9-14-1918

Wesley F. Diedrich First World War Correspondence #39

Wesley F. Diedrich

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Recommended Citation
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Subject Terms
Wesley F. Diedrich; September 14, 1918; World War 1914 1918; United States. Regimental histories U.S.A. 108th Engineers; United States. Regimental histories U.S.A. 33rd Infantry Division; United States. Army American Expeditionary Forces; United States. Army; World war 1914 1918; YMCA Letterhead; World War 1914 1918 France; World war 1914 1918 War work; World War 1914 1918 War and civilization -- History -- 20th century France; War and society -- History -- 20th century France; World war 1914 1918 Tactics History 20th century;

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

Identifier
2014.160.w.r_Diedrich_worldwarone_1918-09-14_044

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Dear Folks:

Am just sending you a few lines to let you know that I am well and 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 and will probably stay here all winter.

I am driving a twin-cylinder Harley-Davidson motorcycle carrying dispatches from regiment to the lines and sometimes get plenty excitement when "Jerry" opens up with his guns.

My machine is a brand new one and another lad and myself work shifts.

France
Sept. 14, 1918
on at 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 fiance 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
pitch dark except for occa-
sional flares that the Germans were
sending up. I was carrying some order
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 6 foot deep
& every few hundred yards my machine
would kick into a shell hole. I
would take a mud bath. When I

get back to my company I was
just like a big mud bath & wet to
the skin. I changed clothes & went to bed
I went on duty the next morning as
usual. Such experiences are typical
Happy of war, ...in the States imagine it to be. This our regiment has been fairly lucky, having only about a hun-
dred casualties which is very few considering the action they have seen. Well stuck, I have its get raile on the
job so well close, with love.

[Signature]
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 on 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 reg’t hdqts to the lines & sometimes get plenty excitement when “Jerry” opens up with his guns. My machine is a brand new one & another lad & myself work shifts.

France
Sept. 14, 1918

[Herbert: ARMY AND NAVY
YOUNG MEN’S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
“WITH THE COLORS”]

[Image- Flying American Flag]
[Image- inverted red triangle in red circle]
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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
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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
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.

Wes.