

April 21, 1942.

Lt. Jake Accola,  
77th Bombardment Squadron,  
A.P.O. 942,  
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Lieutenant Accola:

Answering your inquiry of the 14th instant regarding rebounds, wish to say that I emphasize very definitely offensive and defensive rebounds. We have rebound drill. We chart the basket into three areas, the two lateral areas and the area in front of the basket. We divide the basket into halves. If the ball comes off the left side of the basket we play to the left after tipping it slightly to aid the rebounder in catching it, and then drive off to the side and toward the corner at an angle. Then we pass out.

Likewise, if the ball is recovered on the other side, we follow the same directions. The man in front of the basket may tip or catch the ball as the opportunity presents. But we always attempt to have three rebounders on all plays.

On the offense, when a player drives down the floor and there are no rebounders there, the lone player does not attempt his shot unless there is a drive-in lay-up. He will pivot and pass off and the other players on the team will swing into favorable offensive rebound areas.

I have always been of the definite opinion that unless a team is a good rebound team they will not win a championship. You do not win the game at the center of the floor on tip-offs, but you beat your opponents under the offensive or the defensive area by rebounds. There is not much data written on this but I suspect that all coaches have their own formula and method in teaching rebounds. I have written a book, published by McGraw-Hill and Company, entitled "Better Basketball", in which I place a great deal of emphasis upon fundamental play and rebounds. I am sending you some material on the book in case any of the officers should be interested. I have these texts here at the office and would be glad to autograph a book if you care to send a check for \$4.00. I will pay the postage. On pages 162-3 we have photographs and exposition describing the proper recovery of the ball off the backboard.

We spend quite a bit of time during the year for several consecutive practice sessions on this very important offensive and defensive rebound work.