



The Barracks  
Tipperary.

2. 8. 20

Dear Mummy

Thanks awfully for the cake  
and letter of good wishes. The former  
is splendid and jolly good to eat.

The General who was captured  
has escaped as I expect you will  
have heard by now. For about  
24 hours after he had got away  
we were plagued with newspaper  
reporters. One of them had the  
cheek to ring up on the telephone  
at 10 o'clock in the morning.

at the start by a bomb. They then fought for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours, and eventually got back to Cork without losing the mails or any arms. They know for certain that they killed one German, and wounded another very badly.

The official telegram also said that many pools of blood were noticed round about, so quite possibly they got a good many more.

Sooner or later there will be a bust up in this place. If any of our fellows get killed the troops will undoubtedly sack the place.

we had some difficulty in keeping them in after the mail car episode.

The ordinary mails now are very erratic, and nearly always come a day late if not more.

How is the landlady now? I hear from Aunt Edie that you had been into Bury & met them.

The weather here has improved a bit the last few days. We have actually seen the sun once or twice.

With very best love to you & Daddy.

Remain  
your loving son  
Edward Howard Zirkland.

an orderly went and told the orderly officer, who's reply was short & to the point but does not bear repeating.

I don't know if the reporter got the message but if he did I don't think he will bother us again.

The same day the mail car was attacked and two of the escort killed and two wounded. They did not know if they had got any of the rebels.

When the said car returned we supplied it with an escort. The following day on its way up from Cork, it was again attacked.

Four of the escort were wounded

LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT.

THE BARACKS  
TIPPERARY

2. 2. 20.

DEAR MUMMY,  
THANKS AWFULLY FOR THE CAKE AND LETTER OF GOOD WISHES. THE FORMER IS  
SPLENDID AND TOLLY GOOD TO EAT.

THE GENERAL WHO WAS CAPTURED HAS ESCAPED AS I EXPECT YOU WILL HAVE  
HEARD BY NOW. FOR ABOUT 24 HOURS AFTER HE HAD GOT AWAY WE WERE PLAGUED WITH  
NEWSPAPER REPORTERS. ONE OF THEM HAD THE CHECK TO RING UP ON THE TELEPHONE  
AT 10 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING. AN ORDERLY WENT AND TOLD THE ORDERLY OFFICER, WHO'S  
REPLY WAS SHORT & TO THE POINT BUT DOES NOT BEAR REPERTING.

I DON'T KNOW IF THE REPORTER GOT THE MESSAGE BUT IF HE DID I DON'T THINK  
HE WILL BOTHER US AGAIN.

THE SAME THE MAIL CAR WAS ATTACKED AND TWO OF THE ESCORT KILLED AND  
TWO WOUNDED. THEY DID NOT KNOW IF THEY HAD GOT ANY OF THE REBELS.

WHEN THE SAID CAR RETURNED WE SUPPLIED IT WITH AN ESCORT. THE FOLLOWING  
DAY ON ITS WAY UP FROM CORK, IT WAS AGAIN ATTACKED.

FOUR OF THE ESCORT WERE WOUNDED AT THE START BY A BOMB, THEY THEN  
FOUGHT FOR 2 1/2 HOURS, AND EVENTUALLY GOT BACK TO CORK WITHOUT LOSING THE  
MAILS OR ANY ARMS. THEY KNOW FOR CERTAIN THAT THEY KILLED ONE SINN FEINER,  
AND WOUNDED ANOTHER VERY BADLY.

THE OFFICIAL TELEGRAMME ALSO SAID THAT MANY POOLS OF BLOOD WERE NOTICED  
ROUND ABOUT, SO QUITE POSSIBLY THEY GOT A GOOD MANY MORE.

SOONER OR LATER THERE WILL BE A BUST UP IN THIS PLACE. IF ANY OF OUR  
FELLOWS GET KILLED THE TROOPS WILL UNDOUBTBLY SACK THE PLACE. WE HAD SOME  
DIFFICULTY IN KEEPING THEM IN AFTER THE MAIL CAR EPISODE.

THE ORDINARY MAILS NOW ARE VERY ERRATIC, AND NEARLY ALWAYS COME  
A DAY LATE IF NOT MORE.

HOW IS THE LANDLADY NOW? I HEAR FROM AUNT EDIE THAT YOU HAD BEEN  
INTO BURY & MET THEM.

THE WEATHER HERE HAS IMPROVED A BIT THE LAST FEW DAYS. WE HAVE  
ACTUALLY SEEN THE SUN ONCE OR TWICE.

WITH VERY BEST LOVE TO YOU & DADDY, I REMAIN, YOUR LOVING SON,

EDWARD ROWLAND LITCHFORD.

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER:



MS. A. 1. 1.

Mrs E. V. Kirkby

Roseleigh

Bedderton

~~W. P. Kirkby~~

ENGLAND. Suffolk.

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