

February 14<sup>th</sup> 1918.

My Darling Marie:-

I got another letter from you yesterday. It was written earlier than any of the others I have received. In fact it was written on New Years day - the day after we left Fort Harrison and has chased me all over the world. But even though it got here last it was welcome, for in it you told me how much you love me and that is one thing I always like to read. I have now had seventeen letters from you dear, I wonder how many you have received of mine. Regarding cablegrams I can send one occasionally possibly, but we are requested to use the cables only in case of dire necessity, on account of the fact that so much official business has to be transacted over them. But if you will remember what I have so often told you "No news is good news" the intervals during which you receive no word from me will not be hard to bear, for Honey Dear, I assure you that the Government will at



once let you know if anything happens to me. Therefore you must not worry at all if time passes during which you do not hear from me. Just think of me during those times, as your own husband - loving you and thinking of you every moment of his life.

You all are getting more news of conditions over here than we do ourselves. Our knowledge is entirely confined to the locality which we are in, except for brief news articles in the army newspapers. But there is no doubt that there is strong belief that the war is in its last stretch. Right before last we had a bit of excitement here. We were all at the Y. M. C. A. attending a vaudeville entertainment which was being put on by our own Company, and which, by the way, was very good. Suddenly the bugle sounded a call



I had never heard before, and all  
the lights went out. Then we knew  
that German aeroplanes were headed  
our way. It was quite interesting.  
We all naturally got outside to see  
what was doing, but <sup>all</sup> was quiet and  
we saw nothing except the stars.

We could distinctly hear the thunder  
of the heavy artillery at the front, on  
that night; it was so clear and still.  
I am feeling wonderfully well. I have  
never been in as good health in  
my life as I am now. I have a  
wonderful appetite but don't get  
fat because I have plenty of exercise.  
It is a great relief to be rid of that  
mess job. Major relieved me of  
all responsibility yesterday and  
told me I had handled it very



satisfactorily. As that is as much  
praise as he has ever been known  
to give anyone, it was very pleas-  
ing to me and I am satisfied. But  
nevertheless I am glad that Stanley  
and not me, has to worry about  
the business from now on.

There is very little news to write.  
There is so little that we can write,  
that I find it hard to fill a page  
in a letter. I just received one  
box from you. It was a box  
of Hylers' chocolate and believe  
me dearest, it was welcome.  
However it didn't last very long  
because every body else was just  
as glad to see it as I was. It  
is delicious chocolate, and I can't  
thank you enough darling girl,  
for sending it to me. You are



just as sweet as you can be dear,  
 and I love you with all my  
 heart. Don't bother to send the  
 envelopes and paper. I will  
 always be able to obtain them at  
 the Y. M. C. A. at no cost, and I  
 don't need stamps, as you have noticed.  
 I have a lot of the stamped and  
 addressed envelopes left yet. also  
 a big supply of this paper, besides  
 all the paper in my writing pad,  
 none of which I have used as  
 yet.

I can't possibly find time to  
 write to all my friends dear. I  
 can only write to you. So you  
 must give my regards to all.

Warner's, McMullens, Browns, Wallaces,  
 Frank & Isabel etc, and write



to Isabel and Ruth, so that they will know something about where their brother is.

Tud of course knows that every letter I write is for her too. How is she dear? Give her my love every morning, just after you take your own. The sun has just come out very brightly and it is a perfectly beautiful day. Miss Syle says it is very unusual weather for France at this time of year. It is typical June weather and is perfectly delightful. I don't know how much longer we will be in our present station, but I guess not very long. When we become permanently settled in our



final station, and get a regular routine established, then I will have more time to write, and in addition to writing to you more often I will try to send letters to some of my friends as well.

It is now the 15<sup>th</sup> of February and we have not been paid yet for January. We have been threatened several times but not a thing has happened. If it goes much longer, we will get our February and January pay at the same time. Then I will be able to send you money. It is not going to cost very much to live over here dear. I think I can send you almost enough to pay for our honeymoon if



you don't need to use it to live.  
I hope you are getting along  
all right financially and I believe  
you must be, for I feel that  
things were left in very good con-  
dition there as far as that was  
concerned. When I get back, however,  
I don't doubt that you will be  
much relieved. Have you been  
informed yet regarding the war  
risk insurance? By this time  
you should have received the  
policy, if I understand the matter  
aright. I have taken no pictures  
as yet. Cameras are not at all  
popular over here, and it is  
contrary to my idea of the  
right thing to do, to go contrary  
to regulations and orders.

Well love dear I am going



to close untill tomorrow. I have to  
 get shaved now, before mess. I  
 want you to give each of my  
 dear babies a big love and kiss  
 for me. Tell them Daddy loves  
 them. Do the same with Ted.

And you my darling, know how  
 much I love you. You know  
 that every bit of my love and  
 life is yours. With all my love  
 and millions of kisses.

Daddy.

From.

St. A. Smith U.S.A.

Use Hoop # 2. U.S.A.

A.S.T.