September 14th, 1918.

My dearest wife:

I didn't write to you yesterday, dear, and I really don't need a better excuse than the newspaper of that date can give you so I will leave it all to you to judge. The thing we all have been expecting for some time has come. The first real big all American drive started day before yesterday and has literally swept the Germans off their feet in that sector. It was a wonderful success. Twelve to fifteen thousand Germans have been captured and the count is not yet finished. A large account of territory which has been held by the Germans since 1914 has been taken by Americans and they are still going. You have been in your life witnessed as much real unalloyed joy as has been manifest by French and Americans alike around here. I can imagine what it is in the States.

The utmost optimism prevails all through France. The Germans are licked and are beginning to show signs of admitting it. Isn't it wonderful dear? I am so happy I don't know what to do and I can hardly wait for the newspapers to come. It rained quite a bit yesterday but has cleared up and is very bright today although rather cool. We have a nice fire in the stove and it is perfectly comfortable in the room. I think that we are really in more comfortable quarters now than we have been since we joined the Army. I have an
electric light right over the head of my bunk for reading and so have the others. Today my bunk is all torn down. I am running the blankets and quilts through the sheet sterilizer and I am going to take a little anti-coccie treatment. I haven't told you that I have them but you can draw your own conclusions. As soon as I finish this letter I am going over to take a bath. We have an excellent shower now and it is a real pleasure to bathe.

I have had no mail from you for two or three days and therefore I am expecting some today. I can't tell you how glad I am to know that you have a car and are enjoying it so much. I think it was wonderful of Ted to buy it and I want you to tell her that sometime I am going to ride up to her, all that she has done for you and me. She has been a good girl and deserves a lot of credit and if it does her any good to know it she may know that I give it to her in full measure.

I know how terribly hard on the babies the heat must be this summer. It will be cooler as this reaches you and your troubles in that way will be nearly at an end. It is comforting
to feel that you are going to have no trouble with
fuel this winter isn't it dear? It surely is a great
source of comfort to me to know that you have
it so splendidly provided for and I can't commend
your thrift and forethought too highly. You have
set me an example that I hope I can live up to
when I return.

If you duty at one this afternoon. We have been
very busy (that is stating it mildly) and expect we
will have a lot of work this P.M. But it is what
we are here for so we don't complain. Complain!
I should say not! If the boys at the front are
doing what they are why shouldn't we work
for them? It is all we can do to help win the
war and it seems little enough. Sometimes
though the work gets a little bit heavy and
we get tired.

I had a letter from Jack the other day in which
he expressed himself as being very well satisfied
with his present assignment. I met an officer
from his old regiment - the 26th I think. - the other
day and he knew Jack well. He said that Jack's
efforts to get a transfer had made him somewhat
unpopular with his outfit but that he personally
liked him immensely. I don't see how anybody
could help but like Jack. Do you dear?
I have now lost most of my desire to be transferred back with him however because it is so much more interesting up here and I feel that I can do much more here than I could back there; but if I am sent anywhere from here I'd rather go there with him. Roy, Eunice and I went downtown late last night to get the latest news, and played a few games of billiards afterwards. I have improved in my game quite a bit and made some really difficult shots last night.

Well love dear, I must close and go for my bath. I love you dearest girl—I love you. Give my love and many kisses to Ted and the babies. With all my love to you sweetheart.

I am ever, your loving husband.

[Signature]

[Address]