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Army of Occupation

Officer's Mail



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Montabaud Jan 21, 1919.

Dear everybody,

Guess I haven't written for some time now - but do you know I haven't had a letter from you in a long time. Ruth's letters come regularly, but yours are sometimes a long ways apart, and I'm certain ever hasn't written for a month - now can't you do something about that. You know there isn't an awful lot to do around here, and letters sure help a whole lot.

Most of my job now is writing a history of the Battalion, but I'm still in charge of the message center and couriers service in the Division. The history isn't much more than half finished, and goes slowly in spots - for one must feel in the mood to write. And too I broke my last pair of glasses day before yesterday and two pairs in Paris being fixed have never showed up. Tomorrow morning I'm going into Coblenz to have some fitted by the ~~State~~ Army hospital. I can't

be comfortable without them. Aint
it tough to be a weak sister
like that?

I told you that, we are riding
regularly now. Well on Monday a class
for all officers at Division Headquarters
was started and I'm learning in good
shape. You see before I was a fairly
good passenger for a horse, but now
I'm going to be a rider. It's sure fun
we are doing a lot of bareback work
now - stunts and such - and in a
little disagreement with my horse
I broke my glasses. 'Stubb,

I'm getting fat. That's what
they tell me! This life is killing
me sure enough. We're a fine place
to live - an excellent German cook
and an orderly that does every thing
but dress me. He's a peach that
orderly. I think the one I had ~~the~~
till he was killed in October was
as good as we made, but this fellow
is the most faithful thoughtful lad

was good past a stage 'till we
drove off and may have
of bush up was hard hunting
days

years now & it's to be thought the
in fact was more than possible to
have been any way off base for
him as most of your pray the do
not know of your job or yours
and probably don't know him
but many of the others did.
In this case more so - especially
as all money we took from the
eggs was the result of shop-
ping for your birds and not of ad-
ding - adding 'crops' from birds
the same were taken & for
us to sell or to - money
to whom ever it belonged birds
are not part of your job of
course you're - however, and person
is not part of your business
yourself. You have to know of
things changing etc. etc. but some such

see Colley. I'm waiting till my
Craix de ferre comes so you can see
it too. You know it was never
delivered ~~that~~ time, but is now
on the way (for sure this time) and
should be here any day now.

Ed Conley - he's one of the officers
who came from the camp at the
Presidio and has been with me
all the time - and two other officers
left this morning for Nise. Hope they
have a more successful trip than
I did - and are not called back
after one day. Not much chance now.
I'll be going on another leave pretty
soon if I don't get a chance to
come home, and I'm going to do
some traveling. See I want to map
out a good trip for Ruth and me
when we visit over here some day (?)
But that's something to look forward
to anyhow.

Don't forget - write me often -
and don't fail to send all the
pictures you make 'cause they help
lots.

Love to you all Jon xxx