

Newport News Va

Jan 1-1918

Dear Mother,

I have just sent you a telegram and hope by the time this letter reaches you that I will be in a camp nearer home.

We left St Nazaire

France Dec 19th and had a smooth trip over.

It was rough the first two days out and I was sick but soon got all right. I tho't I was one of those that don't get sea sick as I was not sick on the way to France.

We took a southern course and it was so warm for 10 days that we sat on deck without coats just in our shirt sleeves.

Without a doubt it was as warm as when I went over to France. The last 3 days were cool. We got here about 3 P.M. Tuesday ^{Dec 30}. This is not the same camp I was in last May. That was Camp Stuart and this is Camp

Hill. I have not received any mail since your letter of Sept. 19-1918. Since coming

out of the hospital I have
not done any work and now
I feel just as good as ever.

You did not understand
about my bathing in France
June 1st

We left Newfort News May
17- and arrived St Nazaire
France - May 30. Decoration
day. Went in swimming
June 1st there, and after
about a month's training
in France we went to Bel-
gium or as it is called
Flanders. My division the
27th was brigaded with
the 4th British Army and
we were at Mt Kemmel
near Ypres for a month.

One of the fellows bought
a New York Journal last night
and it had an article in
it about our division.

On Sept. 29 at Hamcan Post
six fellows out of my platoon
were killed with one shell
and a number wounded.

The fellow next to me was
hit and the one I slept with
in our "pup" tent was killed.

I sure was lucky that
time. on Oct 17 at night
we were putting foot-
bridges over a small river

and the Germans heard us. The machine gunner could not hit us as we were down in a gully so they sent over some "present" from their artillery. Gas shells and high explosives. We had to work on through as our barrage was due to open up soon. We had our ^{gas} masks on but it is hard to breathe ~~with~~ when working and the bridges were heavy and I sure did sweat. He was sending his "stuff" so close that we were ordered to stop and lay down. Between the gas and the hard work I went to sleep and the next thing I knew Lieutenant Lamb got me up took me back toward a dressing station just as our barrage opened up. They sure did make a noise and then the infantry started over. I was sent to a British Hospital as we were with them.

Certainly wish I could have had more time in Paris but it is warm here but damp

The fellows I have talked
with here say that the men
from France do not remain
here long so I have hopes of
getting home in the near
future. Hope you & dad
are well and I dont want
you to worry about me as
I feel fine and weigh just
as much as I ever did.
I was thin there awhile
but that was when we had
English rations and for the
last 2 months I have
had lots to eat

Love

Winnie

W.M.C.A.