

Box 48
Folder 1
Item 26 P. 1ASW 342.18 J. A. - Volunteers
Suzuki, Dr. M. Paul.

Classif. No. ASW 230.2223 Suzuki, Dr. M. Paul

May 14, 1943

Dear Dr. Suzuki:

Mr. McCloy is in receipt of your letter of May 5, and has asked me to make a reply thereto. He asks that you be commended for your expressions of loyalty and desire to serve in the armed forces.

I regret to say that it will not be possible for you to be accepted as a commissioned officer in the service. Regulations prohibit the commissioning of an individual of alien status in the Army. This is regardless of what nationality he may be. There are certain conditions under which an alien may be enlisted in the service and following service it is possible to attain citizenship. This was granted to those of Oriental descent who served in the last war. As a result many Japanese became naturalized American citizens. As yet there is no policy in the War Department with reference to the acceptance of Japanese aliens in the enlisted status of the Army. The matter is presently under study, but I cannot predict what the result will be.

Since there appears to be no possibility for your serving as an enlisted man or an officer in the armed forces, it may be possible for you to make your contribution in the war effort in another field. Should you be qualified in reading and writing the Japanese language, there is a possibility of your employment in connection with certain important features of the war effort. However, your qualifications must be sufficiently good to warrant a classification of exceptionally capable in translations and writings. If you will communicate with me on this feature of your qualifications and think you might be interested, I will investigate the matter further.

Sincerely,
(SIGNED)WILLIAM P. SCOBIE
Colonel, General Staff
ExecutiveDr. M. Paul Suzuki
4-4-D
Minidoka War Relocation Authority
Hunt, Idaho

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