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Published by Ronald Caplan on 1983/6/1

they went across the Sava River, and we were resting up there in a part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. 1915, Italy declared war on the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Then we went to the Italian line, a place called Gorize. Then they took the horses away from us and conscripted us into the army. They put me in a Hungarian regiment. I couldn't talk to them; they couldn't talk to me. (Why would they put you in a Hungarian regiment?) They didn't trust our people--the Croatians--didn't trust that they would fight for them (Austro-Hungarian Empire). So they split up our people among Czechoslovakian, Polish, and Hungarian--most of them with the Hungarian regiment. They thought the men were going to revolt. My battalion went in the trenches. Twelve hundred men went in, and in one week 86 were left. The rest of them were captured, killed, and wounded. I was one of the 86 men to survive here. In 1915, they landed in Serbia again. The 8th of October, 1915, we crossed the Danube River in Beograd (Belgrade). Early in the morning, by little boats. We were lucky; no Serbian soldier was near the water. We jumped out and landed. We fought with the Serbian army for two days. We threw them out from there, and we were going after them. They didn't do anything till they came to Knjazevac near the Bulgarian border. There, they held us up a couple days. And then we pushed them back; didn't meet them again before Kosovska Mitrovica. We captured 1700 of their soldiers. One fellow was working in No. 12 mine in 1926. I met him in New Waterford. He was talking Hungarian; I can talk Hungarian. I found that he's a Serbian, and he found that I am Croatian. Then I ask him how he came to talk Hungarian. He says he was in prison, he was captured at Kosovska Mitrovica. I said, "I was there. My battalion captured yours." I proved to him that I was there. I told him about the wooden bridge that was between the city and land on the other side. And they had set a fire on the bridge. It was one timber wide--not a board, but one big timber left. They came over that one by one, from the city outside. When we next came to the border at Montenegro, Montenegrin soldiers didn't have a line. They had made a fire, cooking tea or coffee, hollering one fellow to the other on the hill. We didn't fight with them. Next morning, a plane came over us; they dropped something to our division. Two hours after, we were called back from the line. They read the order to us, that Montenegro had given up fighting. "You're going to go through the country, but if any man is caught stealing anything, or making any terrorism to the civilian people--he's going to be shot on the spot." They took us to the Italian front. We went in the north, in Tyrol. We were up there till 1916. And we made the offensive in 1916, to cut Italy in two. It was the first time I saw those 42-centimeter guns shooting. They started shooting 12 o'clock. After they shoot that shell out, it's like a thousand dogs barking, "Ow-ow-ow-ow" in a Neighbourhood Store in a Beautiful Village Neil's Harbour CO-OP MASTER MEATS Phone Orders, Personal Orders, Freezer Orders Top Grade Western Red Brand Beef Cape Breton Lamb (in season) Nova Scotia Fresh Pork, Chicken, Turkey "WE DELIVER" 81 Johnstone St., Sydney 562-6174 (Furniture courtesy Bonnell-Lubetzki's, Sydney) 539-6474 "(24) ?? Take home a memory of Cape



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