

Dearest Gordon,

I hope your lung has healed well since you've punctured it, it's good you walk around to help it. I'm glad you are in hospital and not continuing on the field, I've heard rumors of the Germans using chlorine gas in battle, it sounds very horrific.

You mentioned that you've received new Lee-Enfield rifles instead of the seemingly unreliable Ross. I think it's very cool that you got to be first officer other than the col while he was away.

I've seen newspapers depicting the new creeping barrage technique used in the battle of Vimy Ridge, sounds like it was very successful! Your father and I do not need the money you earn, I wish that you save it for your wedding with that sweet girl you met. I have knitted some more socks and mittens for you that are enclosed in this package to help keep you warm. A new shipment of soap has been sent overseas for you and your fellow soldiers to keep clean.

I've heard that General Haig has returned to Field Marshall and is wanting to fight another battle soon. I hope you make it through the battle alright when you get back to fighting. Arthur Currie has predicted high casualties, so stay safe. I have started a new job in which I am making artillery shells for you to use in battle.

News has spread from Halifax that a ship carrying explosives crashed into another ship and it flattened downtown Halifax, it brings me to realize what artillery shells going off all around you would be like. I hope that when you get back home you don't experience a thing called "Shell shock", doctors here are trying to find out what can help with it, I've heard that it's challenging to deal with. Your Uncle Ray had shell shock and the doctors helped him cope with it, so I don't think you need to worry too much.

I'm glad you are off the field, to give your brain a break from all the horrific things you've seen in the trenches. You mentioned that the food is alright, the women have been working hard in the wheat fields to supply you with good quality bread. I saw a box of gum leaving the factory, I hope it gets to you on the field so it can help you stay awake and alert.

I wish you the best of health as you heal from your accident. Will you return to battle or will you come home after you have healed? Your father and I love reading all of the letters you've sent us, it's reassuring to hear from you often. We will try to write back as often as possible. We love you lots.

Mom and Dad xoxo