

CANADIAN



Miss J. Belland
7. Queens Drive
Sudbiron
Surrey.

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England



ON ACTIVE SERVICE

927893. L. a. b. Darby

31. R.A.F. Depot

Moncton N.B.

Canada.

No 21.

27/6/43

Dear Jean
Doing my best to keep up with
your letter writing efforts, here's another
masterpiece, before starting on my new,
was rather shaken by the fact that
Raymond was a father, he's certainly taken
Morrison's motto to heart hasn't he.
There seem to be families springing up
all round Blaygate, as regards myself
marrying "do you think any women would
be fool enough to marry me? after about
five years in the service it will be
a terrible job for me to settle down
again, that's of course if I'm lucky enough

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to be still in the land of the living.
Sometimes I've thought that the world
won't be worth living in after the war,
when you have five of the best years of
your life thrown away sometimes your thoughts
are is it worth it? Frankly I can't
see much future for a lot of us after
this messy business is over, still no
one can foretell the future.

Everyone here has been worrying the
ordery room about when we were starting
our course, so much so that the clamour
has reached the ears of the bombarding
officer, its 18 weeks since we arrived
and certain facts have come to light that
gave us the idea that someone was
pulling a fast one. After much agitation
the Officer & postings gave a talk and
then asked for any questions, after a
ceaseless barrage of questions for nearly an
hour he promised to place the matter

3 before the P.O. The Commanding Officer
in turn drafted a letter to Ottawa and
made certain suggestions, within two days
we had an Air Commodore down to talk
to us. He gave us all the gins on
reasons why no postings were possible until
October at the earliest, naturally I can't
mention them here, but some were viewed
with deep ~~and~~ suspicion. He did ask
if some would remunerate to other trades,
with the bait of a return ticket to
England. I have decided to stay put.
I've been messed around enough already.
That they're not getting the change of
putting me on another course, in fact
am thinking of throwing the whole business
up, altogether. I thought they needed
sincerity and gave up chances of promotion
to volunteers, if I had known what I
do now I should have stayed in

4 my basic trade. of course there are other reasons for discontent regarding pay etc over here, we are actually getting less here than in England although prices are 50% higher, also married men only get \$10 a month (£2.10.0). all the way round we are getting a raw deal and you can appreciate that everyone is shocked.

Well, having got that lot off my chest perhaps I can turn to more pleasant subjects. Last weekend as I mentioned in one of my airographs we spent exploring Albert County. we had a grand time, met some very nice people, spent the night at a farm, as we have now obtained a map of New Brunswick we shall push off for weekends all over the place, we have four months to wait so I'm going to use them as profitably as the six force will



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allow, some parts are practically uninhabited, there are no roads or railways, one trip we are planning is to an Indian reservation, may be able to get some good snapshots if we can persuade an Indian to get into his fancy outfit, anyway it will be good fun. another trip is to Fredericton the capital of N.B. by River Steamer on the Saint John River, this is about 360 miles return but we should be able to do it in a weekend. We have met a very nice lady and gentleman in Moncton, he's principal of the Moncton High School and is extremely interesting to talk to, they have a summer residence by the sea and we've

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received an invitation for the weekend. This should provide some good swimming and fishing and provided the weather is kind we'll have a great time. Last Sunday we walked to Magnetic Hill about 6 miles from Moncton. I expect you have heard about these so-called hills, actually the cars look as though they are travelling up-hill when the engine is stopped and brakes released. My idea of it is it's an optical illusion of two sharp gradients with a gentle slope between, anyway it was an interesting walk and the weather for a change was a bit settled.

These last few weeks the Station Cinema has excelled itself as regards films. I've seen "Bambi", "Fantasia", "Arabian Nights" In which we saw, "The Road to Morocco" "Presenting Lily Mars" I missed a Utah to mention only a few, we get an excellent

7 programme, all for 15° (7½°) Last night
an Ensa show was featured, of course
all American artists, it was excellent
and naturally the theatre was packed. The
Entertainment's people in camp have now
completed another theatre where they have
films, variety shows, promenade concerts quite
frequently, in addition there is a large
dinner hall for dances, these are quite enjoy-
able, but most American girls don't know
the first thing about dancing, I danced with
one girl on Tuesday and honestly it was
like pushing a truck round the floor,
afterwards she said quite cheerfully, "This
is the first time I've danced this evening"
I thought it will be the last with me.
so with this idea in mind I retired to
draw my rations in Boka-Kola, what a
place!

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Well, suppose I must stop sometime,
we are going to the seaside this week,
weather, church parades and other nuisances
permitting. About a fortnight ago we went
to the evening service in Troniton, it was
very similar to our own the only thing
they have a ladies choir, so there's plenty
of interest during the sermon, at some
churches they do really get down to hymn
singing however, the real old time religion
stuff. After an hour solid singing, they
knock off for refreshments, it's funny the church
plays a much more sociable part here, they're
all pals together.

Shall be sending an airgraph later
on, it's unfortunate that I can't send you
air letters but these are only to the forces.
Cheers for now, take care of yourself
write soon.

Yours
Jack