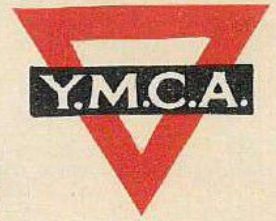


On Active Service



THE Y.M.C.A.
WITH H.M. TROOPS



From.....

..... Batt. Reg't. Coy.

Address reply to.....

..... 191

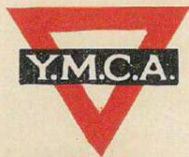
D. James 657
Welsh Guards
Guards Depot
Cantonment
Surrey.

Wednesday.

Dear Letty,

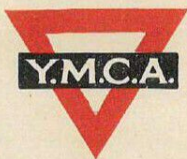
I was delighted to hear from you, and if you are as well as you look in your photograph, you are all right. I know you have been very ill, and it has caused me considerable anxiety, especially when I did not hear from you for sometime. I hope your holiday at Bob's has done you good, and that you are your old self again. I received your postcard, Monday and your letter by the following post. The photo is all right, what did you and Aunt Olive pinch the motor car from

I received Aunt Olive's cakes all right, they were ripping and went all night. Tell her that I



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From _____
Batt. _____ Reg't _____ Coy. _____
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191

us on either. It is very hard here, but I don't have to put up with much inconvenience. The food has improved a lot, it was very scarce at the beginning.

I am on picket duty to day, and have been doing sentry at the barrack gate from 6 a.m. to 8. I am on again at 4 p.m. When I came off this morning my breakfast was cold and I could not eat it, a half basin of cold tea and a bit of steak & onion, which I could not stomach cold, luckily I had about half a pound of butter in my trunk and some bread.

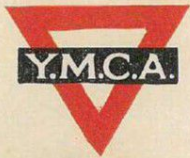
The weather has been beautifully fine since I have been at Caterham, but to day it is raining pouring. It is pelted down on the roof of our hut now. All my mates are in. We have got plenty to read and a game of draughts, and as long as I have got plenty of tobacco I think I can manage to make myself comfortable.

There are some beautiful walks here, and the country round here is fine. We finish at 4 every day.

will write to her shortly. I had a letter from Aunt Lizzie a short time ago. I don't know when I heard from home last, they are terror to write. I have received two parcels, but not a word in one of them. Mother sent a big parcel of cakes with just love from Mother, the other one was partly anonymous, and I don't know who sent it, it contained sweets of all kinds, pounds of them, some jellies and a tin of health salts I expect mother had something to do with it.

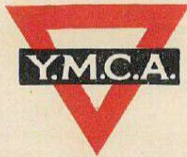
I don't know whether they are sending us home on leave rotation or not, and I am in a bit of a quandary as to what to do. If they send us home, I think I will go, and try and obtain a few days later on when you are home. I think I shall manage it provided mother sends me my railway fare. I have an excellent character and have not been on the reports yet. I hope they will provide me with a new uniform as the one I have got on is in rather a bad state. I have worn it on all sorts of occasions and have nothing to change into. We are supposed to have two uniforms, but have not had the other one yet. I am hoping to get it soon. We have not had our cap badges either, and no one can tell what we belong to. We are a new regiment and all the badges have to be made yet.

The 1st Batt is complete and they are well on with the 2nd now. They intend to send us to the front as soon as we are ready, and they are not half pushing.



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and are free to go out of barracks at 6 o'clock, today
I don't finish until 6 o'clock. There are some very decent
chaps here, we are a mixed lot, the majority I think
are policemen.

What do they think at Guernsey of the
Lucitania affair. It has caused great indignation
over here, and at London they have been wrecking all
the German property they can find.

You say that you have not heard
from Jack for some time, neither have I. I wrote to
him the first week I came here, but have not heard
from him yet. Dad told me in his last letter that
he would be home about a week ago, but Aunt Lizzie
said that he had not come when she wrote.

I have no more to say, just send
Lotty, so will conclude with my best love, hoping
you are much better by the time you get this. I
am going to be inoculated shortly. I have been
vaccinated when I was at the White City, but it did
not catch, so I expect I will have to through it again.
so good bye for the present, write soon.

Your Loving Brother
David