

John Frank Stiehm
World War I Diary – Part 1
Updated July 29, 2022



Figure 1.--John Frank Stiehm. Source: Shawn Bleiler personal collection.

John Frank Stiehm
13 February 1896 – 22 November 1968

Background

John Frank Stiehm was the son of John Jacob and Mary Barbara Finsinger Stiehm. He was born in Braddock, PA., and was raised in Wheeling, WV. John Frank married Irene Schaub (referred to as Irene throughout the diary) after WWI and moved to Donora, PA. They had 2 children, Louis Stiehm and Leona Stiehm Butalla. John also had one sister, Pauline Frances Stiehm Volker, who he mentions in the diary many times.

He served in the U.S. Army from October 2, 1917 to June 6, 1919. He began his Army basic training at Camp Lee, VA, in October 1917 (also see diary entry dated Oct. 4).

The diary covers John Frank's time in the Army when he left Camp Shelby, MS, for France and returned to the U.S. upon his discharge on June 6, 1919. For clarification, WWI was fought from July 28, 1914 to November 11, 1918; therefore, John Frank only served 2 months in France and then the war ended. He did, however, stay in France until May 1919. This diary is more about one man's day-to-day journey during his deployment to France near the end of WWI and not at all about any type of warfare. (See Appendix A and Appendix B for maps of most of the places John Frank mentions in his diary.)

The most interesting part of the diary is how it resurfaced. The diary had been in the possession of Robert Bleiler who passed it down to his nephew, Shawn Bleiler. Shawn is the great-grandson of John Frank's sister, Pauline. Shawn diligently scanned the diary and posted it on FamilySearch.org. Shawn also contacted Helen Butalla, the wife of John Frank's grandson, Franz J. Butalla, through her work with the Stiehm family on FindAGrave. Shawn and Helen communicated via phone, emails, Facebook, and texts. Between the two of them, they shared photos each had of the Stiehm family and they were able to fill in the gaps each had of identifying people in some of their photos. They both had some of the same photos in their family albums.

Helen transcribed the original handwritten document into this document. Sometimes words in the handwritten document were hard to decipher and the names of French towns were not found on a map, perhaps because they were misspelled, but the gist of the diary was transcribed verbatim. Some misspelled words were corrected and, in some cases, clarifications were added in parenthesis or a Note from the transcriber. Personal photos were also added into the diary by Shawn and Helen. There are a few instances where sentences were incomplete and those were not corrected. Punctuation has been added in some places to make the sentence more readable.

The original handwritten diary can be found as a separate pdf document labeled jfs wwi diary part 2.pdf.

Note to readers: Please do not duplicate this document unless you have gained permission via email from [Shawn Bleiler](#) or [Helen Butalla](#), especially the photos owned by Shawn Bleiler or Franz J. Butalla.



Supply Co. 150th Inf. Camp Shelby, Miss.

Figure 2.--Supply Company 150 at Mess Time, Camp Shelby, Miss. Source: Franz J. Butalla personal collection.

Sept. 11 – Wednesday - 1918.

Preparing to leave for oversea. We all had packs rolled and our cots turned in our warehouse. I went to the warehouse to get a cot and blankets and set my bed up in the office and slept pretty good.

Sept. 12 - Thursday

Stripped the office of everything, and packed all our records for shipment. I packed an adding machine and two typewriters. Weiss, Shanley, McKee, McReynolds and myself cleaned our tent. We tore all our personal shelves, stands and everything out, gee I did hate to do it after having everything all fixed up to snuff. At 11:30 I went to the Post Office and missed my dinner, got a lunch at Hq. Co. At 1 p.m. we fell in formation with heavy packs and rifles on our back (contents of pack, 3 blankets, 1 shirt, 5 pair heavy socks, 2 towels, 1 razor, shaving soap, brush, tooth paste, brush, 3 bars tablet soap, 2 pair shoe strings, overcoat, raincoat, shelter half, 4 boxes hard tack, 1 ½ lb. can corn beef hash, condiment can, with sugar, salt, pepper and coffee in it, extra pair of shoes and all our personal property we wanted to carry). Believe me it was a load on my back. To make it all the worse we stood around in the hot sun, until 3 p.m. and then marched to the railroad. We rode in Pullman cars. We were not permitted to leave our car. Of course, I was working on service records and posted invoices in the baggage car and had a pass to go all over the train. We pulled out of Shelby at 3:45 p.m. They switched us on the North track and we arrived at Meridan, Miss.^[k1] At 8.15 p.m. the Red Cross treated us to coffee and sandwiches, also candy. I mailed a few cards. Near midnight we arrived at Jackson, Tenn. After that Weiss and I made our bed and retired.

Note from Transcriber: Weiss' full name is Charles Herman Weiss – 1892-1967. See his Find A Grave Memorial at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/116855263/charles-herman-weiss>

World War I Diary – John Frank Stiehm. Owners: Shawn Bleiler and Helen Butalla. Do not duplicate.

Sept. 13 – Friday.

We arrived in Birmingham, Ala. early in the morning, laid over awhile, the rest of the day I worked and wrote two letters.

Sept. 14 – Saturday.

We arrived at Raleigh, N.C. at 10 a.m. We got off train here and marched to Red Cross Headquarters. While one half of train took a bath the other half had a light lunch and some singing. We pulled out at 2.30 p.m. Went thru Petersburg, VA at 7:45 p.m. It is almost a year since I pulled in here for Camp Lee. We than arrived at Richmond, Va., at 10 p.m.

We laid over here until after midnight. Some boys were out selling chocolate and candy, I bought some. Then Weiss and I went to bed.

Sept. 15 – Sunday.

At 5 a.m. we awoke and found out we were in Washington, D.C. Did not stop long and could only see the White House lit up as we went thru. We stopped at Philadelphia, Pa., at 10 a.m. The Red Cross treated us to ice cream, cake and candy. I also mailed cards here. At 3 p.m. we arrived in Penn Station, got off train and loaded into a ferry and landed at Long Island, N.Y., at 3:45 p.m. We loaded on another train and, while we waited, we received coffee and sandwiches. We went thru Garden City and Hampstead about a 15-mile ride. We unloaded and hiked about 10 blocks to Camp Mills. We stood around over half an hour and at last moved into tents at 6 o'clock. Believe me I was tired and I had to get busy and go to each company and get orders for supper and breakfast then I went to the Commissary and drew the rations. I went to bed at 10 p.m. About 1 a.m. another section came in of our Regiment so I had to get up and draw more rations. Got back to bed at 3 a.m. and I certainly was sore and cussed the Army.

Sept. 16th - Monday.

Arose again at 5:30. Had breakfast. We also had to move our quarters. I got a better tent, an end tent, which I used for my office. I was lonesome so I got Weiss to move in with me. I took a two-day order for the 8 companies that were in the camp then. I drew the rations and delivered them by 3:30 p.m. At 7 p.m. the balance of the Regiment arrived, so I had to draw rations again. The bakery is at one end of the camp, the meat house at the other end and the Commissary between the two. My tent is across from the commissary. Retired at 10:30 all in.

Sept. 17th - Tuesday.

This morning I opened a set of books to keep an account of my purchases and sales. Shanley was supposed to do this but as usual he is on a drunk so it is up to me. Drew rations as usual. Had trouble with mess Sgts. in getting orders in on time for next day. So, I sent out an order to have all grocery orders in my office not later than 2 p.m. the day before issue.

Sept. 18 - Wednesday.

Drew rations again. Started to receive our oversea equipment, had inspection. Some outfit left for France. Retired at 9:30 p.m.

Sept 19 - Thursday.

Drew rations in the morning. Drew straw this afternoon, it rained like hell and the straw got wet, so the boys had to dry it the best they could, before using it for beds.

Sept. 20 - Friday.

I drew double rations today so I could go to N.Y. Saturday. I balanced my accounts and was \$20 out. Shanley balled things up, trying to do things when drunk. I am getting sore and disgusted so I told him if he was going to put entries in the books, I would quit. So, he decided to leave it to me. I worked until 11 a.m. for a balance but could not find the mistake.

Sept. 21 – Sunday.

Shanley, McKee and I went to New York, it surely is some city. We put up at a hotel. Shanley had a room and a partner. Drank plenty beer. Went to show at Hippodrome, it certainly was some show. Retired at 12:30 a.m.

Sept. 22 – Sunday.

I intended to go to church but overslept and had breakfast at 11:30. Returned to Camp Mills at 3:30 p.m. Wrote letters home and to Irene (John Frank's future wife, Irene Schaub). Weiss' girl is coming to see him.

Sept. 23 - Monday.

Same old story drew rations again. In the evening Weiss and I went to Hampstead and had our pictures taken at the Bell Studio.

Sept. 24 – Tuesday.

Drew rations again. Had stoves issued to us and they certainly came in handy. The ground is very damp and a little fire goes good. Hard job getting wood.

Sept. 25 - Wednesday.

We received oversea caps and helmets. I drew rations again. I started to find that \$20 mistake and found it after midnight. Worked all afternoon and evening.

Sept. 26 - Thursday.

Rations again. Had a run in with mess Sgt. Bishop of Co. H. I got tired of his Southern B.S. so I went to Capt. Cornwell and had him tell Bishop who was running rations. He cooled down then.



Figure 3.--John Frank Stiehm's WWI helmet. Source: Franz J. Butalla private collection.

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Sept. 27 – Friday.

Set all my equipment out for inspection and then drew rations. I put a leather folder containing all my pictures and about \$2 worth of stamps and some thief had the nerve to steal the whole thing. I went to see Montiegel sister at the Hostess House at 7.30 p.m. I went to Hampstead to see Weiss' girl, Mercedes Glitsch, and her mother. Returned to camp at 9.30 p.m.

Note from Transcriber: Seems Weiss married Mercedes after the war in 1920 and lived in Wheeling, WV. See her Find A Grave Memorial at:

https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/116485230/mercedes-a_-weiss

Sept. 28 – Saturday.

I drew rations for two days, so I would have Sunday off. Tried to go to confession but K of C was closed up on account of flu.

Sept. 29 - Sunday.

Went to Hostess House and met a catholic girl working there. I asked her where the church was. She told me. She also introduced me to a Chaplain, I finally went to confession and then to Holy Communion. I was kept busy all afternoon doing typewriting. In the evening Montiegel and I went to see a friend of his father in Brooklyn. They ran a saloon. We sat up in the kitchen and talked and drank all the beer we wanted. We missed our last train to camp so we had to take a different train and had to transfer 3 times and I finished in a taxi and arrived in camp at 3 a.m.

Sept. 30 – Monday.

Drew rations and balanced books again all o.k. received orders to close books tomorrow.

Oct. 1 – Tuesday

Drew rations and kind. Closed the books and made out ration savings checks to all companies. At 10 p.m. I drew travel and reserve rations. I figured one day travel and 3 day reserved rations.

Oct. 2 – Wednesday.

Issued the travel rations to the companies and loaded the reserve on train to be put in hold of boat. Then I rolled my pack, about 100-pound load. Helped close the T.M. accounts and at 4 p.m. loaded on day coaches. Went thru N.Y., Mass., Conn., Vermont. Rode all night.

Oct. 3 – Thursday.

Covered a good bit of ground in cars and arrived at Montreal at 2:30 p.m. We unloaded and stood around until 3 p.m. then marched to the docks, the Y.M.C.A. gave us cards to be mailed when we arrived sane on the other side.

The Red Cross gave us a bun and a cop of hot coffee, then we loaded on the Ship (Deosthenes), an English vessel. I was

quartered on the 3rd deck, section F. Awful stink down here. Had a rotten supper. After supper I went upstairs and met my friends and found a real bed in a State room, with 1st. Sgt Hayes of C. Co. (See Appendix C for Passenger List.)

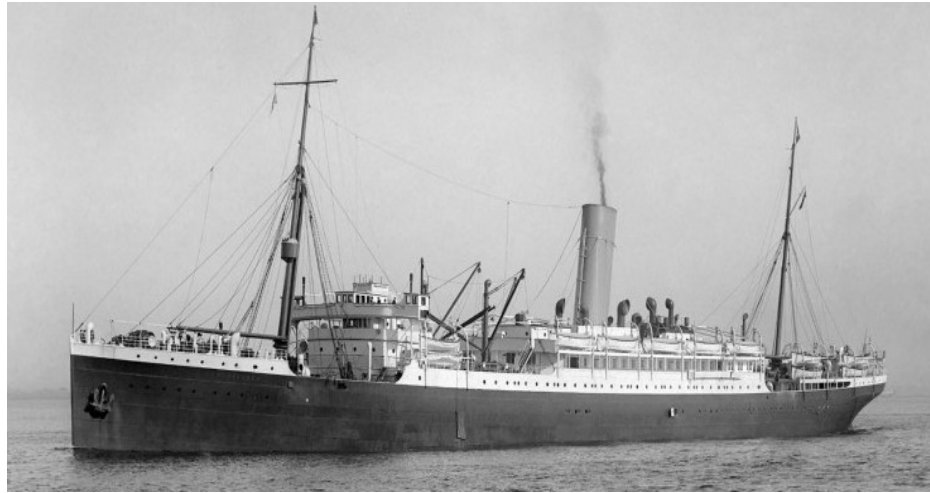


Figure 4.--SS Deosthenes. Source: ShipSpotting.com.

Oct. 4 – Friday.

Just one year since I left home for Camp Lee, Va. We set sail at 5 a.m. down the St. Lawrence River. We had a fine day. I landed a job as assistant steward. I had to take care of all meals in the galley. I also was in charge of knives, forks, spoons, dixies, paper and other things, my store room was in the guard house, it consisted of 3 cells and a passage. I marked my thumb nail, where will I be when it grows out, living or dead.

Oct. 5 – Saturday.

Hell started, they unloaded 10 soldiers sick with the flu. I wrote two letters home and Irene, they were mailed at Quebec, Canada. I ate my meals in the galley tho (though) same eats as the officers. This evening they unloaded a dead soldier.

Oct. 6 – Sunday.

We left Quebec, this morning with some other ships and an American cruiser. From 10 to 11 I issued stuff from the G.H. The rest of the day is mine, only at meal times I have to be in the galley to issue the prepared meals, pretty bum meals too. At 8 a.m. we issue sugar and salt. At 4 p.m. jam, butter and cheese at 4:30 p.m. issue bread. I have Weiss with me so he can get in on the good eats.

Oct. 7 – Monday.

We are in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The ship is sailing very smooth, if it keeps this up, I will not get sea sick.

Oct. 8 – Tuesday.

Fair weather, sailing fine, but the flu is getting worse, 30 cases now. I am taking my share of pills so I don't get it. One died.

Oct. 9 – Wednesday.

The first soldier was buried at sea. They put weights between the legs and sew the body up in canvas. They lay the body on a plank and then the bugler blows taps, then they tip the plank and the body rolls into the water with a thud and some bubbles and then it is all over. They always have the flag at half mask during funeral. It certainly is an awful site.

Oct. 10 – Thursday.

The flu is awful now, hospital is not large enough, and they are preparing to use the staterooms too. Lost my soft bed. I don't intend to sleep in that stinken (stinking) hole and death trap. I intended to sleep in the G. H. Plenty of fresh air and much closer to my life boat. Weiss also lost his good bed, so we got together and found a place in the orderly room. He slept on two boxes and I slept under a desk. I could hear the propeller and engines. The whistle was just above us and when it blew, the sound was awful. It blew about 2 a.m., up we jump into our shoes and life belt and on deck to find it was only signaling. What a relief. A few more soldiers died today.

Oct. 11 – Friday

At 10 a.m. they buried 5 soldiers and 2 of the ship crew. We had a storm this evening and the ship done some tall rocking, a good many of the boys got sea sick, I was in the center of the boat and it did not rock much. I have not been sick yet and don't think I will either. 7 soldiers died and 1 ship crew.

Oct. 12 – Saturday.

I went to the G. H. which was at the entrance rear of the ship, and believe me she was rocking all directions, I could hardly keep on my feet and started to get dizzy, so I went out on deck and got some fresh air and got used to the rocking and felt myself again. Another bad day. 11 soldiers and 2 ship crew died. Gee it is awful to see them carry the dead out and more near death. More pills for me.

Oct. 13 – Sunday.

This morning they buried 18 soldiers and 2 ship crew. I watched for a while again, but don't care to see anymore burials at sea. So, I went to the orderly room and read a book to change my thoughts and pass the weary hours.

Oct. 14 – Monday.

Last night 7 more soldiers died and 1 ship crew were buried at 10 a.m. Only sailing about 12 knots an hour, two more ships joined the convoy.

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Oct. 15 – Tuesday.

We started to make better time and I am longing to see land again. One sailor told me we were nearing the danger zone. 6 more died.

Oct. 16 – Wednesday

We sighted the Welsh Mountains, could only see the tops, but gee it looked good to me. 4 more soldiers and 1 sailor died.

Oct 17 – Thursday.

We received a bunch of sub. chasers, two battle ships, an observation balloon and an aeroplane. We are all on the alert now for fear of a German sub. Gee those chasers certainly can go, they fly like lightning, looks pretty blue. One more soldier and a sailor died. Were not buried at sea.

Oct. 18 – Friday.

We sailed up the English Channel and were escorted to Liverpool by a small pilot boat. We set foot on land at 11 a.m. and gee I felt good. An English band played as we marched down the gang plank. All young musicians. We remained around the dock until 1 p.m. Then we hiked thru the city to the railroad station. We got on small passenger coaches, only room for 4 men and packs, but they put 8 men in a car. I was in charge of 4 cars. At 3 p.m. we pulled out. We went thru some very fine country. We stopped in a small town at 10 p.m. Lined up the men for a bun and coffee. The American Red Cross treated us. We got on the train again at 10.45 and landed at Ramsey, Eng. at 3 a.m.

Oct. 19th – Saturday.

We stood around about an hour with packs and then hiked 2 miles to Camp Woodley, a rest camp. Arrived at 5 a.m. They put us in large tents 28 men to a tent. Made our beds with only 3 blankets and hardwood floor. Weiss and I made our bed together. We lined up for breakfast and went to bed at 6 a.m. Got up at 11 a.m. and had dinner at 12. After dinner we took a bath and cleaned up, the water was ice cold. Went to bed early. (Rest camp, like hell.)

Oct. 20 – Sunday.

Weiss and I went to confession and communion. Early in the afternoon I sent cablegram to Irene and home. Cost me \$6.45. About 4 p.m. a bunch of us Sgts. (John Frank Stiehm was a Seargent at one time) went to Ramsey and tried to drink up the town. Ran out of beer so we drank wine. Returned about 10 p.m.

Oct. 21 – Monday.

We rolled our packs, ready to move. At 9 a.m. we hiked to Ramsey, got on a train and went to South Hampton, arrived there about 11 a.m. in a large freight house and docks, unslung packs and made a rush for canteen got some cake, coffee and candy, also some kind of a pork biscuit. The Steamer Aquitania, was ready to sail to U.S.A. Some of the people threw us souvenirs and the fellows threw them hard tack. I did not get anything. At 5 p.m. we loaded on an American pleasure boat (Hartford) escorted with two sub. chasers, we pulled out.

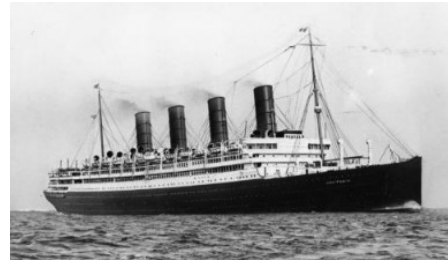


Figure 5.--RMS Aquitania. Source: Nova Scotia Museum.

The ship made 30 knots an hour and we lost a chaser. Arrived at Le Harve, France, midnight.

Oct. 22 – Tuesday.

We unloaded at 7 a.m. and hiked up a mountain 6 miles to an expeditionary camp. I was almost all in when we got there at 11 a.m. Were put in small round tents, 14 men to a tent. At 12:30 we had dinner. Had some beer at the canteen and drew rations. This is an English Camp. Went to bed early.

Oct. 23 – Wednesday.

I drew rations in morning and in the afternoon. No lights after dark so I went to bed early.

Oct. 24 – Thursday.

I drew rations early this morning, had dinner at 11 a.m. After dinner we rolled packs and hiked back to Le Harve. Then hell started again. 30 to 35 men in a small 4 wheeled box car, not half as large as ours. No seats, we sat on our packs. We went thru Chateau-Gontier, Morgan, Chemaze, Ligne, Lemans and slept on our packs.

Oct. 25 – Friday.

We landed at Mantes at 8 p.m. and hiked to Port Rosseau. We were billeted in all kinds of places, barns, hay lofts, I got a hay loft.

Oct. 26 – Saturday.

Our office was in a small room across from a wine shop. I drew rations again and wood. The Regiment was scattered all over the place and it kept me busy until supper to get all the rations delivered.

Oct. 27 – Sunday.

Drew rations, got thru at noon. Ate my dinner at the wine shop. Beer /frame a bottle. Pretty good bar. Spent the evening in the office.

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Oct. 28 – Monday.

Rations again. In the afternoon I had to go to the 3rd Battalion to get field rangers. I went in a truck and did not get back until 6 p.m.

Oct. 29 – Tuesday.

Rations did not come until noon, so I did not get thru until 4:30 p.m. In the evening, Montiegel and I went to a saloon and had some beer. We met an old Frenchman, who could talk German. We spent the rest of the evening with him. He is going to cut my hair tomorrow.

Oct. 30 – Wednesday.

Rations again as usual. At 4 p.m., Bill and I went to the Frenchman's barber shop, I had my hair cut. We left the shop and went to his house about 2 miles further away. He stayed with his sister's mother-in-law and nephew. He was in this war and was discharged on account of age, also being wounded and gassed. They were from Nancy Alsace, Lorraine. They were driven out by the German shell fire, talked very good German. We had a lunch and wine. I promised him some bread and bacon and tobacco. Returned to our billet at 10:30 p.m.

Oct. 31 – Thursday.

Rations again. I saved some bacon and 2 loaves of bread and flour. Bill and I took the eats to his house early in the evening. We had a good super. Pancakes, lettuce, German potato salad, gee it was good. Wine and coffee. We returned at 11 p.m. An M.P. stopped us, I told him we were to the second Battalion to see about tomorrow's rations and he let us go.

Nov. 1 – Friday.

Rations again. My friend came to see Bill and I. So, we went to a wine room and spent the evening. I gave him 10# sugar, because we were leaving the next day. He told us if we got sick or wounded to come to his home after we were able. He would take better care of us and show us a good time.

Nov. 2 – Saturday.

We rolled packs. I got a detail and loaded in trucks at 9 a.m. Drew travel rations for the trip and put enough in each car for the trip. The train pulled out at 1 p.m. Landed at Lemans at 10 p.m. Unloaded here, I got a detail to gather all rations left in box cars. Loaded them in a truck and rode about 4 miles to a forwarding camp. Arrived about 1 a.m. and raining to beat hell. Stood around in the rain until 2:30 a.m. and finally went to an officer's billet and slept until 8 a.m.

Nov. 3 – Sunday. Shanley and I drew rations for three days, I had them all issued to the companies and at 11 a.m. we got orders to roll packs and move at once. So, I had to have companies to return rations to me and I had to get credit for them at the commissary, some job and raining for fair. At 2 p.m. we hiked back to Lemans arrived there at 4 p.m. Had supper at 5 p.m. Stood around in the mud and rain until 6:30 and then we took packs and went thru the mill, were classified and re-equipped. That night most all the boys slept in the mud and rain. Weiss and I went to a billet, used for salvage, and made a bed with old clothes and blankets. Slept fine.

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Nov. 4 – Monday.

Sat around all morning and at 3 p.m. we hiked back to the forwarding camp but took wrong road and did not get there until 10 p.m. Still raining, wet to the skin. We pitched dog tents in the rain and mud. Made our beds in the soft mud, Weiss and I pitched together. At 11 p.m. I had to walk over ½ mile with a detail of 200 men and draw rations for next morning. Went to bed at 2 a.m.

Nov. 5 – Tuesday.

I got up at 7:30 and drew rations again. We received bed sacks and our beds were much drier, but it kept on raining and the tent leaked like hell. In the evening we received some mail.

Nov. 6 – Wednesday

Drew rations again. Hung around kitchen the rest of day to keep clothes dry. Surely is a tough life.

Nov. 7 – Thursday.

Pauline's 21st birthday. Drew travel rations and rolled packs in the rain and just as we started the hike to Lemans it started to pour down, arrived at Lemans about 2 p.m., loaded 40 men in a small box car and pulled out at 4 p.m. Was pretty damn cold so we built a fire on car floor and went to sleep on our packs. Burned a hole through car floor. What the hell do we care.

Nov. 8 & 9 – Friday and Saturday.

We traveled thru Harvey, Lusigny, Vedilcae, Montier, Aney and all the way along the Frenchman motioned us to return, they said Legare finil. We arrived at Les Islettes at noon, Saturday. We hiked to a field and pitched tents in mud again still raining. This was in the Argonne Forest. The Germans had shelled this town some time ago, we found shell holes, trenches, dugouts barbwire entanglements also some French canteens with bullet holes thru them. At 4 p.m. we hiked thru fields and everything for about 2 miles next to some outfit. 6 p.m. our company was busted up and I was transferred to K. Co. 310 Inf. 78th Div. They just came from the front. I could hear the heavy guns and flashes from the distance. Believe me those fellows were a sight.

Nov. 10 – Sunday.

I acted as Sup. Sgt. Drew new clothing and found the band leader, I tried to get in the band, the hell with a line company and drilling.

Nov. 11 – Monday.

Left Les Islettes at 10 a.m. and arrived at St. Minehaw (Sainte-Menehould) at 11:15 a.m. We stopped to rest in front of K of C. building, the KC man told us that the Kaiser had abdicated and that Germany had signed the Armistice (WWI is over). The best news I heard since the war started. We hiked on until 6 p.m. covered 23 kilos. Put up in a barn in a small village. Only had hardtack (biscuit or cracker) and some cheese Weiss and I bought. About 9 o'clock we had a cup of hot coffee. Weiss had blisters on his feet, my feet were sore but no blisters.

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Nov. 12 – Tuesday.

Took a bath and rested up all day. My legs certainly are tired and sore I can hardly walk. I went to bed at 8 p.m. and at 9 the Capt. came in and told the 1st Sgt. that I was to report to the band at 3 p.m. tomorrow. I certainly am tickled to get off of the Line Co.

Nov. 13 – Wednesday

We had inspections and a checkup. I rolled my pack and after dinner I reported to Bat. Hq. They had 40 men in charge of a Sgt. to take to M.G. Co. They saw I was going by there so they put me in charge. We left at 1:15 p.m. We had 8 kilos to go so I took it easy, arrived at Daucourt at 2:45 p.m. turned the men over to a Lt. and I reported to band.

Nov. 14 – Thursday.

I rehearsed in the morning and afternoon. Pretty cool weather, but we were in a French billet with a stove and it was pretty comfortable.

Nov. 15 – Friday.

I had to report back to K. Co. and arrange for my transfer. They could not take me in the band as a Sgt., so I requested to be reduced. I had dinner with Weiss, we both ate from the same mess kit. I started back to Daucourt at 2 p.m. and arrived at 4:30 p.m., had supper and after hiking 18 kilos, I was tired, so I went to bed early.

Nov. 16 – Saturday.

I rolled my pack and prepared to move in the afternoon, but we did not move, so I unrolled my pack and went to bed early.

Nov. 17 – Sunday.

We got up at 4:30 a.m., had early breakfast and rolled packs and hiked 3 kilos to the railroad, loaded in box cars and pulled out at 10:30. Rode 25 hours and only had hardtack and bully beef to eat and damn little of that.

Nov. 18 – Monday.

We got off the train at 1 p.m. and had hot coffee. Started to hike at 4 p.m. and hiked about 7 kilos to Semur, a pretty good-sized town, I thought we would stay here, but we hiked on, the Capt. took the wrong road, we hiked 27 kilos and arrived at Vic-de-Chassenay at 10 p.m. All in down and out, sore feet, sleepy tired and sleepy. We were billeted in a building on stone floor, but I slept fine.

Nov. 19 – Tuesday.

Got up at 9:30 a.m. feeling much better, only had two meals and very scant ones at that without break. We just laid around all day.

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Nov. 20 – Wednesday.

Rehearsed in the morning and played a concert at 3 p.m. and retreat at 4 p.m. Still poor meals, pretty nice weather.

Nov. 21 – Thursday.

Fine day warm and nice, rehearsed played concert and retreat, poor meals yet. Feeling fine again.

Nov. 22 – Friday.

Rehearsed and went to Semur in the afternoon a town 5 kilos from here. Had a pretty good time. Went to a butcher shop, bought some meat, took it to a restaurant and had it fixed with potatoes. Returned about 9 p.m.

Nov. 23 – Saturday.

Had inspection. Laid around billet all day, very cloudy and rained.

Nov. 24 – Sunday.

I went to church the first time in France, the church is over 500 years old. We played concert at Y.M.C.A. and also for the mayor of the town. In the evening we played for a French dance.

Nov. 25 – Monday.

Rained all day and very muddy, but feeling fine, bum meals.

Nov. 26 – Tuesday.

Cloudy day. Went to 3rd Bat. in G.S. Wagons, left at 9 a.m., arrived at Flue at 10:45 a.m. Put up at an old Monastery. Played a concert at 3 p.m. another in the schoolhouse in the evening. Sam Weiss and I had fine eats.

Nov. 27 – Wednesday.

Still cloudy and started to rain, spent the morning with Weiss, played concert and pulled out at 3 p.m. in G. S. Wagons. Arrived at Vic-de-Chassenay at 4:50 p.m. had bum supper.

Nov. 28 – Thursday.

Thanksgiving day. Had turkey dinner at 12:30. Went to Mass. Bum gloomy day.

Nov. 29 – Friday.

Raining again, rehearsed and played concert and retreat.

Nov. 30 – Saturday.

Gloomy day, rehearsed as usual and played concert and retreat.

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Dec. 1 – Sunday.

Left for 2nd Bat. at 9 a.m. in G.S. wagons, arrived at 10:15 a.m. Put up in old building with infirmary, played service at Y.M.C.A. at 11 p.m. Concert at 3 p.m. and another at 7 p.m. at Y. Was talking to Montiegel.

Dec. 2 – Monday.

Went to Semur at 9 a.m., only 3 kilos, had a good time. Came back at 1:30 p.m.

Dec. 3 – Tuesday.

Left 2nd Bat. at 8:45 a.m. in G.S. wagons and arrived at Vic-de-Chassenay at 9:45 p.m. Had concert at 3 p.m. and signed payroll for two months at 6 p.m.

Dec 4 – Wednesday.

Worked in orderly room on paybooks.

Dec. 5 – Thursday.

Worked in orderly room in the morning. Played concert at 3 p.m. Went thru gas house at 4 p.m.

Dec. 6 – Friday.

Windy day. Went to 1st Bat. in G.S. wagons at noon arrived at 2 p.m. Played a Bat. Review and parade, believe me it was muddy to march and play in returned to Vic-de-Chassenay at 8 p.m.

Dec. 7 – Saturday.

Tuned our bunks for weekly inspection. Did not play today.

Dec. 8 – Sunday.

Went to 10:15 mass. At 12:30 we went to 1st Bat. again, arrived at 1:50 p.m. Played concert at 3 p.m. Went to YMCA at (Lorey) about 1 kilo hike and played concert at 7 p.m.

Dec. 9 – Monday.

We went to a near town Epoisses, very small place, looked around and came back for chow. Played concert at review. Left Pouligny at 4:30 p.m. in G.S. wagons, arrived at Vic-de-Chassenay at 6:10 p.m.

Dec. 10 – Tuesday.

We were issued paybooks, the band went to M.G. Co. I stayed back and washed my clothes to get rid of those damn cooties.

Dec. 11 – Wednesday.

Nothing doing all day. Hung around our homemade fire place.

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Dec. 12 – Thursday.

Rained all day, sat around again.

Dec. 13 – Friday.

Old band leader Woodcock came back today. Rehearsed and played a concert at 3 p.m. Retreat at 4 p.m. Woodcock is a Mason, I don't think we will agree.

Dec. 14 – Saturday.

Played a review in a large muddy field. Hard marching, feet wet, 20 lb. mud on shoes and leggings. This is a tough life all right.

Dec. 15 – Sunday.

Went to 10:15 mass. The band went to Semur to play at Div. Hdq. It was raining and I played off sick and did not go.

Dec. 16 – Monday.

Raining yet. Woodcock is only using one drum for rehearsal, so I only play every third day, getting by with murder as we call it.

Dec. 17 – Tuesday.

Rehearsed today, did not play concert, on account of constant rain.

Dec. 18 – Wednesday.

Went to Semur and bought a Rosary for momma and a pin for Irene and Pauline. Looked all over town for something for papa, but it is impossible to get anything for a man. I ate my supper at the casual kitchen and had some beer.

Dec. 19 – Thursday.

Played another review and parade for whole Regiment. Gee it started to rain and the drill field was an awful mess.

Dec. 20 – Friday.

Played review for Regiment again and the General had presentation of Distinguished Service Cross for bravery. The field was worse than yesterday. Had first snow fall at 4 p.m. Not very cold the snow melted again.

Dec. 21 – Saturday.

Prepared for weekly inspection again at 1:30 pm. We played track, met some of the fellows, got a fooling and broke a clarinet, also concert in the evening.

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Dec. 22 – Sunday.

Went to 10:15 mass. Played at Y.M.C.A. services. Wrote letters and cards in the evening.

Dec. 23 – Monday.

Raining again, worked in orderly room on clothing slips.

Dec. 24 – Tuesday.

Played another Regimental service. Went to midnight mass and also Holy Communion.

Dec. 25 – Wednesday.

Xmas day. Went to 10:30 high mass. Played concert at 2:30 p.m. Officers had a Xmas tree for the French children and gave each one a bag of candy and a small toy. The Priest invited us to his house to have some cake and wine. Wrote to home & Irene.

Dec. 26 – Thursday.

Played inspections and retreat. Raining again, turned into snow, had 2 inches in the morning.

Dec. 27 – Friday.

Rehearsed and played concert at 3 p.m. Retreat at 4 p.m. Snow melted. Woodcock went away to school.

Dec. 28 – Saturday.

Left in G.S. wagons at 9 a.m. for 2nd Bat. Played inspection from 10 to 11 p.m. Then one company and the band went to a house and escorted the colors to the drill field and the Bat. passed in review. It rained the whole time and the bass drummer busted a head and I cracked one cymbal. Returned to Vic-de-Chassenay at 1:30 pm. Did not get any dinner and only one slice of bread and a little jam. Feet wet and clothes pretty damp.

Dec. 29 – Sunday.

Went to 10:15 mass. Raining all day, hung around billet.

Dec. 30 – Monday.

Still raining, rehearsed and played inspection and retreat.

Dec. 31- Tuesday.

Rehearsed and played retreat. In the evening I drank wine and some white cognac, or fire water got too much, and got sick.

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New Year – Jan. 1 – 1919 – Wednesday.

Feeling blue and bum. Went to 10:15 mass. Spent the rest of the day around fire. Quit drinking this French wine (roof paint).

Jan. 2 – Thursday.

Started to recopy my diary in small round stone building in a pine grove in back of our billet. Old one pretty well torn.

Jan. 3 – Friday.

Broke pipe. Still copying diary. Wrote to Irene and home. Raining and the wind is blowing for fair.

Jan. 4 – Saturday.

Today is 15 months since I left home for Army and 3 months since I sailed from Montreal, Canada, for this side of the pond. Band went to 1st. Bat. to play review. I did not go because drums are out of commission. Went to Semur to buy pipe stems, could not get one so I bought a cheap pipe. Came back from Semur at 9 p.m. in a steady rain. And to my surprise and delight had three letters from home, Oct. 4, 3, and 17th. Also pictures of mother, father, and sister. Two letters from Oct. 13 and 14th. Stating that Irene received my cablegram, and one letter from K. Poeschl.

Jan. 5 – Sunday.

Went to 10:30 mass, started at 1:30 to copy diary again and finished it at 3 p.m. The wind is howling again. Sat around until supper and in the evening wrote to home and Irene.

Jan. 6 – Monday.

Getting cooler and the wind is still blowing for fair. We must be having our worst winter. Did not rehearse, drums still out of commission. Ate some French chestnuts. Arranged the music and numbered it. The band is playing for a show. Wrote cards to home, Irene, Wessels and K. Poeschl. Sewed buttons on my clothes.

Jan. 7 – Tuesday.

We went to a near field in squad formation and formed two teams and played football, our team won. Then it started to rain and we came back. The band had individual practice. At 3:30 p.m. we played inspection and retreat. Received letter from home. Went to Y. in the evening. Ate some bread and milk tonight and went to bed at 8:45.

Jan. 8 – Wednesday.

Got up at 6:45 had breakfast. Went to the creek and washed as usual. Water pretty cold. The bass drummer went to Semur so I played bass drum. After inspection the Colonel ordered us and company to drill field. We had to play the Star Spangled Banner and the Company fired 21 rounds in honor of ex. Pres. Roosevelt. Coming back, we played and imagine me carrying that

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big drum and beating it. It about broke my back and my legs were ready to double up, and my back was wet with perspiration. After supper I wrote to Irene and home. They put on a few boxing bouts this evening in the Y.

Jan. 9 – Thursday.

Rained today, spent the morning in the Y. reading a book. I was made 3rd cl musician today. Had 8 reel movie tonight. Beautiful evening stars and moon shining brightly.

Jan. 10 - Friday.

Started morning exercise. Had instructions on different parts of our Colt 45. Coakley and I went to Pine Grove and got two benches for our billet. Had a show, two American men and two women, they put on a pretty good show. Wrote cards to Irene and home.



Figure 6.--John Frank Stiehm's grave marker which coincides with his rank of Musician 3rd Class in the 310 Infantry. Source: FindAGrave, photo owned by Helen Butalla.

Jan. 11 – Saturday.

The band went to 3rd Bat. I stayed back and Berry and I put in a new drum head. Fine day.

Jan. 12 – Sunday.

Went to 10:15 mass. I wrote a letter to Irene this afternoon. The band is playing services at the Y. I offered this morning mass in honor of papa's birthday. Gee I wish I was home, getting tired of laying around in an old barn in France. I wrote a letter home. This evening they had a dance at the Y. I played snare drum from 6 to 7 and bass drum and cymbals from 7 to 8.

Jan. 13 – Monday.

Had instructions on handling the Colt 45. Played inspection and retreat. Received Xmas card from Irene. I was disappointed I thought it was a letter. The 312 Inf. put on a minstrel show at the Y. It was pretty good.

Jan. 14 – Tuesday.

We went to target range and shot our colts. Received two new cymbals today. Received two letters from home Nov. 17 and 22nd. Wrote home and to Irene.

Jan. 15 – Wednesday.

Loafed around all morning. Played inspections and retreat this evening. Received first letter from Irene of Dec. 22nd, two from home Dec. 24 & 27th. One from Alma Finsinger.

Jan. 16 – Thursday.

Wrote to home, Irene, Louis Schaub (Irene's brother) and Uncle Frank. Took walk into the woods and shot my colt. Met Shanley. Played inspection and retreat. Three American women sang at Y this evening, but they were rotten.

Jan. 17 – Friday.

Dull day, raining. Sit around fire all morning. Took a nap in afternoon, a pal woke me and I received mail from Montreal, 2 from home, Dec. 2 and 31 and five from Irene, Nov. 7-14-16-29 and Dec. 30th. Wrote to home and Irene. Received pictures from Irene. Snowed this evening.

Jan.18 – Saturday.

Snowed all night, melted during the morning, walking was very mean and sloshy. But we had to go to the 2nd Bat. (Courcelles) to play color escort and review. The ground was very wet and sloppy, tough marching. In the afternoon we were deloused of cooties. Put everything we had in our bed sack and put them in a tank, under heavy steam pressure of 150 pound. Cool day.

Jan. 19 – Sunday.

Went to 10:15 mass. Played in Y. for services at 2 p.m. Reading 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea. K of C has a place in Y. building now. Wrote cards home and to Irene. Two American women and a man put on a show at Y. it was pretty good.

Jan. 20 – Monday.

Took a walk to Chateau de Bourbilly about 3 kilos from here. We went thru a wonderful pine forest, the path had pine trees about 2 ft. in diameter about $\frac{3}{4}$ kilo distance. We came upon an artificial lake, it had a thin layer of ice on it. We went inside the Chateau. The following coat of arms were hanging on the wall. Bourbilly 1200, Haringey 1254, Mello 1284, Fbil 1321, Beazer 1379, Savoie 1390, Fremouille 1403, Haulage 1450, Rabutin 1467, Sevigne 1632, Grigman 1696, Simian 1705, Romme 1795, also

two coats of armor in natural size, some old rare paintings, hand carved wood work, marble floors. Also, a Chapel with arch work painted blue with white stars polished floors upstairs. It certainly was wonderful. Came back and played inspection and retreat. Received letters from home Oct. 30, Nov. 11-25th. Also, one from Irene Dec. 25th. Had a heavy frost last night and it was a pretty cool day.



Figure 7.--Chateau de Bourbilly. Source:
<https://www.ansichtskartenversand.com/>

Jan. 21 – Tuesday.

Sit around all morning. Received a letter from home. Wrote home, Irene and Granmaw. Having lecture at Y tonight, weather still frosty but a little warmer.

Jan. 22 – Wednesday.

Went to Semur this morning bought a guard for my watch. Finished reading 20,000 Leagues under the Sea. Certainly, an interesting story.

Jan. 23 – Thursday.

Sat around all morning reading. Wrote cards to Irene and home, very cool.

Jan. 24 – Friday.

I went to the woods again and shot my gatt. We stood inspection this afternoon and got hell for having dirty guns. In one ear out the other. Weather pretty cool, ground all froze. Wrote home and Irene.

Jan. 25 – Saturday.

Still cooler. We went to 1st. Bat. to play, but it was so cold the valves froze, so we did not play. I about froze riding back on the wagons. We were paid this afternoon. Went to confession.

Jan. 26 – Sunday.

Had an awful headache, did not sleep well. Went to 10:15 mass and Communion. Received letters from home Oct. 27, Irene, Nov. 12, J. Elder, Sept. and Alma. Jan 8, Eleanor Schneider Oct. 16. Answered all of them, pretty cold, started to snow.

Jan. 27 – Monday.

Awoke this morning with 3 inches of snow. The wind blew snow on our beds. The tile shingles are just like a screen. Pretty cool sleeping in the old stone barn. Had a sight inspection of our guns. The fellows that had dirty guns cannot get passes to Semur, lucky mine was clean. Received a letter from home Jan. 5 three from Irene, Jan. 3, 5, 6th. Answered them all. Having a band concert and boring tonight.

Jan. 28 – Tuesday.

About 1 more inch of snow. Weather very mild. Had a minstrel show tonight. Several of the fellows got drunk. Fine evening, but very cool.

Jan. 29 – Wednesday.

Very fine winter weather a little snow in the air. Stood inspections. Received a letter from Paul Stiehm Oct. 2. Answered it and wrote home and Irene.

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Jan. 30 – Thursday.

Getting a little warmer. Stood inspection. Had moving picture at Y this evening.

Jan. 31 – Friday.

Snow starting to melt, fine day preparing to leave for Vals-les Bains for three week duty.

Feb. 1 – Saturday.

Left Vic-de-Chassenay at 7:30 a.m. in trucks. Left Semur on second class coaches. Arrived at Les. Larmes at 10:15 a.m. Laid over here. Had a fine 4 course dinner also good beer. Left at 4:15 p.m., fine scenery, arrived at Dijon at 6:15 p.m. Left at 7 p.m., rode in car with 6 French soldiers, one could talk American, they shared wine with us.

Feb. 2 – Sunday.

Arrived at Lyon at 2 a.m. Changed trains again, got in first class coaches. Left at 4:30 a.m. I think we went thru and over the Alp. Mts. Finest scenery I ever saw over a foot of snow, followed the Rhone River into Le Teil, arrived at 12:15 p.m. Had dinner at another buffet restaurant. All meals served in courses. Went around town, pretty nice place, but the girls are rotten. Left at 6 p.m., arrived at Vogue at 7:30 p.m. Changed trains and pulled out at 8:30 p.m., and at last arrived at Vals-les-Bains at 10 p.m. We put up at Hotel Europe, finest beds I ever slept in.

Feb. 3 – Monday.

Had a fine breakfast. Changed hotels. I am now in Hotel Paris everything is in white, hard floors, French maids to wait on us. Had a fine dinner all meals served in courses. This certainly is a very picturesque town, about 30 hotels here. They say that Paris is the second best. The band most always gets a good place. There is an underground cave here called a grotto. About 15 ft. wide and 200 ft. long in each end a natural mineral water spring. It certainly is a beautiful place. The band is playing here now. We have about 8 Y. girls here and it does a fellow good to talk to them. Had a fine supper. I played a concert this evening. Went to bed at 10:30. The French girls certainly are great.

Feb. 4 – Tuesday.

Slept until 9:30 a.m. had breakfast at Y. Took a walk around town, quite interesting. Wrote home an Irene this afternoon. Had a fine show in the Casino this evening.

Feb. 5 – Wednesday.

Took a walk and saw a wonderful church. Playing in grotto this afternoon. Sent booklets to Irene and home also cards, sent card to Ray Miller. Saw a silk mill and went to show this evening again. They have pretty good shows here.

Feb. 6 – Thursday.

Saw geyser in action. Took a walk up a mt. and saw an old shrine. The Stations of the Cross were built around it in a circle. Took a walk down the river this afternoon, the river bed is all solid rock and very ruff (rough). Went to another show this evening.

Feb. 7 – Friday.

Took a walk up the mt. road and saw an old Carmelite church. After dinner I took a street car and went to Aubenas. A very nice town about 8 kilos from Vals. Crossed a long stone bridge into another village and visited another very old church. Returned to Vals about 5:30 p.m. Just as I was going to the Casino after supper, the geyser went into action again. It lasts about 3 minutes and no one knows when it is due to shoot. Wrote cards to Irene, Louis, Granma, and home.



Figure 8.--Le Geyser de Vals les Bains. Source: Flickr.com.

Feb. 8 – Saturday.

A Y. girl took a bunch of us to see a glass house where they mfg. 25,000 bottles per day, but the manager would not let us go thru on account of a loss to the company. Went to movies this afternoon. Soldiers' amateur show this evening, it was very poor. Wrote cards to Irene and home.

Feb. 9 – Sunday.

Very frosty and cool this morning. The river had a thin layer of ice over it. Went to 10:30 mass. Wrote letters to Irene and home this afternoon.

Feb. 10 – Monday.

A little warmer. Very little rain. Read a book today. Went to a show this evening.

Feb. 11 – Tuesday.

A very fine day, pretty warm again. Read another book. Wrote cards to Irene and home. Went to show, when I returned to the hotel at 10:30, the French and some of our boys were playing some kind of a string and ring game. Saw geyser in full swing again.

Feb. 12 – Wednesday

Fine day again. We played and marched the 80 Div. boys to the station, this afternoon the 20 Div. came in. Took another real tub bath in mineral water. Makes a fellow feel homesick to take a bath in a tub again. Wrote cards to Irene and home.

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Feb. 13 – Thursday.

My 23rd birthday. Feeling fine. Took a short walk this morning. Played a funeral this afternoon, two 80 Div. boys died, it certainly was sad. Went to confession at 5 p.m. Y.M.C.A. closed so they had open air movies. My first experience.

Feb. 14 – Friday.

Went to 7:30 a.m. mass and communion. Took 4 mile walk up one side of river and returned on other side, certainly beautiful scenery. Went to Aubenas again. Wrote letters to Irene and home. Played for dace this evening.

Feb. 15 – Saturday.

Went up the mt. in back of hotel and saw beautiful chateau, and about 15 different buildings on the estate. Saw lemons growing in the nursery. Rained this afternoon and very foggy. Wrote cards to Irene and home.

Feb. 16. Sunday.

Went to 10:30 mass. Played concert at 3 p.m. Still raining and very dull. Wrote cards to Irene and home. Went to movies this evening. They were dancing at the hotel, but not me. I got up at 5:30 a.m. and watched a fellow (Saunders). He hurt his spine and it has affected his mind. Doctor said life was doubtful.

Feb. 17 – Monday.

The 312 Band came in. Sad news we will have to go back to the open-air barn again to live. Wrote cards to Irene and home. Still raining, guarded the sick fellow again. I had some time with him, took me half an hour to quiet him down.

February 18 – Tuesday.

They took Saunders to the hospital this morning. Today is 4 months in France, 3 months in Vic-de-Chassenay and today we leave Vals-les-Bains. Wrote cards to Aunt Pauline, Uncle Frank, Irene and home. Left Hotel Paris at 5 p.m. Went to Y.M.C.A. and then to R. R. station. Left Vals at 6:15 p.m. arrived at Vague at 6:45 p.m. Laid over until 8:45 p.m. Changed trains. These frog trains are a failure. Arrived at Le Teil at 9:50 p.m. Got off train and had to lay over. Guarded the instruments an hour and then sleep in 1st cl. Coaches.

Feb. 19 – Wednesday.

Got up at 8 a.m. had eggs for breakfast. A train load of English soldiers went thru from India on their way to England. A bum looking bunch of soldiers. At 10:30 a.m. I went to see a bunch of Germans, they brought engines from Germany as per Armistice terms. Very nice to talk to. One fellow could also talk American, had been in Canada, and he knew where momma's old home was. I received some Germany money. Returned at 11:30 a.m. and loaded on train, train pulled out at 1:15 p.m. A fellow shoved my hat out of the train window, he gave me his. Arrived at Lyon at 9 p.m. Had to lay over again. We received passes to see the town, second largest city in

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France, 560,000 population. Three of us walked around the town until 2 a.m. Gee the girls are rotten, they would stop us and want to promenade. I put up at Hotel Nice and slept until 5 a.m.

Feb. 20 – Thursday.

About 2/3 of us loaded on a wrong train, special for officers. But it was too late to get off, and believe me we did fly and arrived at Dijon at 10 a.m. We don't know how the rest are getting on. We are waiting on them here. A very nice town 60,000 population. Bought a pipe like Irene gave me. The Red Cross had a wet canteen here and we had all the sandwiches and coffee we wanted, very cheap. The French girls are wild over Americans. Sorry to say the Red Cross girls here are about as bad, it certainly surprised me. Could not get a room so I decided to sleep over French Canteen, but a K of C buddy invited me to share his room with him, we slept in Hotel Continental. Went to bed at 11:30 p.m.

Feb. 21 – Friday.

At 3:55 a.m. my bed partner started to snore, I awoke and saw it was time to get up. The hotel girl who was supposed to wake us, was sitting in a chair asleep and did not hear us get out. We had breakfast at Red Cross Canteen and loaded on train and left Dijon at 5:26 a.m. about 5 kilos out, we side tracked and let about 8 trains thru. This frog system is rotten. Laid over until 7 a.m. pulled out again only to side track at 7:30 a.m. again to let Paris Special pass. Pulled out at 8 a.m. arrived at Les Larmes at 9 a.m. Had to change trains and laid over again. Had dinner at buffet, only 5 Francs. Had an awful time to get served. Left at 3 p.m., half way to Semur they switched box cars for half an hour at 4:30 p.m., we arrived at Semur and loaded into ambulance trucks and arrived at Vic-de-Chassenay just in time for supper. Slept in the same old, cold, airy barn on hard stone floor with only two blankets, slept rotten and awful change from good beds.

Feb. 22 – Saturday.

They held our mail, here I received 5 letters from home, 4 Irene, 4 Louis, 1 Eleanor, 1 Montiegel, 2 Finsingers, 1 Poeschls. Wrote to home, Irene, Wagoners, Alma and Poeschls. Also received letters from home, Irene and Wagoners. Retired in hard bed at 8:30.

Feb. 23 – Sunday.

Wrote to Montiegel and Eleanora. Heard Weiss went to Germany. Went to 10:15 soldiers' mass. Received letters from Irene also two more pictures. G.O. from Gen. Pershing said we would sail in May. Wrote home and to Irene. Have to put shelter halves between our bunks now to prevent flu. Always something new in the Army, I am sick and tired of this life. Played at Y. this evening only piano and snare drum sounded rotten.

Feb. 24 – Monday.

Loafed around most all day, as usual rained again. Received letter from home, getting more lonesome here every day.

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Feb. 25 – Tuesday.

Still raining, rotten nasty weather, wet feet, received new overcoat, 5 tent pins and tent pole. Letter from home, card and letter from Louis, answered them and wrote card to Irene. Sad news Saunders died yesterday. Have to put all property on bunks every day, Army B.S.

Feb. 26 – Wednesday.

We went in quarantine this morning on account of Saunders death, death caused by spine trouble. Received letter from Wessels telling of Fulton Bank robbery. We had to go to choir in formation. Sent to bed at 7 p.m.

Feb. 27 – Thursday.

We turned out this morning at 9 a.m. and marched up and down the road playing and preparing for parade when we arrive in the States I suppose. At 10:30 a divisional doctor took a culture of our throats in order to detect germs. Time certainly passes slow when in this quarantine. We played ball this afternoon to help pass the time, it started to rain and then hail and ended up with snow, this certainly is rotten weather. We are trying to have a show, I am to act as a woman. Wrote cards to Irene and home. This evening we received homemade cots made of wet wood and chicken wire. Better than sleeping on cold damp stones. Retired at 7:45 a.m.

Feb. 28 – Friday.

We took a three mile hike this morning a pretty fair day. Played ball all afternoon. Received letters from home Irene, Poeschls and Louis Schaub, also card from Anna. A very fine evening nice and warm, rehearsed show.

Mar. 1 – Saturday.

Fine day. Received letter from Louis, wrote to Louis, home, Irene, Poeschls, and granma. Took another culture. Sent 4 men to infirmary on account of sore throat. Set our watches ahead an hour.

Mar. 2 – Sunday.

Arose an hour later, but did not mind it. Started out a fine day, but as usual ended with rain. Still in quarantine could not go to church. Wrote letter to Wessels. A bunch of us shipped out and took a walk to M.G. Co. Waded thru mud over shoe tops. Retired at 8:15.

Mar. 3 – Monday.

Dull rainy day, time seems awful long penned up. Wrote card to Anna. Meals are getting very scant again. Gee, the quarantine was lifted at 5 p.m. but 8 fellows have to wear gauze masks (wearing masks in 1919 and wearing masks in 2022). Had show at Y., 1st Sgt. asked me to help Y. men a few days.

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Mar. 4 – Tuesday.

Started at Y. at 8:30 a.m. All kinds of cigarettes, cigars, cakes, tobacco, toilet articles, matches, soup, jam and milk. Received card from Louis, wrote cards to Louis, Irene and home.

Mar. 5 - Wednesday

Opened Y. at 8:30 a.m. time goes very slow on this job. Had steak for dinner first time in six weeks. Received letter from home, answered it. Fine day, nice and warm, had a rotten supper, tomatoes, prunes, bread and black coffee. Had a little thunder and lightning shower.

Mar. 6 – Thursday.

Started at Y. at 8:30, rotten day, raining my shoes leak, and cannot get a new pair, feet wet most of the time. Received letters from Finsingers.

Mar. 7 – Friday.

Started at Y. at 8:30, fine warm day, mud all dried up. Received letters from Louis, home, answered them. The old Y. helper returned and I am done and I am glad to quit the job too.

Mar. 8 – Saturday.

At last received a pair of old shoes repaired ones. Raining again. Helped Y. man, so I could write at ease. Boxing tonight.

Mar. 9 – Sunday.

Went to 10:15 mass, rained most all day, rotten weather. Received Wheeling news of Feb. 14th from Irene. First home paper since I am in France certainly a treat. Had a 6 reel movie, pretty good.

Mar. 10 – Monday.

Pretty fair day again. Found 3 cooties, took a bath and changed clothes to get rid of them. Had an inspection for lice, cooties and everything. We had moldy rice and Bully beef today. Wrote card to Irene and home. Beautiful night, kind of a rainbow ring around the moon.

Mar. 11 – Tuesday.

Most beautiful sun rise I ever saw. Fine hot day. Prepared eating my dinner. Corn willy dinner. Saw John Mucolloch today, first time since we were busted up. Received letters from home and Irene, answered them. Refilled bed sacks, certainly was a hot job. Played bass drum for retreat tonight, band leader had ground on and nothing suited him, rotten concert. Had boxing at Y.

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Mar. 12 – Wednesday.

Dull day, cloudy and raining again. Received letters from Louis and Mary. Answered them also wrote to J. Elder Montiegel. Had show from 303 Engrs. They pulled a joke on me helping Y. man.

Mar. 13 – Thursday.

Pretty fair day. Played review at 3rd. Bat. Flee. Pretty muddy field. Had a fine supper. Returned at 6:30 p.m. Received paper from Irene.

Mar. 14 – Friday.

Very fine day. Washed my clothes this afternoon. Practiced marching in band formations this morning. Band went 50 miles in trucks, I was lucky and got to stay back. Only one in billet.

Mar. 15 – Saturday.

Slept until 9:30 a.m. Sit around for most of day. Saw movies at Y. this evening. Band returned at 8:30 p.m. Pretty cool evening.

Mar. 16 – Sunday.

Went to 10:15 mass. Started to work at Y. again. Received letter from Irene. Wrote to Irene and home.

Mar. 17 – Monday.

St. Patrick's Day. Started at Y. at 8:30, dull day and hail this afternoon. The Irish had a show this evening, they served cocoa and layer cake. Started to snow in evening. Received two letters from home and Irene. Answered them and sent Stars & stripes, Flash and Mistletoe to home and Irene.

Mar. 18 – Tuesday.

Started at Y. at 9 a.m. going to sell out by April 1st. Snowed a little this morning, pretty cool. Snowed all afternoon. Received paper from Irene. Had a pretty good show this evening.

Mar. 19 – Wednesday.

Started at Y. at 8:30 a.m. much warmer this morning. Official order came in that we leave here April 16th. Received letters from Louis. Wrote to Louis, Odd, Kate, Steins, Dupes, home and Irene. Thumbnail grew out today. Y. show troop here, but it was rotten.

Mar. 20 – Thursday.

Snowed during night, wind blew the snow thru roof and the head of my bed and blankets and also my hair was wet, I shook water from my shelter half. Tough life and the sun was shining at noon. Started at Y. at 8 a.m. Received ½ pound of chocolate, pretty fair day after the snow.

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Mar. 21 – Friday.

Started to rain and turned into snow. Imagine such weather, they call this sunny France, like hell. Snowed all afternoon very wet and sloppy. Received over 5600 Francs of supplies today. Still snowing tonight.

Mar. 22 – Saturday.

Three inches of snow and starting to melt and believe it is a mess outside. Thank God I am working in the Y. Band went to Semur for several days. I was lucky to get out of it again. Had movies tonight pretty good. Slept alone in billet.

Mar. 23 – Sunday.

Slept until 8:30 a.m. took another look and went to 10:15 a.m. mass. Started at Y. at noon. Had services at Y. this afternoon. Wrote to home and Irene. Started to rain this evening, we certainly are having rotten weather.

Mar. 24 – Monday.

Slept until 8 a.m. started at Y. at 8:30. Not very busy today. Sent S & S and flower with mistletoe to home and Irene. Received letter from Louis and answered it. Pretty fair day. Wrote cards to Irene and home.

Mar. 25 – Tuesday.

Slept until 8:30 a.m. Started at Y. at 9 a.m. Started to rain at noon, but I went to Semur in a truck anyway. Bought this book for my diary. I started to recopy this evening. Old book worn out and torn. Some of the old supply Co. men slept in my billet. They certainly are a bunch of dirty talking fellows; I am glad I am not of that outfit.

Mar. 26 – Wednesday.

All the company are going to the Div. Review so I have nothing to do, I copied my diary most all day. Y. man not here either. Funniest day I ever saw, it was raining one minute and the sun shining the next. It kept this up all day. I pity the boys on the Review. Y. man returned at 9:30 p.m. and said Gen. Pershing was well pleased with the 78th. The company came back at 10:30 p.m. in trucks and I could not sleep until 12:30.

Mar. 27 – Thursday.

Slept until 8:45 and started at Y. at 9:15. The company has a holiday. Band returned at 2 p.m. Bum day raining again. Received two letters from home, 3 from Irene and one from Louis. Wrote to Irene and home also sent map of France home. Had show tonight.

Mar. 28 – Friday.

Started to get up at 5:45 again. Turned in Jerkin. Received an old English gas mask cover to carry my personal belongings. Bully beef for dinner. Today we are having sunshine and snow, off and on. Had a lecture on farming this evening.

Mar. 29 – Saturday.

Had inspection and checkup. Pretty bum day, raining and snowing this evening. Had a fine seven reel movie at Y. Selling fudge today.

Mar. 30- Sunday.

Woke up this morning with five inches of snow, not cold but very sloppy. Went to 10:15 mass. Still snowing. Started at Y. At 11:30 a.m. We also served corn and cakes today. We were issued one half pound of chocolate. Received two letters from home. Wrote cards to Irene and home. Had an awful headache and left Y. at 8 p.m. and went to bed. Wind blowing and it started to snow on my bed again.

Mar. 31 – Monday.

Started at Y. at 7:30 a.m. feeling better again sun out early this morning and snow is melting. They took pictures of the band today. I represented the baritone saxophone. Almost all sold out, today is last day for dry containers. Wrote to Louis, home and Irene. Fine evening, but pretty cool.

April 1 – Tuesday

Helped Y. man close his accounts. 2nd Lt. wants me to take charge of Army Canteen here. Received 3 cards from home (Wheeling). 1 letter and 1 card from Irene, she was hurt with car. 1 letter from Louis and 1 Eleanora Schnider. Wrote to home, Irene this afternoon. Much warmer today and better weather. Had the 36 Div. show this evening, they were fine.

April 2 – Wednesday.

Started at Y. at 8 a.m. Wrote to Louis, Finsingers and Eleanora. Fine day, but very cool. I had to go to Chancellor at 2 p.m. and play for 2nd B. review. Pretty muddy field. Returned at 6:30. Received letter from Louis and answered it. Fine evening.

April 3 – Thursday.

Fine day, but cool. Loafed in Y. all day. Received 20 F. from Y.M.C.A. Played one piece in band. Wrote cards to Irene and home. Turned our gloves in today. Retired at 8 this evening.

April 4 – Friday.

We all had to be deloused again this morning, I did not have any cooties but had to have clothes steamed anyway. Received more cakes to sell this afternoon. 7 reel movie at Y. this evening, they were pretty good. Fine day.

April 6 – Sunday.

Today the 78th Division was released from the A.E.F. and we are now in the S.O.S. Rained last night, nice and warm today, but cloudy. Went to 10:30 mass. Started at Y. at noon. K of C issued gum drops. Y. is giving 3 cookies and cup of cocoa today. No mail again. Wrote letters to home, and Irene.

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April 7 – Monday.

Fine warm morning. Turned in two blankets, 1 pr. Socks, 1 pr. Leggings and 1 pr. Pants. Had cootie inspection this morning. Had a real thunder shower this afternoon, had my hair cut. Fair evening. Put in for pass to Paris. Wrote cards to Irene and home.

April 8 – Tuesday.

Fine day. Nothing doing, read book in Y.

April 9 – Wednesday.

Sold all cakes in Y. At 11 a.m. Lt. Hyland put me and David in charge of Army Canteen. Received supplies. Moved my cot in Y. building. Payed off tonight. Received 332.50 F (\$361.89). Fine day.

April 10 – Thursday.

Rained during night, slept fine, and missed breakfast. Arranged stock and opened canteen at 6 p.m. Certainly, a hell of a job. Worked until 10:30 p.m. Received two letters and card from home, 2 letters and 2 cards from Irene and Louis. Wrote Irene and Louis. 136 sales.

April 11 – Friday.

At 1:30 a.m. 4 or 5 officers came in Y. and woke us up and sang and raised hell until 2 a.m. Only slept a few hours. Missed breakfast again. Opened canteen at 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. had late dinner. 125 sales. I write out all orders and make them up, and am cashier off and on, some Army red tape. Received letter from home and granma, wrote home.

April 12 – Saturday.

Opened canteen at 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Balanced stock. Received a letter from Irene and 2 from home. Wrote to Irene and home. Went to confession. Opened 2 p.m. from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Had movies this evening. At 9 we took stock and balanced accounts. Retired at 11:30.

April 13 – Sunday.

Opened canteen from 9 to 10 p.m. and then went to 10:15 mass and communion. Palm Sunday (Bois-Box wood) instead of palm. Opened canteen at 11:30 until 12:30. Closed accounts and took inventory. Received letter from Louis and Irene. Received a new line of stock. Wrote to Wagners, Irene, Louis, Granma and home. My pass returned to go to Paris.

April 14 – Monday.

Opened canteen from 11-1:30. Had inspection in order to leave for Paris. Got things ready to leave. Received letter from home and Irene. Rotten weather, raining. Started to wear service stripe.

April 15 – Tuesday.

Arose at 6 a.m. Left Vic-de-Chassenay at 7 a.m. for Semur. Left Semur at 9:50. Arrived at Les Laumes at 10:50 a.m. Met two fellows from Division also going to Paris. Bought ticket for only 4.80. Had dinner at buffet at 12:30 noon. Loafed around town and left at 2:50 p.m. Went thru the following towns, Montbard, some large steel works here, Nuits-sauna Raviours, Tanlay, Tonnerre, this is where the 1st Army Corps headquarters was, Flogny, St. Florentin, Vergigny, Brienon, La roche, 4:30 p.m. We are following large canal filled with large canal boats, they are all loaded with cargo. Joigny. A French family got on here, Father, mother and 13-year old daughter, all three are smoking cigarettes, and eating a lunch such is life in France. Villevallier, Etigny-Velo, saw a fine cathedral at Sens. The river is all overflowing and the valleys are flooded, some places the water is only 2 feet from track. Rines called yorne. Porte-de-Yonne, Montereace, Thomely, Melun 6:50 p.m. We crossed the scenic river at Cesson at 6:55 p.m. arrived in Paris at 7:15 p.m. I got into a truck and rode to R. X, near the Eiffel Tower. Had a lunch for 50 cents. Took a walk at 8:15 p.m. to see the Eiffel Tower. Highest structure in the world 984 ft. high, and a 20 ft. flag pole making 1004 ft. The base covers 4 acres. They use it for wireless radio. Retired at 11:30 in hospital tents also hospital cots, but the beds were fine, white sheets and feather pillow only 1 F. for bed. I certainly slept fine.

April 16 – Wednesday.

Had breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Took a taxi and went to Hotel Pavilion to get a room, but all filled up. Ordered chevrons for some band men and myself. Waled around center of town, buildings not 6 stories all made of stone, but they are very old and wonderful construction. Tried to find Mr. Stahl, but could not locate him. Went to R.X. for dinner at 12 noon. At 12:45 I went in a truck sightseeing trip, saw the world war painting, Pantheon-de-la-Guerre, over 350 ft. in diameter. All the painting is on canvas and the work is so good the figure looks like living beings. Another fellow and I missed the truck so I hopped a taxi and went to Besson factory, bought a trumpet for Johnson from there I went to see Irene's cousin, Madam Baron (family not aware of her) at 42 Milton. She was not home and a French girl told me she would take me to where she was. We walked about 6 blocks to the place where she works. I talked to her about ½ hour in German. Returned to R.X. and had supper. After supper I went to Follies Bergere Theater and saw some show. Finest costumes and scenery I ever saw and a real leg show, but the French call this a high class show and don't think anything of it. Left theater at 11:30, but a tough job to get away from the girls. Took taxi for R.X. These taxis have only 1 cyl. Engines.

April 17 – Thursday.

Had breakfast at 9 a.m. Took sub. to town and got the chevrons. The sub. system certainly is great. Saw some wonderful bridges over the scenic river, also saw Pres. Wilson in machine on way to Peace Conf. Took in many interesting points in this section of Paris. Had dinner at Cirque-de-Parian, a Y.M.C.A. After dinner a Y. man took us to a train and we went to Versailles. This is the palace started by Louis 13th as a hunting lodge. And completed by Louis 14th and changed at different times by Louis 15th and 16th. The grounds cover 6000 acres, the cost of palace cost 4 million. There are lakes, fountains, parks, flowers, statues and almost everything

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imaginable. Went thru palace and saw the hall of mirrors where peace will be signed. Saw some wonderful paintings, sculpture work in all parts of the palace. I did not wait on Y. man special train, took another and got back before crown and had supper at Cirque-de-Paris, also had first ice cream since I left the States. At 8:15 p.m. went to Casino-de-Parie and saw another show. Returned to R.X. and had light lunch and retired at 2 p.m.

April 18 - Friday

Took sub at 930 to center of town and went to S. and S. club. It is close to the hotel where the peace conference is being held. Saw a bunch of German cannons and a German tank. Took in several other buildings. Had dinner in French restaurant. Went to see Notre Dame. It is wonderful. Saw palace of justice. Went through galleries Lafayette, they have everything imaginable. Also saw the Louvre. Saw the church that the long-range guns hit, it hit the clock in the tower and knocked it out. The shell also killed 65 and wounded 85. Went to S&S for supper at 6:30 p.m. Took bus car for Garc-de-Lyon and Paris at 10:30 p.m.

April 19 Saturday.

Over slept at 6:00 a.m. and went past my station and went on to Dijon, what do I care, away from the company another day. Loafed around Dijon until 11:30 a.m. and arrived at Les Lanmer at 2:00 p.m. Left at 3:00 p.m. and arrived at Semur at 4:15 p.m. and hit Vic-de-Channenay at 5:30 p.m. Received 2 letters from home 1 from Irene, 5 from Louis. We had movies tonight.

April 20 – Sunday (Easter).

Had eggs for breakfast. Went to 10:30 mass, had bully beef for dinner. Received letter from Poeschls. Wrote Poeschls. Had bully beef for supper. Retired at 9:30 p.m. Fair day.

April 21 – Monday.

Pretty cool, but nice weather. Opened canteen from 11 to 6p.m. Received letters from Donora and mamma. Wrote Louis, home, Irene and Donora. Sent cards to Irene and home also picture of band. Opened center from 6 to 9 p.m. Everything came to a fine balance.

April 22 – Tuesday.

We are tearing our bunks down and turning them in. Arranged all my cash to send home. Sent 4 letters home and to Irene with cards. Washed my pack and belt. Everything balanced by 9:30 p.m.

April 23 – Wednesday.

Fine day. Sent 4 letters home and to Irene with cards. Washed a gas mask to carry personal property. Artillery is leaving this area today. Worked until 11 p.m. for balance.

April 24 – Thursday.

Received two letters from Irene, 1, home, 1 from Louis. Answered them. This is the last mail to go out from the area. Received lots of new stock. Cut a gash in my first finger again, to the bone, on tin. Worked until 11:30 on balance.

April 25 – Friday.

Received new blouse. Kept canteen open most of afternoon. Finger pretty sore. At 4:30 to 5 p.m. I played snare drum for inspection and retreat. Closed canteen at 8:30 and retired early, 9:30 p.m.

April 26 – Saturday.

Pretty cool and raining. Awful lonesome sticking around Y. all day with little to sell. Received letters from home, Irene and Louis. Heard that we are supposed to leave here May and opened canteen at 6 p.m. Had movies this evening, they were very good. Retired at 10:30. Bum weather, pretty cool and raining.

April 27 – Sunday.

Pretty cool, snowed a little. Went to 10:30 mass, sun came out so I took a walk in the woods. Officers and 1st Sgt. of the 310th had a meeting this afternoon in Y. building. Things look very favorable of leaving here too—sweet. We can send mail again until Tuesday. I wrote home, to Irene and Louis. Did not open canteen today. I went out for a big feed this evening.

April 28 – Monday.

Colder than hell today, and snowing off and on. Had weekly examination as usual. Opened canteen, business very dull. Wrote to Louis, Irene, and home. They moved all YMCA and K of C property out today.

April 29 – Tuesday.

Two inches of snow this morning and still snowing, pretty cool. Opened canteen until 10:30 a.m. Two Ms ordered us to close. Balanced our stock and sold stock on hand to Maj. Judd mean dope, we leave here Thursday. I received reserve rations and painted my helmet. Tore our counter out. Snowed until noon, the sun came out and it is a little warmer, so I washed my clothes. Hung them out to dry and it started to snow again. Took a walk to pass the time.

April 30 – Wednesday.

Snowed like hell all night, pretty damp and cold. Took my clothes to a French house to get dried. Visited another French house to kill the morning and get warm. Turned my bed tick in. Snowing worse than ever. Had another examination. Rolled my pack, ready to leave in the morning. My feet are wet and cold and no place to get dry or warm. Snow is starting to lay and it is very sloppy. We are having worse weather than we had all winter. Signal platoon moved in the Y. and I have plenty of company. Y. man left us this morning. Several of the signal men are drunk and raised hell all night. My last night in Vic-de-Chassenay.

Received cards from Anna, Mary, Catherine on train. Some class.

May 1 – Thursday.

Arose at 5:30. Had breakfast, finished rolling my pack. I reported back to the band again, and we stood around until 9:30 a.m. Loaded into trucks and arrived at Semur at 10:15. Had a fine

dinner. Y.M.C.A. gave us chocolate and cake. Loaded in American box cars at 11 a.m. Left Semur at 11:45. It just started to rain again as we pulled out. We went within about 30 miles of Paris and then turned South. At 6:45 we got off train and had hot coffee at Cravant. Pulled out at 7:25 p.m. Sat in car door and watched the scenery until 8:30 p.m. and then retired. These cars ride much better than French cars, we have bed ticks. Although the car jolted a good bit, I slept fine.

May 2 – Friday.

Got up at 7:30 a.m. and stopped at Chatteris and had hot coffee, I bought a French sandwich, it was pretty good, our other meals consisted of corn willy, tomatoes, beans and jam. Still raining. Pulled out at 9:10 a.m. Here we got a French engine and crew. We are traveling very slow with them, the American outfit pulled us through pretty fast. Sit at the door all morning, scenery pretty fair. Took a sleep in the afternoon. At 5 p.m. we stopped at Meran, had our cold supper as usual and hot coffee. Pulled out at 6:10 p.m. Stopped again at 7:30. Some of us fellows bought a bottle of Cognac for 20 F. Went to bed at 8:45 p.m.

May 3 – Saturday.

Went thru Bordeaux at 4 a.m. and arrived at Creson at 5:45 a.m. here the Y.M.C.A. gave us hot coffee and a sandwich. We unloaded here and put our packs in trucks. Stood around until 6:30 a.m. and then we hiked about 1 kilo to Cadillac, my billet is just at the end of the bridge. I went to the river (Gironde) and had a good wash and shave. I hustled around and got a bed sack. This afternoon, I took a walk across town, also along river shore. Saw some Frenchmen fishing for sardines. Walked around town in the evening and bought a few things. They have good beer here for 1 F. bottle. Retired at 8:30. Fine weather here and nice and warm.

May 4 – Sunday.

Slept fine. Went to river and washed up. The tide came in and I had to move back a few times. Went to 10:30 mass. Only thing to do here is to bum around town, a pretty fair town. A good many of the Frenchmen go around with bags on their backs and sell different articles. I bought 3 handkerchiefs. It is fun to talk their price down. I am only 42 kilos from Louis and cannot get to see him. I bought some cards and sent them to Irene, home, and Louis. Retired at 9:15 p.m. Fine and warm this evening.

May 5 – Monday.

Stood revile at 6:30, had breakfast at 7. A very heavy fog this morning. The sun came out at 9 and believe me it is very hot. Had inspection and examination as usual. Too hot to run around, I took things easy on my bunk. Strolled around town this evening and me Marvin from Wheeling. Fine evening.

May 6 – Tuesday.

Stood revile and at 8:15 we took a hike and returned at 10:30. Wrote cards to Irene, Louis, and home. Played battalion parade and Formal Guard Mount, believe me it was a hot job. Walked

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around town this evening and wrote to Kate, Odd, Irene and home. Received letters from home and Kate Bonenberger. Very fine weather.

May 7 – Wednesday.

Stood reviled and took another hike from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Took a bath. Took my clothes to a French wash house and a woman washed them for a Franc. Watched a ball game this afternoon. Wrote cards to Anna, Catherine, Joseph, Mary, Alma, home, Irene and Braddock. Had a damn this evening at the square.

May 8 – Thursday

Took another hike from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Received two letters from home, 2 from Irene, 1 from Mary. Wrote to Irene, home and Louis. Played parade and guard mount and it was a hot job. Had another dance tonight.

May 9 – Friday.

I did not go on hike today; my legs were galled. Had to polish our mess equipment today. Raining this afternoon. Wrote to Irene and Mary, Louis and sent cards home. Received 4 papers from Irene. At 6:30 p.m. we all had to go to movies for soldiers only. At 8 p.m. took a long walk up the river.

May 10 – Saturday.

Had a very rigid inspection on our property at 1:30 p.m. We played at the nut house. I had to play bass drum and cymbals, got away with it in good style. One American has been there for 4 years. I also talked to a few Germans. Played inspection and retreat at 4:30. At 6:30 we had to fill out a blank whether we wanted a job or not. At 8 I played bass drum and cymbals for a dance. Last job played in Cadillac. We leave in the morning.

May 11 – Sunday.

Arose at 4:45, rolled packs and am waiting to hike away. It looks very much like rain. We only carry rain coats and belts. Left Cadillac at 9:10 a.m. on foot. Pretty nice hiking. Went thru several towns. Stopped at 12 noon and ate a corn willy sandwich. It is very hot this afternoon. Several fellows fell out. My feet are a little sore, but I held out on the home stretch. Put up for night in a small place, Villenave-d'Ornon. The king of Morocco stayed in this Chateau for 6 months during the war. Arrived here at 4:15 p.m. The hike of 27 kilos. We leave here early in the morning. Retired at 8:30. We talked to the people and two girls of this place and they are very nice.

May 12 – Monday.

Arose at 4:30 a.m. Pulled out at 6:30 a.m., hiked straight thru and arrived at Bordeaux at 9 a.m. The K of C gave us coffee, cake, pipes, tobacco, and gum and chocolate. Arrived at the entrance camp at 10:15 p.m. We are in billets now waiting for orders. Hiked 15 K. Feet pretty sore. Had our French money changed into real money. A fellow told me Louis' outfit sailed last week. The letters I wrote on the 9th were all returned. At 6:30 we hiked 1 ½ kilos to the embarkation

camp Geni Corte. At 7 p.m. we entered the mill. Had to take down packs and put everything in our shelter half. First, they checked and examined all our personal and government stuff. Then they made out an emergency card. Then we went and put our clothes on a truck and they were run into a hot air room to finish all cooties. I kept all my personal stuff in Red Cross bag. While our clothes were going thru, we were examined and took a bath. We got 3 blankets and all the new clothes we wanted. We put everything in a barrack's bag and when I got thru the mill, I was all in carrying a full barrack bag and personal bag, it certainly was hell. We stood around until 12:30 and then hiked ½ kilo to a billet. Retired at 1:30 p.m.

May 13 – Tuesday.

Got up at 5:30 a.m. Laid out all our property for inspection on our bunks. Then we lined up outside for a personal examination and inspection of clothes. Returned to our billet at 10 a.m. Sat around the rest of the day. Talk about hot, a person perspires like hell in the shade. Tomorrow we play an 8:30 p.m. review in Bordeaux. Retired at 8:30 p.m. All in, tired out.

May 14 – Wednesday.

Slept like a log. Arose at 4:30 a.m. Ate breakfast at G. Co. at 6:30 we loaded in trucks and arrived at Bordeaux at 7 a.m. Stood around until 7:45, then we marched 2 squares to the R.R. station and played when Gen. Lewis arrived. We loaded into the trucks again, road all over Bordeaux, a pretty nice place. We got off on the square where they are going to hold the fair and sat around until 9:50. Then a French Battalion came in. They certainly are bum looking soldiers. All kinds of uniforms and different colors, not shaved and very dirty. At 10:15 a French Gen. and Gen. Lewis arrived and they had a presentation of medals. At 10:40 we had a review, we lead the parade and the French Battalion was the first troops to be reviewed, they made a bum showing, the American troops followed and they looked fine. We returned to camp at 11:30. Sat around all afternoon and had another examination after supper. At 7:5 we went to a show at the Victory Theater, it was pretty good. Retired at 9:30 and it was raining and a fine night to sleep.

May 15 – Thursday.

Arose at 6:15 and rolled packs for inspection at 9 a.m. Fine day. Sat around all morning. At 1:30 we played for a ball game. Saw a fine ball game after supper. We were not supposed to unroll packs. I unrolled mine anyway. This Army BS is getting worse all the time.

May 16 – Friday.

Arose at 5 a.m. Ready to leave. Sat around until 9 a.m. then played a concert until 10:15, we marched to the end of the camp and played while 2000 troops marched out. At 11:30 we loaded into trucks and rode to No. 1 embarkation dock at Bassens. The R.X. gave us a lunch and chocolate. At 2:30, we started to play the troops on the U.S.S. J. Luckenbach. A French band played one piece and we played the next one until 4 p.m. then we loaded on the band. At 5:15 we played Marseille and the Star-Spangled Banner as the boat pulled out. At 6:30 we went to supper which consisted of wieners and kraut, some food. Had movies and I retired at 9:30. A very clean boat, wire cots to sleep on. 2750 troops on trip. American crew.



Figure 9.--USS Julia Luckenbach. Source: NavSource Naval History.

Photo # NH 106399 French Army band plays as homeward bound troops board USS Julia Luckenbach, 1919



Figure 10.--Troops boarding USS Julia Luckenbach, 1919. Source: U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command Photograph.

Note from transcriber: The guy with the bass drum and cymbals could very well be John Frank Stiehm. In John Frank's May 12 diary entry, he states that he kept all his personal items in a Red Cross bag. In WWI, Red Cross bags were white.

May 17 – Saturday.

Set watches back 45 minutes. Arose at 6:30, had fine breakfast. Drew blue denim suits to wear over uniform. Sailing thru Bay of Biscay. Played concert at 10 to 11 a.m. Fine day, warm and the water is calm. Had dinner at 12. I am now sitting on the extreme aft of the boat writing this and she is rocking pretty fair. This is a fruiter and flat bottom ship and they say she rocks like hell in a storm. Played a concert at 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. At 4:30 they saw a German floating mine, and circled around it and shot at it until it sank. At 6, we had a fine supper. From 7 to 8 we

played a concert. From 8 to 10:30 we had movies. Certainly, was a fine day and I am feeling fine. A good many boys are feeding the fish. She is rocking pretty good now. Retired at 11 p.m. Covered 168 miles.

May 18 – Sunday.

Covered 246 miles. Set watch back 30 min. Just 7 months since I landed overseas. The sea is a little choppy this morning. Nothing to do until 1 p.m. Sat on deck and watched the sick boys feeding the fish. I am feeling fine. Played concert from 1 to 2. Took a bath at 2:30 p.m. A salt water bath and my hair feels like being glued. Played retreat at 4 p.m. Played concert from 7 to 8. Had movies from 8:15 to 10:30. Retired at 11 p.m. They certainly are feeding us fine and I am feeling fine. (See Appendix D for Passenger List.)

May 19 – Monday.

The sea is very ruff and choppy this morning and a very strong wind blowing. The boat is rocking like hell, but I don't mind it. A good many of the boys are sick, but not me. Sat on deck all morning reading. This afternoon I went to the extreme front of the boat and that is where you get a good rocking. She raises from 10 to 15 feet out of the water and comes down with an awful splash and if you are not careful you will go over. The water splashes on deck here a good bit, but a little dunking does not hurt. No concerts or movies today on account of rough weather and sea. Rain chased us off the deck this evening and I retired at 9 p.m. Set watch back 25 minutes. Feeling fine. Covered 291 miles.

May 20 – Tuesday.

Wind still blowing and sea very rough. Sat on deck all morning. Had pie for dinner, talk about good eats. She is rocking and rolling for fair today. I am used to it and I feel certain I will make this trip ok. We are 912 miles from Bordeaux and 2368 miles from New York. We traveled 207 miles yesterday from noon yesterday to noon today. Read a little this noon. Sat around all afternoon, the weather is much better. Played concert from 7 to 8, had movies from 8 to 10:15. The fellows had the officers going this evening. Retired at 10:30. At 10:45 the Col. Came down and made G. Co. get up and clean the boat. He got soar when the boys cheered him on deck, so he got back at them. Set back 40 min.

May 21 – Wednesday.

Weather and sea fine this morning, we are making better time now. Saw an American ship bound for France. Met a K of C sailor. Saw several fish this morning. Had a fine dinner. We are 1183 miles from Bordeaux and 2097 miles from New York. Covered 271 miles since yesterday noon. Time goes very slow, played concert from 3 to 4 p.m. also retreat. Another wind storm and a little rain. Concert and movies called off on account of rough sea. She is rocking worse this evening then ever yet and the wind is howling like hell. Retired at 9. Rumors around that some ship sunk ahead of us. Shoved by 20 minutes.

May 22 – Thursday.

Slept fine, but she is pretty rough yet. Received news that Mobile, Ala., has an awful fire also Germany wants more time to consider peace terms. Sea pretty smooth at noon. We are 1418 miles from Bordeaux and 1862 miles from New York, we covered 235 miles since noon yesterday. Shoved watch back 25 minutes. Still having fine meals. Took a sleep this afternoon. Played a concert from 3 to 4. Fine weather. Another concert from 7 to 8. Had movies from 8 to 9:45 p.m. Retired at 10:15.

May 23 – Friday.

Certainly, fine weather this morning. Had inspection of instruments in order to find a lost trombone, it was found in the next hatch where the officers sleep. I am in a better place than most of the officers. At noon today, we are 1699 miles from Bordeaux, 1581 miles from New York. We covered 281 miles since yesterday noon. We are over half way now and believe me the time seems long and we don't expect to land until next Thursday. I am getting tired of it. The wind is starting to blow again, good luck seems to be against us, very little nice weather. Set watch back 25 minutes. It rained a little this afternoon. At 3 we started to play a concert, but it started to rain and we did not get to finish the second piece. Laid on my bunk and read a book. At 7 we started to play another concert and it rained again as we finished the second piece. I made my bed and laid there until 10:30 and read. A little rough tonight, I am feeling fine.

May 24 – Saturday.

A little cloudy this morning, but pretty fair weather. At 7:30 a.m. I was standing on the Star-board side watching a ship sailing for France and a large wave came overboard and I got a little ducking. Sat around and read to pass the time. Set watch back 20 minutes. We are 2000 miles from Bordeaux and 1280 miles from New York. Covered 301 miles, the best time we have made yet. Played concert from 3 to 4 p.m. and retreat at 4:15, had supper at 5:30. Concert from 7 to 8 and movies until 9:30. Retired at 10:30. Fine evening.

May 25 – Sunday.

The best weather we have had yet. We are going thru the Gulf stream and it is pretty warm and the water is as calm as a river. Saw two more ships this morning. Set watches back 25 minutes. We are 2289 miles from Bordeaux and 991 miles from New York. Covered 289 miles. Certainly, fine weather. Sat around and read, played concert from 3 to 4 and retreat. Had pictures taken of Band in the bow of boat. Concert from 7 to 8 again. Movies until 9:45. Retired at 10:15 but it was so warm I did not sleep well.

May 26 – Monday.

Still warm this morning and the sea is rough again and a strong wind blowing. Shaved for the 3rd time and I needed it too. Rained this morning. Set watch back 25 minutes. We are 2587 miles from Bordeaux and only 693 miles from New York. Covered 298 miles. Rained a little this afternoon, just held up long enough and we had to play from 3 to 4 also retreat, had supper and at

7, we started to play but it rained so we quit at 7:30. At 8:30 they started movies and the machine broke. Pretty rough sea and she is rocking for fair. Retired at 9 p.m.

May 27 – Tuesday.

Very rough and a strong wind blowing. Had inspection of instruments this morning. Set watch back 20 minutes. We are 2833 miles from Bordeaux and 447 miles from New York, covered 246 miles. The storm is holding us back. These cargo boats are very slow. We played from 3 to 4. Sky is clearing up. Sat on deck and read. Played from 7 to 8. No movies, machine broke. Found a new pair of long pants and had them cut down for 50 cents. Retired at 10:30.

May 28 – Wednesday.

Sea very calm and nice and warm. Saw 5 or 6 sharks this morning about 10 or 12 feet long. Set watch back 20 minutes. We are 3105 miles from Bordeaux and 175 miles from New York. We covered 272 miles. I wrote and mailed 4 cards to home and Irene. Fixed most of my pack so I will be ready to unload tomorrow. Fine day. Played from 3 to 4 and retreat, had late supper. Shaved for last time on board. Played from 7 to 8. Col. Babcock gave us a farewell address. Retired at 10 p.m. Could not sleep much on account of some fellows running around all night expecting to see land.

May 29 – Thursday.

Had 4 o'clock breakfast. Finished rolling my pack. At 8 a.m. we went on the bridge deck to play. At 8:30 a small boat representing New Jersey met us and welcomed us home. They rode around us and threw candy on our boat and were shooting fire crackers, we are in the Hudson Bay and entering the Hudson River. All along the river people were cheering and shouting. Believe me I felt funny. Saw the Statue of Liberty at 10:30. At 11 a.m. we docked in Hoboken Pier #14. Unloaded at 11:30 and were checked on passenger list. At 12:15 we had a sauerkraut dinner from R.X. At 1:05 p.m. we loaded into a ferry and pulled out at 2 p.m. Landed at Penn Station at 2:25. Pulled out at 3 p.m. Went thru Newark, N.J. (At 11:15 I sent two telegrams one home and one to Irene 1.10). We are laying on Harbor River Bridge, only $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the Bay. Fine day. Arrived at camp .in at 6:15. Hiked about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to a barrack. Rested up and retired at 9:45.

May 30 – Friday.

Went to the Liberty Theatre and had a lecture on insurance. This afternoon we turned in all band instruments, band is done for. Received telegram from Irene at 1:30, we were lined up to have pictures taken, when I received it. Received 3 letters and a card from home, 2 letters from Finsingers and from granma. Wrote home and to Irene this evening. At 8 p.m. the 1st Sgt. asked me to help fix up our service records, it was some job and we did not finish until 2 a.m. Retired at 2:15.

May 31 – Saturday.

I did not have to stand revile and some of the band boys did not like it, so they woke me and threw shoes and hardtack at me, I got sore and started to fire shoes too, missed some fellows

head and the shoe went thru a window after that they let me sleep, such is Army life. Sat around the rest of morning to kill time. Had my hair cut this afternoon. Worked on service records again from 6 to 10 p.m. Retired at 10:30.

June 1 – Sunday.

Rolled our packs and went thru the mill and got rid of equipment, all I have now is my own. Returned to billet at 1:30 p.m. Helped give out personal and valuables to the men in orderly room. Received letter from home direct. Fine weather here. Received letter from home. Sat around all afternoon. Took a walk to Pointerville this evening, a small New Jersey town. Returned at 9:30. Retired at 10:45. Pretty warm.

June 2 – Monday.

Killed the morning in canteen and YMCA. Awful warm this afternoon, loafed in barrack all afternoon in my B.V.D's. In the evening Berry and I took a taxi and went to Wrightstown and took in a show, we walked back. Found my bunk flat on the floor, some fellows came in after dark and their bunks were fixed to fall. When the fellow sat on it, down he went, talk about a noise. Very warm tonight.

June 3 – Tuesday.

The 1st Sgt. sent me to the Central Records Office (we call it the road house). I worked on discharges and ran a typewriter. This afternoon we put over 600 negrouse thru and believe me it was better than a show. I finished after supper at 7:30. I certainly did work hard, because every little bit will help get me out quicker. Retired at 10:30. Five train loads left this morning for other camp. Lucky I get discharged here. Retired at 10:30.

June 4 – Wednesday.

At 7:45 we went to the mad house and stood around in the sun until 9:50 and believe me it was hot. Started thru at 10 a.m. had my discharge made out at 11:30, dated June 6th. Went to physical examination, but they closed and I returned at 1 p.m. the biggest farce I ever saw. Certainly glad it is the last examination in this Army. This evening Berry and I went to Pointsville and drank beer near eat sandwiches and ice cream and strawberries. Retired at 11:15. Certainly fine evenings to sleep.

June 5 – Thursday.

Sat around billet all morning. After dinner I washed my light suit of underwear and while I took a bath my washing dried. At 2:30 we fell in and went to the Liberty Theatre and had the same lecture we had Friday. They make my backache, I cussed the Army the day I came in and I cussed it more this afternoon. Turned in our blankets. Received letter of 3rd from home. Certainly is hot here. This evening Barry and I went to Wrightstown and took in another show. I bought a pair of shoes and a 1.50 suit case. Returned at 10:15 and packed my case and drew one blanket, for last night in the Army.

June 6 – Friday.

Arose at 5:30, shaved and had a bum breakfast. Lined up at 8 a.m. and went to Central Records Office and got my discharge card 108.50. Returned to barrack and loaded myself up and went to station. Had argument with ticket agent, could not get reduced rate to Pittsburgh so I fooled them and bought one to Wheeling and saved 5 dollars. Pulled out of Camp Dix at 10:30 and arrived at Phila at 1210. Took the sub to Broad St. Station and in order to take the 1:11 I had to buy extra fair and chair car seat. Pulled out a 1:20. Sent telegram home. Arrived at Harrisburg at 3:30 p.m. Believe me this is swell riding and good speed, pulled out at 3:45. Arrived in Pittsburgh at 9:45 p.m. Met papa, mamma, Pauline and Uncle Frank and rode home in the machine and arrived at 12 midnight.

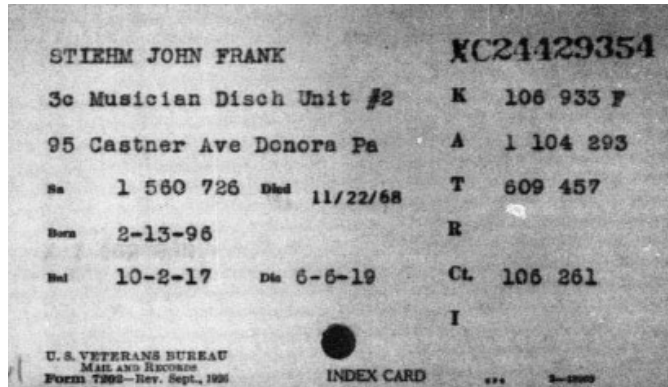


Figure 11.--WWI Index Card for John Frank Stiehm. Source: FamilySearch.org posted by Shawn Bleiler.

Finie

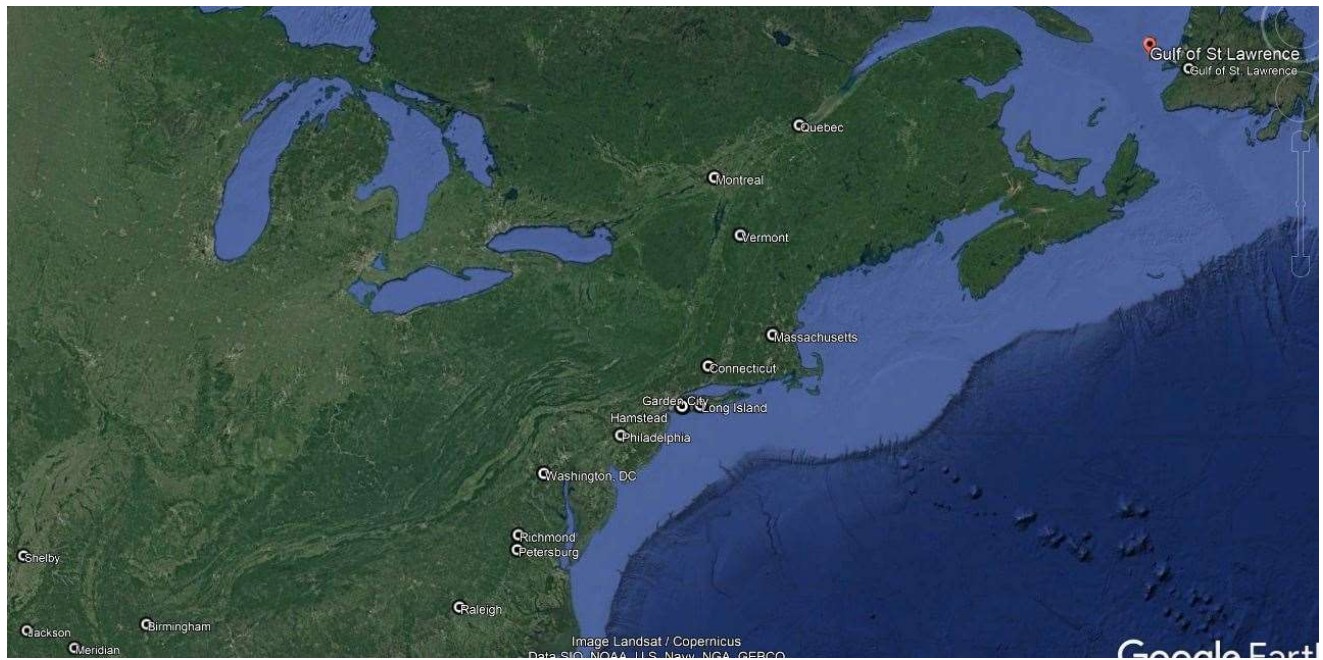
Means finished, over in French



Figure 12.-- John Frank Stiehm's Army patches. Source: Franz J. Butalla private collection.

Appendix

Appendix A. Map of United States and Canada with some of the cities named in John Frank's diary.



The above map depicts the route John Frank Stiehm travelled when he left Shelby, MS, for France. He left Shelby, MS, on September 12, 1918 and arrived in Montreal, Canada, on October 3, 1918. Most of the trip was done via the railroad.

Appendix B. Map of United Kingdom and France with some of the cities named in John Frank's diary.



The above map shows that John Frank Stiehm arrived in Liverpool. He made his way to France through the various cities. Not all cities in France that are mentioned in the diary are displayed. This map gives you a general idea that John Frank Stiehm travelled extensively throughout France.

Appendix C. Passenger List of Demosthenes. The departure date of Oct. 4, 1918 is validated by John Frank's diary entry of same day.

Sheet No. 1. 3rd. Class

HEADQUARTERS PORT OF EMBARKATION, HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY
PASSENGER LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS AND CASUALS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THIS FORM
Separate lists of FIVE COPIES EACH, will be filled out by each company or detachment commander as follows:
1st List: Officers arranged according to rank, Army Field Clerks, Field Clerks Q. M. C., Nurses and Civilian Employees. Names should be numbered consecutively beginning with No. 1.
2d List: Non-commissioned Officers above Grade 17, (Par. 9, A. R.), arranged according to grade.
3d List: Enlisted men below Grade 16, (Par. 9, A. R.), arranged according to the usual formation of the Company, that is, by squads. These names should be numbered consecutively beginning with No. 1.

Is to be filled in by Organization: SUPPLY COMPANY, 150TH. INFANTRY. Bus Number: 30TH. DIVISION
Is to be filled in by Embarkation Personnel Officer: DEMOSTHENES Date of Sailing: OCT 4 1918 Port: MONTREAL CA

No.	NAME (Family name followed by Christian name and middle initial, same as on service record. Identification number immediately under each name.)	Rank & Corps. (Capt. QMRC.)	Organization	NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (Give name in full, for example: Mrs. Mary A. Smith)	Relationship	ADDRESS (Number, Street, City and State) Do not abbreviate.
1.	WALLACE, FRED 1560643	SGT 150TH INF	150TH INF	MRS MARY E WALLACE	MOTH	437-Morris ST. WANESBURG PENN.
2.	MATTHEWS, ROBERT L 1560644	SGT 150TH INF	150TH INF	MALCOLM R MATTHEWS	BROTH	600- CAPITAL ST. CHARLESTON WEST VA.
3.	MEADOWS, ALBERT HAI/ 1560645	SGT 150TH INF	150TH INF	MRS HARRIETT C MEADOWS	MOTH	1604-Bigley AVE. CHARLESTON WEST VA.
4.	CHRISTMYER, LESLIE. 1560651	SGT. 150TH INF	150TH INF	MRS ADA A CHRISMYER	MOTH	1047-CORNWALL ST. PARKERSBURG WEST VA.
5.	STIEHM, JOHN F 1560726	SGT 150TH INF	150TH INF	JOHN J STIEHM	FATH	235-NATIONAL ROAD FULTON WEST VA.
6.	WEISS, CHARLES H 1560649	SGT 150TH INF	150TH INF	HERMAN A WEISS	FATH	TRIADENPHIA WEST VA.
7.	SEIFERT, CHARLES R 1560654	SGT 150TH INF	150TH INF	MRS ELIZABETH SEIFERT	MOTH	WICOMISCO, PENN.
8.	CADWELL, JASPER 1560653	SGT 150TH INF	150TH INF	GEORGE CALDWELL	FATH	WILLOWTON, WEST VA.
9.	ARMSTRONG, WINTON 1 560652	CPL 150TH INF	150TH INF	CHRISTOPHER C ARMSTRONG	FATH	DOTHAN, WEST VA.
10.	BECKENHEIMER, LACY 1560655	CPL 150TH INF	150TH INF	MRS EMILY MILLER	MOTH	1649-8TH AVE HURTINGTON WEST VA.
11.	BRADEN, CHARLES S 1560677	CPL 150TH INF	150TH INF	MRS ELLA WATKINS	MOTH	SILVERTON WEST VA.
12.	COOPER, ALVA 1560043	CPL 150TH INF	150TH INF	RUSH COOPER	FATH	HEMPHILL WEST VA.
13	PETERS, HUGH A 1560647	CPL 150TH INF	150TH INF	JOHN PETERS	FATH	RONCHEVERT WEST VA.
14.	McCULLOCH, JOHN S 1560656	COOK 150TH INF	150TH INF	JOHN W McCULLOCH	FATH	R.F.D. #1 BOX 102 WHEELING WEST VA.
15.	RABELLO, FEDELE 1560658	COOK 150th. INF	150th. INF	LEWIS ALBERTA	FRIEND	P.O. BOX # 92 STUDA, PENN.
16.	CLINE, ALBERT 1560841	COOK 150TH INF	150TH INF	MISS WILLA CLINE	SIS	PARKERSBURG WEST VA.
17.	WILLISON, WALTER G 1560740	COOK 150TH INF	150TH INF	ALBERT M WILLISON	FATH	OREN AVE. CHESTER WEST VA.
18.	STOVER, FLETCHER 1559421	COOK 150TH INF	150TH INF	MRS PEARL KINGAID	SIS	ESKADALE WEST VA. ON SPECIAL DUTY WITH THIRD BATT.

DISPOSITION:
FIVE COPIES OF THIS LIST TO BE HANDED TO THE REPRESENTATIVE OF EMBARKATION PERSONNEL OFFICE AT GANG-PLANK BY WHICH COMPANY EMBARKS.

(Signature of Company Commander.)
(Rank)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 785096

Appendix D. Passenger List of J. Bordeaux dated May 18, 1919. The departure date coincides with John Frank's diary entry of same date. However, the vessel name is different. John Frank's May 18, 1919 entry says they boarded on the J. Luckenbach. The arrival date on Passenger List and John Frank's diary entry of May 29, 1919 are the same. Notice that the vessel name is handwritten; therefore, it is possible this was added erroneously. A search for a vessel named Bordeaux returned no results. The ship departed from the Port of Bordeaux, France, which might explain the discrepancy.

Sheet No. 12
 CLASS
 PASSENGER LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS AND CASUALS
 RETURNING TO THE UNITED STATES
 BORDEAUX, FRENCH

INSTRUCTIONS:
 Separate lists of TWELVE COPIES EACH will be accumulated for each company or detachment mentioned as follows: (1) Company or Detachment; (2) Officers; (3) Casuals; (4) Sick and Wounded; (5) Passengers; (6) Field Clerks; (7) Miscellaneous. The word "Casuals" and the name of the group will be entered in the space provided for name of organization, and the Embarkation Personnel Adjutant will sign his name in the space provided for the signature of organization commander.

This form when used in the CASUAL military categories will be accumulated in the manner, but within each class all entries will be sub-arranged under the following headings with reference to the reason for their return, not more than one such group being listed on the same sheet: (1) Deceased; (2) Sick and Wounded; (3) Prisoners; (4) For Pay; (5) On Leave or Furlough; (6) Miscellaneous.

To be filled in by company or detachment commander: Name of vessel, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, Date of arrival, Part of arrival, Date of arrival, Address, U. S. A.

To be filled in by Embarkation Personnel Adjutant: Name of vessel, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, Date of arrival, Part of arrival, Date of arrival, Address, U. S. A.

To be filled in by Embarkation Personnel Adjutant: Name of vessel, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, Date of arrival, Part of arrival, Date of arrival, Address, U. S. A.

No.	NAME AND SERIAL NUMBER	Rank and Grade	Organization	RELATIONSHIP	Address (Number, Street, City and State)
235	SPERRY, ROY J. 1762269	PVT	REG CO	MOTHER	100 KANAWAY, NEW YORK
236	STANWARD, LYNN G. 1763666	PVT	REG CO	FRIEND	2 JEFFERSON AVENUE, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
237	STEPHENSON, ARTHUR F. 1828266	COL	REG CO	FATHER	222 CHARLES STREET, CINCINNATI, OHIO
238	STEFF, ELMER 1561021	PVT	REG CO	FRIEND	1000 W. VIRGINIA
239	STEIN, JOHN F. 1560726	SER	REG CO	FATHER	225 NATIONAL ROAD, FULTON, WEST VIRGINIA
240	STIFF, CLYDE W. 3092427	PVT	REG CO	FATHER	1842 CLEVELAND AVENUE, CLEVELAND, OHIO
241	STONE, JACOB 1764727	PVT	REG CO	MOTHER	406 EAST STREET, UNION, NEW YORK
242	STRAIGHT, HOWARD L. 1561024	PVT	REG CO	FATHER	117 D #2 HARRINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA
243	STREIBER, EARL A. 1764728	PVT	REG CO	WIFE	6 RICHARDSON PLACE, NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT
244	STROM, WILLIAM 2649689	PVT	REG CO	WIFE	62 WEST 102ND STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK
245	SUTTON, JESSE G. 1567366	PVT	REG CO	SISTER	WYOMING, ARKANSAS
246	SWENSON, JOHN L. 1567361	PVT	REG CO	BROTHER	WYOMING, ARKANSAS
247	SUTTON, GEORGE G. 1569866	PVT	REG CO	MOTHER	117 D #2 HARRINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA
248	TARNEY, MICHAEL J. 2950460	PVT	REG CO	FATHER	44 JAMES AVENUE, ASTORIA, NEW YORK
249	TAYLOR, J. COPPER E. 1561025	PVT	REG CO	FATHER	1217 9TH AVENUE, HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA
250	TERRELL, GEORGE 1569999	PVT	REG CO	MOTHER	1000 W. VIRGINIA
251	TIERCE, STEPHEN 3487846	PVT	REG CO	BROTHER	22 ROBINSON ROAD, FOUNDRY, OHIO
252	TOBIAS, JEROME M. 1761223	PVT	REG CO	WIFE	117 D #2 HARRINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA
253	TOWNE, GEORGE G. 1762023	PVT	REG CO	MOTHER	GREEN VILLAGE, NEW JERSEY
254	TYRRELL, DENNIS A. 1766520	PVT	REG CO	MOTHER	724 TRAVIS STREET, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Handwritten notes: "BORDEAUX MAY 18 1919", "HOBOKEN MAY 29 1919", "See # 274", "See # 275", "See # 276", "See # 277", "See # 278", "See # 279", "See # 280", "See # 281", "See # 282", "See # 283", "See # 284", "See # 285", "See # 286", "See # 287", "See # 288", "See # 289", "See # 290", "See # 291", "See # 292", "See # 293", "See # 294", "See # 295", "See # 296", "See # 297", "See # 298", "See # 299", "See # 300", "See # 301", "See # 302", "See # 303", "See # 304", "See # 305", "See # 306", "See # 307", "See # 308", "See # 309", "See # 310", "See # 311", "See # 312", "See # 313", "See # 314", "See # 315", "See # 316", "See # 317", "See # 318", "See # 319", "See # 320", "See # 321", "See # 322", "See # 323", "See # 324", "See # 325", "See # 326", "See # 327", "See # 328", "See # 329", "See # 330", "See # 331", "See # 332", "See # 333", "See # 334", "See # 335", "See # 336", "See # 337", "See # 338", "See # 339", "See # 340", "See # 341", "See # 342", "See # 343", "See # 344", "See # 345", "See # 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Total Officers: _____
 Total Nurses: _____
 Total Field Clerks: _____
 Total Civilian: _____
 Total Embarkation Men: _____
 Total Passengers: _____

A Total of Twelve Copies of Passenger List are required distributed as follows:
 6 to Personnel Adjutant Part of Embarkation A. S. F.
 5 to Personnel Adjutant Part of Debarcation U. S. A.
 1 Retained by Company or Unit Commander

H. D. DEHN
 CAPTAIN SLOAN INFANTRY

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority NND 785095

World War I Diary – John Frank Stiehm. Owners: Shawn Bleiler and Helen Butalla. Do not duplicate.

Appendix E. John Frank Stiehm and Irene Schaub Stiehm. Photo source: Franz J. Butalla private collection.



