

My dear Father:-

I thank you ever so much for the money that you sent me. Our annual exams are over now and the final average for the years [sic] work has been posted. My standing in the class for the year is 9 with a mark of 3.42 which stars me again.

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So you see, I will not have to take off my stars at all.

My lowest standing in any one subject was 14 and in Steam Engineering. There were eleven people in our class who starred and about the same number in the 3d and 4th classes. As yet we know nothing about our coming cruise – we do know that we

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embark on the morning of the 4th of June; but on what ships and the list of ports we visit, we know absolutely nothing. It will not be published until the morning we embark so that it will be too late for anyone to try to change over to some other ship. The battleship Texas, and Massachusetts and the Hartford are here now with three monitors and six destroyers.

There is a rumor afloat here that Admiral Sands has recommended that the first ten in class standing in our class for the past year, be assigned to the Texas for the whole cruise. The other fellows are tickled to death

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at the idea of spending the entire three months on the flagship – and so would I be if I thought that they wouldn't hurt themselves working and greasing. I know perfectly well that is that bunch were put together on one ship, that come would want to work all the time and in that

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way make us all work just about as hard on the cruise as we do at the Academy. That doesn't suit me at all, because I look forward to the summer cruise as a rest from all this worry and rush for class standing. Of course I intend to learn everything practical connected with our profession.

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I have just heard that our itinerary will be about as follows: the first week we will go down the Bay as far as Patuxent River. Then next week we go to Newport News where we stay a week. From there we go to Long Island Sound and vicinity, New London, Newport, etc. and spend remainder of our time there. Of course, I don't know if this is so, and the best thing will be for you to send my letters here to the Academy, where they will be forwarded.

My best love to Mother, the children, all of Aunt Augusta's family and to yourself.

Your son,

[signed]

Chester Nimitz