

## A Letter from Phillip Thoreson

Under date of August 21, Phillip Thoreson wrote his folks the following interesting letter from "Somewhere in France":

Should have written before but have been so busy driving the Germans, as you possibly have seen by the papers.

Was lucky this time, however, and didn't get a scratch, the nearest I came to stopping one being by having a machine gun bullet go through my sleeve without scratching me.

Have certainly seen some fierce fighting this last month, and now we are getting a well earned rest far back of the lines.

It certainly makes one feel so much older as the nervous strain is terrible. However, one feels that it's a job well done, when it is over with, although it is kind of hard to sleep where there is no exploding shells near you to put you to sleep.

Have gotten my revenge for the period I was laid up in the hospital. It was only a little mustard gas, although I was burned considerable. Am now feeling pretty good, although at times when I get overheated I can feel the effects of it by a slight fluttering of my heart. But then it is all in the game, so can't afford to grumble.

It is not so hard to kill Germans as I thought it would be at first. In fact they do not like our style of fighting as we do not believe in taking many prisoners. They sure travel light too when they are retreating, throwing away all their equipment and arms. So all the souvenir hunters had their chance of getting their pick of everything German, although most of us were too busy to bother with anything like that.

Have been in the trenches since February and outside of my stay at the hospital, this one is our first real rest since that time.

Have fought on the Lorraine, Champagne and Chateau Thierry fronts respectively, and the latter certainly was the hottest of all.

Feel pretty much of a veteran by this time and sure am proud to belong to the 167 Inf. They are the Alabama regiment, and you possibly have heard of their reputation.

Must close and get to work.

PHIL