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[Stamped: Wheaton College Registrar's Office Sep 30, 1945]

Mr. Albert S. Nichols
College Examiner
Wheaton College

Dear Sir:

- An Autobiographical sketch

Nathanael 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 large family then living in Huntingdon Valley, Pa, where Nathanael was reared.

Huntingdon Valley was an agricultural village but became a small suburban town because of the 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 group of boys until at about ten years of age when a weary mother's prayers + father's careful training overtook him and he fell by his bedside a condemned sinner afraid to die. That night Nathanael 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...

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...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 machinist + 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.

“Pear Harbor” came. Airline employers were urged to stay at their work, which was deemed essential....

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....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, thou’ [?] unorthodox, education his new situation afforded in philosophical, sociological, and ethical lives.

While stationed in Detroit, Mich. Nathanael headed 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 its catalog 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 Airmen’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, tho’ realizing his mistake in delaying application, he herein requests admission.

Sincerely,
Nathanael Saint