



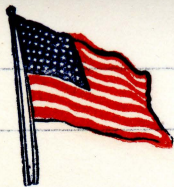
ARMY AND NAVY  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION  
"WITH THE COLORS"



1  
Nov. 22, 1918

Dear Sweetheart-

Got your letter a few minutes ago, and as I don't know whether or not I can write in Study tonight, am answering now. Drill takes place at 11:15 instead of 10:10 so there is where the extra time comes in. By the time this message reaches you, I suppose you'll be all worked up in interest over the convention. Go to it, Girl, I wish I could help along. Hope it will turn out to be a success. Do you remember last year in Roseland, what a nice sleepy time we had there, and then the ever present Eva afterwards? Also the drunk in the S. C. Station? Just happened to think of those memories now. Those were "the good old times", but I



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2

expect better ones in the future with you, dear.

I just finished scrubbing my leggings when your letter came and this afternoon I'm going to shine my shoes. Tomorrow (Saturday) is general inspection, rifles, personal and banks. Our Thanksgiving recess depends on our condition tomorrow. Here's hoping.

No orders have been issued as yet, regarding our discharge. Rumors are plentiful, maybe I'll think of one and spring it. What would you think of that? That's how all the others begin. It furnishes some excitement and amusement for a few hours anyway. Really, no harm done, though.

Rules and Regulations are piling up faster than we can remember them.



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Pretty soon this organization will assume the proportions of a Seminary or some girls school or something like that you can't work your eyes without being caught up for it and deprived of something.

Do New and Lillian Marie still hitting it together? I thought your sister had some one in the service with whom she was corresponding. It seems to me, if my memory is correct, that I heard it mentioned once. Maybe I'm wrong, though! New is a good scout all right, but I suppose when he matures, he'll be like the rest of the Thoren tribe. So far he is behaving very nicely.

Have you heard anything further about Al Olson's furlough? I wonder if he won't come home over Thanksgiving.



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If he does, and I get a recess, won't it be grand and glorious?<sup>5</sup>

One indication that we will soon be disbanded, comes from the Medical Corps. Orders have been issued to them not to perform any minor operations at all. The surgeons seem to think that this is a sure sign that dismissal is very soon here. I suppose you read the Tribune every day. Usually, they have something to say in this regard, but today nothing unusual appeared. Yesterday they said something about immediate discharge for all inducted men now in service, who entered the same with the view of being sent to officer's training camps. That means us beyond a doubt. All indications seem to show that we won't be here long, but, believe me,

084



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the fellows around here are getting impatient for definite orders, one way or the other.

About Saturday night. We're free from six o'clock until 11:30 as far as I can find out. There's no question but that I can come to church, but what good will it do. I can see you sure enough, but is that all you want? Merely to see me? I'm sorry your folks can't trust me. It not only hurts my pride, it also reflects on my character. But I suppose I'm the same as all other men in uniform, cannot be trusted alone with the ladies. I had hoped to win the confidence of your parents, but apparently I have failed. I'm not anxious to gain their favor but I feel funny when I can't be trusted. Primarily it is you I want and



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6

I believe you have a little faith in me. And I love you, dear, probably more than you imagine, if it weren't for the fact that I know you love me, I'd just lie down and quit. To settle it then, I'll see you in church, suppose I'll have time to at least see you and have a few words with you, if you're not too busy. Think I'll go home and leave some clothes there and get some clean ones, and then stay in church for a short while.

Really can't describe my feelings now, but probably you can understand. Joe cannot be trusted alone with Grace. There is the fact. No more, no less. I'm sorry the situation has loomed up the way it has, but there is nothing to do but try to live it down. Do there any chance do you suppose?

084



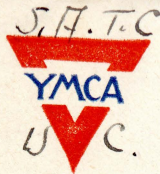
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7  
Do your folks change their opinions once  
in a while? I sincerely hope they  
do!

I still love you, Sweetheart, and  
will continue to do so, no matter  
what others think. Am I worthy  
of your love in return? Will you  
truthfully give me your idea, Grace?  
I'll abide by your decision whatever  
that may be.

Until that time I am as always  
Your Joe.



"WITH THE COLORS"

Miss Grace Shogren,  
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