

May 3, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR LIEUTENANT COLONEL DURWARD G. HALL, M.C.:

Subject: Medical Commissions for American Citizens of Japanese Ancestry.

1. I am returning herewith the file in connection with Dr. Sugiyama's letter to me of April 10, with the suggestion that the Surgeon General's Office handle the matter direct.

2. It is conceivable that the form of letter in use by the Surgeon General's Office for reply to applications by Japanese-Americans may be misinterpreted for the following reasons:

a. The letter might give the impression that there is ample opportunity for commissioned service with the Japanese-American combat team. In point of fact, the openings are limited. It is doubtless desirable to canvass the field thoroughly to obtain the most suitable personnel for the combat team, as well as to be prepared for any future developments, but I think we must be careful not to raise hopes too high.

b. Almost all American citizens of Japanese ancestry who, like Dr. Sugiyama, are now residing in relocation centers, have already completed the questionnaire to be transmitted with the form letter. The completed questionnaire, for individuals who did not volunteer for the combat team, may well have already reached the Provost Marshal General's Office for analysis, but it would probably be difficult to locate an individual questionnaire there. While there is certainly no reason why the questionnaire should not be completed a second time, I think confusion will result unless the possibility of prior execution is referred to in the letter.

Lt. Colonel Durward G. Hall
Room 912, 1818 H St. NW
Washington, D. C.

(Signature)
JOHN M. HALL
Captain, F.A.
Assistant Executive

Enc.
Memo Apr. 27.43 and encs.

Encs. - forms, orig. ltr. Lt. Sugiyama
to Capt. Hall, and ltr Feb. 23.43
Dr. M. E. Laphan to Dr. Sugiyama.

OASW:JEM:NGB

3-4-43
J.A. B. J. S. S. S. S.
Sugiyama, Dr.

3-4-43
J. Sugiyama
5-3-43