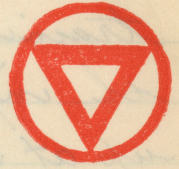


If you can't make out my scratching, May or Es will be glad to give you a lift.

NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL



ARMY AND NAVY
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS



"WITH THE COLORS"

Jan. 11, 1918.

1917

My dear Uncle Henry:

Received your letter, and its contents, this noon, and must say that you are as good a relative as anyone could wish for.

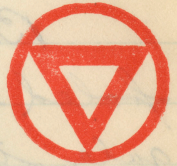
As yet, we have received no pay, so you can just imagine how "tickled to death" I was to see that "green." Some day, Uncle Henry, I hope to be able to be of some service to you. Surely it was very thoughtful of you, to keep the sad news back, until the last. You have been away from home yourself, so you know how to work such things.

You can bet your life that I will try to live up to that motto "Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag, and smile." I think it is a corker. The song is very popular with the boys.

You are just a little bit mistaken about our training here. So far, we have had no hikes. All our time is taken up at school. On the level, there is nothing I would like any better than some of that real

training. But that stuff is reserved for the infantry and artillery, I guess. We get up at 5:15 A.M., stand reveille at 5:25, clean up the barracks, breakfast at 6. After breakfast, we do some more cleaning, and report to school at 7. Now this is not a flying school at present. We are learning Aero-planes from stem to stern. That is the ~~class~~ ^{school} is formed into three classes, A, called the Experimental and Repair department, which fixes all the "smashups" and tries out all the new ideas, and does the rigging. After a course, of 30 days, intensive training, you are supposed to know every part of the fuselage, and how to repair and replace it. The fuselage, is the body. B class, is called the Aero motor, here all the mechanics, are made familiar with all the details of the engine. The "C" class is called transportation. This is made up of chauffeurs, or drivers, who learn the knack of driving with a trailer, bearing a "plane", also at night, without lights.

I hate to disappoint you, but I fear that I shall never be a pilot. In the first place, I am not trying for that, and secondly, mother and dad object strenuously

ARMY AND NAVY
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"WITH THE COLORS"

1917

Isn't it too bad that you are kept on the jump, this awful weather. It has been very cold here, until today, when at about noon, some kind of a blizzard struck us, and is going like H---. Gee! but is cold. Worst I have ever seen. Were it not for the helmet Mrs Hangle sent me, I don't think I could get out at all. As it is, I have already frozen one ear. The wind would pick you off your pins, and then those "iron bound" boots, they give us, did you ever see a pair? What they call "trench shoes." The sole, about $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch thick is studded with steel pegs, like "top pegs" while the heel has a steel plate, on the outside edge. I can now appreciate how a horse feels on a slippery day. Some sensation. The upper part of the shoe is made of horse hide, I guess, with the rough side out. Gee! but they're ugly looking things, and cold as a sheet of tin, would be.

But here's where the McElligetti
foiled them for once. I was the worst of the
gale, they called the boys out for drill.
A damn fool stunt I called it, and as
I come pretty near having my own way
here, I stayed in the office, till drill
was about over then went to the barracks,
and nearly froze on the way. The distance
from head quarters to the barracks, is not
more than a quarter of a mile, but it was
the worst thing I was ever up against. I
hope you won't think I'm squealing,
because it's nothing compared with some
of the thing you fellows go through. I
do pity the poor devils on guard. Honest I
do. There's another place I fooled them.

Being employed at head quarters, I am excused
from fatigue duties. No guard or K. P. (Kitchen Police)
Carl Enright, for Officers school? What
do you mean? Non-coms? Huh! You can't tell what
they'll do next in those draft camps.

Please tell Margaret that I never received
her letter, but will write her just the same,
as soon as I get a chance.

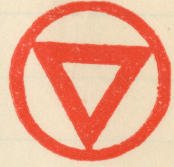
Thanking you again, and hoping all are
well, I remain,

Sincerely Dick M.

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"WITH THE COLORS"

1917

P.S. Please tell my folks to send me those socks and ear muffs, immediately. They need not mind the other articles, as I mentioned in the letter.

Thank you.

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ARMY AND NAVY

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

WITH THE COLORS



1917

*F. S. Please tell my folks to send me their cards and our stuff, in-
mediately. They need our stuff.*

*Yours truly,
F. S.*



Lieut. P. H. Kenny.

73 Hillside St.

Boston,

Massachusetts

(Roxbury Crossing)
P. O.

From ERMCELLIGOTT

152nd Aero Sq'd'n.

Chanute Field,

Rantoul, Illinois.

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**NATIONAL
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ARMY AND NAVY
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
"WITH THE COLORS"**