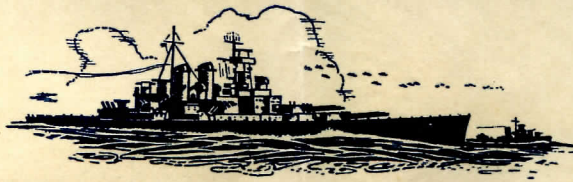


**AMPHIBIOUS FORCE
LANDING CRAFT
UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET**



This is to certify that Ulmer, D.R. S 1/c has
successfully completed the following courses in connection with
and during the outfitting period of U.S.S.-LCI [L] 491

----- Ordnance, Fire Fighting, First Aid, -----

Notation to this effect is hereby authorized to be placed on the
individual's record by his Commanding Officer.

Date Nov. 13, 1943

L. R. Henry Lt. Cmdr. USNR
COMMANDING OFFICER

Comdr. J. N. Opie, III
Commander Landing Craft
by
Thomas W. Walsh Lt. Cmdr. USNR
LANDING CRAFT REPRESENTATIVE
Comdr.

Friday Nite

Dear Mom,

[redacted]
We came here the first of the week. I'm getting salty as hell. At the rate I'm going I ought to make my first trip across the puddle in about three years. Disgratifying huh?

We had a swell dinner yesterday for Thanksgiving. Turkey and all the trimmings. I sure would have liked to been home though. I really miss you Mom, and all the rest of the tribe too. How is Beefer making out with the football team. Think he'll ever be half as good as his big brother?

Today we practiced [redacted] Me and Connolly were on signal watch. Connolly was spotting flags, reading blinker, looking up meanings in signal book, entering hoists in the signal log, and taking care of the phones to different parts of the ship at ^{the same} time. And I was running up hoists, tearing them down, stowing flags, sending semaphore, reading it, and had a string tied from the searchlight to my big toe sending blinker all at the same time (grossly exaggerated). Are we indispensable around here! We ought to get an advancement (censor please not) don't you think?

Guess what? I didn't get seasick coming down from [redacted] I felt swell. ~~It wasn't very~~ ~~rough~~. We had a mountainous sea plus being attacked by five Jap subs and an aircraft carrier. We sunk them all in about five minutes and downed 50 planes. Outside of that the trip was uneventful. As you can

see I'm going stir crazy. Haven't had liberty for a week.
I'm getting lots of sleep though.

anything new happen in Beverly lately.

I got a letter from Jean says ~~she was here~~ and only and the school paper says "Virginia Mitchell's still getting six letters a day from her marine." What do I do now mom. I'm too young to have a broken heart. Mom, are all girls the same? You ought 'a know. Did you use to pull the same stuff on Pop. Sometimes I think I have the skirts figured out and other times I don't know from nothing!

How are you feeling, Mom? Take good care of yourself and take it easy. Soon as I get rated I'll ~~get~~ get you a maid. No need to ask how the rest of the tribe is. Just as noisy as ever ~~in~~. Well, I sure hope you're all O.K. I went to mass Sunday in Little Creek.

The Salvation Army sponsored our ship. They gave us just about everything we could want. Sweaters, hats, Recording machines, records (all popular), boxing gloves, books, games, cards, dice, cigarette, stockings, and a gang of other stuff.

Give my love to Aunt Carrie, Uncle Larry, Aunt Agnes, and the Maloy. Well, guess I'll close now. God bless you all and write often.

Jots of love and kisses + stuff.

Rich

P.S. (Write me a letter will you sis?)

I got a paper from school. Wanna hear something rich - from Jean saying I was here and only