

November 18 – 18.

My Dearest:-

I have had a very busy day and despaired of finding time in which to write my letter but at last – nine thirty at night – I have to sit down and am immediately taking advantage of the time and opportunity.

We have been disorganizing our hospital and it has been a big job. Such a lot of moving and packing and evacuating of patients and taking down tents I have never seen before. In the very midst of it all in came a lot of British who have been prisoners in Germany and have just been released and we have been clothing and feeding them. Such pitiable sights! Men emaciated to skin and bone by hunger very poorly dressed, diseased – I tell you dear, conditions in Germany

were terrible. These men all say that the Germans are in the same condition. It makes one's blood boil to think men could be treated as they have been. And some of them are mere children.

It would do your heart good to see our boys fix them up. They have simply done wonders for them. I tell you I have a warm spot in my heart for these men of ours. They are men and I hope never to know finer. They are the best lot of soldiers I have had anything to do with and I am proud to be their C.O. It makes me proud to see the way they will work for me.

Our function as a hospital in this area is about over. We have sent back all of our

patients. Where we will be sent and what we will do, I don't know, but I think we will be among the early troops sent home. I mean by that I believe we may be sent home some time in the early Spring perhaps in April or May.

It seems more or less certain that we will not be with the army of occupation as we have been over here a year now, but of course we can't be sure. I will be satisfied to get home sometime next summer. Won't that be great dear? It will be so much earlier that either of us has dared to hope.

I wonder how long I will be in the service after I get

home. I may use some pull through William Alden to get out, inasmuch as I was so conscientious about using it when I entered, for I feel that my family needs me now very much and I want to get back to you all. Oh! Sweetheart, how I long to see you and my babies.

I had a wonderful letter from you today, mailed on October 26th which is really remarkably good time. It shows me how anxious you were during the early days before peace and gives me a clue as to how you must have felt when you read in the papers that Germany

had surrendered. I would have given anything in the world to see your face that day dearest. I know how much in the clouds you must have been all day because I was there myself.

Well – we have another great day to look forward to – the one when we meet for the first time. I am looking forward to that day as I have to no other and as I will to no other as long as I live. To be with you dear – to have you and my babies to love and live for forever in my only wish now. I will be perfectly

happy when I am back
home again. I love you.

I will close now untill
tomorrow. Kiss Glad and the
kiddies for me – God bless
them. With loads of love
and millions of kisses to you
my sweet heart – Goodnight.

Daddy.

Ansel B Smith Capt MC

Evac Hosp #2

Amer E.F. France.