

U.S.S. HOUSTON

Navy Yard, Mare Island, Calif.
Feb. 14, 1936.

Dearest Mother of Mine,

First of all I want to thank you for the cake which arrived today in first class condition and then I want to thank O.E. for his letter. I think that I will send the cake on to Reds' cousin and see what she and her folks think of it as I don't think that they have ever seen anything like it. We are to go over to their house for our last liberty that we will have while we are in the Yard. We are to have a big Dago dinner at the Anfibolo domicile on the 23rd. of this month.

I now have some pretty good news to offer you folks. I took my Seaman Examination this past Tuesday and I was informed by my Division Petty-officer that I made it. The Seaman list has not been posted as yet and I hope that his information is correct. If he is right my pay will be hopped up to \$54.00 per month and that sure will be a big help to me as I can then help out as I would have liked to when you needed it or I can start to save for just such an emergency as that.

Now then some more good news. Last Wednesday there was a notice posted on the buletine board that the HOUSTON along with the battle-ship TEXAS would arrive in the turning basin of Houston, Texas about 1:00 P.M. on the 28th. of August of this year for a stay of about six days. This trip is to help Texas out with her Centennial, I have already begin to put in my Store-keeper 3rd. class course and if I have passed my Seaman Exam as I have been told I am not going to make that Houston trip in August unless I am wearing my crow on my left arm. Nothing will do unless I can come home with a petty-officer rank. I want to show those Galveston people that the Navy isn't such a bad place as they would have one believe it to be, so be prepared to welcome your little Willy as PETTY*OFFICER 3rd. CLASS, U.S.N. It is not impossible to make the rate the way these rates are now open, so I can and I will. Will that do as a Birthday present for you?

Well Moms and Pops old Dears! I haven't much more to say so I'll close all this goings on for the time beings and tell that Bros. of mine that I don't want to wait as long as he did to get another one of his crazy letters, so all be good and your liitle wandering Willy will be home this year and withnthe BACON. Give everyone my best of regards and I'll be there soon to give them in person. Thats all for now so good nite and sleep tight.

As always and ever your loving son

Willyam(Tex)Nuts and Bolts.