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9-14-1918

### 1918-09-14, Wesley to Family

Wesley F. Diedrich

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## 1918-09-14, Wesley to Family

### Keywords

U.S.A., U.S. Soldiers, correspondence, Mother, Father, engineering, Infantry, France, Western Front, military occupation, air raid, artillery, morale, Germans, front line, comradeship, casualties, weather rain, motorcycle, ruins, dispatch rider

### Identifier

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



France  
Sept. 14, 1918

Dear Folks:

Am just sending you a few lines to let you know that I am well & that the war is still going on over here. The sector we are now in is rather quiet in comparison to the one we left but we expect a big "stunt" to come off within a week or so. We have moved up to the lines again & will probably stay here all winter. I am driving a twin cylinder Harley Davidson motorcycle carrying dispatches from regt hqts to the lines & sometimes get plenty excitement when "Garry" opens up with his gun. My machine is a brand new one & another lad & myself work shifts

HELP YOUR COUNTRY BY SAVING. WRITE ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS PAPER.



on it, night & day. Most of the vil-  
lages around us are down to the  
ground, some of them not having  
a single building or wall standing.  
The weather here has been fierce for  
the last week with rain every day  
so you can imagine what some  
of the roads are like. A few nights  
ago I was out & it was pouring  
rain & pitch dark except for occa-  
sional flares that the germans were  
sending up. I was carrying some orders  
to one of our companies & to get there  
I had to go about a mile over a  
wagon track that was all churned  
up from wagons passing over it. The  
mud & slime was about a foot deep  
& every few hundred yards my machine  
would sink into a shell hole & I  
would take a mud bath. When I  
got back to my company I was  
just like a big mud ball & wet to  
the skin. I changed clothes & went to bed  
& went on duty the next morning as  
usual. Such experiences are typical





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



phases of war, it is surely nothing  
like the people in the states imagine  
it to be. So far our regiment has been  
fairly lucky, having only about a hun-  
dred casualties which is very few  
considering the action they have seen.  
Well folks I have to get back on the  
job so will close, with love.

Max

[Diedrich Correspondence #44]

[[Page 1-Letter]]

[[Image- Flying American Flag]]

[[image- inverted red triangle in red circle]]

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[[Page 2-Letter]]

on it, night and day. Most of the villages around us are down to the ground, some of them not having a single building or wall standing. The weather here has been fierce for the last week with rain every day so you can imagine what some of the roads are like. A few nights ago I was out & it was pouring rain & pitch dark except for occasional planes that the Germans were sending up. I was carrying some orders to one of our companies & to get there I had to go about a mile over a wagon track that was all churned up from wagons passing over it. The mud & slime was about a foot deep & every few hundred yards my machine would skid into a shell hold & I would take a mud bath. When I got back to my company I was just like a big mud ball & wet to the skin. I changed clothes & went to bed & went on duty the next morning as usual. Such experiences are typical

[[Page 3-Letter]]

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