

John Albert Roberts 3705765  
United States Army: June 28, 1918 to May 21, 1919  
Private First Class - Honorable Discharge  
Company D 125th Infantry  
A.E.F. (American Expedition Force)

June 28, 1918	Went to Camp Taylor
July 19, 1918	Left Camp Taylor
July 21, 1918	Arrived at Camp Beaugard
July 31, 1918	Left Camp Beaugard
Aug. 3, 1918	Arrived in Newport
Aug. 6, 1918	Left Newport at 2:30 for France
Aug. 18, 1918	Landed in Brest, France
Aug. 25, 1918	Arrived in Quimper, France
Sept. 15, 1918	Left Quimper, France then hiked to St. Florence, France
Sept. 21, 1918	Signed to the 32nd Division at Jonesville, France
Sept. 22, 1918	Left Jonesville, rode in trucks from 3:00 pm until the next morning

*Sept. 26, 1918*

*Battle commenced. Some 600,000 troops conveyed over 50 miles from St. Miheil to the Argonne Forest in under 14 days.*

*September 26th to November 11th, 1918 U. S. and French Armies Meuse-Argonne offensive begins in France. American attack launched with 300,000 troops, centers on the Argonne Forest. The 32nd Division is involved in this attack. Sept. 27, 1918*

**(Diary Entry)**

Sept. 27, 1918

Left woods at 11:00: Marched all night until stopped about two kilometers from the line. Went over the next morning. It was a foggy morning.

*Sept. 29, 1918      Allies cross St. Quentin Canal - Hindenberg Line.*

Sept. 30, 1918      Went to the line. Slept in a hole for the first time.

*Oct. 2, 1918      Argonne forest - U.S. "Lost Battalion", 308th infantry division holds until relief which was October 7th. 194 survivors from 600 men.*

**(Diary Entry)**

Oct. 3, 1918      The night of the gas attacks.

Oct. 4, 1918      Got relieved. Hiked about five miles to the kitchen.

Oct. 5, 1918      Ordered to go back to the front again. Hiked about half of the night, dug in. Stayed there until the 10th of October. Stopped in a field until after dark, then hiked to the woods and went to sleep. We lost several men on that front. I was in the

Argonne Forest and the town of Romagne.

*Note: By October 10, 1918, the Americans had control of the Argonne Forest.*

**(Diary Entry)**

Oct. 14, 1918           Went back to the kitchen. Stayed all night at the kitchen.

Oct. 15, 1918           Went back to the front. At Romagne captured 82 prisoners.

*Oct. 14, 1918           The 32nd Division attacks north, captures Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Cote Dame-Marie, the eastern portion of the Bois de Gesnes, and reaches a line from the northern outskirts of Romagne-sous-Mont-faucon, a point 1/2 km south of Hill 264, 1 km east of Tuilerie Fme, to 1/2 km northwest of Hill 286 in the Bois de Gesnes.*

*Oct. 15-16, 1918           The attack continues and the Division occupies the Bois de Chauvi-gnon and the eastern part of Bois de Romagne.*

*Oct. 17-19, 1918           Division enters the Bois de Bantheville, and holds a line from 1/2 km north of Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, east of, and along the northern edge of the Bois de Chauvignon.*

*Oct. 20, 1918           89th Division relieves the 32nd Division, except the artillery, which supports the 89th Division until November 1st, when it reverts to the 32nd Division.*

**(Diary Entry)**

Oct. 20, 1918           Got relieved. Went back to Schiden Woods. Had corn beef, bread and coffee to eat. NOTE: The captain got killed on the first morning we went on the line. Took a shot in the arm. Went to the front with 235 men and out in twenty-one days with 67 men. Some killed, some wounded.

Nov. 10, 1918           First time slept in a German bed in a German house.

Nov. 11, 1918           Was at Little Lizzie when the Armistice was signed on November 11, 1918 at 11:00 of the 11th month. Stayed in a German horse barn when the Armistice was signed.

Nov. 15, 1918           Hiked 15 kilometers for a bath.

Nov. 16, 1918           Started on a hike to the Rhine River from Big Lizzie, France

Dec. 1, 1918           Started on the hike from Luxemburg

Dec. 3, 1918           Went to Neldedestadens. Had coffee and bread for supper. Went to Esingemidt then hiked to Daun from 7:00am to 6:00pm.

Dec. 7, 1918            Hiked about 12 kilometers to Mayen and stayed two nights. Marly Lach next place we stayed.

Dec. 14, 1918           Got to Pleckhausen, Germany

Feb. 5, 1919            Had photo taken

Feb. 9, 1919            Was on K.P. duty

Feb. 11, 1919           Guarded first German prisoners

March 12, 1919         On Review

March 15, 1919         On Review 32nd Division. Mailed box home.

April 13, 1919         Had a Review.   Rained all day. So strict had to shine bottoms of our shoes.

April 20, 1919         In Pleckenhausen   Easter Sunday. Oatmeal, potatoes, hard tack and pork for breakfast.

April 24, 1919         Arrived in Brest, France 7:00 p.m.   Got supper then hiked 3 1/2 kilometers.

April 27, 1919         Inspection at Brest, France.

May 2, 1919             Got on the boat 11:30.   The name of the boat was "Great Northern V.J.S."   Crossing the Atlantic Ocean took 6 days and 4 hours.

May 9, 1919             Arrived in New York.   Arrived at Camp Mills, New Jersey at 12.00 p.m.

May 12, 1919            Spent my 27th birthday at Camp Mills.

*BY MAY 22, 1919    The Last elements, detachments of the 125th and 126th infantry arrived in New York.*

THIS IS THE HISTORY OF ONE WWI VETERAN  
 Researched and written by his daughter, Kizzie Roberts Burklow,  
 and son, John Samuel Roberts, Sr.