

ARMY AND NAVY
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

"WITH THE COLORS"

Thurs. Dec 6, 1917

Dear Marie,

Your letters and the typed letters all came O.K. The latter will be read by every man in the Company. Last night I typed an extra copy for Sgt. Baber. This afternoon Sgt. Brown said that he read that in a recent raid on German trenches the American forces found the heads of the thirteen U.S. captives stuck up on bayonets in the trench. I don't believe it but I'll bet there are more barbarous things of this sort done than we ever hear or think about. Believe me I know one American they won't get alive.


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I was awfully sorry to hear about the bad cold and sure do hope you are feeling good now.

Some time I hope you will be sufficiently considerate of my feelings to tell me when you are getting cold the way you did Saturday. We have our troubles with the cold weather, too. Here's the day's program.

Rise at 5:45. Assemble in ranks in front of barracks at 5:55. Reveille at 6:00.

Calisthenics 6:00 - 6:15.

The stars are still out and it's so dark that one can hardly see what way the drill master is doing each exercise. Make up beds



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and clean up, 6:15 — 6:30.

Mess call at 6:30.

Breakfast of pancakes, butterine, syrup, grape-nuts, canned milk, sugar, coffee, stewed figs.

After mess we sweep out and fuss up the barracks. Assemble for drill at ~~7:25~~ 7:25. March up to stables, (a little over a mile and a half), get there at 8:00 and groom our horses until 9:00, then saddle up for mounted drill out in the field. We assemble in regular section formation and ride to the drill grounds in a column of twos.

This morning it was so cold that when I walked


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from the toilet "shack"
 to the barracks, about
 200 feet, my wet hair
 was frozen into big
 curls. If my hair
 was only longer, I could
 have cut one off and
 sent it to you, aint it so?
 When we watered the
 horses, the ice was frozen
 an inch and a half thick
 in the tank. Big drops
 froze on Ten's head just
 while going to the picket
 line. Gee, but it sure was
 cold. We ride without
 overcoats or so I kept one
 hand in my pocket most
 of the time. Some of the
 fellows in the other sections
 had to lead mules and



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I'll bet they pretty near froze their fingers.

We dismounted once to adjust our saddles, and warm our feet by running around in circles. When I first got on my feet they were sore and stiff from the cold. At 11:05, we headed for the stables at a good fast trot and at 11:15 we had our saddles hung up, and worked until 11:30 rubbing our horses dry. We got home at noon and ate dinner at 12:15. From 1:00 - 2:00 P.M. we had some snappy infantry foot drill. The hour, 2:00 - 3:00 was spent practising



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with wigwag and semaphore.
We had buzzer telegraph
practise from 3:00 till 4:00
The rest of the afternoon
was spent memorizing
guard orders.

Hash was dished out
at 5:15. Retreat roll call
at 6:00. Then walk to the

City to write to the
sweetest little girl.

I wonder if she can read
this awful writing —
and does the story of our
day's work really interest
her? Will you tell me?

Last Tuesday was a
pretty busy day. Walked
to Stables and back twice
which amounts to about
7 miles. Groom horses



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(7.)

an hour in the morning and
ride all the rest of the
morning and nearly all
of the afternoon.

I then walked to
town and started a letter
to you but gave it up after
writing nearly a page.

I wish I could think
of something to write
every day if you like
my letters nearly as
well as I do yours.

Well I guess I will
quit. Stock says he is
"all in" and wants to
go home.

With love,
Forrest.



LEAVENWORTH,

DEC 6 -17

9-30 PM

KANS.



Miss Ava Marie Shaw

389 Highland Ave.

Beloit, Wis.

If not delivered in Ten days return to

Co. A-6th F. Bn. V.C.
Ft. Leavenworth, Kans.
F. W. Bassett.

ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
(IN THE FIELD)

GENERAL OFFICE

124 EAST 28TH STREET,

NEW YORK, U. S. A.