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Took a walk to — in ⁴P.M. and passed Ben Farmer who waved to me. Still met. No Canadian mail since our arrival here. Tired although don't see why I should be and went to bed at 9.00 P.M. Alice's peppermints a great treat. They are the nicest kind of candy.

Thursday 29 Aug. Smith went forward with Lawson. Will start until I hear about leave before I go up again. Rode the Wake far last time in a month. He is still a little lame but I could not notice it riding and he was full of beans. Wrote Father and Aunt Alice a cable. My leave warrant came in just before lunch and I was overjoyed, 2 whole weeks. Sent Mr. Kay to paymaster for money and wrote Walker about a car. And will start tomorrow. Cleaned up in office in afternoon and dictated quite a few letters. Told them to get my things together. I will expect about getting away. Went up to room soon after dinner but could not sleep when I went to bed. No rain here since we came back.

"Hôtel Grande Hotel"
ARCACHON,
(near Bordeaux)
6-9-18

Dearest Mother

I fear if I leave diary letter until I return from leave I will never get it done and as my book is not here I will make a start on this paper. No letters since I last wrote but expect some to be forwarded before long, as got 2 from the regiment today.

Tuesday 27 Aug. Letters from Sally in Paris where she left last Friday and is back in TOURS now. Started out with King far front about 8.30 to reconnoiter the ground captured yesterday with a view to our operating later and also for a forward camp if necessary to move Hqs. Stopped at — in Hqs on the — road where I have 2 troops under Woodman but he was not in. Rode as far as we could and then left our horses and walked forward to —

from which height we had a fine view of the
batter going on below us. Unfortunately we had
not gone forward far enough to get many of
German guns as their artillery was very active
and once 13 Huns planes flew right over us before
they turned around. We thought they were aiming
into the bullets were spitting around us and then
we took shelter in a hole. Two of ours went
after them and brought down one but one of
ours had to land in our lines also. No many
dead as the Germans had "beat it" and our
advance was not on a big enough front to
get many prisoners although over 2,000 so far
I believe, the first lot a miserable 3rd class but
where senior officers had left them all to get away
but the second lot much better fighting men.
3 of our Bns pretty badly cut up we hear and
difficulty getting wounded out although prisoners
freely used for this purpose. Walked over to
other side and saw battle in rear - rally

and all our bunches we watched it. Our
artillery all moving forward which is a good
sign. Started back about 3 after concluding
no hope for cavalry yet as whole country covered
with field of last March and his marks were
and too many trenches still about. Saw one Hun
gun with bases shot in traces and drivers nearly
killed likely by a tank. Met Junes who
retarded us back. Saw Woodman on the way.
Had some tea. Walter Lemmon called. Was tally
in evening. Should hear about Lewis soon. Left
badly

Wednesday 28 Aug Rain again, so Smith did not
go forward as he intended. Sean has patched old
white breeches with leather & they look well. Got
out several orders and wrote a letter to squadron
commanders about care of bases. 22 remnants
far us from — on the way. Will be glad
to get them. Dawson had to pay £42 for his
shortages. Am sorry for him but am glad
that the Court of Inquiry stood behind me.

Friday 30 Aug. Up at 7:00 and put on Wood's breeches for leave as my new ones have not come back from West yet nor some collar that I needed. Borrowed a saddle bag from Spencer. Signed letters in office and told Smith about some matters on a bygone and as no word about a car decided to take our ferry to — as it passed there in going to — for some baggage we had to leave behind down below.

Spencer just back from his leave looking very well.

Stopped at — and bought some literature. Arrived at — about noon and found our hotel had opened where I had a good lunch and walked about the once beautiful but now ruined city until my train left at 5:00. Ran into Scott who was at WCC with Wood and we had a pleasant trip to Paris together over the line we cleared at our recent advance.

Paris about 9:00 and found no train to Tours tonight so put up at Westminster where Sally was a week ago and had a nice dinner

in Scotts room. Took a walk afterwards and
returned about midnight.

Saturday 31st Aug Alice's birthday!! and am
glad I missed. Up at 6.00 and had dinner
and got to Quai d'Orsay at 7.30 but such a
que of people at ticket gate that I fear I would
miss the 7.56. An American however got my
ticket and I got through gate and managed to get
2 seats for us. An artelhyman and we had
a nice chat. Tans about 12.30 and I followed
Sally into Tayer and found her looking very
badly but glad to see me. Also Woolly her chum
was with her. Decided we must get right
away to sea as very hot in Tans. Had lunch
and then went to see about Sally's "sauf conduit"
and had some trouble getting permission to Bordaux.
Had dinner and saw Mrs. St. of V.V.C. A home.
Will write again. Sitting on balcony over sea
This is an ideal spot Love Lbt