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ASW 342.18 J. A. - PHANH OF SERVICE
(Public Relations)
Classif. No. ASW 342.18 J.A. - Volunteers
Hosokawa, Robert

April 21, 1943

Dear Mr. Hosokawa:

The Assistant Secretary of War, Mr. John J. McCloy, asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 19 and reply thereto.

I am informed that when you registered at Minidoka you did not volunteer for induction, but stated you desired a commission. I am informed that your present age is twenty-five years, and should this be true you will not be eligible for commission direct from civil life unless you graduated from a recognized R.O.T.C. unit and was designated eligible for commission at the time of your graduation. Even under this condition I do not believe it can be assured you will receive a commission. This policy is the general War Department policy and applicable under all conditions and to all personnel. The only exceptions made to commissioning individuals under thirty-five years of age direct from civil life are those cases of special professional categories such as medical doctors, dentists, chaplains, and a few highly specialized categories in the engineers corps.

Although you may not be commissioned direct from civil life there is every reason to believe that you would have little difficulty in being designated for officer candidate school should you elect to be inducted voluntarily as an enlisted man. Your educational qualifications certainly would warrant the conclusion that you would have little difficulty on this phase of selection. Of course, your physical qualifications must also meet the general service standards.

The Assistant Secretary asked me to express his commendations for your patriotic desire to serve and on behalf of the War Department, I wish to add that it is the policy of the War Department, regardless of statements purportedly made by certain army officers, to accord to all loyal Japanese American citizens volunteers the privileges that every other soldier is entitled to.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED)

WILLIAM P. SCOBIE
Colonel, General Staff
Executive

OASW:WPS:MDH

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