6-6-1918

Wesley F. Diedrich First World War Correspondence #30

Wesley F. Diedrich

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Recommended Citation
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Dear Folks:

Received your most welcome letter today. I was surely glad to hear from you. I was glad to hear that you were enjoying good health, as I am at present.

We have moved several hundred miles since you last heard from me, and we had some try. The railroad coaches in this country are like wheelbarrows in comparison to those in the states. They are about twenty feet long, with a single set of wheels at each end. There are doors along the side through which one enters. Each car holds about forty men.

After we had come to the end of our railroad journey, we hiked about fifteen miles and arrived at our battalion shortly after twelve o'clock midnight. As we we going...
through a small wood quiet before entering the estate where we are quartered, a German plane began bombing a small town nearby. Searchlights were searching the sky and our anti-aircraft guns opened up on the plane. The shells bursting nearby directly above our heads. On the roof on the flank of the big guns at the front could be plainly seen. The distant rumble could be distinctly heard above the sound of the aeroplanes in the air. Every little while Star shells would go high in the air along the front many miles to our left. It was quite a reception, don't you think?

The estate upon which our billets are located is very pretty and before the war must have been a grand place, having been owned by some government officials. The place in in the heart of a small wood. The grounds are now used for the raising of crops, but still retain some of their original beauty.

We have had fine weather since we arrived in this country and hope that it continues. These letters are limited to one sheet I will not be close. Love to mother and yourself from Wes.
Dear Folks:-

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We have had fine weather ever since we arrived in this country & hope that it continues. [[left side torn]] these letters are limited to one sheet I will Have to close. Love to Mother & yourself. From Wes.