

January 15, 1919.

My Darling:-

This is my last bit of writing paper and my last envelope, and for tomorrow I will have to get some more somewhere before I can write you. The Red Cross keeps us pretty well supplied however, so I don't anticipate much trouble in getting some.

I went down town with my old friend Rosy last night – or rather yesterday afternoon. We went to the club and played billiards for two hours and then went to the Y.M.C.A. hotel for dinner where we had an excellent meal for only four marks. We had a nice soup and pastry Entrée and some excellent meat and vegetables, salad, fruit and coffee. It was a very nice meal

and a pleasant relief from
the army fare we have been
“enjoying” for some time.

We got home at about nine
o'clock and I went right to bed
as I was very tired. This morn-
ing the Commanding Officer and
Capt. [Emmons] got their orders
to go home. What lucky men
they are! It is somewhat
significant to me, and [indicates]
that soon all of us who have
expressed a desire for “prompt
and complete separation from
the service,” will be on the way.
I envy them I can tell you, but
I really believe my turn is not
far off. I don't know how
I'll act when I do finally get
my orders home, but I do
know that it will be the
greatest day of thanks

giving in all my life and I
hope and pray it won't be long
for I do want to see you and
my babies so much. This time
since the Armistice, awaiting
orders, is as I foresaw, the
most difficult time of all. The
time drags so slowly and the
days seem so long. It is all
because we are homesick dear,
and I am not alone in that.
The whole Third Army is in
the same fix.

You see dear the Third
Army is entirely made up
of veteran troops and as a
consequence nearly every man
in it is wearing two or
three service stripes. Now
that the Occupation is com-

plete and the hard work is
done the men all want to
go home. Home! Oh! how
I long to return. There is no
country on earth like ours,
and no place in it like my
home. I will have to wait
however and patience will have
to be the chief virtue of the
Smith family for some time
yet.

I recieved three tellers at
noon yesterday. One was from
you and it was sweet. I
had a letter from Susan
[Ramsdell] and alas a very
wise letter from Pack and
Hazel. It seemed good to
hear from them and I am
very happy that we have
such warm and true friends

as we have at home. I tell
you that our friends dear
girl, are our most priceless
possession and I think
we are unusually fortunate.
Don't you?

We are beginning to get
nicely caught up with our work
now in this office. We have
been overwhelmed with work
up to now, but are finally
beginning to see the bottom
of it. I have an excellent
Sergeant and two good clerks,
and they have been very
faithful and industrious, so
we have "gone over the top"
with our job in good shape.

I am now just about
rid of flea bites. I think it
is fully a week since I

have had one, but believe me
it is a thing I am able to
miss without any regret. I
have never been so pestered
in all my life as I have
been by the “festive German
flea”. We are most fortun-
ate here in having wonderful
bathing facilities. I have
never seen better shower baths
than the ones we have, and
it is a great treat to be able
to take a good hot bath each
day. I also have an excellent
laundress. My laundry comes
back in about four days and
is beautifully done. So dear,
as far as the ordinary com-
forts are concerned I am not
really in very bad shape. I
certainly could be, and have

been in lots worse circumstances
than I am now.

I must go now and make
my inspections. I have a great
deal to do this morning. I will
write again tomorrow dearest.

I love you. I love my babies
and I love Glad. I am so
anxious to see you all. I am
homesick but will be patient.

I love you. God bless you dear.

With all my love and millions
of kisses.

Daddy.

Ansel B Smith Capt M.C.

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

Amer. E.F. Germany.