

ber, or six months' hard work. We were divided into gangs with regular time-tables. The tunnel was only 71 feet long, but for a long time we had to work through solid rock, and it took us two months to dig a 10 foot shaft. Eventually the work became a little easier, but it was always hard as the ground further on consisted of shale. Some days we could not work owing to rain and towards the end we had to bail every morning. The stuff we took out was distributed over the ground so that the same level was maintained and though the Huns and dogs were often under the hut at night, they never found anything. The opening was nearly two feet below the level of the ground and every night we put the lid on and covered the hole up carefully, replacing stones, etc., until it was impossible to find. We had an "intelligence" working in various places above ground, to give warning of any danger. We worked by electric light and had an excellent air pump, while the stuff we took out was dragged on a sleigh running on boards, from the end of the tunnel to the shaft. The show was given away on the day before we were going out. At this time only twenty-five were left as it was quite cold and some did not think it worth while continuing, while others expected to be changed to Holland. We know how it was given away and there will be trouble for a certain Sinn Feiner (an orderly) after the war.

It was awfully bad luck to lose the result of six months' extremely hard work.

The Germans only found the boards cut in two rooms so they charged three officers with the show. Some of them were innocent, but it was decided by the committee that for anyone to take their places would be a confession of guilt, so I, much to my annoyance missed the fun of the legal proceedings. Seven months was given, against which an appeal had been lodged.

I have not told you about the dogs yet. Three or four dogs, trained to attack everyone they see excepting one man who has charge of them, are turned loose inside the wire every night. That this is against the Hague Convention does not matter of course.

The dogs are also taken in the house and huts on a short leash, but as the passages are very narrow it is quite dangerous enough. One officer going into his room one night a few weeks ago, was jumped at by one of these brutes and bitten. He was immediately charged with inciting the dog though he has everyone in his room to swear that it is a lie. I expect he will be court-martialed and juggled.

I will not give you any information about the treatment of our men as evidence is being taken here by Court of Enquiry, and I expect the result will be published. As you know, dozens of our soldiers have been and are being, deliberately murdered, apart altogether from the vindictively cruel treatment they receive in many parts of Germany.

It is impossible to talk of peace with Germany, and it is inconceivable to Prisoners of War that anyone can dream of the Germans keeping any kind of treaty or agreement.

A German has not the slightest sense of honour; he never speaks the truth if he can lie; he is treacherous in every possible way, and he has the manners, customs and ideas of a pig.