

Reserve-Lazarett Ebelbach,  
Stalag XIII C, Germany.  
10 January 1945.

My Darling, no further mail in - my latest from you Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, which isn't too bad.  
However a few personal parcels are drifting in & we hope the Red Cross food parcels  
will commence arriving shortly. It's not very satisfactory without these latter when  
one has peptic ulcer cases. I was informed today that my chief medical orderly  
is to be repatriated. A good thing for him but a loss to me. Apparently no  
doctors to go home; it makes me a bit fed-up, as you may well imagine. I'm  
moderately busy & haven't much time for reading at the moment. Last Monday  
went with one of my cases to see a neurologist in a city some little distance  
from us. If you travel in this country it means starting off in the middle of  
the night. I was up at 3.30 in the morning & arrived back about 11 in  
the evening. Nevertheless it makes a break & does one good to get away.  
I must remember to describe a rather risqué remark passed to me when  
I see you. Did I tell you I enjoyed an extra Xmas here? The Orthodox Church  
celebrates this festival on the 7 January & keeps Christmas Eve on the 6<sup>th</sup>.  
As we have five Serbs in the mess this was kept in the traditional man-  
ner. Their New Year occurs next weekend. Cool days & the weather much  
the same with some warmth in the sun, though it lies fairly low in the  
southern sky. I'm longing to hear from you again & about your Xmas plans &  
when you're likely to leave for England. One thing must be avoided at all  
costs, & that is the possibility of our crossing on the high seas. I sincerely  
hope it will be possible for me to remain in London. I'm my usual  
well self. We're expecting the Swiss Legation next week on their 3 monthly  
visit. They usually spend some 5 or 6 days in the Stalag area &  
visit us on the last day. I trust you are very well & enjoying the lovely  
summer. Aarest. Go to bed with a book. All my deepest love & many  
kisses for your sweet self.

Yours  
Alan.

Kriegsgefangenenpost

Care percue

*Luftpost*  
2245

21 APR 45 5 00 PM  
GISBORNE  
NEW ZEALAND

An MRS. D. ALLAN

10 NZ. House  
The Strand LONDON

Empfangsort: ~~RADIOLOGICAL DEPT.~~

Straße: ~~COOK HOSPITAL,~~

Kreis: ~~GISBORNE,~~

Land: ~~NEW ZEALAND.~~

Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

STALAG XIII C  
Geprüft  
D 11

Gebührenfrei

Reserve Lazarett Eblisbach,  
Stalag XIII C, Germany.  
4. II. 45

My dearest, no mail as yet & no parcels, so we've got something to look forward to - in the near future I trust. February has come in with a remarkable thaw & the snow, apart from a few deep drifts, has disappeared, leaving the place fairly wet. A lovely morning today in which I pursued my usual lazy routine, but this afternoon light rain. However everyone is delighted with the prospect of an early spring. I should compare the temperature today with the East Coast August. Already January of 45 gone my pet, & I'm a good deal nearer you - as regards time anyway. All my cases here are progressing well enough. I have some 60 at the moment, including two officers. My corporal orderly Robson, didn't go home with the last exchange; I'm sorry for his sake but glad myself not to lose him. I'm longing to hear how you passed Christmas & New Year, whether you're shortly off to England & everything in general you're about, whether your style of coiffure has changed, & what you're wearing. Days on the beach I expect. Have you still that nice red bathing costume & the beach suit you spoke of some two years ago? I can hardly wait to see you again, my darling. How happy we shall be - together with all your charm & elegance, snowy linen in abundance, good china, crystal, carpets, armchairs, everything spotless. A shining bathroom & your dressing table with all its assortment of silver, creams & powders. It all seems a paradise to me here. One thing I shall appreciate to the full - being able to step from the door into the car & setting off for where one wills. No waiting at stations & crowded trains. I'm very well & much better in spirit than in my last letters. The weeks pass quite rapidly & I shall hope to rejoin you in a few months. All that matters that I can be with you once more. All my love, my dearest one, & many kisses

Just listened to the Bach D minor

Tocatta & Fugue for Organ.

Yours

Alan.

In my brief time as a church organist played it - always gave the congregation Bach at the end of service, though doubt if many appreciated it.

No one to equal old Bach!



Kriegsgefangenenpost

Life piece



An Mrs. D. ANNAN BALLANTYNE,

Empfangsort: \_\_\_\_\_

Straße: \_\_\_\_\_

Kreis: \_\_\_\_\_

Land: \_\_\_\_\_

Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

~~COOK HOSPITAL,~~

~~GISBORNE,~~

~~NEW ZEALAND.~~

Gebührentreil

Reserve Lazarett Ebelbach,  
Stalag XIII c, Germany.  
10. II. 45.

My Dearest, I am just beginning to breathe freely again after a period of  
little spare time. I have now got all the patients more or less out of the  
wood, except one who arrived a few days ago, received the necessary  
accommodation & seen to it that they're properly watered & fed, so to speak,  
written up & posted a series of medical reports for Geneva & got abreast  
of my case notes. A number of men will go out next week & I hope to  
transfer several others to other hospitals. Of these there are set places for  
tuberculosis - I have a lone Punjabi who drifted in from some obscure spot  
with bilateral disease, amputees & the blind. Apropos the Punjabi I hold  
what conversation I can with him in a very few words of English &  
German. I have just received a card to the effect that 755 Reichmarks sent by  
me at the end of '43 & amounting to £50.6.8 is being paid to you. Each month  
I receive 96 marks, but as there is nothing one can buy, apart from small  
contributions to the mess & paying my batman, it mounts up. Some Red  
Cross parcels have arrived at Stalag, so we shall have an issue here shortly & there  
will be some tobacco & cigarettes, thank goodness, for I find it very hard when  
one has nothing to smoke. A little mail in this week but I was disappointed  
to receive only official letters. The warmer weather is holding, but most days  
we have rain & wind. Already the first shoots of spring are appearing & the  
days are certainly longer. It's nearly 5 years since we left our home in  
Light House Rd. pets - those times seem pretty distant to me now, except  
the midday swim & lunch on the beach, our Indian Summer together.  
Please God those days will return, I hope in the near future, when I can enjoy  
that particular atmosphere of happiness & contentment you radiate. I'm  
very well & apart from the absence of tobacco, pretty comfortably situated.

All my love & kisses, devoted Joyce.

Warr  
Allan.

Kriegsgefangenenpost



Luftpost  
Lage piece



An MRS. D. ALLAN BALLANTYNE,

Empfangsort: COOK HOSPITAL,

Straße: \_\_\_\_\_

Kreis: GISBORNE,

Land: NEW ZEALAND.

Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

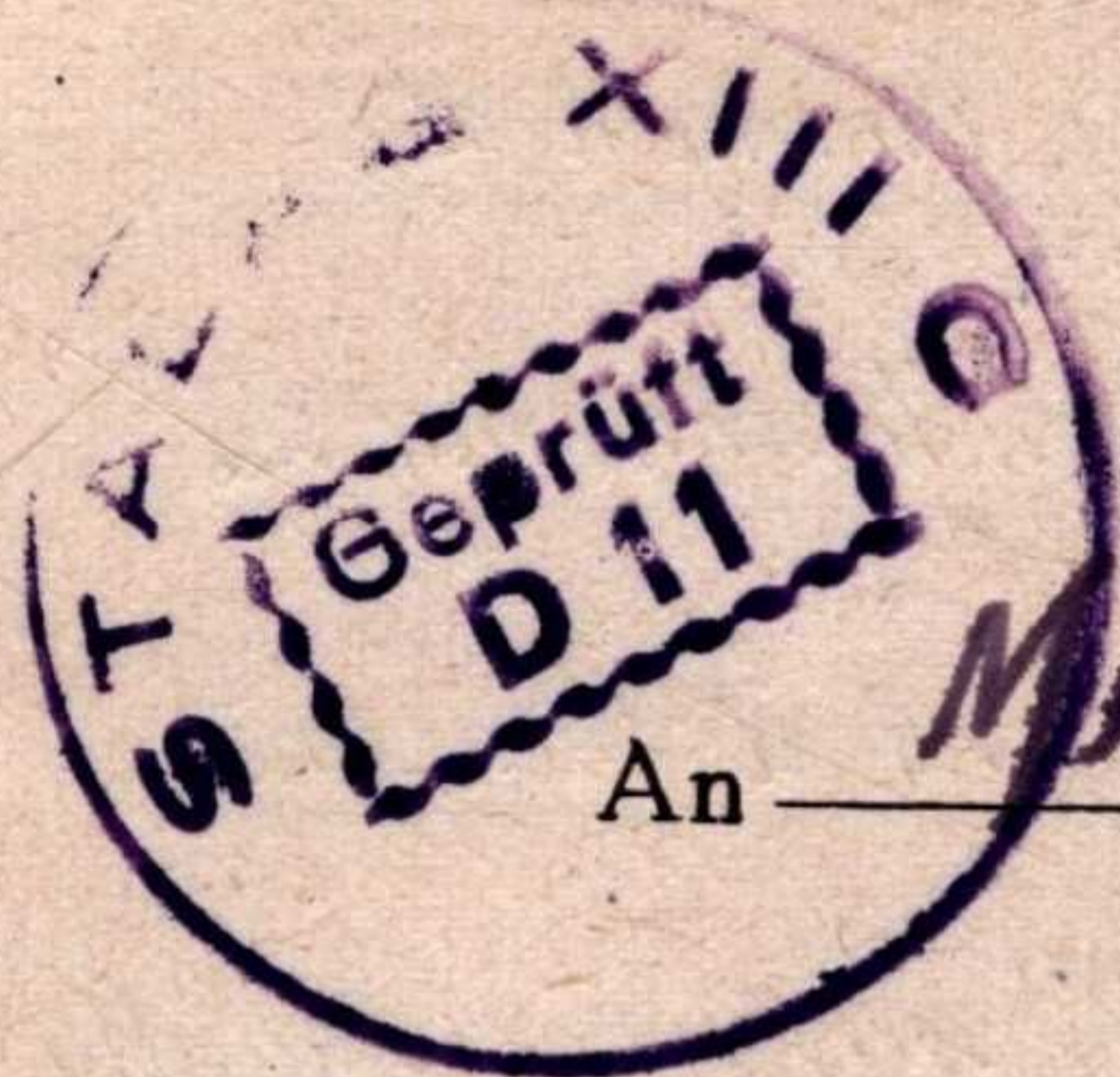
Gebührentreil

Reserve Lazarett Ebelbach,  
Stalag XIII c, Germany.  
16. II. 45.

my Dearest, a pleasant change; no rain these past two days & the place  
has dried up. The sun now brings some warmth & spring is already upon us.  
I'm fairly well occupied & expecting more patients each day. Owing to the  
difficulty in obtaining hot water in the morning I've taken to shaving the  
night before. It makes a little difference in one's day & I find it pleasant  
merely to get myself bathed & dressed before breakfast. The weeks pass rapidly  
but the months not quite so fast. All this year I have become more & more  
impatient to get home; like Brier Rabbit I am 'monstrous full of fleas-  
itching all over to see you again. I like to speculate at times at what  
you are about. Perhaps at the moment on Breeze with the healthful  
N.I. air streaming past in a canter, listening to the purr of your motor  
& the wind singing past the windscreen, or just stretched out on the beach  
in the February sun. Wherever you are Dearest, I wish hopelessly to be  
there. I am watching for a south-east wind to blow up & hove me out  
of the doldrums. You will be thinking this is a confession of despair, joyce!  
However I'm by no means depressed, not got a psychosis & am very well.  
Only I'm so damned fed-up with all this waiting & it's the way love gets  
me. Take any small expression of love I may have shown you, square  
it to infinity, realise this quantity, quality or what you will, is incomprehen-  
sible & so my longing to have you once more 'auprès de ma blonde' - as a  
line in a charming French poem, I think by Roncelard, puts it. Regret  
this is such a disconnected letter but at least it has the merits of my  
present thoughts. There is no sign of mail in Stalag but perhaps a whole  
batch of letters will turn up before very long. Trust you are well & happy  
Dearest. Don't think we're too long to wait now. All my love & kisses

Yours  
Allan.

Kriegsgefangenenpost



An

<sup>Erste post</sup>  
MRS. J. ALLAN BALLANTYNE,

Empfangsort: COOK HOSPITAL,

Straße: \_\_\_\_\_

Kreis: GISBORNE,

Land: NEW ZEALAND.

Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

Gebührentreil



Reserve Lazarett Ecksbach,  
Stalag XIII C, Germany.  
21. II. 45.

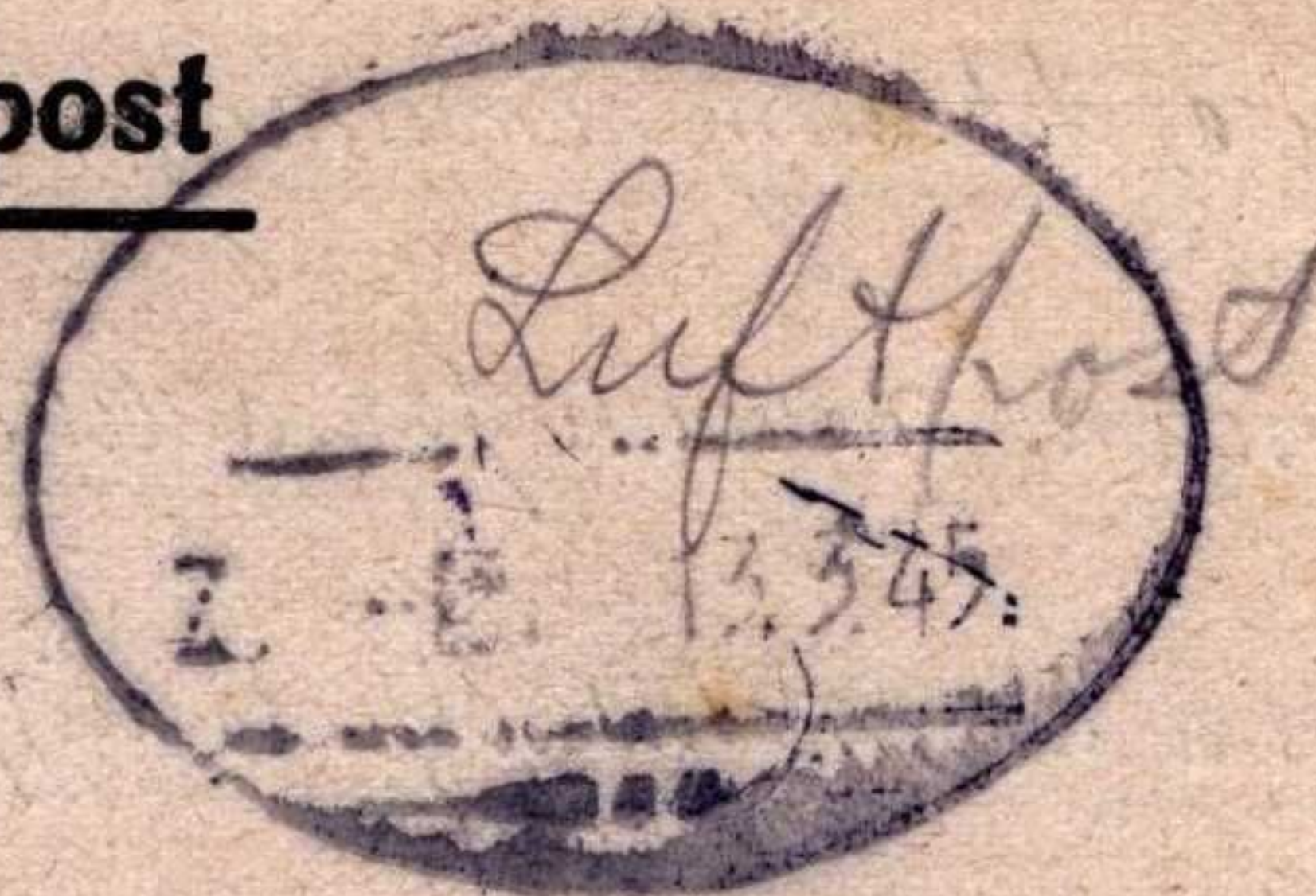
My Dearest, Saturday evening once more with another week gone & four  
only of February remaining. I didn't write you on the 20<sup>th</sup>; couldn't raise  
sufficient thoughts for a letter - a fine state of affairs when your husband  
finds a letter to his wife so difficult but I feel you will understand after over  
four years of communication via pencil & paper. Early this week I received  
some Penicillin from the British Red Cross - expect some more from the  
American Society as I now have as many American as British patients.  
According to an account in a Swiss journal (in French) & to references in  
a B.M.J. Wiltshire gave me last October it appears to be an important drug.  
I am reserving it for serious cases where the sulphonamides are ineffective.  
- have a badly wounded American on it at present & after two days he's  
certainly better but it is too early to ascribe any dramatic effect as yet. I  
had to stop sulphonamide administration with him owing to the development  
of a progressive leucopenia. A busy week with three serious pneumonias in -  
two 'crised' & settling well & the other looks as if he might do the same  
tonight or tomorrow - sincerely hope so! Also two cases of frost bite - one  
hands & the other feet, a partial rupture of an internal lateral ligament  
of the knee joint, two bronchitics & a few more odd ailments. No mail is  
arriving & I'm doubtful if you will receive these recent letters; however I am con-  
tinuing to write reasonably regularly - even if it's a silent conversation on my part it  
does afford me some pleasure. It will be delightful to see your nice self again perhaps  
perhaps in the near future - the end of the war means one great thing for us  
that I can rejoin you. ... After five minutes of thinking how I could finish this  
in as elegant a manner as possible I'm no better off. But you are my dear wife  
& Dearest, no one could appreciate or love you more than I. All my kisses,

Yours  
Allan.

Kriegsgefangenenpost



Lage postue



An

MRS. D. ALLAN BALLANTYNE,

Empfangsort:

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