

schemes used by enemy agents to gather information. On the street or in public places remember that "the walls have ears."

Do not express your opinion on military matters nor on the general situation. Be loyal to your Government and your superiors. Trust them to conduct the war while you attend to your own particular part in it.

Avoid in any way giving the impression of pessimism either in your conversation or your attitude. In all ways be confident in the success of our armies and of our cause.

All members of the American Expeditionary Forces are forbidden to take photographs, unless photography is a part of their official duties.

### **DON'T CARRY WITH YOU**

Maps, documents or private papers of a military nature nor a diary or notebook containing military hints of value to the enemy, except when it is your official duty to do so. These will be a danger to your comrades in case you are captured; enemy pickpockets may get them even if you are not captured.

On the other hand, if any enemy property comes into your possession, under any circumstance whatever, turn it over at once to your company commander, who will deliver it to an Intelligence Officer. If the trophy is not of value to the Intelligence Section, it will be returned to you. Such trophies may be of vast importance to the General Staff.

### **IF YOU ARE CAPTURED**

Don't remember any more than you can help. Try particularly to forget organizations and the places in which they are stationed. Every bit of military information you give to your captors is a danger to you and to the comrades that have been left behind to fight your battles.

By command of General Pershing:

ROBERT C. DAVIS,  
Adjutant General.

(ALWAYS KEEP THIS CARD WITH YOU. LOOK IT OVER BEFORE WRITING A LETTER.)

## To the American Soldier in France



### **CENSORSHIP**

Remember that the enemy and his agents are always on the alert to gather information.

Details which are apparently unimportant may be combined with other details gathered by the enemy and become information of great importance to him. Do not forget that news travels so quickly under modern conditions that the bits of information you write home may be in the hands of the enemy a short time afterward.

#### **WHEN YOU WRITE A LETTER OR POST CARD:**

**DON'T** mention towns and localities in connection with any military organization.

**DON'T** mention the movements of troops, their condition, the effects of hostile fire upon them, nor their losses.

**DON'T** put too much faith in the discretion of the people you write to. They may be very patriotic, yet quite unable to recognize an enemy agent or what information may be of value to the enemy.

**DON'T** mail your letter in a French postoffice. It is forbidden in areas served by American military postal service.

**DON'T** allow your friends at home to publish your letters in the newspapers.

**ABOVE ALL DON'T** attempt to formulate or use any system of code, cipher, shorthand, or any other means of concealing the true meaning of your letters. It is the surest road to a court martial and severe punishment.

**REMEMBER** that writing or receiving of letters in war time is a privilege, not a right. In many wars of the past soldiers were not allowed to write letters at all.

### YOU MAY WRITE:

1—Letters or post cards to friends or relatives in the United States or in France, free of charge.

2—To friends or relatives in allied or neutral countries, by paying the same postage you would from the United States.

YOU MAY SEND, to the United States only, picture post cards, except those showing localities or places; personal photographs; or small articles, such as gloves, laces, or handkerchiefs, etc., as gifts. A PERSONAL photograph means one in which a person alone appears, without any suggestion of background that might indicate where it was taken.

You may send parcels not exceeding seven pounds in weight by parcel post to the United States, by pre-paying postage.

### YOU MAY NOT WRITE:

To ANYONE in the countries with which we are at war, except: American or allied prisoners of war, in which case letters must be sent to the Base Censor, unsealed. You may not write, nor talk to, nor hold any communication whatever with enemy prisoners of war.

### THERE ARE ONLY TWO WAYS TO MAIL LETTERS:

1—Hand them unsealed to your company officer. Remember that he reads many letters in his capacity of company censor and your letter is to him an entirely impersonal communication, of which he does not remember the details or the writer once it has been read.

2—Place your letters unsealed in a "blue envelope," seal the envelope, and mail it to the Base Censor, A. E. F., Paris. Each "blue envelope" may contain several letters, providing all are written by the same man and that each is enclosed within its properly addressed envelope, and that the certificate on the "blue envelope" is signed by the writer. It is forbidden to use "Blue Envelopes" except for strictly family matters.

If you know who is going to censor your letters, save his time and help your company mail service by putting his rank at the bottom of the letter and in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope, ready for his signature. Your envelope (unsealed) should look like

this when you turn it over to your company officer for censoring:

Corp. John Smith  
Co. "G", 104th Inf.  
A. E. F.

Mrs. John Smith,  
116 Garfield Place,  
Brooklyn,  
New York

1st Lieut. U. S. Inf.



As soon as he has read the letter, the officer will SIGN his name above his rank, as here written, and as soon as it has been stamped with the censor stamp the censor will post your letter. Nothing else should appear on the envelope.

### DON'T TALK TOO MUCH:

Officers, enlisted men, and militarized civilians with the American Expeditionary Forces in France are forbidden to discuss or mention in public places, or to impart to anyone except in the official discharge of their duties, anything of military nature or anything whatever concerning information directly or indirectly obtained through their connection with the A. E. F.

Never forget that we are at war and that the enemy is always listening. Always look with suspicion on strangers, and never tell anything of a confidential nature to a woman, as women are the most successful of enemy spies. Be suspicious of anyone who asks questions of a military nature, or who appears unduly interested in military information, even though he may be or may appear an American officer. Don't offer unsolicited information. You have no right to tell ANYONE where any unit is, or what military information has come into your possession, unless it is your official duty to do so. Any stranger, man, woman, or child, even a man in an American or an allied uniform, may be a spy. Do not tell him anything you would not be willing for the enemy to hear. For similar reasons, never enter into correspondence with strangers. It is one of the many