

313 H. St., nw
Washington, D.C.
July 28, 1942

Dear Max and Yarmon,

To save time I'm writing this joint letter. Time is getting short.

Rewire of yesterday. I have today sent ML this wire: "All services unanimous in selecting pocketbook size as most convenient and desireable. Letter follows. This wire is self-explanatory except that I might, for the information of the publisher, add that there preference was emphatic. The Army pointed out that this size will fit not only in the pocket but can be packed in any bag without trouble, etc. In this connection, please send Schbbert, Frazier and Maj. Mason each a copy of the book upon its return from the printer. If it is objective, etc., they'd like additional copies thereafter for the use of the office and possibly other writers in the future.

Re ~~EM~~ Merchant Marine: The material that was sent was handled by Mr. Peterson, assistant to Telfair Knight. So far as he knows he has given complete information in answer to all the questions. Should any last-minute questions arise next week he will be glad to try and answer them the same day he gets them. He says the following people in New York, both at 45^B Broadway, an old Federal Bldg. having a govt switchboard the number of which he doesn't know and I don't remember, can probably answer them immediately: Enlisting Officer, U.S. Maritime Service, Room 101 (this Service is connected with both the War Shipping Administration and the Maritime Commission); Lt. Com. A.R.Hatch, Cadet Training, U.S. Maritime Commission. He is the cadet training officer.

Re: ML's letter for material for MY:

The questions on the WAAC and Air Corps Ground crews have both been answered. Schubert, from whom I got these answers, says also he has answered the questions on doctors and nurses.

L How does an officer get ahead, etc.?

Part of the revolution within the Army under the impact of the war is the easy of promotion for officers who merit it. Today seniority is meaningless insofar as promotion is concerned. Today all that matters is merit. If a man's ability and conduct, which, I suppose, includes valor, warrants promotion he can be and is recommended for it by the superior officer whose recommendation is usually accepted by the top officer of that particular group. Promotion has never before been as easy. However, these are temporary promotions, usually for the duration and subject to permanent reclassification at the end of the emergency or sooner. As an example, Schubert said a captain may be made a temp. brig-gen and in about six months get notification that he has been made a permanent colonel (not, of course, precluding subsequent promotions). With respect to "General" officers, that is, those whose titles include this word, they are subject to Congressional approval, which is just about automatic.

"What are the branches of the Army (including the smaller ones, like the Public Relations)? What does each do? How does one get into a branch?"

In answer to this Schubert said first of all you can't mean branch, because there are only three of them, second, that you have the answer if you mean something like agency, and you have this at least on the chart and material on insignia he sent. He says the question is a general one and impossible for him to answer now unless you mean what he suggested by the word branch and in that event the question has already been answered.

In addition, he is sending another copy of "The New Army of the U.S." to Y. However, he insists this information, though of late 1941, is dated and perhaps inaccurate today and can be used and quoted only in the most general way, such as "the quartermaster's corp deals with supply" or something like that. This, of course, is because of the magnitude of the changes that have^{taking} ~~been~~ ^{are} and will take place.

Description of Procurement and Assignment Service?

All Armies and Services have. Comparable to the War Manpower Commission in civilian life. As he put it, its a purchasing agency dealing with humans rather than materials. Their function is to supply the manpower demands ~~as~~ that are made of them.

What is the set-up with regard to medical students? Do they get first or second lieutenant commissions?

The answer ~~that~~ this is it depends on 2 things: the ability of the applicant and the needs of the moment. A man can be appointed to a majority if he is able to fulfil the obligations of an opening requiring that rank. If he is capable of handling such a job and there are openings at the time of application for only 2 louies, that's what he becomes.

At what stage in one's draft history may one enlist? How does one get a waiver from one's draft board to enlist, if necessary?

At any time. This automatically gives him a temporary exemption from the draft until his induction or rejection. If he is accepted at the time of his ~~acceptance~~ ~~recruitment~~ ~~is~~ ~~given~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ induction he is given a card to give his draft board by the recruitment service. One can enlist at any time prior to

Schubert, too, will immediately answer any specific questions you might send him next week when I'm out of town.

Also Miss Riley Moore will do the same for all Navy stuff. I have spoken to her and in addition, her office has a New York Branch at 580 Fifth Ave, Longacre 25580, Lt. James Van Alen. For more specific inquiries, you will find other persons in my earlier reports.

Remember the list of unusual opportunities? Well, the Navy has again turned down our request for the list on the same grounds, security, confidential military information,

I have been getting a ~~xxxxx~~ runaround on the M1 and M2, I spoke to RMoore and she will find the right place for it and send this information today.

Later. Received both letters with queries for MY. All offices have closed for the day. However, I can answer some of them here.

The inquiry about the pay bill: Schubert has sent this.

Re: deferments from draft boards for enlistment: see preceding page. I'll check in morning to see if there is anything else.

About the Navy introduction to the book. Riley Moore, to whom I spoke about this, hasn't heard from ML re this, as per my earlier correspondence, and she informs me that in order to obtain such an introduction it will be necessary for her section to have proofs as soon as possible because the introduction will not be forthcoming ~~without~~ until the opus has been read.

Now for the Marine Corps. I spent much of today on that, following up on my earlier

ad calls. Today certain literature and pamphlet was sent to Y and more will be sent tomorrow. I didn't see what they will send but feel, for the manner in which I was handled and from the general lack of interest that there will not be more material that Y will need. ^{To ML-} Hence I have the following recommendation to make, and I'd have done it myself tonight, except that I don't think you like me to write in your name without specific authorization: Write to Captain Remsen J. Cole, USMC, Public Relations Officer, Eastern Recruiting Division, 1700 Sansom St., Phila. Pa. He is in charge of publicity for this area, and has copies of all releases, pamphlet, scripts and any other material that could conceivably be of any value. He will be glad to answer any questions and can undoubtedly handle them expeditiously. He has a larger staff than they have here! This recommendation came from the local publicity sergeant here in the Md. Va. DC area, who was cooperative and is sending MY extra copies of everything he has an extra copy of. In writing Cole, or in phoning him, merely tell him that you have been referred there by headquarters in Washington, because the Marine Corps, Col. Woodworth, referred me to his branch of the service, and his own subordinate, Sgt. Hugh Ferguson, here in the area office, referred us.

This is all by way of precaution. They have assured me that they are taking care of everything, and they have had the list of Navy questions from last week until late this afternoon. Lt. Mathieu promised to send copies of all the material you could possibly want and stuff I don't believe you can possibly use, but this particular corps does not warm up to the idea and he may not or may not be able to fulfill his promises.

While talking to the various USMC people I saw today I made notes on some of the things they said, and on the chance some of them may not be included in the material they send here is a transcription:

Col. Woodworth, chg. recruiting section, headquarters, Arlington Navy Bldg.
(sent some material today and should send more tomorrow at latest).

Marine pilots from Navy.

Entrance into MC by enlistment only.

Pay scale same as Army for same jobs.

Certain opportunities not found in other services: Paratroopers (remember no commandos, and today I found out why: Commandos hit and run. These guys are insulted at the implication they wont stay where they hit. Of record.)

Glider troops, etc. Data sent, but briefly, chief prerequisites are physical and other noneducational things.

In order to enlist man goes to one of 400 recruiting stations in the 42 main MC areas. If there is none in his town they tell him where the closest one is in if he applies for the info to the postmaster. In addition, most small towns are hit once a week by the MC stationwagon recruiting business. It seems they have the whole works making regular circuits in rural areas in station wagons. Nearest big office to Ft. Knox is Louisville. One in NY.

About schools, all he said at first was that they teach all subjects necessary to the operation of the Marine Corps. Enlisted men can go to schools if they have certain minimum qualifications, including the recommendation of their co's, etc. More below and enough sent. An enlisted man who has training in algebra and geometry and a year of college English is eligible for officers' candidate class if he has the recommendation of his superior officer. He can even get there as one of the bulletins shows without these prerequisites if he can pass a tests. It is the MC Policy to get most ~~enlistments~~ from the ranks. 47% of the enlistedmen have an education of 3 yrs in high school or better.

MC standards are still high. They haven't, like other services, been forced to reduce them.

They claim to be the only service offering duty on land, in the air and on the sea. Also amphibious landing operations, whatever that may be. First marines to participate in Commando-type activity were those who in 1775 raided New Providence in the Bahamas and took so much booty from the British that Washington was greatly helped by the supplies when he got them.

With few exceptions the MC enlists no one for special service. Every man gets the same basic training at Paris Island, N.C. or San Diego, Calif. There are approximately 7 weeks of training in barracks and in the field, 3 weeks of intensive firing and training on the rifle range and upon the completion of this training and the passing of examinations those who desire to
or become special troops
specialize/and are approved are sent to ~~special~~ school.

and special troop"
Among the "special training" things: radio, motors, tanks, cooking and baking, quartermaster work sea school (training aboard a battleship) general duty in aviation, etc., combat engineering, landing boat, paratroops, glider troops field and coast artillery, anti-aircraft, fire control, ordinance and repair and maintenance, photography, etc.

For training schools they colleges, universities, private schools, language schools and in some cases this amounts to a \$2500.00 scholarship in what the men get.

The raison d'etre of the MC is to provide the Navy with troops, to storm and hold advance bases.

ix I then went to the regional office here, at the recommendation of the Colonel and spent some time with the sergeant. He identified the NY man

in charge of recruiting as Col. Victor Morrison.

1)

Generally the MC gets its officers in two ways: ~~graduates of accredited~~

~~colleges and universities with BAs or BS degrees~~ Annapolis

may go into the Marine Corps as a second lieut. rather than going into the Navy as an ensign, and the MC takes quite a few this way. Of course, the choice is up to the man; college graduates as follows-

They can go into the candidates class, and the majority now come this way, if they have a BA or BS or better from an accredited college or university and can pass the standard Navy physical exam (MC physical exams are given by Navy docs). Those accepted are enlisted in the USMC Res as privates first class and put on inactive duty subject to call. Usually this is just a few weeks, until there is an opening. Then they are called to active duty in the candidates class and stationed at Quantico, Va., the MC base and school, where they get 10 weeks schooling in fundamentals of being officer, how to look like an officer, how to act like one, etc.. They get basic training in ~~light~~ ^{guns} light artillery, tactics and similar things. If at the end of the period they are found qualified they are put in the reserve as second lieuts. and soon get into active service. If they fail they are given a choice between resigning or remaining as a private.

A third method is available to enlisted men who can meet the prerequisites above or can pass an exam. Either, with the assent of his CO, will get him into the candidates class.

This should serve as a general outline of what they represent to be the situation until their material arrives.

I'll attend to the rest of the queries in the morning, but they had better stop