

Kreuzberg Germany
Feb. 11 - 1919

Dear Mother Father Bros + Sisters
This evening I will write you
a few lines, to at least let
you know that I am not
~~among~~ the casuals. There seems
to be a fall up in the mail
service lately. so many of the
fellows are complaining about
delays in delivery. Well mama
I hope you are all the same
as ever at home, it has been
some time since I rec a letter

from you. The ²christmas package
you sent must be lost for ^{I have} never
rec it yet. Willie wrote me a
few days ago, he is in a small
town on the other side of the Rhine.
I will go down to see him soon
if my pass goes through. From
~~what~~ he says the ~~marines~~ will
get stuck over here for some time.
The rumor is out again that the
42nd is due to leave in the course
of a few weeks. General Pershing
is to review us at Ramgen about
the middle of the week, this is a
good indication of us getting

relieved soon after ³⁵the review. If we
leave here the chances are we will
unpark from Rotterdam which is a
short distance down the Rhine. John
Smith was in here today on pass
This is the first time I have seen
him since we left camp north.

He lived in the N.E. and joined the
aviation signal corps soon after I
enlisted. Carl Highman was here a
short time ago, he is a second lieutenant
in the balloon squadron stationed
out side of Coblenz. I heard Dutch
Smith was made a second lieutenant
since he came over. It was in the
air. I heard there is

since he came over. ~~He was~~
same Div as C. Smith. There is
nothing going on here much to
write about, snow comes & goes
just like snow tonight that Walter
Stopper died in the Div Hospital at
Munich. That's sure luck going all
through the war and get this far
and die. He was from N.C. and had
been acting stable sergeant in our
Co. most of the time we were on the front.
Athletics are taking the place of drilling
among the occupation troops to pass
the time away. Nearly every regiment

in the Div⁴ has a show man
up among the talent in the Dig-
and go from town to town. Some of
them are good and draw big crowds.
We get passed nearly every night
to visit in the near by towns. Last
Sunday I went out horse back rid-
ing out among the hills and
wound up at a small Dutch town
about 15. miles from here. The people
seem away behind time, they make
their living mostly from raising
grapes and ^{have} small patches of farms.
The Bergermaster is the main squeeze
in town and generally the most
popular citizen. He is the same as

our mayor, but^s acts according
with the Germans laws which gives
him all authority over the people.
There is lots of Deer & wild bore among
these hills. A few of our fellows
thought they would try their hand
at hunting Deer. They killed a couple
and this got the bunch started until
it got to be a regular thing. The
German people were scared so bad
they wouldn't even go to church or
hardly come out, an order was issued
against it so hunting with game is
finished here. Mama you propably have
been reading in the papers about
the 35th Div. which an investigation

is being made. From what I know
they certainly must have met with
awful resistance. We were over the
same ground they lost so heavily on
and believe me it was bloody.

The front was later reinforced and
the Germans were pushed clear to today
I was detailed to go up the night
the final push was to begin. Zero
hour was set, and over gun for miles
around started to boom, the German
lines were plowed up like powder, believe
me it was a sight. Well mama
I hope you are getting a relief from
the cold weather. It has been just
but I couldn't see

the cold weather. It has been just
like spring here, but couldn't say
how long it will stay. Mamma the
very next time I go to a big town I
will have my picture taken, no joking
this time, you probably won't know me
for they say I am getting fatter and uglier.
ha! Joe sure is big what has he been
eating anyhow? Well mamma I will
close hope you + Papa are enjoying good
health and having a good time. Tell
all the kids hello and not to grow up,
so I will not know em when I get there.
It is nearly time for good night so
good bye. with love
Your son George