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12-15-1918

### 1918-12-15, Wesley to Family

Wesley F. Diedrich

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## 1918-12-15, Wesley to Family

### Keywords

U.S.A., U.S. Soldiers, correspondence, Infantry, France, Western Front, military occupation, injury, motorcycle, dispatch rider, Germany, Senningen, Luxembourg, marching and drill, censorship, YMCA, education, German civilians, racial stereotyping, map, drawing, rainy weather

### Identifier

2014.160.w.r\_ Diedrich \_worldwarone\_1918-12-15\_052

AMERICAN



SOLDIERS  
MAIL

*Amwood*  
*1-7-9*  
Mrs. N. Dedrick  
108 Glenwood St.



*Robert Ill*

Sennegen Lux.  
Dec: 15 1918

Dear Folks:

You will have to pardon me for not writing sooner as the division has been on the move for the last two weeks & I have not had a chance to write sooner.

When the regiment started its march into Germany I was back at the repair shop having my machine repaired as the result of a smashup I told you about in my last. When I got the machine out I had a hard time finding my regiment which had a week's start on me. At last I found them in a town about ten kilometers from Luxembourg city since then we have moved



a few miles each day & have  
left Luxembourgg quite a distance  
behind.

The people here are the  
most hospitable that we have  
found since we have left the  
states & the german I learned  
at high school is surely stand-  
ing me in good stead. My per-  
sonal sent & I are living with  
some german people, thanks  
to my slight knowledge of  
the german language, & we  
have a feather bed to sleep  
in. They won't hear of us eat-  
ing our regular meals & insist  
on us having our meals with  
them & the old frau is some  
cook. By staying with them  
my german vocabulary



is constantly increasing &  
now I can carry on an or-  
dinary conversation in German  
with very little difficulty.

The city of Luxembourg is  
very much like a city of  
the same size in the "States",  
that is, everything is more  
modern than those in France.  
The people also do not look  
foreign but dress & look like  
Americans.

I see by the papers that the  
second division is somewhere  
in this locality but as yet  
I have been unable to locate  
them.

Well folks as there is  
no other news I will close  
with love

Wes

(over)



P.S. I am sending you the road map that I used during the war on our last sector. I have been in practically every town shown & we have stayed in several of them. And also sending you a sketch of the roads I took in coming up here & some of the roads had mud over a foot deep in places as it was pouring rain & had been for two weeks before I started. so you can imagine it was no soft graft.

[[Nick Dante 10/8/15]]

[Diedrich Correspondence #52]

[[Page 1-Envelope- Heavily damaged and torn]]

Pvt. W. Diedrich  
Engrs.  
U.S.A.

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

SOLDIERS  
MAIL

[[image – two smudged black stamps, U.S.  
ARMY POSTAL SERVICE DEC 15 6PM]]

Mrs. N. Diedrich  
108 Glenwood Av.  
Joliet, Ill.

[[image- faded purple circle stamp  
A.E.F. PASSED AS CENSORED]]

[[Illegible signature of commanding officer]]

[[written diagonally:]] Answered 1-7-19



[[Nick Dante 10/8/15]]

[[Page 2- Letter]]

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[[Page 3- Letter]]

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[[Page 4- Letter]]

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[[Page 5- Letter]]

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