

Mr. Albert S. Nichols
College Examiner
Wheaton College

Dear Sir;
- An Autobiographical Sketch.

Nathaniel Saint
Tuxtla Gutierrez
Chiapas Mexico
Sept. 24, 1946

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Nathaniel Saint was born in Abington Hospital near Philadelphia in the fall of 1923. His father's work as a stained glass artist provided for the needs of a large family then living in Huntingdon Valley, Pa. where Nathaniel was reared.

Huntingdon Valley was an agricultural village but became a small suburban town because of its proximity to Philadelphia during the early thirties.

Eleven years of schooling were completed in the local school which averaged about five hundred students.

In spite of careful Christian home training ~~he~~ became a member of ~~the~~ rough local groups of boys until at about ten years of age ^{when} a weary mother's prayers & father's careful training overlooked him and he fell by his bedside a condemned sinner afraid to die. That night Nathaniel was "born again" by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. It was not until a year or two later that he confessed Christ to his friends & discovered separation

from the old gang a natural consequence.

High School years saw a growing love for the Bible & gave him the joy of winning a friend to Jesus Christ, his first & most thrilling experience.

When the senior year was begun Nathanael was working six hours, six nights a week and had acquired a more serious outlook on life.

Finally, after about six weeks in the senior class, he accepted full ~~time~~ daytime employment in a machine & welding shop, dropped high school studies & enrolled in the night section of Lincoln Preparatory School in Phila. Several months later high school credits were completed and a new job ^{was} accepted at the local airport. Vocational aims were toward aeronautical engineering and since funds for college education were lacking it seemed wise to start building a background.

About six months of "seventy-two hour weekly indoctrination in the "romance of aviation" passed. Then he was accepted by American Airlines as an apprentice in their overhaul shops located in N.Y. where more work & study yielded an Aircraft Mechanic's license & prepared the way for the Engine Mechanic's license that was later obtained.

"Pearl Harbor" came. Airline employees were urged to stay at their work, which was deemed essential.

When fathers were being drafted Nathanael, having no dependents, enlisted in the Army Air Forces. He had served thirteen months apprenticeship in N.Y.

Beside becoming #32700498 for his country, he became aware of the generous, tho' unorthodox, education his new situation afforded in philosophical, sociological and ethical lines.

While stationed in Detroit, Mich. Nathanael heeded the call to the mission field & dedicated his life to that work.

Educational needs were changed with the changing of vocational interest & it was decided that Wheaton College offered courses that best suited the new needs. He wrote to that College requesting ~~that~~ its catalogue but did not apply for admission because of military status & inability to make any definite commitments.

Before being released from the A.A.F. Nathanael consented to go to Mexico on urgent business for the Christian Airman's Missionary Fellowship & made tentative plans. Again uncertain of the duration of the work in Mexico he delayed application for entrance into Wheaton College.

Having seen first-hand the pressing needs ^{of the field} ~~there~~, tho' realizing his mistake in delaying application, he herein requests admission.

Sincerely
Nathanael S. S. S.