

June 1, 1902.

Dear Father:-

Your letter of May 16th came all right, and I was glad to hear from you. Did you have much luck on the Llano? Did you enjoy yourself?

Well, Father, we had our last daily recitation, as plebes, yesterday morning. Tomorrow we will begin on our annual exams, and by June 6th, we will be third classmen. The training ships Chesapeake and USS Indiana are all ready here, and we will embark on the 7th. The cruise will be divided into two halves of 40 days each. Half of the cadets will go on the Chesapeake and half on the Indiana. At the end of the first half of the cruise, the two ships will meet and exchange cadets. The Chesapeake is a sailing vessel, and the Indiana is one of the regular battleships. My roommate and I are both on the Indiana for the first half.

[Page 2]

Last week the French ship "Gaulois" was here and the French officers came to see us drill.

The Frenchman was escorted up the Bay by the USS Kearsarge, Olympia, Alabama and the Indiana.

We have not learned yet just where we will go on the cruise, but it will be along the coast as it was last year.

The new fourth class will not go on the cruise this year and I am glad of it, because it will be hard enough on them here at the Academy.

Is everyone well at home? How is Aunt Meta? Is she still in Kerrville?

My best love to Mother and the children and all the rest.

Your son,

[signed]

Chester W. Nimitz