

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE LANGUAGE SCHOOL  
Office of the Commandant  
Savage, Minnesota

October 3, 1942

Mr. E. M. Rowalt  
Acting Regional Director, WRA  
Whitecomb Hotel Building  
San Francisco, California

My dear Mr. Rowalt:

I have just returned to this station after a prolonged absence and I am very sorry I have been unable to answer your letter of inquiry earlier.

This office is very desirous of obtaining the services of approximately 250 Nisei and Kibei for use in the Military Intelligence Service. These men representing for the immediate future the personnel procurement goal not attainable from the Army and who consequently must be obtained from civilian sources, principally WRA Centers.

These men will not be inducted into the Service but they will be given the opportunity to voluntarily enlist for the duration. They must be of Draft age, that is to say, between 20 and 40 years of age and they must have the following academic qualifications: High School graduate in the U. S., graduate of Shogakko and Chugakko preferably; a thorough knowledge of the spoken Japanese and basic elementary knowledge of the kanas and characters coming under the high frequency group, namely 500 or preferably more; a fair knowledge of newspaper Japanese is very desirable.

Naturally, also, they must be investigated by the F.B.I. or the Army counterpart thereof, the Counter Intelligence, before being admitted to the Service. They will have exactly the same status as all other Army personnel except that greater chance for promotion is offered these men in as much as all successful applicants will hold non-commissioned officers rank. None of these men will be commissioned into the Service as officers, however.

It is the plan of this office in the very near future to inaugurate this recruitment program and it is believed that two recruiting parties will be sent to all WRA centers for the above mentioned proposal. It appears that probably early in the summer of '43 the call for another 400 to 500 men will become a necessity.

To answer your enumerated questions specifically the following information is submitted:

- (1) Requirements for admission as covered above.

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(2) Prospects for future enrollment: It appears that our immediate need will be approximately 200 and that our future need will be 400 to 500 in June '45 and possibly 400 to 500 in January '44.

(3) All personnel who are taken for this proposal will remain members of the Armed Forces until the completion of the War.

I would be very much appreciated if you would disseminate enough of this information to the various centers so that some interest can be whipped up in the matter before our actual entry into the Camp for recruitment.

We shall be sure to secure your specific approval sometime prior to any action we may desire to take. It is further requested that all information submitted you in this letter be treated as strictly confidential with the following exceptions:

Publicity may be given the fact that we are desirous of obtaining volunteers in unspecified numbers for Army service. These volunteers must be able to meet the requirements laid down above. Requirements as to scholastic and linguistic background may naturally be given full publicity.

Thank you very kindly for your inquiry and for your implied desire to help us in this very valuable work. I remain

Very truly yours,

/s/ Kai E. Rasmussen X  
KAI E. RASMUSSEN  
Lt. Colonel, C.A.C.  
Commandant

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