

March 9, 1902.

Dear father;

Your letter of the 2d came all right, and I was glad to know that there had been an improvement in my writing. I thank Mother very much for the money, but I really do not need any at all. I hardly ever go out in town to see any one. Everything that a cadet would need can be had right at the Academy store. I have now about twenty suits of clothes, that is sailor suits. You see, out on the cruise, a suit would get dirty in one day, and as it is sometimes two weeks before a "wash," it is a good plan to have plenty of white clothes.

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I have also ordered a new suit of service dress because the one I received in September is just worn out, more from brushing than anything else. Well, our monthly standing was posted the other day, and just as I expected, I stood very near the end in "efficiency." In the other studies I did fairly well. I had bad luck in mathematics. My weekly marks were fine, all over 3.5 but I made one grand bust on the examination and this of course pulled my mark down considerably. You will have an idea of how fast they hurry through things here, when I tell you that we were less than one month in completing plane trigonometry.

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It was very easy for me, as you will see by my weekly marks, and if I hadn't blundered on the examination, my mark would have placed me well up into the first section. (There are 12 men to a section in Math and 9 in Languages and English). In Languages and English, I brought up my standing by several numbers, placing me in the first section in both those studies. We are going through higher algebra now at a pretty swift rate, and it keeps me busy getting my lessons prepared in that.

Yes, I heard that there was a new member in Uncle Charley's family. Jennie [sp?] Wahrmond wrote to me about it.

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Last Saturday the whole Battalion went out on the Bay in the steam launches and rowing cutters. There were fourteen rowing cutters and I was in one of them (12 men to a cutter). The weather was fine, not too warm, not too cold. We rowed out to the light house, which is about three miles out. Then the order came to make the best of our way back to the seawall. That of course meant a race of three miles in big, heavy waters with long, heavy oars. Of course the steam launches came in first, but of the rowing boats, ours was in first by a full boat's length. We were all certainly tired when the thing was over, and you may be sure we had fine appetites for our meals that day.

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Sometime when you pass by the office of the "Mountain Sun," will you tell him to change my address from (c/o R.L. Wentz) to (c/o U.S. Naval Academy)?

There is another German training ship, the Charlotte, coming to Baltimore sometime this month. She has on board some more German cadets, among them, another prince, and I think they will also visit the Academy.

Otto and Dora, are they learning well at school? Who is Otto's teacher now, and Dora's? Are there many strangers in town? Are there many people at the hotel now?

How is Aunt Augusta and Mr. Mason and the rest, are they all well?

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Has Charlie Weinholtz gone to Fredericksburg yet?

As I know of nothing else to write, I will close with my best love to Mama, the children, yourself and tall the rest.

Your son,

[signed]

Chester W Nimitz