

Friday, July 24

Weisberg!

Dear Mr. ~~Bussler~~:

I have need of considerable further material on the United States Coast Guard. Mr. Lehman has sent me much stuff but it was written prior to Pearl Harbor and I'm puzzled as to how up-to-date it all is. Specifically, this is what I need:

1 I am confused about the manner in which one becomes an officer in the Coast Guard. I have a pamphlet on the Coast Guard Academy, titled "The Coast Guard as a Career." I assume that the academy is still functioning; that's of course to be checked first thing. This pamphlet is too general. However, a final line says that further information, with regard to requirements for admission (that's the most important thing for me), may be obtained by addressing the Commandant, US Coast Guard, Washington. Will you immediately get these complete requirements for me, and anything else that is necessary to bring the pamphlet up-to-date.

2 I have no other information than this on how one becomes an officer in the Coast Guard. I've read somewhere about commissions going to college graduates. I inquired at the local recruiting ~~age~~ office, but the lad in charge knew nothing about that except that he thought the college-student plan was abandoned recently. Will you check on that. In getting any material we of course want you to get the essentials: the how, where, etc.

3 Will you check on any opportunities for enlistment ^{of men} in the Coast Guard advancing into the officer ranks, say through a Coast Guard equivalent of the Army's officer candidate schools. How are warrant officers chosen? What exactly is the procedure to become a warrant officer?

4 I need the latest pay scale, both for officers and enlisted men. That's probably fairly complicated, as I have a copy of the previous scale and it's rather extensive. Also, will you get, if possible, a complete chart listing all insignias, both of officers and enlisted men.

5 I have two pamphlets from the Coast Guard that have much of interest for me; as a matter of fact, they probably answer much of the questions in the preceding paragraphs. However, I'm not certain that they are up-to-date either. Would you check: the pamphlets are United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, General Information, dated 1941; Coast Guard Reserve, General Information, I believe also published in 1941.

6 I need this stuff just as soon as you can get on to it. It's really not as complicated as it sounds; it's merely a matter of seeing someone at the Coast Guard and getting the answers to this question: What's the situation today in the Coast Guard. Oh yes, I left out one matter: the schools and courses given by the Coast Guard; I'd like that complete, ~~if you can get it~~ including where the schools are located, and particularly how the correspondence system works. I understand too that recruits are sent to any of seven training stations: will you check on that and get locations.

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One thing about the Army I'm particularly anxious to locate is what is called the Station List. This is restricted, and I therefore have no way of getting my hands on it. However, you might be able to talk the War Dept. into it. I want it for good reason: I want to list each arm and branch of the Army, with these details: what each does, its distinctive insignia, where the replacement center is located, (this is very important) and where the schools that it runs are ~~located~~ located, and the particular qualifications one must have to get in to this branch or arm. Mr. Lehman may have asked you for this already. Let me emphasize it, then, as I am very anxious for this information.

Will you send ~~me~~ data asked for just as soon as you get it. The deadline is quickly approaching, so all speed is necessary.

Best regards,

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