Capt. P.M. Slaters RHA
HQRA. 1. Brit. Armd Div
C.M.F August. 31.

My dear.

I am extremely sorry yet in way relieved to hear about Sandown Horse thankful that Berkeley Square remains standing untouched through it all, we really have been lucky as a family so far this war.

Please tell Daddy I despatched the deed in a registered envelope in Algiers about a few before I left for CAIRO if it has not arrived yet it must have gone down. Give Patsy my thanks for her letter if I can get time. I will buy and see Rex.

General Galloway is back in England in Hospital I received a letter from him last week, that's my second within a month.

Yes as you may have guessed we are in action again in the new offensive the fighting here is very similar to that I experienced in Italy, very high hills, wide deep valleys and ravine blown bridges deviations miles and miles of dust and mines everywhere.

I spent two days up yesterday at the front with the CRA and came back to our HQ 10 miles behind the line today, what a different kettle of fish here!

in an HQ and able to come back as compared with an OP which always has to stay out.

I am afraid my letter writing will get a little less during the forthcoming week. you know why but this time I'm safe with the CRA so do not worry. It wont be long now before we are getting up the "Brenner Pass"

all love

Edwin

31/Aug/44

BY AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL
LETTER CARD

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Capt. P. M. Stevens RHA
H.Q. R.A. 1. Brit. Armd Div
CMF September 3

My darlings

I pray by this time we shall have captured all the flying bases in France, and that there will be no more doodle-bugs over London. The news is stupendous and now I am really certain that this war will end this year. I write this letter sitting in my desert car at sundown in the middle of the Gothic Line. We have broken it, a very easy battle so far, the Germans out here are thoroughly sick of the war tired by continual withdrawals and there are very few left who have any faith left in Hitler. They are a very different cup of tea to the Africa German Corps here they are either boys 16-19 or unfit men or satellites. troops. I had a very lost yesterday 2 hens 1 goose, and a duck we are having them for dinner tonight. I reckon this is the last big battle in Italy

Please give Mr & Mrs Hooper my condolences over their misfortune to their house its an added worry.

Life in battle on Divisional H.Q is a very different sort of life to being in a Regiment The really big thing being one always is assured of at least 5-6 hours sleep every night back behind the line with the H.Q.

So glad to hear you are back at Seaview

Love

Sept 3/44 AIR MAIL

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Capt L.M. Stevens RHA
HQRA 1 Brit. Armd Div
CMF Sept 3 1944

Dear Dad

As I write this letter our heavy guns are shelling continuously the avenues of escape for the Hun out North of the Gothic Line, long toms 155mm which can throw a 100 lb shell 20,000 yds is a real killing shell. I should hate to be the other end of all our artillery. Its a most extraordinary battle up here. the Hun has blown every bridge of any size whether it was built for trains or wheelbarrows, everywhere is mined so one always keeps to tracks or follows behind another vehicle, when going over fresh country. We have taken alot of prisoners to-day at present they fight till the last and then come out with their hands up. I spend all my time now with the CRA in his tank at TAC HQ. it really is most terribly interesting one sees the big picture all the time and I am thoroughly enjoying it. The CRA and myself work very well together good liaison and we really understand each other so thats a good thing. Its much cooler tonight it was very hot yesterday

I am afraid it upset my stomach I find I cannot stand up to the heat now as I used to be able it just goes straight to my tummy now.

However winter approaches and we have nearly seen the last of Italy

all love

Pdwi xxx

BY AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL

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Capt. A.H. Stewart RE
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