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Lindstadt Brothers First World War Correspondence Collection #72

Robert Lindstadt Lindstadt

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Miss Clara Lindstadt
1101 Arch St.,
Burlington,
Iowa
Dear Sir:

I suppose you will be surprised to hear that I am back in the U.S.A. again. I expected to stay in France at least six months, but I was there. They wanted to send me there a couple of times, but they talked to the army, and I was there. They wanted to keep me there for a couple of months, but I told them I was too busy to stay so they put me in a hospital and shipped me back. I came back as part of the U.S. fleet on the S.S. battleship "Nestor." Uncle Sam has got a fleet of battleships at

Best to hear the American
soldiers back home. The conditions in the embarkation camps especially Brest and St. Nazaire are terrible. I've been at both places. I've worked from 6 o'clock in the morning till 12 o'clock in the nights (on Sundays too) in the blazing rain or sleet and mud a foot deep. I had not felt every day for nearly a month and never knew what it felt like. It certainly was a fight. The infantry of the fighting branch of the service and the dogs of the army. I hope you'll find a way to bring me a package of tobacco that I want very much and that I found in my pocket. Some of it is from England and France and also jewellery and money from both places too. I'll make you a present of the watch.
is yours big if you want and
the grock is a mag. I got the
droch at Christchurch, England.
The city is named Christ-
church, because the Lord helped
the carpenters out in building
the archurch there. I'll talk
you the story when I get back.

I was sick. The made it possible
for me to return home again.

I may be on my
way to Camp Rudge in a few
days and from here I go
home. I think you could have
seen the reception got in New
York. I'll never forget it. I hope
that Billy and Walt will
make it to New York. I think
they'll be home soon because
they are sending the engineer home.
and besides the Mayflower
division is at its day home
and that of the division hall
is attached to it. I was feeling
best I saw when the 9th engineers were billed. I
it was Stagg's company he
will now be home.
I was fourteen days
on the way over but enjoyed the
trip. I will see how you spent
our time. If the photos I have
sent you don't forget to save
the paper and frame for me.
I placed them both. Did you
get the other one from
England? I left there before
they were developed so I could hit
take them all with one. Will
saw I guess I said enough with
for thirty two but will again
soon.

Love brother.
Robert.

My address: Co. D, 116th Ammunition Train,
Camp Pike.
New Jersey.
Miss Clara Linstadt
1101 Arch St.
Burlington
Iowa
[written along right short edge:]

Prv’t. R. G. Lindstadt

Co D, 116 [[underscore]] th [[/underscore]] Amunition [sic] train

Camp Dix

N.J.
Dear Sis:

I suppose you will be surprised to hear that I am back in the U.S.A. again. I expected to stay in France at least six months because I was in a labor battalion the last three weeks I was there. They wanted to hold me there a couple of years the way they talked to build up the country but I told them I wasn’t well enough to stay so they put me in a company and shipped me over. I came over as a part of the Sunset division on the U.S. battleship Kansas. Uncle Sam has got a fleet of battleships at Brest to carry the American
soldiers back home. The conditions in the embarkation camps especially Brest and St. Aignan are terrible. I’ve been at both places. I’ve worked from 8 o’clock [sic] in the morning till 12 o’clock in the nights (on Sundays too) in a blinding rain and sleet and mud a foot deep. I had wet feet every day for nearly a month and never knew what a fire felt like. It certainly was a fright. The infantry [superscript] are [strike-through] the fighting branch of the service and the dogs of the army. I hope Gult and Wally embark from a better camp that what I did.

Well Sis I am sending [superscript] home a package of souvenirs that I want you to lock up in my desk. Some of it are photos from England and France and also jeweller [sic] and rings [strike-through] money [superscript] from both places too. I’ll make you a ring out of a piece of coin that I got in France. The wri[st] watch
is yours Sis if you want [superscript] it [[/superscript]] and
the brooch is Ma’s. I got the
brooch at Christchurch, England
The city is named Christ –
church, because the Lord helped
the carpenters out in building
[[strikethrough]] the [[/strikethrough]] a church there. I’ll tell
you the story when I get back [[superscript]] home.
Some of the [[strikethrough]] jewe [[/strikethrough]] stuff I sent i[s] a
keepsake from the pretty nurse
that did so much for me when
I was sick. She made it possible
for me to return home again.

I may be on my
way to Camp Dodge [[superscript]] in [[/superscript]] a few
days and from there I[[superscript]]’ll [[/superscript]] go
home. I wished you could have
seen the reception [[superscript]] we [[/superscript]] got in New
York. I’ll never forget it. I hope
that Wally and Gult will
arrive at New York. I think
they’ll be home soon because
they are sending the engineers home
and besides the Mayflower division is on its way home and that is the division Wally is attached [[superscript]] to. [[/superscript]]. When I was leaving Brest I saw where the 33rd engineers was billeted. If it was Wally’s company he will soon be home.

I was nineteen days on the way over but enjoyed the trip. You will see how we spent our time by the photos I have sent. Sis don’t forget to save the papers and souvenirs for me I prize them highly. Did you ever get those photos from England? I left there before they were developed so I could’nt [sic] take them with me. Well sis I guess I said enough for this time but will [[superscript]] write [[/superscript]] again soon.

Your brother,

Robert.

My address} Co. D, 116 [[underscore]] Amunition [sic] Train Camp Dix New Jersey.