8-18-1918

Lindstadt Brothers First World War Correspondence Collection #52

Albin Anderson

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LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD
"WITH THE COLORS"

Miss Clara Lindstadt
1101 Arch St.
Burlington,
Iowa.
Aug 18th
Camp Pike, Ark.

dear Clara,

I received your letter yesterday evening and was sure glad to hear from you. I am well and the same as I was in Burlington. This life has not made me any different, only that I think that I never knew what a good state I lived in until I came here. I hope that you are holding up the same with your mother under these times hard conditions, and keeping well. It is hot here the same as they have been having it in Iowa now lately, it is so hot here now that I am afraid that the sweat will drop on the writing paper. I have now moved and I have turned back my rifle and my pack so that now I don't know what they will give me next.
We have been drilling hard with our rifles and full packs for two weeks and taking hikes so I don't know what it means since they have changed us like this. We are now in a barracks filled with railroad men and auto mechanics, so that I will probably be put in with some of them. When we came here we didn't get such a good dinner but they didn't expect us and the meals have improved so that now it is comparatively good, but not as good as I have been used to since I began drilling. They are not as strict with us here as they were at the other place but we may yet it later. It is a wonder they haven't anyone permanent to take my place but Mr. Boisel may work his boy into it. I am glad to hear that Clarence thinks that the war won't last long. I wish myself back and every one else back as their civil work, but there is only one
thing to do and that is to keep right on a training soldiers until they will have plenty to whip the Hun. The Iowa boys make a showing for themselves in that they are quick to take up the drill and work that is set before them. When we were drilling with rifles the one lieutenant said that we boys were being pushed as hard as they could put it to us to make us perfect in as short a time as possible, that we were a quick bunch to learn and it was a pleasure to him to do his part. I am glad to get rid of my pack and rifle in order to do some thing else, because there are many branches of the service. It may be that they will give us some rifles again but I doubt.
If I get to drive a truck, I will be armed with a shotcarbine and a pistol, and if I get to be a repairman I will probably not have any firearm at all. There is a rumor at the barracks of sending us to Kansas City tomorrow for two days, but you can't put any stock in anything here. One hour you are here and the next you have orders to move. All class A men will have to go across first so I am ready for overseas service. Cheer up, Clara, and cheer the other girls also because we won't all stay over there, and it won't be long before we can come to gether and tell what we have all seen here and there. Tell your mother and brother hello for me, and I send my best regards to you and them.

Your friend,

Albin

P.S. Congratulate Mr. Schweiger if you ever see for me on his new step.
Miss Clara Lindstadt

1101 Arch St.

Burlington,

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won't all stay over there, and it
won't be long before we can come
to gether and tell what we have
all seen here and there. Tell your
mother and brother hello for me
and I send my best regards to
you and them

Your friend

Albin

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