

30 Oct: 1915

Ras. el-Tin Mil Hospital
Alexandria

My dear Eric.

The last letter I have of
yours is the 12 Sept. I know there
are numerous others but all at
Gallipoli & I've told them to
keep my letters otherwise they'll
get lost trying to find me - As I
dare say you heard I got pushed
off by the doctor after heated
arguments on the 7 Oct to a Hospital
Ship with a go of dysentery which
has been worrying me for a week.
At last he consented at one stroke
any longer for he said if I did, I'd
let it chronic & never go back -
So I went to a Hospital Ship &
wanted to go back after a few days
lying off there but the Dr. wouldn't

It was the next I knew I was here &
The nurse say where they go to
& I've been in this hospital ever
since - got quite fit then a
collapse & temp & back to bed
again - now I'm very much fit
& going off to the Sunbeam for a
week and after that I hope
back to the "Harste" ~~to~~ ✓
don't naturally want to go back
to that hell of a place - hell
I hate leaving the men there &
mean to stick as long as I
can - I don't know when they'll
pass we as fit to go but
I think a week on the Sunbeam
ought to do it. She's out
in the hospital as a consultant
home & don't go out. ✓ ✓

Don't

Heber's is by comfortable - I hope
all is well with you. The
centre of interest now is Salonika
& we poor devils on the Peninsula
are to be left to stew. We can't
advance & can't get off - so we're
obliged to wait till the Germans get
to Constantinople & then we
shall be pushed off!!!

Well I'll write again soon -
certainly before I go back &
tell you any news. I'm a real
"Kunt" have got a new suit
of clothes & with my beautiful
figure look something alright!!!

Best of health
Yours

Cash

SULTAN HUSSEIN CLUB.

ALEXANDRIA,
EGYPT.

8 Nov 1915.

My dear Eric -

I came from you
dated 20 Sept or about
then - I haven't it with
me - received today
provided from Peninsula.
Here I still am - now
convalescing on board Sunbeam
Brasserie yacht. Very pleasant
& peaceful. Am almost about
again - but a bit peaked
down. Got quite a good
figure - weight 10.6. instead
of usual 12-8 - but
there was a lot of anemias
anemias before. Perhaps more

My Mr & your nonofficial wife
have started on their way here -
& I am full of anxiety for
the ship as I hear submarines
abound in the Mediterranean
& nearly got a passenger ship
this week. It will be worrying
to see them but I'm so anxious
about the submarines that
I'm almost wishing I'd
called & told them not to
come. They arrive on
Thursday at Port Said
if the D will let me
I propose to go & meet
them. I think he'll
have me fit for duty

in a few days then I may
return any moment: on
the first ship. It's going to
be pretty awful in the
Peninsula during the
winter - will do my utmost
there now - simply
sitting tight & holding on
& that's all we shall do
as far as I can see for it
all we can. Mine
prospects!!! I hear people at
home are getting very
pessimistic - about time
they woke up to the fact
that we shall muddle
through this effort but
want organization & the

Cooperation every one of all
classes to get success
against our well organized
& determined enemies. How
what jobs we have been
✓ are!!! I see a crowd cheered
Jan Hamilton in London.
To God! Well must stop
best of luck will write
again - Saw Logan here
to the day but from England
but he's being kept at
Cairo - Best wishes
to me & family

Yours
(Lsie)



TELEGRAM

ISSUED FROM CHIEF CABLE STATION, ELECTRA HOUSE, FINSBURY PAYEMENT.

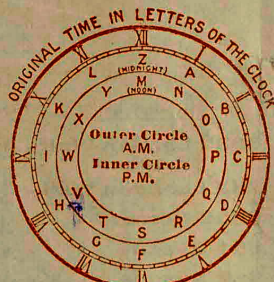
REPLIES SHOULD BE ORDERED

Via Eastern

Doubtful words should be OFFICIALLY repeated. See Rule Book.

No inquiry respecting this Telegram can be attended to without production of this Copy.

See back of form for list of Company's Stations in London and Telephone Numbers.



Examples, PW=3.45 p.m.
HL=8.55 a.m.

3981

No.	Clerk's Name and Date.	Time Received.	Remarks.	No.
ME NOV 14		<i>14/11/14</i>	NO 178	

Nr. Station from
Words, Orig. Tim

DXA 286 ALEXANDRIA (9) (13) (LF) (EFM)

= SIMONDS READING = *Past London 83.*

WIFE ARRIVED SAFELY MUCH BETTER MYSELF

= WILSON *

*-EFM - week end cable letter
from H.M. Forces
outside S.W. be
P.O. Lundy
Page 101*

SULTAN HUSSEIN CLUB.

ALEXANDRIA,
EGYPT.

Nov. 15 1915.

My dear Eric.

You are a good man -
I got your cable yesterday &
answered it & your letter
for the M^{rs}, I had much
anxiety as submarines are
doing everything all over the
Mediterranean but thank God
she & Lila arrived safely
last Thursday - a bit late
but quite all right. My
trip splendid & it is much
joy having them here. Petticomb
influence is being brought to
bear on the S. & W. S.
Send me back at once but
I'm really alright & must go

as if I'm well enough to come
out all day & dine at night
to go back to my convalescent
ship to sleep. I'm well
enough to go on with my job,
so I expect a week will see
we back or thereabouts but
it's really good to have the
hosp here & the only trouble
is the parting again -

Keenan alone knows what
will happen but the conference
of all the houses - X
memoirs & the departure
of the non lamented
J. H. will perhaps
bring some new scheme

to the point. There are lots of
young men here who should
be back at work & a lot
come home who should
not. I'm not very proud
of some of my fellow
Englishmen! It's really
awful here now - weather
wreck every comfort. even
a cocktail available
occasionally. If I
can manage it, when
waiting for a transport
I'll try to get up to
Paris for a few days.
Naturally I'd like a shell

at home but I'm not ill enough
and quite fit to go back
unless anything new appears
before I go. People seem to
get more diseases in a day
than in the Peninsula: jaundice
fever or so - good luck
✓ my thanks - I only wish
business had brought you
out here too -

Yours
Lestie.

I'll probably see your
land man Sunday.
Aunt yet but home
has lots of money apparently.
I haven't any.

looking nicely after the family! mine
I mean. I am somewhat mixed but

SULTAN HUSSEIN CLUB,

^{intended}

Propose!

ALEXANDRIA,

EGYPT.

19.11.15

My dear Eric,

A mail goes, I hear,
to-morrow so a short note. I
am really very well indeed
quite recovered but the
difficulty I find is to get
anyone to believe me! I
am consequently still on
the canal steamer "Sunbeam"
but hope most sincerely to
get off in a few days and
then shortly to be sent
back by battalion. I
suppose they will insist on
putting me in Class B for
a few days more to see if I

ALEXANDRIA

EGYPT

am really alright - class B is
 the class for light duty only -
 In due of course agrees with
 the doctors but can't deny
 I'm looking well but she
 says thin whereas, as a matter
 of fact, I've only lost the
 superfluous adipose tissue
 which was beginning to
 hamper my feet & juvenile
 movements in prehistoric
 days. Both she & my
 sister are very well &
 I'm by God to have
 them here. If I
 can do so, I hope to

go to Cairo for a few days next
 week when I will see you.
 Mr Harry Imbroll who
 very kindly sent me a
 registered letter placing his
 services at my entire
 disposal & proposing to
 come & await my command
 at Alexandria. I have
 answered him thanking &
 telling him I hope to
 come to Cairo. I hope you
 saw they mentioned me both
 despatches! Nov 6 paper
 would've been help it -
 at any rate would have been

Very difficult to leave the CO. out!
I wonder what is going to
happen on the Ad Peninsula.
Its average hellish there
at present & is going to be
worse before its better. Also
its done dangerous getting
there now as the sea is
full of submarines. What
a war! Well I suppose its
will finish one day. But
is full of young officers
with no feet & staff officers
with red tabs. I'm not
losing my own kin very
much this war. Save but
not the majority - will
write again before I go
back. In the same way we
by the way do I!!! I hope she is



SHEPHEARD'S HOTEL
CAIRO

12:15

My dear Eric.

Observe the war address -
we've been here 5 days & seen
everything! regular Cooks tourists!
Tomorrow I return to see & to
a medical board on Friday
morning when I expect to be
passed Class A & then a book
& so to that unhealty spot
again where I hear there is
short aged rain & no covering -
I don't think many will stand
it long. The ¹⁰ is keeping up
fit & will return as soon as ✓

got a ship back to the Peninsula.
I shall be thankful to hear she is
safe back in England. Travelling
these days is not all joy. It's been
very cold here. The place is
crowded with troops - I've met
every Australian I ever knew in
my life! They are a cheery crowd &
keep things quite lively! There are
old men contingent just coming over -
men over 40 - 1600 to take charge of
horses in camp & let others off -
They'll be a right lot! I see it
says the war will really start in
March next! Well we! what have
we been doing up to the present?
Much led hat seen here! There
seem a lot of people with nice
softy hats about. I've seen one or
two of the battery - still on the canal -

lunched with Roberto (B) on Sunday. He's
got a very nice job as S.M.O. of
Mena House Camp & lives in a
cherry room looking over the Pyramids.
He's extremely well & very busy.

Am just off to the Banco
wherever that is and then to
bank at Hualapahu - I'll
write you result of my medical
found but am sure they'll pass
me. I'm still quite fit & pretty
on weight again! I don't see
how Luis was at - how with
Luis's his services though I
feel pretty it with looking him
up - but time seems to
fly here - Hope all my
love with you here - big love

Saludos to you Mrs - I'm
about unwell
daughter. My wife &
sister send their love to the
cheer h!

For
Luis

Saw Tony Saton Sabo Joe
last night - just returned from
Sennos. The reinforcements
never went to Penuialor.
all remain Sabo and here -



SAVOY PALACE HOTEL
ALEXANDRIE
EGYPTE.

Sunday 5th Dec: 1915

My dear Eric.

Almost as soon as possible
this you will see the ^{home} home. She
is leaving according to present arrangements!
on Tuesday in the Kaiser. i. kind
of 15000 tons. She hates going
as much as I hate her going but
I am quite fit again now and my
future movements seem so indefinite
that we think it better - at any rate
I do much against my own
inclination which would be to
keep her here so long as I was
here but I'll be very thankful

When I hear she is safe at home again
I do not care for the situation here
at all. Trouble all round & if a
panic did start, there would be no
chance of getting away. It is very sad
her leaving but its been by phoning
to see her these weeks & were it a
lot to be the answer for! I don't
know how can I find out what
is happening. I only know that
no one is being sent back to
the Peninsula at present nor
has anyone been sent back for
over a fortnight. One transport
went from here with returning
sick and got to Lemnos where
it stayed a week - then returned
straight here - went & all - no one

even dissuading. I caught no
information - so don't know what
will happen but great movement
are I think, under way. Mean-
-while I wish they'd give me
something to do but I can't take a
permanent job as of course I
want to get back to the kids: &
if I take a permanent job, I
might be stuck here for
the rest of the war. I saw
Jack begin to look after
the Senussie (a native
tribe you may have heard of)
but they're doing nothing at
present. He has a composite
opinion of Germany. I am

trying to find a suitable Xmas gift
worthy of your acceptance! I hear
the whisky (2 cases) & cigars have
arrived on the Benvenuto. No
doubt very grateful & comforting
to the men there - you'll hear all
about me from home - I hate
her going much & am torn between
the thought of visiting & what
I know ought she due - I hope
but 2 days less to see her at
at Patrasia but even that is
amplified though I'm doing absolutely
nothing. Cheers - and the
best of luck - mine tells me
what a brick you've been
all through - Prof. Christie.

CABLE & TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"UNION ALEXANDRIA"
TELEPHONE No 1221.

Sultan Hussein Club
Alexandria

UNION CLUB,
ALEXANDRIA,
EGYPT.

11. 12. 15

My dear Eric.

Having been under orders
to embark at a moments
notice for days - I am now
informed that all orders
are cancelled! Hence I am
without occupation & it is
rumoured that I am to
form a composite Battalion
out of the RVR or 13th
Division - What for I
know not! What it
all means I know not
except that we are going

to give up the Peninsula
altogether. The Australians
will have enough to say
after all they have had there
↳ it does seem to me that
we shall lose a lot of
prestige but it is no good
going on flopping a dead horse
& unless they propose to
hang on for the winter &
then do it properly in the
Spring with a very strong
Army, I suppose it's
better to cut our losses but
it's a very bad business

anyway. Of course it
may not be that but I
can't see anything else unless
paras are my cancelled
for a time. I hope by now
I've seen the m^o & you
have heard all my news
also have approved of a
very vulgar & ostentatious
Xmas present I've sent
you. It looks worth a
lot more than it is!
I'm very busy checking
General's & staff officers —

trying to get back to my lads
otherwise doing nothing -

Cher de. What do you
mean about a message
via Price. What Price? Do
you mean the D. but I never
sent in a message by him.
However no harm done. I
don't wish you a happy Xmas.
Heaven knows where I'll
spend mine!

My
Lester.

How magnificent
at sea.

Dec. 15, 1915

My dear Eric.

I suppose it is an impossibility to understand the deep thinking powers of the authorities but on Sunday night I was told definitely in reply to my repeated requests to be sent back that there was no earthly fire 3 weeks at least & I was to form a Provisional Battalion. On Monday morning at 8 am I received a telephone message to repair to Quay 44 by 11 am to proceed overseas & I accordingly repaired where I was taken in a tug along with 300 of my own Division and 152 of other regiments & many officers of different ranks & descriptions & placed on board the above named battleship which sailed at 4.30 - We are doing a kind of Cooks tour round the Mediterranean and let us see the various colonies of the water but to avoid our friendly enemies! who are apparently very busy in

laying in wait with submarines in various parts.
I don't know whether it is safer in the old tub
or a transport - its very unsafe anyway -
war is unsafe - I've come to that conclusion
along time ago! However I'm very glad
indeed to be getting back to my lads, though
I expect Jan's & Feb in Gallipoli will
be about as unpleasant an experience as
one can well wish for - After an idle
life in Alexandria convalescing, I've come
to the conclusion that, during the war, the
only thing is to be as busy as possible &
certainly there is no monotony on the
Peninsular. I haven't got Mrs. Iqbal.
Came from my typ to say she had arrived
safely at Marseilles before I sailed. It
has been a great relief as goodness knows
how often I shall hear again - Be a
good chap and write as usual unless you
hear from the wife for I'm all on the
Peninsular & the authorities with very likely
have changed their minds again by the time
we get to Mudros - He did 3 weeks ago
& several of the men in the ship have now
done this trip for the 2nd time! Cheer oh
wont wish you a happy time! W. Leslie

West Mendros.

19.12.18. Lemnos

My dear Eric

This is a very delicate proposition when this will reach you but I am sending it home by a man waiting passage side as I am told no mails will be allowed to leave here for 3 weeks. This is to prevent news leaking out that Surda & Anzai have been evacuated which everyone will know from the German press if not from our own in a few days. I arrived here in the Magnificent on today & was hurriedly sent ashore with the 300 RND details on board as the said Magnificent had to go & help take the troops from Anzai off. After much wandering & the usual supreme ignorance on the part of the various staff, we landed in the Anzai detail ^{miles away} camp & have been taken in & treated as completely as possible under the somewhat difficult circumstances & are now awaiting the end of the evacuation to return to Hellas. Of course the leaving of Surda & Anzai will triple our difficulties there as we shall have the combined effort of the forces believed against us. Hence the prospect is not cosy! but I am in hopes that if the powers that be will not decide to also evacuate Hellas, they may believe the

29th & ourselves who were the first to land on this
great and ghastly adventure & apparently are the
the last to come off! I can see will do the
Rear Guard yet! It is extremely cold here! &
the change from the comfort of Alexandria somewhat
sudden. However if they will let us
go back ^{to Hellas} soon, all will be well. I don't
intend we shall be forgotten. The whole island
is ^{filled} with troops from the Peninsula. all
looking rather done up. The whole business is
shaky. After all these months & all the lives
lost to give it up. It may be better to cut
our losses but why not have done it months
ago? If J. H. had only spoken the truth
in the beginning, some other steps would have
been taken before now but his repeated stories
of "progress of the allies in the Peninsula" when
there was no such progress is really
responsible for this. I don't know when I'll
see my ladies - I got the cable, thank God, & say
I had arrived safely at Marseille but
shall have nothing more for a long time. nor
do I expect you will. A Merry Xmas!!!
Honest love as always and keep going

J. P. Estlin.

Salisbury

for the last time!

31. 12. 15

My dear Eric

Sorry to have to send you these
messages about publication in papers
but Arthur French came back from
London & said people were laughing
at Ernest Palmer & others spoke to
him so I sent a word by my wife -
as I've been hopelessly busy & no
mails going. Nuff said you
understand - This is just a
line and I'm sending it by
James who is going to London
to night with heavy baggage which
will never get there so I'll have
to see what I stand up in for
the rest of the war! We follow
on some indefinite date (if we
ever do!) and go to London -
after that movements not known
I'm a mass of mind & discomfort -
but still may be for a week
more I expect at most. I can't
tell you ^{any} news - censor! but
you can guess what we are
about to do - They might
have done it before! I saved many

lives - now we're got our work cut out.
We've been having a pretty bad time
from the shelling & by last week in
the trenches is an experience I don't
want repeated - Now as I expect
I shall have to go back again
what's before us. but let's hope for
the best. I'm very glad I did
come back as I should have been
miserable if the Bats had had
to do this without me here. They
are all very cheery and happy -
really wonderful. I'll turn up
like a bad penny but should
by chance anything happen to me,
I know you'll do all you can
for me. One doesn't mind
for oneself but that's the worst
part. Nice start for 1916.
Well, good luck in it. Ad man
to you & yours

Tracy

Lester