



LEFT: Army Service Forces; RIGHT: British Intelligence Corps



111th Wireless Intelligence Section, First Signals Intelligence Company, Intelligence Corps, British Liberation Army

**Attached to the
113th Signal Radio Intelligence Company**

Ron Wilshire, born 1919, was a Sergeant in the British Intelligence Corps. He worked in the Wireless Intelligence Section, initially intercepting Morse messages, but by 1942, intercepting enemy wireless (radio) signals. He had fluent French and German and was able to listen to and transcribe German radio traffic.

Ron was attached to the 113th SRI Company in April 1944, joining them in Colyton, Devon. Ron was a keen amateur photographer, and he took a number of photos of the 113th. Unfortunately we have little idea of people's names beyond the odd note on the reverse of the pictures.

He landed on Omaha Beach with 113th in June 1944 and from that date he wrote to his parents frequently always in a reassuring tone, rarely referring to the fighting and never suggesting he was ever in any danger. His parents kept the letters which we now have. The contrast between Lewis Dresser's field diary and Ron's letters is entertaining with Lewis being brutally factual and Ron stating that "...only the camouflage nets detract from the general impression of a picnic."

In late July, the 113th advanced to Lison and thence to St Lo – the main crossroad town in Normandy. The town was carpet bombed in order to dislodge the German forces; up to 95% of the city was destroyed.

In August the 113th were in Saint-Ébremond in France. Lewis Dresser's diary describes "the 113th riding academy" with several German artillery horses, and Ron captured the moment in his photos.

In September the 113th crossed the border into Belgium, and Lewis Dresser's diary notes the capture of nearly fifty fully armed Germans, and again Ron captured the moment.

And in early October in Jalhay Ron shot a number of photos of a baseball game, and the Red Cross clubmobile.

Ron stayed with 113th until mid-October 1944 when the 113th took up residence in a chateau in Limbourg, Belgium for a number of months. The letter to his parents records his feelings about leaving the American Army as “I’ve been far too happy with these people to want to leave them.”

Ron went on to work as an Interrogator at various Internment camps across Germany until mid 1946.

By Lindsay Coley, daughter of Ron Wilshire



Ron Wilshire and Jerry
Colyton, Devon



Sergeants, Ron in the foreground
Colyton, Devon



Tug of War
Colyton, Devon



Just idling
Colyton, Devon



Ray and George
Colyton, Devon



Ron and 113th soldier
France

Daily news bulletin Ron's name as best athlete. No idea why!

DORKBENDER NEWS AND SODA DISPENSERS	
THIRD TENT ON MESSAGE ROW	
*PRESIDENT: CLANCY	FOUNDERED BY POPULAR
V.-PRES : CLANCY	DEMAND 1944
TREASURER: CLANCY	OUR MOTTO
"WHEN BETTER NEWS IS FIT TO PRINT"	
SUBJECT: 0900 NEWS BROADCAST FROM BBC ON 38.6 MOTORCYCLES	
THE RUSSIANS HAVE CAPTURED SIX ENEMY STRONGHOLDS BETWEEN THE CARPATHIANS AND THE BALTIC INCLUDING STANISLAVOV, LVOV, BIALYSTOK, AND DVINSK. THEY HAVE ALSO TAKEN A TOWN 35 MILES SOUTHEAST OF WARSAW AND ARE REPORTED WITHIN 30 MILES OF THE CITY. OUR ALLIES HAVE DEPRIVED THE GERMAN ARMIES IN LATVIA AND ESTHONIA OF THE LAST MAJOR ESCAPE ROUTES BY CAPTURING ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ROAD AND RAIL CENTERS IN LITHUANIA.	
IN NORMANDY AMERICAN ARMORED COLUMNS ARE THREATENING TO CUT OFF A CONSIDERABLE GERMAN FORCE ON THE WESTERN SECTION. THE ENEMY ARE FALLING BACK ON THE BIG ROAD CENTER OF COUTANCE. THE AMERICAN COLUMNS WERE LAST REPORTED TO BE ONLY 5 MILES FROM THIS TOWN. NO IMPORTANT CHANGES HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM THE CAEN SECTOR WHERE UNITED KINGDOM AND CANADIAN TROOPS ARE CONTAINING THE BULK OF THE GERMAN ARMOR.	
HUNDREDS OF AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS FROM ITALY YESTERDAY ATTACKED HUNGARY'S LARGEST INDUSTRIAL PLANT IN BUDAPEST. IN ITALY 8TH ARMY TROOPS HAVE REACHED A POINT ABOUT 8 MILES SOUTH WEST OF FLORENCE. THE KING HAS BEEN VISITING THE 8TH ARMY FRONT.	
IN THE CENTRALPACIFIC AMERICAN MARINES NOW CONTROL ONE THIRD OF TINIAN.	
R A F MOSQUITOES ATTACKED STUTTGART LAST NIGHT.	
WRIT BUT NOT READ BY CLANCY "THE GREAT" DORKBENDER	
BOY MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED: ?	
HANDSOMEST BOY	: WILLY "THE DEACON" BARSONS
BEST ATHLETE	: RONNIE "THE DUCK" WILSHIRE
SMARTEST BOY	: VINCE "WISE GUY" CROWLEY
FUNNIEST BOY	: MIKE "MICKEY" MICHAELS
*NOTE: QUINCY AND AL AINT HERE	



Lison

K1 ration menu

MENU No. 4

FOR 5 COMPLETE RATIONS USE CON-
TENTS OF THIS BOX TOGETHER
WITH CANNED GOODS IN BOX
MARKED "2ND HALF OF 5 RATIONS"

—BREAKFAST—

CEREAL BACON
BISCUITS AND JAM
COFFEE AND MILK

—DINNER—

1 K RATION UNIT PER MAN

1 CAN K RATION
EGG PRODUCT PER MAN

—SUPPER—

ROAST BEEF WHOLE KERNEL CORN
BISCUITS AND BUTTER

HARD CANDY LEMON DRINK

LOOK FOR A CAN OPENER IN A
SMALL ENVELOPE IN THIS BOX

HALAZONE TABLETS ARE INCLUDED
TO PURIFY DRINKING WATER

TO USE: PUT TWO TABLETS IN CANTEEN FULL
OF WATER (APPROX. 1 QT.) AND SHAKE
BRISKLY. WAIT 30 MINUTES BEFORE DRINK-
ING WATER. IF WATER IS DIRTY OR DIS-
COLORED USE 4 TABLETS.

FOR 5 COMPLETE RATIONS USE CON-
TENTS OF THIS BOX TOGETHER
WITH CANNED GOODS IN BOX
MARKED "2ND HALF OF 5 RATIONS"

CEREAL

BACON

BISCUITS AND JAM

COFFEE AND MILK

1 K RATION UNIT PER MAN

-SUPPER-

HARD CANDY **LEMON DRINK**

HALAZONE TABLETS ARE INCLUDED
TO PURIFY DRINKING WATER

TO USE: PUT TWO TABLETS IN CANTEEN FULL OF WATER (APPROX. 1 QT.) AND SHAKE BRISKLY. WAIT 30 MINUTES BEFORE DRINKING WATER. IF WATER IS DIRTY OR DIS-COLORED USE 4 TABLETS.



Ruins of St. Lo, France



These coats!



Jerry writes home.
France



Bald manicurist and customer
France



Mobile canteen
France



Mike on German cavalry horse
Saint-Ébremond, France



Rodeo
Saint-Ébremond, France



Fried eggs for breakfast



Making ashtrays from shell cases
Pré-en-Pail, France



Ron, Susanne and Jerry
Pré-en-Pail, France



Champs-Élysées, Paris



Prisoners near Charleroi, Belgium



Doughnuts and coffee
Jalhay, Belgium



Doughnuts and coffee



Baseball in Jalhay, Belgium



Baseball in Belgium



Baseball in Belgium



Baseball in Belgium



Jerry and George in Germany



Nick and Happy

Ron's Leaving 113th Letter

L/SGT WILSHIRE R.S.,
C/O 1 S.I.COY.,
I. C.
B. L. A.

BELGIUM. 11 OCT 44.

DEAR GANG,

NOW THE GRIFF. I EXPECT TO BE LEAVING THE AMERICAN ARMY WITHIN ABOUT A WEEK, BUT MY FUTURE IS STILL UNCERTAIN. MUCH TO MY REGRET MY JOB HERE HAS COME TO AN END AND I SHALL PROBABLY RETURN TO THE BRITISH ARMY. I DON'T LOCK ON THIS WITH THE SLIGHTEST LONGING, BECAUSE I'VE BEEN FAR TOO HAPPY WITH THESE PEOPLE TO WANT TO LEAVE THEM UNTIL THE VERY LAST DAY OF THE WAR, BUT THE PARTY IS OVER AND I MUST NOW LOOK AFTER MYSELF IN ANY FUTURE FIELDS THAT I MAY HAVE TO VISIT. AT THE MOMENT THERE IS NO IDEA WHERE I AM LIKELY TO LAND UP, THE MATTER IS STILL IN THE COURSE OF BEING DECIDED, BUT I SHALL LET YOU KNOW WHAT THE OUTCOME IS, THO' THE FULL STORY WILL BE JUST ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE THINGS TO BE TOLD WHEN I RETURN HOME.

< 113th Radio Intelligence Company

< Unofficial Informal Archive of the U.S. Army Signal Corps in Northwest Europe in WWII

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