

France

July 15th 1918.

My dear Papa-

I have received your letter of May 2nd which was greatly delayed, and a few days later your letter of June 12 came, having made very good time. I certainly appreciate deeply these letters from you for I know what a great labor and exertion it is for you to write.

I am very much interested in hearing of Bessie's little girl and wish that I could see her. I hope to hear from you all about the little girl. I have not yet been to Paris, having passed 40 miles away on my first journey after landing. I do not see any chance to get there soon but of course shall certainly make a visit at the very first opportunity. Paris is the very heart of France - all the people

in France are passionately fond of it and even tho' you find them who have never been there, the mention of the name brings forth exclamations.

Way up near the Swiss border, many hundred of miles away, the people love it as much as those living nearer.

We are being paid in French money in cash by the Government so we have no trouble about having checks cashed or American money changed.

I have never in all my life experienced such a busy life as I have since being here. No other experience I have had so far in the army or anywhere else can begin to compare with it. All day long

and most all the night
we are busy, very busy.
I hope this schedule will let
up some soon and give us a
rest, tho I am in perfect
heart and believe I can stand
it ~~like~~ others do. We do have
Sunday off and get a little
recreation in a nearby town of
about 50 000. I am seeing a ^{French}
part of a very attractive
girl I have met over there. All
the work however, we have absolutely
no time off. I shall write
you as often as possible and
tell you how I am getting on.
While this part of France is
not as attractive as it was
way to the East, still it is
wonderful to me and my regret
is that I do not get the
opportunity to see more of these
people. I certainly trust that
you are about as usual & it

Seems hard to realize that
it is now winter here at home
Here it is rather warm some
days in the middle of the day
but I sleep every night
under from 4 to 6 blankets. Don't
understand it nearly all of
France has such weather

Please write to me
as often as you can and get
the others to write. A letter over
here is a great event to us,
With much love
Devotedly
Richard