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Dearest Mother

Sunday 21 July 18

I fear I must have a very interesting week and as late will have to make my letter shorter than usual.

Monday 15 July Up early and read paper in our nice comfortable salon after breakfast. Made all parades an hour later to make up for hard day yesterday. Just a few complications about billets and accommodation as outside of Chateau which we have ourselves. We are very crowded. Our Corps is so big that what ample accommodated English formations is being cramped for us. Find Col. Rich Coligan too also but on leave at present. Alluded stables. Horses all outside and no such walls as protection against bombing. Had a chat with Col Campbell, great commandant who seems a very nice chap. Smith & had a ride to look for hatching fields but not much success. Marked remaining air establishments all afternoon. Held office and punched two M.C.O.'s. Our orchestra played while we were at mess and made a very pleasant dinner. Told them how pleased I was. That we 3 sisters a joint letter which I hope you would object to. Letter from about the order from Corps to be ready to start to

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and received 2 hours notice. Slept well in my own bed roll on old bed in room.

Tuesday 16 July. Front by German offensive this year launched at Rheims on 15th but news so far seems good, & Americans seem to be killing a lot of Bochs. (Hears our dropping bombs on next village) terrific thunderstorm last night. Had to get up and close windows. Corps damaged and horses and men in open flooded out and drenched. Very hot and unrefreshing today. Attended stables and rode to Corp's HQ in afternoon but very sultry. Greg Anderson called and gave him a cup of tea. He threatened to throw us out of Chattan as said it was too good for us. Heavy bombardment at night and Hears our bombing from 11 to 2:00. 3 letters from folk at last. Write her and Aunt Elizabeth. Am trying to catch up.

Wednesday 17 July. Front went up in front with considerable parties and I stayed here in case orders coming in. Cashgan still on leave. Attended M Co's Signalling classes. Informed Smith re his duties as signalling officer. Plotted my own map up to date showing new gains. Finished scout class in the

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afternoon and did not ride as very
lucky and hot at night so sat in saloon
reading until midnight while the
others played bridge. Bombed again
at night.

Thursday 18 July. Bost seems to have made
some gains between asne & marine but
is pretty well held and has been well
planned. French have started as
counterattacks. Left at 9.00 AM and
went along one half of New Carps
franchise which was quite new to me.

I intended being an officer but all
gone as I had forgotten to prearrange but
picked up one of our patrols about noon
and had a companion for rest of day.
The beautiful city of T is now
and just compared 60 years ago when
I visited it last with Mary Plummer
as it was then well behind our lines
but now pretty close up. Got in about
5.00 after being caught in a (muddy
stream). Rang up that frame and
forwarded to Penhalow my way back.
Guard from in Holland. Distributed
maps of new area. Letter from Eleanor
about my 1st cable but written
before little daughter arrived.

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Mari Fisher at same length. Tim⁸
over about midnight and we have
got over 30 of Castigano's mules and have
across road but fortunately no men.

This moonlight night is quite very
lovely but an indication to look
to pay us a call and drop an egg or 2
as the men say.

Friday 19 July. Inspected classes and
notes before breakfast. Plotted my map
again. Fund making good progress.
Said out jumps for air horses with
Smith and attended stables. Went to
Corps after lunch and had 2 counts martial
after which Guy Anderson took me
into a tea party given by Corps
Commander for Canadian Press
Representatives who are making a
10 day tour of front where I saw
Miller of Field Press and John Weld.
Both glad to see me and we had a
nice chat. Army Commander there
also. Heard best news since I have
been in France 20,000 Red prisoners
and over 300 guns and a 10 mile
advance on 20 mile front. Every
delighted. Had meeting of squadron
commanders about 8 parts in
evening. Guns over again.

2-1-7-12

Saturday 20 July. Inspected regiment in drill order but small parade as over 50 men down with "flu" or Spanish fever which is giving the rounds. Returned to sea parade field with Jerry. Exercises are about class from 11.00 to 4.00 and was quite pleased with results. Officers played indoor against 1st C/M M B B but were beaten. Did not go over. A lovely day but thunder storms at night. About 8 SEP's from Lakewood and 4 Life very welcome as low in detachment at present.

Sunday 21 July. Beautiful day. Had dinner service at 9.00 AM. Mr. Sier preached and an orchestra played most successfully. 12 pieces. I trust you would hear it. Worked in office all morning and spent most of afternoon chatting with Dick Colquhoun about old Times the family and wife Jack. He is a fine fellow. I ran over for tea and played bridge. Another officer in who played piano so we had a very pleasant evening. Saw from a rather tall bar our funds somewhat wanting. After midnight a collective
Love J.P.