PS. Doit let anyone else read this

Dear 'sigher.
Well $S$ am sorry $g$ have taken so long answering your last letter lat 9 am not sure whether 9 have written to you since or not. It is hand to keep track of who 9 write to and we get very little time to write even though we are up about fourtoen-siscteen hours a day some times it is ever longer. stingo arenest quite as bad here now that the place has quietened down a lat the last fer w days. For a few nights we had it pretty hectic and it was a very fritexing experience. We were very lucky as all the fighting woos further around the perimeter from wo sa we heard plenty. She artillery, fired a lot of rounds and they make a helluva a noise and there was also mortars os well as all the isles and machine guns. There was She alsorships are gunships called in to give us air support. The gunships are special helicopters rirth gantling guns and machine guns mounted on then and they also have twenty rockets underneath them. The gantling guns will fire six thousand rounds per minute. Shy uss all tracer mounds and all you can see is great red lines running from the gunshith to the ground wen thy y fire. She trace rounds have gat prosperous on the back end of the projectile and that lows when going through the air and you can see where the rounds are going at night. You probably know more obout the ones who were kill than 3 do as we havens heard al the mamie yet lat you will probably see them in the paper. Stere in talk of them making this a permanent base here now so it looks like we will be out here for a long
time yet. We have been busy digging pits fa cover and 9 have dug five pits already as g hove ban moved about a lat. The fits are about serin fut long five feet dee and eighteen inches wide we put eighteen inches of over head cover or them for extra protection. We have to sled in the fits so r you can see we are starting to look like rabbits te are putting barbed wire entanglement fences of right around the base to make the place a bit scaler end it will frobathy have a big fence around it like they have at Ni Dat by the
time we are finished. St has hen very hat here and time we are finished. It has been very hat here and I would reckon that it has been close to 110 degrees the last couple of weeks. We have had a fair bit of rain lately I le second nialt we were here we had the worst rain storm I have eva sean. It absolutely poured for about four
hours. I didst get much slash that might as my fit started hours. I didit get much slash that night as my fit it started to fill sp with water and 9 got an ammunition box and sat on that till the moving, 9 was sitting if form about three clock in the morning and by the time daylight came my fit had about eighteen inches of water in it and here 8 was sitting in it as everyone was too scared to get out of their pits as that was the night after the first attack on the base and our second might out here. On first Right out here we were about the thousand yards from here and that was where ane of the chaps in my section was killed by strafencl from a R'" mortar bomb. He was Bevan $_{\text {Tremble han Bendigo and he was lying only three to hour beet }}$ Trimble from Bendigo and he was lying only three to four feet Dad and sue any of this \&s they would only worry like hell and there is nothing to worry about mors as it isall over and things are very quiet again. I didn't mention anything in
3.

Their letters about anything that had been going on as I know they would only worry a lot more. It was a helluva an experience lying in our pits and hearing rounds whinging overhead Let now thing are back to normal again no doit you be worrying either. 9 see Service men a year now lat it will probably be a pretty big intake. At the moment three of us are out on a listening post about 200 yards out from base and that is how 9 have time to do a lit of writing. There are two jets futhoig in an air strike not fan foo here and $S$ \& have been sitting watching them doffing the bombs, and it is good to watch them doing a big dine. The ground shakes like hell when the bombs land and the trees shake and a lat of leaves usually foll off them. There is jets flying around here every day and they put in an airstrike nearly every day.

There is a lot of yanks in the base hot the are more in the centre of it and we dons see much of thoron. They have gat stacks of gear here and there are big helicopters coming in all the tome with loads of gear, rations, and ambition. I have been getting a bit of mail ham Ireland lately. I got a letter from Grannie, Brian Both, A nona Stele, and Gree Sharpe. so 3 will soon have to try and write io
them: Well 3 cant think of much to tell you so 9 will them: Well' 3 cant think of much to tell you $s o g$ will finish of for mow. Hop you are doing well at footy,
your Brother For

