

FILE NO.

U. S. NAVY PRE-FLIGHT SCHOOL

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE, CALIFORNIA

ADDRESS REPLY TO
COMMANDING OFFICER

January 4, 1944

Dr. F. C. Allen
Head Basketball Coach
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Doc":

This is just a little note to let you know that we certainly miss seeing some of those good basketball games that we use to see. I noticed in last weeks paper that Kansas is still whipping the pants off of their opponents, and they always will as long as you are there. Hank Luisetti is one of the Officers on this base. I can easily see why John Bunn had such a wonderful basketball team. Hank is playing on the Pre Flight Basketball team. He sure has an eye for the basket, and a darn good team man also.

You probably know by now that I was assigned to the Athletic Dept. and put into the swimming dept. I consider myself very fortunate to be put in the most important section of the Pre-Flight Program, This is wonderful experience. Our Dept. Head, Lt. Jack Torney is considered the best in the country. He used to coach at the University of Washington. He is just completing the swimming manual for this program. He really believes in passing around the responsibilities in the Dept. Besides teaching at least 4 hours per day, I have had the assignment of keeping up permanent records for approximately 1700 Cadets who have to pass at least 8 tests to graduate. Some pass as high as 17 tests; the additional tests better their grades. This month I Have been given the head of the Swimming Sports Program Dept. This consists of handling about 125 Cadets every afternoon from 4:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. These Cadets are divided into five platoons. Each platoon has a coach. We have competition for these Cadets in individual events, relays and water polo.

We had a swell visit with Murray Brown and his wife last evening. They were in San Francisco during the day. They drove out here toward evening and then we all went to Oakland for dinner. He is being transferred to Hutchinson, Kansas. The Del Monte Pre-Flight School is closing up. I am expecting some more of our schools to fold up before long. You see we are training so many Cadets that the Gov. is getting more than they can handle. I found out the other day that we have had over 11,000 Cadets go thru