

My dear father:-

I've had my life insured and am sending the policy home with this first mail. I will have all of the receipts of the various payments etc. sent home to be kept with the policy. Before I go on my station I will give you a list of my debts for outfit so that in case a turret or some other

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unforeseen accident puts me out of commission, you can send enough of that money to pay them. Anyhow, I expect to be out of debt in a comparatively short time. Speaking to Capt. Ingersoll today, he told me that the bill to make us ensigns upon graduation would again be brought before Congress this year with much better prospects of its passing than heretofore. Heretofore the officers in

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the Navy have opposed it, that is the point that Senator Hale, the only man in Congress, allways [sic] used to kill the bill. Now the officers all are working for it because the commissioning of so many young officers would stir up promotion in the higher grades. At any rate, there will be a compromise and we'll get a little larger salary. But it would suit me exactly to come home in Feb. with a whole stripe instead of a half a stripe that a passed midshipman sports. At any rate, I'll be so pleased just about 12 weeks from today that I won't care very much whether I'm a passed midshipman or an ensign. You have no idea how glad we will all be when we get through – I never did mind this steady grind so much until this year. I'm

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restless and anxious to move around and see some of the world – Europe and Asia. It's the same with everyone in the class except one and he wants to stay here until June for graduation. I will explain his case – he is engaged to married to an Annapolis girl as soon as he is commissioned an ensign and the longer he remains here, why, the

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more he can see her.

Did those chestnuts get there all right? I was afraid that the boxes would bust up and all you would get would be that part of the pasteboard with the address on it, as it happened to classmate of mine who had a box of candy sent him through the mail.

It is only twenty days before we go to Philadelphia for the biggest game in the season. Both of the two national schools have defeated one of the leading

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teams in the East, and the tussle will be between the Army and the Navy for the Championship of the country. Another accident has happened – as you will see from the Chronicle of about Nov 1.

Well Father, I'll bring this to a close now in order to get it off on this mail.

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

Your son

[signed]

Chester W Nimitz

My general average for last month in everything was 3.38

(I may graduate with distinction after all).