

Co. 15 H.

Naval Training School (E.E.& R.M)

190 U. State St. Chicago Ill.

Jan 30, 1945

Dear Mr. Nabritt,

Last July, in Summer School, I thought I was on my way to a Bachelor's degree and then Med. School, however Uncle had other plans and I've been in the Navy since August. I was a student at Howard since the fall of 1942 and had really become attached to the place. Perhaps you remember me; I made a few excursions to your office while I was at Howard, generally as an Alpha representative trying to phenagle some compromise with the administration but at other times merely as a class representative seeking advice.

Since I've been in the Navy, my lot hasn't been too bad. I'm now in Radio Technician School stationed in Chicago. It's a ten month training course and very interesting. Only about eight Negroes have been admitted to this training and they're all still in training. It'll be interesting to see what the Navy does with Colored radio technicians when they never had any before. This training program is very new itself. It didn't start until 1942. Previous to that, damaged radio or radar equipment was surveyed and repaired by civilians unless the repair was so minor that the radioman could fix it. Another former Howardite is here, Louis Giles. He graduated from Engineering School in '41 I believe. He has a brother Julian in Med. School.

The air of frivolity and lightheadedness that prevailed over Howard's campus is quite different from the attitude of the men here. By necessity every man is a student, and liberty on Wednesday nights and weekends is greatly appreciated. I wish I had taken my work a little more seriously while I was in school, but I suppose all the fellows in the service say the same thing. You'll realize that they meant it when this is over and they come back. If you see Dean West mention me to him and I hope the end of this war will result in an America with something of the liberalism that is Howard.

Sincerely,

Lester E. Florant '46