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8-25-1918

### 1918-08-25, Robert to Mother

Robert Lindstadt

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## 1918-08-25, Robert to Mother

### Keywords

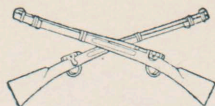
correspondence, postal service, August 1918, 1918, brother, sister, family, United States, United States Army, army, infantry, Camp Merritt, N.J., mother, son, letterhead, weapon, travel, health and sickness, mobilization, ocean travel, weather, personal stories, France, landscapes, parade, patriotism, civilians, soldiers, hot weather, money, expenses, budget, food, England, uniform, morale, tobacco, agriculture, supplies, photography, pictures, wages, pay, allowance, draft, superstition, training, assignment, job, barracks, promotion, rank, front line, trenches, soldiers' slang, Germans, thoughts on the enemy, nationalism

### Identifier

2014.160.w.r\_Lindstadt\_Brothers\_ worldwarone\_1918-08-25\_054



Mrs. J. P. Lindstadt  
1101 Arch St.  
Burlington  
Iowa.



Camp Pike,  
Little Rock, Arkansas.

Camp Merritt N. J.  
August - 25 - 1918.

Dear Mother.

Just a few lines to tell you that I arrived in this camp safely after a ride of three days and three nights. I'm still in perfect condition and health and am ready to take the next great trip across the pond.

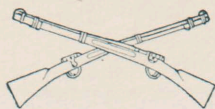
We are only eight miles from the ocean and the sea-breeze that blows over this camp sure is refreshing. I'm willing to



go the rest of the way  
("that is" to France) now  
that I am this far.

I certainly saw  
some pretty places <sup>on</sup> ~~along~~  
the way to this camp.  
I saw Lake Erie the  
Erie canal, the Hudson  
river and also the  
palisades of the Hudson  
and many other places.  
We paraded through the  
streets of Rochester N. Y.  
and we sure did get  
some applause. The  
people over here are  
certainly for the soldiers.  
We stopped at all the  
large cities along the  
route and we were always  
sure of a rousing send-off.

(2.)



Camp Pike,  
Little Rock, Arkansas.

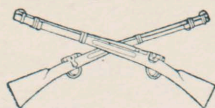
I certainly am glad that I am out of Camp Pike and I never want to go back to that hot place <sup>again.</sup> I wonder if you could spare <sup>me</sup> about 50¢ or \$1.00 I'm just about broke. I spent nearly all my money down at Camp Pike, for food and soft drinks. It was so hot and we never got hardly any water to drink down there and we had to get something to drink.

We only expect to stay here about a week and then we will be on our way again.



We are going to England first and then to France. We received our identification tags and we have to wear them around <sup>our</sup> necks, that shows that there are some stirring times before us. Don't worry about me because I'm willing to go any place they send me. I'm looking for all the experience and adventure that I can possibly get.

I was fortunate enough to travel this route in summer time and not in the winter as Galt and Hally did and so I had a chance to see how tobacco, rice and cotton-blossoms look.



Camp Pike,  
Little Rock, Arkansas.

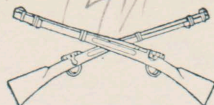
Ask Clara if she  
can spare another jar of  
vanishing cream. That  
certainly is fine stuff  
especially when a person  
has to shave every day.  
I will pay her back  
when I get paid. If  
you send the cream put  
it in a separate package  
and put your return  
address on it, and if you  
can spare the money send  
it in a separate envelope  
it will follow me. Don't  
send any money order or  
~~check~~ anything like that  
because I don't be able  
to cash it.



Tell Clara to send  
my photograph too but  
send it separate so it will  
follow me in case I  
move.

I expect to get  
paid any time now  
and then I will  
return the money.  
If you get the al-  
lotment book for  
this number or it-  
3801967 I think that  
that number will be  
on the check you get  
from me.

Well I hope  
everything is alright at  
home and <sup>hope</sup> every body <sup>is</sup> well.  
I will drop you a card, if I  
can, when we move again.  
Your son  
Robert.



Camp Pike,  
Little Rock, Arkansas.

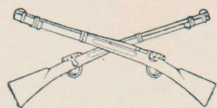
My new address is:  
Camp Pike, August Automatic  
Replacement Draft.  
4th Company  
Camp Merritt  
New Jersey

Be sure you write it  
as I have ~~got it~~. This  
address don't seem sensible  
but it is the one they  
gave us.

P.S. The astronomer cer-  
tainly told the truth  
when she said that  
I will travel through  
many places.



(5)



Camp Pike,  
Little Rock, Arkansas.

going to train the  
next bunch of boys  
that occupy this  
barracks. He's sergeant  
now. He climbed up  
faster than his brother  
did. I like to see  
a man make good  
and I wish him the  
best of luck.

I don't care  
what they do with me.  
They can take me <sup>right</sup>  
from here and put  
me in the front line  
trench if they want to.  
You know how much  
use I got for a German  
and <sup>that's why</sup> I'm anxious to  
get at 'em.



Well I guess I  
~~When~~ did enough scribbling  
for this time. I will  
write again the  
first opportunity I  
get. I will drop you  
a card when I am  
in my room.

Yours Brother  
Robert.

[LINDSTADT BROTHERS COLLECTION #52]

[Page 1 – Envelope]

[[Image: Original military postmark stamp. Print text: “JERSEY CITY, NJ / MERRITT BRANCH” encircling date: “AUG 26 / 2 PM / 1918”]]

[[Image: 3 original green 1-cent postage stamps in a row, each with a left-facing profile of George Washington.]]

Mrs. J. P. Lindstadt  
1101 Arch St.  
Burlington  
Iowa.

[Page 2 – Letter]

(1)

[[Image: Two crossed rifles, with printed text beneath them:

“CAMP PIKE  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS” ]]

Camp Merritt N.J.

August – 21 – 1918

Dear Mother.

Just a few  
lines to tell you  
that I arrived in  
this camp safely after  
a ride of three days  
and three nights. I’m  
still in perfect con –  
dition and health and  
am ready to take the  
next great trip across  
the pond.

We are only  
eight miles from the  
ocean and the sea –  
breeze that blows over  
this camp sure is  
refreshing. I’m willing to



[Page 3 – Letter continued]

go the rest of the way  
("that is" to France) now  
that I am this far.

I certainly saw  
some pretty places <sup>on</sup> ~~along~~  
the way to this camp.

I saw Lake Erie the  
Erie canal, the Hudson  
river and also the  
palisades of the Hudson  
and many other places.

We paraded through the  
streets of Rochester N.Y.

and we sure did get  
some applause. The  
people over here are  
certainly for the soldiers.

We stopped at all the  
large cities along the  
route and we were always  
sure of a rousing send – off.

[Page 4 – Letter continued]

(2)

[[Image: Two crossed rifles, with printed text beneath them:

“CAMP PIKE

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS,” but the text is crossed out]]

I certainly am  
glad that I am out  
of Camp Pike and  
I never want to go  
back to that hot place <sup>again</sup> again <sup>again</sup>.  
I wonder if you could  
spare <sup>me</sup> me <sup>about 50 [c] or \$1.00</sup> about 50 [c] or \$1.00  
I’m just about broke. I  
spent nearly all my  
money down at Camp  
Pike for food and soft  
drinks. It was so hot  
and we never got hardly  
any water to drink down  
there and we had to get  
something to drink.

We only expect to  
stay here about a week  
and then we will be  
on our way again.

[Page 5 – Letter continued]

We are going to  
England first and then  
to France. We received  
our ~~i~~~~n~~dentification tags  
and we have to wear  
them around ~~of~~ <sup>our</sup> necks,  
that shows that there  
are some stirring times  
before us. Don't worry  
about me because I'm  
willing to go any place  
they send me. I'm  
looking for all the  
experience and adven –  
ture that I can  
possibly get.

I was fortunate  
enough to travel this  
route in summer time  
and not in the Winter as  
Gult and Wally did and so  
I had a chance to see how  
tobacco, rice and cotton – blossom  
looks!



[Page 6 – Letter continued]

(3)

[[Image: Two crossed rifles, with printed text beneath them:

“CAMP PIKE  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS” ]]

Ask Clara if she  
can spare another jar of  
vanishing cream. That  
certainly is fine stuff  
especially when a person  
has to chavé [sic] every day.  
I will pay her back  
when I get paid. If  
you send the cream put  
it in a separate package  
and put your return  
address on it and if you  
can spare the money send  
it in a separate envelope  
it will follow me. Don't  
send any money order or  
[[strikethrough]] check [[/strikethrough]] anything like that  
because I [[strikethrough]] t [[/strikethrough]] wont [sic] be able  
to cash it.

[Page 7 – Letter continued]

Tell Clara to send  
my photograph too but  
send it separate so it will  
follow me in case I  
move.

I expect to get  
paid any time now  
and then I will  
return the money.  
If you get the al –  
lottement [sic] look for  
this number on it –  
3801967 I think that  
that number will be  
on the check you get  
from me.

Well I hope  
everything is alright at  
home and <sup>hope</sup> every body <sup>is</sup>  
well too  
I will drop you a card, if I  
can, when we move again.

Your son.

Robert.

[Page 8 – Letter continued]

(4)

[[Image: Two crossed rifles, with printed text beneath them:

“CAMP PIKE

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS,” but text is crossed out]]

My new address is :–

Camp Pike, August Automatic

Replacement Draft.

4<sup>th</sup> Company

Camp Merritt

New Jersey

Be sure you write it

as I have ~~done~~ <sup>got it</sup>. This address don't seem sensible [sic]

but it is the one they

gave us.

P.S. The astronomer cer –

tainly told the truth

when she said that

I will travel through

many places.



[Page 9 – Excerpt from ANOTHER LETTER, as yet unidentified]

(5)

[[Image: Two crossed rifles, with printed text beneath them:

“CAMP PIKE  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS” ]]

going to train the  
next bunch of boys  
that occupy this  
barracks. He’s sargeant [*sic*]  
now. He climbed up  
faster than his brothers  
did. I like to see  
a man make good  
and I wish him the  
best of luck.

I don’t care  
what they do with me.  
They can take me <sup>right</sup> from here and put  
me in the front line  
trench if they want to.  
You know how much  
use I got for a German  
and <sup>thats</sup> [*sic*] why <sup>I’m</sup> anxious to  
get at ’em.

[Page 10 – Excerpt from another letter continued]

~~When~~ <sup>Well</sup> I guess I  
did enough scribbling  
for this time. I will  
write again the  
first opportunity I  
get. I will drop you  
a card when I am  
on [my way].

Your brother.

Robert.