

HEADQUARTERS 38TH DIVISION,  
CAMP SHELBY, MISS.

March 1, 1918.

Dear General:

Your letter just received. The only mistake in the form is you have the "From" and "To" reversed.

There is a big question as to whether you can put this through, as the War Department has been exceedingly shy in cases of this kind. I only personally know of one case, that of Warren C. Beach, who was placed on the retired list as a Captain, after having resigned from the Army and remained out for some time. It took him years to accomplish this end, and he had a great deal of influence. But there is no reason why you should not try if you think you can put it over. It will require a great deal of influence and you will have a big fight on your hands, as it will be a precedent which the War Department has always been opposed to. I mean the question of going on the retired list. Of course the question of your going abroad is up to the Secretary of War.

Am sorry you are not coming back. We had review yesterday of the Division and they did far better than I expected. We are going to have another one tomorrow morning to rub out the edges that appeared in yesterday's review.

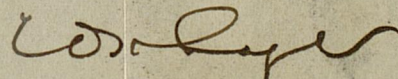
No telling or intimations as to when this Division will go abroad. That seems to be one of the great secrets of the War Department or whoever has that in charge.

Nobody has been appointed to take your place and probably no one will be until your case is finally acted upon.

The weather is getting exceedingly warm - in fact coats are uncomfortable.

With best regards to yourself and wife in which I join,

Sincerely,



WHS-b

Brigadier General Roger D. Williams,  
Army & Navy Hospital,  
Hot Springs, Arkansas.