

(11/26/17)

Sweetheart:

Here I am, I sent you a telegram immediately upon arriving this morning so I know that you know I am back safely. I had a rather miserable time on the sleeper as my cough became very much aggravated from the dust and kept me awake nearly all night. There was no diner on the train so I had the porter get me some sandwiches and coffee at Kalamazoo. That was all I wanted. The train arrived in Indianapolis just three hours late. I had breakfast on the train and wired you the minute I got into the Station. Then I at once beat it for the Fort. Everyone was glad to see me – especially Fish. The candy has been very popular all day and there is not much of

it left now. The men are all packed up and ready to go. we expect to leave here anyday. Probably not before Wednesday. Major Lyle doubts very much that there will be any opportunity for you to see me in the East. He has an idea that we will get on a transport at once and if so I guess we'd have little chance to see each other. However you may rest assured my darling, that I will keep you informed as fully as possible of all we intend to do, so that if you can see me, you will be there.

Fisher was delighted with the gifts Tud sent him, and I think he should be for they were surely

beautiful. It is not as cold here as in Grand Rapids, although nobody is suffering from the heat. Fish is Officer of the Day today, and I will probably draw it tomorrow. Some of the other men of the outfit are here now and I can assure you it is a pleasure to be with such fine fellows. They are all mighty nice.

Honey dear, as long as I live I never will forget how brave you were when I left last night. My heart just burst with love for you and with pride that you were so brave and good. I tell you it is wonderful to have a wife like you, no one else in this world has. The most wonder-

ful little girl that God ever made, is my wife. I am so proud of you dear – that you could stand there last night and show all those people just what sort of stuff you were made of. Oh! how I love you, my darling, darling girl.

I had a short talk with Tud and I feel sure that she will give you no trouble at all. I believe she realizes just how much I depend on her, and I know that she knows I love her. Tud is a wonderful little girl and I know will be just as brave and good as can be.

This war is not a fight for men alone. You women have by far the hardest part of the fight God bless you. When it is all over won't we have a wonderful time? It will make up for all the heart aches of separation won't it dear?

Troops are moving out of here every day now. Michael is at Fort Riley ^ Kansas with an Evacuation Ambulance Co. Write him there. Florentine + Westerman are leaving tomorrow for Fort Oglethorpe. There are only 30 men left in the companies of the M.O.T.C. can you imagine how quiet it seems around here dear. It is

more like a big morgue than anything else. Major Darby is still here but leaves tomorrow. It surely is getting quiet around here.

Well darling. I guess I will close as I don't feel very chipper and I think it will do me good to lie down. I never enjoyed but one week of my life so much as the past, and that was when you met me here first, just after I returned from Missouri. Wasn't that wonderful? Oh! Darling how I love you. And we have so much to be thankful

for even in these hours of
trial. Kiss my sweet babies.
Give my dearest love to them
+ to Tud. With all the love
in the world, Marie Darling,
I am

Your Loving Husband

“AB”

Excuse pencil,

Fish sends his best to you and
the kiddies