

AMERICAN



In a trench at the Front,
ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

April 14, 1918.

My own darling Grace:-

As I was out on an errand this morning I was wondering how it would feel to be back in Sunday School and church one more. Then I wanted you darling. Oh how I wanted you and I feel so lonesome. I layed down for a few minutes trying to sleep, but no sleep came, instead I was back with you (in my thoughts) and then all sleep was finished. I just layed there and had you in my thoughts Grace and my feelings were getting the better of me so I had to get up. Why don't you come darling, to me.

This trench life is

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

191

a very funny life indeed. It seems ones nerves are never at a rest. Always on the alert for the unexpected. One never knows when a German gas bomb is going to come over. When I go to sleep I don't get the usual sleep. We have to have our clothes on all the time and you can imagine how comfortable that is. Oh this is the life if you don't weaken. But I am not going to weaken darling. I am going to stay till the last when I am coming home to you, better and stronger for the experience. I will be a better man darling, and just for you.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

191

Five more days Grace, since I left home the first time. Can you remember that time? It is just as clear to me as though it happened yesterday. Down there at the Dearborn St. depot. I didn't have you then darling, but I wanted you and I was sure I would get you and I did. Oh how glad I am I did get you my sweetheart. Are you glad and satisfied? The year surely has gone and it has meant much both to you and me and I know it is all for the best. If only I could get any answer as to why we had to be separated this way. But I

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

191

suppose it is all for the best.
It seems that way to me. Time
will tell though darling.

I am happy though
Grace and why shouldn't I be.
Having you at home waiting
for me, knowing you are true
and that you love me. That
means a lot darling and I
can say with from the bottom
of my heart I love you and
trust you as never before. No
matter what anybody may
say, it makes no difference.
Do you know sometimes
thoughts come to me, "Dare
you are a fool doing as you
did, when you get home you
will need want a good time

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

191

and here you are tied to Grace. But those thoughts never stay Grace. It is only the devil trying to make life miserable for me and I am glad I know it. Has the talk stopped at home about you and Joseph? If I was you I would let them talk and when I come home they can see their folly and will have to shut up, or perhaps they will find something new to talk about. No doubt they will. It makes me laugh to think of it Grace. I still can smile darling, but oh how I am waiting for your smile and a kiss from your lips. Darling I just want



ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

191

you so badly. Well darling I suppose you are tired of this prattle, but it has all come from the bottom of my heart. Good-bye for this time sweetheart.

Best regards to your folks and give Billy two kisses for me.

Love you dearest of all and my true sweetheart I give all my love and trust from your own true soldier boy,
S. H. 5 K's. Dave.

Private David L. Lhou,
73 Company - 6 Regiment,
U. S. Marine Corps - A. E. F.

A. D. S. Thos
73 Co - 6 Regt
U. S. Marine - 1643



Miss. Grace S. Hogren,
1000 N. Lockwood Ave.,
Chicago, Illinois.
U. S. A.

