On Active Service

WITH THE

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

Somewhere in France
Aug. 7, 1918.

Dear Mother:

Just a few lines to let you know that I arrived here safely and had a nice trip.

This is a fine country and although it is much different than England, I like it very much.

The weather here is much better also as it rained every day we were in England.

Of course we were only in England a few days, but perhaps we would have had better weather had we stayed there longer.

I ran across some of my old friends in my old machine gun company last day and it seemed good to see them, although it would have seemed much
letter if I had seen them in the U.S.A. They were all well & enjoying themselves. 

We have a lot of fun over the money they use over here as well as we did while we were in England with the which is considerably different than our own. The money system they use here is as follows:

10 centimes equal to one 1 cent

25 centimes equal to one 2 cent

50 centimes equal to one 5 cent

1 franc equals 10 cent

We soon get used to this but it sure seems funny after using our own as long.

Another peculiar & interesting feature here is to see the large number of women doing men's work. They are used nearly exclusively on the railroad, in the factories & even on the boats. This of course is due to the fact that it will liberate just so many more men to fight war.
About the only men we see here at all without uniforms are those past 70 yrs. of age. This of course is a much different condition than is existing in America at the present time.

The time of day here is also very different than in America it being about 7 hrs. earlier here. In other words when it is 7 o'clock in America it is only 12 o'clock here.

We are rather unsettled at the present time but in a few days we will no doubt get back to business once more.

I will write you again in a few days. Remember me to all my friends I write when you get a chance.

Love - Charlie