

# Excerpts from the World War I journal of Jim Guy Tucker Sr., pp. 1, 6-17 (Governor James Guy Tucker, Jr., Papers)

#### **TRANSCRIPTION**

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This is the PERSONAL and <u>Private</u> property of Lt. James Guy Tucker 1st Lt. 353 Inf. Adjutant 2nd Br. 353 Inf.

#### HANDS OFF PLEASE

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October 19th.

Lt. Watson assigned to company. Marched tonight to Bois de Gesnes. Very hard hike. Ran into shell fire.

October 20th

In Bois de Gesnes. Pretty wild place. Fritz drops em

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over whenever he feels fit.

October 21.

Pretty rough they are coming thick and fast.

October 22nd.

Recoinoitered Bantheville wood. Terrible place. Major Peatross to 1st Br. Major Wood in command

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of 2nd. Br.

Oct. 23.

Moved to Bois de Bantheville. Have lost several men.

October 24.

Back in Bois de Gesnes. Saw Dearing & Durham today. I certainly miss the old bunch.



[page 9] October 25th. Shells still coming & going.

October 26th.

I am some shell ducker. Another reconnoitering party.

October 27th.

Big doings in the air. We are in trenches.

[page 10] October 28th. Watch us.

October 29th.

Pot nearly ready to Boil.

October 30th. She's simmering.

[page 11] October 31st.

Morning. Pot's Boiling. Water nearly to top.

Afternoon. Much doing. Ready to move.

18.00 hr. On move.

24.00 hfr. at edge of Bantheville wood. Dug in. Now is time to pray.

Nov. 1st 1918.

1 am Pot splashing over a little.

2 " " Ditto. Cold as hell. Wish I had a blanket.

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3. 00 A.M. | My God what

5.00 a barrage, all the noise in the world has been loosened. Shells coming & going. Big, Bigger, & Biggest. Ouch! something hit me in the leg. Not hurt much. This gas is suffocating I cannot breathe. Big shells falling

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all amongst my men. We must wait.



5.00 hr. Get my Company together. 5.15 Ready to move. 5.25 look out. 5.30 OVER the TOP.

Much fighting this day. Gas has made me very sick at stomach. Have gone Beaucoup kilo's. halted in edge of wood of Barricourt. Many Germans just beyond

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Spent tonight in Bois de Barricourt.

November 2nd.

Morning

Had very hard fight coming out of woods. Many Machine Gunners. Many killed. But we came out just the same. I was on the right flank. Lost many men. 13.00 hr. Have got to take a

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hill, manned by M.G. [machine gunners] 14.00 Hr. Have taken hill, made a grand charge up it. Tis night & a wild one. Lost two officers.

November 3rd.

On hill 1 km S. Tailly. 355 relieved us.

November 4 still on hill.

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November 5th.

At it again.

Advanced to near Halles [Halles-sous-les-Côtes] Fr.

November 6th.

Near Launeville [Laneuville-sur-Meuse] Fr. in Foret de Dieulet. Last night was terrible night.

November 7th.

Near Beaumont [Beaumont-en-Argonne].

November 8th.

Am still sick.

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November 9th.

Woods near Beaufort [Beaufort-en-Argonne].

November 10th.

We must cross the Meuse tonight.

Have crossed. Pretty hard job. Must take Stenay. Big rumors of Armistice. Don't believe it. Don't look like it here.

November 11th.

8 hr. On outskirts of Stenay. Big guns playing havoc.

11 hr. Great news Armistice on all fighting stopped. We have Stenay. Quite a nice town. Me for sleep. haven't been asleep for 3 days.

November 12th.

Much Rest. I am pretty sick.

November 13th.

N. J. R.

November 14th.

Have been made Adjutant 2nd. Br. & recommended for Captain.