

**Army Book 153**

**Field Message Book**  
**(For the use of Dismounted Regimental**  
**Officers and Non-commissioned Officers of**  
**Cavalry and Infantry.)**

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This Book is ruled in  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch  
Squares

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The waterproof cover issued for the purpose of protecting this book may be obtained on application. It should be made to outlast as many refills as possible. Special envelopes for despatching [sic] messages, Army Form C, 398, may also be obtained.

Property of Leroy V. Fleming  
Co. A. 310 Engrs.

Leroy V. Fleming  
2045857

**COVER FOR ARMY**  
**BOOK 153**

**Refills for this cover will be issued on demand.**  
**The cover should be preserved and made to last as long as possible.**

Roy V. Fleming  
R4 Merrill  
Mich.

Property of Corp. Leroy Fleming  
Co A 310 Engrs.  
Bought from Mike Londry  
At Camp Cowsfott, Surrey, England

### Daily routine on Grampian

Reveille	6:00 AM
Mess	7:00
Guard Mount	9:00
Troops on Deck	9:15 to 11:00 AM
Ship's inspection	10:30
Mess	12:00 M. [sic]
Mess	5:30 P.M.
Decks Clear	8:45
Taps	9:00
Sick Call	9:00 A.M.

### Came to

Camp Custer, Mich[.]	4-30-[19]18
Left Camp [Custer, Mich.]	7-11-[19]18
Arrived Camp Wilk, N. Y.	7-12-[19]18
Left [Camp Wilk] N. Y	7-21-[19]18
Arrived Liverpool[, ] Eng.	8-3-[19]18
Arrived Camp Cowshott[, Eng.]	8-4-[19]18
Left [Camp Cowshott[, Eng.]	8-26-[19]18
[Left]Newcastle on Tyne 4:00 PM	8-26-[19]18
Arrived Archangle [sic] Russia	9-4-[19]18
Left ship for Barracks [Port] of Archangle [sic] <sup>1</sup>	9-5-[19]18

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<sup>1</sup> The page has been folded over before copying. The missing word ends in "t" so it is probably "Port."

Cos[.] A B C 310 Engrs. and 1 Bn[.] of 339<sup>th</sup> Inf. on Board the Tydeus  
With our Medical [sic] detachments.

Sailed to England on Grampian  
[Sailed to] Russia on Tydeus

Everything expensive in England.

People rob us every chance.

Aug 13 [19]18 Anniversary of my Marriage, 1 year

Aug 14, [1918] Visited London

Aug 22 [19]18 One of B. Co's men shot himself at Camp Cowshott. Was suspected of stealing money. Died next day. Injured 2 others with same shot.

Were visited by 3 South African Scotchmen who entertained us with Bagpipes and Scotch dances. They are well liked congenial fellows.

People of Russia in a starving condition and also will do anything for cigarettes and tobacco. Cigarettes are better than money.

Part of 339<sup>th</sup> Inf[.] captured 113 Bolsheviks on their first night out. General strike on at Archangel Power plant. Seargeant [sic] Schneider was placed in charge of plant.

Our Co. helped to unload boat and also doing guard duty on docks. We are camped in Barracks. Comfortable[.]

4<sup>th</sup> Platoon left Sept 12-[19]18 to do bridge-building up the [Dvina] river.

Name of this Camp is Bakkautz.

We left Bakkautz Saturday Sept 14 [19]18 about 4:00 P.M. after staying on boat since Friday Sept 13 [19]18. Going up the Divina[sic] River. Destination unknown. Expect to do Engineering work. 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon and a squad of 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon on another scow. We are towed by a tug-boat.

Co[.] A Officers on leaving U. S.

Capt[.] C. S. McArdle

1<sup>st</sup> Lt[.] Stevenson

1<sup>st</sup> Lt[.] Giffels

1<sup>st</sup> Lt[.] McCurly[,], Supply Officer

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt[.] Claude B. Hill

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt[.]<sup>2</sup> Burns[,], Mail Censor

Major Morse[,], Major of Bn[.]

Capt. Knight[,], Adjutant

1. Guard's Special orders from Post No[.] 1.  
Between reveille and retreat to turn out the guard for all persons designated by the Commanding Officer and for all colors and Standards not Eased and in time of

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<sup>2</sup> Lt. Burns given name is indicated by question mark.

war for all armed parties approaching my post, except troops at drill and reliefs and detachments of the Guard only.

2. During the time for challenging[,] to advance no one but call the Corp. of the Guard repeating the answer to the challenge.

Addresses

Sgt. McLean  
Brty.[sic] C 330<sup>th</sup> Artillery

Asst. Band Leader H. L. Barker  
Hdqrs. Btry[.] 328 Field Artillery

Corp Eugene E. Clark  
337<sup>th</sup> Inf. Machine Gun Co.

Sgt. Leo MacIntosh  
Co I 339 Inf.

Pvt. John Garcchow<sup>3</sup>  
Co C 340 Inf. 85 Division

Pvt. Earl McNeir  
Sup[.] Co. 340 Inf.

Pvt's[:] M. Londry[:] Cook Wright[:]

Linus Seigmund Co[.] C 310 Engs[.]

Lloyd Fall  
Co[.] C 310 Engs.

Too much whiskey found by some of the men.

I am in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon Corp[.] Lyttle's squad.

Recd. Wireless news from Western front. Americans are progressing rapidly.

People on banks of Divina [sic] River living in dugouts where we stopped for wood for tug.

Saw children wearing shoes made of woven bark. People only half-clothed.

Sick rate of Russia is 524 per 1000 in 1909. Only one Doctor for 7100 people in

European Russia and 1 Doctor for 14, 900 men in Asiatic Russia. 1/10 of men examined for Military training were found unfit for Service. I rouble equals 51 ½c in peace times.

Is now about 10c.

Name of tug –

Name of scow we are on NEPKAT 70

[Name] of [scow] with tools M.T. no. 3

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<sup>3</sup> Surname may be spelled incorrectly.

Sept. 23 [19]18

Coming nearer the front. Saw 2 mines exploded by English sailors using time fuse. Our Infantry driving Bolsheviki farther back every day. Hope to reach Kotlas before cold weather sets in. Entire Company in Good health.

On Oct. 4 we were shelled by Bolsheviki Artillery. Doing no damage except breaking a few windows. No deaths but 4 or 5 Royal Scots were wounded by schrapnel. Oct. 8 Leut[.] Hill and several men went across the river and on the way back their tug stranded on sandbar and trying to reach shore by swimming . Leut[.] Hill, Sgt. Bloom and Cook Dargan are missing. Been gone 3 days.

Artillery fire still continues on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> [19]18.

On Monday Oct. 14 [19]18[.]

Sgt[.] French was injured[.]

[Sgt.] Zeegenbien was killed.

Corp. Lyttle injured[.] Died Oct. 30-19[19][.]<sup>4</sup>

Pvt. Lashinsky [was injured.]

[Pvt.] Pullman [was injured.]

[Pvt.] Doe] [was injured.]

[Pvt.] Asire [was] killed[.]

On Oct. 13 Pvt[.] Anto [was] injured

We retreated from village of Kolega on night of Oct 14 [19]18.

On night of Oct 16 [19]18 we stayed with the Canadian Artillery and on Oct 17 [19]18 we went back about 4 miles and joined Co B. 339<sup>th</sup> Inf.

On retreating from Kolega all supplies were left[,] also many fur overcoats for the British army. All the American Engineers lost their barrack bags and all extra clothing.

**A comparison of the English and Russian alphabet is inserted here.**

Address  
Albert Ruede  
297 Harris St.  
Jackson[,] Mich[.] U.S.A.

Continued from page 9

Many of the Engineers being compelled to throw away their packs during the forced march of about 18 miles. We were marching all night about 12 hrs[.]

On October 23 [19]18 a battle took place near Tulcas[sic]<sup>5</sup> the Royal Scots [sic] and Americans beating back the Bolsheviki after having been surrounded[.] Battle lasted several hou[rs.] accompanied by hear[ing] from Bolshevik Naval g[uns] entire afternoon. We are also working on [?]<sup>6</sup> entanglements.

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<sup>4</sup> Date of death inserted later.

<sup>5</sup> The correct spelling is Toulgas.

<sup>6</sup> Page folded over so word[s] unintelligible.

Nov 10 [19]18 was our first Sunday off since Oct[.] 4<sup>th</sup>. Everybody cleaned up. We have put up 13 block houses and barb-wire with help of some Russians. Everybody in good health. Sgt[.] Castlos and Sgt[.] Page are in charge. Lt. Stephenson is across the river. Sgt[.] Ebel has been relieved and Corp. Nolf made Sgt[.]

Nov[.] 11 Big battle of Tulgass[sic]. Canadians play big part. Nearly lost their guns. Bolos got within 200 yds[.] of guns but were beaten back leaving over 60 dead close to guns. Battle lasted four days and nights.<sup>7</sup>

Fletcher S. P. Thomas  
Streetsville  
Canada[,] Ontario

Mr F. Thomas  
324894  
67 Battery  
C. F.[.]A[.]

Curtis C. Cordell  
1514 No. Vermilion St.  
Danvill, Ill.  
324002

A F Bernard  
Toronto, Ont.  
Canada  
Box 445  
1919

Name and address of Russian civilian who owned Billet we had for 6 months[.]

Aspelonredbcnou Tydepnin  
Tyernocnol norm omd  
Kyprosuenr Cmesony ein  
Barrob<sup>8</sup>

Left Kurgomen Thursday Thursday March 13[.][19]19 for Archangel arriving in Rostofsko March 14[19]19 arrived in Bereznik same evening Corporal Kenny of Co A (339 Inf.) killed on Sunday March 9[.][19]19 by Artillery fire. Killed at Vistaal<sup>9</sup>. Arrived at Emetskoe [at] noon March 17 [19]19 (changed transports)  
Arrived at Rest building in woods Tuesday eve. Mar 18-[19]19[.] L. Of. C. rest-house (Elmetskoe [sic]<sup>10</sup>)

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<sup>7</sup> This paragraph was inserted on the flip side of the page but obviously belongs here because of date.

<sup>8</sup> The three names and apparent location were very difficult to decipher. The result is my best guess.

<sup>9</sup> This city may be Vistafka. The handwriting is not clear enough to be certain.

<sup>10</sup> The correct spelling is Emetskoe.

Arrived at Kolmogorsky [sic]<sup>11</sup> March 19[19] at noon. [L]eft same place 5:00 o'clock morning of the 20<sup>th</sup> arriving at Balkaritzza [sic]<sup>12</sup> at 1:00 PM same day. Rec'd mail. Left Balkaritzza [sic] at 1:00 PM April ?<sup>13</sup>[,] arrived at Mechka same evening. Transferred [?]<sup>14</sup>

**A page may be missing here.**

**The following seems to be out of place.**

**Squad List<sup>15</sup>**

**Hermann, E. C. 1  
Wenting, P. B. 2  
Peffer[,] Walter 3  
Corp. Fleming. 4  
Barzyk, Ed 5  
Wing F. 6  
Maschke 8**

**6<sup>th</sup> Squad 4<sup>th</sup> Platoon  
1<sup>st</sup> Bn Co A 210 Engrs.  
American Expeditionary Force  
Rifle No 973960**

**I was made Corporal on June 24, 1918.**

**Full Pack Equipment**

**Shelter half, pins, poles.  
2 Blankets  
1 Suit heavy Underwear  
2pr socks  
1 towel  
1 tooth-brush  
1 razor  
1 Steel helmet  
1 Suit denim overalls and cap.**

**Salary of Corp.  
In U. S. Overseas  
36.00 39.60  
Per Month**

**Remington rifle No 210683**

**Identification No. 2045857 (Note: the first 5 may be a 6.)**

**I was reduced from Corporal to Private on Sept. 12-[19]18 Reason unknown.<sup>16</sup>**

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<sup>11</sup> It is unclear to me whether the reference is to Kholmogori or Kohlmagerske.

<sup>12</sup> The correct spelling is Bakaritzza.

<sup>13</sup> The copied page cuts off the exact date in April.

<sup>14</sup> The copied page is turned over and cuts off the remainder of the sentence.

<sup>15</sup> This section in bold face type seems to be out of place.



Towns passing through from Kurgomen to Archangel

Pless

Kernesgary

Rostofco x

Bereznik

Peuda<sup>17</sup>

Vevoz x

Nikolivi [sic]<sup>18</sup>

Emetskoe (changed transports)

Koholmogorska [sic]<sup>19</sup> took train for Bakaritsa [sic]<sup>20</sup>

Cpl Don McIsaac

339 Inf Machine Jun, Co.

Albert Fleming<sup>21</sup>

2153 R. Street N.W.

Washington, D.C.

April 29-[19]19 Ice broke loose in Dvina River but jammed on the 30<sup>th</sup> remaining so until May 3<sup>rd</sup>. gunboat went to Front same day. May 4<sup>th</sup> Ice nearly all gone expect some riverboats tomorrow May 5<sup>th</sup>. River open at last. Hope to leave soon.

Left Mechka May 21<sup>st</sup> and arrived at Ymitskoe Monring of 22<sup>nd</sup> and Seletskoe same evening. On Morning of 24<sup>th</sup> left Seletskoe for the Sred-ma-renga<sup>22</sup> front arrived there May 25-[19]19 at noon. Made trip of 37 versts by canoe. 7 canoes carrying 12 men, baggage and rations[.] [E]ach canoe was paddled by a man and woman.

May27-[19]19 Inspection by General Turner[.] American Engineers turned out in full force[.] One [sic] again.

June 8. Left Sred-ma-renga at noon by canoe for Seltskoe arriving there at 7:00 P.M.

T. J. Idalske

1600 West Warren Ave.

Detroit

Mich

Corner [of] Warren and 33<sup>rd</sup>.

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<sup>17</sup> This may be Plussa. See Map.

<sup>18</sup> The correct spelling is Nikolski.

<sup>19</sup> The spelling on Leroy Fleming's map is Kohlmagorske.

<sup>20</sup> The correct spelling is Bakaritza.

<sup>21</sup> Albert Fleming was Leroy Fleming's brother and served in Washington, D.C. as a Marine in WW I.

<sup>22</sup> Correct spelling is Shredmehrenga.

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**Husband: Leroy Vincent Fleming**

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Born: 18 Aug 1895 in: Merrill, Saginaw County, Michigan  
Married: 13 Aug 1917 in: Saint Marys Church, Hemlock, Michigan  
Died: 26 Nov 1975 in: Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado  
Burial: in: Ft. Logan National Cemetery, Denver, Colorado (Sect. Q)  
Father: Michael Fleming  
Mother: Mary Ann (Minnie) Lappin  
Other Spouses:

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**Wife: Sarah M. McInnis**

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Born: 27 Aug 1892 in: Nelson, Saginaw County, Michigan  
Died: 01 Jan 1979 in: Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Burial: in: Ft. Logan National Cemetery, Denver, Colorado (Sect. Q)  
Father: John McInnis  
Mother: Christina McInnis  
Other Spouses:

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**CHILDREN**

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1	Name: Bernard Vincent Fleming Born: 20 Nov 1920 in: Merrill, Saginaw County, Michigan Died: 08 May 1995 in: Grand Rapids, Michigan Burial: in: Sacred Heart Cemetery, Huron County, Bad Axe, Michigan Married: 02 Jan 1943 in: Sacred Heart Church, Merrill, Michigan Spouse: Angelia Witer
M	
2	Name: Virginia Fleming Born: 08 Sep 1925 in: Merrill, Saginaw County, Michigan Died: in: Burial: Married: Abt. 1946 in: Merrill, Michigan (Sacred Heart Church) Spouse: Donald Weirauch
F	
3	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: in: Spouse:
4	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: in: Spouse:
5	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: in: Spouse:
6	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Burial: in: Spouse:

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