

October 22, 1917.

Dear Mother;

Just received your letter and blankets. Both of which I appreciate very much. The blankets will help wonderfully. Last night I was on Guard and I never knew it to be so cold. It was near dinner time today before it got any warmer at all.

I cannot understand how I come to forget about your pictures. God bless your heart Mother. I have them both in my tin box, where I am keeping all of my letters sent from home. You both took a fine picture and you look well in it.

Received today the package from the boys. It consisted of 70 packs of Cigarettes and 100 packs of smoking tobacco with papers formaking cigarettes(roll your own) Also two boxes of Cinco cigars 100 cigars. I think that was royal in them and just penned them a line after dinner. I am now smoking one of the cigars. Believe me their good.

Now Mother, I want you and Dad to put it to a vote. The boys thought I smoked Cigarettes and they sent me several extra packs of very good cigarettes. You know that I gave you a promise that I would not touch cigarettes, while I was away. I have kept this promise faithfully even though I have had very good cigarettes given to me I always have given them away. I though perhaps you would not care if I smoked some of these cigarettes and also rolled some of the special kind which they sent me. Now I don't mean that I am going to, after these are gone to buy cigarettes, I only mean to smoke those which are given to me. If you do not want me to, say the word and I will give them all away smoking only the cigars. I will not touch any of them till I hear from you and if you put the ban on them out they go I want you to know that I think more of gratifying your wishes than to go ahead and maybe make you feel bad. Please do not forget this important detail.

I have enclosed a picture of myself in field uniform "summer". I will later enclose the proof. I will try to borrow an overcoat and will have a picture taken as you desire.

I do not think I will need any of the things you spoke about but if I do (I) will surely ask for them. You might stick in a can of Ox Blood shoe polish, and a scrubbing brush (small) these can be sent anytime no hurry.

Will close with love to all,
Howard.

P.S.

Still have some of the box you sent Wed. left.