

1/31/42

Dear Yarmen,

Re your letter I have just received: Re MR 1-9: This will probably be waiting for you in NY. I spoke to someone about getting it for you. They didn't have a copy at the moment and said as soon as possible it would be mailed. Hence I recommended sending it % Max unless it went out by tomorrow noon. Related data should accompany it.

Re Music School; Yes, it is in Washington, and details are being sent separately today, probably with a pamphlet.

Re: Warrant officers-check in the material on the new pay sent you by Lieut. Schubert.

Re: Army Mine Planter School-chiefly a confidential matter. Whatever is available for public use, I have been informed, will be found in the material already sent you relating to the Coast Artillery Corps. In the event you have thrown this away or have misplaced it, it is, from what I gather about it, the kind of literature that would be available in NY through the Army or the Library.

Now as to your big question, what happens after this is all over:

First of all, and I think properly, the Army is devoting its energies as concentratedly as possible to the winning of the war. As you know, all terms of service now are for the duration plus six months, and that gives time for the completion of plans, if by that time they aren't completed. As a matter of fact, there is a brigadier general who, with his staff, is studying nothing else but this for the War Dept. He is Brig. Gen. John Palmer. But the power to demobilize is not vested in the Army. It is a Presidential and a Congressional power, and demobilization of the Army will come about by executive order or act of Congress. With respect to the National Guard and the Reserves, as you know, they were mobilized practically by the pressing of a button. They can be demobilized by the same way, almost automatically, and likely that is what will happen, and when it does they will, with comparatively little dislocation they will return to their normal civilian pursuits. These number (don't say it) less than 200,000, so you can see, they are not much of the total problem. However, the Army can release men in the territorial US whenever they want to after the end of the war, without demobilization orders, and this will probably be done. Their big problem is getting them back to the US after the end. Last war this was comparatively simple, because most of the men were to be taken from but two places. Now they must come from God alone knows where, and you can be sure none of us can even guess the number of places or begin to imagine how remote some of them are. So you can see the problem. You are right when you say this is vague. The Army says it has to be handled as the subject for a book, or books, or very vaguely, as they'd like you to do. However, specific information is available for some of the other services, and I have already sent it in.

I'm leaving as I mail this. In my absence please address any inquiries to Mrs. Elfriede Rhylick, 2534 14th. St, NE, with an explanation that you are Max's collaborator and be as specific and explanatory as you can. Yours H. Weisberg