

Dec. 4, 1918.

my Sweet wife,

Somehow or other I'm going to get all these letters and enclosures away to you. for I've held them a long time. after marching three days - a two day rest hardly suffices to catch up on regular company work - and truly a fellow sleeps well after a hike.

But truly we're having a wonderful holiday. Thirty kilometers is a mere jaunt through this beautiful country. Just now we are in Hedgeroth - the only dirty village we've come thru and about 90 Km. from our destination Calenty. The villages and cities usually are scrupulously clean - the stores excellent - the people hospitable even to us, their enemies, and in return the American army is giving an excellent account of itself.

The officers are being billeted in the homes as we go, and it is really embarrassing to us, who expect little, being entertained as a German officer would demand. It seems that everyone is so glad that we have come, instead

of the French or English that they
welcome us as friends. Last night I
staid with a little old widow so
much like my own mother that I
felt absolutely at home. She insisted
on my drinking a big bowl of hot
milk for my cold - and fixed a nice
bath right along side the kitchen
stove. Poor soul ~~she~~ has been widowed
for five years - two sons, her only children,
were killed for the Kaiser - and now
she carries on - a bit sad-eyed -
much older than she should be - but
brave and cheerful keeping her little
home bright and shining and living
for the memories of her past. She is
my mother in the days when things
were dark - and no wonder I felt
comfortable there. Also I risked a
court martial by sending for a cup of
ground coffee and a half loaf of white
bread. She has known only roasted
barley and potatoe bread for four
years - and certainly she loves them
both. Her wages that in two
months' ship still have some.

I've raised up a lot of postcards
of places I've been in, and I'll mail
you a few every once in a while now

that the commissioning is right
and we'd get some place where we
could stay long enough for a lot of
mail to reach us. It's damned
you. Tomorrow we get a bunch of it
you just wait.
The language and find that I go
gross much faster than I did in
I want, only I put them up. See
money for us a man because we
official rate of exchange has been so
factored yet. See last five days we
for more in China the other day
where some gave me 115 marks
for 100 francs. Surprisingly he
and the official rate probably he
estimated at 140.
Now for dinner and a full after-
noon. Have lots on the boards.
When you get the letter you can
find a mark on it 'cause of how
it was so fat. Today I put in my ap-
plication for full and immediate paper.
After I get to some night away at
5' long - lot of love to my mother
and only an ocean of love & love between us now