

RECOLLECTIONS.....

NOVEMBER 20th 1918.....

ARLONS, BELGIUM. Ladies and Gentlemen, there will be a short stop while I give a short lecture on our entrance into Arlons on November 20th 1918! We were held up at the edge of town. Our 6th Regiment Band was brought up in a truck. Color Guard joined in. We marched down the main streets lined with old men, women, children of all ages! Many in wooden shoes. The old women, tears running down their cheeks, smiling and clapping their hands, beating out the time to the music with their wooden shoes. What a sight! Americano marching down their streets after 4 years of Hell on Earth!

Our intelligence was alerted to pick up any German Troops hanging around town. Only 26 of us! The language barrier! What a problem! Not a man of the 26 were decorated for breaking any records on that round up! WE slept in a large modern hotel! Can you imagine what those beds were like after our million fresh hot blooded cooties dug in?

JULY 10th 1919:

Time passed quickly. We crossed the river at Nelder Breizen where we boarded the famous "Forty and Fight!" Heading west into the setting sun=Aachen. Leige,, Hann u Mons, Charlevol, Valenciennes, Cambrai, Amlans..mle after mile of devastation, for this was the land where English, Canadians, Australians and Americano battled it out for four long years, proving that War Is Hell! It was not until twenty six years later that my son was to travel in the same country, following the Old Man's footsteps so closely that it was hard to believe..in 1945.

We had landed in Brest June 8th 1918; we returned there July 20th 1919. It was there that I met my brother Murray,; he too had "Joined the Marines to see the World".

FINEE la GARF: We boarded the Ryndam July 25th 1919 and on August 4th 1919--- there she was---the Statue of Liberty! Believe it or not, a tear rolled down my cheek, I could not call it a shower. As we stepped onto the dock we were served Hot Chocolate and greeted by a voice saying "Welcome Home Marine,!" I was speechless!

AT LAST HOME TO CAMP MILLS.

A train to Camp Mills--bath-bath-bath and more baths. Drew some new clothes! August 15th 1919 we left camp to parade up Fifth Ave., and down Broadway of New York City, and Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington D.C.

Left for Chicago August 15th 1919, arriving there Sunday August 16th at 5 P.M.