



U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION
JACKSONVILLE

Too shifery
about
uniforms!?
Not much else
it.

Sept. 2, 1942

Dear Folks,

The idea of your both coming down here after all is a mighty pleasant one. Don't feel, however, that it is a parental duty or anything like that, because leave after the training, perhaps nine weeks ^{from} now, is pretty definite. It isn't that the Navy just isn't giving any more leave, but rather that we were not through our training. If you did come down, there would be no trouble at all getting you on the station and showing you around a bit. I'll probably join the officers club, and that might take care of

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a meal or two. The only place I can think of near the station where you might be able to stay in the Algaliara (sp.?) I am at Orange Park, but I suspect it's very expensive. That and other possibilities I'll look into, but aside from hotels in town and the various good bets at the beach, I have no further ideas yet.

Down here lately it hasn't been excessively hot for more than a day or two at a time. Truly was far hotter than August, which was cloudier and with more showers. This month may be hot, but it may be stormier too. Tail-end of hurricanes sometimes strike, I hear, but never the real thing.

Life goes on much as usual



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Though rather more pleasantly
than before when one was a
cadet. Every night liberty continues
at least for a while and I go
out whenever I frequently feel
like it. Last night for instance
started with phone calls (sometimes
unavoidable unless politeness is
also to be avoided) to three
different girls, two of whom were
actually in, but naturally soon
to go out, and it ended at Fred
Acta's new movie - most
enjoyable. Anyone who minds
going to the movies alone is
foolish, just as anyone who minds
reading a book alone!

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Yes. Though still much like
cadets, we do rate more respect, and
on suitable occasions. There seems
to be no doubt about our rating
a salute. By now you probably
know more or less what our
uniforms are like, but in case not
here are brief descriptions.

Summer working uniform - khaki,
absolutely plain except for single
gold bar on each side of collar; black
tie as before; brown shoes. Coat with
brass buttons, metal wings and blue
shoulder boards with single gold bar
and star in part of uniform, but
doesn't have to be worn at our
squadron. We are allowed to
wear khaki with coat and either
overseas cap with small wings
or garrison cap with khaki cover
ashore except on formal occasions.



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but have to wear white cap covers at the squadron.

Summer dress uniform - same as picture plus metal wings, bar on shoulder boards and officer's cap.

Winter working uniform - khaki shirt and black tie; green single-breasted suit with embroidered gold wings; green overseas cap with wings or garrison cap to match. Suit has dark buttons. Brown shoes.

"Winter" dress uniform (really the everyday uniform of most naval officers) - white shirt and black tie; blue double-breasted suit with brass buttons and gold embroidered wings (above pocket), single stripe and star on sleeve (gold stripe);

garrison caps with white or blue
cover depending on local order; black
shoes.

Well that's the total. Full
dress, etc., are obsolete in time of
war, which is very convenient. A
big, heavy blue "raincoat," by the
way, is over all around coat. Mine
has a detachable lining, which
doesn't make it much lighter when
detached, but helps. Our flying
suits are varied for every sort
of weather (hot or cold) - light
cotton jacket and suits, leather
jacket, leather suit with woolly
linings, etc. These last come free.

Remember now I'm not
expecting you to come down. I
know the expense would be
much and not the only obstacle,
and I do expect to get leave.

Love T.R.