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6-28-1918

### 1918-06-28, Varnie to Clara

Varnie (V.T.) T. Lindstadt

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## 1918-06-28, Varnie to Clara

### Keywords

correspondence, postal service, Camp Devens, Mass., June 1918, 1918, brother, sister, family, United States, United States Army, army, engineers, infantry, Y.M.C.A, Y.M.C.A Stationary, American flag, mobilization, travel, ocean travel, love

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WITH THE COLORS"



Miss Clara Lindstadt.  
1101 Arch St.  
Burlington Iowa.



WAR WORK COUNCIL

ARMY AND NAVY  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION



"WITH THE COLORS"

June 28, 1918 1917  
Camp Levens, Mass.

Dear Sis.

Just a few lines to tell you that I am leaving for Overseas today and so I would not write any more until you hear from me.

I hope I can run in to Gult when I get there, for I am going to look him up if I get the chance. We will have some long trip I presume, but it sure will be some experience.

Well Sis I will say goodbye to all you folks, so keep the home fires burning until I and Gult return.

With love to all

Your Bro.

V. T. Lindstadt.

P.S. Give the neighbors my best regards.

[LINSTADT BROTHERS COLLECTION]

[Page 1 – Envelope]

[[Image: Seal of the YMCA:  
inverted red triangle with  
“YMCA” printed across center]]

[[Image: printed  
“WITH THE COLORS” ”]]

[[Image: Military postmark:  
Circular stamp with print  
“FITCHBURG / MASS / DEVENS  
BRANCH” circling date:  
“Jun 25 / 6 30AM / 1918” ]]

[[Image: Original  
maroon 3-cent post  
stamp with left-facing  
George Washington]]

Miss Clara Lindstadt.

1101 Arch St.

Burlington Iowa

[Page 2 – First of 2 letters enclosed]

[[Image: Flying American flag]]

[[Image: Printed Text, centered:  
“ ARMY AND NAVY  
YOUNG MEN’S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION  
“WITH THE COLORS” ”]]

[[Image: Seal of the YMCA: inverted red triangle with “YMCA” printed across center.]]

Camp Devens, Mass.

June 24, 1918.

Dear Sis, –

I presume you will be surprised if I tell you I will be on my way to France in 2 or 3 days.

We got our orders so the Colonel gave us permission to notify our relatives, so I am writing you these few lines now, and Sis I want to thank you for all the things you have sent me and for every thing you have done for me when I was home. There is lots of things Sis that a person does not appreciate when home, because they are too doggone crabby, I’ve been that way, but I want to say Sis that I have learned the lesson, and I never would have learned

[[Image: printed footer: “To the Writer: Save by Writing on Both Sides of this Paper. / To the Folks at Home: Save Food, Buy Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps.”]]

[Page 3 – Letter 1 of 2 continued]

if I had not went to the Army.

The Army has done me a world of good and will sure make you or break you, that is up to the individual himself. After this thing is over, them that come back will be real men, because it will take good men to finish the Dutch [*sic*], but no one has any doubts, but what the Yanks are going to make a cleaning (over there). To change the subject I presume we will go to New York and embark for France but I don't know, in fact we don't know from what port we will sail.

I want to say Sis that the cake and candy was great and I want to thank you for it.

I will miss your baking on the other side but believe me I will think about it anyhow. Well Sis as news is scarce, I will close with love to all, hoping all are well.

Love to all. Your Bro.

P.S. Give my best V.T. Lindstadt.  
regards to all our best neighbors.

(Tell Ma to)

(Keep a stiff upper lip till we)  
get the Kaiser.

[Page 4 – Second of 2 letters enclosed]

[[Image: Print  
“American” over an  
inverted red triangle  
with “Y.M.C.A” printed  
across center in blue/white]]

[[Image: Printed header:  
“ON ACTIVE SERVICE  
WITH THE  
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE” ]]  
July 28th [[Image: print “191”]] 8.

Dear Bro.

Just a few lines to  
tell you I am somewhere in  
France and am in the best of  
health. I want to say that the  
surrounding country resembles  
that of Iowa onlyR the farms  
are small. The climate is  
pretty much like that of  
Iowa, though it has been  
raining considerable the last  
couple weeks. We are in  
barracks now, and is almost  
like back in the States. It  
is hard for me to realize that  
I am so far away from home  
because the country here is so  
much like back home.

There is quite a scarcity

[Page 5 – Letter 2 of 2 continued]

of water here, for washing purposes though we have enough good drinking water. The people here, do not drink much water for the National drink seems to be wine. The people here wear wooden shoes and they are sure wonders the way they get around with them. Well to change the subject I suppose that the building business is pretty fair now, back home, and is more steady. Say, I wonder if Rob has gone to Camp yet, and I would like to know, when you answer this letter.

I have not located Clarence yet, though I am hoping that I will run across him soon.

I suppose you have heard from him lately? Well, Elmer I am short on news, that I am allowed to write about, but I hope will see you all again

some day, and I can tell you of the great sights I have seen, so I will close with my best regards to all.

Your Bro.

Pvt. V. T. Lindstadt

Co. E 33rd Engineers.

American E.F.

P.S. Write Soon.

Give my regards to the rest of the bunch and also Mr. Moehn.

[[Censor's hand:]] O. [F]

Jacob Stone 1st. Lt. Engr. [R]. C.