

July 27, 1942

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Can you get a clear statement of policy from Selective Service Headquarters on the matter of enlistments? I have had conflicting statement from Army officers: one says that enlistments are permissible only for the Air Corps; otherwise one must enlist unassigned; another officer has said that boys under draft age, i.e. 18-20, may enlist in the ~~branch~~ arm or service of their choice. Will you check that.

On the entire matter of enlistments, will you try to find out just when a selectee may enlist, that is, how close to induction may he still be able to join up. Does he have to get special permission from his draft board...must he fill out a special form? Most important, what advantage, if any, is there to enlisting -- anything beyond the satisfaction of being able to tell your grandchildren that you didn't wait till they called for you. *W*

Along the same line, may a selectee enlist in the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine, up to what stage in the selective service process. Does he also have to get permission?

I imagine ~~the~~ selective service headquarters has all this *f* at its fingertips.

Merchant Marine
and

Also, can you get an idea from the army about the matter of transfers ~~once~~ once a man is already in. May he transfer to the Navy or Marine Corps or Coast Guard or ~~Coast Guard~~. If so, how does he do it? Also, how about transfers within the army itself, from one arm or branch to another. Last, may anyone within the army or any other armed force transfer at any time to the air corps. And how does he do it?

The Army may have something on this, but it isn't terribly important: I know that ~~in~~ the Armored Force has next priority to the Air Corps. That is, a man in the Armored Force may not transfer any place but to the air corps. Is there a regular listing of the priorities for the various arms and services.

Best regards.

Arthur Yarnon