

October 17, 1918
Louisville, Ky
2:30 p.m.
None Visible

Miss Gainor Roberts
223 N. Winnetka
Dallas, Texas

My dear sweetheart, here I am back at my battery, but not worth a darn. I have five days in which to lay around and get my strength back. Goodness only knows I need it because I haven't any strength to speak of. When I came back to-day at mail call there were 12 letters waiting for me and 6 of them were from you and so sweetheart you have been sick also. Well just so you didn't feel like I did. Oh Honey, if I could only be home tonight. You have no idea how homesick I am. Never again will I say that I want to get way off somewhere, where I am not known, no sir, just the opposite the closer I can get to home the better and the quicker I get there now the better. I've wanted to come home, but never so much that I could cry before and I can do that right now.

The other day I was sitting up in bed when they brought me a telegram. Well, it was from Brother and he wanted me to wire Mother telling her how I felt. Well, of course, I did it but, honey, for the first time in my life do I ever remember just crying over something like that but I began thinking about the night I left home. How dear Mother was standing in the door, and I know she was worrying now and the first thing I knew tears were simply running down my cheeks, and I tried to quit an couldn't.

I guess, honey, I will be put back about three weeks because you see these fellows have gone so far ahead. It isn't really a put back either because I've never had the work, yet it makes me feel pretty bad because I was figuring on finishing by the end of Nov. and now it will be about the end of December. But I guess instead of worrying I ought to be glad that I'm able to go on at all. Oh, honey, you don't know how anxious I am to see you and come back home. If you had been my nurse, I would have been better long before now anyway. I certainly have got lots of work to do. We have to make a bunch of drawing of different parts of the shell and gun and then of the panoramic sight so I'll be busy for the days that I'm here anyway.

Had a letter from Ethel today also the first one since I left Dallas. Honey, when you write her tell her hello for me and please explain why I can't write, but I'm going to be busy from now on to do much of anything. I'm going to write you all I can, and honey please write me even though I can't answer them all. I'll do my best. I'm so homesick for you now, I don't know what to do and when I don't hear from you it makes it all the worse.

With all my love to you my sweetheart,

Otto

You know I didn't know until to-day that Mama and the rest of the family had been or were sick. You see I couldn't get my mail and so naturally it stacked up here and I found it or got it all today at noon. If I could only find my things the same way, but I can't find a thing, only one blanket.

I love you.

Otto