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Transcript: Letter from Norman Archibald to Joseph Waterhouse

My Dear Joe-

Villegen (Baden) Oct. 10 1918

No doubt you will be very surprised to hear from me in such circumstances, but the fact is that I am a prisoner of war in Germany at the address on this letter. I was shot down Sept. 8, 1918 but thru some miracle was not wounded, in fact did not receive a scratch. I arrived at this camp about 2 days ago and am here permanently now. I was on the front for over 2 months and have had some very many exciting and interesting experiences. I have inquired of you from every Royal Flying Corps man I have seen but have met none that happened to know you and consequently did not know where you were or what you were doing. I was flying chasse at the front in a Spad, no doubt of which you know and have seen fly. I have also flown the Camels that the R.F.C. know so well and many others. I have not heard from home for some time and now of course it will be a great deal longer. If possible Joe, I would greatly appreciate it if you would send me a box with food, cigaretts and the like for believe me they are precious gifts to receive. I will gladly pay you for same if you will possibly do this, for you are about the only friend to whom I can write to or even know on this side. Write me a long letter Joe and let me know how you are. All the luck in the world to you and best wishes from your old friend, Jim.

N.S. Archibald

1st. Lt. U.S. Air Service