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Letter from Ceylon Kingston to his mother, dated April 14, 1919

Ceylon S. Kingston

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Suriauville Vosges
April 14, 1919

My dear Mother:

I wrote you a week ago from Nancy regarding my return and other news. Mr. Bristol has asked the Paris office to provide me transportation so that I can be back by the first of June.

That afternoon (of the day I wrote) I left Nancy and came down here to Curiaville to take the place of a man who is going away on a leave. I will be here for two weeks. At the end of the time I will probably return to Nancy. From there I want to visit two or three places before going to Paris. I want to visit Verdun and Rhinus.

The work here is a little different. The soldiers are Polish — part of Gen. Haller's army about which there has been so much discussion. The great question has been: how shall it be sent to Poland?

A part of the Poles were recruited in the U.S. and part were prisoners taken by the allies; principally on the Italian front. The men here — 2nd Division — are largely from Italy. Still there are quite a number of Americans who speak some English.

The officers are mostly French although there are some Polish officers.

They are a lonesome lot of orphans. Most of them have not heard a word from Poland in years. There are American Poles here who have not had a word of information from parents and relatives in Poland since the beginning of the war.

We folks don't know what war is like. I am feeling very well and particularly good at the prospect of my near return.

Love to all

Ceylon