

# Letters from the Trenches

## SAMPLE PAGES

**Five letters written by Reg Knight  
on active service during the  
First World War**

Collated by Peter G Knight in 2012

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### Introduction

This compilation consists of five letters written by Reg Knight of the Royal Engineers during the First World War. They are sent from various locations in France, Egypt and Turkey during active service between 1915 and 1918, sending news home about his actions at the front.

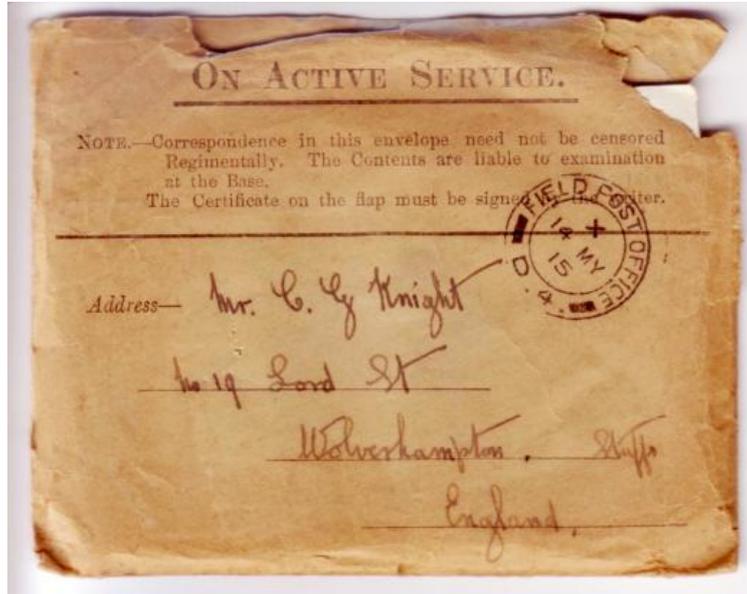
Each letter has been transcribed as precisely as possible from the original papers, including any peculiarities of spelling and with “??” inserted in a few locations where the original text is completely obscure or unintelligible. For each letter there is also a photograph of at least part of the original text.

The following letters are included:

- 14th May 1915
- 4th January 1917
- 1st January 1918
- 8th March 1918
- 14th November 1918

**14th May 1915**

From Reg F. Knight (Royal Engineers), Field Post Office (France) to his brother, Mr Charles Graham Knight, No 19 Lord St, Wolverhampton. Staffs. England



14/5/15

My Dear Brother,

A few lines to try and tell you what it is like out hear. I am giving no state secrets away, only telling bare facts, so I think I can sighn my name on the back, I did intend to write to you a few days ago, but there was an awful din going on we were staying in a cellar in the day and working in the trenches or in front of the trenches at night. It was impossible to sleep on account of the noise and the shells kept stricking the house and pieces of it kept falling, so I thought I would leave it till we got back, for we go back for a day or two, but work just as hard when we get back, but we get two or three nights in, so we don't mind. As you will see there has been some very heavy fighting round this way for the last two weeks, you say Brother you were confused to hear of me being in the front line of trenches, why. I have been at it since the end of August, and without a rest we out here are wondering if ever they will relieve us, and wonder "Will they ever come" It takes us all our time to keep together. You will understand that when I tell you we keep being moved to the places where the fighting is going on, at the present time I have got a splitting headache, owing to the use of the Gass used against us, but that is nothing, there was a big movement in this place

