

Feb. 23d 1918.

My Dearest Marie:-

Four more wonderful letters from you yesterday – the best I have recieved yet. I read about the many packages you have sent to me but I have not yet recieved them. However my Darling, I thank you for sending them for I know I will recieve them soon. You are having a terrible winter there aren't you dear? The snow must be a fright. We have really had no cold weather since we have been over here and I guess that now we won't have for it is said that Spring commences early in the country. I have not suffered from the cold at all and I really believe we are

as well off for fuel and food as you all are at home. I know we are wonderfully provided for thanks to the efficiency of the machine Uncle Sam is building up over here. Nothing is overlooked, that is certain. Yesterday the rain began, and “old timers” around here tell us that we will have rain every day for a month. You never saw such mud. It isn’t like ordinary mud – it is like glue. It sticks to everything in great clods and is just like gum. After being outside for an hour, one is literally covered with it. It makes our orderly hustle to keep us clean. I don’t envy him his work in this sort of weather.

I am glad to note that the

Wallace's have sent more cigarettes and although they have not yet arrived I want you to thank them for me. I really have no time to write to anyone beside you dear, and you must transmit such messages for me, for I won't permit correspondence with someone else to interfere with correspondence with you. Tony wants to buy my cordovan shoes and [puttees] and while I don't care to sell them I told him that he could have them at exactly the price you paid for them (\$30.00 or 171 francs) because I can get along without them and I will send you the

money. I don't know whether he will accept the proposition or not, and I don't care, but if he does I will be perfectly satisfied with the deal.

He is a crazy little wop and is very liable to let his vanity get away with his good judgement to just that extent, so it will be his own funeral. I have had my "overseas" cap made and on the first sunny day I will have a picture taken and send it to you so that you can see what changes have taken place in me since I left you in Indianapolis. Do you want

3.

me to dear?

The fire has gone out in our shack and it is getting quite chilly. The wood is all so watersoaked since this rain began that it is almost impossible to keep a fire going, and we are warm one moment and cold the next. I am the only one in the shack who hasn't a cold and that is only because I am very careful. I never forget that I have a family of loved ones at home to whom I wish to return, so I do take mighty good care of myself dear and you may rest assured that I will as long as I am

in this country, too, dear. I hope you will do the same for you know how inclined to be indiscreet you have been at different times.

I am going down to the target range this afternoon for some pistol practice. Major Morrow is going with me. I enjoy it very much and need the practice as well.

All the officers in the outfit are well and send you and Glad their kind regards and love to the babies. Give my regards to all my friends. Don't forget to thank everybody for me, for all their

4.

kindnesses. I am going to find
it very difficult to write each
day dear as we are so busy.
But every day as nearly as
possible, and at least every
other day, I will write to you.
Kiss my babies for me dear.
With all my dearest love to
you sweetheart and millions
of kisses I am your

Loving

Husband

Lt. A.B. Smith

Evac. Hosp #2 U.S.A.

A.E.F.