



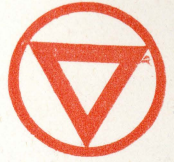
August 24, 1917

My own darling girl:-

Oh how I want you tonight, my dear. I feel very very lonesome for you. If I could only come to you, I would be satisfied. But I can't and you can't come to me so we will have to be satisfied, and besides no letter today. Have you received any mail from me at your new address? I hope you have.

Sunday Gun and I are going out for a hike. I am going to try to take some pictures and if they turn out good I will send you copies.

Grace dear, we may leave for France in two weeks. The sooner we go the better. I want to get it over with. I think the sooner we get over ~~the~~ sooner this old war will


 ARMY AND NAVY
 YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION


"WITH THE COLORS"

1917

end and we all can come home again.
 Oh why did I have to leave
 you Iraq? Can you tell me? I am
 love sick Iraq. I want to hold
 you in my arms and I can't. I
 feel desperate, but I will have to
 get over with it the best way I
 can.

There was a boy killed on
 the field today. They were throwing
 hand grenades and one did not ~~go~~
 explode. A private went to pick
 it up and it exploded blowing
 out his stomach, just a little
 taste of what war really is.
 Every once in a while the heavy
 artillery will fire their big guns
 and it shakes the whole camp.
 Oh I am just beginning to see
 really what war is. It is not
 pleasant as far as I can see.


 ARMY AND NAVY
 YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION


"WITH THE COLORS"

1917

But don't worry my darling I am coming back to you, I feel sure of that. It will be awfully hard not being able to hear from you as regularly, but that too will have to be overcome. Our love will not cease just because thousands of miles separate us. I am saying this because I somehow feel we will soon go over. I was hoping we would stay over the winter, but I guess not. (One of the boys here in the Y. M. C. A. is playing "Farewell to thee") and I can hardly keep back the tears. Oh my darling I can't help but write in this mood, I know I ought not to but please forgive me. I am not blue, but lonesome for you and I know I won't be able to see you until I come


 ARMY AND NAVY
 YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

"WITH THE COLORS"



1917

home again.

I hope these few words have not spoiled any of your time Grace, but I wrote just as I felt and I know that ^{that} is the way you want me to write.

Forgive me if ~~it~~ this letter has.

Oh how I love you Grace, I will never feel sorry I have asked you to wait for me I know that now.

Be good, with my heart and love and mistakes just for you my darling Azzie,

Your lonesome Marine,
 Dave.

S. A. 8 K's.