



THE ZORYAN INSTITUTE



WALTER REED GENERAL HOSPITAL
TAKOMA PARK, D.C.

Constantinople, Turkey.
Mar. 14, 1919.

Dear Mother,

I haven't written anything but cards since leaving Salonika. In case you didn't get all my mail, I write from Beirut, Marseille, & Salonika, besides several cards.

The trip from Salonika on was just as fine as the first part. We had great weather. On Friday morning we were approaching the Dardanelles, passed Lemnos & Lesbos, saw the tombs(?) of Achilles & Ajax & the site of old Troy, then entered the Straits. We were very close to the spot where the British landed on Gallipoli & could see the two transports they beached in order to land the troops - also the Turkish forts which were pretty well battered up - did it Bahr & Kuntaleh. Going on up we passed all the old forts, & stopped at Tchanak Kale, also called the town of Dardanelles. The forts here had been shelled heavily just four years ago that day, March 7th, & we could see the shell holes, & the Turk trenches etc. That was where Byron swam across, also



Leander. Then we went on up into the Sea of Marmora
 & early Saturday morning were in sight of
 Constantinople. The view from the harbor was great.
 An American submarine chaser took us ashore
 - in the rain & we were given a bunch of sleeping
 cars to live in. If I'm writing this letter in my
 room on the car now. They are fine - much better
 than in America - a fairly large room, two
 beds, table, wash room, etc. Some of our party
 live on the Island of Princes, in the Sea of
 Marmora. I'll probably move there tomorrow
 night. It is a lovely place, except for the
 fact that a lot of interned German officers
 live there in great style.

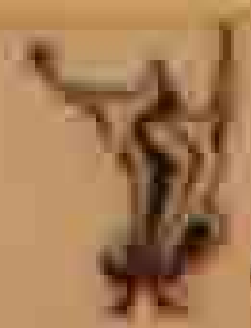
There hasn't been anything to do here
 except some sightseeing & a little business.
 Parties are being sent out every day - one
 left for San Juan on the Black Sea several
 days ago, to open the way to Narovnan.
 Fighting is going on there between the Turks
 & Greeks. Another crowd goes to Adana
 very soon, to break up into various units
 from there. Another unit of 36 leaves
 for the Caucasus next week, & one to



Caesarie or "Kaiserie" in the central Asia
 Minor next week. I'm to be in one of the
 two letters, but expect it will be Caesarie
 rather than the Caucasus. Most of our men
 are now at Deranje, about 30 miles from
 here, our supply base.

This is a very interesting city, but
 most of it is terribly dirty. The best street
 in the city - up in Pera - isn't much better
 than Main St. in Darby. I am in
 the station in Stamboul, on the end of the
 Berlin road.

All the people look different here of
 course from Americans - all the men
 wear red fezes, & many of them have the
 big baggy trousers, sash, etc. The little
 donkey carts, water carriers, & the
 bazars, & the funny clothes make it look



real orientals. We seemed to attract quite a little attention ourselves. There are only 2 or three American soldiers in the city, but lots of English & French, & French colonials. I saw a parade of Frenchies thru the city a few days ago, & this morning some French colonials were drilling in the station yard and believe me those darters could drill & never saw a company move as much like a machine as they did - they are from Madagascar.

We get good food, but the prices are fairly high for the committee, in American money, & four times as high in Turkish money. Practically all metal money is out of circulation, & the paper is only worth $\frac{1}{4}$ its old value. They have paper money for even 5 paras - about $\frac{1}{8}$ of a cent in our money. I'll enclose one if I remembers

Yesterday the treasurer of Robert College, a Penn man, invited Dr. Harman & me to dinner. He took us to the Hotel to eat - the best in the city & we had some food. It cost him about \$63. Then he took us up to the college & showed us around - and I was surprised to find a fine, well equipped college - engineering departments, museums, & everything. They can make castings & build their own machinery. During the war they built their own gas producers, flour mills, etc. Then we had tea & the treasurer's home, & had a great time. Today I strolled around the Sultan's Palace, but didn't see his highness. Up to the present time I've visited ~~the~~ the mosque of St. Sophie & Sultan Ahmed, the tomb of Sultan Selim, the old Hippodrome, Museum of Antiquities, the armory, etc, etc. Besides walking about 10 miles around the town everyday. Expect to take a sail up the Bosphorus some day soon. I don't like staying around town doing nothing, but they can't send us out any



faster than they are doing.

Shiploads of American flour, condensed milk, etc have arrived & the price of milk & white bread has gone away down. Shoes cost \$75, according to Mr. J. P. Way, (the treasurer of Robert College - the Penn-man)

I've gradually absorbed some Turkish & French, & use my German a little. French would get as by any place we have been - everybody here speaks it, so I'm going to study it.

Havent had any letters yet, & we get very little news. The Turks here apparently had something terrible planned, and a few days ago 20 high officials were arrested. The paper said it was done not so much because of the part they had had in the massacre & the war, but to prevent them

carrying out "something" which was to be a climax to all their dirty work & would shock the world, ~~the committee~~
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Gen. Esprey

is here yet - I saw him yesterday. Dr. Laker is in the city, & is to be in charge of the unit going to the Caucasus. Also Drs. Park & Washburn are here.

If the Post Offices wont handle mail for Turkey, send letters thru the committee in New York. Later on you might send me a few films for the vest jacket Kodak & a battery for the flash light, I cant get the battery here, & film is expensive. The battery no. is 751, I think. If the package is sent to the A. C. R. N. E., Amer. Bible House, Constantinople, & mailed forward



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It ought to reach me all right. But
don't bother about it for some time yet

~~I'd like to know how everything is~~
going on at home, but don't expect mail
for some time yet. Hope all are well
at home. ~~I'm in~~ ~~just~~ ~~last~~ ~~class~~ ~~condition~~,
only want a bath. I'll try a ~~last~~ ~~best~~
one tomorrow. This letter will go thru
the consulate here, & may go home
on the ~~Pomacola~~, or perhaps by
courier to Paris, or it may be sent
thru the French or British military
post offices. Must close now &
turn in. Love to all from

Stanley.