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6-6-1918

### 1918-06-06, Wesley to Family

Wesley F. Diedrich

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## 1918-06-06, Wesley to Family

### Keywords

U.S.A., U.S. Soldiers, correspondence, Mother, Father, engineering, Infantry, YMCA, health and sickness, supplies, European railroad, France, billet, bombardment, airship, air raid, agriculture, French Government, landscape, artillery, Western Front, military occupation, Germans

### Identifier

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ARMY AND NAVY  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION  
"WITH THE COLORS"



Somewhere in Texas  
June 6, 1918

Dear Folks:-

Received your most welcome letter today, & was surely glad to hear from you. 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, & we had some trip. 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 & arrived at our billets shortly after twelve o'clock midnight. As we were going



through a small wood just before entering the estate where we are quartered, a german plane began bombing a small town nearby. searchlights were searching the sky & our anti-aircraft guns opened up on the plane, the shells bursting nearly directly above our heads. On the horizon the flash of the big guns at the front could be plainly seen & their 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 & before the war must have been a grand place having been owned by some government official. The place is 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.

~~Comma~~  
We have had fine weather ever since we arrived in this country & hope that it continues. These letters are limited to one sheet & I will have to close. Love to mother & yourself, from  
Wes.

[Diedrich Correspondence #36]

[[Page 1-Letter]]

[[Image- Flying American Flag]]

[[image- YMCA insignia;  
inverted red triangle]]

[[Letterhead: ARMY AND NAVY  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS  
"WITH THE COLORS"]]

Somewhere in France  
June 6, 1918

Dear Folks:-

Received your most welcome letter today & was surely glad to hear from you. 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, & we had some trip. The railroad coach 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 & arrived at our billets shortly after twelve o'clock midnight. As we were going

[[text-bottom:]] HELP YOUR COUNTRY BY SAVING. WRITE ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS PAPER.

[[Page 2-Letter]]

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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.