

MILITARY SERVICE RECORD

-Personal Record-

Name in full: Gordon Marshall Lindgren
Date of birth: October 5th, 1894
Place of birth: Harlem, Sargent County, North Dakota, U. S. A.
Color: White
Birthplace of father: Sweden; of mother: United States

Nearest Relatives:

Gust Lindgren, Cooperstown, North Dakota--Father
Mother (Deceased)
Mrs. C. J. Krogfoss, Granville, North Dakota--Sister
Jack Lindgren and Gro. Lindgren, Cooperstown, N. D.--Brothers
James Lindgren!--Brother
Thomas Lindgren-- "
Phil Lindgren----- "

-Military Record-

Previous military service or training: None
Occupation before entry into service: General Store Clerk
Employer: Thompson McDermott Co., Cooperstown, N. Dak.
Residence before entry into service: Cooperstown, Griggs Co.,
North Dakota.

Enlisted into the service on June 12th, 1917 at Valley City,
North Dakota as a private in the Infantry section of the
National Guard. Coffin plate number 52,549.
Assigned originally to Co. "H" 1st No. Dak. regiment, at
Bismarck, North Dakota.

Trained or stationed before going to Europe:

Fort Lincoln, No. Dak.-----June 13, 1917 to October 1, 1917.
Camp Greene, S. Carolina-----October 5, 1917 to Nov. 20, 1917.
Camp Mills, New York-----November 20, 1917 to Dec. 1, 1917.
Camp Merritt, New Jersey-----Dec. 1, 1917 to Dec. 10, 1917.

Transferred to:

Company "A" --26th Inf., 1st Division, Feb., 1918, France.
Company "H" --164 Inf., 41st Division, about October 5,
1917, Camp Greene.
Promoted from Private to 1st Class Private, Feb. 1918.

-Overseas Record-

Embarked from Tenafly, N. J. on Leviathan December 15, 1917 and
arrived at Liverpool, England, December 24th, 1917.

Trained or stationed abroad:

England--Winchester, England; From Dec. 27, 1917 to about Jan.
5, 1918.
France--St. Blin, about January 5, 1918-----

First went into action on May 28th, 1918 at Cantigny. He
participated in the following battles: July 18th, 1918, Soissons
drive.

-Casualties-

Killed in action at Soissons, July 20, 1918.

The information contained in this record obtained from: Mrs.

#3.

Carl J. Krogfoss, Granville, North Dakota and letters of his
to Mr. & Mrs. Krogfoss, Mr. & Mrs. John Lindgren and Gro.
Lindgren.

LETTERS OF GORDEN LINDGREN

To Jack Lindgren
Cooperstown, N. D.

Bismarck, N. D.,
July 22, 1917.

Dear Jack:

How is everything up there? I am feeling pretty good
right now myself. Never felt better in my life. I suppose
it's pretty hot up there. How are the crops up there? It
rains quite often up here.

We hiked 8 miles in the sun at 100° in the shade with
rifles and blankets weighing 30 lbs. Some of the boys dropped
right in their tracks. I thot I would too, but I guess I'm
pretty tough by now. The Carlander boys are here. Art came
a couple of days ago. Reg. lives here, and Ruddy. Ruddy was
drafted in the army. It worries him quite a bit. Say be sure
and send me the 2 latest copies of the home paper including
next Thursday's paper, for I want to see who got drafted up
there. I suppose some of the boys got elected. Did Bill
McDermott enlist yet?

I expect to be home next Saturday if I can get a leave
that long, so I can stay over Sunday, but I am not sure I can
get a leave that long or not. But I think I can.

Hoping to hear soon, As ever

Gorden Lindgren.

% Co. H. Bismarck, N. Dak.

To Jack Lindgren,
Cooperstown, N. Dak.

Sunday, Aug. 12, 1917

Dear Jack:

How's everything in Cooper? Just the same I suppose. I
got home the same day I left there. Caught No. 1 all right.
Got into Bismarck about 11:45. That's making some trip. It
would be all right if I could make the trip home in that time.
I haven't received the home papers yet. If you sent it, it
got lost. Maybe I'll get it by the time you get this letter.

Letters Written by Gordon Lindgren (Cont.)

It's a fine day here and we can't get off to go anywhere. Have to stay in and read or sleep as we prefer.

Indications are that we will leave here about the last part of next week, about the 18th. Will let you know if we do. We haven't received any pay, so can't send those \$5 till pay-day, which I think will be in about a week. They are not very prompt in paying here. We hiked to Mandan last Thursday. Stopped over night and camped in the fair grounds. Have you heard from George? If you do give him my address so he can write to me. Well, will close for this time hoping to hear soon.

c/o Co. H.

Gordy.

P. S.--We are going to Palo Alto, California about 20 miles from San Francisco, so it will be pretty nice for us.

After Dinner

I was going to tell you about our dinner today. About ten of our company went out Friday night, and raided a farmer's chicken coop. And today we had nice fried chicken, mashed potatoes, dressing, cabbage salad, gravy, bread, butter and ice coffee. Some dinner for soldiers. We got a dandy cook. Have any of the fellows that got drafted taken their examinations yet? Don't forget the paper if you haven't sent it.

G.

To Jack Lindgren
Cooperstown, N. Dak.

Sunday, Aug. 26, 1917

Dear Jack:

Well, we are here yet. They give us lots of false reports out here. A man don't know when he is going. Got back Monday afternoon and went on a hike Monday evening. We came back last Friday. We made about 65 miles. Was glad to get back because the ground isn't a very soft place to sleep on. I suppose the boys will be preparing for hunting season pretty soon. I wish I was back there for about a month.

Got a laundry bag from Jessie yesterday, and it sure is a fine one, made of khaki. She sent me some pictures she took while she was up here, and will send a few of them. I had mine taken up at the Capitol grounds.

They had a big time at Bismarck last night. The Second Regimental Band gave a dance on the pavement in front of the postoffice. They had to use lots of wax for the street was pretty rough. There sure was lots of people there. Our band is not here yet.

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Letters Written by Gordon Lindgren (Cont.)

One of the soldiers in Company A. shot a woman in a cafe here yesterday. He was jealous of her I guess. She died this morning, so I guess it will go pretty hard on him. Some of these soldiers are pretty tough, while others are the best kind of people.

Well, I guess that's all for this time, hoping to hear soon. I remain as ever,

Gordy.

c/o Co. H
Don't forget the G. C. S.

To George Lindgren Co. A. 40th Inf.
Ft. Snelling, Minnesota.

Bismarck, Sunday, Sept. 2, 1917

Dear Geo:

Saw your address in the home paper and that I would drop you a few lines, as it is Sunday, and there's nothing else to do. It is cloudy and cold here today and they haven't issued any warm articles yet. But we don't expect to be here any longer than a couple of weeks and maybe not that long.

Was home two weeks ago. Have been home twice since we have been here. If we stay here another two weeks, I will see if I can't go home again for a couple of days hunt. We fellows here have things a little easier here than at Snelling. We get up at 5:45, exercises at 6:00 and breakfast at 6:30. We start drilling at 7:30 until 10:00. We drill only 3 or 4 days out of the week in the forenoons only. In the afternoon we have signal drill and athletics. I see by the papers that both Brimi and Westley have received commissions. Westley is 1st Lieut., Brimi is Assistant Surgeon now.

We had to parade in Bismarck yesterday. They gave us boys a farewell send off. We have quite a time in Bismarck. Lots of girls there.

We hiked every week. We hiked about 65 miles 2 weeks ago. Was out for 2 days, but it is getting chilly for hikes now. We have darn good grub here. We go out sometimes at night and get corn, potatoes, and one time we raided his chicken coop and a nice chicken dinner for Sunday.

Well, I guess I will stop for this time, hoping to hear soon.

Gordy.

C/O Co. H. Bismarck, N. Dak.

Letters Written by Gordon Lindgren (Cont.)

To Jack Lindgren,
Cooperstown, N. Dak.

Bismarck, N. Dak.
Sept. 9, 1917

Dear Jack:

Letter received today, and as it is Sunday will have lots of time to answer. It has been pretty cold here lately. We haven't got any sweaters or anything yet. It was so cold today we built a fire in the furnace and it's nice and warm in here now. I hope they move us where it's warm pretty soon. They tell us now we are going to South Carolina as the place in Cal. wasn't fit for camp. I hope we don't go for 2 weeks yet as maybe I might get a chance to come home for a day's shooting or so, a week from next Saturday if I can make it. The season opens next Sunday I guess.

We are not doing much here only enjoying ourselves. Was over to Mandan a couple of days. They gave us a celebration there. I saw that Siegel who used to work at P. K's. is working in a cafe here. Also saw that Tuft who used to work at P. E. Nelson's belongs to the Headquarters of the Second Regiment. I run across quite a few people who used to be here.

I wrote Geo. a letter a week ago but haven't heard from him yet. Hear from Jessie regularly. She sent me a dandy laundry bag and a "housewife," not a real woman but I guess Martha will tell you what it is. It's the bachelor's friend. She sends me doughnuts and cake too and they come in pretty nice to us boys. What kind of a send off did they give the boys up there the 5th? They had quite a time at Bismarck. Some of the ladies took it rather hard. But it will be worse when we go, as all of Co. A. and I belong to Bismarck. Saw old man Carlander here and "Boligna Hall" too. She invited me and Frank Newberry up to see her. She is married to an electrician here.

As ever,
Gordy.

To Geo. Lindgren, Co. A. 40th Inf.
Ft. Snelling, Minnesota

Bismarck, N. Dak.
Sept. 18, 1917

Dear Geo:

Received your letter yesterday and was very glad to hear from you and that you like the army. The only thing I don't like about it is you can't stay out late enough. It rained here all day and we didn't have nothing to do. We drill 4 hrs a day here now, but have done no shooting, as we haven't got any range. I guess they don't ever intend to move us out of

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Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

here it seems. The latest report I hear is that we're going to South Carolina, but there's no certainty about it.

Have been acting corporal here for about 2 days. My corporal got promoted to sargent, so will get a new one I guess. You got to keep your eyes open then, but I haven't had very much experience yet, but I managed to pull thru all right. But I hope they get a new corporal soon.

So you heard from Jim. I haven't heard from him for 3 months I guess. So Tom got drafted, I guess we'll be pretty well represented in this war if it keeps on. I see by the home paper that Martin Nelson is in France, maybe we'll run across him. You never can tell.

Am going to try to go home next week if I can. I'd like to go hunting a day up there. Don't you fellows ever get a pass? I wish I was where I could run to St. Paul once in a while.

We had about 10 in the guard house here at the most. There's only three now. Most of them are guys that went home without permission. We haven't been paid this week but expect to this week. I wonder how some of the fellows from home like it in camp. I bet some of them are pretty lonesome.

Well, I guess I will have to close for this time. Answer soon.

As ever,
Gordy.

Co. H. Bismarck, N. Dak.

To Jack Lindgren,
Cooperstown, N. Dak.

Bismarck, N. Dak.
Sept. 25, 1917.

Dear Jack:

Received your letter today and will answer at once, as it's too cold to drill today and have plenty of time. I suppose you seen by the papers we are to move this week to North Carolina. That is just as soon as the troop train is ready, but it may take some time yet. Would have been up last Friday or Saturday only they just got the telegram Friday ordering us to prepare to move. If they had got it one day later, I would have been home. As it is now, we can't get any more passes home. Would have liked very much to have seen Phil and family and Dad, but I guess it will be quite a while now, as I suppose from there they will send us to France. I see by the papers that Martin Nelson is in France. Maybe I'll get a chance to see him yet. I see by the papers who went to Camp Dodge. I see Ralph Parsons went too. He can probably get in pretty good if he is a horse doctor.

I hear from George once in a while. I'll probably see him as we expect to stay at Ft. Snelling a while on our way. Next time you see Phil give him my address and make him write. What's Dad doing now? Tell him I'm feeling fine and wish I could see him before I leave.

You can write me here for if we do go I'll get it anyway.

As ever,
Gordy.

To Geo. Lindgren, Co. A 40th Inf.
Ft. Snelling, Minnesota.

Camp Green,
Oct. 15, 1917

Dear Geo:

Will take the time to drop you a few lines now. Have been busy fixing up around here, but are about settled. Got here a week ago last Thursday. Our weather here is fine, just like July days up there. I heard they had snow up there. I guess it was pretty cold anyway.

We had a pretty fine trip out here. Saw lots of pretty scenery especially when we went thru the mountains of Tennessee. Passed thru that camp where those 800 German sailors they took off the ships in our harbor. They seemed to be contented but they are fenced in like chickens with wire charged with electricity. We have some camp here. About 20,000 or more men here now. The camp is about 8 miles square. We are about 2 1/2 miles from town. It has about 50,000 population but is a very dead town. Nothing to drink either. We stopped 5 hours in Cincinnati and sure bought a few whiskeys and beers there.

Just received the home paper today. I see Herman Krautz died of typhoid fever. Kind of bad as he was a pretty good fellow. I see Wm. Bratz had a new boy but it died. I suppose Bill feels kind of bad as that's the second one he has lost now.

We put in a good 8 hours a day work now, but we have different things to do each hour or so. They are fixing up a rifle range for us here but it is about 12 miles from camp. I suppose we have to walk that and camp out over night.

Have you been to St. Paul yet? They are pretty strict up here about going up town. A man has got to be dressed just so or they will arrest him. Have you fellows bought any Liberty Bonds yet? All of our company bought them, and I think all the other Companies did too. I bought a \$50 bond.

Have you heard any more about Tom yet? I would like to get in touch with him. Jack was telling me that Phil was going to move to Cooperstown this winter. He's got a Ford car I guess and is traveling on the road. I would like to see Bobbie

Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

again. I have never seen the little girl yet. I got a letter from home today and it's awful cold up there. The water even froze some places. I suppose it's getting pretty cold for you fellows up there, too.

Well, I don't know of anything more to write now so I will ring off hoping to hear soon.

As ever,

Gordy.

Camp Green

Charlotte, N. C.

Co/ H/ 164 Inf.

We belong to the regulars now so we had to change our Inf. No.

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. Dak.

Camp Green,
Oct. 19, 1917

Dear Carl:

Just a few lines to let you know I also received your welcome letter. Don't talk about ducks too much if you don't want me to desert the army. Has been awful hot here. Every day is about 90°. These days a man feels like having "one" right off ice. This state is drier than the Sahara Desert. Many thanks for the V. I told Jessie about that Liberty Loan. I guess you understand them pretty well. That's one way of saving money. Only now I wish I had taken out more.

We don't hear nothing about going across, but we think around the first of the year; but you know there's nothing certain about it. The only news we get here is the old Southern papers. We sure miss the old Fargo News, Minneapolis Tribune, etc. But I sure like the old home paper.

Say, I think you had better stay right where you are. There are enough of us single fellows I think to lick the old "Kaiser." It won't take us long if we ever get started. This army life is no snap. I wish I was out of it myself sometimes, for sometimes I get pretty lonesome for you folks back home. I guess all the soldiers have a soft spot in their heart for the folks. You would think so if you saw them every time the mail came in. Well, Carl, I think I'll ring off this time. Again thanking you for the money, and hoping to hear soon.

As ever,

Gordy.

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. Dak.

Camp Greene, Oct. 25, 1917

Dear Carl,

Will drop you a few lines also. We have sunny weather here but it's so awful damp and it is very cold mornings, but the afternoons are very warm. It's a funny climate. Am surprised there is so much snow up there, but I would be glad to get back to old Dakota just the same. I suppose the duck shooting is all shot to pieces now.

Received the \$5 all right, but did not get the last you sent the 19th. I thot I would tell you as maybe you sent it separate and it got lost. But it wasn't in the letter. Am much obliged for what you send me, be it ever so little. As I told you, I bought a \$50 bond as that was all they advised us to take. Was figuring on taking \$100 or \$150, as we pay so much a month down. How are the boys? Does Oswald remember me yet? Well, will close for this time but will write more often when I get back to civilization again. Am on the rifle range now. Hoping to hear soon.

As ever,
Gordy.

P. S.--Tell Jessie to be sure and send that candy. Tell Gus and Hannah Hello.

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

Nov. 1, 1917

Dear Carl:

Received your letter a couple of days ago and had to wait till I got back to camp as I didn't have any paper. Am writing in our tent as we have a nice warm fire, for the evenings are kind of cool here. Got back to Camp here, and was awful glad to get to sleep on my old cot again, as I slept on the damp ground on the range. We got some nice fleecy blankets yesterday and they sure feel nice to crawl into, for our work blankets are pretty rough. Well, I didn't do so bad in the targets, Could have done better I think, but I had an old gun. Tried a new gun and I hit it every time almost.

Received the papers and was very glad to get them. The other boys were glad too, for a few lived in Fargo and were pretty tickled to get the Forum. But I think that Jam you sent is lost, not unless the Parcel Post is pretty slow. Maybe it will be like the doughnuts at Bismarck. I'll probably get it a little while after I mail this. Told Frank Newberry I was going to give him som jam, and he said he was going to watch the mail. He sends best regards.

Well, I see you are busy as a lady getting ready for Ladies Aid. Well, we didn't do so bad here on the Liberty Bonds. We N. Dak. boys bought about pretty close to \$150,000. Pretty good wasn't it? Well, the quicker the war ends the quicker I'll get back home. Will close for this time, hoping to hear soon.

As ever,
Gordy. Co. H. 164 Inf.

Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

P. S.--Tell Jessie will write again soon, but I think a letter is due from her soon. Well, here's hoping the jam gets here safe anyhow. How was Halloween up there? Nobody was out here at all. Kind of Strange for this bunch.

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. Dak.

Camp Greene,
Nov. 5, 1917

Dear Carl:

Received your letter today and will answer at once. We got a nice warm fire here in the tent and I think I can enjoy writing now. And then those envelopes came in nice and handy too. Am sorry that letter got lost, but it seems that the things a man needs most always get lost. The last letter I got was dated the 19th, but there was no money in that one,----- I wish you could have been here today. It was just a perfect day. Just cool and just warm enough. About 80° in the sun I should judge.

Well, you tell that girl or girls to hurry up and send that candy, as the boys in my tent are getting anxious and so am I.

I see by the papers that the Italians are getting it now. No wonder. Ha! Ha! Got your letter but no jam, but I guess stuff like that travels slower than mail.

Well, it will be 1 cent more now to send letters. I bet those cents will come up into millions of \$ soon. The boys say you can send the magazines, etc. and hope that we are not putting you to too much trouble.

Well, I guess that will be about all for tonight as its getting late. Got a letter from Geo. today and will answer that too I guess. Well, hoping to hear often and soon.

As ever, Gordy

With love to Jessie and the boys. Co. H. 164 Inf. Camp Greene.

P. S.--Am sending a few snapshots. A couple where we have a couple of nigger kids dancing for us. I guess you can find me in the other one, and one is a picture of our cinerator where we burn up stuff from the kitchen, etc. The fellow standing is a corporal of our next squad to us.

That roster I told you about I'm going to send you as soon as I go up town and have my picture taken. It sure is a dandy. Will try to get a large view of our camp and send too.

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

Letters Written by Gordon Lindgren (Cont.)

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

Camp Mills, N. Y.
Nov. 23, 1917

Dear Carl:

I wrote a letter Tuesday and to make sure you'll know where I am will write again. Had just received your letter today, and by it I see you haven't received the letter yet but it should reach you by Saturday I think.

The weather here is something like Dakota but it is a trifle milder. It rained here yesterday and the ground is quite disagreeable. Haven't done much since we got here as it's been kind of cold. We have tents here and a fire sure feels good, especially at night. Our nearest town is about 1 1/2 miles. Hemstead is the name and you can address me there. There's a large hotel or road house there where they give us boys free shower baths and they also have a swimming pool too. We were up there today and had a bath and it sure felt good, but the pool was a little cold so didn't go in.

I forgot to tell you we stopped off at Washington, D. C. and took a walk around the White House buildings. Saw the Capitol building also. It sure is a pretty place, as there were lots of pretty girls there too. I wanted to catch a glimpse of Pres. Wilson but I guess he wasn't around there so was disappointed. The weather was fine at Washington. We followed the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay for quite a ways. It sure was a dandy view. Was wishing I could have taken a few pictures on the bay and send them to you. There's a marine camp on the bay and we saw lots of sailing boats, also a few small steamboats. Haven't been up to New York yet but will go if I get the chance.

I would like to have seen that shoemaker when he went thru that performance. I guess there's a few more so called pacifists that need the same thing. I guess the people are waking up to the fact that we're at war. Wait till more Americans get in the trenches, then I guess they will watch the newspapers.

I took out a ten thousand dollar insurance policy today. It costs me \$6.60 a month and I think it's a good investment as it's a government policy. I think it goes into effect Feb. 1st, but we start paying premiums this month. If we are disabled, I think we get something like \$54 a month for 20 years and you get so much according to your disability. So you see I'm worth more dead than alive. Am making Jessie my beneficiary if anything happens to me. But here's hoping I live a good many years. Well, I think I've said enough for once so will ring off. With love to all.

As ever,
Gordy.

My address is:
Co. H. 164 Inf. 41st Div.
Camp Mills, Hemstead, New York.

Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

Camp Merritt
Tenafly, New Jersey

Dear Folks:

Well, we've moved again, but we have sure struck a good place, though. We are south of New York now about 12 miles, so you see it wasn't much of a move. We took the train to New York and from there we took the boat across New York harbor to here. There sure was a bunch of ships in the harbor and all sizes, from the motor boats to the big liners. We passed right by the Statue of Liberty and it sure is a sight worth seeing. When I get more time I am going to get a better view of it. But I must tell you of the swell place we got here. They are all electric lighted and we got one of those big drum stoves in the center of the room. Our dining room is fine too. But the best of all is the beds. They are single iron beds with real springs and mattresses and you may be sure we appreciate them as the only thing I've slept on for six months is a cot. It's a real pleasure to be able to sit down to a table and eat. We also have cold and hot showers and they are pretty handy.

The weather is moderate and no snow. Maybe I'll see a Xmas with no snow, as it's getting pretty close to Xmas now. I think I'll do my shopping in New York this year. Some class, eh? Wish you were here as I'm sure we would have some time.

Received a box of eats from the Norwegian Ladies Aid back home and they sure fixed up a good one. Those Norwegians always did feed good anyway. The only thing lacking was lutefisk. Well, I guess it's getting late so will stop, so hoping to hear soon.

As ever,
Gordy

Co. H. 164 Inf. 41 Div.
Camp Merritt, Tenafly, New Jersey.

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

Camp Merritt
Tenafly, N. J.

Dear folks:

Received your letter of the 6th and will answer within 10 minutes so you see I'm pretty swift, aint I? The sweater was a good fit and is good and warm. Didn't get the fruit cake today as I guess it travels a little slower than mail. I'm glad that you got a patriotic bunch up there, as you know us boys will surely need things like that "over there." That

Letters Written by Gordon Lindgren (Cont.)

\$161 was merely a good night's work. Keep the good work up. Tell them that I, speaking for all of us, appreciate everything done for us. That \$10.00 was there all right, and would have seen that it was well spent but not now, as we can't get passes to go to New York. Many thanks and am going to get a few cigarettes etc. as that is the only comfort we get (smoking). So you hit the nail on the head again. I wish they were all like you, and am not flattering either. Wish you could be along to visit old New York as it's worth seeing all right. Don't know anything about that address you spoke of but may find out soon. Yes, I've received that war map and it may come in pretty handy yet. So Oswald knows all about the Germans. Maybe I can tell him many things about them too when I get back. I mean after we get Kaiser Bill.

Received also the papers today. Haven't seen a paper for a week and didn't know much about anything. Yes, I'm sure I'll be good to the little French girls all right. I hear they are great on the kissing stuff HA! HA!

Weather here is fine today but awful cold yesterday, but I guess there is as much snow here as in No. Dak. Will have to close now and go to work. Hoping to hear from you soon as ever and wishing you all a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year.

As ever,
Gordy

To Jack Lindgren,
Cooperstown, N. Dak.

Camp Merritt, Tenafly, N. J.
December 7, 1917

Dear Jack:

Just a few lines to let you know we've moved again. All the boys here had their Thanksgiving in New York. We were all invited to dinner there, but myself and a couple of other boys had dinner in Jamaica, a town about 12 miles from New York. We were waiting there for a street car to go to New York and an old gentleman came up and was bound we should eat dinner with him, so we went, and some dinner too. He was an old rich guy, but he sure treated us fine. He had two servings of wine and some sweet delicious cider. Was sight seeing in New York too, and Broadway: there is sure some place and it's nothing like Fargo either. Was on top of the highest skyscraper in the world, the Woolworth Building.

Say, Martha belongs to the Norwegian Ladies Aid doesn't she? Well, I received a Thanksgiving package from them and it sure was fine. It reached me a little late for Thanksgiving as it was sent to Camp Greene, N. C. instead of to Long Island, but nevertheless, it tasted fine. Tell her or them for me that I sure appreciated it and extend many thanks as things from home taste pretty good. Will try and send you a few souvenirs as I see they have been quite a few good ones down town, but

Letters Written by Gordon Lindgren (Cont.)

we have been busy getting settled again. The weather here is moderate, but there is no snow here, and it seems funny as it is so late. Hoping to hear soon.

As ever,
Gordy

Camp Merritt, Tenafly, New Jersey,
Co. H. 164 Inf. 41 Div.

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

Camp Merritt, Tenafly, N. J.
December 8, 1917

Dear Folks:

Well, I'll add a little more to this letter. The other part I wrote last night but I received your letter this morning so will answer that one, too. I think I told you where I spent Thanksgiving so won't write about it this time. You can send that fruit cake right along as I'm hungry for a piece of cake. I don't think I'll have any trouble in getting rid of all those boxes as I have 7 more to share it as you know we are arranged in "squads" of 8. But the other boys get boxes also and we all share them together.

Yes, I sure did see New York and some Broadway I tell you. Not like Fargo you may be sure, but the funny part of it was I walked the streets like I was in Cooperstown or Fargo. A large city don't make me feel lost any more like it used to. I don't think I could hardly get lost. Maybe it was because there were so many soldiers there.

Had a letter from both Jack and Geo. today and together with yours it seems quite homelike. Geo. is at Camp Funston, Kansas. He said Jim was down to see him before he left and bought a new Ford car. Now I wish I was back home for a while. But I never hear from Phil or anything. If they write to you, give him my address and hurry him up.

Well, must close as I don't want to tell everything at once, and as I got to bum a stamp to mail this with yet, as we all do sometimes.

As ever,
Gordy

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

December 8, 1917

Dear Folks:

Well, I'll still add to this letter as I just received

Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

another letter today, and hadn't mailed the letter yet. The funny part of it was I was just going to bum a stamp, and those envelopes came in just fine. So you hit the nail right on the head. Yes, I received all the letters addressed to Minneola and also the sweater and everything. The government I think got out that policy instead of paying pensions, I think that's the way it works, and holds good after the war too five years. Say an Eder's Safety razor would be fine for I shaved with one of them for one of the boys here has one. I see your letter was mailed last Sunday, and as today is Sunday, it took just a week but I guess that's because it was sent to Camp Mills first. I sent you a card a day or so ago to tell you that we had moved.

Haven't done any shopping yet as we are waiting for pay day which we expect next week. I hope so as I'd like to get some presents home in time for Xmas and it's getting closer every day.

Well, I'm going to mail this letter for sure this time so hoping to hear soon.

With love to all.

As ever,
Gordy

To Geo. Lindgren,
Co. A. 40 Inf.
Fort Riley, Kansas

Camp Merritt, Tenafly, N. J.
December 9, 1917

Dear Bro:

Well, we have moved once more, only not very far, about 35 miles I guess. We are south from New York City about 12 miles. That city is sure some berg. Had Thanksgiving dinner there and sure was fine. Took the boat from New York to here and we sure saw many interesting sights. Ships of all sizes, also passed by the Statue of Liberty, and it's sure some Statue. We have barracks here and everything you have except steam heat. A spring bed sure feels fine, doesn't it? I also got a package from the Lutheran Ladies Aid, and I think was the same as yours. I suppose Jim will travel some now with the tin Lizzie. I would like to go and see him and see how fast I could run it. It's quite cold here, but it just started yesterday when we had our first snow. There's a small town about 1/2 mile from here, but old N. Y. is the place to have a good time. Had a letter from both Jessie and Jack the same time I got yours. My \$3.00 comes this month also. Took out a \$10,000 insurance policy and costs \$6.40 a month. I suppose you fellows will be coming East pretty soon too. We just got our new packs the other day, and like them better than the old ones.

Well, Xmas is getting pretty near and will have to shop

#18.

Letters Written by Gordon Lindgren (Cont.)

in New York this year I guess. We kind of expect to get paid tomorrow, and I hope so, as I like to get presents home in time for Xmas. Well, I guess I'll stop for this time, hoping to hear soon.

As ever,
Gordy,

Just got a few envelopes from Carl today and am making use of them.

Co. H 164 Inf. 41 Div.
Camp Merritt, Tenafly, N. J.

To Jack Lindgren,
Cooperstown, N. D.

Camp Merritt, Tenafly, N. J.

Dear Jack:

It is snowing to beat the band out and has been all day, but the weather is warm. Next time I go up to N. Y. I'm going to have my picture taken, so will send one then. I won't be able to get up till next Sat. as that's the only day they issue passes to N. Y. Yes, that's lots of insurance, but you see it's both a death and an accident policy. If I am disabled, I get something like \$54 a month for 20 years. After the war we can still keep it if we want to. Had a letter from Geo. and Jessie both today and also got the home papers so it was quite homelike. I see by the papers now that we have to allot at least 1/2 of our pay. Before it was voluntary, but maybe we have to yet. That's why I took out insurance instead of sending money home. So don't be surprised if you receive allotments in the future. I don't know whether it's so yet or not.

This month I received \$33.00 as I told you I got an increase of \$3.00. After taking out the insurance and Liberty Bonds I'll have \$21.60. If I have to allot any home, it will be \$5.10. I see Geo. is a marksman and gets an extra \$2.00.

As ever,
Gordy.

Co. H 164 Inf. 41 Div. Camp Merritt, Tenafly, N. J.

"Somewhere" in England at present

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

On active Service
with
American Expeditionary Forces

December 27, 1917

Dear Folks:

Well, have arrived safely. I suppose you knew by this time that we had gone as you haven't received any mail from me for such a long time and it may be quite a while before you get this letter. The sea was pretty quiet and we had a pretty good trip. Was a little sick for a couple of days but soon got used to it. Was surely glad to set foot on land again though. This is a pretty nice country what we have seen of it. There is no snow here, but it's not so very warm either. An overcoat feels mighty good I know. A man feels pretty queer when he realizes how far from home he is, but we are used to taking things as they come, and I guess they are coming thick and fast. I hope you spent a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

We cannot write many things as we are not allowed. We send letters free to the U. S. A. which we are allowed to do, so don't be surprised if they charge you 5¢ or 10¢ to get this. I suppose that sweater will be finished by the time you get this letter and my address. Have had many experiences since I left and if I come back I think I can entertain you for quite a while. We have quite a time getting used to the denominations of money here, you may be sure. Some very amusing incidents. Have had 2 turkey dinners since I left, so didn't miss that. Have got to write to Jack yet to-night and if you hear from Phil, let him know. I suppose I'll get a bunch of mail pretty soon, but I don't know about the packages, whether they'll ship perishable stuff if there's any, but I hope so. I didn't get that fruit cake and candy before I left and was hoping I'd get it before I left as don't know whether I'll get it now or not. About every other person we meet here is in uniform. Their trains here, or rather one car is divided into 5 compartments and each compartment contains 8 people, and resembles a hack. There is mostly brick houses here on account of the damp climate.

They say the Y. M. C. A. closes in 5 minutes so will have to go to my bunk and finish this. Well, I guess I will finish this now. Today is fine out and there's a bunch not far from here skating, but the weather itself is mild. My address you will find on the envelope where the stamp is. Be sure and put just what is there and nothing else. The division we are not allowed to put down. Well, will close for this time and will write more later on.

With love to all,

Co. H. 164 Inf.
A. E. F.

Gordy.

"SOMEWHERE" IN ENGLAND

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

On Active Service With
American Expeditionary Forces
January 13, 1918 .

Dear Folks:

Will drop you a few lines again. Wrote about a week ago also, but don't know whether it caught a boat or not. Am well

718.
Letters Written by Gordon Lindgren (Cont.)

and hope everybody the same. We are not doing much of anything yet, except trying to keep warm altho the weather is not so cold. We got just one little stove to keep warm with. Had a big Xmas and New Year's dinner and I'll tell you what it was. One piece of bread, a little butter, a cup of coffee and a small piece of meat. Some dinner, eh? Now I never thot last Xmas I would be here. Where a man don't get enough to eat he feels lonesome. Some of the boys buy stuff up town and fry it on the stove. Just give us boys the stuff and we can cook it. I know how to make a good cup of coffee now. But that is not all. We are out of tobacco, and with no money to buy it. We have over 2 months pay coming. I tell you what you can send me, some good old American tobacco such as Bull Durham, Prince Albert, or Tuxedo, and if you can get some cigarettes, send them also, and please, please send them soon for life is dreary without a little tobacco to cheer you up. Please send the newspaper too, all you have, also the Cooperstown paper if you have it, as am anxious to hear from home. Please send as soon as you can. I know you will send these things, but we can't expect them for some time as it takes quite a while for a letter to get there, but we'll wait patiently.

The Kaiser is getting licked all around and we hope to go in and finish him up so we can get back home again, and believe me, we'll do it. Well, I suppose you folks are having pretty cold weather up there now. Wish I was up there sitting by a nice hard coal stove.

I hope we go to France soon as I think there is lots of mail there for us and that is what we want most now. We got a Y. M. C. A. here and also some great and noted historical ruins. Some buildings here were built in the year of 600 and up to a 1000 and they are very interesting. But after all I'd rather own a lot in N. D. than all this country over here.

How are the boys coming? I suppose they'll be pretty well grown up when I get back again. Tell Phil and family hello if you hear from them. Well, I don't know much to write that can pass so will ring off hoping to hear soon and don't forget the tobacco, I remain

With love to all,
Gordy.

Co. H. 164 Inf.
Am. Exp. Forces.

"Somewhere" in England

To Jack Lindgren,
Cooperstown, N. D.

On Active Service with
American Expeditionary Forces

Jan. 3, 1918

Dear Jack:

Will drop you a few lines again since I haven't written you since last year (1917). Not very long either. Am well and hope you folks are the same. I hope you had a Merry Xmas

Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

and Happy New Year. Well, I can't say I enjoy it. Our Xmas and New Year dinner was 1 piece bread, a small piece meat and a cup of coffee. Some feed, eh? That is the only thing that bothers us the most. We have not got any tobacco or no money to buy any. We have over 2 months pay coming. It's pretty hard on a man when he is out of tobacco. We can't get American tobacco here at all. So I hope we can go to France as I think they have some there. I wish Paulson had his barber shop here. Tell him he better move it over, as we look like wild men. We cut each other's hair, and believe me, they are some looking heads when we get thru.

You know we are so mad we are going to lick the Kaiser in a hurry, and get back to civilization again, where we can get enough to eat and a good place to sleep, and I hope that is soon. We have no snow here but it is quite chilly. Gosh, but I wish I could sit down to a good meal at home again and a good bed, but it's all in a lifetime I guess. I have seen all I care to see of the old country, altho if a man was sight-seeing and had lots of money, he could see many interesting things here. We have seen old castles built here in the year of 600 and was thru a large temple built in the year 1047, and some architecture there is too. There are also many other interesting historical buildings. But the one thing I'd like to see just now is a glimpse of "Cooperstown."

Was there much of a Xmas rush up there this year? I suppose there was. I suppose all the stores were busy. I kind of miss the store this Xmas. Quite a change since last year I think. Say, Jack, don't forget the papers and send as many as you can, especially the home paper. Well, Jack, must close for this time, and tell all the boys hello for me. So hoping to hear soon I remain, With love to all

Gordy

Co H. 164 Inf.

Ans. soon.

A. E. F.

Salvation Army

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

On Active Service with the
American Expeditionary Forces

France, Feb. 6, 1918

Dear Folks;

Have not written since we arrived in France so guess I had better get busy. Am well and hope everybody the same. Am located in 26 Inf. now. Have done nothing much but travel lately but are settled down now. We are getting real trench training now, and man's got to be in pretty good trim. Have not received any mail except one letter written to me at Camp Merritt. I suppose I got some Xmas packages somewhere and maybe they will reach me by and by and I hope so, and also I would like to get hold of some home paper. I suppose the papers are full of Americans work over here. One thing we miss here is money. Haven't had any since last October but expect it this

Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

month. I'll have quite a roll won't I? I think I'll cable-gram it home if I can.

I am laid up for a while. I fell down stairs in our billet and smashed a bone in my wrist. Have had my arm in a sling for a week but expect to take it out tomorrow, but it's quite sore yet. The weather here is awful damp but it's not cold. When the sun shines it's real warm. You can run around in your shirt sleeves comfortably. You should see our bed room. Some swell I tell. We sleep upstairs in the barns of the French peasants. Lots of air and ventilation here. We sleep on straw ticks but we keep warm. The French here or rather the peasants live all together in villages instead of one here and one there. About every half mile is a French village, and in each one there is a church, with a large clock in the tower. They ring out the hour and half hour and you can hear it quite a ways. They hold up the soldiers here something fierce. For a franc or 20¢ you get a little piece of candy. Three pieces of common chocolates here cost 20¢. I never did like candy so well before.

I suppose the boys are growing fast now. My but I would like to see them. Well, maybe I will some time later. We don't get much news from the States so don't know what's going on in the good old U. S. A. Well, will ring off for this time, will write more later on, hoping to hear as soon as possible.

With love to all,
Gordy.

H. K. Hoster
2nd Lt. U. S. A.

Address. Pvt. Gorden M. Lindgren
Co. A. 26 Inf.
Am. Exp. Forces
Via New York.

To Jack Lindgren
Cooperstown, N. D.

France, Feb. 26, 1918

Dear Jack:

Just received your letter of Dec. 16 and will answer. It was quite a while on the way but got here all right. Got 2 letters from Jessie also. Am feeling well and hope everybody is the same. Had rainy weather here a couple of days and makes it pretty bad for hiking. Am writing by candle light and can't see very good. I suppose you have sent the papers but they haven't found me yet. I suppose you got my letters I wrote in England. That's almost 2 months ago. I suppose most everybody is interested in the war over there now. Well, it's getting pretty close to home anyhow. Am feeling in good trim myself and ready to get Kaiser Bill anytime.

You should be over here if you want to buy cheap. Just bought a pair of gloves the other day and paid \$7.00 for them.

Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

What you get in the States for \$1.50. They sure soak us here.

Well, will ring off for tonight, Ans. soon.

With love to all,
Gordy

J. R. Robinson
2nd Lt. U. S. A.

Address--Pvt. Gorden M. Lindgren,
Co A. 26 Inf. A. E. F.
Via New York.

To C. J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

On Active Service
with the
American Expeditionary Forces

March 19, 1918

Dear Folks:

Been receiving lots of mail and now will take time to answer. Received about 5 or 6 letters from you and about 5 bundles of papers so I guess I got all of them. Got the packages, too. That fruit cake and jam I also got, and say, that cake sure was good, also the jam. Tobacco also received. I think the only things I haven't got yet is the razor and the sweater. Am feeling well and hope you are all the same. Been having fine weather here the past week. Like June days in N. D. I suppose you folks are getting a little warm weather now as it's already March. Would sure like to come and visit you in your new house. If I do come back, I sure will pay you a good visit and a long one, too. Received Xmas packages from Geo. and also Martha and Jack. I see by the home papers that there ain't very many boys left in Cooperstown. I wonder what the girls think about it. Well, I suppose they will be all the more glad to see us when we get back. If they were over here they would see plenty of boys, I mean Americans--not French. All the Frenchmen I see are old men. I guess there aren't many young fellows left. There is sure some pretty scenery here where we are, but the trees here are just budding out.

Haven't heard from Geo for a long time and I forget his address now. I suppose he is in the States yet. If he is, he's lucky. I don't mind it in the summer time but this cold weather gets my goat. Haven't heard anything from Phil or Amelia since I enlisted. Tell them to write a few lines and give them my address, as I don't know theirs. Have had a cold for 2 weeks now and it don't seem to be getting any better. Well, you know I can't write as much as I want to, so will ring off for this time. Hoping to hear soon.

With love to all,
Gordy.

E. H. Ganstad
2nd Lt. 26 Inf.

Pvt. Gorden M. Lindgren
Co A. 26 Inf.
A. E. F.
Via New York

Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

To Mr. Carl J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. Dak.

France, April 28, 1918

Dear Folks,

Am going to write you a few lines but am not sure whether I can mail it or not, but sooner or later you will get it. Received your letter of March 21 which was the last one received up to date--Jessie was worrying about not hearing from me. You know we sometimes are in places where we can't write maybe 2 or 3 or possibly 4 weeks at a time, but you may be sure I take advantage of any chance I get. This paper and pencil in the one I received a couple days ago, the one where the Murads tobacco, brush, etc. came in and am mighty thankful for it, only I wish there were about a dozen of those hersheys in it. Safety razor was in there too, and have already tried it out. More wonders yet. I also received the box with the sweater and the boys' photographs in it, and I guess have just received about all the back packages. All those papers came at one time and I sure had enough reading for a while. Well, have managed so far to escape "Kaiser Bill's" wrath and hope to, and way long enough to square up a few accounts against him. I see they have got a few different ways to get money for the R. C. Everybody down to the little tots are helping. We are all on good terms with the children over here, and also the French women will do anything to help you. Sometimes we get them to fix us up a "feed", Eggs, French Fried, etc. and we generally tip them good- Weather here has been cloudy lately and not very warm. At present we are sleeping in an old barn and am writing this letter laying on my bunk in the straw. If I ever get where I can get my photo taken, I'm going to send you one. Over here we wear wrap leggings and a new kind of cap, which, I suppose would look kind of odd over there. Well, will stop for this time and if I can't mail this soon will add more to it later on, so answer soon and write often.

With love to all,
Gordy.

G. P. Cather
2nd Lt. 26th Inf.

Co. A 26 Inf.
American E. F.
Via New York

P. S.--Tell Jessie not to worry if she don't hear from me often. If anything happens, she will be notified immediately. Have received 3 boxes of tobacco from you so far, so I think I am getting all of them. Am hoping that candy you sent gets here "Toot Sweet" as I am just craving some good old American candy.

--Later--

They say they censor mail here now so think you will receive this letter all right. Has been raining just about all day here and hope it stops pretty soon- Am writing quite a few letters home as I have a little time now--Will ring off with best wishes to all.

Gordy.

Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

To Mr. Carl J. Krogfoss,
Granville, N. D.

France, May 5, 1918

Dear Folks:

Received your letter today and will answer it at once. I wrote one about a week ago also. Your letter was dated April 7 so it came thru in little more than three weeks. Pretty good I think. If mine get thru that soon, why, I'll be well satisfied. It rains about every night here and during the day the sun shines. It was quite warm yesterday. We had a game of ball yesterday and gave one an idea he was back in the States. It's too bad you can't send those cigarettes as I need them all right. Am going to send a request if I can get it signed, for you know it's got to be signed by an officer. Say, I'm forgetting to tell you of the most important thing, and that's those two one dollar bills, and as usual I was "dead Broke", although we have quite a lot of money coming to us. Today is Sunday and have nothing to do so far yet. The sun is shining nice and bright today and am glad of a little change.

Well, I've received about all the packages and tobacco so far so you can be satisfied your tobacco done good work o over here.

Well, don't know much more to write about so will ring off with love to all the folks and write often.

Gordy.

P. S.--Papers you can send without request I think so send them along.

G. P. Gather
2nd Lt. 26th Inf.

To Jack Lindgren,
Cooperstown, N. D.

On Active Service
with the
American Expeditionary Forces

May 12, 1918

Dear Jack:

Will drop you a few lines again. Have been writing about twice a week lately so I think you will get a few letters. Am still well, and hope the rest are the same. As you see by the papers, it's pretty lively on this side. I suppose N. D. is full of sunshine and rain by this time. How are all the boys? Are you fellows going to have a ball team there this year? I don't suppose, though, there are enough young fellows around to get a team up. Say, did Harold Olson pass the examination?

Letters Written by Gorden Lindgren (Cont.)

I think he'd make a good soldier. Say, I'm sending you a 3 month's subscription to our paper over here. It is called "The Stars and Stripes" and am sure will interest you. Be sure and show it to the boys as it shows a little of the inside life of the boys over here. Just received a letter from Jessie and it came thru in little over two weeks. That's soon enough to suit me. Well, Jack as you know, news is plentiful, be scarce (?) why will ring off for this time so write soon and don't forget to tell the news, With love to all the folks.

Gordy-

G. P. Cather
2nd Lt. 26th Inf.

Pvt. G. M. Lindgren, Am. E. F.
Co. A. 26 Inf.

To Jack Lindgren
Cooperstown, N. D.

(First page of letter missing)

Trimming yet when the "Yanks" get started.

George is pretty lucky for I guess he is in the States yet. Well, I don't think I would kick myself if I was back in "God's Country" once more. Haven't seen Martin yet and probably won't see him.

If I can get to some place where I can get my picture taken will send you one with my trench equipment on. Well, will write more next week so will stop with love to all the folks and hello to the boys.

As ever, Gordy.

Pvt. G. M. Lindgren
Co. A. 26 Inf. A. E. F. Via N. Y.

Tell Dad I'm feeling fine and hope he is the same.
Had a couple of ball games here lately.

G. P. Cather
2nd Lt. 26th Inf.

To C. J. Krogfoss
Granville, N. Dak.

On Active Service
with the
American Expeditionary Force

June 4, 1918

Dear Folks,

I wrote you last on May 12, "Mother's Day" and just got time to again to drop you a few lines. I received your letter and I suppose you have mine by this time. Am still well but am just about all in. Ha! Ha! We are just taking a much needed rest and have a nice place---(censored out) We sleep in dug-outs in the ground. The weather here is beautiful and makes

a man think of his annual vacation in the States. Haven't received any papers for over a month. I don't know whether you can send them or not. Had a letter from George the other day. The "Lucky Cuss". I would like to see some of the other boys get a crack at this too, for this fighting is no snap and you can call yourself mighty lucky if you get back. But it seems the good Lord is with some of us. You folks over there can't realize what it is and nobody can until he has been thru it. But when you come back the world seems a hundred times brighter.

Have been thru some pretty tight places, too. One day a large shell buried me and another soldier and we had to dig like the dickens to get out. But we got revenge for it all right for there was dead Germans strung all the way from our trench back to theirs. They are foxy cusses all right. Whenever they holler (censored) a little (censored). Well, as I've said before we are all darned glad to get back for a needed rest. Well, will ring off for this time and will write more later.

With love to all,
Gordy.

Pvt. G. M. Lindgren
Co. A. 26 Inf.
American E. F.
Via New York

P. S.--I see we are out of luck for boxes whether we send a request or not.

Did you get "The Stars and Stripes" yet?

Ans. soon

G. M. Brody-