

752/5

Field

13th Oct 40.

Dear Glen,  
I have just time to get off a  
note to you. I am extremely busy, dorking all  
about getting to know every bit of the country  
we hope to fight on shortly - all the hitting wait-  
be out one side - forcing on the work on our  
defensive position - attending conferences & doing  
the battalion routine work & a dozen other  
things including fighting off bouts of a mild  
malaria which is now yielding to treatment.

It was the keenest pleasure to  
read of the wonderful time you gave Jeremy  
my family on his birthday. I lived through  
every part of it - retrospectively squirmed with  
you when May cumbered her fingers, on thumb, I'm  
forgotten now. Beth keeps telling me how  
good our friends are ~~to~~ to her and she  
said the other day that she thought the most  
constantly thoughtful were the Kings & the Monagans  
& my ~~for~~ last was friend Pamela Lee, as well  
as several old friends.

We get Air Mail regularly -

II

but haven't seen W.Z. papers since the end of June - July 3 the latest so far, so are rather behind hand with the news. I haven't seen ~~a~~ even the Egyptian Mail for weeks.

I later if you see my general letters so needn't enlarge. We are living surprisingly comfortably, perfect cricket-weather, oh don't talk of cricket, that really hurt, are in marvellous physical condition & ready for anything. If it comes off soon will set a fine pace for the other Echelons and our successors, ~~at~~ the men mean business. And old Pitt, back in command of the Bole is improving every day I haven't got his red hair for nothing.

Everyone is well. MacDuff is back at Abou H.Q. Donnell still with us but will be in B team. John Sasthewale, now C.S.O II, Bill Young, Freddie Wilson & Co are at Maadi, 300 miles away. I haven't seen them. My <sup>with</sup> By commanders for the show will be Mitchell (MacDuff's successor) (Capt) By, Buarows (B) Poulton, Matheson (C) West (Capt), Paterson D. (Stage); 3 of them the original command? a good team. Gammith has just taken over Tpt-Office. Ben Manchester still has the <sup>Command</sup> ~~key~~, Rhader the Mountains, Rawson. Intelligence.

Workmen of the station are 1st Commander in A. Coy. All known their 7th Coy. I am in great haste. My very kindest regards to Mrs. & my own self. Love to the children. Howard.