

February 14th 1918.

My Darling Marie:-

I got another letter from you yesterday. It was written earlier than any of the others I have recieved. In fact it was written on New Years day – the day after we left Fort Harrison and had chased me all over the world. But even though it got here last it was welcome, for in it you told me how much you love me and that is one thing I always like to read. I have now had seventeen letters from you dear, I wonder how many you have recieved of mine. Regarding cablegrams. I can send one occasionally possibly, but we are requested to use the cables only in case of dire necessity, on account of the fact that so much official business has to be transacted over them. But if you will remember what I have so often told you “No news is good news” the intervals during which you recieve no word from me will not be hard to bear, for Honey Dear, I assure you that the Government will at

once let you know if anything happens to me. Therefore you must not worry at all if time passes during which you do not hear from me. Just think of me during those times, as your own husband – loving you and thinking of you every moment of his life.

You all are getting more news of conditions over here than we do ourselves. Our knowledge is entirely confined to the locality which we are in, except for brief news articles in the Army newspapers. But there is no doubt that there is strong belief that the war is in its last stretch. Night before last we had a bit of excitement here. We were all at the Y.M.C.A. attending a vaudeville entertainment which was being put on by our own Company, and which, by the way, was very good. Suddenly the bugle sounded a call

I had never heard before, and all the lights went out. Then we knew that German Aeroplanes were headed our way. It was quite interesting. We all naturally got outside to see what was doing, but all was quiet and we saw nothing except the stars.

We could distinctively hear the thunder of the heavy artillery at the front, on that night; it was so clear and still. I am feeling wonderfully well. I have never been in as good health in my life as I am now. I have a wonderful appetite but don't get fat because I have plenty of exercise. It is a great relief to be rid of that mess job. Major relieved me of all responsibility yesterday and told me I had handled it very

satisfactorily. As that is as much praise as he has ever been known to give anyone, it was very pleasing to me and I am satisfied. But nevertheless I am glad that Stanley and not me, has to worry about the business from now on.

There is very little news to write. There is so little that we can write, that I find it hard to fill a page in a letter. I just recieved one box from you. It was a box of Hyler's chocolate and believe me dearest, it was welcome. However it didn't last very long because everybody else was just as glad to see it as I was. It is delicious chocolate, and I can't thank you enough darling girl, for sending it to me. You are

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just as sweet as you can be dear,
and I love you with all my
heart. Don't bother to send me
envelopes and paper. I will
always be able to obtain them at
the Y.M.C.A. at no cost, and I
don't need stamps, as you have noticed.
I have a lot of the stamped and
addressed envelopes left yet – also
a big supply of this paper, beside
all the paper in my writing pad –
none of which I have used as
yet.

I can't possibly find time to
write to all my friends dear. I
can only write to you. So you
must give my regards to all.
Warner's, McMullens, Browsers, Wallaces,
Frank + Mabel etc, and write

to Isabel and Ruth, so that they will know something about where their brother is.

Tud of course knows that every letter I write is for her too. How is she dear? Give her my love every morning, just after you take your own. The sun has just come out very brightly and it is a perfectly beautiful day. Major Lyle says it is very unusual weather for France at this time of year. It is typical June weather and is perfectly delightful. I don't know how much longer we will be in our present station, but I guess not very long. When we become permanently settled in our

final station, and get a regular routine established, then I will have more time to write, and in addition to writing to you more often I will try to send letters to some of my friends as well.

It is now the 15th of February and we have not been paid yet for January. We have been threatened several times but not a thing has happened. If it goes much longer, we will get our February and January pay at the same time. Then I will be able to send you money. It is not going to cost very much to live over here dear. I think I can send you almost enough to pay for our honey moon if

you don't need to use it to live.
I hope you are getting along
all right financially and I believe
you must be, for I feel that
things were left in very good con-
dition there as far as that was
concerned. When I get back, however
I don't doubt that you will be
much relieved. Have you been
informed yet regarding the war
risk insurance? By this time
you should have received the
policy if I understand the matter
aright. I have taken no pictures
as yet. Cameras are not at all
popular over here, and it is
contrary to my idea of the
right thing to do, to go contrary
to regulations and orders.

Well Lover dear I am going

to close untill tomorrow. I have to
get shaved now, before mess. I
want you to give each of my
dear babies a big love and kiss
for me. Tell them Daddy loves
them. Do the same with Tud.
And you my darling, know how
much I love you. You know
that every bit of my love and
life is yours. With all my love
and millions of kisses.

Daddy.

From

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

Evac Hosp #2. U.S.A.

A.E.F.