



NO. 25

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

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#31. R.A.F. Depot
Moncton N.B.
Canada.

20/7/43.

Dear Jean.

Thanks so much for air-letter
number 20 which reached me today, so glad
to hear you have been digging for victory,
let it' didn't last long, how many bullets
have ~~to~~ you got?

Am very glad to say things
are at last moving, we should be on
our way this next weekend, I shall cable
my new address to home and they
can pass on the gen. Really it' was
rather annoying in a way to have leave
cancelled two hours before I was due

2/ to leave for New York. I had even got the \$25 required by the currency regulations from my relatives and it must have been a great disappointment for them. However we should miss a lot of the worst weather starting our course now, and we should have a fair chance of getting home next January instead of later on.

Last weekend we did get a 48 hour pass. Had a wondrous time, travelled 150 miles through some of the wildest parts of New Brunswick. We were lucky in getting a lift with a foreman of some lumberjacks, he had a big Packard and was crating several saw mills, these were the portable type and are

³ set up where the timber is felled.
We travelled 80 miles with him through
some terrible roads, mostly consisting of
two wheel tracks through the forest, in
some parts we had to stop and remove
boulders and rubble from the road
where sections had been washed out.

The scenery was grand and at one
place called 45 Bridge the bridge
crosses a gorge about 500 feet deep, the
sides are sheer rock and the river runs
far below. In the spring the logs are
driven down the stream by a system
of dams which when the water is
released sweep down at a tremendous
rate, carrying all before it. The
woods are terribly thick and practically

impassable. Of course there are bear,
moose, deer and wildfowl in abundance
and the numerous lakes yield some
lovely trout and salmon, its nothing much
like Oxelott Common I can tell you.

After arriving at a small timber
port. we had some food and said
cheerio to him, after a stroll round the
port which consisted of about 50 houses
we got a lift on our way. This
was to a small farm and then back
was not too good, we waited 2
hours and didn't see a soul, so we
decided it was hiking from then on
into Albert, the road we were on
was definitely a secondary one and
there seemed no traffic at all. Luckily

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the weather was beautiful and clear. Off
 we set, having 15 miles to go. We
 had covered 8 miles when to our intense
 surprise an army truck appeared, we
 could hardly believe our eyes as military
 staff is practically non-existent off
 main roads. In we hopped and about
 noon came in sight, it was now
 8:30 pm and we had 15 miles more
 to do. This was soon knocked off
 by another lift and we arrived at
 a place to stay the night. This
 was Hopewell Cape where the local
 farmer has built a parlor and

6 half a dozen log cabins. We hired one for \$1 a night and found it well furnished, equipped with electric light, two beds, big wood stove etc. We were extremely comfortable, had our food in the parlor which was pretty good. All home produced including chicken, straws berries, farmhouse bread and so on. For breakfast we had home cured bacon, by I can still taste it now. Next morning

we didn't rise very early and spent the day lounging about the beach, we met some Moncton people who came back with us in their car and of course took us home to supper, it's funny we've met more people out of Moncton than in town, suppose there are

7 too many air force in town for them
to get acquainted.

Luckily the weather has cooled a
bit, it was 99° in the shade last
week, and only a sharp thunderstorm
cooled things off.

I notice in your last letter that
alterations have been in progress on your
hair, what does it do, make you look
more grown up? think it would be a
good idea if you supplied me with a
photo so I can recognise you when I
get home, it's such a long time ago since
I saw you that I've forgotten what you look
like, probably the only thing I'd
recognise about you is the 'little'
handbag you used to carry, you remember,
the one that took up the extra seat in

8, this bus.

At the moment skating is out
but later on who knows, I might even
be able to go round the rink once
without picking up,

Well, must finish up now. cheerio
for the moment,

Yours
Jack