

February 8<sup>th</sup> 1918.

My Darling Girl:-

I am going to have time for only a short letter today. It is 10:00 'clock and I have a great deal of work to do before noon. This afternoon I have to go with a truck to get rations for the whole company. So I have plenty of work this P.M. I have had no letter for three days now but we expect mail in two or three days more. The weather is perfectly wonderful dearest. It is Springtime over here now. I don't think we will have any more cold weather this year. There has been no snow since I have been here and I hope we have none. The mud is drying up and it is much pleasanter here than it has been. I saw a Chicago paper today and it was mighty interesting even though it was a month or two old. We have a great deal less news

about the war here than we have in the States.

Tonight we are all going to the Y.M.C.A. to a prize fight. One of our men is going to fight a man from another company and we are all going to help him along. We expect him to win the fight and tomorrow I will write and tell you all about it.

We have not been paid yet. I imagine we will be in a short time however. I have 100 francs or \$20.00 left, Villars owes me 100 francs, McCloskey 50 francs and Fisher \$20.00. So when I get it all I will have \$70.00 beside what Gene smith owes me. The A.G.O. is going to collect that now. I am through fooling with him. So I can send you some more money when I am paid and I imagine it

will come in handy – won't it darling? The one thing I crave more than anything else and that is hardest to get, is milk chocolate. It is fine for lunches and also satisfies our craving for sweets.

I have about 300 cigarettes left – enough to last for some time unless I continue to supply the whole company. I gave Capt. Van der Veer a carton of Camels the other day. They are impossible to obtain. I am not smoking very much myself, and my cough is practically cured. It does not bother me at all. I sleep perfectly nights and in every way am in perfect health. Major Lyle returned from Paris today, where he has been for

about a week. He has very little news for us though.

You should hear me talk in French. I don't believe I can be termed an expert yet, but at least I can make myself understood very easily, and have been in some places where I have had to talk a lot. It is as I thought, one picks up the language very easily, when he simply has to talk it.

There are lots of German prisoners around this place. They are surely a low type. Brutal and depraved in appearance can easily believe all I have ever heard of them, when I look at them. Strange to say I have no sympathy with them at all and

3.

I don't think they need it for they all look perfectly satisfied with their lot as prisoners. It is said they are very well taken care of.

Well Lover dear I must close. Give all my love. Kiss my dear babies and Tud. With all my love to you my dearest darling wife, and millions of kisses, from your

Daddy.

Lt. A.B. Smith M.R.C.

Evac. Hosp. #2. U.S.A.

A.E.F. France.