

October 10 – 1918.

My Dear Wife:-

It is now ten thirty A.M. I have finished my rounds and inspection and will do my dressings after finishing this letter. It is very cold today but I am in no way suffering from that fact as we have a nice hot fire in the office stove.

I am tired. I was up all night in the operating room and have as yet had no opportunity to take a nap. I don't believe I will now untill tonight because I am not on duty tonight and I can get a good full night's sleep, which would be spoiled if I slept today. I think instead, that I will go down and play some billiards this afternoon untill four o'clock. I have to give the whole company a physical examination at that time so can't stay longer.

As usual, the newspapers bring good news. Excellent. The best of all is the President's speech, or rather his reply to the Peace note, as it meets with my approval exactly. I agree that the time will not be here, to talk Peace with Germany until her Armies are off invaded territory entirely and until her navies are completely out of commission. Then, the only terms acceptable will be "unconditional surrender" and I am perfectly sincere in saying that I believe Germany is fast reaching that point.

Lord Balfour, British Secy of Foreign Affairs, says that the war will be ended by this Christmas. I can't believe it although I know of no man who should know more about

it than he does. However, my dreams of that eventually are well in control. I am not going to believe in Peace until it comes.

I am neglecting my French lessons and I don't mind at all as the only reason I am studying it was because I wished to occupy spare time and spare time is a commodity which bothers me not at all, at present. So I am letting my French go and will not be such an expert when I return, after all.

I am now awaiting the appearance of another culprit who has to report for administration of justice. His offense is a minor one and I am not going to be very drastic in my handling of his case.

I am mighty happy to say that I am receiving hearty cooperation from the men in the company and feel that I have their confidence and that is really the one important thing to obtain. Last night the CO and myself were entertained by the [illegible] of the outfit with a chicken dinner and I tell you it was a wonder. We had both fried and fricasseed chicken with hot biscuits and wonderful gravy and mashed potatoes. It was a feast and I ate until I could hardly sit up.

I just got a letter from you and am going to read it before finishing this to you.

Well dear, it was one of the sweetest letters I ever have had.

It was wonderful and I can't tell you how much I enjoyed it. Among other interesting features it contained a picture of you and one of Glad, and I don't agree with you at all that they were "terrible." I think, to the contrary, that they are good ones. The boy just brought three more letters from you and one from Dave so I must be excused again for a time.

Again dear, I want to thank you for the wonderful letters. I can never express my pleasure in reading them for I haven't sufficient vocabulary, but I love them.

I am going to close now darling, and go to work. It is very near noon and mess

is at noon. Give my love and
kisses to the babies. I love you
dearest with all my heart. I
love you. Goodbye till tomorrow

Love,

Daddy.

1st Lt. A B Smith M.C.

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

A.E.F.