

Loren Williams – Letters Home



Honorable Discharge



from the Armed Forces of the United States of America

This is to certify that

Wyman Loren WILLIAMS Jr., Aviation Electronics Technician First, ATL, USN

was Honorably Discharged from the

United States Navy

on the 22nd *day of* August 1949 *This certificate is awarded*
as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service

J. A. E. O'Handley

J. A. E. O'HANDLEY, COMMANDER, USN

Place of discharge..... Naval Receiving Station, San Francisco, California
Authority for discharge..... Article C-10304 BuPers Manual
Serial or file number..... 990 75 66
Date and place of birth..... 5-5-27..... Columbia, S.C.
(Date) (Place)
Date of entry into active service..... 8-31-45
Highest rank or rating held..... AT1 (CR 2-16-49)
Service (vessels and stations served on) NTC, Great Lakes, Illinois
USS ANTIETAM CV-36
SubGrp 1, PacResFlt., Alameda, California

Remarks..... World War II Victory Medal
..... Good Conduct Medal
..... Navy Occupation Medal
..... China Service Medal

DATE 22 AUG 1949
PAID INITIAL MOP ON:
CHECK NO. 100456; AMT. \$100.
P.V. NO. 1109-50;

L. H. Hegwer
L. H. HEGWER, CHSCLK,

U.S.N. (10)

SEP 3 12 10 PM '49
C. E. HINNANT
C. C. C. P. & G. S.
RICHMOND COUNTY, S. C.

Recorded U.S. Navy Discharge Book 8 pages, 33
C. E. Hinnant
received 8.5,

DOMAIN
OF THE
Flying Dragon

RULER OF THE
RAGING MAIN

AND THE
180th MERIDIAN

To All Sailors Wherever Ye May Be: and to all Mermaids, Whales, Sea Serpents, Porpoises, Sharks, Dolphins, Eels, Skates, Suckers, Crabs, Lobsters and all other Living Things of the Sea

GREETING: *Know Ye:* That on this 7th day of May 1947, in Latitude 0000 and Longitude 180° 00' there appeared within Our Royal Domain the ships of TASK FORCE 38 bound South for the Equator from Pearl Harbor and for The Commonwealth of Australia.

Be It Remembered: That the said Vessels and Officers and Crews thereof, have been inspected and passed on by Ourselves and Our Royal Staff

And Be It Known: By all ye Sailors, Marines, Land Lubbers and others who may be honored by his presence that

WYMAN L. WILLIAMS JR., AETM2, USN
having been found worthy to be numbered as one of our Trusty Golden Dragon Shellbacks, hereafter to be known as a Flying Dragon, he has been duly initiated into the

Solemn Mysteries of the Ancient Order of the Deep and The Far East

Be It Further Understood: That by virtue of the power invested in me I do hereby command all my subjects to show due honor and respect to him wherever he may be

Disobey this order under penalty of Our Royal Displeasure

Given under our hand and seal this 7th day of May 1947

Dorsey Jones
His Majesty's Scribe



Neptunus Rex
RULER OF THE RAGING MAIN AND
GRAND MOGUL OF THE 180th MERIDIAN

By His Servant *William L. Williams Jr.* USN
COMMANDING

ORGANIZATION OF TASK FORCE 38
(MAY, 1947)

Carrier Division 3

USS SHANGRI LA (CV38), T.F. Flagship
USS ANTIETAM (CV36)

Cruiser Division 15

USS DULUTH (CL87), Flagship
USS ATLANTA (CL104)

Destroyer Squadron 7

USS O'BRIEN (DD725), Flagship
USS MOALE (DD693)
USS WALKER (DD723)
USS LAFFEY (DD724)
USS LOWERY (DD770)
USS INGRAHAM (DD694)
USS ALLEN M. SUMNER (DD692)
USS ROBERT K. HUNTINGTON (DD781)
USS MATTAPONI (AO41)

Task Force Comdr . Rear Admiral S. P. Ginder, USN
ComCruDiv-15 . . Rear Admiral J. H. Carson, USN
ComDesRon-7 Captain T. Burroughs, USN

USS ANTIETAM--0-0-47--7000



Loren Williams S¹/₂ (R.T.)

Co. 1114

U.S. N. T. C.

Great Lakes, Ill.

Free



Mrs. W. L. Williams
213 King St.
Columbia, South Carolina



UNITED STATES NAVY

Sept. 2, 1945
Dear Mother and the rest of the family,

I arrived at Great Lakes at about 6:30 Saturday afternoon. I had chow and then I was issued bedding - 1 mattress, 2 blankets and 1 pillow.

I was assigned to a receiving Co. with about 60 other boys, all R.T.'s. We won't be ~~issued~~ issued uniforms until we have a full company. Then we will move to boot camp, which is about 500 yards from my present barracks. The food is better than I expected. The only trouble is we have to stand in line about an hour. That's about all I know now. Don't write until I send you my permanent address.

Love,
Lorn

Loren Williams AETM $\frac{3}{4}$
USS Antietam CV-36
Division V-2
% F.P.O. San Francisco, Calif

Via Air Mail

Mrs. W. L. Williams
213 King Street
Columbia, South Carolina



16 May 1947

Dear Mother,

We're just off the coast of Australia tonite - we're scheduled to pull into Sydney at about 0800 in the morning.

It's a little cooler than it was when we left Hawaii - we're wearing blues now and sleeping under blankets again. We crossed the equator on the 7th with a great deal of ceremony.

Early on the morning of the seventh all of the polly wags were herded into a pen on the flight deck. One by one we ran through a line of shellbacks who were busily swinging canvas belts that had been dipped in salt water.

The grand finale was a visit to the Royal Barber. Under ordinary circumstances our heads would have been shaved - but I guess the admirals figured that the Australians wouldn't be properly

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impressed by a bunch of bald-headed sailors - so no hair was cut. Anyhow after sitting in the barber's chair long enough to get smeared up with grease - we were dumped into a tank of salt water - then crawled through a tunnel filled with the interiors of turkeys and other such stuff. After that we were all shellbacks.

We've been pretty busy in the shop most of the way down. Flight operations have been held about every other day. I'm what you might call the shop foreman now. About all that means ~~that~~ is that if anything gets fouled up in the shop I get blamed first.

I hope you got your radiogram on your day. I arranged to have it sent before I left Hawaii.

The only land we came in sight of on the way down was Rotuma Island - between the Fiji and Ellice Islands. It looked

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like an inactive volcano to me.

\$10.00 of the money order goes to Leland. I'll send some more after I leave Australia.

I've been listening to an Australian radio station - they speak English - not American.

I hope I get a lot of mail tomorrow.

Louy
Loren

and the Golden Dragon
in and for the District of Equatorius
and the Mysterious EAST

INHABITANTS OF THE REALM OF THE DEEP

VERSUS

ALL UN-INITIATED MEMBERS OF THE CREWS OF THE SHIPS OF TASK FORCE 38

TO: W. L. WILLIAMS U.S.N.

YOU are hereby Ordered and Commanded to appear before the ROYAL COURT of the REALM OF NEPTUNE, and the Golden Dragon, in the District of EQUATORIUS, because it has been brought to the attention of his AUGUST HIGHNESS NEPTUNUS REX and the GOLDEN DRAGON through their trusty mermaid scouts, that the good ship U.S.S. ANTIETAM is about to enter these waters and manned by a crew who has not acknowledged the sovereignty of the RULERS of the DEEP, has transgressed their domain, and thereby incurred their Royal Displeasure.

THEREFORE, be it KNOWN to ALL YE would-be Sailors, you lowly land-lubbers, you dirt-filled contamination to my waters, you scum of the earth, that HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, NEPTUNUS REX, SUPREME RULER OF all mermaids, sharks, squibs, crabs, polly-wogs, eels, and other denizens of the DEEP, will, with his ROYAL SCRIBE and ROYAL COURT AND THE GOLDEN DRAGON, meet in full session on board the U.S.S. ANTIETAM during daylight of 7 May 1947, A.D. at Latitude 00 00' Longitude 180 00'.

YOU will ACCEPT most heartily and with good grace the SEVERE pains and penalties of the awful tortures that will be inflicted upon you to determine your fitness to be a Trusty Shellback and Flying Dragon and answer to the following charges:

CHARGE I: In that you have hitherto wilfully, contemptuously, foolishly, and maliciously failed to show reverence and allegiance to the Royal Person of Neptunus Rex and the Golden Dragon, and are thereby a vile, despicable and contemptible landlubber and pollywog.

CHARGE II: In that while LOYAL SHELLBACKS toiled diligently during the recent overhaul period to prepare the good ship ANTIETAM for the proposed cruise into OUR ROYAL DOMAIN you enjoyed yourself on the beaches of southern Texas and as all slimy polliwogs do-
CHARGE III: failed to report aboard to carry your share of the work load.

It is therefore ordered and decreed that you present yourself before the above mentioned court at the time and place above mentioned, or be condemned to be given as food for sharks, whales, flarbs, guippies, etc., who will devour you, head, body, and soul, as a warning to any landlubbers entering my domain. HEAR YE and OBEY or SUFFER THE PENALTY.

REGISTERED:

NEPTUNUS REX

Hon. Peg Leg, Deputy.

By order of the Court:

Given under my hand and seal
this 2 day of May, 1947, A.D.

DAVY JONES.

AUTHENTICATED:

Mark of the Golden Dragon, Ruler
of the Far East.

IN THE ROYAL HIGH COURT
OF THE REALM OF
NEPTUNE AND THE GOLDEN DRAGON
- IN AND FOR THE
DISTRICT OF EQUATORIUS

The people of the Realm of the Deep

VS

W. L. WILLIAMS
Aviation Electronics Technician Second
of the U.S.S. ANTIETAM

SUBPOENA

File This Date

Hon. Peq Leg
Deputy

Davy Jones
Royal Scribe

REALM OF NEPTUNE
THE GOLDEN DRAGON
District of Equatorius

I HERE CERTIFY, that I have Served the within subpoena on the herein person on board the U.S.S. ANTIETAM in sufficient time previous to the crossing of the Equator and the 180th Meridian by said vessel, to permit the defendant to prepare an ample defense to such charges as appear within.

Davy Jones
Royal Scribe

Hon. Peq Leg
Deputy

Loren Williams AETM 2
USS Antietam CV-36
Division V-2
% F.P.O. San Francisco, Calif.



Via Air Mail

Mrs. W.L. Williams
213 King Street
Columbia, South Carolina

25 May 1947

Dear Mother,

Sydney is really quite a place. I don't believe there's another place in the world ~~that~~ that could have given us such an enthusiastic reception. There's been so much going on - dances - sight seeing - etc. that it will take two weeks at sea before everyone recuperates.

All of the people - unofficially, that is - are extremely pro-U.S.A. and anti-England. I haven't heard a kind word spoken for England since I've been down here.

We're tied up at some pylons ~~across~~ across the harbor from the center of Sydney. Commercial ferry boats and our launches run back and forth between the ship and Sydney proper.

Food prices are very cheap - however just about everything else is higher than in the States. Clothing is still rationed. Wages, too, are much lower than those in the States.

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I was out with a couple of fellows from the R.A.A.F. the other night - they were home on leave from Japan. They told me that saccharine was the most valuable trading item in that area - so if you could get your hands on half a dozen bottles - they might come in handy.

Nothing official on visiting Japan yet though - the latest word is this - After leaving Australia we'll go up through the Solomon Islands and stop at Truk for a couple of days. Then on to Guam and after that - China.

We're getting three out of four days liberty - and that fourth day on board is welcome - believe me. I'm about ready to catch up on some sleep now.

Long
Lance

1777 Williams AETM 3/6
SS Antietam CV-36
Division V-2
c/o F.P.O. San Francisco, Calif.



Via Air Mail

Mrs. W.L. Williams
213 King Street
Columbia, South Carolina

Guam

22 June 1947

Sunday

Dear Mother,

The information about crossing the line was sent back by the ship. All who wanted to put the required information on a sheet of paper and the ship took care of it from there.

How did Dad like his trip to Oklahoma? I guess it was kind of hot.

The ship goes to Saipan on Tuesday. All of our aircraft and most of the air group personnel flew up there just before we pulled into Guam. We'll be there until the second of July when we shove off for Manila.

We've finally got around to fixing a good short wave receiver for personal use in the shop. Los Angeles is coming in very clearly now.

One of the chief warrants from the shop has been transferred to the Coral Sea - a carrier now at

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Newport News, Va. He was a very
nice person to work for and he
really knew electronics.

That's about all the news

Lou,

Loren

P.S. \$30.00 enclosed