll write
to me often. Don't you? And
I'll surely be prompt in an-
swering your emails. Every night
you can see the boys here
writing letters, and they keep it up until the lights are out.

Well, apropos, I am extending my sympathy to you, because after you read this hastily scrawled letter you may have to wear glasses so I'll close, and I do hope to see you all soon, with this mail. I am sending my very best regards to you all, and I sincerely thank you once more for receiving me, so be good to yourselves.

Your Uncle Clarence

My address is:
Clarence Landstall
Sup. Co., 339th F.A.
Camp Dodge
Ia.

P.S. You bese me and write soon.

I'm almost ashamed of myself, and I'll do better
next time.
Lauren Cruz 09.03.2015

[CLARENCE LINDSTADT (HORNBERGER COLLECTION) LETTER]

[Page 1 – Envelope]

[[image: Printed Type: “After Five Days Return to STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Young Men’s Christian Association Y. M. C. A. Bldg. DES MOINES, IOWA ]]

HEADQUARTERS Y. M. C. A. War Work Council for Men in Army and Navy [[/bold]]

[[image: Original military post stamp: circular seal with print “DES MOINES, IOWA,” encircling date: “SEP 14 / 12 – [?] M / 1917” to the left of flag containing print: “DODGE / BRANCH”]]

Miss Dorothy Hornberger 1022 E. 13th St. Davenport, Ia.
Clarence Lindstadt  
Sup. Co., 339th F. A.  
Camp Dodge  
Iowa
Dear Dorothy;

I received your most welcome letter this afternoon, and I want to tell you that I was certainly overjoyed to hear from you.

I am feeling very good, and you tell me in your letter, that everybody at your place is in the best of health. I sure am glad to hear it.

I had almost given up hope of getting any mail, until I received your letter, but now I am more hopeful than ever.

Dorothy, every day I've been here, I have been longing and hoping for news from home and you, and when the mailman came twice a day, we would
run to meet him. Then were the anxious moments, but every time I would turn away with a lump in my throat, as every boy almost would receive one or more letters. You can’t imagine how hungry we are for news, even a post card. Everybody is in a very good mood, until the mail man comes, and then the boys are sure anxious.

There is really no news, reaches us unless sent from home and relatives and we have lots of time to read after supper and think of home.

Now Dorothy in regard to sending any packages to me, as you mentioned in your letter, I want to say that I would certainly be over joyed to receive them, and thank you a million times in advance, but Dot. please don’t go into extra trouble, for I know you girls and your Ma are always busy, and wont have the time and it takes quite a little time to make it up.

I have written home, asking if they would send me some magazines or books to read because a man with
a book up here becomes suddenly very popular.

The questions you have asked me to answer are all very easily answered, and I'll try and make you as interested as possible in them.

This is our present day program.
Our Program.
6.30 Reveille
7.00 Breakfast
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9.30 Setting up exercises
10.15 Customs and Courtesies of the Service
12.00 Dinner
1.30 School of the Soldier
3.00 Signaling [sic]
5.30 Supper
9.30 Lights out and Taps.
We are then all in bed, and usually tired and quiet as a mouse.
This surely is a fine place to be, just like a city, and every thing portrays militarism throughout the camp, and when at night one lies awake, you can
hear far away on the [[image: circled number “4”]] hills, where the
different companies our encamped,
the buglar [bugler] now and then at intervals
which adds a bit of romantic, and ad –
venturous feeling to the whole situation
    I do hope that you can come.
all of you, and view this vast
encampment, and see how well
our Uncle Samual [sic] has thought
of his citizens and the care each
individual receives. Im en –
thusiastic about it all.
    Beside your most welcome letter
I received one from a young lady
friend, and one from home, and
I also received a small bible from
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the Supply company, I may add
that this may not be permanent,
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been changed to the trench mortar
gun crew, in other words, the “Suicide
Squad” I may be transferred any time.

The duty of the Supply Co, as I have been able to gather from
different sources, it is to take care
of ammunition, and such mat –
erial necessary for Six in. guns.

We do not supply clothing to
others, for there are supply officers
that have charge of that. Our
officers which are drilling us,
say that we have it “on” the
rest of the boys, for the heavy
artillery [sic] is a branch of the service
where every one rides, always
clean cut gentlemen, and in
fact the best behaved of them
all. We sure are glad of that

Wherever the guns go, we
follow and supply the gunners,
so you may readily see that
we are a part of the fighting
machine.
I am very anxious to see service, and hope I may be with the first crew that goes.

We have inspection of our quarters every day, and our quarters are clean as a pin, both inside and out.

Say Dorothy, I received word from home to the effect, that they are going to have a hot old time down at Burl. this coming Saturday night, for the drafted boys that are to come up here the 19 of Sept. The district board there has asked our general, if we could come home and join the good time, so our Capt. has informed us that we are to report to him tomorrow morning so we can go home and get in on it. Now I don’t know how long we may be allowed to stay but I’m going to try very, very hard to come to Dav. on my way back to the Camp. If I can make it I’ll sure go to Dav. and when I get there, I will ring you up, so you or some one will, or can, meet me, because I might get estray [sic] in Dav. I sure hope to see you all in the very near
future.

I'm going to get my picture
taken soon, and will send you
one if you like.

All our boys except me and two
others, got their “shot” in the arm and
side; this morning, and I want
to say that there are quite a few
sick gentlemen here now.
    I receive mine tomorrow
morning, and I think I’ll
make out alright. I hope so.
    If you should come, you
and Marg. and your Ma,
just ask where the Supply Co.
339th Battalion is, and you
will surely find me.

    We are having a day of rest
today, and your letter sure
was a balm for lonesomeness.
    Now Dorothy you’ll write
to me often. wont you? And
I’ll surely be prompt in an –
swering your mail. Every night
you can see the boys here
writing letters, [[image: circled number “8”]] and they keep it up until the lights are out.

Well Dorothy, I am extending my sympathy to you, because after you read this horribly scrawled letter, you may have to wear glasses so I'll close and I do hope to see you all soon, with this mail I am sending my very, very best regards to you all, and I surely thank you once more for remembering me, So be good to yourselves.

Your.

Uncle Clarence
My address is.
Clarence Lindstadt
Sup. Co 339th F. A.
Camp Dodge
Ia.

PS. Now be sure and write soon.

[[written at an angle in the bottom left corner of the page]]
Isn't the writing terrible
I'm almost ashamed of myself.
I'll do better next time