

World War I
Jul 28, 1914 – Nov 11, 1918
Soldier's Letter

Brief eines zur Ruhe eingegangenen
Soldaten
Irgendwo in Frankreich

September 19. 1918

Meine Lieben in der Heimat!

Ich will versuchen um wieder einige Zeilen an euch zu schreiben, wie es mir noch geht. Ich werde immer noch gut fertig und bin bei guter Gesundheit. Ich hatte etwas Fieber, aber das hatte nicht viel zu sagen, denn ich bin wieder wohl auf, und hoffe ein gleiches von euch zu hören. Ich habe Sophie ihren Brief, auch die Karte erhalten, sowie einen Brief von Albert, auch einen von meiner Alma und Pastor Heinemeier. Ich hätte schon eher geschrieben, aber ich hatte keine Gelegenheit dazu und wo wir jetzt sind, ist es ziemlich schwer Briefe abzugeben.

Etwas gefochten wurde, alles ist gut abgelaufen und auch zu unseren Gunsten. Hier habe ich auch die ersten deutschen Gefangenen gesehen, sie waren nur ein kleines Stück von uns. Es waren 22 Mann die von drei amerikanischen Soldaten gebracht wurden. Von den anderen Jungen habe ich kürzlich Hy. Koslan gesehen, er war noch recht gesund und ich kann nicht begreifen, dass seine Leute keine Nachricht von ihm erhalten, wenn er an sie schreibt. Auch die anderen Jungen habe ich gesehen, die waren noch O. K.

So braucht ihr Euch keine Sorgen wegen etwas zu machen. Wir sind in Gottes Hand. Sophie schrieb als ob sie mir Kleinigkeiten schicken wollte, wenn ich etwas gebrauche. Alles was ich brauche ist Schreibpapier und Couverie, Stamps brauche ich keine. Dieses ist deutsches Papier welches ich gefunden habe, denn sie haben vieles liegen gelassen, da wir sie aus diesem Teil vertrieben haben. Weil ich nun alles geschrieben habe was ich weiss, so will ich schliessen, mit vielen Grüßen und möge Gott euch behüten. Schreibt wenn ihr könnt. Euer Sohn und Bruder,

Corporal Richard Kissmann
Co. B, 360 Inf. American E. F.

Letter from a soldier gone to rest
Somewhere in France

September 19th, 1918

Dear loved ones at home!

I will again attempt to write a few lines to you, to tell you how I'm doing. I am still getting along nicely and am in good health. I had a slight fever but it didn't amount to much and I am now up and around again, and hope to hear that you are well, also. I received Sophie's letter, and also her card, as well as a letter from Albert, also one from my Alma and from Pastor Heinemeier. I would have written sooner but didn't have the opportunity and it is difficult to post anything from where we are now.

We have been fighting some but everything has proceeded to our benefit. I have seen German prisoners here for the first time, they were only a short distance from us. There were 22 of them being brought in by three American soldiers. Of the other boys, I recently saw Hy. Koslan, he was in good health and I can't fathom why his people haven't received news from him since he's been writing to them. I have also seen the other boys and they are O. K.

So you should not have to worry about that. We are in God's hands. Sophie wrote as if she would send some small things if I had a need. The only thing that I need is writing paper and envelopes, I don't require any stamps. This is German paper which I have found, for they had left much behind when we drove them out of here. Since I have written about everything that comes to mind, I will close with many greetings and wishes for God's protection. Write when you can.
Your son and brother.

Corporal Richard Kissmann
Co. B, 360 Inf. American E. F.

Somewhere in France

September 19, 1918

My Dear Beloved Ones:

Will try and write you all a few lines to let you know how I am getting along. I am fine and healthy again, had a little fever, but it did not amount to anything, for I am fine and healthy again and hope to hear the same from you all. I received Sophia's letter, also that card and a letter from Albert and one from Rev. Heinemeier and my Alma. I would have written sooner, but couldn't get a chance, for here where we are now it is pretty hard to get mail off.

We had some little scraps, but everything turned out fine and in our favor. Here I saw the first German prisoners at a short distance, twenty-two of them were brought in by three American boys. Now about those other boys? I saw Hy. Koslan the other day, he is still O.K. and I can't understand why his folks don't get any mail from him if he writes. Also the other boys were getting along fine the last time I saw them.

So you all don't need to worry about anything. I just hope that you are all getting along O.K. Sophia wrote like she wanted to send me some little things if I needed something. All I need sometimes is paper and envelopes, for it is hard to get it sometimes. I don't need any stamps. This for instance, is some German stationery which I found over here, for they left lots of things as we beat them out of this sector. As I have written about all I know, will close with best wishes and regards. May God bless you all dearly, and write whenever you can. I am,
Your son and brother,

Corporal Richard Kissman
Co B, 360 Inf, American E. F.