

My Dearest Darling Wife:-

I haven't written to you for a long time simply because it has been impossible to write. Ever since we the place from which you recieved my last letter we have been unable to send even censored letters until now, and you may be sure that all you get from now on will be very carefully read before you recieve them. I know that you have heard from me however and although the cable was brief I could actually picture your delight on recieving it for it had been three weeks since you had heard from me and that is a long time. It has been longer than that now, since I heard from you. I expect I will catch my mail now in a week or two. I know I must have a lot on the way and am

certainly anxious to get it. When I last wrote you I told you I was in good health I believe. I have been in wonderful health ever since.

My cough is gone and on the way over I gained a little weight on account of no exercise. We had a beautiful and very uneventful trip, landing recently in a port which I am unable to name. Neither am I at liberty to state my present location but I can say that the process of arriving here was most interesting and very like ordinary travel in peace times except for an unavoidable undercurrent of excitement due to anticipation of the expected, which very fortunately did not occur. Since leaving America we have been in company with

About 150 members of the Royal Flying Corps, recruited from Canada and the U. S. They were splendid fellows for the most part – all of them very young. Several were from Detroit and knew many of our friends there; and two of them were in training with young Hughart or somebody or other from Grand Rapids. I enjoyed knowing them although they did raise H – all the time.

I was not sick. A great many of the officers were but I proved my conviction that I am a good sailor by not missing a meal nor a day on deck, and by having not one qualm at any time. I most thoroughly enjoyed

the entire experience and shall repeat it, only the next time my dear wife will be with me.

It will be interesting to me and to you darling to come over this same route some time in the future and see just what I have seen since I left. And in spite of your aversion to the water I intend to see that you come with me.

Oh! I have forgotten to apologize for using a pencil. My fountain pen is available but is empty, and my ink is in my trunk and nobody knows where that is. I will use a pencil rather than not write to you because

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I am as anxious to write as you can possibly be to receive it. It is an excellent substitution for real conversation and I, at present have to be satisfied with a substitute.

I am surely anxious to receive a letter from you, to know how things are going at home. I want to know about your health dearest. Is your stomach better and are you taking good care of yourself? How are my darling kiddies? Is little Marie prettier than ever, and Brother more of a little Devil? I can never forget the picture the two sweethearts made Christmas morning at the C – hotel . Wasn't it a wonderful Christmas? And

Honey dear, now more than ever I realize how fortunate we were to have that Christmas – the whole family together. We should all be mighty thankful that it was possible, I feel. How is Glad and is she married yet? It seems like a year since I have seen you all but that is because we were so much together while I was at the Fort, that I miss you terribly now.

We arrived at our present station a short time ago. It is a mighty interesting place. One of the oldest Historical cities on this island, and while I have seen very little of it as yet, I expect to tomorrow

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for then have to go to town and buy a Sam Brown Belt, which are a part of the regulation uniform over here and must be worn.

I have been too busy today to go to town but will be able to tomorrow if all goes well. I have certainly had my hands full on this trip, as mess officer but it has kept me hustling all the time, and for that matter, still is.

The country round about this place is beautiful rolling country. Grass is green here now, and it is difficult to realize, both that it is winter, and that this peaceful beautiful country is at war. But when we came in – a long column of troops

in the middle of the night, it was very romantic and made me think of war very seriously as such, for the first time. It does seem disappointing that I can't tell you something about the trip but it is impossible. I played some poker on the way over. Broke even so had nothing but the fun, and it certainly did help to while away the time.

I had a wonderful night's sleep last night. I was dead tired and was up very late so I slept as if drugged. Outside of the fact that I have a sty

on my eye today, I never felt better in all my life, but I have got a dandy developing on my right lower lid. It is quite cold and very damp on account of the fog. These fogs over here are the thickest I have ever seen. You can almost cut them. But I have a nice coal fire in my comfortable quarters and feel perfectly contented. How are Park, Hazel, Dan, Jeanette and the Wallaces? Give them all my dear love and tell them I often think of them. Specifically Oliver. Is he getting so he can walk a bit now or

does there seem to be no  
hope that he will? Lover  
dear, I must close now  
as it is very near mess  
time and I must clean  
up first. You know how much  
I love you dear. I think of  
you and my dear little ones  
continually and long to see  
you, but we both are happy  
that our separation is  
because of countries need,  
and I know dear that  
your braveness is greater  
than ever and that the  
only thing we both hope for

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is a speedy end to this horrible war so that we may be together again and happy. Kiss my babies for me. Kiss [Tud]. Give my love to everybody. I will write you as often as I possibly can which may be daily but you won't receive them as often. I love you my darling with all my heart, I love you. With all the love in the world I am your

[Loving] Husband.