

File No.

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET  
AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

Administrative Command  
N.O. 15.  
Norfolk, Va.

Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>

Dear Admiral Hall;

Firstly, let me tell you how happy it makes me to be able to address you thusly. Many, many congratulations!

Secondly, I've been so pleased to hear of other bits of good fortune that have come your way - such as, being detached from the duty you went to last summer and then being given such a wonderful command as you now enjoy.

(29) I had hopes of being able to pay you a visit in your own bailiwicks but destiny had planned otherwise. Instead of going on the African jaunt I was assigned a raiding job on the European coast which didn't come off - so I fell between two stools by missing everything. However, I had my share of

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excitement - as you may know - since you left. You may remember that I was sent on the big Russian Convoy by Admiral Giffen to do a similar job to the one I did in company with you. We had a most exciting time and it was a great experience. Shortly after (as I believe I wrote you) I was sent to Mountbatten's staff to aid in the development of some highly secret ideas. This duty led to activity in planning syndicates and later to operational duties. In the end I was given command of a flotilla of raiding craft and had my share of excitement there. I won no gallantry medals but I managed to "get places and see things". After four months hard duty in Britain, Admiral Kirk (Admiral Stark's Chief of Staff) thought I should be detached and sent back here to our own Amphibious group to instruct or otherwise utilize my European front experience. Hence, my present address. I am now an

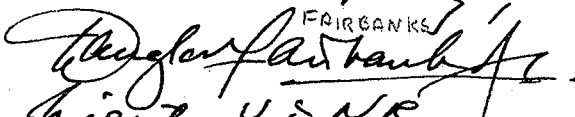
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old veteran, venerated as a hardened warrior, and on Vice-Admiral Hewitt's staff and doing my work in the Experimental & Development section with a bit of assault and combat training thrown in.

Since my last note I am also the proud father of a second baby girl - this one weighing 9 lbs! I arrived home just in time for it.

Perhaps it will be my good fortune to be assigned duty under you or at least be able to see you and compare notes since last we met. I shall always remember, with the most sincere gratitude, your unfailing encouragement, courtesy, and friendliness to

Yours respectfully  
  
 Lieut. U.S.N.R.