

June 4 1944

Dear parents, brothers & sisters

My time for writing
is very limited. However
I must write a few words
just to let you know
how things are going.

First of all, thanks
a million for the
cigs & parcels and
letters. Received your
letter, Dad, just a day
ago. By mistake I
received Lens cigs
too.

Sorry Mum that
I don't have time to
answer all your
questions now.

11

Dad, the time has come for that long awaited day, the invasion of France. Yes, I am in it. I'll be in the first one hundred Canadians to land by parachute. We know our job well. We have been trained for all conditions & circumstances. We have a fair chance. I am not certain but I expect Len will be coming a few days later.

To go in as a Paratrooper was entirely my own choice. I am in no way connected with any

medical ^{III} work. This job
is dangerous, very dan-
gerous. If anything
should happen to me,
do not feel sad or burdened
by it, but take the attitude
of "He served his country
to his utmost." With
that spirit I am going
into battle. And let it be
known that the town of
Nipawin did its share
to win the war.

But I have full ex-
pectations of returning
and with God's strength
& guidance I'm sure He
will see me thro' all
peril. My trust is in God.
Your loving son
Leslie.

Private Leslie Neufeld's Last Letter Home, 4 June 1944

Private Leslie Neufeld, of the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion, wrote this letter to his family shortly before his unit parachuted into Normandy, France on D-Day. The 21-year-old Neufeld was one of the first Canadians to die in the invasion of Normandy, and was killed in action early in the morning of 6 June 1944.

George Metcalf Archival Collection
Canadian War Museum 20080064-015

Transcription

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I have full expectations of returning and with God's strength & guidance I'm sure he will see me thro' all peril. My trust is in God.

Your loving son,
Leslie