

Sunday, 19th. Oct.

Up at 10 to 5. Land in sight. Dressed in battle dress. Hilly, barren land to port.

Took kit-bags on deck at 8 A.M.

Large number of ships in port.

(Suez apparently). Twelve barrage balloons floating above harbour, sun glinting off them.

We anchored about a mile from shore. Barren land on both sides. Hilly on port (West) side - not a single tree.

Oil-tanker left port with balloon flying above it. Armed merchant cruiser came into port (camouflaged). (Have just learned that this is Port Newfik.) Soldiers going

ashore in lighters. Sky cloudless. Were paid 11 (Egyptian) equal to 100 piastres at 10 P.M.

We left the Aquitania at noon, carrying our big kit & sea kit. Given at 4 inch meat sandwich & an apple. Taken to shore in lighter, whole of our Company on one vessel. Distance to shore about 2 miles. Saw troopship "Georgic" lying aground near shore (Bunked & set on fire some months ago.)

Landed & reached a hundred yards to train. Given mug of tea & a cake. Egyptians very poor looking people, clothed in dirty rags. No idea of sanitation.