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June 23, 1917.

UNITED STATES MARINES

My own dear girl:-

I will now answer your two letters which I received yesterday. Don't get mad whatever you do. You start out as though I were in danger of losing my life. I believe you are serious in what you say Grace. Why shouldn't I? Yes my dear I believe you with all my heart that you will keep the trust I have put in you. I know you

pretty well Grace. Don't you suppose
I have thought a lot over the matter. I
have thought a lot about you and
whether I should continue writing as I
have. I don't want another affair as I
had with Eva. If I thought we would
go together and break up I would think
twice and you know what that would
mean in this case. I never want to
go through what I did in breaking up
with her. Do you understand what I
mean Grace? I believe you do, so I write
in this way.

I sure do wish I could be with you
to take a walk. Say, can't you forget
those penny lectures? As far as my
memory serves me I never charged a
cent for them. You big tease. Tom Boy etc.
Can't you write a few things to me? If
not remember them and tell me when I
get home. I to have a few things to
tell you that I wouldn't write in a
letter. If you can wait I can. Can't
we? I say we can.

I am fair in my shooting. Monday

we start shooting for record. I am a little worried about it but hope to be settled down so that it won't affect my shooting. I will do my very best and I hope you will be satisfied Grace. I expect some of the boys will beat me.

It sure is warm down in my country. You Chicago people would be out of luck (as we say it) were you to come down here now. I feel sorry for the boys who are just beginning their training. I have a little feeling left in me.

I was on guard last nite.



UNITED STATES MARINES

Between the hours of 10-12. I had 4 hours sleep all night. I like guard work. It makes you feel like somebody. A guard has authority over the Commanding Officer. I had a good beat to travel to. I had the best one. This is a fact and no kidding. Gunnar did not get called on to guard, but he will get it next time. I am bad Grace. Better

Come down and make me behave. I had to carry ten pails of water this morning because I talked in ranks. See I can't even keep my mouth still. I am glad it is only my first offense. I will never get caught again. If I do I suppose it means the brig. What would you think of me my dear if I were put in the brig for such a crime. I know how I would feel about myself. But with God's help Grace I will never see the inside of a cell. They say down here a fellow can't be a soldier unless he is put in the brig at least once. Well I say, if that be the case I am no soldier.

Be good Grace and do nothing I wouldn't do. My very best love to you Grace and best regards to your folks.

Good bye my Azziz.

Your lonesome Marine
Dave.